

Child Protection In Cases Of Physical Violence And Bullying That Occurs To School Children In Batam City

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Abstrak

Physical violence and bullying are actions carried out by individuals against other parties and have the potential to have various adverse impacts on the victim. This research is focused on assessing the protection of children in cases of physical violence and bullying that occurs in the school environment, as well as examining the effectiveness of policies and protection mechanisms that have been implemented. The impact of such violent practices not only affects the physical condition of children, but also has an impact on psychological aspects, social interactions, and academic achievements. Ideally, schools function as a safe and conducive educational space for children's development, but in reality there are still various cases of violence that have not been handled optimally. Therefore, it is necessary to have a comprehensive identification of the factors that cause violence, as well as the strategic role of schools, parents, and the government in building an effective child protection system that can accurately identify children's needs. This research is expected to contribute ideas in the formulation of prevention and handling efforts to create a safe, comfortable, and free learning environment from violent practices. The type of research carried out empirically, with data collection carried out through interviews with the relevant agencies, namely the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Office which has authority in child protection.

Keywords: Child Protection, Physical Violence, Bullying, School, Batam City, Children's Rights

A. Introduction

Children are God's gift that has an important role for the survival of humans, nations and states. Every child deserves the best opportunity to grow and develop optimally, both physically, mentally and socially. As the next generation of the nation, children have the right to meet basic needs, education and protection from various threats. Given that children are still in an unstable stage of development, they need a safe, warm and supportive environment. Therefore, the protection of children must be carried out comprehensively, including physical, mental, intellectual aspects, the fulfillment of basic rights, and maintaining their dignity and dignity with support from their families and the closest environment. Children in such situations need special guidance to develop optimally in their physical, personality, social and spiritual aspects¹. The problem of violence is a fact that

¹ Rizky Pratama Tampubolon, Padrisan Jamba, and A Background, "BATAM," 2021, file:///C:/Users/LENOVO YOGA/Downloads/7970-Article Text-30364-1-10-20230904 (1).pdf.

exists in society that acts of violence in the educational environment often occur, as well as bullying or bullying in the educational environment.

Violence is defined as unpleasant or harmful treatment of others that has a physical and mental impact. Violence and bullying also need to be considered because they must cause trauma for the victim. Bullying is a term that is often used to describe acts of violence that occur in educational institutions². Physical violence and bullying are aggressive perpetrators that often occur in social settings, especially among children and adolescents and negatively impact their mental and physical health³. One form of violation against children that is still often found is the practice of physical violence and bullying experienced by students in the Batam City area. In Indonesian, terms such as oppression, hazing, beating, exclusion, or intimidation are often used to describe bullying⁴. From this issue, finally a regulation was made that is used as a reference to protect children to ensure their freedom of life based on Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning child protection, this rule is the main legal umbrella that regulates child protection comprehensively. Looking at the report of the Women and Children Protection Empowerment Office with the following data table:

Table 1.1 Data on the Number of Cases of Physical Violence and Bullying of Children that occurred in Batam City (Year 2023 and 2024)

Year	Physical Violence	Psychic Violence	Total
2023	12	2	14
2024	35	5	40

Source : Data Results of interviews with the Batam City Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Office in 2025

This study shows that victims of bullying experience decreased self-esteem, social difficulties and an increased risk of mental disorders, while perpetrators have the potential to maintain aggressive behavior into adulthood, thus reinforcing the cycle of violence. Although various regulations have been implemented, physical violence and bullying still occur in the educational environment which shows that there is a gap between the practice of legal protection that is good (Das Sein) and the ideal conditions that should be (Das Sollen), so that concrete policies and measures are needed from the government and society to prevent and deal with violence in schools, to protect children and prevent the impact of prolonged trauma. Therefore, schools must be a fun and fun place for children to learn and develop, in order to ensure that the next generation is qualified and able to build the nation⁵.

² Yusnanik Bakhtiar, "Criminal Law Policy in the Settlement of Bullying Violence in Schools," *LEGITIMATION: Journal of Criminal Law and Legal Politics* 6, no. 1 (2017): 114-27, <https://doi.org/10.22373/legitimasi.v6i1.1846>.

³ Ageng Saepudin Kanda and Suci Rosulliya, "The Impact of Bullying on Behavior Change in Bullying Victims at SMK PGRI 2 Cimahi City," *Scientific Journal of Research Student* 1, no. 3 (2024): 507-12, <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.61722/jirs.v1i3.628>.

⁴ Ainol Mardhiah et al., "Strengthening Self-Character as the Key to Overcoming Bullying in SMAN 7 Lhokseumawe," *Journal of Malikussaleh Mengabdi* 2, no. 2 (October 31, 2023): 353, <https://doi.org/10.29103/jmm.v2i2.13349>.

⁵ Rita Novianti and Muhammad Sahrul, "Implementation of Child Protection Policy," *Journal of Social Work and Social Service* 1, no. 2 (2020): 139-47, <https://jurnal.umj.ac.id/index.php/khidmatsosial/article/download/8604/5059>.

Of course, this research has previously focused on the rights given to victims of bullying. Based on Van Boeven's concept, the right to know, the right to justice and the right to reparation (restoration).⁶ Other research focused on the effects of children experiencing violence, the factors that cause violence in schoolchildren. The ⁷ study examines how effective laws regulate violence and bullying are. There are also those who focus on the impact of children who experience violence⁸. Then there are also those that focus on the factors behind the occurrence of violence against school children. Then another research is another research that⁹ focuses on efforts to prevent cases of violence and bullying. And the last is research from¹⁰ one that focuses on the effectiveness of regulations that regulate the protection of children.

This research presents a novelty through an analysis of the effectiveness of the role of the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Office in providing legal certainty for children who are victims of physical violence and bullying that occurs in Batam City. The results of this research are expected to be the basis for the development of further research and input for child protection policies in the school environment. This study also highlights that children as a vulnerable group still often experience violence that has an impact on physical, psychological and social conditions, so it requires an active role of the government through optimal policies, mentoring and protection. Therefore, this study aims to determine how optimal child protection is carried out by the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Office and identify what challenges are faced in providing protection to children who are victims of physical violence and bullying.

B. Research Methods

The type of research conducted in this study is empirical juridical research, which is research that is expected to collect facts from phenomena that occur in the field. The empirical juridical method was chosen because it is considered the most appropriate to examine child protection in cases of physical violence and bullying in school children in Batam City and also through data analysis techniques, namely qualitative data analysis, presenting data in a table so that it can be understood easily, therefore this method allows analysis not only of existing regulations, but also its application in real practice.

This research has empirical legal characteristics that focus on evaluating the effectiveness of a regulation or regulation. The approach used is qualitative with a case study method, allowing for a deeper understanding of the phenomenon of bullying and efforts to protect victims in certain social contexts. This approach also provides space to explore the experiences of victims, parents and teachers have a role, as well as school policies in preventing and dealing with bullying. This study uses primary data, which was collected from an interview with the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Office (DP3A) by one source, namely Mrs. Hasriati, S.E. Secondary data consists of primary, secondary and tertiary legal materials. Then techniques in data collection through interviews with the

⁶ Astuti Nur Fadillah, "Legal Protection of Children Who Are Victims of Bullying," *BELO Journal* 5, no. 1 (September 17, 2019): 86–100, <https://doi.org/10.30598/belovol5issue1page86-100>.

⁷ Endang Prastini, "Violence Against Children and Child Protection Efforts in Indonesia," *Journal of Citizenship Virtues* 4, no. 2 (2024): 760–70, <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.37640/jcv.v4i2.2043>.

⁸ Elisabeth Christiana, "Identifying Forms of Violence and Handling It in Elementary School Settings," *Child Education Journal* 1, no. 2 (December 30, 2019): 58–64, <https://doi.org/10.33086/cej.v1i2.1368>.

⁹ Engrina Fauzi Robi Syafwar Elwidarifa Marwenny, "The Journal of Community Service of Dharma Andalas" 03, no. 01 (2024): 46–55, <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.47233/jpmda.v3i1.517>.

¹⁰ Maulama Malik Ibrahim, "Child Protection After Violent Incidents" 2, no. 35 (2024): 256–70.

Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Office were directly used to gain a deep understanding of the violations.

C. Results and Discussion

1. Effectiveness of the Implementation of Child Protection from Physical Violence and Bullying

Violence is defined by KBBI as an effort made by an individual or group that results in injury, death or damage to the body of another person. Violence is an attitude of behavior that is intentionally committed that harms, hurts, or injures other people or creatures either physically or emotionally, mentally or psychologically¹¹. On the other hand, bullying or what is often called bullying, is sometimes also referred to as oppression or ruin in Indonesian¹².

As a city that is experiencing rapid growth in the industrial and urbanization sectors, Batam is faced with the challenge of creating a safe and child-friendly educational space. Children must be protected from the womb of their mother, served humanely without compromising their right to life and given their rights as the successor of the nation without discrimination¹³. Although various government regulations and programs have been implemented, ranging from the Child Protection Law, local regulations, to the Child-Friendly Schools program, the reality shows that violence and bullying behavior still occur in schools. This study uses an empirical approach, which involves direct observation in the school environment, interviews with students, teachers, parents, and the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (DP3A), as well as a review of relevant policy documents. The results of the study show that students are often victims of violence in the form of beatings, threats, verbal insults, social exclusion, and bullying through digital media.

In addition, teachers' lack of understanding regarding the handling of violence cases, the absence of effective reporting mechanisms, and the lack of parental involvement are factors that worsen the condition. The protection provided by schools and the government so far has been mostly administrative and does not include comprehensive preventive measures. Although some schools have formed special child protection teams and organized anti-violence campaign programs, their implementation is still inconsistent and has not been carried out on an ongoing basis. The violence that the victim gets if it is carried out once or even continuously can have a very negative impact on the child, this impact will affect their future survival¹⁴. This article emphasizes the importance of cross-sectoral cooperation between educational institutions, governments, community organizations and families in building a strong child protection system. These efforts include training for educators, providing safe reporting channels for victims,

¹¹ Al-Hikmah Journal of Islamic Studies and Education et al., "The Impact of Violence and Bullying in Educational Institutions and Its Prevention," *Stitypilahat* 10, no. 2 (2023): 17, <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.12065/al-hikmah.v10i2.5>.

¹² Andika Aprilianto and Alfin Fatikh, "The Implications of Operant Conditioning Theory on Bullying in Schools," *Urwatul Wutsqo: Journal of Education and Islamic Studies* 13, no. 1 (March 2, 2024): 77-88, <https://doi.org/10.54437/urwatulwutsqo.v13i1.1332>.

¹³ Winshery Tan, Jl Gajah Mada, and Baloi-sei Ladi, "Fulfillment of the Educational Rights of Street Children in Batam City: Challenges in Realizing Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)" 29, no. 1 (2020): 46-59, <https://doi.org/10.30641/ham.2019.10.179-194.1>.

¹⁴ Firman Mansir, "Education and Child Protection in Schools: Protection and Prevention Efforts and Handling in Indonesia" 8 (2022): 15-30, <https://doi.org/org/10.32332/elementary.v8i1.3370>.

strengthening the role of school counselors and providing strict sanctions for perpetrators.

Child protection in the legal context refers to a set of rules and provisions designed to guarantee children's rights so that they can live a decent life, develop optimally, and be protected from all forms of violence. This protection also includes meeting basic needs, developing physical, mental, and social potential, and ensuring the welfare of children in accordance with the principles of dignity and human rights. Law Number 35 of 2014, which is an amendment to Law Number 23 of 2002 on Child Protection, establishes the legal basis for child protection in Indonesia. This law affirms that children are an integral part of human rights and have rights that must be guaranteed, respected, and protected. More specifically, Article 1 paragraph 12 states that every child has the right to full protection, so that they can grow and develop in a safe, healthy, and supportive environment. As for where in Indonesia has made sectoral laws that also provide protection to children, which are as follows ¹⁵ :

Table 1.2 Regulatory data related to child protection rules

No	Regional Rules	Aspects Include
1	Law No. 35 (2014)	Children's rights in general, prohibition of violence, protection of children
2	Law No. 13 of 2003 (on Manpower)	Children brought 18 years old are prohibited from working
3	Law No. 11 of 2008 (ITE)	Protecting children from the world of digital platforms
4	Law No. 21 of 2007 (on Trafficking in Persons)	Trafficking in persons, including children,
5	Criminal Code	Criminal punishment for perpetrators of violence or sexual abuse of children
6	Law No. 12 of 2005 (SIPOL Covenant)	Human rights to children

Source: Imperial Research Scientific Article on Child Protection Regulation in National and International Legal Frameworks.

Article 80 paragraph (1) of Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Child Protection which is an amendment to Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection states that any person who deliberately violates the provisions of article 76C, namely committing or allowing violence against children, can be sentenced to a maximum of 3 years and 6 months in prison or a maximum fine of Rp 72,000,000. This provision emphasizes that it is prohibited to place, allow, do, order to do or participate in doing. Then there is violence, which is an act or treatment that causes mild pain to severe pain

¹⁵ Amran Manurung et al., "A Systematic Study of Child Protection Regulations in the Framework of National and International Law" 1, no. 1 (2025): 1-8.

¹⁶. This regulation is made to keep in view the hierarchy of the highest power in a regulation that has been made, in order to be used to maintain consistency, legal certainty and the rule of law in Indonesia.

2. Challenges in Providing Protection to Child Victims

In the results of the interview conducted with DP3A, there is a challenge that is the center of attention, where it turns out that in the case of physical violence and bullying that occurs to school children there is a factor of fear or embarrassment to inform this incident to the teacher or to parents, so that it cannot be known that there has been an act of physical violence and bullying. Based on the results of an interview with the Women's and Children's Protection Empowerment Office, it was explained that the data on cases of child violence in the context of physical violence and bullying that occurred in 2023 and 2024 did not experience a significant increase, this is certainly an encouragement to always provide socialization to all children, especially those who attend school in Batam City, so that they are more literate to know their rights in getting education and are guaranteed to their survival. Then there is also another challenge, namely when the Service has mediated with all parties involved, there are parties who do not want this problem to be solved just like that in the sense that they still want to extend this problem, this is a challenge for the Service to be able to educate both parties. So that from the challenges that exist from the problems that arise, parents, teachers and related parties must be literate on this issue, so that children, especially those in Batam City, can grow and instill positive moral values and ethics. Child protection is very important from the human rights protection section.

In analyzing the challenges faced in providing protection to children, using the legal protection theory of Philipus M. Hadjon is very appropriate because it states that legal protection is an intellectual right that has a role to protect from dignity and dignity. Then the theory of legal protection has two types of legal protection, namely: preventive legal remedies and repressive legal remedies¹⁷. Preventive efforts are control before the occurrence of deviations or violations, these preventive efforts focus on the actions that underlie the occurrence of the risk of crime in a child¹⁸.

So that if it is associated with the theory of legal protection that has preventive and repressive measures to guarantee children's rights through a legal protection system can be effective, based on the theory of preventive legal protection with the results of interviews with DP3A has a function as a means of prevention so that violations of children's rights do not occur, for example by socializing to the community to provide a safe space for children so that they can freely express themselves in accordance with the rights they have, this activity is based on the regulation on children's rights in Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning child protection, so that this preventive effort is intended so that the potential for violations against children can be minimized from the beginning.

¹⁶ Ridwan Arifin Tri Rizky Analiya, "Legal Protection for Children in Bullying Cases According to Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Child Protection in Indonesia" 3, no. 1 (2022).

¹⁷ Rahmatul Hidayati & Abdul Rokhim Wiwin Mawarni, "Legal Protection of Child Victims of Sexual Violence According to Positive Law in Indonesia (Analysis of Decision Number 321/Pid.Sus/2022/PN.Kpn)" 16, no. 320 (2023): 13–30, <https://doi.org/10.31289/mercatoria.v16i1.9107>.

¹⁸ Nebi Oktir, "Analysis of Preventive and Repressive Efforts for Criminal Law Enforcement of Child Violence in the Jurisdiction of the Jambi City Police Sector Oktir Nebi the Fulfillment of Children's Rights to Protection from Acts of Violence and Exploitation," no. 3 (2024): 206–17, <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.62383/parlementer.v1i3.121>.

Then the protection of repressive laws also has a function as an effort to enforce the law after violations against children have occurred. Based on interviews conducted by the Women's and Children's Empowerment Office, it also provides space when violations have occurred, then repressive legal protection will also be carried out in the example of providing legal sanctions to the perpetrators of violations, and also the relevant agencies also provide recovery to post-trauma victims as a repressive force for the acts of violations that have occurred. So that through the theoretical links used in the implementation of challenges in providing protection to children in the form of prevention and repression, creating a comprehensive and sustainable child protection system.

D. Conclusions and Recommendations

Based on the results of the research that has been carried out, it is finally concluded that cases of physical violence and bullying that occur to school children in Batam City still occur frequently. Although there have been regulations and policies regarding child protection, their implementation in the field has not been running optimally. This can be seen as the answer to the formulation of the problem that has been taken, namely in the form of challenges that are obstacles in providing protection to children, namely the ineffective reporting and handling mechanism in schools and the limited understanding of educators regarding the prevention of violence against children. In addition, family environment factors and lack of supervision also trigger violence. Therefore, cooperation between schools, parents and the government is needed to increase awareness, strengthen the implementation of existing rules, and provide more effective protection for children from acts of violence and bullying.

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