

## Legal Education and Reproductive Education as An Efforts to Prevent Sexual Violence in Celikah Village, South Sumatra

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### Abstract

**Introduction:** The high rate of sexual violence in rural areas demonstrates that this issue is not solely related to the perpetrator's behavior, but also to the community's lack of understanding of victims' legal rights and reproductive health. Therefore, structured, sustainable, and contextualized legal and reproductive education is needed, in keeping with the social and cultural values of rural communities.

**Purposes of The Devotion:** So that village officials can form or create new policies that are needed to prevent and overcome sexual violence in the Celikah Village area.

**Method of The Devotion:** The activity model in the form of legal counseling uses a visitation model, namely a community service activity carried out by the Counseling Team of Lecturers from the Faculty of Law, Sriwijaya University visiting the target audience of the Celikah Village community, Kayu Agung District, Ogan Komering Ilir Regency. The legal counseling team in this activity uses 2 (two) methods, namely: Presentation and question and answer discussion.

**Results Main Findings of the Devotion:** The "Legal Education and Reproductive Health Education as an Effort to Prevent Sexual Violence in Celikah Village, Kayuagung District, Ogan Komering Ilir Regency, South Sumatra" activity demonstrated excellent acceptance. This was evident in the high enthusiasm of the Celikah Village community to attend and participate in the educational activity, as evidenced by the active involvement of participants during the discussion session. Participants were not merely passive listeners, but also provided responses, asked questions, and responded to the presentations given by the speakers, creating a dialogic and interactive atmosphere. Active community involvement in this forum demonstrated that the legal and reproductive health education materials presented were relevant to the social conditions and knowledge needs of the local community.

**Keywords:** Law Education; Prevention; Sexual Violence.

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## INTRODUCTION

In the context of Indonesian criminal law, sexual violence has long been a serious concern, particularly due to its complexity in proving the case, the stigmatization of victims, and the unequal power relations that often underlie it. According to Law Number 12 of 2022 concerning Criminal Acts of Sexual Violence (TPKS), sexual violence encompasses various acts that demean, harass, and violate a person's bodily dignity through coercion, threats, or abuse of power. This regulation represents a significant milestone in criminal law reform, given that previously, regulations regarding sexual violence were limited to articles in the Criminal Code (KUHP), which did not fully accommodate various forms of modern sexual violence, including online violence and non-physical harassment. However, despite these normative regulations, the implementation of the law on sexual violence crimes still faces numerous obstacles. These include a lack of understanding among law enforcement officials

regarding the victim's perspective, a lack of gender-sensitive evidence, and social pressure that discourages victims from reporting.<sup>1</sup> Therefore, law enforcement must be accompanied by policies for victim protection and recovery, as well as public education to change persistent patriarchal perspectives.

This education regarding sexual violence is especially necessary in rural areas. Rural social structures, which are still oriented towards customs and communal values, often view sexual violence as a family disgrace, rather than a legal violation. This results in minimal reporting of cases to law enforcement officials and a predominance of non-judicial resolutions through mediation or traditional practices, which in practice often do not favor victims. Furthermore, limited access to services such as safe houses, counselors, or legal aid also exacerbates the situation of victims, especially women and children, who are the most vulnerable groups.<sup>2</sup> Sexual violence is one of the most serious forms of human rights violations and has multidimensional impacts, including physical, psychological, social, and economic ones. This phenomenon is not only prevalent in urban areas but also in rural areas, which are often considered safer and more civilized social spaces. In rural contexts, sexual violence is often hidden behind cultural values, customary norms, and patriarchal power relations, making victims reluctant to report or seek justice.<sup>3</sup> The prevalence of sexual violence in rural areas can be seen in Table 1 below:

**Table 1. Data on Sexual Violence in Indonesia and Rural Areas (2022–2025)**

Year	Sources	Total Cases of Violence Against Women	Sexual Violences Cases	Estimated Cases in Rural Areas	Description
2022	National Commission on Violence Against Women	338.496	12.704	± 35% (about 4.400 cases)	Many victims in the village do not report due to social pressure and customary settlements.
2023	Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (SIMFONI-PPA)	29.883	13.156	± 37% (about 4.870 cases)	Increased reporting from rural areas thanks to regional Women and Children Protection posts
2024	National Commission on Violence Against Women (Mid-Year Report)	312.000	14.217	± 40% (about 5.680 cases)	Violence based on close relationships (neighbors/family) is dominant in villages
2025 (Jan–Ags)	Local Data (Ciamis Regency, West Java)	—	43 (village specific)	100% village	There was a significant increase from the previous year (11 cases in 2024)

**Source: National Commission on Violence Against Women (2023, 2024); Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (2023); Panjalu Village Government (2025).**

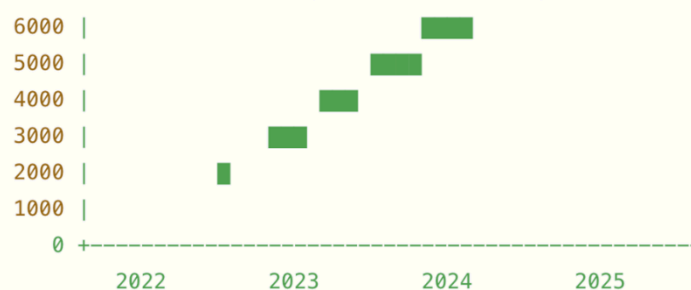
<sup>1</sup> Nurhayati, Siti. "Perlindungan Korban dalam Tindak Pidana Kekerasan Seksual di Indonesia." *Jurnal Hukum dan Pembangunan* 52, no. 2 (2022): 311–329. <https://doi.org/10.xxxx/jhp.v52i2>

<sup>2</sup> Rahmawati, Rina. "Perempuan Desa dan Kekerasan Seksual: Hambatan Struktural dalam Akses Keadilan." *Jurnal Masyarakat dan Budaya* 24, no. 2 (2022): 145–162.

<sup>3</sup> Nurbani, Sri, dan Arief Barda Nawawi. *Kebijakan Hukum Pidana tentang Perlindungan Korban Kekerasan Seksual*. (Jakarta: Rajawali Pers, 2021), p.21.

According to data from the National Commission on Violence Against Women (2023), there were 4,870 cases of violence against women, with 13,156 of them being sexual violence recorded by the SIMFONI-PPA system of the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection.<sup>4</sup> Although the data is national, the National Commission on Violence (Komnas HAM) report states that areas with limited access to legal services – such as rural areas – have significantly lower reporting rates than urban areas. This suggests a dark number of sexual violence cases in villages that have not been officially identified.<sup>5</sup> A national survey by the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection also shows that approximately 37–40% of sexual violence cases occur in rural areas, with the majority of victims being women and children. This is reinforced by field data, such as in Ciamis Regency, West Java, which recorded an increase from 11 cases of sexual violence in 2024 to 43 cases in 2025 in rural areas.<sup>6</sup> This figure illustrates a trend of increasing cases and reporting, in line with growing public awareness of the protection of women and children.

**Diagram 1. Trend of Increasing Cases of Sexual Violence in Indonesia and Rural Areas (2022-2025)**



The diagram above shows an increasing trend in the number of sexual violence cases in rural areas over the past four years. Estimates indicate an increase from approximately 4,400 cases in 2022 to nearly 5,700 cases in 2024, as well as a significant increase in actual cases at the village level, as reported in Ciamis Regency in 2025. This phenomenon indicates two main factors: first, increased awareness and courage among victims to report, and second, the still weak effectiveness of the implementation of Law Number 12 of 2022 concerning Sexual Violence Crimes (TPKS) at the village level, particularly regarding legal education and support for victim recovery.

In the context of national legal development, attention to sexual violence in villages is crucial because it is directly related to gender equality, social justice, and the rights of citizens to receive equal legal protection without geographical discrimination.<sup>7</sup> Thus, the high rate of sexual violence in rural areas indicates that this problem is not only related to the perpetrator's behavior, but also to the community's lack of understanding of victims' legal rights and reproductive health. Therefore, structured, sustainable, and contextualized legal and reproductive education is needed, in accordance with the social and cultural values of rural communities. Education aims not only to raise awareness but also to build the courage to report, strengthen community protection mechanisms, and create a safe

<sup>4</sup> Komnas Perempuan. *Catatan Tahunan Kekerasan terhadap Perempuan 2023*. (Jakarta: Komnas Perempuan, 2024), p. 12.

<sup>5</sup> Kementerian Pemberdayaan Perempuan dan Perlindungan Anak Republik Indonesia. *Laporan Tahunan SIMFONI-PPA 2023*. (Jakarta: KemenPPPA, 2024), p. 44.

<sup>6</sup> Pemerintah Desa Panjalu. "Edukasi Masyarakat Desa Panjalu Waspada Peningkatan Kasus Kekerasan Seksual dan KDRT di Kabupaten Ciamis." *Panjalu.desa.id*, 2025.

<sup>7</sup> Lestari, Fitri, dan M. Syarifudin. "Kearifan Lokal dan Tantangan Penegakan Hukum terhadap Kekerasan Seksual di Pedesaan." *Jurnal Hukum dan Pembangunan Sosial* 9, no. 1 (2023): 89-104.

village environment free from sexual violence. This effort requires collaboration between various village elements, so that the prevention and handling of sexual violence can be carried out holistically and fairly for all residents.

This education needs to be provided to the community and women, especially in the OKI region, as the district with the highest number of cases of violence in South Sumatra. According to SIMATA (South Sumatra One Data Information System) data, there were 9 cases of sexual violence in OKI Regency.<sup>8</sup> Specifically, the education was conducted in Kayu Agung District, the capital of OKI Regency. As the capital of OKI Regency, Kayu Agung has 14 villages, one of which is Celikah Village, with a population of 5,044, including 2,416 women.<sup>9</sup> Therefore, with its large female population, Celikah Village is an ideal location for implementing legal and health education related to sexual violence. This is a preventative measure to reduce the number of sexual violence cases in Indonesia and minimize the impact on victims of sexual violence.

Sexual violence education is crucial because a high percentage of 64% of Indonesians have experienced, witnessed, or heard about sexual violence through mass media or social media. Knowledge and education about sexual violence is crucial and must be provided through sexuality and reproductive health education. The goal is to equip the community, and women in particular, with knowledge about human rights and gender equality, encourage children to have safe, healthy, and positive friendships, and raise awareness about sensitive issues such as reproductive health, child marriage, and female genital mutilation.<sup>10</sup> Legal education in Celikah Village is supported by health facilities such as a community health center (Puskesmas) and a village health center (Puskesdes). Various health workers, including doctors, midwives, paramedics, and nurses, are also available.<sup>11</sup> In addition, Celikah Village has the potential to become a Beautiful Village (Love Statistics). Of the two villages in Ogan Komering Ilir (OKI) Regency, Celikah Village, Kayuagung District, became a pilot village for the Beautiful Village Program (Love Statistics Village) in 2024. This program is a strategic step to improve the quality of statistical data management at the village level so that village development planning is more targeted and effective. Accurate and valid data is very important in the development planning process. With the existence of Beautiful Village, it is hoped that each village will have a reliable data source, so that development planning can be carried out more accurately and on target. With good data management, each village will be able to identify potential and existing problems more precisely, so that solutions can be provided more effectively.<sup>12</sup>

The Strategic Target Audience is the residents of Celikah Village, particularly the approximately 30 female residents. The extension team will also invite village officials, such

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<sup>8</sup> SIMATA. Jumlah Kasus Kekerasan Menurut Kabupaten/Kota dan Bentuk Kekerasan di Provinsi Sumatera Selatan, 2022 [Internet]. 2022. Available from: <https://satudata.sumselfprov.go.id/index.php/detail/datasektoral/eyJpdil6ljc2dFFRwMmF1TG0wVkIwS0pETkj5V0E9PSIsInZhbHVlIjoiT1Q3YlkrTS92Ym8xZVN1RElEc2x BUT09IiwibWFjIjoiMzU0OGM2MjBiNWZhZjRkNGEzMzI0YjNIN2QyNzRjNjRmNWU3NTBIMzNmYWEzM2YwMDhkZGZiNjA5MGNhMGQxMjI0InR>

<sup>9</sup> Celikah D. Data Kependudukan [Internet]. 2025. Available from: <https://celikah-desa.kaboki.go.id/index.php/2025/02/24/data-kependudukan/>

<sup>10</sup> IJRS. Seri Infografis Data dan Fakta Kekerasan Seksual di Indonesia [Internet]. 2021. Available from: <https://ijrs.or.id/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/5-Edukasi-Soal-Kekerasan-Seksual.pdf>

<sup>11</sup> Celikah D. Data Sarana Kesehatan [Internet]. 2025. Available from: <https://celikah-desa.kaboki.go.id/index.php/2025/02/24/data-sarana-kesehatan/>

<sup>12</sup> Celikah D. Desa Celikah Jadi Percontohan Desa Cantik, Kartiwan: Kebanggaan Tersendiri [Internet]. 2025. Available from: <https://celikah-desa.kaboki.go.id/index.php/2025/02/23/desa-celikah-jadi-percontohan-desa-cantik-kartiwan-kebanggaan-tersendiri/>

as the village head and village secretary. This activity aims to enable village officials to formulate or create new policies needed to prevent and address sexual violence in Celikah Village. After this activity, they are expected to disseminate information obtained from the UNSRI Faculty of Law extension team to village officials and other members of the community regarding legal education and reproductive education on sexual violence in Kayu Agung District, Ogan Komering Ilir Regency.

## **METHOD OF THE DEVOTION**

The activity model in the form of legal counseling uses a visitation model, namely a community service activity carried out by the Counseling Team of Lecturers from the Faculty of Law, Sriwijaya University visiting the target audience of the Celikah Village community, Kayu Agung District, Ogan Komering Ilir Regency. The legal counseling team in this activity uses 2 (two) methods, namely: a) Presentation: The presentation method used in legal counseling involves delivering a lecture, followed by distributing the material to the public. This method is used to provide participants with a clear understanding of sexual violence. The material is presented in a comprehensive, clear, easy-to-understand, and applicable manner. The lecture is presented pragmatically for easy public understanding, providing material on sexual violence; b) Discussion and Q&A: After the presentation of the counseling material on sexual violence, the session continued with a two-way discussion and Q&A session. This method was implemented to provide participants with the opportunity to ask questions regarding material that was unclear or unclear. Thus, this counseling activity was able to generate a positive response from participants.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **A. Legal Efforts to Address Sexual Violence**

Addressing sexual violence is a comprehensive effort, encompassing prevention, treatment, support, and recovery for victims. Sexual violence not only causes physical harm, but also psychological, social, and even economic harm to victims and the community. Therefore, addressing it requires the involvement of various parties, including the state, the community, and non-governmental organizations. Legally, the state has an obligation to ensure that every citizen receives protection from sexual violence, as stipulated in Law Number 12 of 2022 concerning Criminal Acts of Sexual Violence (TPKS), which is a key milestone in legal reform to guarantee victims' rights. Sexual violence is a form of action that undermines human dignity and violates human rights. It not only causes physical harm, but also psychological and social harm, and impacts the victim's well-being. The National Commission on Violence Against Women (Komnas Perempuan) defines sexual violence as an attack on a person's body and sexuality through coercion, threats, or coercion of power relations. Therefore, sexual violence is not simply a matter of morality or criminality, but rather a structural issue involving power relations, patriarchal culture, and an unfair social system that targets vulnerable groups, particularly women and children. The phenomenon of sexual violence in Indonesia shows a concerning trend. The 2023 Komnas Perempuan Annual Report noted that cases of sexual violence dominate the category of gender-based violence in various spheres, particularly within the household, community, and educational settings.<sup>13</sup> However, many cases go unreported because

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<sup>13</sup> Komisi Nasional Anti Kekerasan Terhadap Perempuan. *Catahu 2023: Catatan Tahunan Kekerasan Terhadap Perempuan* (Jakarta: Komnas Perempuan, 2023), p. 8.

victims face social stigma, fear, family pressure, or distrust in the legal system. This situation highlights the need for comprehensive response efforts, from prevention and victim support to fair and pro-victim law enforcement.

### **1. Prevention of Sexual Violence**

Preventing sexual violence must focus on building critical public awareness regarding gender equality, respect for the body, and the importance of healthy social relations. Patriarchal culture is often the root structure that enables sexual violence to occur. According to Sylvia Walby, patriarchy produces social relations that place women in a subordinate position, thus providing social legitimacy for control over women's bodies. Therefore, gender awareness education must be instilled from an early age. Schools and educational institutions have a role to play in fostering a critical understanding of power relations, bodily boundaries, and respect for consent. Furthermore, religious institutions and local communities can be strategic partners in changing social values that justify domination and gender-based violence. Public education programs involving anti-violence campaigns, community dialogue, reproductive health education, and gender equality curricula have been proven in various countries to contribute to reducing the potential for sexual violence. This demonstrates that prevention goes beyond regulation, but also through profound cultural transformation.

### **2. Victim Assistance and Recovery**

Victim recovery encompasses not only medical aspects, but also psychological, social, and legal aspects. A trauma-informed care approach is crucial to ensure that the support process does not re-injure the victim. According to Towers, victim recovery requires a safe environment, empathy, and ongoing support that allows victims to recover without pressure or judgment. In Indonesia, the role of service institutions such as P2TP2A, UPTD PPA, and legal aid institutions is increasingly crucial. However, challenges remain, including limited expertise, uneven facilities, and suboptimal cross-institutional coordination. Bureaucratic obstacles often leave victims feeling exhausted and ultimately abandoning the reporting process. The National Commission on Violence Against Women (Komnas Perempuan) emphasized the importance of the Victim-Based Integrated Service model, which combines legal, psychological, medical, and social support within a single service pathway. This model aims to expedite victims' access to assistance and prevent re-victimization during the legal process.

### **3. Law Enforcement Against Perpetrators**

Law enforcement against perpetrators of sexual violence must be carried out through a process that favors the victim. However, many cases are hampered because the legal system is insensitive to the victims' experiences. Marlina noted that evidence in sexual violence cases often relies on witnesses and medical examinations, even though trauma can prevent victims from providing detailed information.<sup>14</sup> The evidentiary approach should consider the victim's psychological well-being and allow for contextual evidence. Furthermore, gender-sensitive training for investigators, prosecutors, judges, and medical personnel is an integral part of legal reform. Law enforcement without a gender perspective will only result in moral judgment, not justice.

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<sup>14</sup> Marlina. *Perlindungan Anak dan Pidana Kekerasan Seksual* (Bandung: Refika Aditama, 2012), p. 21.

#### 4. Multisectoral Collaboration as a Response Model

Addressing sexual violence cannot be done by one party alone. A multi-sectoral approach is needed to build a comprehensive protection system. The government must strengthen regulations, health institutions must ensure physical and mental recovery, educational institutions must raise awareness, the media must shape public opinion from the victim's perspective, and the community must play a role in creating socially safe spaces. Furthermore, taking action against perpetrators is an integral step. Criminal law must be able to provide a deterrent effect and guarantee victims' rights in the judicial process. However, in many cases, obstacles such as a lack of evidence, a culture of victim blaming, and social fear make proving sexual violence difficult.<sup>15</sup> Therefore, addressing sexual violence must be placed within a multidisciplinary approach encompassing law, education, health, and social aspects. Collaboration between the government, law enforcement officials, service institutions, indigenous communities, religious leaders, the educational sector, and civil society organizations is key to successfully creating a safe, just, and violence-free social environment.

Based on the above description, it can be seen that the approach to addressing sexual violence is not only carried out through repressive law enforcement, but also through education-based prevention strategies, socialization of gender equality values, and increasing public legal awareness. According to Utari, sexual violence often occurs due to unequal power relations between perpetrators and victims, both within the family, educational, and social spheres. Therefore, prevention must target changes in mindsets and cultures that are permissive towards sexual violence.<sup>16</sup> This demonstrates that response requires more than just legal instruments, but also character building and social education. Furthermore, victim support is crucial in addressing sexual violence. Victims require medical, psychological, legal, and social support to recover and return to a dignified life. According to Sari and Fitri's research, successful victim recovery is significantly influenced by the availability of integrated, prompt, and uncomplicated services.<sup>17</sup> Therefore, legal education is needed as a preventative measure for sexual violence in the community, especially in rural areas. The data in the background chapter above indicates that women living in rural areas are also vulnerable to sexual violence. Therefore, legal education regarding sexual violence is needed in rural areas. In this case, the education was conducted in Celikah Village, Kayu Agung, South Sumatra. In connection with this education, the team implemented several steps, including: 1) The educational activity began with a lecture on sexual violence; 2) A discussion followed, using a PowerPoint presentation; 3) A question-and-answer session with the team from the villagers.

#### B. Preventing Sexual Violence Through Legal Education in Celikah Village, South Sumatra

Preventing sexual violence cannot be achieved solely through legal action after a crime has occurred but requires preventive efforts that target changes in public understanding, attitudes, and behavior. One approach recognized as effective in this prevention effort is legal education. Legal education plays a role in providing the public with knowledge about the types of sexual violence, available legal protections, reporting mechanisms, and victims'

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<sup>15</sup> Utari, Ratih. "Relasi Kuasa dan Kekerasan Seksual dalam Lingkup Sosial." *Jurnal Gender dan Sosial* 12, no. 1 (2020): 67–82.

<sup>16</sup> Ahmad, Siti. *Perlindungan Hukum Terhadap Korban Kekerasan Seksual* (Jakarta: Kencana, 2019), p. 11.

<sup>17</sup> Sari, Dwi Ratna, dan Fitri Melati. "Pendampingan Terpadu Bagi Korban Kekerasan Seksual." *Jurnal Perlindungan Perempuan dan Anak* 5, no. 2 (2021): 145–159.

rights. This education is not only normative but also transformative, as it aims to foster critical awareness so that the public can recognize and reject the practice of sexual violence in their daily environment.<sup>18</sup> In the Indonesian social context, particularly in rural areas, sexual violence is often difficult to identify due to cultural norms that still normalize patriarchal power relations between men and women. Furthermore, victims often face barriers to reporting their experiences due to fear of social stigma, family pressure, and limited access to information about service providers and official reporting mechanisms.<sup>19</sup> Therefore, direct legal education through counseling, group discussions, and community empowerment programs is a crucial preventative measure to break the chain of violence and increase victims' courage to access their rights.

Effective legal education not only conveys legal regulations textually but must also consider the local socio-cultural context. The educational approach should use easy-to-understand language, illustrations relevant to everyday life, and participatory delivery methods that invite the public to actively engage in dialogue.<sup>20</sup> In a participatory approach, the community is not positioned as passive objects, but rather as subjects who contribute to building a shared understanding of sexual violence. The use of methods such as small group discussions, identifying real-life cases in the social environment, and simulating reporting can increase the internalization of knowledge and foster the courage to act. Furthermore, the delivery of legal education needs to integrate the principles of trauma-informed care, an approach that understands the impact of trauma on victims and avoids revictimization during the learning process and delivery of materials. This approach emphasizes the importance of creating a safe educational space, maintaining the confidentiality of victims' experiences, and not stigmatizing victims who have experienced sexual violence.<sup>21</sup> This is crucial given that many victims of sexual violence experience psychological trauma that can affect how they process information and participate in public forums. Therefore, during the education, the education team conveyed several important points regarding sexual violence to Celikah Village residents, which can be categorized as follows:

#### a. Impact of Sexual Violence on Victims

Sexual violence leaves multidimensional impacts that involve not only physical damage but also profound psychological, social, and economic disruption, often lasting for a long time. Psychologically, victims of sexual violence are at risk of severe emotional trauma, including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, anxiety, and dissociative disorders. This trauma can manifest as flashbacks, intense fear, nightmares, and impaired concentration, which can interfere with the victim's daily life.<sup>22</sup> This condition is often exacerbated by the guilt and shame experienced by victims due to internalization of social stigma, especially when the surrounding environment shows an attitude of blaming the victim (victim blaming).<sup>23</sup> Physically, victims of sexual violence can experience reproductive organ injuries, the risk of sexually transmitted infections, and unwanted pregnancies. These physical injuries not only cause short-term suffering but also have the

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<sup>18</sup> Komnas Perempuan, *Laporan Tahunan Komnas Perempuan 2023* (Jakarta: Komnas Perempuan, 2023), p. 12.

<sup>19</sup> Naila Kabeer, *Reversed Realities: Gender Hierarchies in Development Thought* (London: Verso, 1994), p. 33.

<sup>20</sup> Catherine Woolard, "Legal Literacy and Community Participation," *Journal of Legal Education* 62, no. 1 (2013): 45–59.

<sup>21</sup> SAMHSA, *Trauma-Informed Care in Behavioral Health Services* (USA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2014), p. 5.

<sup>22</sup> Claire Sample and Patricia Baum, "Psychological Effects of Sexual Violence: A Meta-Analysis," *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* 36, no. 5 (2021): 2303–2321.

<sup>23</sup> Jennifer C. Ullman, "Social Reactions to Sexual Assault Disclosure: The Role of Victim Self-Blame and Shame," *Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology* 29, no. 7 (2010): 828–851.

potential to disrupt reproductive health in the long term. Deteriorating health is often accompanied by a decreased quality of life and an increased need for health services. The lack of adequate medical and psychological recovery support exacerbates victims' vulnerability. Socially, sexual violence often leads to the severance of social relationships due to stigma and discrimination. Many victims face social pressure to remain silent to avoid being perceived as dishonoring their family or community. This pressure leads to social isolation, decreased self-confidence, and a loss of safety in interactions.<sup>24</sup> In the context of a society with a strong patriarchal structure, victims often have to bear a heavier social burden than the perpetrators, so that sexual violence not only damages the individual but also reproduces gender social inequality.<sup>25</sup> Meanwhile, the economic impact of sexual violence is also significant. Victims can lose work productivity due to trauma, experience reduced income and face significant medical and psychological therapy costs.<sup>26</sup> In some cases, victims even lose their jobs or drop out of school due to the severe psychological and social pressure. Thus, sexual violence has far-reaching implications that not only harm individual victims but also worsen the economic conditions of families and communities.

### **b. Legal Basis of Sexual Violences**

- 1) Law Number 12 of 2022 concerning Criminal Acts of Sexual Violence (UU TPKS): This is the primary legal umbrella for comprehensively protecting victims of sexual violence.
- 2) The Criminal Code (KUHP): This still applies to several types of sexual violence, such as rape (Article 285), indecent assault (Articles 289–296), and sexual intercourse with a child (Article 287).
- 3) Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Child Protection: This regulates special protection for children from sexual violence and exploitation.
- 4) Law Number 23 of 2004 concerning the Elimination of Domestic Violence (PKDRT): This regulates sexual violence that occurs within the household.

### **c. Form of Sexual Violences (Article 4 UU TPKS)**

The public needs to understand that sexual violence is not limited to rape but also includes many other forms. Article 4 of Law No. 12 of 2022 states, among other things: 1) Non-physical sexual harassment (e.g., sexually suggestive remarks or gestures); 2) Physical sexual harassment (touching or physical acts of a sexual nature without consent); 3) Forced contraception or sterilization; 4) Forced marriage; 5) Sexual exploitation (use of someone's body for economic gain or power); 6) Rape; 7) Forced prostitution; 8) Forced abortion; 9) Electronic sexual violence (such as the distribution of private photos/videos without consent, sextortion, etc.)

### **d. Rights of Victim (Article 67-70 UU TPKS)**

The public must understand that victims should not be blamed, shamed, or ignored—because the law guarantees their protection and recovery. The TPKS Law affirms that victims have rights protected by the state, including: 1) Legal protection and personal security; 2) Physical and mental health services; 3) Legal and psychological assistance; 4) Social recovery and rehabilitation; 5) Compensation (restitution or compensation).

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<sup>24</sup> Rebecca T. Mbewe et al., "Physical Health Consequences among Survivors of Sexual Violence," *BMC Women's Health* 19, no. 1 (2019): 45–59.

<sup>25</sup> L. H. Fileborn, "Sexual Violence, Social Stigma, and Social Withdrawal," *Violence Against Women* 23, no. 2 (2017): 152–173.

<sup>26</sup> Laura Sjoberg and Caron E. Gentry, "Gendered Violence and Social Power," *International Feminist Journal of Politics* 10, no. 1 (2008): 1–18.

### e. Steps to Take When Sexual Violence Occurs

The public needs to understand what to do if they become a victim or become aware of sexual violence, namely: 1) Immediately record and collect evidence (chats, photos, witnesses); 2) Immediately report the incident to: the local police (PPA Unit), the UPTD for the Protection of Women and Children (PPA), and community service agencies (LPSK, Komnas Perempuan, Komnas HAM); 3) Do not erase evidence (clothing, messages, photos, autopsy results); 4) Support the victim gently; do not blame; 5) Use legal channels to ensure the perpetrator is punished and the victim receives justice; 6) Do not be afraid and do not remain silent. Reporters and victims are protected by law.

### f. Criminal Sanctions for Perpetrators of Sexual Violence

Type of Sexual Violence	Legal Basis	Maximum Criminal Penalty
Rape	Article 10 of the Sexual Violence Crime Law (UU TPKS)	Imprisonment for up to <b>12 years</b>
Physical Sexual Harassment	Article 6	Imprisonment for up to <b>9 years</b>
Technology-Based Sexual Violence	Article 14	Imprisonment for up to <b>9 years</b>
Forced Marriage	Article 10	Imprisonment for up to <b>9 years</b>
Forced Abortion	Article 12	Imprisonment for up to <b>9 years</b>

### g. Society Roles (Article 75-77 UU TPKS)

The public must not remain silent if they witness sexual violence. The law provides an important role for the public, namely: 1) Reporting to law enforcement officials or service agencies (police, UPTD PPA, Social Services); 2) Providing moral and social support to victims; 3) Not disclosing the victim's identity; 4) Participating in prevention activities, such as education and outreach. The effectiveness of legal education in preventing sexual violence can be seen when there is increased public awareness of types of violence previously considered normal or reduced to "domestic matters." For example, the practice of forced sexual intercourse within marriage, previously not considered a form of violence, can now be recognized, after education, as a violation of women's bodily rights. Similarly, the public becomes better able to distinguish between verbal and non-verbal sexual harassment and understands that such behavior has legal consequences.<sup>27</sup>

This shift in understanding is the first step toward building a social culture that is more responsive to human rights protection. The success of legal education is also determined by the ability to build service and referral networks. Education not only provides knowledge but also must connect the community with those who can provide assistance, such as community health centers, psychologists, women's and children's protection units within the police force, and legal aid organizations. Without clear referral pathways, education stops at knowledge and does not translate into social action that can promote access to justice for victims.<sup>28</sup> Thus, preventing sexual violence through legal education is an ongoing

<sup>27</sup> Sylvia Walby, *Gender Transformations* (London: Routledge, 1997), p. 31.

<sup>28</sup> WHO & UNODC, *Strengthening the Medico-Legal Response to Sexual Violence* (Geneva: WHO, 2021), p. 34.

process and requires the commitment of many parties. Education is not simply about conveying information, but rather a legal empowerment process that builds awareness, changes culture, strengthens reporting, and creates a safer social environment for women, children, and other vulnerable groups. This effort requires program continuity, adequate funding, and regular evaluation to ensure long-term impact. The Community Service Activity in the form of "Legal Education and Reproductive Health Education as an Effort to Prevent Criminal Acts of Sexual Violence in Celikah Village, Kayuagung District, Ogan Komering Ilir Regency, South Sumatra" was carried out in three stages, namely a lecture on sexual violence, a discussion by providing a presentation through a power point about sexual violence, and a question and answer session. Furthermore, several souvenirs were given as mementos to the community who asked questions to the education team as feedback. The materials presented in this service were all related to the theme of Community Service, namely Efforts to Prevent Criminal Acts of Sexual Violence.



**Picture: Implementation of Activities**

## **CONCLUSION**

Based on the description of the results of the educational implementation, it can be concluded that the response of participants in the activity "Legal Education and Reproductive Health Education as an Effort to Prevent Sexual Violence Crimes in Celikah Village, Kayuagung District, Ogan Komering Ilir Regency, South Sumatra" showed a very good level of acceptance. This was evident through the high enthusiasm of the Celikah Village community to attend and participate in the educational activities, which was marked by the active involvement of participants during the discussion session. The participants were not only present as passive listeners, but also participated in providing responses, asking questions, and responding to the presentations given by the speakers, thus creating a dialogic and interactive atmosphere. Active community involvement in this forum demonstrated that the legal and reproductive health education materials presented were relevant to the social conditions and knowledge needs of the local community. Throughout the activity, the material delivery process was not one-way, but rather structured through participatory communication patterns that allowed participants to share their experiences, perspectives, and understanding of sexual violence issues. This dialogic approach strengthened the internalization of knowledge, as participants felt directly involved in fostering legal awareness. The implementation team provided presentation materials in the form of PowerPoint presentations and educational modules designed in simple, straightforward language that was easily understood by the community, without compromising the accuracy of the legal concepts of sexual violence presented. The choice of

communicative language based on the socio-cultural context of Celikah Village was a crucial factor in successfully delivering the educational message, given the diverse educational backgrounds of the participants. Indications that participants had understood the material on preventing and handling sexual violence were clearly evident during the question and answer session, where most participants were able to re-explain the core material, identify forms of sexual violence, and understand the reporting and victim protection mechanisms. This demonstrates that the legal and reproductive health education activities undertaken were not only informative but also transformative, increasing legal awareness and encouraging changes in community attitudes toward a safer and more responsive social environment to sexual violence issues. Therefore, these educational activities were effectively implemented and contributed to strengthening legal literacy, broadening public understanding of reproductive health, and building collective awareness of the importance of preventing sexual violence in Celikah Village.

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