

Integration of Multidisciplinary Approaches in the Criminal Justice System: A Study of the Handling of Gender-Based Crime

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ABSTRACT

Gender-based crimes, such as sexual violence, domestic violence, and exploitation of women and children, are complex issues that require multidisciplinary handling. In Indonesia, although Law Number 12 of 2022 concerning the Crime of Sexual Violence (UU TPKS) has been adopted as a step forward, its implementation still faces various obstacles, such as limited understanding of law enforcement officials regarding gender issues and lack of collaboration with other disciplines such as psychology and sociology. The dominance of patriarchal culture and a judicial system focused on formal legal procedures often ignores the social and psychological needs of victims. Therefore, a multidisciplinary approach involving various professions, such as psychologists, social workers, and human rights activists, is needed to ensure the protection and recovery of victims in a comprehensive manner. A criminal justice system that is more responsive to the needs of victims can be achieved by improving coordination between agencies and strengthening the capacity of law enforcement officials through gender-based training. This study uses descriptive-analytical methods to evaluate the challenges and opportunities of implementing this approach, relying on secondary data from regulations, government agency reports and NGOs. It is hoped that the results of this study can provide recommendations to strengthen judicial policies and practices that are fairer and more inclusive.

Keywords: Multidisciplinary Approach; Criminal Justice System; Gender-Based Crime

INTRODUCTION

Gender-based crimes, such as sexual violence, domestic violence, or exploitation of women and children, are a multidimensional problem. This issue not only touches the realm of criminal law, but also has deep social, cultural, and psychological roots. In the Indonesian context, this is a big challenge considering that the legal system is often still stuck in a normative and formalistic approach. Law Number 12 of 2022 concerning the Crime of Sexual Violence (TPKS Law) is a step forward in recognizing the complexity of gender-based cases.¹ However, its implementation still faces obstacles in the form of limited understanding by law enforcement officials of gender perspectives, as well as a lack of collaboration with other fields of science such as psychology and sociology in supporting a judicial process that is more responsive to the needs of victims.

¹ Suryani, L. S., & Ghazi, A. (2023). Ketentuan TPKS dalam KUHP Baru. *Jurnal Hukum & Pembangunan*, 53(2), 297-316.

In addition, a patriarchal culture-based approach still often dominates, where victims of gender-based crimes are often blamed or stigmatized, both by society and the justice system itself.² A comprehensive and equitable approach requires multidisciplinary integration capable of addressing these inequalities, including by involving psychological counselors, social workers, and human rights activists in the process of investigation to victim recovery. This is in line with Law Number 23 of 2004 concerning the Elimination of Domestic Violence (PKDRT Law), which underlines the importance of victim protection, but often fails to be implemented holistically. Therefore, an integrated legal approach with other disciplines is imperative to ensure that victims not only get legal justice, but also adequate social and psychological recovery.

The reliance of the conventional criminal justice system on formal legal procedures often results in inadequate processes in addressing the needs of victims of gender-based crimes. For example, victims of sexual violence often have to face a grueling and potentially traumatic evidentiary process, such as having to present physical evidence or give repeated testimony in public that is less sensitive to their emotional state.³ This shows that the existing system does not fully understand the psychological trauma experienced by victims, as stipulated in Article 5 of the TPKS Law, which emphasizes the importance of holistic victim recovery.⁴ However, the mismatch between progressive legislation and implementation on the ground reflects the weak synergy between the law and the multidisciplinary approach required.

The absence of an effective mechanism that integrates psychological and sociology expertise in the justice system creates biases that are detrimental to victims. In practice, law enforcement officials often prioritize resolving cases based on expedited formal procedures without considering the long-term social impact on victims or society.⁵ This is contrary to the principle of victim protection guaranteed by Law Number 31 of 2014 concerning the Protection of Witnesses and Victims (PSK Law), which underlines the importance of providing medical, psychological, and legal assistance services to victims. Thus, efforts to reform the criminal justice system need to be oriented towards multidisciplinary collaboration, where legal approaches are combined with social and psychological interventions to ensure a more humane and inclusive handling of gender-based cases.

A multidisciplinary approach in the criminal justice system is not just an option, but an urgent need, especially in the case of complex gender-based crimes.⁶ Collaboration between legal experts, psychologists, and sociologists provides a broader perspective in understanding and dealing with the impact of crime on victims. For example, the integration of the role of psychologists can help law enforcement officials understand the

² Saragih, A. (2022). *Representasi Perempuan dalam Budaya Patriarki pada Novel Perempuan yang Menangis kepada Bulan Hitam Karya Dian Purnomo* (Doctoral dissertation, Universitas Medan Area).

³ Ardiansyah, F. R., Abdurrachman, H., & Rizkianto, K. (2024). *Kekerasan dalam Rumah Tangga sebagai Pemicu Tindak Pidana Lainnya*. Penerbit NEM.

⁴ Salsabilla, K. (2024). Penegakan Hukum Terhadap Perempuan Dan Anak Sebagai Korban Kekerasan Seksual Perspektif Viktimologi. *Jurnal Kajian Hukum Dan Kebijakan Publik/ E-ISSN: 3031-8882*, 2(1), 467-474.

⁵ Jaenudin, J., & Nisa, R. R. A. (2025). Klasifikasi Penyelesaian Perkara Pidana dengan Sistem Restorative Justice. *Journal of Mandalika Literature*, 6(1), 552-563.

⁶ Rockowitz, S., Wagner, K., Cooper, R., Stevens, L., Davies, K., Woodhams, J., ... & Flowe, H. D. (2024). A systematic review of criminal justice initiatives to strengthen the criminal investigation and prosecution of sexual violence in East Africa. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, 25(1), 813-827.

victim's trauma more deeply, so that the judicial process is not only a formalistic arena, but also a recovery space. This is in line with the principle of restorative justice stated in Law Number 11 of 2012 concerning the Juvenile Criminal Justice System (UU SPPA), which, although aimed at children, provides an overview of how a multidisciplinary approach is able to support more humane justice.

However, the challenge in implementing this approach lies in the hierarchical and rigid structure of the criminal justice system, where the involvement of experts outside the legal field is often seen as an adjunct, rather than a major need, and the lack of specialized training for law enforcement officials on gender-based victim handling is a significant obstacle.⁷ Article 35 of the TPKS Law has actually mandated the provision of integrated services, including psychological and social assistance for victims, but the implementation of this article is still limited to a few areas with adequate infrastructure support. Thus, a more coordinated national strategy is needed to integrate a multidisciplinary approach into all stages of the judicial process, from investigation, court, to post-case recovery, to ensure that the legal system is able to respond to the real needs of the community.

A multidisciplinary approach in the criminal justice system is particularly relevant to ensure the integration of gender perspectives in legal policy, as mandated in various international and national legal instruments. One of the important instruments is the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which has been ratified by Indonesia through Law Number 7 of 1984.⁸ The Convention underscores the obligation of states to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women, including in the legal system, by ensuring women's access to fair and non-discriminatory justice. However, in reality, these efforts are often hit by patriarchal cultural constraints and the lack of understanding of law enforcement officers about the concept of gender equality, so many cases are not handled sensitively and fairly.

At the national level, various policies such as the TPKS Law and the PKDRT Law have provided a progressive legal foothold to deal with gender-based crimes, but their implementation is still far from expectations. One of the main challenges is the lack of readiness of the criminal justice system to integrate multidisciplinary gender-based services, as required by Article 36 of the TPKS Law, which demands the existence of integrated services for victims.⁹ These services include psychological assistance, medical rehabilitation, and legal assistance. However, in practice, these services are often limited to urban areas with adequate resources, leaving rural and remote areas without equal access. Thus, the success of the integration of multidisciplinary approaches depends heavily on political will, adequate resource allocation, and specialized training for law enforcement officials to understand and implement gender-based policies consistently..

METHOD

⁷ SH, K. T. W. (2021). *Prospektif Hakim Pemeriksa Pendahuluan dalam Sistem Peradilan Pidana Indonesia*. Pustaka Aksara.

⁸ Maryam, R. (2018). Menerjemahkan Konvensi Penghapusan Segala Bentuk Diskriminasi Terhadap Perempuan (CEDAW) Ke Dalam Peraturan Perundang-Undangan (Translation Of Convention On The Elimination Of All Forms Of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Into The Regulation Of Legislation). *Jurnal Legislasi Indonesia*, 9(1), 99-118.

⁹ Zuraidah, Z., & Anwar, C. A. (2023). Analisis Yuridis Terhadap Korban Kekerasan Seksual Di Lingkungan Keluarga Menurut Perspektif Undang-Undang Nomor 23 Tahun 2002 Juncto Undang-Undang Nomor 35 Tahun 2014 Tentang Perlindungan Anak Juncto Undang-Undang Nomor 12 Tahun 2022 Tentang Tindak Pidana. *Journal Presumption of Law*, 5(1), 1-17.

This study uses a descriptive-analytical method to describe and analyze the implementation of a multidisciplinary approach in the criminal justice system towards the handling of gender-based crimes. This method aims to describe existing facts and phenomena in a systematic manner, then analyze them within the framework of relevant theories and policies. This approach does not involve direct interviews, but rather relies on secondary data obtained from official documents, research reports, and relevant regulations. The main sources of data include laws and regulations such as the Law on the Crime of Sexual Violence (TPKS Law), the Law on the Elimination of Domestic Violence (PKDRT Law), and international instruments such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

Data collection is carried out through literature studies, focusing on regulatory analysis, reports from government agencies such as the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (KPPPA), as well as annual reports from non-governmental organizations (NGOs) engaged in the protection of women and children. This data is then analyzed using a thematic approach to identify patterns, challenges, and opportunities in the implementation of a multidisciplinary approach. This thematic analysis will include an assessment of the extent to which the criminal justice system in Indonesia has integrated gender-based services, implementation barriers, and comparisons with relevant international practices. The results of this study are expected to provide evidence-based recommendations for strengthening judicial policies and practices that are more responsive to the needs of victims of gender-based crimes..

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Implementation of a Multidisciplinary Approach in the Criminal Justice System in Indonesia

A. Policy and Regulatory Analysis Supporting a Multidisciplinary Approach

A multidisciplinary approach to dealing with victims of violence requires the support of policies and regulations that can provide a strong legal foundation. The three main regulations that underlie the implementation of this approach in Indonesia are the Law on the Crime of Sexual Violence (UU TPKS), the Law on the Elimination of Domestic Violence (UU PKDRT), and the Law on the Juvenile Criminal Justice System (UU SPPA).¹⁰ Each of these laws aims to protect victims, be it women, children, or other vulnerable groups, by providing a legal framework that involves various sectors—legal, psychological, and social—in an integrated manner. In this context, existing regulations aim to provide holistic services for victims, ranging from legal assistance that directs victims to a fair judicial process, to psychological and social assistance to recover victims from the effects of violence experienced. The TPKS Law, for example, not only criminalizes sexual violence but also provides a space for victims to get better recovery and protection. Similarly, the PKDRT Law underlines the importance of protecting women and children in the scope of the household, by providing temporary protection mechanisms such as safe houses and free legal services for victims.

¹⁰ Dewi, A. (2022). Perlindungan Hukum dan Hak Asasi Manusia Dalam Perspektif Undang-Undang Tindak Pidana Kekerasan Seksual. *Juris Humanity: Jurnal Riset dan Kajian Hukum Hak Asasi Manusia*, 1(1), 45-57.

However, while the above regulations show significant progress in victim protection, there is often a stark gap between progressive policies and their implementation on the ground. There are many challenges that hinder the successful implementation of this multidisciplinary approach, such as limited human resources, lack of training for officials handling cases of violence, and lack of coordination between related institutions, such as the police, courts, and social institutions. In addition, while existing legal policies can provide formal protection, their implementation is often hit by complex social realities, where the stigma against victims of violence and society's ignorance of victims' rights can exacerbate their conditions. In many areas, for example, victims are often reluctant to report or do not know how to access available services due to lack of information or fear of community and family reactions. In addition, although legal and psychological assistance services are regulated in policy, in practice they are often not evenly available throughout Indonesia, especially in remote areas, which hinders victims' access to the protection they should have.

This gap is even more evident when observing the existence of institutions tasked with providing integrated services, which are often limited in capacity and resources. According to several reports, many institutions involved in handling victims of violence have difficulty in maintaining the sustainability of mentoring programs due to lack of funding or lack of experts in the field, such as psychologists, lawyers, and social workers. This shows that while existing policies already provide considerable space for a multidisciplinary approach, practices on the ground have not fully accommodated the needs of victims as a whole. Therefore, to ensure the success of the implementation of this policy, there needs to be continuous evaluation and adjustment, both in terms of budget, officer training, and strengthening coordination between institutions. Without collective efforts and systemic improvements, despite progressive policies, victims of violence will still experience obstacles in obtaining the protection they should enjoy.¹¹

B. Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Integrated Services in Gender-Based Case Handling

Evaluation of the effectiveness of integrated services in handling gender-based cases, such as those run by the Center for Integrated Services for Women and Children's Empowerment (P2TP2A), is crucial in assessing the extent to which this approach can have a significant impact on the handling of gender-based violence in Indonesia.¹² This integrated service is designed to integrate various disciplines, covering legal, psychological, and social rehabilitation aspects, aiming to provide holistic assistance to victims. Theoretically, this multidisciplinary approach aims to solve the various dimensions of the problems faced by victims of violence, which often cannot be solved by a single approach alone.¹³ In practice, these services provide legal access for victims,

¹¹ Gemilang, M. S., & Idris, I. (2024). Perspektif Sosiopendekatan Socio-Legal Terhadap Perlindungan Hak-Hak Anak Korban Kekerasan Seksuallogi Hukum Terhadap Perlindungan Hukum Bagi Anak Korban Kekerasan Seksual. *Jurnal Legislatif*, 58-69.

¹² Syaroh, D. M., & Widowati, N. (2018). Efektivitas Pada Pusat Pelayanan Terpadu Pemberdayaan Perempuan Dan Anak (P2TP2A) di Kabupaten Semarang (Studi Tentang Penanganan Pengaduan Tindakan Kekerasan Terhadap Perempuan dan Anak). *Journal of Public Policy and Management Review*, 7(3), 228-245.

¹³ Tahir, R., Astawa, I. G. P., Widjajanto, A., Panggabean, M. L., Rohman, M. M., Dewi, N. P. P., ... & Paminto, S. R. (2023). *METODOLOGI PENELITIAN BIDANG HUKUM: Suatu Pendekatan Teori Dan Praktik*. PT. Sonpedia Publishing Indonesia.

which not only involves the legal process to seek justice, but also includes legal assistance that allows victims to face them with adequate support. Legal proceedings in cases of gender-based violence often encounter various obstacles, ranging from the victim's lack of understanding of his rights to injustice in the application of the law itself. Therefore, the role of P2TP2A in providing effective legal assistance is very important to ensure that victims get the justice they deserve.¹⁴

In addition, the psychological assistance provided is also very decisive in the recovery of the victim. This mentoring not only aims to treat the emotional trauma of violence, but also to help victims rebuild their confidence and mental well-being. Psychological treatment for victims of violence plays a vital role in restoring the mental condition of victims so that they can function again in social life. Psychological assistance provided by P2TP2A must be carried out by trained experts, but the problem of a limited number of professionals in certain areas is one of the main challenges faced in the implementation of this service.¹⁵ Not only that, victim rehabilitation is also an equally important component. This rehabilitation includes physical and social recovery that allows the victim to return to living his or her normal life, both in a social and economic context. However, the success of rehabilitation is often hampered by the social stigma attached to victims of violence, leading to marginalization or discrimination in society.

The success of these services in a given region shows that the integration of various services can run effectively when human resources and infrastructure support it. However, the inequality in the distribution of these services throughout Indonesia shows that there is a problem in the equitable distribution of access. More remote areas often experience limitations in terms of facilities, experts, and budgetary support needed to deliver effective integrated services. A more in-depth evaluation of the successes and obstacles to the implementation of these services is important to formulate policies that can ensure more equitable access for all victims of gender-based violence throughout Indonesia. These barriers, such as a lack of resources, lack of coordination between agencies, and a lack of awareness of the importance of gender-based addressing at the local level, should be a major concern for policymakers. Therefore, in order to improve the effectiveness of these integrated services, there needs to be efforts to increase the capacity of relevant institutions and strengthen support systems that enable these services to be more equitable, affordable, and more effective in handling gender-based violence cases.

C. Structural and Cultural Challenges in the Implementation of the Multidisciplinary Approach

The implementation of the multidisciplinary approach in the Indonesian criminal justice system faces complex challenges, both in terms of structure and culture. The multidisciplinary approach, which integrates various disciplines, such as law, psychology, sociology, and gender studies, aims to provide more holistic solutions in the

¹⁴ Nurwahyuni, N. W., Kusumah, R. R., & Hasanah, D. A. (2023). Strategi Dan Implementasi Pemberian Bantuan Hukum Secara Digital Terhadap Anak Yang Berhadapan Dengan Hukum Di Kabupaten Indramayu. *Jurnal Suara Hukum*, 5(2), 32-54.

¹⁵ Thifi, K. I. (2023). *Analisis Masalah Dan Uu No. 23 Tahun 2004 Tentang Peran Pendampingan Hukum Terhadap Korban Kekerasan Dalam Rumah Tangga Di Unit Pemberdayaan Perempuan Dan Perlindungan Anak Kabupaten Ponorogo* (Doctoral dissertation, IAIN Ponorogo).

handling of criminal cases. However, the integration of this approach is constrained by various obstacles that are profound and affect its effectiveness.

From a structural perspective, one of the main challenges is the limitation of human resources trained in the various disciplines required in this approach. In Indonesia, the number of professionals with cross-disciplinary expertise, such as psychologists, sociologists, or even gender practitioners, is still limited in number and distribution. This is a major obstacle in creating effective cooperation between various parties involved in the criminal justice system. In addition, supporting infrastructure that can facilitate collaboration between disciplines is also often inadequate. Adequate facilities, such as interprofessional consultation rooms, as well as technological devices that allow multidisciplinary processing of data and information, are still far from the required standards. These limitations slow down efforts to integrate multidisciplinary approaches and often lead to the resulting solutions being partial or suboptimal.

However, these structural barriers cannot be separated from the cultural challenges that are also deeply rooted in Indonesian society, especially related to the influence of patriarchal culture that is still dominant. The patriarchal culture inherent in Indonesia's social and cultural structure often influences the way law enforcement handles criminal cases, especially those involving gender-based violence.¹⁶ In many cases, women and children are the main victims, but often their treatment is influenced by a very strong gender bias. Deep-seated gender stereotypes about the role of women and men in the family and society often lead law enforcement to downplay or even ignore the suffering of victims, exacerbating the situation faced by women seeking justice. This factor is further exacerbated by the lack of gender-based training for law enforcement officers, which makes them less sensitive to the complexity of the problems faced by victims of violence. Therefore, in the implementation of a multidisciplinary approach, gender-sensitive training is a must to ensure that law enforcement officers have adequate knowledge in handling cases that have the potential to be influenced by gender factors.

In addition, resistance to change in the justice system itself is also a major obstacle in integrating a multidisciplinary approach. The long-running and tightly structured justice system often struggles to adapt to new models that require cross-disciplinary collaboration. In fact, reform in the justice system that is more inclusive and based on the principle of gender justice is an important step towards the implementation of an effective multidisciplinary approach. Several studies show that despite reform efforts in the Indonesian legal system, changes in judicial practice are often hampered by bureaucratic rigidity and resistance to changes within the judiciary itself.¹⁷ Therefore, adaptation to a multidisciplinary approach requires a paradigm shift in the management of law enforcement and also an increase in their capacity and understanding of the importance of interdisciplinary cooperation.

In view of these challenges, Indonesia's justice system needs to undertake in-depth reforms, both in structural and cultural aspects, so that a multidisciplinary approach can be effectively integrated into the criminal justice process. Change must occur not only at the policy level, but also at the implementation level, by emphasizing the importance of gender-based training for law enforcement, strengthening infrastructure that supports

¹⁶ Hidayat, A., & Kumala, A. C. (2020). Mengadvokasi Ketidaksetaraan Gender (Peran Negara dan Hegemoni Budaya Patriarki): Study pada Rifka Annisa Woman Crisis Centre (WCC) Yogyakarta. *Jurnal PolGov*, 2(2), 365-405.

¹⁷ Strong, C. F. (2019). *Konstitusi-konstitusi politik modern: Studi perbandingan tentang sejarah dan bentuk*. Nusamedia.

multidisciplinary collaboration, and awareness of the importance of reducing the influence of patriarchal culture in the judicial process. Only by addressing these structural and cultural challenges can Indonesia's justice system create a more equitable, inclusive, and responsive environment to the needs of victims, especially women and children.

2. Challenges and Opportunities in Strengthening a Gender-Based Multidisciplinary Approach

A. Structural and Cultural Barriers to the Implementation of a Multidisciplinary Approach

The implementation of a gender-based multidisciplinary approach in Indonesia faces various structural and cultural barriers that hinder the achievement of equality and justice in law enforcement. One of the main structural barriers is the limited understanding of law enforcement officials about gender perspectives¹⁸. Many law enforcement officials, including police, prosecutors, and judges, have not been adequately trained on gender issues, either through formal education or continuing training. Without sufficient understanding of how gender dynamics affect violence and discrimination, they tend to be insensitive to the gender context in case handling, potentially exacerbating injustices. This is also reflected in the low level of gender-based training obtained by law enforcement officials, which ultimately leads to unfair and inadequate enforcement of the law for victims of gender-based violence.

Another significant obstacle is the influence of patriarchal culture that is still deeply rooted in Indonesian society, which is reflected in the judicial system and social structures that dominate public and private life. This patriarchal culture creates gender inequality that appears in various aspects of life, including in the justice system. Women and other gender groups are often considered weaker or less entitled to equal rights than men, so their voices and rights are often overlooked in the legal process. This gender-biased perspective exacerbates the situation of victims of gender-based violence, as patriarchal social norms can influence the way law enforcement officials assess and process cases.¹⁹ For example, judges may be more likely to downplay evidence presented by female victims or give lighter sentences to perpetrators, especially in cases involving domestic violence or sexual abuse.

In addition, structural barriers associated with a lack of coordination between the government sector and non-governmental institutions also exacerbate the effectiveness of gender-based multidisciplinary approaches.²⁰ Government agencies often work in silos, with little or no effective collaboration with civil society organizations or non-governmental agencies that work with victims of violence. This poor coordination results in the services provided to victims becoming fragmented and disintegrated, hindering the overall recovery of victims. For example, victims of violence may get legal support, but without adequate access to health or psychological services that support their recovery,

¹⁸ Rahmad, R. A., Mardiansyah, H., & Handayani, B. (2024). Perspektif Hukum Pidana Terhadap Kasus Kekerasan Dalam Rumah Tangga. *Jurnal Kolaboratif Sains*, 7(11), 4079-4084.

¹⁹ *Ibid*

²⁰ Shellock, R. J., Cvitanovic, C., Mackay, M., McKinnon, M. C., Blythe, J., Kelly, R., ... & Wisz, M. S. (2022). Breaking down barriers: the identification of actions to promote gender equality in interdisciplinary marine research institutions. *One Earth*, 5(6), 687-708.

which can exacerbate the trauma experienced. In fact, a multidisciplinary approach should integrate various services to provide comprehensive protection and recovery.

These barriers show that despite efforts to implement a gender-based multidisciplinary approach in Indonesia, various structural and cultural factors are hindering significant change. Therefore, it is important for the government and society to continue to increase gender-based awareness, education, and training, as well as strengthen coordination between institutions involved in providing services to victims. Without addressing these structural and cultural barriers, the implementation of equitable and effective gender-based policies in Indonesia will remain a major challenge.

B. Opportunities to Strengthen Gender-Based Multidisciplinary Approaches Through National Policies and Support

A gender-based, multidisciplinary approach to addressing issues of gender-based violence requires the strengthening of synergistic policy and national support, involving various mutually supportive sectors to create comprehensive solutions. This effort cannot be separated from the important role of government policies that support the protection of victims of violence and gender equality. One of the positive developments that need to be noted is the issuance of the Sexual Violence Crime Law (TPKS Law) which was passed in 2022.²¹ This law is a significant step in strengthening the protection of victims of gender-based violence, especially sexual violence which is often considered taboo to discuss in many communities. The TPKS Law introduces various legal mechanisms to support victims, from more sensitive investigations to the protection of witnesses and victims, as well as harsher punishments for perpetrators of violence. On the other hand, it is important to recognize that such policies will not be effective without a broader commitment from governments and the entire legal system to ensure their implementation. In this regard, increasing the government's commitment to integrate gender perspectives in public policy is essential. For example, increased budgets to support programs to protect women and children, as well as assistance for victims of violence, are significant indicators in assessing the success of these policies.

However, national policies cannot run alone without the support of the international community and civil society institutions. The international community plays an equally important role, both through advocacy for legal reform, the provision of technical resources, and funding for programs aimed at strengthening national capacity to address gender-based violence. Countries around the world, through instruments such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), are putting pressure on member states to improve their protection systems.²² This international support also includes monitoring the implementation of policies, as well as providing a platform for civil society organizations to speak out more about gaps in the existing system. Civil society institutions, particularly those focused on women's rights and the protection of victims of violence, have shown an increasingly crucial role in influencing public policy. They not only act as watchdogs of government policies, but also provide ongoing advocacy, championing women's rights that are often overlooked in

²¹ Wafiuddin, M. A. (2022). *Undang-Undang Tindak Pidana Kekerasan Seksual tentang Pemaksaan Perkawinan Perspektif Feminist Legal Theory* (Doctoral dissertation, IAIN Ponorogo).

²² Khusna, M. K. (2023). Protection of Women's Rights in the Framework of the Welfare State (Comparative Study of Indonesia and the UK). *Asian Journal of Law and Humanity*, 3(2).

a gender-biased legal system. These organizations, both national and international, are often at the forefront of providing education, training, and direct support to victims of violence.

Overall, efforts to strengthen the implementation of gender-based policies in addressing gender-based violence depend heavily on collaboration between governments, the international community, and civil society institutions. The success of policies such as the TPKS Law is measured not only by its legality, but also by its success in changing the deep social structure, which is often the root cause of violence against women. With greater commitment from all parties, as well as consistent support, a gender-based multidisciplinary approach can create significant change in efforts to protect the rights of women and children, and create a more just and equitable society.

C. Lessons from International Experience for Strengthening the Gender-Based Criminal Justice System

In an effort to strengthen the gender-based criminal justice system in Indonesia, it is important to take advantage of the lessons that can be learned from international experience, especially from Scandinavian and ASEAN countries. Scandinavian countries, known for their highly progressive approach to gender issues, have successfully implemented integrated services for victims of gender-based violence, which provides important lessons for Indonesia. This integrated service covers not only legal, but also medical, psychological, and social aspects, aiming to provide comprehensive support for victims. In Sweden, for example, victims of gender-based violence can access different forms of services at one point, allowing them to get holistic protection. A system like this shows how a multidisciplinary approach can strengthen the effectiveness of handling gender-based violence cases, especially in creating more comprehensive and adequate justice.²³ The practice also provides an example of how the state can create mechanisms that encourage coordination between different sectors, such as the police, hospitals, and law enforcement, to ensure faster and more targeted handling of cases of violence.

However, although this model has a lot of potential to be implemented in Indonesia, the challenges faced in its adoption are significant. One of the biggest challenges is Indonesia's vastly different social and cultural context, with traditional values and patriarchy still deepening. For example, resistance to a more open approach to handling gender-based violence cases may arise, especially from segments of society that still consider the problem of violence against women to be a domestic problem that does not need to be publicly disclosed. In this case, a deeper understanding of local social dynamics and the readiness of communities to adopt change is key. The approach applied in Scandinavia may need to be adapted to Indonesian social values and norms, without compromising the essence of victim protection.

On the other hand, the experiences of ASEAN countries also offer important insights into how gender-based laws can be applied more specifically. The Philippines, for example, has implemented various laws that support the protection of women from violence, including an anti-domestic violence law that provides strict sanctions against perpetrators. However, the implementation of these laws has not always been smooth, especially due to gender inequality which is still a major challenge in many developing countries. Gender-based legal mechanisms are often hampered by weak policy

²³ Dirgantara, A. S. (2024). PERLINDUNGAN HUKUM TERHADAP KORBAN KEKERASAN SEKSUAL DI RUANG DIGITAL. *Causa: Jurnal Hukum dan Kewarganegaraan*, 6(12), 91-100.

implementation or the inability of the justice system to provide adequate protection for victim.²⁴ In the context of ASEAN, Indonesia can learn from the success of countries such as the Philippines and Thailand in strengthening legal protections for victims of gender-based violence, but it must be remembered that the implementation of gender-based legal mechanisms requires deep reforms in the existing legal system. Strengthening the capacity of law enforcement agencies and improving the judicial system that is more sensitive to gender issues are very important steps.

The adaptation of these international models in the Indonesian context is certainly not free from challenges. Not only social and cultural challenges must be taken into account, but also structural problems such as limited resources, both in terms of finance and trained human resources. Handling gender-based violence requires special training for law enforcement officials, medical personnel, and social workers involved. In addition, the application of the international model must pay attention to the local context and capacity of the existing system, so that it is not only a theoretical approach, but also can be applied practically. Therefore, Indonesia needs to conduct an in-depth study of the challenges and benefits of this international experience, as well as conduct experiments and adjust the right models to create a gender-based criminal justice system that is more effective and responsive to the needs of victims in Indonesia.

Thus, although international experience provides significant learning potential, the application of these models in Indonesia requires careful consideration, combining the success of international practice with sensitivity to local realities. This is an important step in strengthening a gender-based criminal justice system that truly focuses on protecting women's rights and creating equal justice for the entire society

CONCLUSION

A multidisciplinary approach to the criminal justice system in Indonesia is needed to address victims of gender-based violence. Regulations such as the TPKS Law, the PKDRT Law, and the SPPA Law provide a legal basis for holistic victim protection. However, policy implementation is hampered by limited human resources and lack of training of officials. The unified services run by P2TP2A are effective in some regions, but they are unevenly distributed. The shortage of experts in remote areas and social stigma worsen the effectiveness of services. Structural and cultural challenges such as patriarchal cultural dominance also hinder the application of a multidisciplinary approach. Poor coordination between institutions worsens the handling of gender-based violence cases. Reform in the justice system and gender-based training are urgently needed to improve response to victims' needs. This approach requires supportive policies and better coordination between institutions. International experience provides important lessons on effective policy implementation in Indonesia's local context.

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²⁴ Mentari, R. (2024). Mewujudkan Keadilan: Perlindungan Hukum bagi Perempuan Korban KDRT dalam Sistem Peradilan Pidana Indonesia. *SPECTRUM: Journal of Gender and Children Studies*, 4(1), 32-45.

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