

Community Legal Education for Post-Covid-19: Economic Recovery and Crime Prevention Awareness (Case of Mokoau, Kendari Indonesia)

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Abstract

Crime prevention is crucial for safeguarding communities and fostering societal welfare. In Kendari City, the prevalence of street crimes and potential social conflicts pose significant challenges, particularly amidst post-Covid-19 economic recovery efforts. This study initiative aims to enhance awareness and understanding among residents regarding the importance of crime prevention and mitigation strategies. The study consists of two main stages. Firstly, it involves identifying prevalent legal issues within the Mokoau Village community, notably theft and alcohol-related offenses. Secondly, it encompasses direct community outreach and legal counseling sessions focused



on crime prevention policies. During these sessions, participants gain insights into theft modus operandi, preventive measures, and the broader societal impacts of crime, especially alcohol-related offenses. The outcomes of this initiative demonstrate a notable increase in public knowledge and awareness regarding their roles and responsibilities in crime prevention. Residents exhibiting a high understanding of these responsibilities rose from 13% to 65%, while those with low understanding decreased from 47% to 13%. This underscores the collective responsibility of all community members in fostering peace and security within their environment.

KEYWORDS *Legal Education, Society, Criminal Policy*

Introduction

Sustained economic growth is integral to poverty reduction, as it provides the foundation for lifting individuals out of poverty. Key factors influencing economic growth include levels of investment, political stability, governmental effectiveness, and the legal framework. However, challenges such as inadequate legal systems and high crime rates pose significant obstacles to economic development.¹ The 6th United Nations

¹ Derry Angling Kesuma, "Analisis Hubungan Tingkat Kejahatan dan Pertumbuhan Ekonomi di Indonesia," *AKSELERASI: Jurnal Ilmiah Nasional* 1, no. 3 (2019): 1–8. Poverty and crime are deeply interlinked social phenomena, each exacerbating the other in a cycle of deprivation and lawlessness. Economic desperation often drives individuals living in poverty to resort to criminal activities as a means of survival. The lack of access to basic necessities such as food, shelter, and healthcare can push individuals towards illicit means of income generation, including theft, burglary, and drug trafficking. Moreover, poverty restricts opportunities for socio-economic advancement, as marginalized communities face barriers to education, employment, and other avenues for legitimate income. Without viable options for economic stability, individuals may feel compelled to engage in criminal behavior to improve their circumstances or attain social status, perpetuating the cycle of poverty and crime. Furthermore, poverty-stricken communities often experience social disintegration, characterized by high levels of unemployment, inadequate infrastructure, and limited access to social services. These conditions create an environment conducive to crime and violence, as feelings of hopelessness,

Congress in 1980 emphasized the detrimental impact of crime on progress towards achieving a satisfactory quality of life for all.² Indeed, crime undermines societal well-being and impedes efforts to create an environment conducive to economic prosperity and poverty alleviation.

Elevated crime rates within a society often perpetuate a persistently unfavorable economic climate. While fostering economic growth typically involves augmenting investments, the decision of investors is not solely determined by economic factors. The crime rate in a particular area also plays a crucial role in influencing investment decisions. As such, the incidence of crime bears a notable impact on regional economic growth. Areas characterized by high crime rates tend to deter potential investors, thereby impeding economic activity. Consequently, addressing crime becomes imperative not only for public safety but also for fostering a conducive environment for sustainable economic development.³

The prevalence of a high crime rate within a society poses a significant obstacle to economic growth, particularly amidst efforts to

alienation, and resentment fester within the community. High crime rates further exacerbate poverty by deterring investment and economic development, leading to a decline in opportunities for socio-economic improvement. Additionally, the stigma associated with living in high-crime areas can hinder residents' efforts to escape poverty, as they may face discrimination in employment, housing, and other areas. Breaking the cycle of poverty and crime requires comprehensive interventions that address the root causes of deprivation while simultaneously targeting crime prevention and community safety initiatives. *See also* Fithriati Armin, "Analysis of the effects of education, unemployment, poverty, and income inequality on crime in Indonesia." *4th Padang International Conference on Education, Economics, Business and Accounting (PICEEBA-2 2019)*. Atlantis Press, 2020; Lilik Sugiharti, et al. "Criminality and income inequality in Indonesia." *Social Sciences* 11, no. 3 (2022): 142; Yozi Aulia Rahman, and Affandi Dwi Prasetyo. "Economics and crime rates in Indonesia." *JEJAK: Jurnal Ekonomi dan Kebijakan* 11, no. 2 (2018): 401-412; Yudistira Andi Permadi, "Growth, Inequality, and Poverty: An Analysis of Pro-Poor Growth in Indonesia." *Jurnal Ekonomi Kuantitatif Terapan* 11, no. 2 (2018): 216-233.

² Barda Nawawi Arief, *Bunga Rampai Kebijakan Hukum Pidana; Perkembangan Penyusunan Konsep KUHP Baru* (Jakarta: Kencana, 2010).

³ Tarina Palokoto, Evi Yulia Purwanti, and Y. Bagio Mudakir. "Analisis konsekuensi ekonomi akibat kejahatan di indonesia." *Jurnal Ekonomi dan Pembangunan Indonesia* 20, no. 2 (2020): 146–159

recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Following the economic shocks induced by the pandemic, Indonesia faces a pressing need to revitalize its economy. Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) emerge as a pivotal component in this recovery process, offering rapid growth potential and serving as a cornerstone of the nation's economic resilience.⁴

Crime knows no boundaries, and Southeast Sulawesi Province, including Kendari City, is no exception. Since the onset of 2022, residents of Kendari City have grappled with a surge in street crime, particularly incidents involving robbery and ambush, notably perpetrated by individuals armed with arrows. These criminals target unsuspecting individuals in secluded areas, evading detection even in crowded settings. The consequences of such street crimes have been dire, resulting in numerous injuries and fatalities. Referred to by locals as "*teror busur*,"⁵ this

⁴ Irawaty Irawaty, Rahayu Fery Anitasari, and Andry Setiawan. "Peningkatan Pemahaman Pelaku UMK Mengenai Urgensi dan Tata Cara Mendapatkan Nomor Induk Berusaha (NIB)." *Jurnal Pengabdian Hukum Indonesia (Indonesian Journal of Legal Community Engagement)* 5, no. 1 (2022): 35-49.

⁵ "*Teror Busur*" or "Terror with a Bow" refers to a series of criminal incidents occurring in the Kendari community, where perpetrators use a bow as a weapon to attack victims. These incidents have caused concern and panic among local residents due to their unusual and violent nature. The attacks with bows primarily occurred in the Kendari area in early 2022. Perpetrators often target individuals in secluded or quiet areas, such as narrow streets or alleyways that are rarely frequented. They ambush victims unexpectedly and frequently injure them with arrows shot from the bow. Crimes of this nature have caused significant insecurity among the Kendari population, especially for those who frequently engage in nighttime activities or have small businesses in the area. Local police have made efforts to apprehend the perpetrators and increase patrols to prevent similar incidents from occurring in the future. "Terror with a Bow" is a prime example of how crime can disrupt the tranquility and security of a community. It also underscores the importance of swift and effective law enforcement action in responding to new and unusual security threats like this. *See also* Karina Luana Pramesti Widodo, and Hana Faridah. "Analisis Kasus Begal Sepeda Motor di Kota Kendari (Studi Kasus Putusan Nomor. 308/Pid. B/2021/PN Kdi)." *Jurnal Panorama Hukum* 6, no. 2 (2021): 126-138; Nadiyah Meyliana Putri, et al. "Juvenile Delinquency in Semarang City: Aspects of Protection and Law Enforcement in Socio-Legal Approach." *Unnes Law Journal* 8, no. 2 (2022): 263-278; Hatma Aditya Jananuraga, and Irma Cahyaningtyas.

wave of crime has prompted vigilant monitoring by local authorities, notably the city police. Despite efforts to apprehend perpetrators, new incidents continue to occur with different culprits. This persistent threat deeply troubles the residents of Kendari City, especially those engaged in nighttime activities such as commuting workers, motorcycle taxi drivers, both online and offline, and Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) operators.⁶

The challenges facing Kendari City extend beyond a high incidence of street crime to include underlying potential conflicts within the community. The state of Public Security and Order (*Kamtibmas*) has become a pressing concern for various stakeholders. Both street crime and potential social conflicts pose significant threats to economic recovery efforts, particularly in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic. The complex reality of street crime, potential conflicts, and violence plaguing Kendari City, Southeast Sulawesi demands thorough investigation to identify effective solutions. It is imperative to address these issues comprehensively to safeguard the progress of regional and national economic restoration initiatives undertaken by the government.

Crime, beyond being a humanitarian concern, stands as one of humanity's oldest social problems.⁷ In response, extensive efforts have been undertaken to address it, encapsulated under the term *criminal policy*. Drawing from Marc Ancel's definition, Sudarto asserts that criminal policy embodies a deliberate and systematic societal endeavor to combat crime. Fundamentally intertwined with safeguarding society (social defense) and ensuring social welfare (social security), criminal policy's overarching objective is the protection of the public to advance the

"Parental Responsibility Toward Child as Criminal Offender in Indonesian Criminal Reform." *Indonesian Journal of Criminal Law Studies* 6, no. 1 (2021): 69-82.

⁶ Chaerul Sabara, "Kejahatan Jalanan "Teror Busur" di Kota Kendari, Apa dan Bagaimana Mengatasinya?", *Kompasiana*, May 17, 2022. Retrieved from <https://www.kompasiana.com/chsabara/62837befbb44863a5025d232/kejahatan-jalanan-teror-busur-di-kota-kendari-apa-dan-bagaimana-mengatasinya>

⁷ Teguh Prasetyo, *Kriminalisasi dalam Hukum Pidana* (Penerbit Nusa Media, Bandung, 2010).

collective welfare. Therefore, criminal policy stands as an integral facet of social policy, both serving the common interest of societal well-being.⁸

Mokoau Village, nestled within Kambu District, Kendari City, Southeast Sulawesi, is home to approximately 4,450 residents, organized administratively into 4 RWs and 15 RTs. Selected as the focal point for community service initiatives, Mokoau Village stands out due to its location within Kambu District, an area overseen by the Poasia Police Station and known for being the second highest crime hotspot in Kendari City, following Mandonga District. The prevalence of street crimes such as violent theft, motor theft, drug trafficking and abuse, and gambling is concerning. Recorded cases surged from 141 in 2019 to 162 in 2020, underscoring the urgent need for heightened community legal awareness.⁹. Efforts to prevent crime through enhanced understanding of the law serve as crucial forms of social control, aimed at mitigating and reducing crime rates within society.

One prominent challenge in community crime reduction efforts stems from a lack of public awareness and comprehension regarding the pivotal role of crime prevention and response in fostering regional and national economic recovery. Many community members fail to recognize the interconnectedness between crime rates and economic growth, hindering their engagement in proactive crime prevention measures. Additionally, there exists a prevailing misconception that crime prevention is solely the responsibility of law enforcement agencies, leading to low public involvement in crime prevention initiatives.

Addressing these issues necessitates concerted efforts to enhance public understanding and engagement in crime prevention endeavors. Community service programs can play a crucial role in this regard by conducting socialization sessions and legal counseling sessions aimed at

⁸ Kenedi, John. "Kebijakan Kriminal (Criminal Policy) dalam Negara Hukum Indonesia: Upaya Mensejahterakan Masyarakat (Social Welfare)." *Al-Imarah: Jurnal Pemerintahan dan Politik Islam* 2, no. 1 (2017): 15-26. See also Anis Widyawati, "Criminal Policy of Adultery in Indonesia." *Journal of Indonesian Legal Studies* 5, no. 1 (2020): 171-186.

⁹ BPS Kota Kendari, *Kecamatan Kambu dalam Angka 2021*, BPS Kendari, Kendari. <https://kendarikota.bps.go.id/publication/2021/09/24/fa08cceb2e7f81861813eb45/kecamatan-kambu-dalam-angka-2021.html>

raising awareness of the significance of crime prevention within the broader context of economic recovery. Furthermore, fostering a legal culture characterized by adherence to laws and norms through education and advocacy can empower individuals to adopt attitudes and behaviors conducive to effective crime prevention and response.

Efforts to cultivate public legal awareness are integral to the development of community culture, given the pivotal role such awareness plays in law enforcement within society.¹⁰ With this context in mind, the objectives of the community service initiative outlined above are twofold: *firstly*, to enhance public knowledge and comprehension regarding the critical importance of crime prevention and response efforts as essential components of regional and national economic improvement and recovery. *Secondly*, the initiative aims to elevate public awareness concerning collective responsibility in the realm of crime prevention. It underscores that crime prevention is not solely the duty of law enforcement but a shared obligation among all sectors of society.

The study's systematic approach outlined in the preparatory and execution stages aligns with its overarching goal of community legal education for crime prevention and economic recovery. Through meticulous groundwork during the preparatory phase, including site surveys, target refinement, and coordination with local authorities, the initiative sets the stage for effective implementation. By identifying legal issues within partner locations through methods such as interviews and questionnaires, the study directly addresses the critical need for enhanced legal awareness and understanding within the community.

Moreover, the execution stage, characterized by interactive legal counseling sessions, directly contributes to the broader objectives of the project. These sessions facilitate direct engagement between participants and resource persons, fostering a collaborative environment for addressing legal challenges and promoting responsible community action. By empowering individuals with knowledge and resources to prevent crime

¹⁰ Kukuh Dwi Kurniawan, Dwi Ratna Indri Hapsari, and Yaris Adhial Fajrin. "Peningkatan Kesadaran Hukum Mengenai Sertifikasi Tanah Pada Masyarakat Dusun Klandungan Desa Landungsari Kabupaten Malang." *Jurnal Pengabdian Hukum Indonesia (Indonesian Journal of Legal Community Engagement)* 3, no. 2 (2021): 219-236.

and contribute to economic recovery efforts, the study embodies a holistic approach to advancing public legal awareness and societal well-being.

Legal Problem Identification in Mokoau Village

The identification of legal issues is conducted to gain insight into the legal challenges faced by the community in Mokoau Village. This process involves employing both interview and questionnaire methods, enabling direct interaction with residents or respondents to gather initial information regarding existing and potential legal concerns within the community. A total of 150 residents from 15 RTs, with each RT consisting of 10 residents, participated in the study. The majority of respondents fell within the age range of 35-49 years and 19-24 years, representing a diverse range of occupations including students, traders, private employees, civil servants, laborers, farmers, and various other professions. The findings of this legal problem identification process are summarized graphically below.

Types of Legal Problems

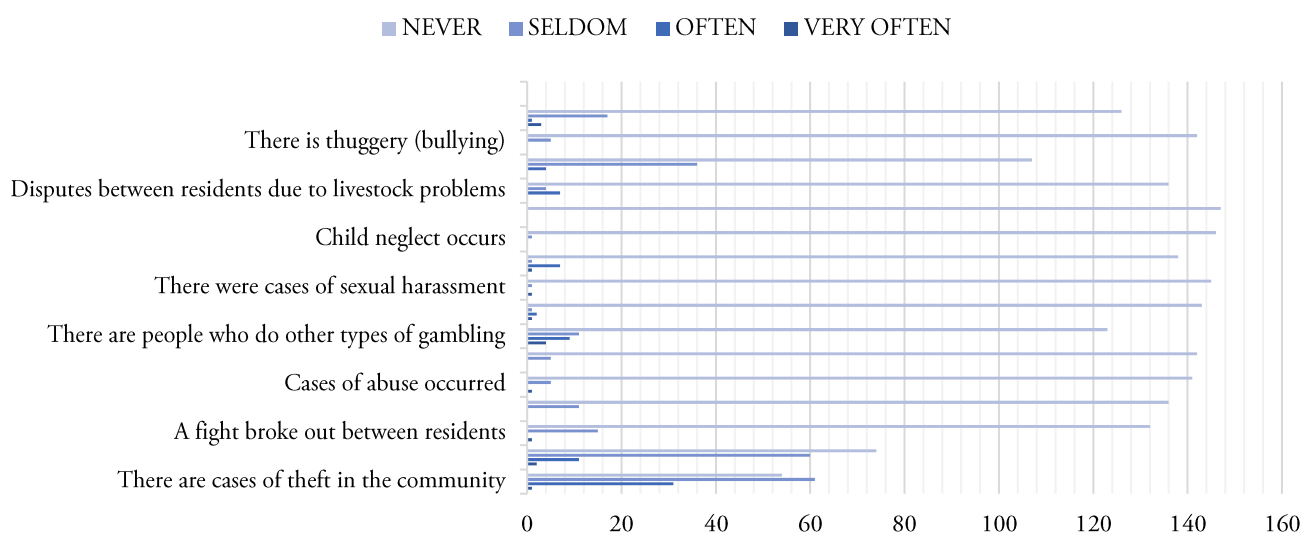


FIGURE 1. Legal Problems

Analysis of the graph reveals a wide array of prevalent crimes within the Mokoau Village community. Predominantly, theft cases emerge as the most common legal issue, encompassing both ordinary and violent theft incidents. Additionally, the community grapples with various other criminal activities, including alcohol consumption, gambling, violent acts against children, livestock-related disputes, disorder disturbances arising from roaming livestock, reckless driving, and sporadic occurrences of other criminal offenses. Beyond these, the broader Kendari City populace also contends with potential conflicts among community groups, further compounding the social challenges faced within the region.

Furthermore, residents of Mokoau Village were surveyed regarding their knowledge and understanding of the obligations and responsibilities in combating and addressing crime within their community. The findings are presented in the graph below:

Community Understanding Before Counseling is carried out

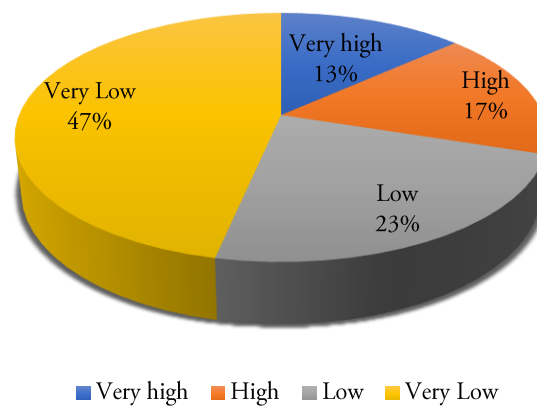


FIGURE 2. Percentage of community understanding

The depicted graph illustrates the breakdown of respondents' understanding of their obligations and responsibilities in addressing and preventing crime within society. Among the 150 citizens surveyed, 47% exhibit a low level of comprehension in this regard. Additionally, 23% demonstrate a moderate understanding, while 17% display a high level of

awareness. Notably, a minority of respondents, comprising 13%, exhibit a very high level of knowledge and understanding on the subject.

Community Awareness: Understanding Street Crime Modes and Potential Social Conflicts

The recipients of socialization activities regarding street crime modes and potential conflicts within the community primarily include community members and adolescents. These sessions are integrated into existing events such as Posyandu activities and Independence Day commemoration competitions. The socialization material delves into various street crime modes, encompassing ordinary theft, motor vehicle theft, and instances of theft accompanied by violence. Additionally, the impact of alcohol consumption on behavior is addressed, reflecting the prevalent types of crime identified within Mokoau Village.¹¹ Emphasis is placed on elucidating the *modus operandi* employed by criminals, including techniques such as hypnosis, drug use, and group theft tactics, which render victims incapacitated.¹²

Several other *modus operandi* commonly utilized by criminals include feigning to search for an address. In this scenario, the perpetrator pretends to seek an address while surreptitiously assessing the surroundings to plan their next move. Typically, they target locations such as student boarding houses, quiet residential areas, or poorly lit areas. Another common tactic involves posing as a scavenger. Despite not being genuine scavengers, these criminals feign the role to exploit quiet neighborhoods or homes. They opportunistically steal belongings left outside residences, such as shoes, sandals, clothes, or other easily transportable items using sacks. Additionally, theft from parked cars, often involving breaking glass,

¹¹ Rise Sandiyantanti, "Analisis Kejahatan dengan Modus Perampasan Secara Paksa," *Jurnal Aplikasi Administrasi* 18, no. 1 (2015): 20–28.

¹² Wildy Alhumaira, and Mukhlis Mukhlis. "Tinjauan Kriminologis Terhadap Pencurian Dengan Pemberatan Pada Rumah Yang Ditinggal Pergi Pemiliknya (Suatu Penelitian di Wilayah Hukum Polresta Banda Aceh)." *Jurnal Ilmiah Mahasiswa Bidang Hukum Pidana* 3, no. 4 (2019): 719-725.

has seen a notable increase. Criminals target abandoned or parked vehicles, breaking windows to pilfer valuables left inside. This mode of theft is heavily reliant on opportunistic circumstances.

In Mokoau Village, the enforcement of theft cases encounters significant obstacles. Instances where losses are relatively small often go unreported to law enforcement, reflecting a broader reluctance within the community to engage with legal authorities. This reluctance stems from a combination of factors, including limited awareness of legal rights and concerns about the perceived insignificance of material losses. Many individuals fear the potential costs and complexities associated with pursuing legal action, believing that the expenses incurred in court proceedings outweigh the value of the losses suffered. Consequently, a culture of underreporting prevails, hindering the effective enforcement of theft cases and undermining efforts to address crime within the community.¹³

During the community socialization efforts, the service team also prioritized educating adolescents about the profound impact of alcohol consumption. Alcohol, known for its selective effects on the brain, can induce significant alterations in behavior, emotions, perception, and consciousness, often leading to addiction when consumed excessively. Continuous and excessive alcohol consumption poses grave risks to physical and mental health, resulting in behavioral and cognitive impairments that invariably affect familial and communal relationships. Notably, alcohol consumption fundamentally alters human behavior, manifesting in negative social ramifications that disrupt public security and order within the community. Among teenagers, alcohol abuse presents a particularly severe challenge, contributing to juvenile delinquency, violent altercations, the formation of adolescent gangs, immoral conduct, escalating theft incidents, and a surge in juvenile violence.¹⁴

¹³ Nicolas Pahlevi and Margo Hadi Pura, "Pertanggungjawaban Pidana Terhadap Pelaku Tindak Pidana Penipuan Bermodus Hipnotis Melalui Media Elektronik," *Pagaruyuang Law Journal* 5, no. 1 (2021): 29–46.

¹⁴ Safri Miradj, "Dampak Minuman Keras Terhadap Perilaku Generasi Muda (Gamsungi Kecamatan Ibu Selatan Kabupaten Halmahera Barat)." *AL-WARDAH: Jurnal Kajian Perempuan, Gender dan Agama* 14, no. 1 (2020): 65-86.

Liquor consumption among adolescents, typically aged between 15 and 25 years, represents a deviant behavior stemming from various motivations. These motivations range from experimentation and peer pressure to using alcohol as a coping mechanism to escape from personal challenges. Additionally, factors such as feelings of inadequacy, a lack of familial support and affection, limited religious education, and the influence of the social environment contribute to this behavior. Consequently, liquor abuse can inflict profound harm on adolescents, leading to personality distortions, physical health issues, and heightened rates of criminal activity within society.¹⁵

Furthermore, the socialization efforts extend to addressing potential sources of conflict within the community. In late 2021, Kendari City witnessed a violent conflict involving several groups, resulting in the tragic loss of one resident and numerous injuries inflicted by sharp weapons. Additionally, many traders incurred significant losses as their stalls were set ablaze by the mob. This conflict stemmed from mutual taunting and provocation among different groups within the community.¹⁶

Conflict can stem from various sources, including horizontal plurality, which encompasses cultural distinctions such as tribe, nationality, religion, language, and race, as well as social plurality, which refers to differences in occupation and profession within society.¹⁷ Additionally, vertical pluralism plays a role, with conflicts arising from societal structures polarized by disparities in wealth, knowledge, and power. From a sociological perspective, societal conflicts can also arise due to several factors. Firstly, misunderstanding or miscommunication can lead to conflict, as can differences in life goals and values. Moreover, competition for limited resources, lack of cooperation leading to feelings of disenchantment, non-compliance with societal or governmental rules,

¹⁵ Amiroel Oemara Syarief, Merina Pratiwi, and Gellysa Urva, "Edukasi Dampak Minuman Keras Di Kalangan Remaja," *Syria Studies* 7, no. 1 (2015): 37–72.

¹⁶ Ahmad Akbar Fua, "Kerusuhan Kendari Dipicu Saling Ejek Antar-ormas Saat Arak-arakan," *Liputan 6 Online News*, Retrieved from <https://www.liputan6.com/regional/read/4776983/kerusuhan-kendari-dipicu-saling-ejek-antar-ormas-saat-arak-arakan>

¹⁷ Sarjita Sarjita, "Strategi Mengelola Konflik Pertanahan", *Mimbar Hukum* No. 48/X/2004.

and efforts to control or harm others can all contribute to conflict within society.¹⁸

Legal Education to the Community Related to Community Strategies in Crime Prevention

Legal education activities to the community related to community strategies in crime prevention were carried out at the Mokoau Village Office. This activity was carried out on Friday, September 2, 2022. This educational activity was carried out by the service team, the Subdistrict Secretary, members of Bhabinkamtibmas from the Poasia Police Station and members of Babinsa from Koramil Poasia. This activity was attended by RT Chairmen and RW Chairmen throughout Mokoau Village and the people of Mokoau Village.

This activity is carried out in the form of interactive dialogue or question and answer. The interactive dialogue process or interactive discussion is first preceded by a presentation or delivery of material from the resource persons, namely the service team, the Subdistrict Secretary, Bhabinkamtibmas members and Babinsa members which are intended as an introduction to the discussion. After the completion of the percentage or delivery of the material, a discussion or question and answer session was opened. The discussion process will be guided by a moderator.

Facing crime, many efforts have been made to overcome it. Rational efforts to tackle crime are commonly referred to as criminal politics or criminal policy. Comprehensive crime prevention efforts mean that society, with all its potential, should be considered part of a crime prevention policy. In this regard, the UN General Assembly also stressed that "all community organizations should be seen as part of fighting crime" and stressed that "public relations are the basis of crime prevention programs". Therefore, it is necessary to promote and improve the effectiveness of the "out-of-court system" or "informal system" that exists in the community as part of crime prevention efforts, including in

¹⁸ Syarief, Pratiwi, and Urva.

partnership with law enforcement agencies, among others, cooperation with social and religious organizations, educational institutions and voluntary organizations that exist in the community¹⁹.

Criminal policies against crime must be comprehensive and respond promptly to the threat posed. Such dangers relate to socioeconomic life and political and security life, which fall under the category of social policy. Viewed from the point of criminal politics, efforts to overcome crime can be taken through penal efforts and non-penalty efforts. The most strategic policy through non-penal means because it is more preventive.

Non-penal efforts (prevention) are a very strategic aspect because criminal acts (crimes) have not occurred. Basically, non-penal studies depart from the results of identifying several potential factors that can trigger crime. Prevention efforts are carried out by improving these potential factors²⁰. An important point conveyed to the community is the factors and modus operandi of crime that commonly occur in the Mokoau Village community.

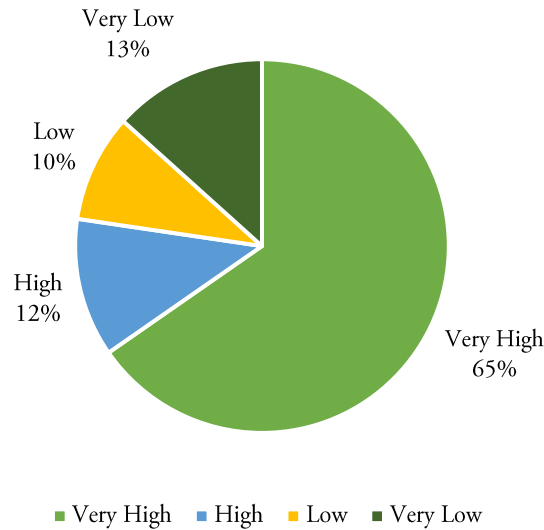
Through this activity, the community can take corrective or countermeasures against the factors that cause crime and the mode of the crime so as to reduce the impact caused. Through this activity, it also provides encouragement to foster enthusiasm to participate in every crime prevention activity in accordance with their respective abilities and positions.

After the activity took place, the community was again conducted an interview to find out the level of public understanding regarding obligations and responsibilities in efforts to prevent and overcome crimes that occur in the community. The results can be seen in the graph below:

¹⁹ Barda Nawawi, 2010

²⁰ Ruben Achmad, and Neisa Angrum Adisti. "Kebijakan Kriminal dalam Pencegahan dan Penanggulangan Narkotika di Kota Palembang." *Legalitas: Jurnal Hukum* 12, no. 1 (2020): 38-64.

Level of understanding after program



Following counseling activities aimed at enhancing public knowledge and understanding of their obligations and responsibilities in crime prevention and mitigation, a notable improvement is evident. The proportion of citizens exhibiting very high levels of knowledge and understanding surged from 13% to 65%, while those with low understanding decreased from 47% to 13%. This shift underscores the significance of community participation in combating crime within the community.

Effective crime prevention initiatives rely heavily on community involvement and support. Without active engagement from residents, such efforts are unlikely to yield optimal results. Therefore, fostering robust public legal awareness and instilling a heightened sense of responsibility towards crime prevention are paramount. It is imperative to cultivate a shift in legal culture, whereby individuals exhibit a proactive stance in preventing crime and promoting law-abiding behavior. Ultimately, crime prevention efforts should not solely rest on law enforcement officials but should be embraced as a collective responsibility across all segments of society.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this community service initiative has significantly contributed to enhancing public legal awareness regarding their responsibility in preventing crimes within the community, considering the far-reaching impact of criminal activities. The findings of this initiative reveal a multitude of prevalent legal issues within the community, posing potential threats to public peace and hindering national development and economic progress. Through the implementation of targeted interventions, such as direct socialization and counseling sessions, the community has been equipped with valuable insights into various aspects of crime prevention. By raising awareness about street crime modes and potential conflicts, as well as imparting knowledge on legal strategies for crime prevention, this initiative serves as a vital resource in empowering the community to address and mitigate the challenges posed by criminal activities effectively. Thus, it not only fosters a safer and more secure environment but also facilitates the collective effort towards sustainable national development.

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