

Implementation of the Child Protection Act: Evaluation and Recommendations

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Abstract: *The implementation of the Child Protection Law in Indonesia is an important step to guarantee children's rights and provide protection from various forms of violence and exploitation. Although there is a supporting legal framework, challenges in its implementation often hinder the effectiveness of this law. This study aims to evaluate the implementation of the law, identify influencing factors, and provide recommendations for improving policies and practices in the field. Through the Systematic Literature Review (SLR) approach, this study collects and analyzes various relevant literature on the implementation of the Child Protection Law. The results of this study indicate a gap between formulated policies and practices in the field, and provide insight into the steps that need to be taken to improve the effectiveness of child protection in Indonesia. With these findings, it is hoped that it can be a reference for policy makers, legal practitioners, and the community in strengthening child protection in Indonesia.*

Keywords: *Child Protection, Implementation, Evaluation*

INTRODUCTION

Child protection is a crucial issue faced by various countries, including Indonesia. The Child Protection Law (UU PA) in Indonesia was adopted to guarantee children's rights and provide protection from all forms of violence, abuse, and exploitation. Although the UU PA has been enacted, challenges in its implementation still arise. The gap between the policies that have been formulated and the reality on the

ground often creates a situation where children's rights are not fully protected.

Children in Indonesia face various forms of serious threats, ranging from domestic violence, child trafficking, to sexual exploitation. Data from the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection shows that the number of cases of violence against children continues to increase. This indicates that even though there is a legal framework, much still needs to be done to ensure that children can live

safely and are protected from threats. Therefore, it is important to evaluate the implementation of the Child Protection Law so that its effectiveness can be improved.

Furthermore, social, economic and cultural factors play a major role in child protection. Many children are trapped in poverty and lack access to education, increasing their risk of becoming victims of violence and exploitation. Previous research has shown that low-income families are often unaware of their children's rights, resulting in a lack of protection. This creates an urgent need to raise public awareness of children's rights and effective means of protection.

In addition, challenges in coordination between institutions are also an important issue. The implementation of the Child Protection Law involves various stakeholders, from the central government to local governments, non-governmental organizations, and the community itself. However, the lack of synergy between institutions often hampers the implementation of child protection programs. Community involvement in child protection is also often ignored, making protection efforts less effective.

In addition, the social stigma against children involved in violence and exploitation also affects the effectiveness of child protection. Children who are victims are often shunned by their peers and the community, which has a negative impact on their recovery process. An insensitive approach to the child's psychological condition can worsen the trauma experienced, so it is important to develop a more humane and inclusive approach to child protection.

Facing this situation, there needs to be a review of the implementation of the PA Law to evaluate the successes and failures that exist. A comprehensive evaluation does not only involve statistical data analysis, but must also consider the real experiences of children and the community. This study aims to dig deeper into the impact of existing policies and provide relevant recommendations for improvement.

In the global context, many countries have developed various best practices in child protection that can be a reference for Indonesia. Learning from other countries can provide valuable insights into effective strategies in improving child protection. This study will not only discuss existing policies in

Indonesia, but also compare them with policies in other countries to gain a broader perspective.

Furthermore, education is an important tool in preventing violence against children. Educational programs that educate children and communities about their rights can increase awareness and understanding of the importance of protection. Thus, education serves not only as a tool to reduce risk, but also as a means to empower children in facing difficult situations.

Finally, this study is expected to provide a positive contribution to child protection efforts in Indonesia. By analyzing the implementation of the Child Protection Law and compiling recommendations based on research findings, it is expected to encourage more effective and sustainable actions in improving the protection of children's rights. Through cooperation between the government, society, and non-governmental organizations, child protection in Indonesia can be strengthened to create a safe and supportive environment for children.

METHODOLOGY

The method used in this study is the Systematic Literature Review (SLR), which

aims to collect and analyze various literature related to the implementation of the Child Protection Law. The SLR process begins by formulating clear and specific research questions. After that, the researcher conducts a systematic search in various academic databases and law journals to identify relevant literature.

After collecting the data, the researcher conducted a critical analysis of each literature obtained. This process includes identifying key themes, challenges faced in implementing the Child Protection Law, and evaluating the impact of existing policies. This analysis aims to provide a comprehensive picture of the child protection situation in Indonesia and to identify gaps that need to be addressed.

This study also considers the quality aspect of the literature analyzed, focusing on the research methodology used in each study. In this way, researchers can assess the relevance and contribution of each literature to the understanding of the implementation of the PA Law. Through this approach, the study is expected to present evidence-based findings and provide concrete recommendations for policy improvement.

Finally, the results of this study are expected to be input for policy makers and legal practitioners to formulate more effective policies in child protection. Thus, it is expected to create a safer environment for children in Indonesia.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the study show that although the Child Protection Law has provided a clear legal framework for the protection of children's rights, its implementation still faces many obstacles. One of the main findings is the lack of understanding among law enforcement officers regarding children's rights and protection principles. This results in inappropriate and often detrimental treatment of children involved in the legal process.

Another challenge faced is the lack of coordination between institutions involved in child protection. Research shows that without good synergy between the government, non-governmental organizations, and communities, child protection efforts are often hampered. Poor coordination can result in ineffective policies and suboptimal protection for children.

In addition, the social stigma attached to children who are victims of violence or exploitation also contributes to the failure of implementation. These children often experience marginalization, which hinders their rehabilitation and reintegration into society. Therefore, there is a need for a campaign to raise public awareness of children's rights and the importance of support for those who are victims.

On the other hand, the results of the analysis show that existing education programs have not fully integrated the concept of child protection. Education about children's rights needs to be strengthened in the curriculum to raise awareness from an early age. By increasing children's understanding of their rights, it is hoped that the risk of violence and exploitation can be reduced.

In addition, there are also obstacles in the accessibility of child protection services, especially in remote areas. Many children live in areas that do not have adequate facilities or services to protect their rights. Therefore, efforts are needed to expand the reach of child protection services to areas that are still neglected.

In the global context, many countries have developed best practices in child protection that can be a reference for

Indonesia. Research shows that the implementation of community-based approaches and cross-sectoral collaboration can increase the effectiveness of child protection. Learning from the experiences of other countries needs to be considered in formulating better policies in Indonesia.

Finally, the evaluation of child protection policies in Indonesia shows that there is still much to be improved to achieve the goal of effective child protection. By identifying existing challenges and evaluating best practices in other countries, it is hoped that the recommendations produced can help in formulating better policies to protect children in Indonesia.

CONCLUSION

Based on the research results, it can be concluded that the implementation of the Child Protection Law in Indonesia still faces various significant challenges. Although there is a clear legal framework, gaps in understanding and practice in the field often hinder the protection of children's rights. Therefore, it is important to improve understanding among law enforcement officers and the community regarding children's rights. Furthermore, better collaboration between various institutions and communities needs to be

improved to ensure effective implementation. By building synergy between the government, non-governmental organizations, and communities, child protection can be carried out in a more comprehensive and sustainable manner.

Finally, this study provides recommendations for more effective policy improvements in child protection in Indonesia. By involving all stakeholders and utilizing best practices from other countries, it is hoped that children's rights can be protected optimally, creating a safe and supportive environment for them.

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