

## Qualifications for the Criminal Act of Disseminating Private Chats to Public Spaces from the Perspective of Law Number 1 of 2023 concerning the Criminal Code

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### ABSTRACT

The dissemination of private chats into public spaces has become a growing legal issue in Indonesia's digital environment. Beyond raising concerns regarding privacy, such conduct may also affect an individual's reputation and involve the unauthorized disclosure of personal data. This study analyzes the legal qualifications of disseminating private chats in the perspective of Law Number 1 of 2023 concerning the Criminal Code and examines its relationship with the Electronic Information and Transactions Law and Law Number 27 of 2022 concerning Personal Data Protection. This research employs a normative legal method using statutory, conceptual, and case approaches. Legal materials are analyzed through grammatical, systematic, and teleological interpretation. The findings indicate that the dissemination of private chats cannot automatically be classified as a criminal offense. Criminal liability arises only when the act fulfills specific legal elements, including intentional dissemination, absence of legal justification, infringement of reputation, or unauthorized disclosure of personal data. The study further demonstrates that Articles 433–440 of the Criminal Code, the Electronic Information and Transactions Law, and the Personal Data Protection Law operate in a complementary manner in assessing criminal liability. Accordingly, the dissemination of private chats should be understood as a multidimensional legal issue involving the protection of honor, privacy, and personal data within Indonesia's digital legal framework.

**Keywords :** Digital Communication, Defamation, Personal Data, Privacy, Private Chats, Criminal Law.

### A. Introduction

The development of information technology has transformed people's communication patterns from conventional interactions to digital platform-based communication. Instant messaging applications and social media allow for the rapid, easy, and widespread exchange of information. However, these developments have also given rise to various new legal issues, one of which is the dissemination of private conversations to the public through screenshots or other forms of digital reproduction. These actions often give rise to legal conflicts because

they involve intersecting interests, namely the protection of privacy, honor, freedom of expression, and the protection of personal data .<sup>1</sup>

The phenomenon of the dissemination of private chats is increasingly common in digital communication practices in Indonesia. Conversations initially intended for specific individuals can easily be copied and disseminated publicly via social media. In some cases, this dissemination is intended to embarrass individuals, shape public opinion, or reveal personal information irrelevant to the public interest. As a result, individuals subjected to these conversations can suffer reputational damage, privacy violations, and even misuse of personal data .<sup>2</sup>

This issue has become increasingly important following the enactment of Law No. 1 of 2023 concerning the Criminal Code. Through Articles 433 to 440, the new Criminal Code provides provisions for criminal offenses of insult and defamation, which may be relevant to the dissemination of digital chats. Furthermore, provisions regarding the distribution of electronic information in the Electronic Information and Transactions Law and the protection of personal data in Law No. 27 of 2022 concerning Personal Data Protection also form the legal framework relating to the dissemination of private chats in the digital space. The existence of these various legal regimes raises questions about the most appropriate legal basis for assessing criminal liability for the dissemination of private chats .<sup>3</sup>

Many studies have been conducted on defamation in digital media and personal data protection. Al Zahsy (2025) examined the conflict between freedom of expression and defamation in the application of the ITE Law. Prasetyo (2024) examined personal data protection in the digital environment, while Soemitro, Wicaksono, and Putri (2023) analyzed the criminal aspects of the personal data protection regime. However, previous research generally discusses defamation, electronic information, and personal data protection as separate issues. Few studies have specifically examined the dissemination of private chats into the public sphere as a legal event that lies at the intersection of honor protection, privacy protection, and personal data protection .

Based on these conditions, there is a research gap in the absence of studies specifically analyzing the legal qualifications for disseminating private chats from the perspective of the 2023 Criminal Code and the normative relationship between the defamation provisions in Articles 433 to 440 of the Criminal Code, the provisions in the Electronic Information and Transactions Law, and the provisions in the Personal Data Protection Law. However, in practice, a single act of disseminating digital conversations can have legal implications for more than one protected legal interest .<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> We Are Social and Hootsuite, Digital 2022: Indonesia, Global Digital Report, 2022.

<sup>2</sup> Republic of Indonesia, 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, Article 28G paragraph (1).

<sup>3</sup> Republic of Indonesia, 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, Article 28G paragraph (1).

<sup>4</sup> V. Al Zahsy, "The Crime of Defamation on Social Media: Between Freedom of Expression and the Limits of ITE Law," *Journal of Legal Ethics*, vol. 3, no. 2, 2025; DP Soemitro, MA Wicaksono, and NA Putri, "Penal Provisions in the Personal Data Protection Law: A Comparative Legal Study Between Indonesia and Singapore," *Sign Jurnal Hukum*, vol. 5, no. 1, 2023; AS Sudarwanto and DB Kharisma, "Comparative Study of Personal Data Protection Regulations in Indonesia, Hong Kong and Malaysia," *Journal of Financial Crime*, vol. 29, no. 4, 2021; A. Prasetyo, "Legal Protection of Personal Data in Indonesia's Digital Environment," *Journal of Cyber Law Studies*, vol. 4, no. 1, 2024.

The novelty of this research lies in the development of a legal construct that positions the dissemination of private chats as an act that has the potential to cause multidimensional violations, namely against honor, communication privacy, and personal data. This research offers an interpretation that criminal liability for the dissemination of private chats cannot be analyzed solely through a single legal regime, but must be understood through the complementary relationship between the 2023 Criminal Code, the ITE Law, and the Personal Data Protection Law. This approach is expected to contribute to the development of cybercriminal law in Indonesia while providing clearer parameters in determining the boundaries between freedom of expression and privacy protection in the digital space .

## B. Research Methods

### 1. Types of Research

This research is a normative legal study focused on analyzing the legal norms governing the dissemination of private chats in the public sphere within the Indonesian legal system. The study examines relevant laws, legal doctrines, and court decisions to identify the legal qualifications and forms of criminal liability for the dissemination of digital conversations .

### 2. Approach

This research uses three approaches. First, a statutory approach *to* analyze the provisions of Law Number 1 of 2023 concerning the Criminal Code, the Electronic Information and Transactions Law, and Law Number 27 of 2022 concerning Personal Data Protection. Second, a conceptual approach *to* examine the concepts of privacy protection, dignity, freedom of expression, personal data protection, and criminal liability in the digital space. Third, a case approach *is* conducted through an analysis of court decisions related to the use of digital conversations and electronic information as objects or evidence in criminal cases to understand the application of legal norms in practice .

### 3. Sources of Legal Materials

This research uses primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials. Primary legal materials consist of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, Law Number 1 of 2023 concerning the Criminal Code, Law Number 11 of 2008 as amended by Law Number 19 of 2016 concerning Electronic Information and Transactions, Law Number 27 of 2022 concerning Personal Data Protection, and court decisions relevant to the research object. Secondary legal materials include books, scientific journals, and research results related to criminal law, cyber law, personal data protection, and freedom of expression. Tertiary legal materials include legal dictionaries, legal encyclopedias, and other reference sources that support the analysis .<sup>5</sup>

### 4. Legal Material Collection Techniques

The collection of legal materials was conducted through library research . Legal materials were obtained from laws and regulations, court decisions, books, scientific journals, and other legal documents relevant to the research problem. Furthermore, the

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<sup>5</sup> DM Putri, "Legal Analysis of Cohabitation as a Criminal Act," *Islamic Law Magazine* , 2025. [Online]. Available: <https://ojs.daarulhuda.or.id/index.php/MHI/article/download/2553/2716>

legal materials were classified based on the legal issues being studied to facilitate the analysis process .

## 5. Analysis Techniques

analysis was conducted qualitatively using deductive reasoning methods. The analysis process began with the identification of legal norms governing the protection of honor, privacy, and personal data in the digital space. Next, these norms were analyzed through grammatical interpretation to understand the meaning of the provisions based on the formulation of the articles, systematic interpretation to examine the relationship between the 2023 Criminal Code, the ITE Law, and the Personal Data Protection Law, and teleological interpretation to identify the objectives of legal protection intended to be achieved by each regulation. The results of the interpretation were then linked to legal doctrine and court decisions to obtain a legal construction regarding the qualification of criminal acts and criminal liability for the dissemination of private chats in the public space.

## C. Results and Discussion

### 1. Analysis of the Construction of the Crime of Disseminating Private Chats to Public Spaces

The development of digital communication through instant messaging applications and social media has created new forms of interaction in modern society. One frequently occurring phenomenon is the dissemination of private conversations into the public sphere through screenshots or digital recordings. These conversations were initially private and intended only for certain parties. Disseminating these conversations to the public without the consent of the parties involved can have serious repercussions for a person's reputation, dignity, and personal life. In the context of criminal law, such actions require a systematic analysis to determine whether they meet the elements of a criminal offense as stipulated in the legislation. This analysis is conducted through the construction of a crime that encompasses the objective and subjective elements of the crime .<sup>6</sup>

The objective element relates to the actual actions taken by the perpetrator and the consequences resulting from those actions. In the context of spreading private chats, the objective element can include the act of spreading or publishing private conversations to other parties or to the public through digital media. Such actions can result in reputational damage, humiliation, or a violation of privacy for the parties involved in the conversation. Digital media allows such information to spread quickly and reach a wide audience, so the impact can be greater than conventional communication .<sup>7</sup>

The subjective element relates to the perpetrator's mental state when committing an act prohibited by law. This element is generally related to the perpetrator's intent or negligence in committing the act. In the context of distributing private chats, the element of intent can be seen when the perpetrator consciously disseminates private conversations to the public through social media or other digital platforms. This intent can be demonstrated through the perpetrator's actions of actively uploading or distributing

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<sup>6</sup> M. Ali Zaidan, *Towards Reforming Indonesian Criminal Law*, Jakarta: Sinar Grafika, 2021.

<sup>7</sup> M. Ali Zaidan, *Towards Reforming Indonesian Criminal Law*, Jakarta: Sinar Grafika, 2021.

screenshots of the conversation to other parties. If the perpetrator knows that the conversation is private but still disseminates it for a specific purpose, then the element of guilt can be considered fulfilled. The fulfillment of the objective and subjective elements is the basis for determining whether the distribution of private chats can be qualified as a crime under Indonesian criminal law.<sup>8</sup>

The construction of the crime of distributing private chats can be explained systematically through the following scheme of elements of the crime:

Elements of a Crime	Explanation
<b>Objective Elements (Actus Reus)</b>	The act of spreading or publishing private conversations via digital media to the public without the consent of the parties involved.
<b>Consequence</b>	The occurrence of harm to the reputation, honor, or privacy of the individual who is the object of the conversation.
<b>Subjective Elements (Mens Rea)</b>	There was deliberate intent on the part of the perpetrator to spread the conversation to the public.
<b>Criminal Liability</b>	The perpetrator can be held accountable if he knows the private nature of the conversation but still spreads it.

Based on the construction of this offense, the distribution of private chats cannot automatically be classified as a crime. Criminal qualification must be determined based on the context, purpose of the distribution, the substance of the information disseminated, and the resulting consequences. If the distribution is carried out for the purposes of providing evidence in legal proceedings, reporting a crime, protecting the public interest, or is carried out with the consent of the parties involved, then the element of unlawfulness may not be fulfilled. Conversely, if the distribution is carried out without consent, is intended to embarrass, attack honor, or reveal personal information irrelevant to the public interest, then the action has the potential to fulfill the elements of a criminal act.<sup>9</sup>

Thus, the primary criterion for determining criminal liability lies not in the act of dissemination itself, but rather in the violation of legal interests protected by law, namely honor, privacy, and the protection of personal data. This approach aligns with the principle of *ultimum remedium*, which places criminal law as the final instrument in resolving legal conflicts in the digital space.

## 2 Analysis of the Provisions of Articles 433–440 of the New Criminal Code concerning Insults

The enactment of Law Number 1 of 2023 concerning the Criminal Code provides a new legal framework for assessing various forms of acts related to insult and defamation. Provisions regarding insult are systematically regulated in Articles 433 to 440. These articles regulate various forms of acts that can be categorized as criminal acts against a person's honor. Insults are essentially related to the act of attacking a person's honor or good name by making accusations that can damage that party's reputation. In the context of digital communication, the dissemination of private conversations containing

<sup>8</sup> A. Prasetyo, "Privacy Protection in Digital Communications in Indonesia," *Jurnal Hukum Ius Quia Iustum*, vol. 30, no. 2, 2023. <https://journal.uin.ac.id/IUSTUM/article/view/26976>

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid*

information that demeans a person's dignity can potentially fulfill the elements of the crime of insult.<sup>10</sup>

Article 433 of the new Criminal Code regulates the act of attacking a person's honor or reputation by making accusations intended to be public. The essential elements of this article are the accusation against a person and the intention to make the accusation public. Disseminating screenshots of private conversations via social media can fulfill this element if the content of the conversation contains accusations or statements that are detrimental to a person's reputation. Digital media allows such information to be widely disseminated, thus increasing the potential for reputational damage.<sup>11</sup>

Articles 434 to 440 of the new Criminal Code also regulate various other forms of insult, such as minor insults, slander, and the dissemination of false accusations. These provisions demonstrate that Indonesian criminal law provides broad protection for a person's honor and reputation. In the context of digital communication, the dissemination of private conversations can be a means of spreading accusations that harm a person's reputation. The characteristics of digital communication, which allow for the rapid and widespread dissemination of information, present new challenges in the application of criminal law.<sup>12</sup>

The comparison between the three regulations can be explained through the following table:

Regulation	Focus Settings	Relevance to the Spread of Private Chat
<b>New Criminal Code (Law No. 1 of 2023)</b>	Honor and reputation	Honor and reputation
<b>ITE Law (Law No. 11 of 2008 in conjunction with Law No. 19 of 2016)</b>	Electronic information and its distribution	Electronic information and its distribution
<b>PDP Law (Law No. 27 of 2022)</b>	Personal data and data subject control	Personal data and data subject control

This comparison demonstrates that the three regulations have complementary roles in regulating the dissemination of digital information. The new Criminal Code emphasizes protecting individual honor and reputation. The Electronic Information and Transactions (ITE) Law focuses on the distribution of electronic information in the digital space. Meanwhile, the Personal Data Protection Law emphasizes the protection of personal information as part of individual rights. This complementary approach between

<sup>10</sup> Republic of Indonesia, Law Number 1 of 2023 concerning the Criminal Code. <https://peraturan.bpk.go.id>

<sup>11</sup> RS Pratama, "Defamation on Social Media from a Criminal Law Perspective," Indonesian Journal of Legislation, vol. 20, no. 1, 2023. <https://ejurnal.peraturan.go.id/index.php/jli/article/view/810>

<sup>12</sup> DP Soemitro, MA Wicaksono, and NA Putri, "Penal Provisions in the Personal Data Protection Law: A Comparative Legal Study Between Indonesia and Singapore," Sign Jurnal Hukum, vol. 5, no. 1, 2023. <https://jurnal.penerbitsign.com/index.php/sign/article/view/327>

the three regulations allows for more comprehensive law enforcement against the dissemination of private chats in the public space .<sup>13</sup>

A synthesis of the three regulations shows that the distribution of private chats constitutes a legal act that can simultaneously violate more than one legal interest. Therefore , an approach that uses only one legal regime has the potential to result in incomplete protection for victims.

### **3. Comparison with the ITE Law and the Personal Data Protection Law**

Analysis of the spread of private chats in public spaces cannot be separated from other regulations governing digital communication in Indonesia. In addition to the new Criminal Code, there are two important regulations related to the dissemination of digital information: the Electronic Information and Transactions Law and Law Number 27 of 2022 concerning Personal Data Protection. These three regulations have different regulatory focuses but complement each other in providing legal protection for individuals in the digital space .<sup>14</sup>

From the perspective of Law Number 27 of 2022 concerning Personal Data Protection, not all digital conversations are automatically categorized as personal data. However, digital conversations often contain various information that can identify a person, such as name, telephone number, email address, profile photo, location, social media account ID, or other information that can be used to identify a specific individual. This information falls under the category of personal data, which is subject to legal protection .

Legal issues arise when screenshots of conversations are disseminated to third parties without the data subject's consent. In such circumstances, the dissemination of chat messages is no longer simply a matter of interpersonal communication but can also be classified as a form of processing and disclosure of personal data without a valid legal basis. Therefore, legal protection is provided not only for the content of conversations but also for the digital identities contained within them .

This approach demonstrates that the protection of personal data in digital communications has a broader scope than the protection of honor under criminal law. A person can experience a personal data breach even if the content of the conversation shared does not contain insults or defamation. Conversely, a conversation can constitute defamation even if it does not contain personal data in the strict sense.

### **4. The Relationship between Privacy Protection and Freedom of Expression in Digital Space**

Protection of privacy and freedom of expression are two fundamental rights that are both guaranteed in the Indonesian legal system. Article 28G paragraph (1) of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia provides protection for a person's honor, dignity, and private life, while Article 28E paragraph (3) guarantees the freedom of every person to express opinions and obtain information .

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<sup>13</sup> AS Sudarwanto and DB Kharisma, "Comparative Study of Personal Data Protection Regulations in Indonesia, Hong Kong and Malaysia," *Journal of Financial Crime*, 2021.

<sup>14</sup> ES Mulyani, "The Application of the ITE Law in Defamation Cases on Social Media," *Journal of Law and Justice*, vol. 12, no. 2, 2023. <https://jurnalhukumdanperadilan.org>

In the context of the dissemination of private chats, these two rights are often in conflict. The perpetrator of the information dissemination often bases their actions on the right to convey information to the public, while the injured party bases their objections on the right to privacy and reputation protection. From a modern legal perspective, freedom of expression is not an absolute right. Restrictions on freedom of expression are justifiable as long as they aim to protect the rights and freedoms of others and are carried out in accordance with the law.

The public interest test is crucial in determining the legality of the dissemination of digital conversations. If the information being disseminated relates to corruption, abuse of office, criminal acts, or issues directly affecting the public interest, then protection of freedom of expression may be given greater weight. Conversely, if the information relates solely to personal matters with no public relevance, then privacy protection should be prioritized as a legal interest.

## 5. Analysis of Court Decisions Regarding the Distribution of Digital Conversations

The development of information technology has made digital communication not only a means of personal interaction but also a source of evidence in criminal proceedings. In various cases of defamation and insult through electronic media, courts are increasingly faced with the use of screenshots of conversations, digital communication recordings, and other electronic documents as evidence. This phenomenon is relevant to this research because the dissemination of private chats into the public sphere is generally done through the reproduction and distribution of electronic documents in the form of screenshots of previously private conversations.<sup>15</sup>

One decision that can be used as a reference in understanding the legal position of digital conversations is Decision Number 183/Pid.Sus/2020/PN Semarang concerning the crime of defamation through social media. Although the object of the case does not specifically concern the distribution of private chats, this decision is important because it shows how judges assess the use of electronic evidence in the form of digital uploads and electronic communications in proving elements of a crime. In this case, the panel of judges accepted electronic documents as valid evidence after being supported by other evidence in the form of witness statements and expert testimony. The judge's considerations indicate that the validity of electronic evidence is determined not only by its digital form, but also by its relationship to the legal facts being examined and its consistency with other evidence presented in court.<sup>16</sup>

The judge's approach in this ruling is directly relevant to the phenomenon of the dissemination of private chats. In practice, screenshots of conversations shared on social media are often used as a basis for public opinion formation and as evidence in legal proceedings. Therefore, when a private conversation is disseminated to the public, the screenshots not only serve as a means of distributing information but also have the

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<sup>15</sup> OK Haris, SA Abdullah, A. Rizky, and SR Indah, "The Use of Digital Forensics in Proving Criminal Acts of Defamation on Social Media Based on the ITE Law," *Halu Oleo Legal Research* 6, no. 2 (2024): 588–603

<sup>16</sup> Muhammad Hanif Marzuki, RB Sularto, and Mujiono Hafidh Prasetyo, "The Strength of Electronic Evidence in the Process of Proving Criminal Acts of Defamation Through Social Media (Study of Decision Number 183/Pid.Sus/2020/PN Semarang)," *Diponegoro Law Journal* 14, no. 1 (2025).

potential to become evidence indicating the deliberate dissemination of electronic information. This finding demonstrates that the evidentiary aspect and the criminal act aspect are two interrelated dimensions in cases involving the dissemination of private chats.<sup>17</sup>

From a substantive criminal law perspective, the judge's considerations in defamation cases through social media indicate that the focus of the assessment lies not solely on the existence of the information disseminated, but also on the perpetrator's intent and the resulting consequences for the party who is the object of the information. This approach is in line with the construction of crimes in criminal law which requires the fulfillment of the elements of *actus reus* and *mens rea*. In the context of the dissemination of private chats, *actus reus* is reflected in the act of distributing or publishing conversations that were previously private, while *mens rea* is seen from the perpetrator's awareness and will to disseminate the conversation to the public.<sup>18</sup>

Analysis of judicial practice also indicates a tendency for judges to no longer view the digital space as separate from conventional social space. The dissemination of information via electronic media is seen as having the same, or even broader, legal consequences than the dissemination of information directly because the characteristics of the internet allow for unlimited reproduction, storage, and dissemination. Consequently, reputational damage caused by the dissemination of private conversations via social media can be considered to have a greater impact than insults made in face-to-face communication.<sup>19</sup>

These findings reinforce the argument that the dissemination of private chats to the public sphere cannot be understood solely as a matter of digital communication ethics. This action has complex legal dimensions because it can touch on the protection of individual dignity as stipulated in Articles 433 to 440 of Law Number 1 of 2023 concerning the Criminal Code, the protection of electronic information as stipulated in the Electronic Information and Transactions Law, and the protection of personal data as stipulated in Law Number 27 of 2022 concerning Personal Data Protection. Therefore, the assessment of the perpetrator's criminal liability must be carried out through a comprehensive approach, taking into account the objectives of legal protection contained in all three legal regimes.<sup>20</sup>

Based on an analysis of decisions and developments in cybercriminal justice practices in Indonesia, it can be concluded that law enforcement is moving toward stronger recognition of electronic documents and digital conversations as both objects and evidence of criminal acts. This situation provides a normative basis that the dissemination of private chats without the consent of the parties involved and causing

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<sup>17</sup> Ibid

<sup>18</sup> M. Ali Zaidan, *Towards Reforming Indonesian Criminal Law* (Jakarta: Sinar Grafika, 2024), pp. 117–124.

<sup>19</sup> Velly Al Zahsy, "The Crime of Defamation on Social Media: Between Freedom of Expression and the Limits of ITE Law," *Journal of Legal Ethics* 3, no. 2 (2025)

<sup>20</sup> A. Prasetyo, "Legal Protection of Personal Data in Indonesia's Digital Environment," *Journal of Cyber Law Studies* 4, no. 1 (2024); DP Soemitro, MA Wicaksono, and NA Putri, "Penal Provisions in the Personal Data Protection Law: A Comparative Legal Study Between Indonesia and Singapore," *Sign Jurnal Hukum* 5, no. 1 (2023)

harm to a person's honor, reputation, or privacy can be a basis for assessing criminal liability in the Indonesian legal system .

Based on the overall analysis, this study found that the dissemination of private chats in public spaces is a multidimensional act. This act cannot always be classified as a crime, but must be assessed based on the purpose of the dissemination, the public interest being protected, the consent of the data subject, and the impact on a person's dignity and privacy. In this context, the 2023 Criminal Code, the Electronic Information and Transactions Law, and the Personal Data Protection Law are not mutually exclusive but rather form a complementary legal protection system. These findings suggest that the legal approach to the dissemination of digital conversations must shift from a sectoral approach to an integrative approach that simultaneously considers the protection of dignity, privacy, and personal data.

#### D. Conclusion And Recommendations

The distribution of private chats in public spaces does not automatically qualify as a criminal offense. Criminal liability can only be imposed if the act meets certain elements, such as the intentional dissemination of the conversation, the absence of a legitimate justification, and a violation of the honor, privacy, or personal data of the parties involved in the conversation. Therefore, the assessment of the distribution of private chats must be contextualized, taking into account the purpose of the dissemination, the public interest being protected, and the resulting impact.

The provisions of Articles 433 to 440 of Law Number 1 of 2023 concerning the Criminal Code are relevant in assessing the dissemination of private chats containing elements of insult or defamation. However, legal protection for victims stems not only from the 2023 Criminal Code, but also from the Electronic Information and Transactions Law and Law Number 27 of 2022 concerning Personal Data Protection. These three regulations form a complementary legal protection system in addressing the dissemination of digital conversations that harm individuals.

First, lawmakers need to develop guidelines or regulations that provide clearer boundaries regarding the dissemination of digital conversations that can be classified as criminal acts, including parameters regarding consent, public interest, and privacy protection. Such clarity is crucial to prevent differing interpretations in law enforcement practices .

Second, law enforcement officials need to implement an integrated approach between the 2023 Criminal Code, the Electronic Information and Transactions Law, and the Personal Data Protection Law when handling cases of the distribution of private chats. Assessments should not focus solely on the element of defamation but should also consider the possibility of privacy violations and unauthorized disclosure of personal data .

Third, the public needs to increase legal awareness and digital literacy regarding the use and distribution of electronic communications. Every individual needs to understand that private digital communications cannot be freely disseminated without considering the privacy, reputation, and personal data protection rights of others .

Fourth, further research needs to empirically examine law enforcement practices and the development of court decisions after the enactment of the 2023 Criminal Code to obtain

a more comprehensive picture of the application of legal norms to the spread of digital conversations in Indonesia.

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