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Legal Policy Model for Handling Violence Among Youth Motorcycle Gangs in Lhokseumawe City

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Abstract: Criminal acts committed by youth motorcycle gangs have become a serious concern in many cities across Indonesia, including Lhokseumawe. Over recent years, Lhokseumawe has faced numerous criminal cases linked to these gangs, such as brawls, slashings, and muggings that disrupt public safety and road users. Despite various measures implemented by the Lhokseumawe City Government and Forkompimda, including curfews and night raids by Satpol PP, WH, and the Police, these efforts have yielded limited results. Many apprehended gang members repeatedly return to criminal activities, highlighting the ineffectiveness of current strategies. A new policy model is urgently needed to address this issue and ensure community safety. This research aims to propose a new preventive policy for the Lhokseumawe City Government. Using an empirical juridical method with a qualitative approach, the study examines field data and existing regulations. Laws governing juvenile involvement in motorcycle gangs include the 1945 Constitution, the Criminal Code, and laws on child protection and juvenile justice. Key factors driving gang involvement include lack of parental guidance, negative social environments, and restricted educational opportunities. Effective handling requires a dual approach: prevention through education, patrols, and social outreach, alongside repressive and rehabilitative measures to help reintegrate affected youth into society.

Keyword: Violence, Teenagers, Motorcycle Gangs, Legal Policy, Prevention.

INTRODUCTION

The phenomenon of violence and crime by motorcycle gangs has become a hot topic of discussion and is generally carried out by groups of teenagers (Raahman, 2016). The existence of motorcycle gangs is very disturbing to the sense of peace and tranquility of life in society. The crimes committed include destroying public facilities, being involved in conflicts between

motorcycle gangs, extortion, robbery, and even committing physical violence that results in the loss of someone's life.(Kusjairi, 2019)

Criminal acts committed by youth motorcycle gangs have become a serious problem in many cities in Indonesia (Koni, 2020), termasuk di Kota Lhokseumawe. In recent years, there have been many criminal cases committed by youth motorcycle gangs in Lhokseumawe ranging from brawls to slashings. On October 4, 2023, the police arrested five youth members of a motorcycle gang in a brawl at the Pusong Fish Market, Lhokseumawe City, Aceh Province.(Saiful Bahri, 2023)

The actions of youth motorcycle gangs also disturb road users and can even be categorized as muggings. On July 23, 2023, the Lhokseumawe City Police arrested 5 teenagers suspected of being muggers in the Ujong Blang area, Banda Sakti, Lhokseumawe City. Based on public reports, the teenagers carried sharp weapons, machetes, sickles and even swords and openly convoyed on the streets. In early 2024, officers from the Civil Service Police Unit and Wilayatul Hisbah (Satpol PP-WH) of Lhokseumawe City also arrested five teenagers suspected of being muggers in the Blang Kolam area, Gampong Pantan Rayeuk I, Kuta Makmur sub-district, North Aceh. (Putri Zuhra Furna, 2024)

Efforts that have been made by the Lhokseumawe City Government to overcome Violent Acts of Youth Motorcycle Gangs are carried out by means of control by Satpol PP and WH in collaboration with the Police by conducting raids at night. The Lhokseumawe City Forkopimda also issued a curfew for students aged 18 years and under from 22.00 WIB to 05.00 WIB. Forkopimda issued an appeal to cafe owners not to allow school children or college students to sit in their business premises, parents or guardians to ensure that children are under supervision, village heads to create special units to supervise teenagers, and civil service police units, police and TNI to carry out curfew operations to be effective.(Agustiar, 2024)

However, the efforts made by the Lhokseumawe city government have not yet provided optimal results. Many motorcycle gang teenagers who were caught in raids returned to action and were even caught several times.(Zaki Mubarak, 2024) This proves that the prevention efforts carried out by the Lhokseumawe City Government have not been effective. Therefore, there needs to be a new policy model in overcoming acts of violence by youth motorcycle gangs so that acts of violence by youth motorcycle gangs do not recur and can create a safe situation for the community.

This study will examine several things; 1) Legal Provisions Against Children Involved in Motorcycle Gangs; 2) Factors Causing Criminal Acts Against Children Involved in Motorcycle Gangs; 3) Efforts and obstacles in overcoming acts of violence against motorcycle gangs in the city of Lhokseumawe; 4) Legal Policy Model in efforts to overcome acts of violence against motorcycle gangs in the city of Lhokseumawe.

METHOD

This study uses an empirical legal method based on field data (field research) with a qualitative approach. This method was chosen to gain a deep understanding of the application of law in society and the interaction between legal regulations and practices in the field. Field research allows researchers to collect data directly from primary sources, such as interviews with law enforcement officers, perpetrators, or communities involved in the legal problems being studied. In addition, observations of the implementation of law in the social environment are also an important part of this data collection process.

In the empirical legal approach, research is not only limited to normative analysis of laws and regulations, but also includes a study of the empirical reality that occurs in the field. This study seeks to explore how the law is applied, whether it is effective in overcoming existing legal problems, and how society complies with or responds to these rules. Through this approach, empirical data obtained from the field is integrated with normative legal analysis, so that it can

provide a more comprehensive picture of the effectiveness and implementation of law in the real social context.

The use of an empirical legal approach in this study provides flexibility in exploring various aspects of law from an empirical perspective, so that researchers can evaluate the gap between legal theory and practices that occur in the field. Thus, the results of this study are expected to be able to contribute to the development of legal policies that are more responsive to the needs and dynamics of society.

Data collection techniques were carried out by means of; Interviews, Focus Group Discussions, and observations. The data that has been collected is analyzed using qualitative thematic analysis methods to be able to produce a deep understanding of the main themes that emerge from the qualitative data that has been collected related to overcoming acts of violence by youth motorcycle gangs in Lhokseumawe City.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Legal Provisions Regarding Children Involved in Motorcycle Gangs

Article 28B paragraph (2) of the 1945 Constitution states that every child has the right to live, grow and develop, and has the right to receive protection from violence and discrimination.(Republik Indonesia, n.d.) This provision provides a strong basis for children's rights to be protected from various forms of violence, exploitation and discrimination. In addition, child protection is also emphasized in Article 28D paragraph (1) of the 1945 Constitution, which states that everyone has the right to recognition, guarantees, protection and fair legal certainty, as well as equal treatment before the law.(Suyatno, 2023)

In the Criminal Code (KUHP), there is no strict rule that sets an age limit to determine whether someone is considered an adult or a child. However, Articles 45, 46, and 47 provide reduced sentences for perpetrators of criminal acts who are not yet 16 years old, compared to adults.(Mahendra & Harefa, 2020) According to Hilman Hadikusuma, the age limit for adulthood does not actually need to be debated, because in practice, children who are not yet adults can also carry out legal acts, such as being involved in buying and selling or trading.

Article 50 Paragraph (1) states that a child who has not reached the age of 18 or is not married, and is not under the authority of a parent, will be under the supervision of a guardian.(Saifuddin Sa'dan, 2022) Meanwhile, Article 6 Paragraph (2) states that to enter into a marriage, individuals who are not yet 21 years old must obtain permission from both parents. Article 7 Paragraph (1) stipulates the minimum age limit for marriage, namely that men must be at least 19 years old and women must be at least 16 years old to be able to enter into a marriage.

The age limit for children is regulated in Article 1 Paragraph 2, which states that a child is an individual who has not reached the age of 21 years and has never been married.(Dewi, 2020) This law sets the age at 21 years by considering various factors such as social welfare, social, personal, and mental maturity. At the age of 21, a child is considered to have reached a level of maturity in social, personal, and mental aspects sufficient to fully participate in society. It is further explained that the age limit of 21 years does not reduce the provisions of the age limit stipulated in other laws and regulations, and does not preclude the possibility for children to take action as long as they have the ability in accordance with applicable laws.

Parents should pay attention to fulfilling children's rights, providing proper education, and creating a supportive environment for children's growth and development. Parents' responsibilities include fulfilling children's needs, both physically and mentally. A positive environment also plays an important role in shaping children's behavior in the future.

Discussions about children and their protection will continue throughout the history of life, because children are the next generation of the nation and development. They are prepared as the main actors in the implementation of sustainable development and the holders of the future of the country, including Indonesia. Protecting Indonesian children means protecting the

potential of human resources and building Indonesian people as a whole, towards a just, prosperous society, both materially and spiritually, based on Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution.

In Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection, it is stated that a child is a person who has not reached the age of 18 years, including a child who is still in the womb (Article 1 paragraph 1). This article adopts the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which states that a child is every individual who is under the age of 18 years, unless based on applicable law, adulthood is achieved earlier (Article 1).

The State, Government, Regional Government, society, family, and parents are responsible for protecting and ensuring that children's human rights are fulfilled in accordance with their respective roles and responsibilities. However, child protection that has been carried out so far has not fully guaranteed that children receive treatment and opportunities that are in accordance with their needs in various aspects of life. Therefore, in implementing efforts to protect children's rights, the government must adhere to the principles of human rights, namely respecting, fulfilling, and protecting children's rights.

In the legal context in Indonesia, children involved in motorcycle gangs and committing criminal acts are regulated in several important regulations, especially Law Number 11 of 2012 concerning the Juvenile Criminal Justice System namely SPPA. This law emphasizes that handling children involved in criminal acts must be carried out specifically, prioritizing the protection of children's rights and a restorative approach. (M. R. Ghoni & Pujiyono, 2020) The basic principle in SPPA is that children who commit violations of the law are not only seen as perpetrators of crimes, but also as individuals who need rehabilitation and social reintegration. The main objective of child protection is to ensure that their rights are fulfilled, so that they can live optimal lives, grow and develop well, and actively participate in society. In addition, this protection also aims to protect them from all forms of violence and discrimination, so that they grow in a safe and supportive environment. (Dannya Fitria, 2024; Wasiati, 2020)

In the SPPA, every child who commits a crime, including violence in a motorcycle gang, will be processed through a juvenile court that is different from a general court. Article 6 of the SPPA regulates the use of diversion, namely the transfer of the settlement of a child's case from the criminal justice process to a process outside the court. (M. R. Ghoni & Pujiyono, 2020) This aims to avoid negative impacts that can arise if children have to undergo a formal justice process. Diversion can only be done for cases with a sentence of less than seven years, but for cases of serious or repeated violence, the justice process can still be carried out.

In addition to the SPPA, Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection, which has been amended by Law Number 35 of 2014, is also the legal basis for protecting the rights of children involved in criminal acts such as motorcycle gang violence. In this law, the state is obliged to provide protection to children from all forms of violence, exploitation, and discrimination, including protection from the negative influence of dangerous groups, such as motorcycle gangs. Article 59 of the Child Protection Law emphasizes the importance of preventive and rehabilitative efforts for children involved in criminal acts.

If children involved in motorcycle gangs commit serious acts, such as abuse or murder, they can be charged with criminal articles in the Criminal Code (KUHP), but taking into account their age and condition. The SPPA ensures that the punishment given to children does not exceed two-thirds of the threat of punishment for adults, and in many cases, the punishment given is more of a correctional nature than imprisonment. (A. Ghoni et al., 2021)

With this regulation, the approach used in dealing with children involved in motorcycle gangs is to balance between providing a deterrent effect and rehabilitation efforts. The state seeks to ensure that these children can return to society as productive individuals, rather than becoming more dangerous criminals.

Factors Causing Criminal Acts Against Children Involved in Motorcycle Gangs

An action is called a delinquent when it goes against the norms that apply in the society in which a person lives, where the action is anti-social and contains elements that violate norms. (Agudelo Rico et al., 2024) Juvenile delinquency includes not only unlawful acts, but also behavior that violates social norms. Currently, a child is often categorized as a delinquent if he shows extreme anti-social tendencies, so that his actions cause disturbances to the security, peace, and order of society, such as theft, murder, abuse, extortion, fraud, embezzlement, vagrancy, and other actions that disturb society.

To analyze this phenomenon, it is important to understand youth motorcycle gangs from a sociological perspective. Labeling Theory and Subculture Theory can help provide insight into why youth become involved in motorcycle gang activities. According to the labeling theory pioneered by Edwin Lemert and Howard Becker, youth who have been labeled as delinquents will tend to internalize the label and behave in accordance with negative societal expectations. According to Kim, informal labeling, especially in close-knit communities, can exacerbate this problem by reinforcing negative self-concepts among youth. (Kim, 2024)

Subcultural theory, on the other hand, looks at how certain groups, especially marginalized communities, develop their own values and norms that may be at odds with those of society at large. This theory explains how deviant behavior, such as gang involvement, can emerge as a rational response to social exclusion and limited access to legitimate opportunities. This theory has its roots in the work of sociologists such as Albert Cohen and Cloward & Ohlin, who studied how lower-class youth formed delinquent subcultures in response to their inability to achieve success through conventional means. (Murer & Schwarze, 2022)

Recent research has extended subculture theory to explore modern forms of gang culture, particularly in urban settings. Researchers such as Braithwaite argue that subcultures, including gangs, offer individuals a sense of identity, community, and status that they cannot find in mainstream society. (Hendardi, 2022)

Other studies have also shown that motorcycle gangs often emerge in urban areas with complex social dynamics, where teenagers tend to seek ways to express themselves and seek recognition outside the family environment. Economic and social factors, such as unemployment and lack of access to facilities that support self-development, also contribute to teenagers' involvement in these groups. (Irmayani, 2018)

Criminal acts involving children in motorcycle gangs do not appear suddenly, but are influenced by various factors that affect adolescent behavior. This juvenile delinquency arises due to several different causes, and each cause requires a specific handling approach. External factors that encourage children to become involved in motorcycle gangs include: (a) Family as the main factor in juvenile delinquency, especially the weak role of control in the family; (b) Unhealthy social environment; (c) Lack of positive influence from education. (Rahmadani & Jailani, 2024)

In addition to external factors, there are also internal factors that play a role, such as the inability of adolescents to adapt and adjust to the values and norms that apply in society. Adolescents involved in motorcycle gangs tend to show difficulty in behaving adaptively, have weak self-control, and often fail to solve problems effectively. Several other internal factors include: (a) Identity crisis experienced by adolescents; (b) Weak self-control that makes it difficult for them to resist the urge to engage in negative behavior. This factor is caused by a lack of education as a form of guidance in acting and distinguishing between good and bad, causing these adolescents to fall into juvenile delinquency, namely motorcycle gangs. (Resmeliyanti Putri et al., 2024)

One of the main reasons for juvenile delinquency, such as being interested in joining motorcycle gangs, is a lack of attention and affection from parents. (Aazami et al., 2023) The destructive behaviors exhibited by children who are part of motorcycle gangs are often caused

by a combination of internal and external factors. Internally, these children have low self-control, so they are unable to limit behavior that is detrimental to themselves and society. In addition, their failure to actualize themselves positively drives them to seek recognition through disturbing actions. Suboptimal family functioning, including lack of attention, neglect, and control issues, contribute more clearly to adolescent involvement in motorcycle gangs than other factors. (Octavia et al., 2024)

From the external side, sociological conditions such as families that fail to provide psychological support and social environments that are unable to implement effective social control, also play a role in encouraging teenagers to join motorcycle gangs. The combination of these factors creates a situation where teenagers find it easier to fall into negative behavior that is detrimental to themselves and the surrounding community.

Based on an interview with Hendy Gustira, S.H., Criminal Investigation Unit of Banda Sakti Police, Lhokseumawe, it is known that the education level of motorcycle gang members involved in crimes in Lhokseumawe City is quite varied. The majority of them are high school students who are most involved in criminal acts committed by motorcycle gangs. The high number of teenagers who join motorcycle gangs and are involved in crimes is caused by the instability of adolescent age, as well as their tendency to imitate peers or older people.

Internal Factors Causing Criminal Acts of Children Involved in Motorcycle Gangs: When discussing delinquency or criminal acts committed by children, it is important to understand what underlies the behavior. Internal factors that contribute to juvenile delinquency are aspects of personality that come from within, such as low self-concept, poor social skills, weak problem-solving skills, excessive attitudes, and low self-control.

Self-concept encompasses how a person views themselves, both physically and psychologically. The physical aspect relates to an individual's perception of their body condition and appearance, while the psychological aspect encompasses how an individual assesses their abilities, self-esteem, and self-confidence.

Among the law enforcement work in the Criminal Justice System in Indonesia, which consists of the Police, Prosecutors, Courts, Lawyers and Correctional Institutions, the work of the police is the most interesting, because it involves a lot of human involvement in decision making. The police are essentially living laws, because in the hands of the police the law is realized, especially in the criminal field. If the law aims to create order in society by fighting crime. Finally, the police will concretely regulate what is called the enforcer of order.

Based on Article 13 of Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the Republic of Indonesia National Police, there are three main tasks of the Indonesian National Police, namely: (1) maintaining public security and order, (2) enforcing the law, and (3) providing protection, patronage and services to the community. (Republik Indonesia, 2002)

The role of police officers in enforcing the law for the sake of creating security and order can be seen as "living law", because in the hands of the police, the law becomes real and is applied in society. In carrying out their duties, the police are expected to be able to play a major role in enforcing the law for the community they serve. Law enforcement is an effort to uphold moral values contained in the law, and this is done through law enforcement officers. Normatively, the duties of the Indonesian Republic Police as law enforcers are regulated in Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the Indonesian National Police and Law Number 8 of 1981 concerning Criminal Procedure Law. In addition to their role as law enforcers, the police also have the duty to maintain public security and order, as well as provide protection, shelter, and service to the community. (Anshar & Setiyono, 2020).

Efforts and Obstacles in Dealing with Motorcycle Gang Violence

Efforts or policies in preventing and dealing with crime are part of criminal policy. (Winarni et al., 2021) This criminal policy itself cannot be separated from a broader policy, namely social

policy, which includes policies for social welfare and policies for community protection. (Silaen & Siregar, 2020) Therefore, if crime prevention is carried out through the use of penal (punishment) means, then criminal law policy (penal policy), especially in the judicial/applicative aspect (criminal law enforcement), must be directed towards achieving the objectives of the social policy, namely social welfare and community protection (social defense).

One of the important things in the development of a teenager is the process of forming self-identity. (Zhang & Qin, 2023) This period is a very crucial phase because teenagers often feel confused and doubtful in determining who they really are. Since the beginning of adolescence, teenagers begin to question and explore their identity, namely, who they are and who they want to be, the role they want to play in adulthood, and their place in society. (Branje et al., 2021)

Delinquency committed by children or adolescents is not something that appears spontaneously, but is the result of a long process. In this process, there are various factors that influence their quality and tendency to engage in juvenile delinquency. A study in India stated that the most dominant factors in juvenile delinquency are social factors and the influence of friends. (Abhishek & Balamurugan, 2024) Another thing that greatly influences is parenting, parenting affects the mental development of children. (Kapetanovic et al., 2020)

Criminal policy is a rational policy in an effort to combat crime. (Ramadhani, 2021) This criminal policy has a very broad scope and a high level of complexity. Crime is basically a humanitarian problem as well as a social problem that requires special understanding. As a social problem, crime is dynamic, continues to develop, and is closely related to various phenomena and complex social structures, so it can be considered a socio-political problem.

Based on the results of the interview with Sondi Siregar, S.H., Criminal Research Unit of Lhokseumawe Police, it was explained that in a repressive effort to prevent criminal acts committed by motorcycle gangs in Lhokseumawe City. Lhokseumawe Police took preventive steps in dealing with crimes committed by motorcycle gangs, including: (1) Conducting patrols; (2) Disciplining groups that carry out illegal racing; (3) Conducting raids in schools on motor vehicles that do not meet standard specifications; and (4) Guarding intersections that are gathering places for motorcycle gangs.

Penal efforts taken by the Lhokseumawe Police include implementing articles related to the Criminal Code and applicable laws and regulations. The police usually act after receiving reports from the public who feel disturbed by the actions of motorcycle gangs. After the report is received, the police immediately go to the field to conduct further investigations.

During the investigation process, the police immediately went to the scene to verify public reports stating that there had been disturbing actions by the motorcycle gang. If after checking and monitoring the location it is proven that the motorcycle gang has indeed committed a crime, the police will arrest the juvenile perpetrators, collect evidence, and ask for statements from witnesses. Thus, efforts to combat crime are basically examining how society responds to the problem of crime. Although there are various forms of public reaction, generally these reactions range from a punitive approach (punishment) to a treatment approach (treatment). One form of punitive reaction recognized by modern countries is through the application of punishment.

Legal Policy Model in Efforts to Overcome Acts of Violence by Youth Motorcycle Gangs in the City of Lhokseumawe

According to G.P. Hoefnagels, crime prevention efforts can generally be divided into two main categories, namely crime prevention through penal and non-penal approaches. (Sumartono et al., 2022) Penal policy is a policy that focuses on repressive measures, namely steps taken after a crime has occurred. On the other hand, non-penal policy emphasizes preventive measures, namely efforts to prevent crimes from occurring.

From a criminal policy perspective, non-penal policy is considered the most strategic crime prevention policy, because it focuses on prevention before a crime occurs. Prof. Sudarto stated that crime prevention through preventive efforts is carried out without using criminal law. (Rasdi, 2021) This approach aims to address and eliminate factors that support crime. Given that non-penal policies are more preventive in nature, their main focus is on addressing conducive factors that have the potential to cause crime. (Sarlince Muskanan et al., 2023)

The conducive factors referred to include various social problems or conditions that can directly or indirectly trigger crime. Therefore, from a macro and global criminal policy perspective, non-penal measures have a key and strategic role in the overall crime prevention effort. This approach emphasizes the importance of addressing social issues to prevent crime before it occurs, making it an important element in criminal policy. (Ketut et al., 2020)

In various UN Congresses on "The Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders," it was emphasized that strategic efforts to combat crime should focus on non-penal approaches. (Airora & Sabrina, 2024) The most effective thing is to create a society that is a healthy social and environmental environment, free from factors that trigger crime. This means that society, with all its potential, must act as a deterrent to crime, becoming an integral part of the overall criminal political strategy.

According to Soedjono Dirdjosisworo, conceptually crime prevention is carried out by combining various elements related to the criminal justice mechanism and involving community participation. This can be explained as follows: (a) Improvement and strengthening of law enforcement officers, including strengthening the organization, personnel, and supporting facilities in resolving criminal cases. (b) Legislation that is able to analyze and prevent crime and has a long-term vision. (c) Effective criminal justice mechanisms that meet the requirements of speed, accuracy, cost efficiency, and simplicity. (d) Better coordination between law enforcement officers and related government agencies to increase the effectiveness of crime prevention. (Novermal, 2022)

Based on the results of the Focus Group Discussion held on August 7, 2024, which involved several stakeholders, ranging from the government, law enforcement officers, and the community, there are several strategic steps that have been taken by the government and law enforcement officers in dealing with acts of violence by youth motorcycle gangs in Lhokseumawe City.

From the government's side, there are efforts to formulate policies that not only focus on repressive law enforcement, but also a preventive approach through educational programs in schools and positive activities for teenagers. The government is also considering intensive collaboration between related agencies to form a special team to handle teenagers involved in motorcycle gangs. In addition, the proposal to create regulations at the village level, such as rules governing the prevention of juvenile delinquency, is considered important so that village communities can play a more active role in overcoming this problem.

On the security side, routine patrols and socialization in schools have been carried out, but this is not enough. Law enforcement needs to be supported by the community through programs that bring residents closer to the authorities, such as regular dialogue programs that allow the community to report suspicious activities more safely. The security forces also emphasized the importance of collaboration with local communities to prevent motorcycle gang actions, especially in areas that are often prone to crime.

The role of Satpol PP and WH in maintaining public order is also important, especially in handling teenagers involved in motorcycle gangs. However, there is an urgent need for official regulations governing social rehabilitation for teenagers involved in crime, so that ongoing coaching programs can be sustainable even if there is a change of leadership in the future. This coaching is directed to not only emphasize physical punishment, but also the development of character and skills of teenagers so that they do not re-engage in motorcycle gang activities.

The education office sees that many teenagers involved in motorcycle gangs have a background of problems at school, such as discipline problems and lack of attention from family. In prevention efforts, the office is trying to build a more structured program to address this problem, including involving guidance counselors and peer mentors to detect students at risk early. Cooperation with the police is also carried out to provide direct counseling at schools. From the community side, the villages involved in the discussion said that they often face cases of motorcycle gangs, both involving local teenagers and motorcycle gangs from outside the village who operate in their area. The village community proposed the need for positive activities such as sports and social activities to divert the attention of teenagers from negative activities. Several villages also suggested installing CCTV at vulnerable points and routine patrols to improve security. The community hopes that with the active role of village heads and community leaders, preventive measures against juvenile delinquency can be more effective. Thus, handling the problem of motorcycle gangs in Lhokseumawe requires strong synergy between the government, law enforcement officers, education departments, and the community. Repressive and preventive approaches must be balanced, with an emphasis on prevention through education, youth development, and increasing the role of the community in maintaining environmental security. Clearer and more comprehensive policies must be formulated to address this problem sustainably, including regulations that support social rehabilitation for youth involved in crime. With the right steps, it is hoped that a safer and more conducive environment can be created for the development of the younger generation in Lhokseumawe.

Based on the results of interviews with the Legal Department of the Lhokseumawe City Government, Herlin, S.H., M.H. stated that the legal policy model to overcome acts of violence by youth motorcycle gangs in Lhokseumawe City requires a comprehensive approach, including preventive, repressive, and rehabilitative measures, which are implemented in a coordinated manner by various parties. The phenomenon of violence involving teenagers in motorcycle gangs is not only seen as a criminal problem, but also as a social problem that requires broader intervention than just law enforcement. Preventive policies that target the roots of social problems, such as family dysfunction, adolescent emotional instability, and lack of access to positive activities, must be a top priority.

Lhokseumawe City Government will try to provide the best policy related to matters previously agreed upon in the Focus Group Discussion forum. We from the Legal Department will convey this matter to the meeting to be discussed in order to more effectively overcome acts of violence by youth motorcycle gangs.

At the preventive stage, legal education is a key component. This legal education can be implemented through cooperation between schools, local governments, and law enforcement officers. Schools as formal educational institutions have an important role in providing knowledge to students about legal regulations and the consequences of criminal acts. Legal counseling provided systematically can help instill legal awareness among teenagers, so that they better understand the impact of involvement in motorcycle gang activities that tend to be detrimental. In addition, local governments can collaborate with community leaders, youth organizations, and social media to create anti-violence campaigns among teenagers. These socialization activities can be expanded by providing spaces for dialogue and discussion for teenagers, which allow them to express themselves without having to engage in violence.

The preventive approach also includes empowering families and communities by increasing public legal awareness and monitoring areas prone to criminal acts. (Wanda Monica Putri Salsabila et al., 2024) Families play an important role in preventing youth involvement in motorcycle gangs. Therefore, programs that encourage parental involvement in supervising and coaching children are essential. Local governments can initiate family empowerment programs, such as training for parents in handling youth behavior, as well as building strong

community networks to support each other in supervising children in their respective environments. In some areas, community participation in protecting the environment has proven effective in reducing criminal acts, including violence by motorcycle gangs. Therefore, in Lhokseumawe, community-based programs, such as neighborhood patrols by residents, can be increased to detect and prevent suspicious motorcycle gang activities.

In addition to preventive measures, repressive policies are needed to deal with perpetrators of violence with a firm but humane approach. The Juvenile Criminal Justice System (SPPA) provides clear guidance on how to treat children involved in criminal acts. In the case of minors involved in violence by motorcycle gangs, the punishment given must take into account the principles of child protection. The SPPA stipulates that the punishment imposed on children must not exceed two-thirds of the threat of punishment for adults for the same crime. (Rendy Airlangga et al., 2023). However, this law enforcement must be accompanied by the implementation of restorative justice that emphasizes more on coaching than just punishment. Diversion as part of restorative justice allows for the resolution of cases outside the court, which aims to restore the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim, while also providing an opportunity for children to improve themselves.

To improve the effectiveness of law enforcement, security forces in Lhokseumawe City must strengthen supervision of motorcycle gang activities. This supervision can be carried out through routine patrols in areas prone to violence, as well as utilizing technology to monitor and detect potential criminal acts. CCTV at strategic points, as well as online community reporting applications, can help security forces respond quickly to any indication of violence by motorcycle gangs. Local governments can also work with telecommunications service providers to create violence reporting applications that are easily accessible to the general public. With better supervision, security forces can take preventive action earlier and arrest perpetrators before they commit further violence.

In addition to law enforcement, rehabilitation policies are an important component in overcoming violence by motorcycle gangs. Teenagers who have been involved in violence must be given the opportunity to receive guidance and rehabilitation, so that they can reintegrate into society. Comprehensive rehabilitation involves psychological counseling, skills education, and social programs that support their development. In this regard, local governments can work together with rehabilitation institutions and NGOs working in the field of youth empowerment to create effective rehabilitation programs. In addition, perpetrators of violence who have completed the legal process must also be monitored regularly to ensure that they do not re-involve themselves in motorcycle gangs or other criminal activities.

Rehabilitative policies are not only individual in nature, but also include efforts to provide alternative positive activities for teenagers who are vulnerable to being involved in motorcycle gangs. Local governments can create programs that interest teenagers, such as sports activities, arts, or skills training that are beneficial for their future. These activities not only serve as a means of channeling teenagers' energy, but also as a way to build self-confidence and give them a better purpose in life. In several other cities, similar programs have proven effective in reducing the level of teenagers' involvement in violent acts.

Finally, this legal policy model requires close cooperation between various parties, including local governments, law enforcement officers, educational institutions, and community organizations. This cross-sector collaboration is very important to ensure that every policy step, whether preventive, repressive, or rehabilitative, can run effectively and synergistically. The Lhokseumawe city government will facilitate communication and coordination between related institutions to ensure that all parties have a clear role in efforts to overcome violence by youth motorcycle gangs. This collaboration must also involve youth themselves as part of the solution, by giving them the opportunity to be involved in the planning and implementation process of programs that target their communities.

With a comprehensive policy involving all elements of society, it is hoped that the phenomenon of violence by youth motorcycle gangs in Lhokseumawe City can be handled effectively. An approach that balances prevention, firm but humane law enforcement, and rehabilitation that supports the recovery of perpetrators will create a system that not only punishes but also encourages positive change among teenagers.

CONCLUSION

Legal regulations governing children involved in motorcycle gangs are regulated in various regulations, including: the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, Law Number 1 of 1946 concerning the Criminal Code, Law Number 1 of 1974 concerning Marriage, Law Number 4 of 1979 concerning Child Welfare, Law Number 3 of 1997 concerning Juvenile Courts, Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection, Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Amendments to Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection, and Law Number 11 of 2012 concerning the Juvenile Criminal Justice System.

Factors that cause criminal acts against children involved in motorcycle gangs include: (1) Family factors, such as lack of parental attention or guidance, (2) Social environment factors, namely the influence of negative peers or groups, and (3) Education factors, namely lack of understanding or limited access to good education.

Crime prevention can be carried out through penal and non-penal approaches, where penal policy focuses more on repressive actions after a crime occurs, while non-penal policy emphasizes prevention by addressing social factors that are conducive to crime. Non-penal policies are considered strategic because they focus on early prevention and involve the community in creating a healthy and safe environment. In Lhokseumawe, the government combines preventive, repressive, and rehabilitative approaches to handle cases of youth motorcycle gang violence, with a focus on education, collaboration between institutions, and youth development.

In handling youth motorcycle gangs, the Lhokseumawe government has taken various strategic steps, such as education programs in schools, routine patrols, and socialization in the community. This preventive approach is expected to prevent youth involvement in motorcycle gangs by strengthening the role of families, schools, and communities. In addition, repressive policies are still enforced by considering restorative justice, while rehabilitative programs are designed to support the recovery and reintegration of youth into society, by involving various elements in cross-sector collaboration.

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