



THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE JUVENILE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM IN ADDRESSING THE INCREASE IN JUVENILE CRIMES (A STUDY IN BANDAR LAMPUNG CITY)

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Abstract

This research aims to analyze the effectiveness of the Juvenile Criminal Justice System in tackling the rising criminal offenses committed by minors and to identify the inhibiting factors of its implementation in Bandar Lampung City. This research uses normative juridical and empirical juridical methods, with primary data obtained through interviews with the Juvenile Judge of the Tanjung Karang District Court, the Juvenile Prosecutor of the Bandar Lampung District Attorney, members of the Women and Children Protection Unit of the Bandar Lampung Resort Police, the Damar Lampung NGO, and a Criminal Law lecturer at Lampung University. Secondary data were sourced from laws and regulations, legal literature, and relevant official documents. The data were analyzed qualitatively through literature and field studies. The research results indicate that the effectiveness of the SPPA in Bandar Lampung City is still not optimal, where out of 747 cases of children facing the law in 2020, only about 7–10% were resolved through a diversion. The inhibiting factors include legal substances that are not yet adaptive, limitations in facilities and infrastructure, lack of implementation of restorative justice principles by law enforcement officials, and the minimal role of family and community in child guidance. The limitation of this study lies in its restricted regional scope. This research contributes to the development of juvenile criminal law by strengthening the implementation of restorative justice. The novelty of this research lies in the analysis of the Juvenile Criminal Justice System's effectiveness based on Hiroshi Ishikawa's and Soerjano Soekanto's legal effectiveness indicators after the implementation of Law Number 11 of 2012.

Keywords: *Effectiveness, Juvenile Criminal Justice System, Restorative Justice, Children, Criminal Offense.*

1. Introduction

Law Number 11 of 2012 regulates the criminal justice system for children facing the law in Indonesia, covering case procedures, the role of law enforcement officials, and rehabilitation efforts tailored to a child's age. This law defines a child as an individual aged 12–18 years suspected of committing a criminal offense. Meanwhile, Article 1, Paragraph (5) of Law Number 39 of 1999 concerning Human Rights states that a child is every person under 18 years old who is unmarried, including an unborn child if it is in their best interest (Rosmala, 2024). The approach used in the juvenile criminal justice system is restorative justice, which focuses on recovery and guidance for the offender. This concept involves all related parties jointly seeking a resolution to the violation and its future impact. Through the diversion mechanism, case resolution emphasizes the creation of justice and balance for both perpetrators and victims.

Based on Law Number 11 of 2012 concerning the Juvenile Criminal Justice System, diversion aims to achieve peace between the victim and the child facing the law. Thus, the paradigm of criminal justice, which initially focused on punishment, shifted to a process of dialogue and mediation to produce a fairer resolution for both parties (Minan, 2024). According to Article 71 of Law Number 11 of 2012, criminal sanctions for children consist of principal and additional penalties. Article 81, paragraph (2), affirms that imprisonment for a child can only be imposed for a maximum of half of the adult sentence, while paragraph (6) regulates additional penalties in the form of mandatory education, training, or rehabilitation. Imprisonment in the juvenile justice system is positioned as a last resort or ultimatum



remedium, meaning that the arrest, detention, or conviction of a child must be limited, brief, and only if no other alternative exists (Narendra 2025).

Data from the Directorate General of Corrections of the Ministry of Law and Human Rights, quoted by Kompas, show an increasing trend in cases of children in conflict with the law between 2020 and 2023. As of August 26, 2023, there were almost 2,000 (two thousand) cases recorded, with 1,467 (one thousand four hundred sixty-seven) children holding the status of detainees in the judicial process and 526 (five hundred twenty-six) children serving sentences as convicts. These crimes occur not only in school environments but also in families and communities. Meanwhile, the Commissioner of the Indonesian Child Protection Commission (KPAI), Aris Adi Leksono, reported that at the beginning of 2024, his office received 141 (one hundred and forty-one) reports of violence against children, approximately 35 (thirty-five) percent of which occurred in the educational environment (Tempo, 2024).

In Lampung Province, a murder case was reported against Fredi Saputra, 15 (fifteen) years old, a student at State Junior High School 25 Bandar Lampung. The victim was allegedly attacked by a group of youths armed with sharp weapons and was found lying on Jalan Dokter Harun, Kota Baru Village, Tanjung Karang Timur, after the incident. Although the victim was rushed to Graha Husada Hospital, his life could not be saved. The body was then taken to the Bhayangkara Regional Police Hospital for a post-mortem examination, which showed a 13 (thirteen) centimeter long laceration on the chest. Severe crime cases involving children should serve as a warning for the Indonesian government to reassess the effectiveness of the juvenile criminal justice system.

This system fundamentally aims to provide both preventive and repressive efforts for children who face the law. However, its implementation still faces various obstacles, such as poverty, domestic violence, negative peer influence, and low access to education. Furthermore, inconsistent law enforcement and limited rehabilitation facilities for children worsen the conditions (Kompas, 2025). The changing times have also influenced the acceleration of children's maturity due to the impact of technology and digital media on their lives. Children now experience accelerated psychological and social maturation. Bruce Friend, Vice President of Nickelodeon, stated that the age of 12–14 years was previously equivalent to the age of 10–12 years today, indicating accelerated maturation due to technological advancements (Kompasiana 2025). Based on this background, this research aims to analyze the effectiveness of the juvenile criminal justice system in addressing the increasing criminal offenses committed by children, focusing on the practices of law enforcement officials and non-governmental organizations in the legal territory of Lampung Province.

2. Literature Review and Hypothesis Development

The juvenile criminal justice system in Indonesia is a form of legal protection specifically provided to children facing the law (ABH). According to Law Number 11 of 2012 concerning the Juvenile Criminal Justice System (SPPA), the main approach used is restorative justice, which focuses on restoring the relationships between the perpetrator, victim, and community. This approach represents a paradigm shift from the conventional criminal justice system, which tends to be retributive, to a more humane and educational system. Restorative justice is expected to reduce the negative effects of punishment on children, including social stigmatization and the risk of recidivism (Fernando, 2020). The effectiveness of the juvenile criminal justice system is determined not only by the applicable legal norms but also by its implementation. According to Soekanto (2007), the effectiveness of law is influenced by five factors: legal substance, legal structure, legal culture, facilities and infrastructure, and public awareness.

In the context of the SPPA, its effectiveness depends on the extent to which regulations can be implemented by law enforcement officials, such as investigators, prosecutors, judges, and child guidance institutions. However, various studies indicate that there remains a gap between the ideal norm and practice in the field (Minan, 2024). The concept of legal effectiveness in this research can also be examined through Hiroshi Ishikawa's theory of legal effectiveness, as quoted by Muladi (1995) in his *Kapita Selektta Sistem Peradilan Pidana* (Selected Topics on the Criminal Justice System), which



includes five main elements: Clearance Rate, Conviction Rate, Speedy Trial, Reconviction Rate, and Community Participation in the Criminal Justice System. In the context of juvenile justice, these five elements interact and influence the successful implementation of the SPPA. If the legal substance is good, but the legal culture of officials and the community still views child offenders as "minor criminals," the restorative objective will not be achieved (Maroni, 2020).

In practice, the implementation of SPPA in Indonesia faces several obstacles. Child guidance institutions often experience limitations in facilities and professional personnel in carrying out rehabilitation. However, law enforcement officials still prioritize imprisonment over diversion, even though the law stipulates that the detention of children is a last resort *ultimum remedium* (Iwan, 2025). This condition is exacerbated by the uneven distribution of specialized training and education for officials managing juvenile cases (Tamza, 2025). Data from the Ministry of Law and Human Rights (2023) show that cases of children in conflict with the law increased during the 2020–2023 period, reaching almost two thousand cases across Indonesia, where most children were still in the status of detainees in the judicial process. This indicates that the juvenile criminal justice system has not been fully effective in carrying out its preventive and rehabilitative functions. KPAI Commissioner Aris Adi Leksono also noted that at the beginning of 2024, approximately 35 percent of cases of violence against children occurred in the educational environment, indicating a weak system of protection and prevention at the social level (KPAI, 2024).

In Bandar Lampung City, several serious crimes committed by minors, including the murder of Fredi Saputra (15 years old), reflect the real weakness of social supervision and early prevention. This case shows that children can be involved in serious crimes due to environmental influences and minimal character development from an early age. This is consistent with Barda Nawawi Arief's view (2010) that criminal law enforcement against children must prioritize moral, social, and humanitarian approaches, not just the enforcement of legal sanctions. From various literature and field findings, it can be concluded that the main gap in the juvenile criminal justice system in Indonesia lies in the implementation and coordination among law enforcement officers and guidance institutions. Although the Juvenile Criminal Justice System has provided a progressive legal basis, its application has not fully reflected the values of restorative justice. This study seeks to fill this gap by examining the effectiveness of the juvenile criminal justice system in Bandar Lampung City and identifying the factors that inhibit its application. The results of this study are expected to contribute to strengthening juvenile criminal law policy and practice in Indonesia and serve as a reference for developing a more humane, efficient, and just justice system.

3. Research Method

This study uses a qualitative method with normative and empirical juridical approaches to analyze the effectiveness of the juvenile criminal justice system in tackling serious criminal offenses in Bandar Lampung City. The normative juridical approach is used to review laws and regulations, such as Law Number 11 of 2012 concerning the Juvenile Criminal Justice System and Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Child Protection, while the empirical juridical approach is used to examine the implementation and effectiveness of its application in the field. This research is descriptive-analytical and based on field surveys and literature studies, where data are obtained through interviews with the judges of the Tanjung Karang District Court and the Bandar Lampung District Prosecutor's Office.

The participants included an attorney, members of the Women and Children Protection Unit of the Bandar Lampung Resort Police, representatives of the Damar Non-Governmental Organization, and a criminal law lecturer at Lampung University. The research materials included primary, secondary, and tertiary legal sources obtained from legal documents, journals, and academic literature. The collected data were analyzed qualitatively and interactively using the Miles and Huberman model, including data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing. This research was conducted with the assumption that the effectiveness of the juvenile criminal justice system is influenced by the synergy between law enforcement officials, child protection agencies, and the community in realizing the principle of restorative justice.



4. Results and Discussion

4.1. Effectiveness of the Juvenile Criminal Justice System in Tackling the Increase of Criminal Offenses Committed by Children in the Bandar Lampung City Area

The Juvenile Criminal Justice System is a mechanism for resolving criminal cases involving children as perpetrators, victims, or witnesses, with special regulations as stated in Law Number 11 of 2012. Its goal is to provide legal protection and guarantee the best interests of the child. The Juvenile Criminal Justice System handles juvenile cases through procedures different from those for adults, focusing on guidance and rehabilitation. The main principles upheld include the best interest of the child, restorative justice, non-discrimination, protection of dignity, and avoidance of revenge. Meanwhile, juvenile crime is understood as a criminal offense committed by a child aged over 12 (twelve) years but not yet reaching 18 (eighteen) years (Primaharsya, 2014).

Criminal offenses in Indonesia show an increasing trend, especially those involving minors. This phenomenon indicates that children are more frequently facing the law, both in minor offenses and serious crimes accompanied by violence. This condition is a serious warning for the government and society to pay more attention to children's behavior and mindset development. As the future generation of the nation, children are vulnerable to environmental influences and social conditions. Weak social control or family supervision can increase the risk of involvement in criminal offenses.

Therefore, the increase in cases should encourage the state, educational institutions, families, and communities to be more proactive in providing guidance, supervision, and positive spaces that can direct children away from deviant behaviors. This increase is seen not only in the quantity but also in the quality of criminal offenses, including murder and sexual violence committed by children. This indicates that the implementation of restorative justice, as regulated by Law Number 11 of 2012 concerning the Juvenile Criminal Justice System, has not been fully effective. This is a serious warning for the government, community, and educational institutions to pay attention to children's behavior patterns, strengthen family guidance, enhance character education, and encourage the implementation of diversion, both preventively and repressively, to prevent more children from committing criminal offenses.

Developments in Lampung Province from 2018 to 2024 also show significant dynamics in the region. In 2018–2019, the number of children facing the law was quite high, especially in East Lampung, Central Lampung, North Lampung Regencies, and Bandar Lampung City. The main obstacles to implementing diversion during this period included minimal involvement of psychologists, law enforcement officials who were not yet optimal, and low community support for the program. Consequently, most juvenile cases are still processed through the formal judicial path. In 2020, 747 (seven hundred forty-seven) children facing the law were recorded, consisting of 684 (six hundred eighty-four) boys and 63 (sixty-three) girls. Of this number, only approximately 52 (fifty-two) cases or 7–10% (seven to ten percent) were successfully resolved through diversion.

This means that although diversion is mandated by law, its implementation is still not optimal (Profil Gender dan Anak Provinsi Lampung, 2018-2020). From 2021 to 2022, the number of children facing the law remained high. The implementation of diversion began to increase in several police resorts, but the percentage remained low, never exceeding 10% (ten percent) of the total cases. In 2023, juvenile cases were still scattered across almost all regencies and cities in Lampung Province. Although the 2023 Gender Profile noted efforts to increase the implementation of diversion, this mechanism has not become the main path for resolving juvenile cases.

The year 2024 shows a significant change, with 322 (three hundred twenty-two) cases of children facing the law recorded. Bandar Lampung City is the largest contributor with 161 (one hundred sixty-one) cases, followed by South Teluk Betung, Kedaton, and a number of other sub-districts. However, the 2024 data do not include the number of cases successfully resolved through diversion (Profil Gender dan Anak Provinsi Lampung, 2021-2022). In terms of age, the majority of children facing the law in Lampung Province are in the 15 () 17 (seventeen) year age group, which is the adolescent period undergoing a psychological and social transition phase vulnerable to behavioral deviations. This is



consistent with the provisions of the Juvenile Criminal Justice System, which stipulates that children who can be legally processed are those aged 12 (twelve) to 18 (eighteen) years. The average age of child perpetrators of criminal offenses in Lampung is consistently in the late teenage years.

According to Hiroshi Ishikawa, as quoted by Muladi (1995) in his book *Kapita Selekta Sistem Peradilan Pidana* (Selected Topics on the Criminal Justice System), the effectiveness of the criminal justice system can be measured using five main indicators: (1) the extent of the case Clearance Rate by the police; (2) the extent to which the prosecutor successfully proves the indictment in court or the Conviction Rate; (3) the extent of the Speedy Trial in case handling; (4) the extent of the Reconviction Rate or the rate of repeated criminal offenses by the perpetrator; and (5) the extent of community participation in the criminal justice system.

4.1.1. Clearance Rate

It shows the extent to which law enforcement officials, especially the police, successfully uncover and follow up on cases of children facing the law. Based on the statement of the investigator from the Women and Child Protection Unit of the Bandar Lampung Resort Police, the increase in the number of successfully uncovered cases in recent years reflects the seriousness of officials in carrying out the mandate of the Juvenile Criminal Justice System. However, according to him, the indicator of success is not only quantitative but also how the case is handled fairly, humanely, and protects the interests of the child. He affirmed that many cases are successfully uncovered, but the handling is not yet sensitive to the psychological and social needs of children. This is reinforced by the Bandar Lampung District Attorney's Prosecutor, who stated that a high clearance rate does not mean the system is effective if the investigation process is not accompanied by a guidance approach. Therefore, increasing the effectiveness of the Juvenile Criminal Justice System must be accompanied by improving coordination between institutions and strengthening the role of the family and community in supporting the child's rehabilitation.

4.1.2. Conviction Rate

Illustrates the extent to which the prosecutor successfully proves the indictment against children in court. Chandra Rezki, Prosecutor at the Bandar Lampung District Attorney, explained that in general, the majority of indictments against children can be proven and lead to a guilty verdict. However, he considered that a high conviction rate does not always reflect true justice, as the orientation of the Juvenile Criminal Justice System is not merely punishment but also the guidance and recovery of the child. A similar sentiment was expressed by Rakhamad Fajeri, Judge at the Tanjung Karang District Court, who emphasized that many criminal verdicts against children have met the juridical elements, but have not fully oriented towards the best interest of the child (the best interest of the child). Society often considers the sentence too light, even though the juvenile justice system emphasizes a corrective and rehabilitative approach. Therefore, the effectiveness of the conviction rate must be understood substantively, that is, the extent to which the judicial process can return the child to the correct social path, not merely resulting in a guilty verdict.

4.1.3. Speedy Trial

is an important indicator for assessing the efficiency of the juvenile criminal justice system. The investigator from the Women and Child Protection Unit of the Bandar Lampung Resort Police admitted that there are still significant obstacles in realizing the principle of a speedy trial, such as the limited number of specialized juvenile investigators, the length of administrative bureaucracy, and obstacles in the implementation of diversion. Chandra Rezki, Prosecutor at the Bandar Lampung District Attorney, added that the diversion process is often delayed due to the lack of awareness of the victim's party and the perpetrator's family, as well as the minimal role of competent facilitators. Meanwhile, Rakhamad Fajeri, Judge at the Tanjung Karang District Court, emphasized that case acceleration must not sacrifice a child's right to legal assistance and psychological rehabilitation. In other words, the speed of the process must still consider justice and humanity. Therefore, an ideal speedy trial is one that balances procedural efficiency and the protection of a child's rights during the judicial process.



4.1.4. Recidivism Rate

shows the extent to which children involved in legal cases re-offend. Based on the statement of Meda Fatmayanti, Member of the Damar Lampung Non-Governmental Organization, the high rate of recidivism among children is caused by weak post-sentence guidance and minimal social support from the environment. Many children who have completed their sentences return to an uncondusive environment, thereby having the potential to repeat their actions. This indicates that the Juvenile Criminal Justice System has not been fully effective in carrying out its rehabilitative function. Rakhamad Fajeri, Judge at the Tanjung Karang District Court, also added that the absence of a continuous assistance system means children do not receive a new life direction after leaving the guidance institution. Therefore, a community-based guidance system needs to be built, involving schools, social institutions, and the community, so that the social reintegration process can run optimally.

4.1.5. Community Participation in the Juvenile Criminal Justice System

is an important factor in determining the success of the implementation of the Juvenile Criminal Justice System. Fristia Berdian Tamza, Lecturer in the Criminal Law Department of the Faculty of Law, Lampung University, mentioned that the low level of community participation is the main obstacle to the implementation of restorative justice. Many communities still have a negative stigma towards child perpetrators and consider the diversion process not to provide a deterrent effect. The presence of the community in the mediation, assistance, and recovery process is important for creating an inclusive and educational system.

Meda Fatmayanti, Member of the Damar Lampung Non-Governmental Organization, added that families and communities need to be involved from the early stages of case handling so that the child guidance process is more effective. Thus, community participation plays a role not only as a supervisor but also as an agent of social reintegration. Overall, the results of interviews with the five resource persons show that the effectiveness of the Juvenile Criminal Justice System in Bandar Lampung City is still more formal than substantive. The five indicators according to Ishikawa (clearance rate, conviction rate, speedy trial, reconviction rate, and community participation) have been applied procedurally, but have not fully reflected the spirit of child protection. Therefore, strengthening coordination among law enforcement agencies, increasing the capacity of officials and diversion facilitators, and community support are needed so that the SPPA can truly realize its main goals, namely, protection, guidance, and social reintegration of children into community life.

4.2. Inhibiting Factors of the Juvenile Criminal Justice System in Tackling the Increase of Criminal Offenses Committed by Children

The increase in the number of cases of children facing the law occurs in various regions in Indonesia, including Lampung Province, which also experiences similar problems as Bali. This raises questions from the public about the extent to which Law Number 11 of 2012 concerning the Juvenile Criminal Justice System can truly be applied. Obstacles in the practice of law enforcement in the field, especially in prone areas such as Lampung, also influence effectiveness. Normatively, the Juvenile Criminal Justice System presents a new paradigm by prioritizing the diversion mechanism, which shifts juvenile case resolution from the formal judicial path to a more humane and educational alternative path through the restorative justice approach. The main goal of restorative justice is to create a resolution process that involves the perpetrator, victim, family, and other related parties, focusing on restoring the situation rather than merely punishing the perpetrator. However, empirical findings show that the balance of legal protection between perpetrators and victims has not been fully achieved. Therefore, evaluating the Juvenile Criminal Justice System is crucial for formulating a more integrated and effective juvenile criminal justice system (Hafrida, 2022).

In line with this view, Soekanto (1988) emphasizes that legal effectiveness is fundamentally determined by the extent to which a regulation can realize the established goals. A new rule can be said to be effective if it can provide a positive impact, especially in directing and changing community behavior to align with applicable norms. Thus, the law functions not only as a normative text but also as an instrument of social control that works effectively in daily life. Regulations are often not implemented



as they should be, and their application becomes ineffective. This ineffectiveness can be caused by unclear rule formulation, inconsistent law enforcement, or minimal community support. Conversely, a law is considered effective if it can be applied in accordance with the prevailing provisions. This study refers to Soerjono Soekanto's theory of legal effectiveness, which emphasizes five main factors: (1) the law itself, (2) law enforcement officials, (3) facilities or infrastructure, (4) the community, and (5) culture.

4.2.1. The Law Itself Factor

Law Number 11 of 2012 concerning the Juvenile Criminal Justice System places restorative justice as the main approach to resolving juvenile delinquency cases. This mechanism involves the perpetrator, victim, family, and related parties seeking a solution that emphasizes recovery, not retaliation. One form of this is diversion, which is the shifting of juvenile cases from the criminal justice path to out-of-court for the child's best interest. According to a member of the Women and Child Protection Unit of the Bandar Lampung Resort Police, the law is no longer fully effective. Since its enactment in 2012 until this research was conducted in 2025, many changes have occurred, both in technological development and parental rearing patterns; therefore, its application is considered less relevant. He highlighted a shift in the age of maturity for children, where many children appear more mature in thought, behavior, and appearance compared to the law's provision, which still sets the age of a child at 12–18 years. This creates a gap between regulations and real-world conditions.

The Juvenile Judge of the Tanjung Karang District Court, Rakhmad Fajeri, affirmed that the Juvenile Criminal Justice System was indeed created to protect children's rights by applying the *ultimum remedium* principle, where punishment is a last resort, and diversion is prioritized. However, in practice, judges often face a dilemma because the crimes committed by children are now equivalent to those of adults, while victims are often children who have the same rights. Chandra Rezki, Juvenile Prosecutor at the Bandar Lampung District Attorney, considered the the Juvenile Criminal Justice System less relevant, especially with the increase in juvenile cases over the last five years. According to him, besides the law, supporting factors for law enforcement must also adapt to the times to create good conditions for both children and society. Meda Fatmayanti from the Damar NGO opined that the Juvenile Criminal Justice System too heavily emphasizes protection for the child perpetrator but provides less protection for the victim. She considered that the leniency given actually makes the law to be often underestimated.

In fact, many children under 12 years old commit criminal offenses, but the law only directs intervention towards the parents or encourages restorative efforts. Tamza argued that the Juvenile Criminal Justice System has not been effective in facing current conditions, as seen from the increasing number and variety of juvenile cases. She added that there is a shift in the age of maturity influenced by technology, environment, and culture; therefore, a more appropriate and responsive government step is needed. Officials and academics' opinions show that rapid social changes since the enactment of this law pose new challenges to the effectiveness of its application.

The law must continue to provide child protection while guaranteeing firm and beneficial legal certainty for the community. According to the author, the increasing number of juvenile cases must be understood by looking at the social, economic, and family background, because a child's involvement is usually not entirely based on their own awareness. Therefore, a good legal system must prioritize empathy for children as a vulnerable group, with a sociological approach, responsive regulations, and collaboration among parties. Thus, the juvenile criminal justice system can operate more justly, humanely, and sustainably.

4.2.2. Law Enforcement Officials Factor

is highly determining for the effectiveness of the juvenile criminal justice system. Law enforcement officials must perform their duties professionally, adhere to the code of ethics, and consider the moral aspects of every decision. However, in practice, some officials are not fully competent or do not yet understand the complexity of juvenile cases. Rakhmad Fajeri, Juvenile Judge at the Tanjung Karang District Court, emphasized that the quality of law enforcement officials greatly affects the success of the juvenile criminal justice system. He highlighted that the increase in the number of juvenile cases is



not always accompanied by the readiness of officials, often leading to errors or less than optimal implementation; therefore, the goal of child protection is not fully achieved. Chandra Rezki, Juvenile Prosecutor at the Bandar Lampung District Attorney, added that officials play a role in determining whether the system runs according to the principles mandated by the law. Although officials strive to follow legal guidelines and protect children's rights, many still lack adequate competence. Other factors, such as increasing workload, also make handling less optimal.

Members of the Women and Child Protection Unit of the Bandar Lampung Resort Police and Meda Fatmayanti from the Damar NGO emphasized the need for officials to have capability, integrity, and social sensitivity to enforce the law according to regulations. Fristia Berdian Tamza added that a paradigm shift is needed so officials understand that law enforcement is not just about punishment but about presenting substantial justice for children as perpetrators, victims, and witnesses. The author believes that the effectiveness of officials is determined not only by technical aspects, such as the number of personnel or workload, but also by the ability to understand the child's social condition. Textual law enforcement can result in formalistic justice without a recovery effect. Therefore, humane approaches and child protection training are greatly needed so that the legal process can curb the trend of increasing children facing the law and provide fair protection.

4.2.3. Facilities or Infrastructure Factor

It plays an important role in supporting juvenile law enforcement. Limited budgets, rehabilitation experts, and logistics for remote areas remain serious obstacles. Seto Mulyadi, Chairman of emphasized the need for child-friendly facilities, especially during the trial process. He highlighted the problem of children still being placed in police stations because the location of the Special Juvenile Correctional Institution is far from the scene of the crime. Rakhmad Fajeri stated that juvenile handling facilities in Lampung are still far behind compared to other countries, both in terms of technology and infrastructure. Juvenile prisons and Special Child Development Institutions are not yet able to accommodate the increasing number of cases; therefore, guidance is not optimal. Chandra Rezki added that although the government strives to be optimal, guidance facilities at the Special Child Development Institutions and Correctional Centers are still inadequate, hindering the child's social reintegration.

A member of the Women and Child Protection Unit of the Bandar Lampung Resort Police emphasized the need for child-friendly facilities, ranging from educational facilities and religious activities to social guidance. Fatmayanti stated that the lack of legal prevention facilities, including socialization to children and parents, results in low legal awareness. Tamza affirmed that child guidance must include formal and non-formal education so that the goal of social reintegration is achieved. The author concludes that the main weakness lies in the lack of supporting facilities and infrastructure for the law itself. Ideally, law enforcement should not only be repressive but also restorative through psychosocial experts, child-friendly examination rooms, and digitalization of the legal system to be more transparent and efficient. With adequate facilities, the legal process can be more effective, humane, and strengthen public trust in the system.

4.2.4. Community Factor

The role of the community is highly important for the effectiveness of the juvenile criminal justice system. Low legal literacy among children and families is a significant obstacle. Children often do not understand the legal consequences of their actions and do not have access to a safe place to report. Rakhmad Fajeri emphasized that the community does not yet understand the laws, especially those regulating children. The family plays a primary role in providing legal education, supported by schools and the community. Chandra Rezki added that 80% of a child's behavioral formation comes from the family, so their responsibility is very great in preventing children from committing criminal offenses.

A member of the Women and Child Protection Unit of the Bandar Lampung Resort Police affirmed the importance of the social environment's role in guiding children, including parental supervision of digital content and children's social interactions. Fatmayanti stated that the community, especially the family, must be active in child assistance and guidance so that the trend of children facing the law decreases. Tamza emphasized that low community participation, lack of legal understanding, and minimal family



supervision are the main factors for children violating the law. The author concludes that the success of the juvenile justice system is highly dependent on the synergy of family, community, and the state so that children can be properly guided and kept away from criminal offenses.

4.2.5. Cultural Factor

The current community culture challenges the effectiveness of juvenile law. The negative stigma against children who have faced the law hinders their social reintegration. Rakhmad Fajeri stated that children who have served a sentence are often labeled negatively, so they do not receive social support to improve themselves. Chandra Rezki added that some behaviors that should be prohibited are even normalized by the community, such as minor deviant behavior, so children imitate and consider it normal. A member of the Women and Child Protection Unit of the Bandar Lampung Police mentioned that new negative cultures emerge due to the pressure of social trends and technology, encouraging children to be selfish or pragmatic to be accepted in their social environment.

Fatmayanti emphasized that low literacy and an instant culture in society worsen the condition of children, resulting in short-term, selfish, and emotional mindsets. Tamza affirmed that minimal community participation and social stigma hinder the reintegration of children, making the goal of restorative justice difficult to achieve. The author believes that a change in community culture is very important through education, socialization, and the active role of family, school, and community leaders. Law enforcement is not enough to be formalistic; cultural and social approaches must be applied so that the law can curb deviant behavior and support children's development.

5. Conclusion, Limitation, and Suggestions

5.1. Conclusion

Based on the research results, it can be concluded that the implementation of the Juvenile Criminal Justice System in Lampung Province has not shown optimal effectiveness, although it has been carried out in accordance with Law Number 11 of 2012. Normatively, legal mechanisms and procedures have been implemented, but they still face various obstacles. From the perspective of law enforcement, officials' understanding of the principle of restorative justice is still limited, so the handling of juvenile cases tends to be formalistic. Guidance and rehabilitation facilities are inadequate, causing the child's recovery and reintegration process to be ineffective. Furthermore, low community participation and legal literacy contribute to the high stigma against child perpetrators of criminal offenses. Permissive cultural factors and weak character education also worsen this problem. Therefore, the Juvenile Criminal Justice System in Lampung is only procedurally effective, requiring strengthening in guidance, coordination, and social support.

5.2. Limitation

This research has limitations in terms of the scope of the area and the number of resource persons, which is limited to several institutions in Lampung Province, Indonesia. In addition, this research did not use longitudinal data to analyze the change in the effectiveness of the Juvenile Criminal Justice System over the long term, and did not involve an in-depth quantitative analysis related to the success rate of diversion and child guidance.

5.3. Suggestions

The local government, along with law enforcement officials and social institutions, needs to strengthen the synergy and capacity of the Juvenile Criminal Justice System implementers, especially in applying a more humane principle of restorative justice. A comprehensive evaluation of the implementation of the Juvenile Criminal Justice System is needed, including the legal aspect, guidance facilities, and the role of the community. Furthermore, legal literacy, character education, and social reintegration programs must be enhanced so that children who have faced the law can be reaccepted into the community. The government is also expected to add guidance and training facilities for officers so that the juvenile criminal justice system becomes more educational, humane, and just.



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