# Framework for Handling Sexual Violence in Indonesian Universities

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#### **Abstract**

Prior to the promulgation of the Regulation of The Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia (Mendikbudristek) Number 30 of 2021, several universities have established a procedure of preventing and handling sexual violence cases in their respective domains. The promulgation has since encouraged commitment of these institutions to actively tackle the issue. This article elaborates the patterns of handling of sexual violence in seven Indonesian universities using qualitative method and pragmatic approach. Instead of addressing to certain theories, this method focuses on providing answers for a concrete issue. The researchers obtained the data by conducting in-depth interviews, focus group discussion, and document analysis. As results, there are two categories of status, including the institutions that had already assembled a special task force for preventing and handling sexual violence prior to the issuance of the regulation and the institutions that had not. From these two categories, the researchers found three patterns and propose a framework for handling of sexual violence in Indonesian universities. The designed model is based on a compilation of various handling procedures, implemented best practices, and violence prevention measures in higher education. It complements the already implemented procedures in accordance with regulations.. It is hoped that this framework will assist universities that do not yet have or need to change their procedures for addressing sexual violence.

#### Keywords

sexual violence pattern; framework; Indonesian university; procedure

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## INTRODUCTION

Indonesia ranks second place after India for the most dangerous country for women among 14 Asia-Pacific countries. One of three women in this country has suffered sexual abuse. This situation instigated activists to demand the promulgation of sexual violation bill (Heriyanto, 2019). Nevertheless, reports on sexual violence cases remain low due to indignity and self-incrimination.

Sexual violence represents a significant public health concern that impacts a substantial portion of college students (Heard et al., 2023). Annually, sexual violence cases in Indonesia have been escalating. According to the BADILAG (Religious Courts) and service agencies, there are 454,772 cases in 2021. These cases commonly occurred in educational institutions and mostly in universities (Elindawati, 2021). From 2015 to 2020, 27% of the cases has taken place in universities, 19% in boarding schools, and 15% in high and vocational schools (National Commission on Violence Against Women, 2020). Several victims have committed suicide with the staggering fact that the some of the perpetrators are lawenforcement officers.

Sexual violence on college campuses is a significant concern for both public health and human rights. Sexual violence in universities has surged, leading to increased silence among victims due to fear and shame, and there is no clear mechanism to safeguard their rights (Yusran et al., 2023). Recent studies suggest that around 20% of female students and approximately 6% of male students encounter victimization during their time in college (Cantor et al., 2019; Krebs et al., 2016). In universities, sexual violence frequently occurs due to power abuse and deviation by individuals with higher status to their subordinates, for example, a lecturer to a student, an employee to another employee, or a student to another student. This misconduct may as well be committed by a student to a lecturer or a woman to a man. The data shows that the majority of students has been sexually abused at least once by a familiar or a stranger (Rusyidi et al., 2019).

The existence of power relation provides a chance for the perpetrators to commit a sexual violence. It makes the victims reluctant to file a report since they often feel ashamed and are intimidated by the perpetrators. Instead, in some cases, the perpetrators reported the victims under a pretext of defamation (Ishak, 2020; Sumintak & Idi, 2022). With the rampant cases of sexual violence in universities, the government issued the Regulation of Mendikbudristek Number 30 of 2021 (Virgistasari & Irawan, 2022). After the promulgation, many reports regarding sexual violence cases have been filed (CNN Indonesia, 2021).

Various studies have investigated sexual violence in universities. The results show that the victims were disinclined to file a report due to power relation. Additionally, the fact that the victims were identified as women caused imbalance of power relation. The culture of victim-blaming diminishes the act of sexual violence (Dewi, 2022; Elindawati, 2021; Faharini & Handayani, 2021).

A study in UIN Walisongo Semarang reported the lack of regulation regarding prevention and handling prevention of sexual violence in the institution. The unit, which functions to prevent and handle sexual violence, was not well-integrated with the Center of Gender and Children Studies and the facilities and infrastructures were not qualified for establishing a gender-based and gender-friendly education. Therefore, a collaboration between stakeholders and board leaders is necessary to create a space that is amicable and safe from sexual violence (Marfu'ah & Rofi'ah, 2021).

The Rector's Decree of UIN Mataram Number 2355 of 2020 on the Prevention and Handling of Sexual Violence in UIN Mataram, dated September 10, 2020, has been applied. This decree needs to be supported by an ideal bureaucracy and human resources. Human resources are essential to provide an environment and culture of a university that is gender-friendly and free of sexual violence (Nikmatullah, 2020).

Meanwhile, the students of STKIP PGRI Jombang were well-informed with the prevention and handling prevention of sexual violence in the institution. However, they did not know how to report any case, where they should report the case to, and what protection the victim will be provided with. Even though the average students were familiar with the Regulation of Mendikbudristek Number 30 of 2021, most of them did not recognize the procedure or regulation regarding the prevention and handling prevention of sexual violence in the institution (Puspitasari, 2022).

Evidently, these studies did not discuss the details of the procedures that have been successfully implemented by various universities. Therefore, it is of importance to conduct a study elaborating various effective procedures implemented by universities. These procedures are expected to be the references for other universities, especially after the issuance of the Permendikbudristek Number 30 of 2021. To address the shortcomings of the procedures for addressing and preventing sexual violence, a general framework is required to ensure the broad implementation of these procedures within the university environment. This research will conduct a detailed analysis of the existing procedures and propose a general framework for handling of sexual violence in higher education institutions.

#### **METHOD**

This study employed a qualitative design with pragmatic approach. This approach does not orient to theories and strives to search for the solutions for life's concrete issues (Patton, 2002). It is relevant to seek for the model of sexual violence handling. The primary data sources were the statements of the task force units or those focusing on the handling of sexual violence in universities, the experts, and other informants relevant to the topic.

The researchers collected the data and applied three data collection including in-depth interviews, Focus Group Discussion (FGD), and document analysis between 2022 and 2023. The data collection process took place at seven public universities in

Indonesia that had established standardized procedures for addressing cases of sexual violence, such as Universitas Terbuka, Universitas Negeri Semarang, Universitas Negeri Yogyakarta, Universitas Jenderal Soedirman, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia and Universitas Pembangunan Nasional Veteran. The initial phase involved collecting various documents related to procedures for addressing sexual violence, as well as identifying the challenges and obstacles faced by various universities. In-depth interviews were conducted with the task force members at each university selected as samples. There are 30 questions for handling sexual violence. However, the obstacles and challenges faced in handling such cases before the implementation of the regulation. These interviews aimed to gain insights into the implemented procedures for handling sexual violence. Additionally, FGD were conducted with 3 experts for recommending procedures for addressing sexual violence in higher education institutions.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

# Handling of Sexual Violence in Universitas Terbuka

Universitas Terbuka (UT) has organized a public testing and training to appoint Selection Committee candidates to implement the Permendikbudristek Number 30 of 2021. On August 29, 2022, the institution assigned the selected committee as Satgas PPKS (the Task Force for Prevention and Handling of Sexual Violence) based on the Rector's Decree Number 4206/UN31/HK.02/2022.

"... the Rector's Decree for the Selection Committee has been issued. After this, the committee will determine the task force ..." (Arie/UT/August 29, 2022)

Before the promulgation of the Permendikbudristek Number 30 of 2021, the prevention and handling of sexual violence were managed referring to the Government Regulation Number 94 of 2021 on the Disciplinary Code for Civil Servants. The pro-

cedure was performed through stages from supervisor to a higher level according to the types of violation. Below are the statements of the informants:

"In UT, when a case of sexual violence occurs, the victims or other parties may report it to their supervisor with at least two forms of evidence, for example, a photo and a chat history, or directly to the rector. Generally, the rector will forward the case to the responsible unit for a follow-up." Heti/UT/05 November 2022)

"The direct supervisor will summon the reporting party and reported party in two separate occasions to collect more information. In this situation, they apply the rules regarding violation of civil servant disciplinary code. If the reported party is not a civil servant, the case refers to the common code of civil servant. If the result of BAP (Police Investigation Report) states that the reported party is guilty, the authority will examine at what level the violation is: minor, moderate or serio-

us one. From there, we can see who will have the authority to impose the sanction. It could be the direct supervisor, the vice rector, the rector, or even a minister." (Heti/UT/o5 November 2022)

"Some time ago, a student filed a report on a case of WhatsApp number disclosure that led to an obscene activity in social media. However, the result of investigation by UT authority showed that the disclosure did not involve UT students. Currently, all reports regarding students' problems are handled by the UPBJJ (Distance Learning Implementation Unit) or the Vice Rector III's office. Sometimes, students immediately see the rector." (Devi/UT/14 November 2022)

Based on the results of interviews and document analysis regarding ethical code and disciplinary code for civil servants, the handling of sexual violence in UT prior to the promulgation of the Permendikbudristek Number 30 of 2021 are described in Figure 1.

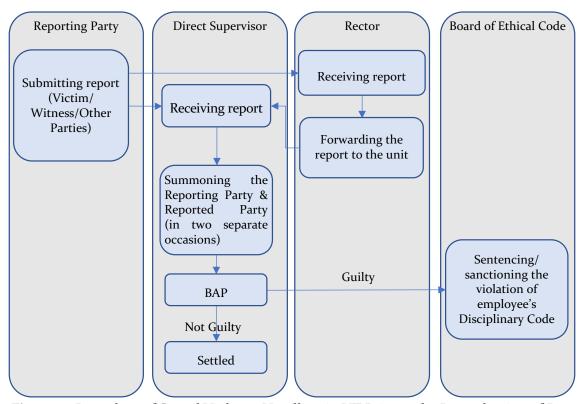


Figure 1. Procedure of Sexual Violence Handling in UT Prior to the Promulgation of Permendikbudristek Number 30 of 2021

Source: Results of Interviews with Informants (2022)

# Handling of Sexual Violence in Universitas Negeri Yogyakarta

By the time this study was conducted, Universitas Negeri Yogyakarta (UNY) was still in the process of establishing the Selection Committee appointment for Satgas PPKS. Below is the statement of the informant.

"We have to wait for the decree of the ministry to be issued, in which the procedure requires the establishment of committee. However, since we also wait for the decree regarding this establishment, we cannot constitute a task force. In responding acts of sexual violence, I was appointed, among other officials, to assist and mediate ... (Basuki/UNY/June 25, 2022)

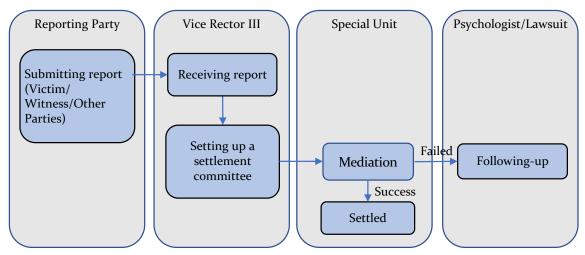
Despite the establishment process, on March 18, 2022, UNY issued the Rector's Degree Number 6 of 2022 on Sexual Violence Countermeasure in Universitas Negeri Yogyakarta. The Chapter IV Part Three Article 3 states that sexual violence countermeasure in UNY comprises prevention and handling of sexual violence. The prevention (Chapter IV Article 8) includes; Dissemination of sexual violence prevention; Dissemination of anti-sexual violence programs and policies in UNY; Prevention by compelling students, educators, and educational staff to study the Prevention and Handling of Sexual Violence module issued by the ministry;

Interdisciplinary studies of sexual violence; Management of safe and proper facilities and infrastructures in the institution; Prevention through governance reinforcement; Implementation of awareness and vigilance in preventing and handling sexual violence; Strengthening of Health and Sport Center and Guidance and Counseling Service; Prevention through cultural reinforcement in community, students, educators, and educational staff by means of communication, information, and education regarding handling of sexual violence.

UNY also provides a counseling service to all of its affiliates and public. This service can be accessed through a google form link. It provides a wide selection of the counselors' names and photos.

Before the promulgation of Permendikbudristek Number 30 of 2021, the Office of Vice Rector III of UNY formed a special unit for handling the cases of sexual violation comprising legal executives, counselors, and lecturers who are expert in obtaining information from victims. Below is the statement of the informant:

"... in UNY, before we had the task unit, we set up a committee of executives from the legal bureau, counselors from the counseling unit, and eligible lecturers. We appointed this committee to handle the mediation" ... (Basuki/UNY/June 25, 2022)



**Figure 2.** The Procedure of Sexual Violence Handling in UNY Prior to the Promulgation of Permendikbudristek Number 30 of 2021

Source: Results of Interviews with a UNY Informant (2022)

The handling of sexual violence in UNY prior to the promulgation of the Permendikbudristek Number 30 of 2021 are described in Figure 2.

# Handling of Sexual Violence in Universitas Negeri Semarang

Prior to the promulgation of the Permendikbudristek Number 30 of 2021, UNNES has specifically set rules for its affiliates regarding sexual violation in the Rector's Decree Number 44 of 2018 on Ethics and Code of Conduct for Students of Universitas Negeri Semarang. Chapter V Article 8 of the regulation includes prohibitions, violations, and sanctions for sexual misconducts (immorality, free sex, pornography, sexual harassment and/or rape, and paramour relationship).

Moreover, Article 9 indicates the classification of violations. All acts of sexual misconducts mentioned earlier, except for sexual harassment and/or rape, are classified as moderate violation. Meanwhile, an act of sexual harassment and/or rape is classified as serious violation. If the moderate violation is being committed two times, it can be upgraded to a serious violation.

The sanction for minor violation is in form of verbal and written reprimands. For the moderate one, the sanction can be in form of: (1) postponement of proposal seminar, proposal examination, bachelor thesis, master thesis, and dissertation within a certain time period; (2) revocation of entitlement in student activities within a certain time period; (3) revocation of entitlement in employing facilities and benefits in a certain time period; (4) temporary dismissal as a student (suspension) for a maximum of 2 (two) semesters.

Meanwhile, the sanction for serious violation comprises: (1) cancellation of final project, bachelor thesis, master thesis, or dissertation; (2) revocation of title, withdrawal of diploma, and withdrawal of academic transcript; (3) prohibition of participating all academic activities within a certain time period; (4) temporary dismissal as a student (suspension) for a maximum of 4 (four) semesters; (5) discontinuation of status as a

student by Letter of Resignation; and (6) revocation of student's status.

The reporting procedure starts from the Vice Dean III or the Dean and proceeds to the Vice Rectors or the Rector. The Vice Dean III will form the Faculty Board of Ethics. The team will summon the reporting and reported parties and identify the level of the case. Since sexual violence falls to the category of moderate or serious violation, the case will be forwarded to the Vice Rector III and will be handled by the University Board of Ethics. Eventually, the Student Ethics Board will hold a trial and decide whether the reported party is sanctioned with a suspension or a drop-out. Below is the statement of the Chief of Satgas PPKS UNNES:

> "Before the formation of Satgas, the reporting procedure began from the Vice rector III or the Dean and then continued to the Vice Rectors or the Rector. The Vice Dean III formed the Faculty Board of Ethics and the team summoned the reporting and reported parties to determine the level of violation. The result was forwarded to the University Board of Ethics. In the last stage, the Student Ethics Board will hold a trial and decide whether the reported party is sanctioned with a suspension or a drop-out." (Azil/UNNES/September 26,

For minor cases, the allegation of student ethics and code of conduct violation are settled by the faculty or post-graduate program. (2) For moderate and serious cases, the allegations are settled by the Student Ethics Board. (3) The organizational structure of the Student Ethics Board is arranged by the rector. (4) The incumbency of the Student Ethics Board is 1 (one) year. (5) The Student Ethics Board is authorized to receive, process, considerate, and recommend to the rector regarding the allegation of student ethics and code of conduct violation.

The settlement of the allegation of moderate and serious cases of violation is conducted through the following procedure. The dean/director of post-graduate program receives a plaint or a report of alleged violation of student ethics and code of con-

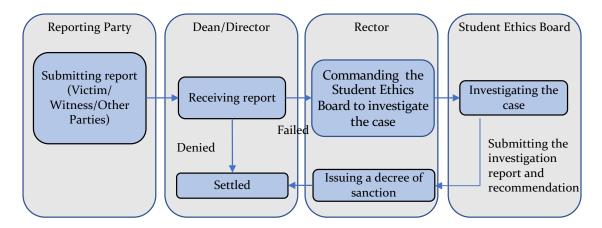


Figure 3. Procedure of Sexual Violence Handling for Students in UNNES Prior to the Promulgation of Permendikbudristek Number 30 of 2021 Source: Results of Interview with a UNNES Informant (2022)

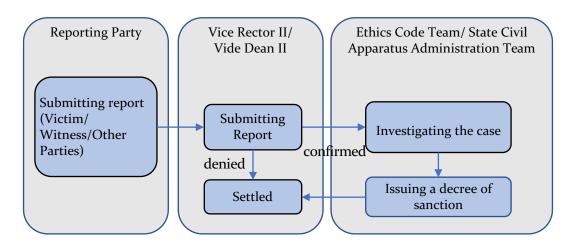
duct. The dean/director of post-graduate program investigates and considers the report. If the report is deemed to be an allegation of moderate and serious violation, the dean/director informs it to the rector. The rector commands the Student Ethics Board to investigate the alleged violation. The board reports the investigation results to the rector. If the board suggests an imposition of sanction, the rector will have to decide. Once decided, the sanction imposed by the rector is set in a decree. Procedure of Sexual Violence Handling for Students in UNNES Prior to the Promulgation of Permendikbudristek Number 30 of 2021 can be seen in Figure 3.

Meanwhile, the settlement for any report of allegation against the educators and

educational staff will be processed by the State Civil Apparatus Administration Team managed by the Vice Rector II. Below is the statement of the informant:

> "For an alleged violation done by any lecturer or staff, the report will be processed by the State Civil Apparatus Administration Team under the management of the Vice Rector II. The Satgas will mediate the two parties." Azil/UNNES/September 26, 2022)

From the interview results, the procedure for reporting incidents of sexual violence conducted by staff can be observed in Figure 4.



**Figure 4.** The Procedure of Sexual Violence Handling for Employees in UNNES Prior to the Promulgation of Permendikbudristek Number 30 of 2021

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# Handling of Sexual Violence in Universitas Gadiah Mada

In Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM), the handling of sexual violence are regulated in the Rector's Decree Number 1 of 2020 on the Prevention and Handling of Sexual Violence by Universitas Gadjah Mada Affiliates. The procedure includes; Disseminating antisexual violence movement among affiliates; Improving affiliates' understanding of anti-sexual violence movement and gender mainstreaming based of Pancasila and UGM values through lectures, seminars, public campaigns, discussions, and trainings using information technology; the development of sustainable studies and documentations of gender-based sexual violence according to Pancasila and UGM values; Developing consulting programs for UGM affiliates; and Providing a space and facilities that are amicable and safe.

The handling of sexual violence in the institution are initiated by the rector, deans, and directors of relevant units. In the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, the handling and preventionare conducted by the FCC (FISIPOL Crisis Center). This unit was inaugurated in February 2020. One of the FCC ad hoc member, Mustaghfiroh Rahayu, M.A, explained that the principles of FCC adhere to the victims, gender fairness, anti-discrimination, comfort, equality, confidentiality, safety, sensitivity to crisis, and empowerment.

> "In sexual violence, the victims are not always the female ones. Therefore, FCC sticks to various principles in handling any sexual violence cases committed to all genders and sexual orientations, provides a safe space for the victims, investigates the reports, and supervises the recovery of the survivors." (Mustaghfiroh Rahayu)

FCC has composed the mechanisms of report and handing for the survivors comprising the investigation process and settlement based on the ethics and law. Meanwhile, the prevention mechanism comprises teaching, student affairs, and institutional governance. The unit has released the Guidelines for Reporting, Prevention, and Handling of Sexual Violence in FISIPOL UGM.

Referring to the regulation, the SPT (Integrated Handling System) of sexual violence in UGM consists of: (1) victim support services; and (2) prosecution of the perpetrator. Officially, the SPT is coordinated by the rector's secretary. The victim support services include: (1) initial service, (2) follow-up service, and (3) recovery. The initial service is provided to the victims who need an immediate handling. It covers; medical and/or psychological treatment; recording of sexual violence type and chronology of event; report documentation; counseling; assistance; security protection; shelter provision; protection of confidentiality.

For recovery, the victims are protected during and after the prosecution processes. The recovery during the prosecution comprises: (1) medical service; (2) psychological reinforcement; (3) information provision regarding recovery service; (4) reference of spiritual service provision; (5) reinforcement of family and community support for recovery; and (6) guarantee of educational or occupational continuity in UGM. Meanwhile, the recovery after the prosecution comprises: (1) supervision of victims, family, and community's condition; and/or (2) advanced support for the victims based on the monitoring resSs by the rector's secretary.

The persecution of perpetrators is conducted with the following steps; reporting/accusation through the ULT (Integrated Service Unit); recommendation of a follow-up of the case by the rector's secretary; investigation by the ethics committee; recommendation by the ethics committee

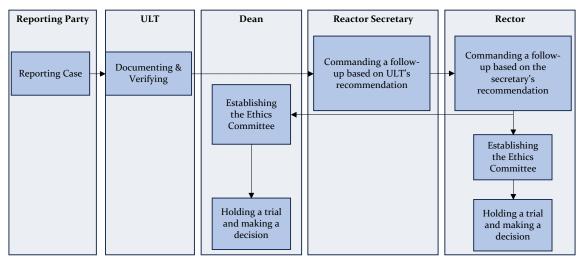
The prosecution does not obstruct the mechanism of employee discipline administration and the possible legal procedure. The reporting/accusation through the ULT at least contains; identity of the victim; identity of the reporting party; identity of the suspected perpetrator; chronology of event, at least comprises: (1) time and place of event; (2) type of sexual violence; and (3) information regarding witness or other parties that can provide information about the accusation.

When the faculty or school discovers/

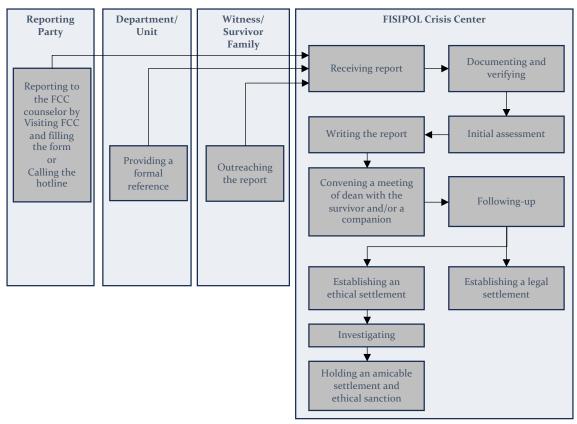
receives an information of alleged sexual violence, they have to report it to the ULT. Afterwards, the ULT documents and verifies all the reports and forwards the results to the rector and/or the vice rectors through the rector's secretary. The unit can develop an

information and technology-based complaint handling service for UGM affiliates to facilitate reporting and consultation.

The rector's secretary provides the rector a recommendation about the followup of sexual violence handling and takes ot-



**Figure 5.** The SOP of Sexual Violence Handling in UGM Source: Interview & Document Analysis Results (2022)



**Figure 6.** The SOP of Sexual Violence Handling in FISIPOL Crisis Center UGM Source: Interview & Document Analysis Results (2022)

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her actions based on the ULT's verification results. The recommendation process takes at least 7 (seven) working days after the report submission. Subsequently, the rector commands the dean to form an ethics committee to process the prosecution.

The rector will respond to the recommendation by establishing an ethic committee if; the alleged perpetrator works in a unit apart from a faculty/school; or there are more than 1 (one) alleged perpetrator from two different faculties/schools/units

The ethics committee consists of the chief, secretary, and members with the number determined by the dean of faculty/ school or the rector based on the necessity for the case. As mentioned in Article (1), for the requirements, the members should; have never committed any act of sexual violence; be physically and mentally healthy; and have competence or sensitivity in antisexual violence and gender fields.

If the alleged perpetrator is a lecturer or a staff, the ethics committee should include the direct supervisor as a member. The Standard Operating Procedure for handling sexual violence in UGM (Fig. 5 & 6).

# Handling of Sexual Violence in Universitas Pembangunan Nasional "Veteran" Yogyakarta

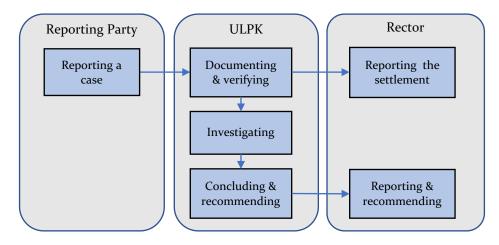
By the time this study was conducted, UPN Yogyakarta was still in the process of establishing the special task force. Meike Lusye Karolus, a member of Selection Committee for Satgas PPKS in UPN Yogyakarta, mentioned that sexual violence occurs due to a power relation; therefore, most of the victims are women. She also stated that the establishment of a task force aims to protect those who are in a disadvantaged position in the power relation.

UPN Yogyakarta provided opportunity for its affiliates to participate in the task force. The unit set several requirements for the applicants to maintain objectivity, including the experience in assisting a victim, conducting a study of sexual violence, gender, and/or disability, participating an extra or intra-curricular activities focusing on sexual violence, gender, and/or disability, and having never been proven to commit any violence including sexual violence.

## Handling of Sexual Violence in Universitas Jenderal Soedirman

In Universitas Jenderal Soedirman (Unsoed), the prevention and handling of sexual violence are set in the Rector's Decree Number 38 of 2021. In this regulation, sexual violence is prevented through learning, governance reinforcement, and cultural reinforcement of the affiliates. Through learning, the rector imposes all affiliates to study the module of handling of sexual violence.

Moreover, the governance reinforcements comprise; formulating a policy supporting the handling of sexual violence in the institution; establishing the ULPK (Violence Report and Service Unit); composing a guideline for handling of sexual violation; restricting the meeting between affiliates outside the operational hours and/or the premises; disseminating the program of handling of sexual violation conventionally or innovatively; providing a budget for the handling of sexual violation; improving the understanding of handling of sexual violation through the materials of student orientation, lectures, seminars, discussions, or public campaigns; providing training through printed and electronic media by using the information technology; managing facilities and infrastructures that are safe and amicable, including for the disabled, to prevent and handle sexual violation; encouraging the development of sustainable scientific studies and documentations of the handling of sexual violation based on Pancasila and Unsoed's values; developing and improving the legal consultation and assistance program of handling of sexual violation for all affiliates; providing reporting service for sexual violence; providing a training for all affiliates regarding the handling of sexual violation; conducting a dissemination for all affiliates regarding the guidelines for preventing and handling sexual violation; installing informational signs comprising (1) information of complaint service for se-



**Figure 7.** The SOP of Sexual Violence Handling in Unsoed Source: Interview Results

xual violation and (2) a warning stating that Unsoed does not tolerate any sexual violence; providing proper accommodations for the disabled in preventing and handling sexual violence; collaborating with relevant institutions in preventing and handling sexual violence.

Some of the reinforcements have realized, for example, the establishment of the ULPK. This unit is under the management of the Research Center of Gender and Child of Universitas Jenderal Soedirman. Specifically, this establishment aims at; Preventing and overcoming all forms of sexual violence in the institution and public to protect human rights, preventing recurrence and victim-blaming, and bringing justice and gender equality; Reinforcing the networking of counseling services between faculties in the institution and the units of gender-based violence and child service and complaint in the governments, police, mass organization, and public in general. Developing the training and assistance in the institution and public regarding community service in gender and social inclusion issues.

The ULPK official website (<a href="http://pp-gapm.lppm.unsoed.ac.id/unit%20layanan">http://pp-gapm.lppm.unsoed.ac.id/unit%20layanan</a>) provides a link for reporting form and a WhatsApp contact number for complaint or reporting. Standard Operational Procedure for Sexual Violence Handling in Unsoed can be depicted in Figure 7.

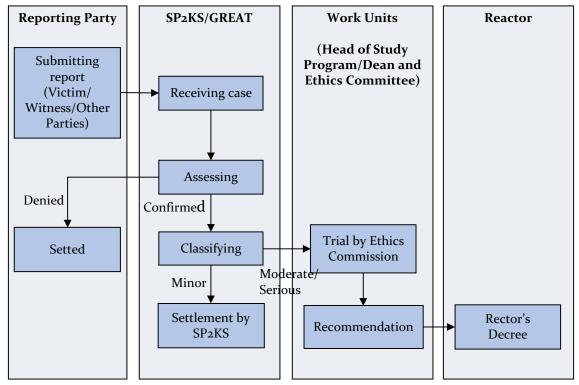
# Handling of Sexual Violence in Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia

Prior to the promulgation of Permendik-budristek Number 30 of 2021, UPI formed a task force for preventing and handling sexual violence named SP2KS (Task Force for Preventing and Handling Sexual Violence) in 2020. This unit was initiated by Prof. Eli Malihah, the Head of PKPWPA (the Center for Woman and Child Studies) and was inaugurated by the Head of LPPM (the Institute of Research and Community Service). Below is a statement of the task force member:

"In 2020, the task force received complaints in google forms. One week after the initiation, we received 24 cold cases. In the same year, some of the cases were reopened." (Hani/UPI/July 8, 2022)

In 2021, the task force turned to the Center for Crisis Assistance Studies under the management of LPPM. The dissemination of the unit consisted of webinars and a Tik Tok competition of anti-sexual violence campaign with participants from all regions in Indonesia. With the promulgation of Permendikbudristek Number 30 of 2021, the unit became the Satgas PPKS under the management of the rector.

Reports can be made by the victim or their associates. The reports will be received by SP<sub>2</sub>KS personnel. The reports will be assessed to determine whether they constitute sexual violence or not. Some reports recei-



**Figure 8.** The Procedure of Sexual Violence Case Handling in UPI Source: Interview Results (2022)

ved may not involve sexual violence. If the report is deemed a violation, it will then be classified as a violation. If classified as a minor violation, the case will be handled by SP2KS. If the case is classified as a moderate or serious violation, it will be handled by the working unit (Dean and Ethics Commission). The Ethics Commission will conduct an investigation of the case and provide recommendations to the rector. Then, the rector will issue a formal decision letter. The procedure for reporting incidents of sexual violence at UPI can be seen in Figure 8.

# The Proposed Framework for Handling of Sexual Violence in the Universities

Based on the descriptions above, the patterns of handling of sexual violence in the universities comprise two aspects: the person in charge of handling and the procedure of handling. There are three categories of the person in charge in handling the procedure, including; (i)Direct handling by the bureaucracy, such as the incidental establishment of an investigation or a special team

responding to a case by deans, vice deans, rector, and vice rectors; (ii) Direct handling by a permanently-established unit despite the existence of case, such as the UPI's crisis assistance and SP2KS, Unsoed's ULPK, and UGM's FCC; and (iii) Direct handling by Satgas PPKS referring to the Permendikbudristek Number 30 of 2021. This Study propose the framework of handling base on the pattern of reporting and handling of sexual violence are described in Figure 9.

The framework for handling sexual violence in universities have been detailed in the process of addressing sexual violence. This is in contrast to prior research conducted by McMahon et al., (2021), which only discussed the parties responsible for addressing sexual violence. Consistent with the findings of Yusran et al. (2023), which provide a more specific focus on preventing sexual violence by incorporating sexual violence content into higher education curricula. State universities in Indonesia already had procedures for handling and preventing sexual violence before the issuance of Permendikbudristek Number 30 of 2021. Many

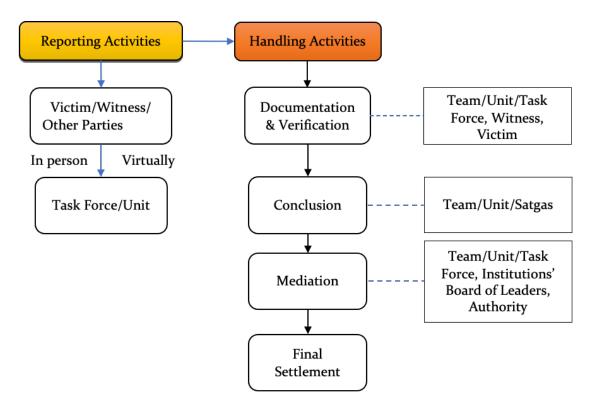


Figure 9. The Proposed General Framework

higher education institutions had effectively implemented these procedures. However, with the enactment of this regulation, universities had to align their existing procedures accordingly. Furthermore, reported cases could not be immediately addressed, as they required the formation of a sexual violence response task force in accordance with the regulation, a process that also took a considerable amount of time. In this study, after analyzing seven patterns of handling procedures, a framework for the establishment of sexual violence handling procedures was developed (Figure 8).

Several universities have already established regulations regarding the handling of sexual violence. UNNES, for example, has explicitly outlined rules for its members concerning sexual misconduct in Rector's Decree Number 44 of 2018 on Ethics and the Code of Conduct for Students of Universitas Negeri Semarang. This regulation comprehensively addresses prohibitions, violations, and sanctions for various forms of sexual misconduct, including immorality, free sex, pornography, sexual harassment, and rape, as well as paramour relationships.

In the context of sexual violence management in higher education, several universities have formed specialized task forces. Unsoed has established a Violence Report and Service Unit, UGM operates an Integrated Service Unit, and FISIPOL Crisis Center. UPI has the P2KS, which comprises both faculty members and students. Additionally, the involvement of ethical committees and the State Civil Apparatus Administration Team in handling sexual violence cases is common practice. Each university follows standardized procedures for managing sexual violence cases in accordance with existing regulations.

The engagement of students in addressing sexual violence on university campuses is of utmost importance. This aligns with McMahon et al.'s research (McMahon et al., 2021) on the Whole School Approach to sexual violence management in higher education institutions. Students can provide input regarding the design, outreach, interpretation, dissemination of policy development, and assessment activities.

The framework for handling sexual violence cases in public universities are nearly

identical. Every reported case undergoes a verification process to establish its authenticity before further actions are taken. At Universitas Terbuka, reporting must include at least two pieces of evidence related to the sexual violence incident. At UPI, verification ensures that the reported case falls under the category of sexual violence rather than a general criminal offense.

At UPI and UNY, mediation between the complainant and the accused is attempted first, following verification of the report. Mediation aims to benefit both parties and prevent further escalation. If mediation fails, further processes are initiated, usually through the involvement of an ethics commission or another specialized unit.

Ethics commissions are in place at UNY, UNNES, UPI, UGM, and UT. These commissions handle reported cases that have been verified at previous stages. They provide recommendations to the rector, who subsequently issues a decision letter outlining sanctions and policies.

Reporting mechanisms vary across universities. Each institution provides a reporting hotline via telephone. Additionally, some universities offer WhatsApp numbers and online reporting forms. According to Hermawati et al.'s research (Hermawati et al., 2023), many victims feel ashamed to report their experiences of violence, especially when it entails confronting the perpetrator directly. Hermawati recommends interactive reporting and management platforms, along with online communication channels for psychological and legal counseling. Universities using WhatsApp for reporting include Unsoed and UT, while those employing online forms include UNY, Unsoed, and UPI. The procedures developed in several universities need to be adjusted to comply with the Permendikbudristek. The existing procedures have not yet incorporated an information system and still rely on manual data collection and documentation. The implementation of an information system will facilitate the tracking of interventions, both for the victims and the task force.

This study primarily proposes a framework for handling sexual violence, with less emphasis on prevention. Furthermore, the sample only includes public universities, while private and religious institutions have not been included.

#### CONCLUSION

Several Indonesian universities have established a standard procedure in handling sexual violence in their respective domains prior to the promulgation of Permendikbudristek Number 30 of 2021. The institutions established reporting and handling patterns that facilitate easy access of reporting, presumption of innocence, conclusion of evidence analysis results, mediation, and final settlement. After the promulgation, some universities need to align their procedures with the regulation. However, some others do not establish any standard procedure. The results of this study showed that there are two aspects regarding the patterns of handling of sexual violence in Indonesian universities, including the person in charge and the procedure of handling. Moreover, there are three categories regarding the first aspect, including the direct handling by the bureaucracy, the direct handling by a permanently established unit, and the direct handling by Satgas PPKS. Meanwhile, as for the second aspect, the procedures in most of the universities are generally similar. In this study, the procedure is visualized in a general framework for handling sexual violence. For future research, we intend to expand our study to include aspects related to the prevention of sexual violence within higher education institutions, thereby enhancing the comprehensiveness of the resulting framework.

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