

Criminological Review of the Influence of the Social and Economic Environment on the Criminal Behavior of Teenagers in Cirebon City

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ARTICLE INFO

Keywords: Criminology, Social Environment, Economic Factors, Criminal Behavior, Adolescents.

Received : 12 May

Revised : 23 June

Accepted: 20 July

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the influence of social and economic environments on criminal behavior among adolescents in Cirebon City from criminological and legal perspectives. Juvenile crime is a social phenomenon influenced by various internal and external factors that may encourage adolescents to engage in actions contrary to legal and social norms. Social environmental factors, including family conditions, peer associations, educational attainment, and community surroundings, play an important role in shaping adolescent behavior. In addition, economic factors such as poverty, unemployment, social inequality, and limited access to adequate living necessities may also trigger criminal behavior among adolescents. This research employs a normative legal research method using statutory, conceptual, and case approaches. The data sources consist of primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials obtained through library research.

The findings indicate that social and economic environments are closely associated with the emergence of criminal behavior among adolescents. Disharmonious family conditions, weak parental supervision, negative peer influences, low educational attainment, and inadequate economic conditions may increase the risk of adolescents becoming involved in criminal activities. From a criminological perspective, these factors can be explained through the Differential Association Theory, Social Control Theory, and Social Disorganization Theory.

INTRODUCTION

Crime remains one of the major social problems that continues to pose a serious challenge to society. Rapid developments in social, economic, and technological aspects have not only brought positive impacts to human life but have also given rise to various forms of social deviance and criminal offenses. Criminal behavior is no longer committed exclusively by adults but increasingly involves adolescents who are in a critical stage of character formation and personal development. The involvement of adolescents in criminal activities has become a significant concern because it disrupts public order and threatens the quality of the nation's future generation.¹

According to data from the e-MP Robinopsnal Criminal Investigation Agency of the Indonesian National Police (Bareskrim Polri), the number of criminal cases recorded in 2023 reached 288,472, representing an increase of 11,965 cases compared to the previous year. This increase indicates that various social and economic factors continue to contribute to criminal activities in Indonesia. These conditions suggest that crime prevention cannot rely solely on law enforcement but also requires a comprehensive understanding of the underlying causes of criminal behavior, particularly among adolescents.²

One form of juvenile crime that has become increasingly prevalent is inter-group brawling. This phenomenon has also occurred in Cirebon City. One notable case involved adolescent groups commonly referred to as "content gangs." In this incident, the Cirebon City Police arrested several adolescents involved in violent clashes between rival groups. The investigation revealed that some of the offenders tested positive for narcotics use and were carrying sharp weapons during the incident. This case demonstrates that juvenile criminal behavior does not emerge spontaneously but is influenced by various social environmental and economic factors surrounding adolescents.

From a criminological perspective, the social environment is one of the key elements influencing individual behavior. Adolescents are at a stage of identity formation and are therefore highly susceptible to environmental influences. Interaction with peers plays a significant role in shaping adolescent behavior. In the case of the content gang clashes in Cirebon City, adolescent involvement in violent acts illustrates the negative influence of peer groups. Adolescents are often encouraged to engage in such activities because they seek acceptance as members of a group and develop a strong sense of belonging. In certain situations, loyalty to the group may even override legal awareness and adherence to social norms.³

In addition to peer influence, inadequate supervision by families and communities also contributes to the increased likelihood of juvenile involvement in criminal behavior. The family serves as the primary agent of socialization responsible for shaping children's character and behavior. When parental supervision, education, and guidance fail to function effectively, adolescents tend to seek identity and support from external environments that may not necessarily exert positive influences. Such circumstances create opportunities for adolescents to become involved in groups inclined toward deviant or criminal behavior.

Besides social factors, economic conditions also represent an important aspect in discussions of juvenile delinquency. Economic inequality, poverty, limited access to education, and low levels of family welfare all influence individual behavior. Criminologists argue that unfavorable economic conditions may encourage individuals to violate the law as a means of coping with life pressures. Although economic hardship is not the sole cause of crime, it often serves as a driving force that increases the likelihood of criminal behavior.

Within criminological studies, this phenomenon can be analyzed using the Differential Association Theory, which explains that criminal behavior is learned through interaction with particular social groups. Furthermore, the Social Control Theory suggests that weak social bonds with family, school, and the broader community increase the likelihood of criminal conduct. Meanwhile, the Social Disorganization **Theory** argues that communities incapable of exercising effective social control become fertile grounds for the development of various forms of deviant and criminal behavior.

Based on the foregoing discussion, social and economic conditions significantly influence juvenile criminal behavior and therefore warrant further investigation. The gang clashes occurring in Cirebon City provide concrete evidence that adolescent involvement in criminal activities is determined not only by individual factors but also by social and economic conditions. Accordingly, the present study entitled "Criminological Review of the Influence of the Social and Economic Environment on Criminal Behavior among Adolescents in Cirebon City" is important for analyzing the factors contributing to juvenile criminal behavior and for providing academic contributions toward the prevention and control of juvenile delinquency in Indonesia.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Criminological Theories

Social Structure Theory

The Structural-Functionalist Theory in criminology emphasizes the importance of understanding how social structures and institutions influence criminal behavior. One relevant theory is the Social Structure and Social Control Theory proposed by Travis Hirschi.⁴

This theory highlights the concept of **social control** and the factors that influence individuals to comply with social norms or engage in criminal behavior. According to Hirschi, there are four forms of social control that influence individual behavior:

a. Attachment

Positive emotional relationships with people surrounding an individual, such as family members and friends, can reduce the tendency to engage in criminal behavior.

b. Commitment

An individual's commitment to legitimate goals and investment in achieving those goals can reduce the likelihood of engaging in actions that may jeopardize their future achievements.

c. Involvement

Individuals who actively participate in productive and socially beneficial activities have less time and fewer opportunities to engage in criminal behavior.

d. Belief

An individual's belief in the legitimacy of laws and socially accepted values plays an important role in ensuring compliance with legal rules and discouraging violations of the law.

This theory emphasizes that the stronger the social control experienced by an individual in various aspects of life, the lower the probability of involvement in criminal behavior.

Therefore, the Social Structure and Social Control Theory provides an important foundation for understanding how interactions between social structures and mechanisms of social control influence criminal behavior within society.

2. Social Control Theory

Social Control Theory is a criminological theory concerning social control and its influence on individual behavior. It was first introduced by Travis Hirschi in his influential 1969 work, *Causes of Delinquency*. The theory identifies four essential elements of social control that influence an individual's adherence to social norms:⁶

a. Attachment

Strong emotional bonds with family members, friends, and the community encourage individuals to comply with social norms because they care about maintaining these relationships.

b. Commitment

Individuals who are committed to pursuing positive goals—such as education, career development, or family life—are generally less motivated to engage in criminal activities that could jeopardize those aspirations.

c. Involvement

Participation in positive and productive activities, including sports, arts, and social organizations, reduces both the time available and the opportunities for engaging in criminal acts.

d. Belief

An individual's belief in moral values and societal norms serves as an important factor preventing behavior that violates legal and social standards. Social Control Theory provides a comprehensive explanation of how these four components work together to encourage individuals to obey social rules. By focusing on the role of social control in everyday life, the theory offers an important perspective for explaining differences in criminal behavior within society.

3. Learning Theory

Learning theories explain that criminal behavior is acquired through learning processes, social interaction, and rational decision-making. These theories include the following:

a. Social Learning Theory

Developed by Albert Bandura, Social Learning Theory emphasizes the roles of observation, imitation, and reinforcement in shaping behavior.

Individuals learn criminal behavior by observing others engaged in criminal activities and through experiences involving rewards or punishments associated with such behavior.

b. Differential Association Theory

Proposed by Edwin Sutherland, this theory argues that individuals acquire the knowledge, values, attitudes, and skills related to criminal behavior through interaction with groups or individuals who support such behavior. Individuals are more likely to engage in criminal activities when they experience greater exposure to pro-criminal norms than to anti-criminal norms.

c. Attribution Theory

Attribution Theory suggests that individuals tend to resolve attributional conflicts by adopting beliefs that justify criminal behavior. For example, individuals who perceive legitimate success as difficult to achieve may view criminal behavior as a practical alternative for attaining desired goals.

d. Rational Choice Theory

Rational Choice Theory proposes that individuals decide to engage in criminal behavior based on a **cost-benefit analysis** of available alternatives. Individuals are more likely to commit crimes when they perceive that the expected benefits outweigh the potential financial, legal, or social costs.

Collectively, these learning theories provide different perspectives on how learning processes, social interactions, and rational considerations influence an individual's likelihood of engaging in criminal behavior. Understanding these theories enables a deeper comprehension of the dynamics and factors that shape criminal behavior in society.

RESEARCH METHOD

This study employs a normative legal research method. Normative legal research focuses on examining legal norms, legal principles, legal theories, doctrines, and statutory regulations related to the issue under investigation. Unlike empirical legal research, which relies on field observations and data collection, normative legal research uses library materials as its primary source of data. In this study, normative legal research is conducted to examine the influence of social and economic environments on juvenile criminal behavior.

The purpose of this research is to understand the extent to which existing legal regulations influence the development of juvenile crime and how these legal provisions can be utilized to prevent and address criminal behavior among adolescents. Furthermore, this research seeks to examine how legal principles and criminological theories contribute to the development of legal scholarship and criminological studies.

Research Approach

This study applies three research approaches:

1. Statutory Approach (Statute Approach)
2. Conceptual Approach
3. Case Approach

The statutory approach involves examining various legal regulations related to juvenile crime, child protection, the juvenile criminal justice system, and other relevant criminal law provisions.

The conceptual approach is employed to analyze theories and doctrines developed within criminology and criminal law concerning the factors contributing to criminal behavior, particularly those associated with social and economic conditions.

Meanwhile, the case approach involves examining court decisions and published cases relevant to juvenile criminal behavior.

By combining these three approaches, this research aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of the relationship between the social environment, economic conditions, and criminal behavior among adolescents.

Object of the Research

The object of this normative legal research consists of legal norms, legal concepts, criminological theories, and legal policies concerning the factors contributing to juvenile criminal behavior.

Rather than focusing on individual respondents, the study examines legal materials and scholarly literature discussing the relationship between social environments, economic conditions, and criminal acts committed by adolescents. Additionally, the research analyzes how the Indonesian legal system views social and economic factors as important aspects influencing the emergence of deviant or criminal behavior among adolescents.

Data Sources

The research utilizes three categories of legal materials:

1. Primary Legal Materials

Primary legal materials consist of statutory regulations and other legal provisions relevant to the study, including:

- Laws governing the Juvenile Criminal Justice System;
- Child Protection Law;
- Other criminal law provisions related to juvenile crime.

2. Secondary Legal Materials

Secondary legal materials include:

- Academic books;
- Legal journals;
- Scholarly articles;
- Previous research findings;
- Scientific publications;
- Literature discussing criminological theory, sociology of law, and factors contributing to criminal behavior.

3. Tertiary Legal Materials

Tertiary legal materials consist of:

- Legal dictionaries;
- Legal encyclopedias;
- Legal indexes;
- Other reference materials that assist in interpreting and explaining primary and secondary legal materials.

Data Collection Technique

Data were collected through library research.

This technique involved identifying, collecting, reading, and reviewing various legal materials relevant to the research topic. The legal materials were systematically gathered through examinations of statutory regulations, reference books, scientific journals, academic articles, and previous research findings. Library research was selected because this study adopts a normative legal perspective that requires documentary evidence and legal literature as its principal sources. Through this method, the researcher obtained a comprehensive understanding of the development of legal theories and policies related to juvenile criminal behavior.

Data Analysis

The data were analyzed using a descriptive qualitative approach.

The analysis consisted of identifying, classifying, interpreting, and correlating the collected legal materials. Subsequently, relevant legal norms and criminological theories were interpreted within the context of the study to explain the influence of social and economic environments on juvenile criminal behavior.

The findings are presented systematically in a narrative form. The analysis explains the relationship between socio-economic factors and juvenile criminal behavior from both legal and criminological perspectives.

Ultimately, the study is expected to produce logical and objective conclusions that contribute to the advancement of legal science and the prevention of juvenile delinquency in Indonesia.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Influence of Social and Economic Environments on Juvenile Criminal Behavior

The findings indicate a significant relationship between specific social environmental factors and juvenile criminal behavior.

Criminological theories, particularly Social Structure Theory and Social Control Theory, provide an appropriate framework for interpreting these findings. Factors such as family discipline, peer influence involving criminal activities, and bullying within the school environment have been shown to contribute substantially to juvenile criminal behavior.

Based on the findings of the research conducted at the Cirebon City Police Resort (Polresta Cirebon) regarding cases of juvenile delinquency, several major factors contributing to juvenile delinquency in Cirebon were identified as follows:

Family as a Cause of Juvenile Delinquency and the Role of Family Control

The family is the closest social environment in which children are raised, nurtured, and educated. It is within the family that children receive their earliest education, and it serves as the most influential institution in shaping their character, particularly during the preschool years. Therefore, the family plays a crucial role in children's development.

A healthy family environment contributes positively to children's growth and development, whereas a dysfunctional family environment may have adverse effects. Family conditions that may contribute to juvenile delinquency include dysfunctional families (*broken homes*) and families experiencing unfavorable socioeconomic circumstances.

Broken Home and Quasi-Broken Home

According to general opinion, adolescents from broken-home families are more likely to engage in delinquent behavior. In particular, parental divorce or separation has a significant influence on children's psychological and emotional development, thereby increasing the likelihood of juvenile delinquency.

Unfavorable Family Size and Family Structure

Another family-related factor that may contribute to juvenile delinquency is the number of children within the family and their position among siblings, both of which may influence children's psychological development (Sudarsono, 2012).

To examine the role of parents in shaping children's attitudes and behavior, as well as the factors contributing to juvenile delinquency in Cirebon City, the researcher interviewed five heads of households using sixteen interview questions. The interviews were conducted with parents in Harjamukti District to explore their role in educating adolescent children. The study identified three major parenting styles:

- **Military-style parenting**
- **Permissive parenting**
- **Communicative (democratic) parenting**

The characteristics of each parenting style are described as follows.

Military-Style Parenting

Military-style parenting is characterized by strict discipline and rigid rules. Many parents adopt this parenting style because they were themselves raised in environments that emphasized strict discipline and authority. Consequently, rigid values and parenting practices may be transmitted from one generation to another.

Parents who adopt this approach believe that children must be disciplined firmly and consistently. In some cases, they may resort to physical punishment or even threats of violence when children disobey family rules. They believe that such discipline is necessary to foster independence, responsibility, and strong character in preparation for adulthood.

Although this approach may require parents to disregard their own emotions or personal circumstances, they genuinely believe that they are acting in their children's best interests. This parenting style resembles military training, where discipline is strictly enforced and violations are met with severe consequences.

Under this approach, strict rules and regulations govern children's behavior, and little tolerance is shown toward violations.

Permissive Parenting

In contrast, the permissive parenting style allows children considerable freedom without providing sufficient guidance or supervision. Parents

consciously permit children to make their own decisions without establishing clear rules or behavioral expectations.

Children raised under this parenting style often receive little instruction regarding moral values, appropriate behavior, or religious teachings. Consequently, parents are frequently perceived as neglecting their educational responsibilities.

Parental supervision of children's daily activities is minimal or even absent, allowing children to engage in any activities they choose. Parents and guardians, who should serve as educators and role models, often fail to provide guidance or explain appropriate behavior.

Communicative (Democratic) Parenting

Communicative or democratic parenting emphasizes open communication between parents and children. When problems arise, parents encourage discussion and actively listen to their children's perspectives while also expressing their own views.

Introducing children to two-way communication from an early age is considered beneficial for their emotional and social development. Parents communicate expectations in accordance with their children's level of cognitive development, thereby fostering mutual understanding, trust, and healthy family relationships.

Unfavorable School Environment

The school environment is another important setting in which children spend a substantial portion of their time engaged in learning activities. This environment has a significant influence on children's personality development. A positive school environment supports healthy personality development, promotes a comfortable learning atmosphere, and encourages both academic discipline and overall school discipline. Conversely, an unfavorable school environment may negatively affect students' behavioral development and increase the likelihood of delinquent behavior.

An unfavorable school environment may lead to unstructured behavioral changes among students. The support and role of teachers within the school environment significantly influence students' character development. The school environment consists of the following components:

a. Physical School Environment

This includes the school's atmosphere, infrastructure, learning facilities, learning resources, and instructional media.

b. Social Environment

This refers to the relationships among students, between students and teachers, and with other school staff.

c. Academic Environment

The academic environment encompasses the overall school atmosphere, the implementation of teaching and learning activities, and various extracurricular programs.

A conducive school environment—physically, socially, and psychologically—can foster and strengthen students' motivation to perform effectively and productively. Therefore, schools should strive to establish an optimal physical environment by maintaining classroom cleanliness, providing

appropriate facilities, ensuring an effective layout, and creating a comfortable learning atmosphere. Likewise, the social and psychological environment should promote positive interpersonal relationships, healthy group interactions, effective leadership, proper supervision, recognition and encouragement, guidance and counseling, opportunities for personal development, and a strong sense of community.

a. Every educational institution shall provide educational facilities, including furniture, educational equipment, instructional media, books and other learning resources, consumable teaching materials, and other equipment necessary to support a systematic and continuous learning process.

b. Every educational institution shall also provide adequate infrastructure, including land, classrooms, principals' offices, teachers' offices, administrative offices, libraries, laboratories, workshops, production units, cafeterias, utility installations, sports facilities, recreational areas, and other spaces required to support an organized and sustainable educational process.

The **social school environment** encompasses relationships among students, interactions between students and teachers, relationships among teachers—including coordination among teachers within the same discipline and across different disciplines—relationships between teachers and educational staff, as well as interactions between school principals and teachers.

Meanwhile, the **academic environment** refers to the atmosphere surrounding teaching and learning activities, including whether instructional activities are conducted in an orderly and disciplined manner and whether educational programs are implemented effectively within the school.

The findings of this study indicate that the primary factor contributing to adolescents' violation of rules is the **family environment**, particularly **broken-home conditions**. Insufficient parental attention and supervision resulting from family disruption increase adolescents' willingness to violate both social norms and established rules.

Police Efforts to Address Juvenile Delinquency

This research was conducted at several divisions of the **Cirebon City Police Resort (Polresta Cirebon)**, namely:

1. **Criminal Investigation Unit (Satreskrim);**
2. **Traffic Unit (Satlantas);**
3. **Community Development Unit (Satbinmas);**
4. **Narcotics Investigation Unit (Satresnarkoba).**

The study documented more than one hundred cases involving various forms of juvenile delinquency and criminal behavior, including assault, acts of violence, sexual harassment, defamation, embezzlement, theft, criminal intimidation, fraud, public intoxication, begging, prostitution, traffic violations, drug abuse, and truancy during school hours.

In 2020, the Cirebon City Police detained **three adolescents** involved in criminal offenses. In addition to law enforcement, the police also implemented guidance and rehabilitation programs for juveniles involved in cases such as traffic violations, violent behavior, and other forms of misconduct.

The Cirebon City Police coordinate closely with relevant government agencies whenever offenses involve juvenile offenders. Although **truancy** is not

considered a criminal offense in the strict legal sense, it constitutes a violation of the individual's status within the primary social institution (the family) and the secondary social institution (the school), both of which are not explicitly regulated under criminal law.

Nevertheless, if such behavioral patterns continue into adulthood, similar violations may later occur in professional settings or in interactions with legal authorities. For this reason, **Jensen** classifies status offenses such as truancy as a form of juvenile delinquency rather than merely deviant behavior.

Case Analysis

Juvenile criminal behavior is a social phenomenon that does not emerge spontaneously but is influenced by various interrelated factors, particularly the social environment and economic conditions. From a criminological perspective, the social environment plays a crucial role in shaping an individual's character, mindset, and behavior. Adolescents, who are in the transitional stage between childhood and adulthood, generally exhibit emotional instability and are still in the process of developing their personal identity. During this stage, they are highly susceptible to influences from their surrounding environment, including their families, peer groups, schools, and the wider community. When the social environment provides positive influences, adolescents are more likely to develop behaviors that conform to legal and social norms. Conversely, when they are exposed to a negative social environment, the likelihood of engaging in deviant and criminal behavior increases substantially.

This phenomenon can be observed in the case of violent clashes involving adolescent groups, commonly known as "content gangs," in Cirebon City. In this case, the Cirebon City Police arrested several adolescents involved in intergroup violence. The investigation revealed that several offenders tested positive for narcotics use and were carrying sharp weapons during the clashes. This case demonstrates that the social environment has a significant influence on juvenile criminal behavior. Membership in peer groups that tolerate or encourage violent behavior leads adolescents to learn and imitate behaviors that are considered normal within their social circles. According to Edwin H. Sutherland's Differential Association Theory, criminal behavior is acquired through social interaction with individuals or groups that already possess tendencies toward deviant behavior. In the case of the content gangs in Cirebon City, adolescents acquired values, attitudes, and behavioral patterns that supported criminal conduct through intensive interactions with their peer groups.

In addition to peer influence, the desire to gain recognition and social status within a group also serves as a motivating factor for adolescents to engage in criminal activities. During adolescence, the need for social identity and group acceptance is particularly strong. Many adolescents are willing to engage in risky behaviors in order to obtain approval and recognition from their peers. In the case of the content gang clashes, acts of violence were not only intended to attack rival groups but also served as a means of demonstrating courage and loyalty to their own group. From a criminological perspective, this condition reflects the

influence of a deviant subculture that develops within adolescent groups, where criminal behavior is perceived as normal and even worthy of admiration.

Another important factor identified in this case is drug abuse. Several offenders were found to have used narcotics prior to participating in the violent clashes. Drug abuse can impair an individual's ability to exercise self-control and think rationally, thereby increasing the likelihood of aggressive and criminal behavior. According to Travis Hirschi's Social Control Theory, individuals with weak self-control are more likely to engage in behavior that violates legal and social norms. The use of narcotics further weakens this self-control, making adolescents more susceptible to involvement in violent acts and other criminal offenses.

In addition to social factors, economic conditions are also closely associated with the emergence of juvenile criminal behavior. Economic hardship may create social pressures that influence an individual's attitudes and behavioral patterns. Adolescents living in economically disadvantaged environments often face numerous limitations, including restricted access to education, limited opportunities for personal development, and fewer legitimate pathways to achieve success. Under certain circumstances, these economic pressures may encourage adolescents to seek recognition, power, or a sense of belonging through peer groups that engage in deviant or criminal activities. Although not all juvenile offenders come from economically disadvantaged families, economic conditions remain an important factor that can increase the risk of adolescents becoming involved in criminal behavior.

The case of the content gang clashes in Cirebon City also demonstrates the weakness of family and community supervision over adolescents' activities. According to Social Control Theory, the family is the primary social institution responsible for instilling social values and supervising children's behavior. When parental supervision is weak, communication between parents and children is ineffective, and community involvement in social control declines, adolescents become increasingly vulnerable to engaging in deviant behavior. This condition was evident in the content gang clashes, where the offenders were able to join deviant peer groups, carry sharp weapons, and use narcotics without effective social control from their families or surrounding communities.

Based on the foregoing analysis, it can be concluded that juvenile criminal behavior is the result of the interaction between social environmental factors and economic conditions. The content gang clashes in Cirebon City illustrate that peer influence, the desire for group recognition, drug abuse, and weak family and community supervision are among the primary factors encouraging adolescents to engage in criminal activities. Therefore, efforts to prevent juvenile crime should be implemented comprehensively through strengthening family functions, improving the quality of education, enhancing supervision within the social environment, and improving the economic conditions of society so that adolescents have greater opportunities to grow and develop in healthy, supportive, and productive environments.

Policy Recommendations and Interventions to Reduce Juvenile Crime Based on the Research Findings

The Cirebon City Police Resort (Polresta Cirebon) implements both preventive and repressive measures to address juvenile delinquency.

The preventive measures undertaken by the Cirebon City Police include:

1. Security Deployment at strategic locations to prevent juvenile delinquency. This activity is carried out by the Samapta Bhayangkara Unit.
2. Police Patrols, which involve two or more officers conducting preventive patrols to eliminate opportunities for crime by visiting, observing, monitoring, and supervising locations considered vulnerable to criminal activities or legal violations. Preventive patrols are conducted using six different methods:
 - Foot patrols;
 - Bicycle patrols;
 - Motorcycle patrols;
 - Vehicle patrols;
 - Water and aerial patrols;
 - Patrols utilizing police dogs and horses.

These patrol activities are also conducted by the Samapta Bhayangkara Unit.

3. Community Education and Awareness Programs, conducted in junior high schools, senior high schools, youth organizations (*Karang Taruna*), and local communities. These programs are organized by the Community Development Unit (Satbinmas).
4. Public Security and Order Campaigns, involving the dissemination of public safety and security messages (*Kamtibmas*) to the community. These activities are carried out by the Samapta Bhayangkara Unit.
5. Traffic Management, implemented on public roads requiring traffic regulation to maintain orderly traffic flow while simultaneously preventing traffic violations. This responsibility falls under the Traffic Unit (Satlantas).
6. Safety Riding Training, conducted for motorcycle communities to promote safe and responsible riding practices. These programs are organized by the Traffic Unit (Satlantas).

Repressive Measures

The repressive measures implemented by the Cirebon City Police Resort include diversion, supervision, guidance and counseling, written statements of commitment, referral to the Social Affairs Office, traffic ticket enforcement, and rehabilitation.

Diversion, supervision, and guidance are administered by the Women and Children Protection Unit (Unit Pelayanan Perempuan dan Anak) of the Cirebon City Police.

The preparation of written commitment statements and referrals to the Social Affairs Office are handled by the Samapta Bhayangkara Unit.

Traffic law enforcement is conducted by the Traffic Unit (Satlantas), while rehabilitation programs for juvenile drug offenders are administered by the Narcotics Investigation Unit (Satresnarkoba).

Diversion refers to the transfer of the settlement of juvenile cases from the formal criminal justice process to an alternative resolution outside the criminal court system. Diversion is carried out by facilitating meetings between the offender's family and the victim's family in an effort to achieve reconciliation. If the parties successfully reach an agreement, the juvenile offender is not prosecuted through the formal legal process. However, if diversion fails, the offender is processed in accordance with the applicable criminal law. The legal basis for diversion is provided under Chapter II of Law No. 11 of 2012 concerning the Juvenile Criminal Justice System.

This policy applies exclusively to juvenile offenders under the age of eighteen whose offenses are not classified as minor offenses, are not repeat offenses, and are not punishable by a minimum imprisonment of seven years.

As part of the supervision program implemented by the Women and Children Protection Unit, juvenile offenders are required, under police supervision, to participate in religious activities at their respective places of worship for a period of three months.

Muslim offenders are required to perform congregational prayers at local prayer facilities (*langgar* or *musholla*), while Christian offenders are required to attend church services every Sunday. These monitoring procedures complement family-based intervention strategies. If family-based interventions prove effective, supervision continues as part of the rehabilitation process. Conversely, if family-based interventions fail, monitoring procedures are implemented before direct criminal prosecution is initiated.

Supervision is also applied when juvenile offenders are returned to their parents after being found guilty of committing a criminal offense. This measure applies to offenders under eighteen years of age whose offenses are not classified as minor offenses, who are not repeat offenders, and who are not subject to a statutory minimum sentence of seven years' imprisonment.

The Samapta Bhayangkara Unit also implements a written statement of commitment as a corrective measure. Under this program, juvenile offenders are required to write letters of apology addressed to their parents and teachers, affirming their commitment not to repeat their delinquent behavior in the future. Should the offender repeat the misconduct after signing the statement, immediate legal action will be taken. Conversely, parents and teachers are generally not formally notified unless the authorities determine that the seriousness of the offense requires immediate legal proceedings.

This written commitment procedure is generally applied only to juveniles involved in relatively minor offenses.

Before referring juvenile offenders to the Social Affairs Office, social workers provide counseling and guidance. Individuals arrested during public order operations, such as homeless persons and those engaged in prostitution, are subsequently referred to the Social Affairs Office for further assistance.

Individuals who violate traffic regulations are subject to traffic citations. The purpose of these sanctions is to deter repeat offenses and ensure compliance with traffic laws.

Finally, the research emphasizes the importance of early childhood education and active family involvement as essential components in preventing juvenile delinquency and promoting positive youth development. Parents play a crucial role in shaping their children's personality and behavior through the education and guidance they provide, as argued by **Efendy (2000)**. Effective communication between parents and children is particularly important when addressing issues that affect adolescents, as it promotes mutual understanding and strengthens family relationships. Such communication helps shape children's attitudes and behavior in accordance with the values and aspirations established by their parents. As children's first and most influential educators, parents play a fundamental role in their intellectual, moral, and social development.

According to **Kartono (1985:85)**, the roles of parents include the following:

1. **As Protectors and Caregivers of the Family**

Responsible parents are willing to make sacrifices for the well-being of their children. They consistently provide care, supervision, and guidance while demonstrating good moral conduct through both their words and actions.

2. **As Role Models**

Among the many responsibilities parents have toward their children, serving as positive role models is one of the most important. Parents, as leaders within the family, should provide proper attention and demonstrate exemplary moral behavior. Good character is one of the most valuable educational assets that parents can instill in their children. Children naturally tend to imitate what they observe in their parents' behavior. As the well-known proverb states, "**The apple does not fall far from the tree.**"

3. **As Motivators**

Children are encouraged to act when they receive appropriate motivation. This is particularly important during childhood and adolescence, when they still require encouragement and support. Motivation may take the form of encouragement, expectations, appreciation, or rewards for achievement. Such motivation stimulates children's enthusiasm for learning and personal development.

4. **As Facilitators**

Education can be effectively implemented when adequate facilities and learning resources are available. Although parents are not expected to provide

every possible facility beyond their financial capacity, they should make every reasonable effort to fulfill their children's educational needs.

5. As Primary Figures

Parents are the most significant figures in their children's lives because they are the first individuals whom children recognize and emulate. Parents should therefore maintain openness in their relationships with their children in order

According to Zakiyah Drajat (1996:35), parents are the primary and foremost educators of their children because children receive their earliest education from them. Parents are the first adults responsible for children's education, as children naturally spend the earliest stages of their lives under the care and guidance of their mother and father.

Based on the cases handled by the Cirebon City Police Resort (Polresta Cirebon) during the year of this study, juvenile crime remains relatively low, particularly in relation to the role of families in educating adolescents. This condition is largely attributed to the government's preventive efforts, implemented through relevant agencies that consistently conduct educational programs, counseling, and community development activities in a well-organized and scheduled manner.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of this study, the efforts undertaken by the Cirebon City Police Resort (Polresta Cirebon) to address juvenile delinquency can be summarized as follows:

Preventive and Repressive Measures

Preventive measures implemented by the Cirebon City Police include:

- a. Monitoring locations considered vulnerable to juvenile delinquency;
- b. Conducting routine patrols in areas prone to criminal activity;
- c. Providing educational and counseling programs for local schools and youth organizations;
- d. Disseminating public awareness regarding the importance of maintaining public security and order;
- e. Managing traffic flow to reduce traffic violations; and
- f. Organizing **Safety Riding** training programs to promote responsible driving behavior.

Repressive measures include:

- a) Referring sex workers and other vulnerable individuals to the Social Affairs Office for rehabilitation and assistance;
- b) Issuing traffic citations to individuals who violate traffic regulations;
- c) Providing rehabilitation programs for juvenile drug offenders; and
- d) Detaining juvenile offenders for further legal proceedings in accordance with applicable laws.

1. Challenges in Addressing Juvenile Delinquency

In addressing juvenile delinquency, law enforcement authorities encounter several significant challenges, including:

- Judicial decisions that are perceived as overly lenient;
- Ineffective implementation of existing legal regulations;
- Limited public understanding of applicable laws;
- Counseling schedules that conflict with school activities;
- Insufficient understanding of legal regulations related to cross-border travel; and
- The need for stronger coordination with the Youth and Sports Agency as well as the broader community.

The community should play a more active role in supervising and guiding adolescents, regardless of whether they are personally acquainted with them. Public participation is essential in assisting law enforcement agencies in preventing and addressing juvenile crime. Adolescents who display deviant behavior should receive appropriate guidance and correction, as such behavior may stem from feelings of neglect or a lack of attention from those around them. Therefore, more comprehensive preventive and law enforcement measures should continue to be implemented, particularly by the **Cirebon City Police**, to effectively reduce juvenile delinquency and promote positive youth development.

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