

A Juridical Perspective On Press Ethics in Reporting the Identity of Child Victims of Immorality: Between Public Interest and Children's Rights

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Abstract

Proper journalism in the reporting of child victims of immorality requires a strict ethical approach to protect the rights of victims and maintain the function of the press in conveying the truth. This article discusses important aspects such as victim protection, privacy rights, journalistic codes of ethics, and the role of the media in society. Through normative juridical analysis and descriptive research involving desk research and interviews with journalists, this article highlights the importance of striking a balance between freedom of speech and the social responsibility of the press. When covering sensitive issues like child sexual abuse, the press must uphold individual rights. We must adhere to the Journalistic Code of Ethics to ensure that the news does not violate the rights of victims. The role of the Press Council and law enforcement officials is crucial in enforcing the law, sanctioning violators, and ensuring justice for all parties. Analysis of the news indicates that there are still violations in the form of disclosing the identity of child victims, which should be kept confidential to protect their right to privacy and honor. This study confirms that safeguarding the honor and rights of victims, as well as supporting fair law enforcement and strict supervision of media practices, can create a responsible information

environment. The findings provide an important reference for policymakers, media practitioners, and academics in improving the quality of ethical journalism that respects the rights of child victims of violence.

Keywords

Press Ethics, Reporting, Child Victims of Immorality, Juridical Perspectives.

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Introduction

News about child victims of immorality requires a cautious approach, especially when it comes to fulfilling press ethics. Ethics are moral principles that govern the way journalists convey information to the public. A juridical analysis of press ethics in reporting on child victims of immorality in this situation is essential to ensure that the principles of truth, justice and prudence are applied. Therefore, any form of treatment that interferes with and damages their basic inhuman rights must be stopped immediately without exception. Children's rights are human rights enshrined in the 1945 Constitution and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.¹

Children are also the future fate of humanity; they play a role in determining the history of the country and reflect its future attitude to life.² For this reason, children's issues must be discussed because children are part of the younger generation, human resources who have the potential and successor to the ideals of the nation's struggle. Children have a strategic role and have special characteristics and traits that require guidance and protection to ensure balanced, and harmonious physical, mental, and social growth and development.³

To explain this concept in more depth, it is important to understand that there are no press ethics in reporting on child victims of immorality. It shows how the media can overstep ethical boundaries and negatively impact victims and society as a whole.⁴

Reporting on issues related to the protection of children is often associated with offenses committed by children, which we often hear about in the press. Given that the Dutch once colonized Indonesia, the Indonesian media's vocabulary comes from the Dutch language. This study shows that in cultural and linguistic structures, words are adopted

¹ "Penjelasan Umum Undang-Undang Nomor 23 Tahun 2002 Tentang Perlindungan Anak" (Sinar Grafika, 2003).

² Wagiat Soetodjo, *Hukum Pidana Anak* (Bandung: Refika Aditama, 2006).

³ "Penjelasan Umum Undang-Undang Nomor 3 Tahun 1997 Tentang Pengadilan Anak" (2003).

⁴ Yuliastuti, "Perlindungan Hukum Terhadap Identitas Anak Korban Kejahatan Asusila Di Media Massa," Skripsi, Fakultas Hukum Universitas Sriwijaya, 2020.

or followed by others. In Dutch, “press” is the same word as “press” in English, which refers to the printing press.⁵

Many people think that press equals journalists. However, the press is actually all types of media, including journalists. In reality, freedom of the press for news involving children is often a problem; the fact that the identity of the victim is told by the mass media is an offense to the child, which can cause physical and mental injury.⁶ We can examine the relationship between law and press ethics in reporting on child victims of immorality by using juridical analysis. For example, reporting must consider many important issues, such as protecting the identity and privacy of the victim and using language that is sensitive and does not stigmatize them.

Therefore, a juridical analysis of press ethics in reporting on child victims of immorality reminds journalists of the moral and legal responsibilities they must uphold in their work. Press ethics is not only a guideline for making news but also helps prevent the media from abusing their power to exploit immoral victims for political or commercial interests. Numerous laws govern the protection of child victims from media reporting, including:

- a. Law No. 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection Article 64, paragraph 2, letter g, which reads “For children in conflict with the law, they are entitled to protection from reporting their identity through the mass media and to avoid labeling”.
- b. Law No. 35 of 2014 Concerning the Amendment to Law No. 23 of 2002 Concerning Child Protection:
 - 1) Article 64, letter I, reads: “Special protection for children in conflict with the law as referred to in Article 59, paragraph (2), letter b is carried out through avoiding publication of their identity.”
 - 2) Article 72, paragraph (5), reads: “The role of the mass media as referred to in paragraph (2), shall be carried out through

⁵ Ahmad Riyadh, “Hukum Media Massa” (Sidoarjo: Indomedia Pustaka, 2019).

⁶ Indah Sri Utari, Ridwan Arifin, and Diandra Preludio Ramada, “Exploring Child Grooming Sexual Abuse through Differential Association Theory: A Criminological and Legal Examination with Constitutional Implications,” *Volksgeist: Jurnal Ilmu Hukum Dan Konstitusi* 7, no. 1 (2024), <https://doi.org/10.24090/volksgeist.v7i1.9564>.

the dissemination of useful information and educational materials from the social, cultural, educational, religious, and health aspects of the Child with due regard to the best interests of the Child.

- 3) Explanation of Article 72, Paragraph (5): the term “dissemination of information” refers to sharing information that is beneficial to the child while also protecting the child’s identity to prevent labeling. What is meant by “mass media” includes print media (newspapers, magazines, and tabloids), electronic media (radio, television, films, and videos), information and communication technology media (websites, news portals, blogs, and social media).
- c. Law No. 11/2012 on the Juvenile Criminal Justice System, Article 19 paragraph (1), reads: “The identity of the child, child victim, and/or child witness must be kept confidential in the news in print or electronic media. (2) The identity as referred to in paragraph (1) includes the name of the child, the name of the child victim, the name of the child witness, the name of the parents, address, face, and other things that can reveal the identity of the child, child victim, and/or child witness”.
- d. Law No. 40/1999 on the Press Article 3 paragraph 1 on the role and function of the press reads: “The national press has a function as a medium of information, education, entertainment, and social control”.

Article 5 regarding the Journalistic Code of Ethics reads “Indonesian journalists do not mention and broadcast the identity of victims of moral crimes and do not mention the identity of children who are perpetrators of crimes”.

- e. Violation of the above provisions will be threatened with criminal sanctions as stipulated in Law Number 11 of 2012 concerning the Juvenile Criminal Justice System Article 97, which reads: “Any person who violates the obligations as referred to in Article 19 paragraph (1) shall be punished with imprisonment for a maximum of 5 (five) years and a maximum fine of Rp500,000,000.00 (five hundred million rupiah)”.

This is interesting because the law relating to preventing the reporting of the identity of child victims has not been implemented properly. In addition, based on research conducted through electronic and print media, there are still frequent reports that do not keep the identity of child victims confidential. Reporting on child victims of immorality is a sensitive and complex topic, especially because of press ethics. Press ethics play a crucial role in ensuring accurate reporting that doesn't cause harm to victims. However, financial gain and sensationalism often lead to a disconnect between reporting practices and press ethics principles.

Journalism practitioners and academics should conduct case studies that look at how press ethics affect reporting on child victims of immorality. A juridical analysis of the ethical aspects of the press helps us understand the role of law in regulating journalism, especially in terms of protecting victims and maintaining the integrity of the journalist profession.

Press Law No. 40/1999 assigns the Press Council several duties, one of which is to conduct research on the development of press life. The main objective of this function is to enhance press freedom and improve national press life. In the process of gaining press freedom, there are many challenges that can prevent journalists and the press from fulfilling the public's right to information. In particular, there are still cases of gender-based violence reported, especially sexual violence, by the media that ignore the gender perspective.

Journalists provide very detailed information about how the sexual violence took place so that readers can feel a unique sensation. In the same way, object names such as "flower" are often used to mention the identity of the victim, either by initials or pseudonyms. In addition, the media draws conclusions too quickly by using sentences that attract readers' attention. This study shows that the reporting of sexual violence cases still often raises ethical issues and victim protection issues because the reporting does not consider gender and victims.

In addition to adhering to Law No. 40 of 1999 on the Press, Law No. 12 of 2022 on the Crime of Sexual Violence will also regulate reporting related to sexual violence. With the TPKS Law, the protection of victims of sexual violence has increased, including media coverage of such cases. With the enactment of the UUTPKS, there is a great

opportunity to protect victims and encourage the implementation of the Press Law's journalistic code of ethics.

If calculated on average every year, the dynamics of sexual violence cases in Indonesia are substantial. The Distribution Map of the Number of Violence Cases, which can be accessed in real time from January 1, 2024, to now, shows that there are 19,612 female victims. The percentage of female victims by age group is 0-5 (5.5 percent), 6-12 (17.2 percent), 13-17 (33.3 percent), and 18-24 (13.6 percent). By education level, the percentage of female victims was kindergarten/pupil (2.1 percent), elementary school (18.9 percent), junior high school (24.2 percent), and senior high school (31.0 percent).⁷

The dynamics of eradicating sexual violence hold great promise for building a public narrative that is aware of it. On the other hand, the intense reporting on sexual violence has a significant negative effect on ethical issues and victim protection. The victims' interests should be the top priority when protecting them. Gender sensitivity is required in the analysis to construct the content. When constructing vulnerable gender roles, it's crucial to consider power relations holistically and materially. Both of these are essential when discussing sexual violence, which is one type of gender-based violence.

In this context, the opinions of victims and their families, often overlooked in the news, hold significant importance. Therefore, a thorough study needs to be conducted to determine the impact of the news coverage on all parties involved in the case. This journal hopes to provide a more profound understanding of how the law can serve as a tool to ensure more moral and responsible journalism in the context of reporting on child victims of immorality.⁸ Therefore, press ethics serves as not only a moral standard to be adhered to but also as a solid foundation for honest and enduring journalism.

This article focuses more on normative juridical research-also known as desk research or document study-because the discussion is mostly conducted on secondary data available in libraries. Normative

⁷ "No Title," n.d.

⁸ Indah Sri Utari et al., "Legal Protection for Children as Victims of Economic Exploitation: Problems and Challenges in Three Major ASEAN Countries (Indonesia, Vietnam and Philippines)," *Lex Scientia Law Review* 7, no. 2 (2023), <https://doi.org/10.15294/lesrev.v7i2.68301>.

studies may use secondary data as primary or secondary legal materials, and normative studies also require empirical data to reach a sufficient conclusion about the content of the article.⁹

The secondary data of this article consists of primary legal materials, namely laws and regulations, and primary legal materials, namely interviews with 3 (three) journalists in Central Java, namely: the RRI (Online) Journalist, the Chairperson of the Central Java Province Attorney Journalist Forum (Forwaka), and the Koran Lingkar Journalist at Blora; the results of other journal discussions; and other legal works related to the subject of discussion.

Result & Discussion

The journal that the author presents, entitled “Juridical Perspective on Press Ethics in Reporting the Identity of Child Victims of Immorality: Between Public Interest and Children’s Rights”, has a clear differentiating value compared to the previous five works. The main focus of our journal lies in the juridical analysis that integrates aspects of law and journalistic ethics specifically in the context of disclosing the identity of child victims of immorality, which is a very sensitive issue that requires strict legal protection.

In contrast to Mahmud Ashari (2022) discussion of press freedom and ethics, which primarily focuses on the protection of child victims, and Triantono et al.’s (2022) focus on the gender approach and the protection of victims of sexual violence, there is a lack of legal studies specifically related to news reporting. Meanwhile, Susanto (2020) focuses on the legal protection of child victims of violence in the realm of substantial law without examining journalistic aspects and press ethics. The studies of Anggraini Rati (2016) and Aulia Febriyanti Pratiwi (2023) are more directed at journalistic practices and news framing with an empirical approach, without examining in depth the juridical aspects related to the reporting of the identity of child victims of immorality.

Therefore, the journal that the author presents makes a new contribution by emphasizing the importance of the balance between press freedom, social responsibility, and protection of children’s rights in

⁹ Joko Susanto, “Perlindungan Hukum Bagi Anak Korban Kekerasan Seksual Yang Dilakukan Orang Tuanya,” *Qistie* 13, no. 1 (2020): 96–111.

terms of law and journalistic ethics in an integrated manner, which has not been specifically addressed.

A. Press Ethics in Reporting the Identity of Child Victims of Immorality

By law, the state protects human rights, including those of children. Human rights encompass the rights that are inherent to humans, who are created by God Almighty, and these rights must be protected and safeguarded.¹⁰

As stated in Article 1, point 1 of Human Rights Law Number 39 of 1999, human rights are upheld and protected by the state, law, government, and everyone for the sake of honor and protection of human dignity.¹¹

Not only must the government officially protect children, but parents, families, and communities must also be responsible for protecting and safeguarding children's human rights. Rapid development, globalization in the field of communication and information, advances in science and technology, and changes in parents' lifestyles have brought fundamental social changes in people's lives, which greatly affect children's values and behavior. Deviant behavior or acts committed by a child may be caused by various factors, including, but not limited to, advances in technology and science and advances in communication, and information.¹²

The media, also referred to as the press, are social institutions and mass communication vehicles that carry out journalistic activities. Their journalistic activities include searching, receiving, possessing, storing, processing, and disseminating information in various formats, including writing, sound, images, voice, data, and graphics, as well as in other forms

¹⁰ Utari et al., "Legal Protection for Children as Victims of Economic Exploitation: Problems and Challenges in Three Major ASEAN Countries (Indonesia, Vietnam and Philippines)."

¹¹ "Undang-Undang (UU) Nomor 39 Tahun 1999 Tentang Hak Asasi Manusia," n.d.

¹² Indah Sri Utari, Ridwan Arifin, and Ahmad Zaharuddin Sani Ahmad Sabri, "Why Did a Five-Year-Old Toddler Become a Victim of Murder? A Criminological and Legal Perspective," *Indonesian Journal of Criminal Law Studies* 8, no. 2 (2023), <https://doi.org/10.15294/ijcls.v8i2.48591>.

through the use of various types of media, including print and electronic media. Because of their job, journalists have the right to refuse to disclose the name or other identity of a news source that should be kept confidential. This ability is known as the right of refusal. A person or group of people is entitled to respond to or challenge news coverage that harms their reputation. This power is known as the right of reply. The right of correction is the right of any person to correct or inform others of errors reported by the media, either about themselves or about others. The media must correct or misrepresent any incorrect information, data, facts, opinions, or images they report. The media must comply with applicable regulations when reporting. Due to children's human rights protected by law to keep their identities confidential, the media must keep the secrets of child victims of immorality. Children who have been victims of immorality have an obligation to protect their identity.

Article 19, Paragraphs (1) and (2) of the SPPA Law, which are as follows: "(1) The identity of the child, child victim, and/or child witness must be kept confidential in the news in print and electronic media. (2) The identity as referred to in paragraph (1) includes the name of the child, the name of the child victim, the name of the child witness, the name of the parents, address, face, and other things that can reveal the identity of the child, child victim, and/or child witness".

In addition, this is also stated in Article 64 of Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Amendments to Law Number 23 of 2022 concerning Child Protection (PA Law), which states that "special protection for children in conflict with the law as referred to in Article 59 paragraph (2) letter b is carried out through avoidance of publication of their identity (listed in letter i)".¹³

The press council is an independent institution established under the Press Law. The functions of the Press Council based on Article 15 paragraph (4) of the Press Law are as follows: "a. Protect press freedom from interference from other parties; b. Conduct studies for the development of press life; c. Establish and supervise the implementation of the Journalistic Code of Ethics; d. To provide consideration and seek resolution of public complaints on cases related to press reporting; e. To

¹³ "Penjelasan Umum Undang-Undang Nomor 23 Tahun 2002 Tentang Perlindungan Anak."

develop communication between the press, the public and the government; f. To facilitate press organizations in formulating regulations in the field of the press and improving the quality of the journalistic profession; g. To provide guidance to press organizations in formulating regulations in the field of the press and improving the quality of the journalistic profession; g. To develop communication between the press, the public, and the government. Facilitate press organizations in drafting press regulations and improving the quality of the journalistic profession; g. Register press companies. Registering press companies.”

The police will handle all cases if the law proves them to be criminal offenses. However, if the act violates the Code of Ethics, it will be left to the Press Council to resolve. The Press Council and the Indonesian National Police collaborate to protect press freedom while fulfilling their responsibilities in the field of journalism, as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding (Number 03/DP/MoU/III/2022 and Number NK/4/III/2022) regarding coordination in the protection of press freedom and law enforcement related to the abuse of the journalist profession.

Identity is all the information and data about a person that allows others to trace them. The author then describes 40 (forty) news stories of child victims of immorality, published in print, online, and on television media in Indonesia, and finds that there are still many violations committed in presenting the identity of immoral victims. The author describes these violations as follows:

TABLE 1. Media Reporting Still Violates Press Ethics

No	Initial Anak Korban	Awal Jadi Korban / Usia	Tahun Kejadian	Tempat Kejadian	Bentuk Pelanggaran Jurnalis	Kategori Media	Nama Media	Link Berita
1	PPT	Kelas 10-12 MAN (17 Tahun)	2022-2024	Gorontalo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nama korban • Sekolah korban 	Online	Jabarekspres.com	https://jabarekspres.com/berita/2024/09/26/kondisi-terkini-pasya-pratiwi-toiti-susai-viralnya-video-di-tiktok-dan-x-banyak-dukungan-di-tengah-skandal-yang-viral/#google_vignette
2	PPT	-	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nama korban • Sekolah korban • Poto korban 	-	-	https://jabarekspres.com/berita/2024/09/26/video-kisah-sedih-pasya-pratiwi-toiti-siswi-man-1-gorontalo-viral-di-tiktok-dan-menuai-banyak-dukungan-dari-warganet/
3	PPT	-	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nama korban • Sekolah korban • Jabatan korban 	Cetak dan Online	Radarlawu.jawapos.com	https://radarlawu.jawapos.com/nasional/amp/2205132907/terbaru-link-video-7-menit-guru-dan-siswa-gorontalo-ganti-viral-diburu-netizen-dikaitkan-nama-pasya-pratiwi-toiti-dan-ketua-osis-man-1-gorontalo
4	PPT	-	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nama korban • Sekolah korban • Poto korban • Prestasi korban 	Online	Beritasatu.com	https://www.beritasatu.com/network/aboutsemarang/314391/usai-videoanya-bersama-oknum-guru-di-gorontalo-tersebut-nama-pasya-pratiwi-toiti-viralini-kisahnya
5	PPT	-	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nama korban • Sekolah korban • Poto korban • Jabatan korban 	Online	Gelora.co	https://www.gelora.co/2024/09/viral-klarifikasi-pasha-pratiwi-dengan.html?m=1
6	PPT	-	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nama korban • Sekolah korban • Jabatan korban 	Online dan Tabloid	Radarpena.disway.id	https://radarpena.disway.id/amp/193209/profil-pasya-pratiwi-toiti-pemeran-di-video-mesum-guru-dan-murid-di-gorontalo-yang-viral
7	PPT	-	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nama korban • Sekolah korban • Jabatan korban • Poto korban 	Online	Bogorinside.r.com	https://www.bogorinside.com/pill-news/56313617383/profil-dan-biodata-pasha-pratiwi-toiti-siswi-berprestasi-yang-terseret-isu-video-syur-viral-dengan-gurunya-man-1-gorontalo
8	PPT	-	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nama korban • Sekolah korban 	Online	Sinergimadura.com	https://www.sinergimadura.com/profil/amp/29013617443/profil-biodata-pasha-pratiwi-toiti-siswi-man-gorontalo-pemeran-perempuan-video-syur-5-menit-dengan-gurunya-tanggal-lahir-umur-pacar-ig-tiktok

9	LMNA	28 Mei 2007 (17 Tahun)	2024	Jakarta Selatan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nama Korban • Poto korban • Identitas orangtua korban 	Online dan Cetak	Radarsemarang.jawapos.com	https://radarsemarang.jawapos.com/entertainment/725109299/viral-video-detik-detik-anak-nikita-mirzani-lolly-dijemput-paksa
10	LMNA	-	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nama Korban • Poto korban • Identitas orangtua korban 	-	Radarsolo.jawapos.com	https://radarsolo.jawapos.com/entertainment/845106616/diperiksa-polres-metro-jakarta-selatananak-nikita-mirzani-lolly-bakal-dapat-pendampingan-dari-psikolog
12	LMNA	-	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nama Korban • Poto korban • Identitas orangtua korban 	-	Wartakota.tribunnews.com	https://wartakota.tribunnews.com/2024/09/19/lolly-beberkan-soal-testpack-kehamilan-hingga-tudingan-aborsi-bikin-nikita-mirzani-lapor-polisi
13	AA	13 Tahun	2024	Palembang	Nama korban	-	-	https://radarsemarang.jawapos.com/berita/725057422/sadis-terungkap-penyebab-meninggalnya-siswi-smp-di-palembang-yang-diperkosa-oleh-4-remaja
14	IW	12 Tahun	2005-2011	Surabaya	Identitas ayah angkat	Online	Harianmerahputih.id	https://harianmerahputih.id/baca-4267-pendeta-hanny-layantara-divonis-10-tahun-keluarga-korban-puas
15	NH	13 Tahun	2020-2022	Makasar	Video Ayah Tiri	TV	TV One	https://youtu.be/utNbzGgP7cU?si=hAbtE6yAJQPFDfZ
16	N	SMP	2014	Serang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video Ayah Tiri 	TV	Metro TV	https://youtu.be/gLxSmKJgYF8?si=5ehBaMVk6EdU2soz
17	A	12 Tahun	2024	Minahasa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video Ayah Tiri • Nama Korban • Poto korban 	TV	Net News	https://youtu.be/_hBFj6HoXmg?si=xl-hO9AZLsIZY2s3
18	MA	12 Tahun	2018-2021	Jakarta Selatan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identitas ibu • Identitas ayah tiri 	TV Online	Tribun Network	https://youtu.be/XxVRTKObQbQ?si=qoeqGqlFuyuJYTKm
19	M dan MS	14 Tahun dan 16 Tahun	2016	Pangkal Pinang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video ayah tiri • Nama ayah tiri 	-	-	https://youtu.be/HQ4eWJDJyqo?si=i5C_9UAfCMAZ80a5
20	S	9 Tahun	2022	Cirebon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video ibu kandung • Nama korban 	-	-	https://youtu.be/4KyV4-zq55U?si=YuLnGAWDM5i97Awd
21	MA	-	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identitas ibu • Poto ibu 	Online	Detik.com	https://hot.detik.com/celeb/d-6846748/kronologi-anak-pinkan-manbo-diperkosa-ayah-tiri-sejak-usia-12-tahun
22	YT	15 Tahun	2023	Lampung	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video ayah tiri 	TV	BTv	https://youtu.be/X6lG5pRN0XQ?si=UCDBn2hXoiqwenob
23	ND dan NM	13 Tahun Dan 15 Tahun	2023	Lampung	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video ayah tiri • Identitas ayah tiri 	TV	TV One	https://youtu.be/5KDP73H75g4?si=jjKx8oRJXPoyRB08

24	B	5 Tahun	2024	Tangerang Selatan	Nama ibu kandung	Online	Kilat.com	https://www.kilat.com/nasional/84412825057/terungkap-skenario-video-asusila-raihany-dengan-anak-baju-biru-adanya-icha-shakila-yang-kini-ditetapkan-dpo
25	B	-	-	-	Poto ayah dan ibu korban	-	-	https://www.kilat.com/nasional/84412818693/ini-sosok-ayah-dari-anak-baju-biru-sekaligus-suami-raihany-yang-viral-karena-lelehan-putra-kandung
26	B	-	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nama ibu korban • Poto ibu korban 	Online dan Cetak	Solobapan.jawapos.com	https://solobapan.jawapos.com/berita/utama/2304735906/setelah-jadi-korban-asusila-hanny-ibu-kandungnya-siapa-yang-merawat-si-bocah-baju-biru-dan-adiknya-yang-masih-bayi?page=1
27	B	-	-	-	Poto ibu korban	Online	Detiksumsel.com	https://www.detiksumsel.com/nasional/97412828407/terkait-video-asusila-ibu-dan-anak-polisi-lakukan-pemuliharan-psikologi-korban
28	NL	14 Tahun	2023	Tebo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alamat korban • Rumah korban 	Online	Sidakpost.id	https://sidakpost.id/22/12/2023/anak-korban-asusila-dapat-attenasi-ketua-tp-pkk-tebo/
29	Pelajar	SMA	2016	Tangerang Selatan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identitas sekolah korban • Kedudukan korban di pramuka 	Online	Radarbanten.co.id	https://www.radarbanten.co.id/024/09/24/guru-smkn-5-tangsel-ditutup-jadi-predator-seks-malalih-terima-penghargaan-kepramukaan/
30	R	SMP	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alamat sekolah • Nama korban • Poto korban 	Online	Cnnindonesia.com	https://www.cnnindonesia.com/tv/20240925130539-400-1148127/korban-buka-suara-terkait-dugaan-pelecehan-oleh-guru
31	SH	15 Tahun	2024	Surabaya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identitas paman • Nama sekolah • Alamat korban 	Online	Panjinasion.al.net	https://www.panjinasion.al.net/berita-utama/81557152/pelaku-pelecehan-siswi-mtsn-4-hanya-dimintai-surat-pemnyataan-sekolah-takut-tercermar
32	AN	15 Tahun	2017	Sumatera Selatan	Alamat korban	Online	Liputan6.com	https://www.liputan6.com/news/read/5331123/8-kasus-inseks-yang-sempat-viral-di-indonesia-seperti-hubungan-bapak-anak-purwokerto?page=9
33	HA, AS, dan BA	12 Tahun dan 11 Tahun	2016	Batam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pendidikan • Alamat 	Online dan cetak	Jpnn.com	https://m.jpnn.com/news/kisah-anak-anak-panti-korban-sodomini-jadi-pelaku-sodomini-berjamaah-3?page=5
34	A	14 Tahun	2023	Jambi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poto ayah • Alamat korban • Nama ayah 	Online	Sumsel.tribunnews.com	https://sumsel.tribunnews.com/2024/01/23/kisah-anang-cari-keadilan-demi-anak-jadi-korban-asusila-jalan-kaki-jambi-jakarta-niat-temui-jokowi?page=2
35	TW	SMP-Kuliah	2012-2018	Kota Semarang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identitas korban • Identitas ayah tiri 	Online	Awall.id	https://awall.id/2023/12/ajukan-8-novum-kejanggalan-perkara-i-nyoman-adhi-imbawwan-minta-keadilan-hakim/

36	TW	-	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identitas korban Identitas ayah tiri Identitas ibu korban 	Online	Nayantaka.id	https://nayantaka.id/2024/03/pn-semarang-kirimkan-dokumen-pk-terpidana-i-nyoman-adi-imbawan-hubungan-saya-dengan-tisa-dan-jane-sangat-harmonis/
37	TW	-	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identitas korban Identitas ayah tiri Identitas ibu korban Poto adik korban 	Online	Inilahjateng.com	https://inilahjateng.com/cacat-hukum-putusan-pidana-i-nyoman-adi-imbawan-batal-demi-hukum/
38	AK	13 Tahun	2015	Kediri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nama dan alamat sekolah korban 	Online	Jurnalline.com	https://www.jurnalline.com/2016/05/pengusaha-pelaku-pemeriksa-58-anak-gadis-diketahui-di-hukum-ringan-sejumlah-lsm-ajukan-petisi-ke-jokowi/
39	Y	14 Tahun	2016	Bengkulu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nama korban Identitas orangtua korban Poto korban Poto rumah korban 	Online	Bbc.com	https://www.bbc.com/indonesia/majalah/2016/05/160503_trensozial_keluarga_yuyun
40	SC	6 Tahun	2015	Inggris	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poto korban Nama korban Alamat korban Identitas ayah 	Online	Nakita.grid.id	https://nakita.grid.id/read/021611721/shannon-clifton-kisahnya-viral-pada-2015-diperkosa-ayahnya-4-kali-sehari-selama-8-tahun-hingga-hamil-di-usia-11-tahun?page=all

The following is an explanation of the information in the table above:

- Number (No): The sequential number of the case list listed in the table.
- Initials of the Victim's Child (Inisial Anak Korban): Is an abbreviation or initial of the name of the child who was the victim of violence or sexual abuse.
- Beginning of Being a Victim / Age (Awal Jadi Korban/Usia): Indicates when the child began being a victim and how old they were when the incident occurred.
- Year of Incident (Tahun Kejadian): The year the act of violence or abuse against the child occurred.
- Scene of Action (Tempat Kejadian): The location or geographic area where the violence or sexual abuse occurred.
- Forms of Journalist Violations (Bentuk Pelanggaran Jurnalis): Types of ethical or legal violations in media reporting, for example:
 - Mentioning the victim's name
 - Photos of the victim
 - Obscene videos
 - Parents' identities
 - Address or name of the victim's school
 - Position of the victim (e.g., student council president)

- g) Other sensitive information
- 7. Media Category (Kategori Media): Type of media outlet publishing the news, such as:
 - a) Online (online media)
 - b) Print (newspapers/magazines)
 - c) TV (television)
 - d) Online and Print (a combination of both)
- 8. Media Name (Nama Media) : Name of the institution or media platform publishing the news.
- 9. News Links (Tautan Berita) : URLs or links to online news stories containing the infringing content serve as documentary evidence and references.

Considering the data from the table, it can be concluded that the dissemination of a child's face, name, or address should be considered as dissemination of a child's identity in violation of the following provisions:

- 1) Article 5 of the Journalistic Code of Ethics, which states that "Indonesian journalists do not name and broadcast victims of moral crimes and do not mention the identity of children who are perpetrators of crimes".
- 2) Press Council Regulation No. 1/Peraturan-DP/II/2019 of February 9, 2019, on Child-Friendly Reporting Guidelines, which states that journalists do not report on children by using material (video/photo/status/audio) only from social media, and in juvenile justice, journalists also respect the provisions of the Juvenile Justice System Law.
- 3) Article 5 Paragraph (1) of Law No. 40/1999 on the Press: "The national press is obliged to provide events and opinions with respect for religious norms and a sense of community and the principle of presumption of innocence".
- 4) Article 18 paragraph (2) of the Press Law: "Press companies that violate the provisions of Article 5 paragraph (1) and paragraph (2) and Article 13 shall be sentenced to a maximum fine of Rp5,00,000,000.00 (five hundred million rupiah)."
- 5) Article 19 Paragraphs (1) and (2) of the SPPA Law (identity that must be kept confidential).

6) Article 64 of Law No. 35 of 2014 on the Amendment to Law No. 23 of 2022 on Child Protection (PA Law) (the identity of the child must not be published).

The United Nations Assembly itself approved the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1989, which says children's rights must be protected. Indonesia signed and began ratifying Presidential Decree No. 36 of 1990, which commits the country to protect Indonesian children and uphold the rights of all children. The agreement stipulates state action to ensure that all children can develop normally, attend school, be safe, and have their voices heard.

The Juvenile Justice System law guides to protect children from becoming victims or perpetrators¹⁴. As it is important to preserve the identity of perpetrators, victims and witnesses, the names of children, child victims and witnesses shall be kept confidential when reported in the print and electronic media. The identity referred to in subsection (1) includes the name of the child, the name of the victim, the name of the child witness, the name of the parents, the address, the face of the witness, and other information that can identify the child, victim, and child witness.

The news about the two incidents did not meet the requirements of child-friendly coverage because it included the complete location of the incident, even though the names of the perpetrators and victims were used.¹⁵ The absence of the press in defending children's rights will result in irresponsible parties producing material including child exploitation or bullying for both perpetrators and victims of violence.¹⁶ The press has a civic responsibility to inform, speak out, and discuss social issues so that people can help the political system. The media should fulfill their social

¹⁴ Indah Sri Utari et al., "Social Controls and Trends Juvenile Delinquency: Criminology Study about Complexity Of Child Delinquency In Society," 2019, <https://doi.org/10.2991/icesshum-19.2019.134>.

¹⁵ "Seruan Dewan Pers Nomor: 01/S-DP/XI/2023 Tentang Ketaatan Terhadap Pedoman Pemberitaan Ramah Anak," 2023.

¹⁶ Christ Sella, Della Rolansa BR Siboro, and Muhammad Iqbal Baiquni, "Legal Protection Against The Crime of Abortion Performed by Child Victims of Rape from Victimological Perspective," *Indonesian Journal of Criminal Law Studies* 7, no. 2 (2022): 199–214, <https://doi.org/10.15294/ijcls.v7i2.36054>.

responsibility in this way.¹⁷ Setting high professional standards can fulfill these obligations. To fulfill their responsibilities and carry them out, the media must have the ability to organize themselves within the existing legal framework, along with other institutions.

According to Smith in Mc Quail, press subsidy systems, antitrust laws, journalistic codes of ethics, establishment of press councils, parliamentary review, regular review by review commissions, and fair and impartial institutional oversight rules can be used to determine a country's level of professional development.¹⁸

In this case, media supervision is essential to prevent news violations, including child-friendly reporting. This supervision protects the long-term sustainability of the media. To maintain public trust and foster integrity both in the media and as a journalistic product, every journalist must adhere to the Journalistic Code of Ethics (KEJ).

It is critical to understand the journalistic code of ethics, as it serves as a safeguard against future problems. Every journalist is responsible for understanding and complying with the rules that govern their work. They must also maintain their rights, duties, and responsibilities in accordance with the Journalistic Code of Ethics, and they are also responsible to God Almighty, the community, the state, and the country. Isn't the job of journalism to convey information, exercise social control, explain news viewpoints, and project the future? Various parties have devoted their attention to this child-unfriendly behavior.

Radio Republik Indonesia (RRI) Semarang (Online) journalist Royce Wijaya Setya Putra, interviewed by the author on November 13, 2024, said that "It is unfortunate that the identities of children who are victims of immorality are disseminated by the media and press offices. The rules clearly state that no party should disseminate or publicize a person's identity when dealing with children's issues. Apart from adhering to the presumption of innocence, the law also protects children's right not to have their identities published. Article 19 of Law No. 11/2012 on the Child Criminal Justice System states that the identity of children, child victims, and child witnesses must be kept confidential in printed and electronic news. The identity in question

¹⁷ Andi Fachruddin, "Journalism Today" (Jakarta: Erlangga, 2019).

¹⁸ Mcquail Denis, "Teori Komunikasi Massa" (Jakarta: Erlangga, 1991).

includes the name, name of the child, name of the victim, name of the child witness, name of the parents, address, and face, as well as other elements that can reveal the identity of the child, victim, or child witness. The aim is to provide certain stigmas and labels to ABH that can endanger the child's future. Violation of the obligations as referred to in Article 19 may be subject to criminal sanctions according to Article 97 of the SPPA Law, with a maximum imprisonment of 5 (five) years and a maximum fine of 500 million rupiah".

Henry Pelupessy, who is the Chairperson of the Central Java Province Prosecutorial Journalists Forum (Forwaka), in an interview with the author on November 14, 2024, said that "Every child who can be categorized as a child in conflict with the law, a child who is a victim of a criminal offense, and a child who is a witness to a criminal offense is explicitly regulated in Law (UU) Number 11 of 2012 concerning the Child Criminal Justice System. Article 19 stipulates that a child's identity must not be published in print or electronic media. In addition, Press Council Regulation No. 1/Peraturan-DP/II/2019 sets standards for child-friendly reporting. According to the regulation, journalists must keep the identity of children in the news confidential, especially children who commit offenses or are convicted of their actions. The identity includes anything that can be identified as a child, including names, photos, pictures, names of family members, and addresses. Therefore, the media should not deceive about the identity of a child just to make the news more popular, as it can have a negative impact on the child's mental health and social life."

Subekan, who is a journalist for Lingkar Blora newspaper, when interviewed by the author on November 15, 2024, said that "Media representatives must comply with Press Law No. 40/199, the Journalistic Code of Ethics (KEJ), and the Child Friendly Reporting Guidelines (PPRA) when reporting on children, both as witnesses and perpetrators of crimes. Both Article 7 paragraph 2 of the Press Law and Article 5 of the Journalistic Code of Ethics have made this requirement clear. It is imperative for journalists to comply with Press Council Regulation No. 1/Peraturan-DP-II/2019 on Child-Friendly Reporting Guidelines, which refers to any person who is not yet 18 years old, whether alive or dead, and whether they are married or not. Law No. 11/2012 on the Juvenile Justice System is the source of the child age limit. Therefore, we

must protect all data and information about children from unauthorized access. For example, names, photos, pictures, names of siblings, parents, uncles/aunts, grandparents, and supporting information such as home address, village address, school, groups or clubs attended, and special objects that describe the child".

Children who are victims of unfavorable circumstances or environments There is also an unequal power relationship between adults and children. Therefore, these children are particularly vulnerable to abusive treatment from adults. One of the articles in the Juvenile Justice System, which addresses power relations, states that children, who are physically and psychologically smaller, should be protected when they are at fault, making them easy to exploit even by angry and emotional adults¹⁹. In this perspective, journalists are also expected to side with children, although that children who commit offenses must also have their identities protected.

If there is incomplete data, editors must fully verify it by interviewing other people. When journalists cover events, empathy should be their primary attitude. If journalists do not have a clear understanding of the issues, their work will not address the problems faced by vulnerable children. The frame of the news will determine the journalist's concern. This is journalism that shows concern for those who are less fortunate.

B. Reporting the Identity of Child Victims of Immorality Between Public Interest and Children's Rights

Media, in its various forms, has become an essential component of social relations, interactions, and transformations. Previous definitions, methodologies, and methods of reporting have been altered as the concept of reporting through the media has changed. The notion of a press person has undergone significant evolution. In the digital information age, every person and group seems to have the ability to

¹⁹ Oleksandr I. Motliakh et al., "Theoretical and Practical Issues of Sexual Crimes Against Children," *Indonesian Journal of Criminal Law Studies* 10, no. 2 (2025), <https://doi.org/10.15294/ijcls.v10i2.22725>.

contribute to journalistic production that benefits society. Reporting themes and subjects have evolved in both public and private contexts, such as sexual violence reporting.

Systems and structures known as gender injustice victimize both men and women. To understand how gender differences cause this gender injustice, the following manifestations of gender injustice can be seen. Among them²⁰:

- a. Marginalization is a process that causes significant poverty in the country and society, affecting both men and women due to various events;
- b. subordination, the presumption of irrelevance in political decision-making: the term refers to roles and positions that are inferior to those of men. Women are thought to be irrational or emotional and therefore unable to be leaders, which makes them looked down upon;
- c. stereotypes or negative labeling, are always harmful and unfair. Injustices against certain genders, especially women, stem from the markings attached to them. Stereotypes naturally lead to the undervaluing of women's education;
- d. violence is a danger to one's mental and physical integrity. Violence against fellow human beings can come from various sources, and violence against one sex can come from gender assumptions;
- e. The idea that women are more caring and diligent than heads of households leads to a double workload, where women are expected to handle all the housework. As a result, many women spend a lot of time and energy keeping their households clean and tidy. In poor families, women have to take responsibility for this burden, especially if they also work. She has to carry double duty.

The background and experiences of the women in question are associated with their awareness of sexual violence in public spaces. By thinking about the subject for a moment, people who have experienced this situation will be more sensitive and concerned about this issue.

²⁰ Fakih Mansour, "Analisis Gender & Transformasi Sosial" (Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar, 2013).

Meanwhile, people who have never experienced such abuse usually rely on the information provided by the media. Regrettably, both visually and linguistically, the mass media appears to have presented women in a negative light.. Among other things, there are parts of the news presentation of sexual violence that prioritize female victims over perpetrators. In other words, the media portrays women in cases of sexual violence by objectifying them through the use of language, visualization of images, and negative opinions. In contrast, perpetrators, who are the source of the problem, are only briefly featured, sometimes even missing the media's attention.²¹

The media is more likely to blame women as victims of sexual violence, using male perspectives or desires. Overall, women are portrayed as weak, helpless, and passive. Although such portrayals have indirectly been established by the media that sexual violence only happens to women and is a single-caused or embarrassing event for female victims. Therefore, it is not surprising that parts of society tend to portray women involved in sexual violence cases in the way that the mass media has previously portrayed them.

Many print media in Indonesia even portray women as objects of sexual violence in a biased and male-perspective manner. Based on the information outlined by the author in the first section, many mass media continue to stigmatize women when they deliver news of sexual violence. This treatment can cause cases of sexual violence against women to be closed and disrupt the psychological condition of victims, who generally do not report their sexual violence cases to the legal process.²² According to the author, this problem is not only due to persistent gender inequality but also due to the lack of gender-balanced journalists. Therefore, the media should change their news patterns to support women, using the concept of gender-perspective journalism.

A gender perspective does not mean taking revenge on men for repeating the same discrimination. One definition of gender-perspective

²¹ Triantono et al., “), Etika Jurnalistik Pemberitaan Kekerasan Seksual Di Media Dalam Pendekatan Perlindungan Korban Dan Responsif Gender,” (*Laporan Penelitian*) *Fakultas Ilmu Sosial Dan Ilmu Politik Universitas Tidar & Dewan Pers*, 2022.

²² Motliakh et al., “Theoretical and Practical Issues of Sexual Crimes Against Children.”

journalism given by Nur Iman Subono, although the author does not fully agree with it, is journalism that continuously informs, problematizes, or reinforces unequal relationships between men and women through print and electronic media, as well as gender beliefs that corner women. The results of the study show that there are various ways to protect victims of sexual violence : a). protect themselves from physical and non-physical threats from the perpetrator or other parties or from the recurrence of sexual violence by facilitating the reporting of physical and non-physical threats to law enforcement; b). protect the confidentiality of identity; c). provide information about protection rights and facilities; and d). provide access to information about the implementation of protection; e). protect victims of protection from attitudes and behaviors that demean and/or reinforce stigma against victims of protection; and f). protect victims of protection from threats and security related to testimony given.

Some policies related to the protection of victims of sexual violence always focus on “protection of identity”. The research results also confirm that the protection of the victim’s identity is crucial. In practice, the protection of the victim’s identity can be linked to direct information from the victim subject, such as name, address, age, and other information. However, indirect identity also exists, meaning that even if the victim’s identity is mentioned indirectly, readers can still identify them through the information; for example, mentioning the interview results shows that this indirect identity element is usually biased.²³

Indonesian journalists need a moral foundation and professional ethics to maintain press freedom and fulfill the public’s right to correct information. This will help them maintain public trust and uphold professionalism and integrity. Therefore, Indonesian journalists adopt and adhere to the Journalistic Code of Ethics (KEJ), as follows:

²³ Sekretariat Komisi Informasi Pusat RI, “Laporan Survei Indeks Keterbukaan Informasi Publik 2021 Di 34 Provinsi,” 2021.

TABLE 2. Journalistic Ethics and its Interpretation

No	Code of Ethics / Press Ethics	Interpretation
1	Article 1 Indonesian journalists are independent, produce news that is accurate, balanced, and not in bad faith.	Independent means reporting events or facts in accordance with the voice of conscience without interference, coercion, and intervention from other parties, including the owner of the press company. Accurate means believed to be true according to the objective circumstances when the event occurred. Balanced means all parties receive an equal opportunity. Not in bad faith means there is no intention to intentionally and solely cause harm to other parties.
2	Article 2 Indonesian journalists adopt professional methods in carrying out their journalistic duties.	Professional methods are showing identity to sources; respecting privacy rights; not bribing; producing news that is factual and clear about its sources; engineering the taking and posting or broadcasting of pictures, photos, and sounds accompanied by information about the source and presented in a balanced manner; respecting the traumatic experiences of sources in the presentation of pictures, photos, and sounds; and not plagiarizing, including declaring the results of other journalists' coverage as their own work. The use of certain methods can be considered for investigative news coverage for the public interest.
3	Article 3 Indonesian journalists always test information, report in a balanced manner, do not mix facts and judgmental opinions, and apply the presumption of innocence.	Testing information means checking and rechecking its truth. Balanced is giving each side proportional space or time in the news. Judgmental opinion is the journalist's personal opinion. This is different from interpretive opinion, which is the journalist's interpretation of the facts. Presumption of innocence is the principle of not judging someone.
4	Article 4 Indonesian journalists do not make false, slanderous, sadistic and obscene news.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A lie is something that the journalist already knows to be false. b. Slander means a baseless accusation made deliberately with bad intentions. c. Sadistic means cruel and merciless.

5	Article 5	Indonesian journalists do not mention and broadcast the identity of victims of moral crimes and do not mention the identity of children who are perpetrators of crimes.	d. Obscene means the depiction of erotic behavior by photographs, images, sounds, graphics or writings solely to arouse lust. e. When broadcasting images and sounds from the archive, journalists must include the time when the images and sounds were taken.
6	Article 6	Indonesian journalists do not abuse their profession and do not accept bribes.	a. Identity is all data and information concerning a person who makes it easy for others to trace. b. A child is a person who is less than 16 years old and unmarried.
7	Article 7	Indonesian journalists have the right to refuse to protect sources who are not willing to know their identity or whereabouts, respect embargo provisions, background information, and off the record in accordance with the agreement.	a. Professional misconduct is any action that takes personal advantage of information obtained while on duty before the information becomes public knowledge. b. Bribery is any gift in the form of money, objects, or facilities from other parties that affects independence. c. The right of refusal is the right not to reveal the identity and whereabouts of the source for the safety of the source and his/her family. d. Embargo is the postponement of loading or broadcasting news in accordance with the request of the source.
8	Article 8	Indonesian journalists do not write or broadcast news based on prejudice or discrimination against a person on the basis of ethnicity, race, color, religion, sex, and language and do not dehumanize the weak, poor, sick, mentally disabled or physically disabled.	c. Background information is any information or data from a source that is broadcast or reported without mentioning the source. d. Off the record is any information or data from a source that may not be broadcast or reported. a. Prejudice is an unfavorable opinion about something before knowing it clearly. b. Discrimination is differential treatment.

9	Article 9 Indonesian journalists respect the rights of sources about their private lives, except for the public interest.	a. Respecting the rights of sources is an attitude of restraint and caution. b. Private life encompasses all aspects of a person's life and their family's life that are not related to the public interest.
10	Article 10 Indonesian journalists immediately retract, rectify and correct erroneous and inaccurate news accompanied by an apology to readers, listeners and or viewers.	a. Immediate means taking action as soon as possible, whether or not there is any external reprimand. b. An apology is conveyed if the error is related to the main substance.
11	Article 11 Indonesian journalists serve the right of reply and the right of correction proportionally	a. The right of reply is the right of a person or group of people to provide a response or rebuttal to news in the form of facts that harm their good name. b. The right of correction is the right of every person to correct erroneous information reported by the press, either about himself or about others. c. Proportional means equal to the part of the news that needs to be corrected

Identity in reporting on sexual violence has additional consequences. The experience of several service agencies shows that disclosing victims' identities often leads to stigmatization, labeling, lack of family and community support, and exploitation in the news. In short, the process of providing support and remedial work has proven ineffective, and the problems faced by victims have become increasingly complex. Article 5 of the Journalistic Code of Ethics states that "Indonesian journalists shall not disclose or broadcast the identities of victims of sexual crimes" when covering news about sexual harassment.

The victim's identity makes it easier for people to trace the victim's personal information, such as the victim's name, parents' names, home or place of residence, school address, and office address. It is crucial for journalists to adhere to journalistic ethics, which consist of principles, rules, and ethics.²⁴ Press Council Appeal Number 189 of 2013

²⁴ Mohamad Tohari et al., "Mairil and Nyempet as Child Sexual Violence in Pesantren: Contradictions of Traditional Norms, Religion, and Criminal Law Policy in Indonesia," *Indonesian Journal of Criminal Law Studies* 9, no. 1 (2024), <https://doi.org/10.15294/ijcls.v9i1.50291>.

concerning reporting on violations of the law reiterates Article 5 of the Journalistic Code of Ethics, mentioned previously.

In this appeal, the Press Council urges journalists to be more vigilant in protecting victims of sexual crimes, who are usually women and children. The aim of this appeal is to prevent victims from committing further crimes and to reduce the trauma they experience.²⁵

There is a close relationship between reporting on sexual violence and victim protection. The media must comply with the rights of victims to protect them. This means they must not reveal the victim's identity, not stigmatize the victim as the cause of the violence, not reinforce stereotypes of the victim, not re-judge the victim, not use biased diction, not use biased sources (those irrelevant to the topic of the news), and However, responsiveness to gender discrimination refers to five (5) types of gender discrimination, namely labeling (stereotyping), double burden, subordination, marginalization, and violence.

C. Implementation of Child-Friendly News Regulations

According to Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection, children under 18, including unborn children, are protected by law.²⁶ Several laws guarantee child protection, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child, amended by Presidential Decree Number 36 of 1990, Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection, and Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Amendments to Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection.

In the 2019 Child-Friendly Reporting Guidelines, the Press Council explains that media workers must pay attention to reporting related to children in their home countries because children are often victims or victims of harm. They must pay attention to the child's identity, including their face, initials, name, address, and school, whether intentionally or unintentionally, to prevent children from being effectively protected. Reporting about children, in particular, must not

²⁵ Triantono et al., “), Etika Jurnalistik Pemberitaan Kekerasan Seksual Di Media Dalam Pendekatan Perlindungan Korban Dan Responsif Gender.”

²⁶ “Seruan Dewan Pers Nomor: 01/S-DP/XI/2023 Tentang Ketaatan Terhadap Pedoman Pemberitaan Ramah Anak.”

use harsh or vulgar language.²⁷ However, images of children disguised with masks or with obscured faces often depict identifiable characters.

Press companies and organizations in Indonesia will develop Child-Friendly Writing Guidelines. Indonesian journalists recognize that reporting on events related to children must be managed carefully and not overly so. Initiated by a group of press communities, the Guidelines for reporting on children were created. In Indonesia, a structure consisting of journalists, press companies, and press organizations has agreed to create Child-Friendly Writing Guidelines as a guide for journalistic work. Indonesian journalists recognize that reporting on events related to children must be managed carefully and not overly so.²⁸

1) Model Regulation for Child-Friendly Reporting

The Child-Friendly Reporting Guidelines limit reporting to anyone under 18 (eighteen) years of age, whether living or deceased, married or unmarried. Child identity must be protected by all information and data about the child that allows others to know them, such as name, photo, picture, names of siblings, parents, uncles, aunts, grandparents, and supporting information such as home address, village address, school, groups or clubs attended, and special objects that identify the child.

2) Purpose and Function of Child-Friendly Reporting Regulations (PPRA)

The child-friendly reporting guidelines establish the responsibility of the Press Council and members of the press to protect children from violence perpetrated by the media. One-third (84.75 million) of Indonesian children will benefit significantly from the implementation of the PPR.A.²⁹ The media can receive assessed protection and encourage the press community to produce news that is positive, empathetic, and aimed at protecting children. The child-friendly reporting

²⁷ "Seruan Dewan Pers Nomor: 01/S-DP/XI/2023 Tentang Ketaatan Terhadap Pedoman Pemberitaan Ramah Anak."

²⁸ "Seruan Dewan Pers Nomor: 01/S-DP/XI/2023 Tentang Ketaatan Terhadap Pedoman Pemberitaan Ramah Anak."

²⁹ Windiarto T et al., "Profil Anak Indonesia" (Jakarta: Kementerian Pemberdayaan Perempuan dan Perlindungan Anak dan Biro Pusat Statistik, 2019).

guidelines aim to ensure the fulfillment of children's rights to live, grow, develop, and participate optimally in accordance with human dignity, as well as to be protected from violence and discrimination, for the sake of realizing the well-being of Indonesian children.

3) Child-Friendly Reporting Guidelines (PPRA) Regulations

The details of the Child-Friendly Reporting Guidelines are as follows³⁰:

- a. Journalists must keep the identity of children confidential when disclosing information about them, especially those suspected, suspected, or accused of committing a crime or convicted of a crime.
- b. Journalists must present facts factually using sentences, narratives, visuals, and audio that convey a positive and empathetic tone, and avoid descriptions or reconstructions of events of a sexual or sadistic nature;
- c. Journalists must not seek or dig up information about matters beyond the child's capacity to answer, such as death, divorce, parental or family infidelity, violence or crime, conflict, and disasters caused by trauma.
- d. Journalists may use visuals to supplement information about events involving children related to legal issues, but must not broadcast visuals or audio that highlight or associate the child's identity with the child.
- e. Journalists must create news with a positive tone and emphasize their achievements.
- f. Journalists avoid seeking information and revealing the whereabouts of children under the protection of the Witness and Victim Protection Agency (LPSK).
- g. Journalists avoid interviewing child witnesses if the perpetrator is still at large..

³⁰ "Seruan Dewan Pers Nomor: 01/S-DP/XI/2023 Tentang Ketaatan Terhadap Pedoman Pemberitaan Ramah Anak."

- h. Journalists refrain from identifying sexual crime perpetrators who have blood or family ties to the child victim. If this is established, journalists must immediately determine the child's identity. Specifically for cyber media, news that mentions an identity and has already been published must be re-edited to prevent the child's identity from being revealed.
- i. In cases of news about a missing or held hostage child, it is permitted to reveal the child's identity. However, if their whereabouts are later discovered, the child's identity must not be disclosed, and the previous news report must be deleted.
- j. Journalists do not reveal the identity of children involved by adults in political activities or activities that contain ethnicity, religion, race, and intergroup relations (SARA).
- k. Journalists do not report on children using material (video/photo/status/audio) from social media .

Journalists working in juvenile justice must comply with the regulations stipulated in the Juvenile Criminal Justice System Law. According to Law Number 40 of 1999 concerning the Press and the applicable Press Council Regulations, the final assessment of disputes regarding these Guidelines is carried out by the Press Council.

4) Convention on the Rights of the Child

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), also known as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), was established in 1989 and guarantees children's civil, political, economic, social, health, and cultural rights.³¹ The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child enables governments worldwide to enter into treaties guaranteeing equal rights for all children. This Convention stipulates everything a state must do to ensure every child has

³¹ Leny Nurhayanti Rosalin and Harla Sara Octarra, "Konvensi Hak-Hak Anak: Bagaimana Implementasinya Di Indonesia?", Puskapa, 2018.

the opportunity to grow up in a healthy environment, attend school, be protected, have their views heard, and be treated fairly.³²

Article 1 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child defines a child as anyone under the age of 18. However, the article also recognizes that the laws of each State Party may set different ages of consent. For instance, the laws of each State Party may set different ages of consent for employment, participation in elections, alcohol consumption, criminal liability, or potential death penalty. States Parties should treat the Convention on the Rights of the Child standards as the lowest standard and amend their laws to align with them. The Convention on the Rights of the Child consists of 54 articles and is the broadest international instrument covering human rights. It consists of Part One (Articles 1-4), which addresses the rights of all children; Part Two (Articles 42-45), which addresses the monitoring and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child; and Part Three (Articles 46-54), which addresses individual rights.³³

There are four different ways to categorize the Convention on the Rights of the Child based on its content. The first is based on the Mother Convention on Human Rights, which states that the Convention on the Rights of the Child encompasses civil, economic, and socio-cultural rights. The second refers to the parties responsible for implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child, namely the state and adults responsible for fulfilling children's rights.

Third, based on a long-established division, the Convention on the Rights of the Child can be divided into four categories: the right to survival, the right to development, the right to protection, and the right to participation in community life. Fourth, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child

³² Diarassouba, "Konvensi Hak-Hak Anak Versi Anak-Anak," UNICEF, 2025.

³³ Diarassouba.

divides the Convention into eight categories, as follows³⁴: 1) general implementation measures; 2) definition of a child; 3) general principles; 4) civil rights and liberty; 5) family environment and alternative care; 6) basic health and well-being; 7) education; and 8) leisure and cultural activities.

These are specific protection measures that children can take. The first three groups, from one to three, are cross-categories, while the last five groups—four to eight—constitute substantive categories of children's rights. This type of division is more widely used by those interested in the Convention on the Rights of the Child because it provides a comprehensive framework and encompasses the previous division methods.³⁵

5) Social Responsibility Theory of the Press

According to the social responsibility theory of the press, the media must serve the interests of society. This theory emerged from the realization that during the 20th century, mass media—especially electronic media—had developed and demanded new social responsibilities. Some sections of the press interpreted the social responsibility theory as follows: “Absolute press freedom has often led to moral decadence. Therefore, this theory sees the need for a press and journalistic system based on morals and ethics.” A libertarian system can meet the needs of society if the press recognizes its responsibilities and uses them as the basis for its operational policies.³⁶

If the press refuses to assume its responsibilities, another organization in society must assume responsibility for mass communication. The theory of socially responsible press

³⁴ Leny Nurhayanti Rosalin and Octarra, “Konvensi Hak-Hak Anak: Bagaimana Implemetasinya Di Indonesia?”

³⁵ Aulia Febriyanti Pratiwi, “PRAKTIK JURNALISTIK DALAM REGULASI PEMBERITAAN TENTANG ANAK (Studi Komparasi Framing Pemberitaan Tidak Ramah Anak Pada Media INews Dan Medcom.Id),” Skripsi, Universitas Islam Negeri Syarif Hidayatullah, 2023.

³⁶ Rati Angraini, “ETIKA WARTAWAN DALAM PELIPUTAN BERITA KRIMINAL DI INewsTV SUMSEL,” *Skripsi, UIN Raden Fatah*, 2016.

attempts to address the distinction between media freedom and social responsibility.

In 1949, Robert Hutchins's famous "Commission on the Welfare of the Press" report proposed five requirements for a press responsible to society³⁷: 1) the media must present reliable, comprehensive, and intelligent daily news in a meaningful context; 2) the media must serve as a forum for the exchange of criticism and opinion; 3) the media must project a truly representative picture of the constituent groups in society; 4) the media must explain and present the goals and values of society; and 5) the media must ensure that all people have access to hidden information.

6) Legal Protection Theory.

Fitzgerald stated, as quoted by Satjipto Raharjo, that this legal protection theory originates from natural law theory, or the natural law school. Plato, Aristotle (who was Plato's student), and Zeno (who founded the Stoic school) were the pioneers of this school. The natural law school holds that law and morality originate from God, and are universal, and eternal; there is no distinction between the two. Adherents of this school believe that law and morality represent the internal and external rules of human life.³⁸

Article 1, paragraph 4 of Law Number 23 of 2004 concerning Domestic Violence (PKDRT) states that "Legal protection is any effort aimed at providing a sense of security to victims, carried out by family members, advocates, social institutions, the police, the prosecutor's office, the courts, or other parties, whether temporary or based on a court decision".³⁹

Meanwhile, legal protection experts define community protection as any effort to provide the rights and assistance to witnesses or victims so they feel safe. Protection for crime

³⁷ Muhammad Asrun and Mukhlis Muhammad Maududi, Kebebasan Pers Di Era Reformasi (Sebuah Kajian Kritis) (Bogor: UIKA PRESS, 2023).

³⁸ Satjipto Rahardjo, *Ilmu Hukum*, 8th ed. (Bandung: Citra Aditya Bakti, 2006).

³⁹ Republik Indonesia, "Undang-Undang (UU) Nomor 23 Tahun 2004 Tentang Penghapusan Kekerasan Dalam Rumah Tangga" (n.d.).

victims can be carried out in various forms, such as restitution, compensation, medical services, legal aid, redress, and restorative justice methods.⁴⁰

7) Law Enforcement Theory

Soerjono Soekanto describes law enforcement as the process of uniting strong values within principles and strong attitudes and actions as a series of final value elaborations to realize, maintain, and sustain peace in social life. Specifically, law enforcement means the application of positive law in real life as it should be done. Therefore, providing justice in a case means making concrete legal decisions by upholding and ensuring compliance with material law through the processes established by formal law.⁴¹

The influencing factors and the surrounding circumstances are the primary issues in law enforcement. These factors are neutral, so their positive or negative impacts depend on what they encompass, including⁴²: a). the legal factor itself; b). law enforcement factors, namely the parties who create and implement the law; c). societal factors, namely the environment in which the law is implemented; d). facilities or infrastructure that support law enforcement; e). cultural factors, namely the works, creations, and feelings based on human initiative in social life; and f). environmental factors.

This theory states that criminal law enforcement is related to the criminal justice system. Ali Said stated that the criminal justice system is a collaboration of institutions

⁴⁰ Soerjono Soekanto, *Pengantar Penelitian Hukum* (Jakarta: Universitas Indonesia UI-PRESS, 2006); Indra Ardiansyah et al., “Taking Restitution Seriously?: Victim-Oriented Gaps in the Criminal Justice System,” *IJCLS (Indonesian Journal of Criminal Law Studies)* 10, no. 1 (2025), <https://doi.org/10.15294/ijcls.v10i1.19636>.

⁴¹ Dellyana Shant, “Konsep Penegakan Hukum” (Yogyakarta: Liberty, 1998).

⁴² Soerjono Soekanto, “Faktor-Faktor Yang Mempengaruhi Penegakan Hukum,” (Jakarta: Rajawali Press, 2010).

involved in criminal justice, although each element has a different function, the purpose of the system is the same.⁴³

D. Journalistic Ethics and the Death of Press Ethics

Any discussion of codes of ethics always begins with an understanding of ethics. According to Hamzah Ya'qub (1990:95), ethics is the study of promoting principles of right and wrong. Insanjumalis states that the media can disseminate information, exercise constructive social control, convey public aspirations, and enhance social communication and public expectations.

An ethical handbook, or ethical guidebook, is necessary for professional journalists who can ensure that every fact revealed is accurate and objective. In other words, journalists, especially reporters, have a moral responsibility. It is crucial for journalists to establish positive relationships with both sources and news sources.⁴⁴

Activities related to the media and the wider public are known as the press. Journalism is the process of seeking, exploring, gathering, processing, and publishing information based on reliable sources. As we know, the study of ethics, initiated by Aristotle (384-322 BC), is based on the etymology of the word "ethics," which derives from the ancient Greek word "ethos," which in the plural becomes "etha," meaning customs. "Press ethics" is always linked to the Journalistic Code of Ethics, which all journalists must follow to be accountable for their work, namely seeking and conveying information. Indonesian journalists need a moral and professional ethical foundation to safeguard press freedom and fulfill the public's right to accurate information. This ethical framework will help them maintain public trust and uphold professionalism and integrity. Therefore, Indonesian journalists adopt and adhere to the Journalistic Code of Ethics (KEJ)⁴⁵:

⁴³ EVANDREAS SARAGIH, "PERTANGGUNGJAWABAN PIDANA TENTANG PERKARA TINDAK PIDANA PENGHINAAN TERHADAP PRESIDEN MELALUI MEDIA SOSIAL," Skripsi, Fakultas Hukum Universitas Sriwijaya, 2019.

⁴⁴ Hamdan Daulay, "Kobe Etik Jurnalistik Dan Kebebasan Pers Di Indonesia Ditinjau Dari Perspektif Islam," *Jurnal Penelitian Agama* XVII, no. 2 (2008).

⁴⁵ Syamsuri Bektii Nugroho, "Pers Berkualitas Masyarakat Cerdas, Cetakan Pertama" (Jakarta: Dewan Pres, 2013).

- 1) Indonesian journalists are independent, produce accurate, balanced news, and do not act in bad faith.
- 2) Indonesian journalists employ professional methods in carrying out their journalistic duties.
- 3) Indonesian journalists always verify information, report in a balanced manner, do not mix facts and judgmental opinions, and apply the principle of the presumption of innocence.
- 4) Indonesian journalists do not produce false, slanderous, sadistic, or obscene news.
- 5) Indonesian journalists do not identify or broadcast the identities of victims of sexual crimes or child perpetrators.
- 6) Indonesian journalists do not abuse their profession and do not accept bribes.
- 7) Indonesian journalists have the right to refuse to protect sources who do not want their identity or whereabouts known and respect embargo provisions, background information, and “off the record” reporting, as agreed.
- 8) Indonesian journalists do not write or broadcast news based on prejudice or discrimination against individuals based on ethnicity, race, color, religion, gender, or language, and do not demean the dignity of the weak, poor, sick, mentally or physically disabled.
- 9) Indonesian journalists respect the rights of sources to disclose their private lives, except in the public interest.
- 10) Indonesian journalists immediately retract, rectify, and correct erroneous or inaccurate news, accompanied by an apology to readers, listeners, and/or viewers.
- 11) Indonesian journalists exercise the right of reply and correction proportionally.

In fact, numerous laws and ethics govern the press industry in Indonesia. Some of these include the Indonesian Journalists' Code of Ethics (KEWI), Law No. 40 of 1999 concerning the Press, Law No. 32 of 2002 concerning Broadcasting, and the Broadcasting Code of Conduct and Broadcast Program Standards (PPP-SPS). Although the basic principles of journalism depend on codes of ethics, according to Alviano Andrianto (2007), press ethics are standards that govern how media broadcast programs, news, or information. Moral awareness,

namely knowledge of what is good and bad, right and wrong, and appropriate and inappropriate, is the source of press ethics.

According to this opinion, journalists (press members) must select and convey information responsibly before reporting. This procedure is done to ensure the news they convey is truly accurate and trustworthy. One underlying problem is that becoming a journalist or publishing news is too easy in this era of press freedom and digitalization. Even Lukas Suwarso, who served as Executive Secretary of the Press Council from 2007 to 2010, stated that being a “journalist” is the same as being a street busker, and selling goods on the sidewalk is the same as publishing a press. Being a busker or a street vendor is even more difficult than being a “journalist” or “publishing a press.” This distinction is because buskers require guitar skills, and street vendors require daily payment of fees. Indeed, this is a profoundly meaningful statement. Journalists and press managers should ideally understand that ethics is the prevailing norm in a society that recognizes and understands ethics. This means that only those who understand ethics, in addition to possessing the necessary journalistic skills and expertise, can enter the press world. When ethical standards are neither internalized nor recognized, the situation becomes unusual.⁴⁶

Furthermore, there are procedural and functional institutions responsible for enforcing press law and ethics, such as the Press Council and the Indonesian Broadcasting Commission. However, these ethics, regulations, and institutions do not automatically resolve ethical issues in the Indonesian press. Currently, there is a lot of disinformation circulating whose veracity is unclear. Furthermore, today's media is often part of politics. Political elites use the mass media to advance the interests of various socio-political groups in democratic societies. The mass media has now developed into an industry that sells information as a commodity for public consumption with the aim of generating profits for its owners. Political elites can even control the mass media entirely by purchasing media companies directly.

Today, the phenomenon of using the mass media as a political tool to advance the interests of certain groups has become commonplace and

⁴⁶ Mahmud Ashari, “Pers Dalam Lingkaran Kebebasan Dan Etika,” Djkn Kemenkeu, 2022.

continues to occur at the national and regional levels. Furthermore, there are often excessive image-building campaigns, discriminatory attitudes toward certain groups, and various attempts to suppress reported information.⁴⁷

As users of information, we must maintain morality. We need to distinguish between true and false news reports. We need to steer clear of issues that political interests create. A journalist must always follow a journalistic code of ethics. However, issues of press ethics depend not only on standards set by professional associations, national laws, and authorized institutions; individuals must also be responsible for their own ethical practices.⁴⁸

Conclusion

Children are a crucial topic globally, so journalists must pay greater attention to the impact on society, as well as on perpetrators, victims, or witnesses under the age of 18. The press is responsible for conveying information to the public. If they misinterpret and frame news, the public will not receive accurate information, even if the information they convey may be inaccurate.

We advise the public, especially in Indonesia, to enhance their literacy as news and information readers. In the modern era, where the flow of information is increasingly rapid and unpredictable, individuals with sufficient knowledge enable us to continuously learn a wealth of information and avoid easily believing viral news, which can sometimes be detrimental to readers.

The press must have a journalistic code of ethics, principles of professionalism, and oversight from various parties to maintain independence and balance between the desire for media commercialization and the public interest.

Journalists need oversight not only when covering news but also when conveying information to media subscribers. When all journalists understand and apply the journalistic code of ethics, there is no need for

⁴⁷ Suci Lestari, "Matinya Etika Pers," Bumi Serumpun Sebalai Babelprov.go.id Provinsi Kepulauan Bangka Belitung, 2020.

⁴⁸ Lestari.

bias control. Journalists are like drivers: they have a lot of information and have to choose whether it is truthful or false.

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