

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGAINST ACTS OF VIGILANTISM IN SOCIETY AFTER THE OCCURRENCE OF CRIMINAL ACTS (STUDY AT THE REGIONAL POLICE OF LAMPUNG PROVINCE)

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Abstract

Vigilantism represents a social phenomenon that frequently arises as an impulsive community response following a crime, largely stemming from diminished confidence in law enforcement. Such conduct poses a significant risk of generating additional legal infractions, given that it operates independently of authorized judicial procedures. The research questions include what form of law enforcement is taken against vigilantism that occurs in society after a crime occurs within the jurisdiction of the Lampung Provincial Police, what obstacles the Lampung Provincial Police face in enforcing the law against perpetrators of vigilantism, and what efforts the Lampung Provincial Police have taken to address the occurrence of vigilantism. The research method used is normative and empirical juridical with primary and secondary data analyzed qualitatively. The results of the study indicate that law enforcement against vigilantism is carried out through criminal law mechanisms in accordance with the Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code, with security measures, investigations, and inquiries without distinguishing the status of the perpetrator as a manifestation of the principle of due process of law and equality before the law. This law enforcement is felt by the community through the presence of officers at the scene of the incident, action against the perpetrator, and calls for resolution through legal channels. Obstacles faced include the spontaneous and group nature of the actions, difficulty in identifying the perpetrator, limited witnesses and evidence, and the continued strong belief that vigilantism is a normal reaction. Social solidarity and family resolutions also weaken the effectiveness of law enforcement. The efforts of the Lampung Provincial Police are carried out in a preventive, preemptive, and repressive manner through legal counseling, involvement of community and religious leaders, increased rapid police response, and firm action against perpetrators. This approach aims to prevent the culture of vigilantism and increase public trust in law enforcement. The recommendations include increasing public legal awareness, optimizing professional and consistent law enforcement by the police, and providing government support through strengthening policies, infrastructure, and ongoing legal education.

Keywords: Law Enforcement, Vigilantism, Crime, Lampung Provincial Police.

1. Introduction

The existence of law serves a fundamental function in ordering societal dynamics, both in social life and within the context of the nation-state. In the modern era, the role of law has transformed beyond a mere mechanism of social control to become a vital guardian for protecting citizens' human rights and ensuring the upholding of justice. As a state based on law (*Rechtsstaat*), as enshrined in the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, the nation positions law as the foundational pillar of all state administration. This principle is explicitly guaranteed in Article 27 paragraph (1) in conjunction with

Article 28D paragraph (1), which affirms equality before the law and the right of every individual to legal certainty and fair protection. However, in practice, law enforcement in Indonesia frequently encounters significant challenges, including institutional weaknesses among officials and low public legal awareness, which collectively hinder the full realization of legal objectives. These conditions often catalyze criminal acts, which, in a paradoxical cycle, can trigger further extra-legal violations.

Within criminal law, a criminal act (*strafbaar feit*) is fundamentally an act prohibited under the threat of state-imposed sanction (Moeljatno, as cited in Umar Iskandar et al., 2025). Sociologically, crime is an enduring social phenomenon, inherent to complex societal interactions where individual interests clash with established norms (Durkheim, 1982; Ni Made Indah Gayatri, 2024). A critical and destabilizing consequence of crime, particularly in contexts of perceived institutional failure, is the emergence of vigilantism the act of citizens taking the law into their own hands to exact punishment or retribution (Henry Henderson, 2019). From a legal positivist perspective, vigilantism constitutes a clear violation of Indonesian law. Despite potentially being motivated by a desire for justice, such acts typically involve elements of violence, persecution, property destruction, or even murder, falling under articles of the Criminal Code such as Article 351 (persecution), Article 170 (destruction), and Article 338 (murder) (Saputra, 2025). This highlights a fundamental legal tenet: the monopoly on the legitimate use of force and legal process rests solely with state authorities under the *due process of law* principle.

The phenomenon of vigilantism presents a severe challenge to the social order, eroding legal certainty, fostering public fear, and undermining trust in formal justice systems, especially the police. If left unaddressed, it risks normalizing violent dispute resolution, potentially leading to anarchic conditions and a further weakening of the rule of law. Therefore, effective and proportional law enforcement against vigilantism is paramount. As Soerjono Soekanto's theory of law enforcement posits, success in this arena is multidimensional, depending not only on legal substance and enforcement agencies but also on supporting facilities, social conditions, and cultural factors (Andrew Shandy Utama et al., 2025). Consequently, addressing vigilantism requires more than repressive police action; it necessitates a holistic strategy that enhances public legal awareness and ensures the judicial system delivers prompt and targeted justice.

The urgency of this research is exemplified by events in Lampung Province. A stark case occurred in Natar District, South Lampung Regency, in late July 2025, where a mob attacked and burned the house of a suspected murderer, following the killing of a cooperative employee. This incident resulted in material loss and social tension, starkly illustrating eroding public trust in formal legal channels (Tommy Saputra, 2025). This case suggests that vigilantism in Lampung is not merely a spontaneous emotional reaction but is deeply influenced by the region's pluralistic social fabric, varying levels of legal understanding, and public perceptions of law enforcement efficacy.

Against this backdrop, this study aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of law enforcement responses to vigilantism in Lampung Province. It seeks to bridge a critical gap in understanding by empirically examining the interplay between institutional enforcement actions and the socio-legal drivers of community-led violence. The research is guided by three central questions: 1) What forms does law enforcement take against acts of vigilantism following criminal incidents within the jurisdiction of the Lampung Provincial Police? 2) What obstacles does the Lampung Provincial Police face in enforcing the law against perpetrators of vigilantism? 3) What efforts are being made by the Lampung Provincial Police to prevent and mitigate occurrences of vigilantism?

By employing a mixed-method approach that combines normative and empirical juridical analysis, this research contributes both academically and practically. Theoretically, it enriches the discourse on law enforcement in pluralistic societies by applying and contextualizing frameworks like Soekanto's within the specific phenomenon of vigilantism. Practically, its findings are intended to serve as an evaluation tool for enhancing legal awareness and to formulate actionable policy proposals. Ultimately, the study aspires to foster a more effective synergy between law enforcement authorities and the community, supporting the creation of a security system that is both humane and just, and fully aligned with the principles of a democratic rule of law.

2. Theoretical Background

2.1 The Concept of Vigilantism (Eigenrichting) And Its Legal Status

The core of this study revolves around vigilantism, or *eigenrichting*, defined as the act of individuals or groups taking the law into their own hands to punish perceived wrongdoers, bypassing formal state legal procedures (Canady, 2022; Bungsadewo, 2021). This concept fundamentally contradicts the principle of the *Rechtsstaat* (state based on law), wherein the state holds the exclusive monopoly on legitimate law enforcement and adjudication. Indonesian positive law, as reflected in the 1945 Constitution and laws on judicial power and prosecution (Law No. 48/2009, Law No. 16/2004 jo. No. 11/2021), explicitly vests judicial and prosecutorial authority solely in state institutions. Therefore, vigilantism lacks any legal legitimacy and is positioned as a usurpation of state sovereignty.

From a criminal law perspective, while "vigilantism" is not a discrete offense in the Indonesian Criminal Code (KUHP), its manifestations are criminalized under various articles. Acts constituting vigilantism such as violence, destruction, or murder are qualified as criminal offenses (*strafbaar feit*) under provisions like Article 170 (collective violence), Article 351 (persecution), Article 338/340 (murder), and Article 406 (property damage) (Mayesti & Marpaung, 2025; Hamzah & Sudarto as cited in Jainah & Seftiniara, 2019). The principle of due process of law (Saputra, 2025; Nasution et al., 2024) mandates that only authorized officials can conduct arrests, investigations, and prosecutions, further invalidating any extra-judicial "justice."

2.2 Theoretical Triggers and Social Dynamics of Vigilantism

The literature identifies several interconnected factors that trigger vigilantism, providing a sociological lens to complement the legal analysis:

- 1) Psychological and Emotional Factors: Vigilantism often stems from intense collective emotions anger, resentment, and a desire for immediate retribution triggered by a crime. This emotional surge can override rational judgment and legal awareness (as indicated in the interview findings).
- 2) Low Legal Awareness and Cultural Gaps: A discrepancy exists between community behavior patterns and the idealized norms of formal law. When legal insight is lacking, communities may prioritize substantive, immediate justice based on local norms over formal procedural justice (Yaumi & Ufran, 2022).
- 3) Perceived Ineffectiveness of Formal Law Enforcement: Public distrust is a critical catalyst. Lengthy legal processes, perceived leniency in sentencing, and the fear that perpetrators will quickly re-offend erode confidence in the police and judiciary. This perception of institutional failure leads communities to seek alternative, expedient solutions (Yaumi & Ufran, 2022).

These factors align with criminological insights that view crime and reactions to it as normal social phenomena (Durkheim, as cited in Gayatri, 2024) and highlight how vigilante acts can serve, for the community, as a mechanism to reassert moral boundaries when formal systems are seen as inadequate.

2.3 Framework for Law Enforcement Analysis: Soerjono Soekanto's Theory

The primary theoretical framework for analyzing the enforcement challenges and efforts in this study is Soerjono Soekanto's theory of law enforcement effectiveness (Soekanto as cited in Utama et al., 2025; Cokro Supriyanto et al., 2025). This theory posits that successful law enforcement is not determined by a single factor but by the interaction of five key elements:

- 1) Legal Substance: The quality and clarity of the laws themselves (e.g., the KUHP articles applicable to vigilantism).
- 2) Law Enforcement Apparatus: The capability, integrity, and professionalism of officials (the Lampung Police).
- 3) Facilities and Infrastructure: The adequacy of supporting resources (budget, equipment, technology).
- 4) Societal Factors: The level of public legal awareness, compliance, and cooperation with authorities.
- 5) Cultural Factors: Prevailing social values, traditions, and attitudes towards law and violence.

This framework is directly applicable to the findings. For instance, obstacles such as the spontaneous nature of mobs and witness reluctance (Societal & Cultural Factors) and limitations in evidence collection (Facilities/Apparatus) can be systematically categorized using this model. Conversely, police efforts in counseling (addressing Societal Factors) and involving community leaders (addressing Cultural Factors) represent strategic interventions targeting specific elements of this framework.

2.4 The Role of the Police: Preventive, Preemptive, and Repressive Functions

The discussion underscores the multidimensional role of the police, particularly the Lampung Provincial Police, in addressing vigilantism. This role extends beyond mere repressive action (enforcing the KUHP) to include:

- 1) Preventive Function: Activities aimed at forestalling vigilantism, primarily through legal counseling and education to elevate public legal awareness (Rahim et al., 2025).
- 2) Preemptive Function: Proactive measures to reduce tension and prevent escalation, such as engaging community and religious leaders to mediate and guide public sentiment.
- 3) Repressive Function: The application of sanctions after an offense has occurred, involving investigation, arrest, and prosecution of vigilante perpetrators to uphold the law and provide deterrence (Hanik & Wahidah, 2025).

This tripartite approach reflects a comprehensive strategy to not only punish but also prevent vigilantism by strengthening the legitimacy of formal institutions and addressing its root causes, as suggested by the integrated challenges identified in Soekanto's model. This theoretical background sets the stage for analyzing the specific forms, obstacles, and efforts related to law enforcement against vigilantism in the subsequent discussion.

3. Methods

3.1 Research Design

This research adopted a qualitative descriptive design with a case study focus on the Lampung Provincial Police. The qualitative approach was chosen to explore the complexities, perceptions, and lived experiences of both law enforcement officials and community members regarding vigilantism. The case study design allowed for an in-depth examination of the specific context, policies, and practices of Polda Lampung in handling this social-legal issue.

3.2 Data Types and Sources

Data were collected from primary and secondary sources, categorized as follows:

- 1) Primary Data, in-depth Interviews conducted with key informants selected using purposive sampling. The informants were:
 - a. Community Members (n=3): Suyatni (MSME actor), Heru (security officer), and Dimas (printing service worker), who provided firsthand witness accounts of vigilantism incidents.
 - b. Law Enforcement Officials (n=2): Brigpol Chalvindo Khadaffi, S.H. (Police Investigator) and IPDA Heri Suprpto, S.E. (Pamin 4 Sub-division of Community Development/Ditbinmas, Polda Lampung), who offered insights into enforcement procedures, challenges, and strategic efforts.
 - c. Academic Expert (n=1): Dr. Benny Limantara, S.H., M.H., a criminal law lecturer, who provided a normative and theoretical perspective on vigilantism and law enforcement.
- 2) Secondary Data: Consisted of documentary materials used to support and triangulate primary findings:
 - a. Legal Documents: The Indonesian Criminal Code (KUHP), Criminal Procedure Code (KUHAP), the 1945 Constitution, Law on Judicial Power, Law on Prosecution, and related regulations.
 - b. Academic Literature: Books, journal articles, and theses relevant to vigilantism, criminal law, and law enforcement theory (e.g., works by Soerjono Soekanto, Moeljatno).
 - c. Media Reports: News articles documenting specific incidents, such as the case in Natar District, South Lampung, covered by [detik.com](https://www.detik.com) on August 1, 2025.

3.3 Data Collection Techniques

Data were gathered through the following techniques:

- 1) Structured and Semi-Structured Interviews: Interviews with community members explored their experiences, perceptions of police response, and understanding of the law. Interviews with police officials and the academic expert focused on operational procedures, identified obstacles, strategic efforts, and normative evaluations. Interview guides were tailored to each informant group based on the research questions.
- 2) Document Study: A comprehensive review of secondary data was conducted to establish the legal framework, theoretical foundation, and factual context of vigilantism cases in Lampung.

3.4 Data Analysis Technique

The collected data were analyzed using qualitative juridical analysis. This technique involves interpreting empirical findings (from interviews) within the framework of applicable legal norms and theories. The process consisted of:

- 1) Data Reduction: Transcribing, summarizing, and coding interview data and documents to identify key themes related to forms of enforcement, obstacles, and efforts.
- 2) Data Display: Organizing the reduced data into narrative descriptions and analytical matrices to systematically present findings according to each research question.
- 3) Conclusion Drawing and Verification: Interpreting the displayed data to draw substantiated conclusions. This involved:
 - a. Normative Analysis: Assessing whether field practices align with legal principles (e.g., *due process of law*, equality before the law).
 - b. Thematic Analysis: Identifying recurring patterns in the challenges faced by police (e.g., spontaneity of mobs, evidentiary issues) and the strategies employed (preventive, preemptive, repressive).
 - c. Triangulation: Cross-verifying information from different sources (e.g., comparing community perceptions with police statements and media reports) to ensure the validity and reliability of the findings.

This methodological approach ensured a rigorous investigation that bridges legal doctrine with on-the-ground realities, providing a solid empirical basis for the study's conclusions and recommendations.

4. Results and Discussion

4.1 Forms of Law Enforcement Against Vigilantism

Law enforcement against vigilantism in Lampung is operationalized through a repressive legal mechanism based on the Criminal Code (KUHP) and the Criminal Procedure Code (KUHAP). The police process acts of mob violence, persecution, property damage, or murder resulting from vigilantism under relevant articles such as Article 170 (collective violence), Article 351 (persecution), Article 338/340 (murder), and Article 406 (property damage). This enforcement embodies the principles of *due process of law* and equality before the law, where perpetrators are processed regardless of their status or the initial crime that triggered the vigilante action (Brigpol Chalvindo Khadaffi, S.H., personal interview).

Field findings indicate that law enforcement is often reactive. Interviews with community members a micro-entrepreneur (Mrs. Suyatni), a security officer (Mr. Heru), and a printing service worker (Mr. Dimas) reveal a common pattern: police typically arrive *after* the violent act has peaked. Their presence is crucial to "stop further actions and secure the perpetrators," but is perceived as ineffective in preventing the initial violence due to delayed response times. This latency reinforces public perception that self-help is necessary for immediate security, thereby eroding institutional trust.

Beyond repressive action, preventive and preemptive forms are also recognized as integral to law enforcement. A criminal law lecturer, Dr. Benny Limantara, S.H., M.H., emphasized that effective enforcement requires "active presence in the community, routine patrols in vulnerable areas, and a community-based policing approach" to build trust and deterrence proactively. This aligns with the police's stated strategy of integrating repressive, preventive, and preemptive functions.

Table 1 synthesizes the key perspectives on the forms of law enforcement from various stakeholders, highlighting the gap between normative procedure and field reality.

Table 1. Stakeholder Perspectives on Forms of Law Enforcement Against Vigilantism

Stakeholder	Role/Perspective	Perceived Form of Enforcement	Key Challenge Identified
Community Members (Mrs. Suyatni, Mr. Heru, Mr. Dimas)	Witnesses/Victims of local vigilantism	Reactive & Repressive: Police arrive post-violence to secure perpetrators and restore order.	Slow response time; inability to prevent initial violence; low public satisfaction.
Police Practitioner (Brigpol Chalvindo Khadaffi, S.H.)	Law enforcement officer	Procedural & Discretionary: Enforcement based on KUHP/KUHAP, with limited discretion to prevent escalation.	Balancing firm legal action with maintaining public order in volatile situations.
Academic Expert (Dr. Benny Limantara, S.H., M.H.)	Criminal law scholar	Integrated: Must combine repressive (legal sanctions), preventive (patrols, trust-building), and preemptive (community engagement) forms.	Overcoming the gap between legal authority and socio-cultural acceptance of state monopoly on force.

Source: Processed interview data (2025)

4.2 Obstacles in Law Enforcement

The study identifies that the primary barriers are not normative but sociological, cultural, and operational, effectively illustrating Soerjono Soekanto's law enforcement factors in practice.

- 1) Societal and Cultural Factors (Community & Cultural Elements): The most significant obstacles originate from the community. Vigilantism is often spontaneous and collective, triggered by "uncontrollable mass emotions" (Community Members, personal interview). This collective nature, coupled with strong social solidarity, makes witness identification and evidence collection exceedingly difficult. As Dr. Limantara noted, "the difficulty of identifying perpetrators in the crowd, the lack of witnesses willing to give evidence, and strong social pressure" often shield perpetrators from accountability. Furthermore, a prevailing cultural assumption justifies vigilantism as a "normal reaction" to crime, reflecting low legal awareness.
- 2) Law Enforcement Apparatus and Facility Factors: Operational limitations hinder effective response. Brigpol Chalvindo Khadaffi pointed to "the limitations of evidence, such as the lack of documentation and independent witnesses." The spontaneous nature of incidents means they often conclude before police can gather sufficient forensic or testimonial evidence for prosecution.

3) Legal Substance Factor: While adequate laws exist, their application is undermined by the factors above. Dr. Limantara concluded that the obstacle "does not lie in the lack of regulations, but in the effectiveness of its implementation in the field."

These obstacles create a vicious cycle: perceived police ineffectiveness (slow response, weak evidence) fuels public distrust, which in turn motivates vigilantism and community non-cooperation, further crippling enforcement.

4.3 Efforts to Overcome Vigilantism

The Lampung Provincial Police employ a tripartite strategy Preventive, Preemptive, and Repressive to break this cycle, as detailed by IPDA Heri Suprpto, S.E., of the Directorate of Community Development (Ditbinmas).

- 1) Preventive Efforts: These aim to build long-term legal awareness and deterrence. The primary tool is legal counseling and socialization conducted by Ditbinmas to educate the public on the legal consequences of vigilantism and channel conflict resolution through formal mechanisms.
- 2) Preemptive Efforts: These focus on early intervention to defuse tensions. The police proactively engage community leaders, religious figures, and traditional leaders. These influencers wield significant moral authority to calm collective emotions and guide communities toward lawful conduct when crimes occur, preventing escalation into mob violence.
- 3) Repressive Efforts: When vigilantism occurs, the police take firm and measurable legal action to process perpetrators according to the law. This serves to uphold justice, provide a deterrent effect, and reaffirm the state's authority. Additionally, efforts to improve rapid response through Bhabinkamtibmas (community police officers) and better coordination with local officials are underway.

Table 2 summarizes this strategic framework and its alignment with Soekanto's theory.
Table 2. Police Efforts to Overcome Vigilantism and Their Theoretical Alignment

Strategy Type	Specific Efforts	Target of Intervention	Alignment with Soekanto's Law Enforcement Factor
Preventive	Legal counseling, public education, socialization of laws.	Public legal awareness and knowledge.	Societal Factor (Increasing compliance), Cultural Factor (Shifting norms).
Preemptive	Involvement of community/religious/traditional leaders; early mediation; intelligence gathering.	Social dynamics and potential triggers for mass emotion.	Cultural Factor (Leveraging existing authority), Societal Factor (Utilizing social structures).
Repressive	Investigation, arrest, and prosecution under KUHP articles (170, 351, 338, etc.).	Perpetrators of vigilante violence; general deterrence.	Law Enforcement Apparatus Factor (Demonstrating capability), Legal Substance

Strategy Type	Specific Efforts	Target of Intervention	Alignment with Soekanto's Law Enforcement Factor
			Factor (Applying the law).
Supporting Operational	Enhancing rapid response (Bhabinkamtibmas); inter-agency coordination.	Timeliness and effectiveness of field response.	Facility & Infrastructure Factor (Optimizing resources and procedures).

Source: Processed from interview with IPDA Heri Suprpto and policy analysis (2025)

4.4 Discussion

4.4.1 Forms of law enforcement against acts of vigilantism that occur in the community after the occurrence of criminal acts in the jurisdiction of the Lampung Provincial Regional Police

Based on the results of interviews with Mrs. Suyatni as a Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) actor, Pak Heru as a security officer, and Pak Dimas who works in the printing service sector, it is known that vigilantism still often occurs in the community. The three sources stated that they had witnessed firsthand the act of vigilante against someone suspected of committing a criminal act, especially theft. Although they occurred at different times and places, these events showed a relatively similar pattern of events, starting with the arrest of the perpetrators by residents, then developing into acts of violence due to uncontrollable mass emotions.

According to the sources, these acts of violence generally occur spontaneously as a reaction to suspected criminal acts, without any prior planning. The increasing number of residents gathered at the scene encouraged the formation of collective emotions, so the situation quickly turned anarchic. One of the main factors that triggered these actions was the accumulation of resentment and insecurity of the community due to the rampant crime in their environment. This condition caused the anger that had been pent-up to finally be overflowed when the perpetrator was successfully arrested.

When asked why the public prefers to do vigilante actions themselves rather than handing over the perpetrators to law enforcement officials, the three speakers gave relatively similar views. The public considers that the legal process tends to be slow and lacks certainty. There are fears that the perpetrators will soon be released and return to committing crimes. This perception encourages the public to "punish" the perpetrator directly in the hope that it can have a deterrent effect. Although there was no formal command or invitation, the emotional screams of some residents indirectly acted as a provocation that worsened the situation.

Regarding the police response, the speakers said that the officers generally came after the act of violence occurred. The presence of the police is considered to be able to stop further actions and secure the perpetrators, but it is not fully effective in preventing persecution. The delay in response reinforces the perception of the public that they need to act alone to maintain environmental safety. As a result, the level of public satisfaction with the handling of the police is still relatively low, especially in terms of speed and preventive presence after the occurrence of criminal acts.

In terms of understanding the law, the speakers admitted that some people have not realized that acts of violence against criminals are criminal acts. People generally only

understand that these acts are not appropriate to be done, without knowing the legal consequences that can arise. This low legal awareness is one of the main factors for the occurrence of vigilantism, because people prioritize a sense of justice according to their own judgment rather than compliance with legal procedures. Therefore, the speakers agreed that legal education and socialization are very necessary to prevent vigilante acts.

Based on the results of the interview with Mr. Dr. Benny Limantara, S.H., M.H., as a criminal law lecturer, it is emphasized that vigilantism is a serious violation of the criminal law because the community has taken over the authority of the state in enforcing the law. Normatively, the act of vigilante itself has a clear basis for enforcement in the Criminal Code, including through Article 170 of the Criminal Code, Article 351 of the Criminal Code, and Article 351 of the Criminal Code.

338 of the Criminal Code, depending on the consequences caused. Repressive law enforcement is needed to provide legal certainty and deterrent effects, as well as restore the law enforcement function to the state.

In addition to repressive action, law enforcement against vigilantism must also be carried out preventively. The police have a strategic role in preventing vigilante acts through active presence in the community, routine patrols in vulnerable areas, community-based policing approaches, and increased public trust. This is in line with the theory of law enforcement by Soerjono Soekanto, who states that community factors and legal culture greatly influence the success of law enforcement.

Based on the results of an interview with Brigpol Chalvindo Khadaffi, S.H., emphasized that the police view vigilantism as an act that is contrary to the law and is still processed in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations. Law enforcement is carried out based on the principle of equality before the law, taking into account evidence and facts in the field. Under certain circumstances, the police may exercise discretion on a limited basis to maintain public order and prevent the escalation of conflicts, without eliminating the unlawful nature of such actions.

4.4.2 Obstacles Faced by The Lampung Provincial Regional Police in Enforcing The Law Against The Perpetrators of Vigilantism

Based on the view of Mr. Dr. Benny Limantara, normatively the Criminal Procedure Code has given adequate authority to the police to act quickly after a criminal act occurs, including maintaining security, securing perpetrators, and controlling the masses. Therefore, the obstacle to law enforcement against vigilantism in the jurisdiction of the Lampung Police does not lie in the lack of regulations, but in the effectiveness of its implementation in the field.

The main obstacles are sociological and situational, such as the difficulty of identifying perpetrators in the crowd, the lack of witnesses willing to give evidence, and the strong social pressure and solidarity between citizens. This condition causes not all vigilantism perpetrators to be held criminally accountable.

This view is in line with the statement of Brigpol Chalvindo Khadaffi, S.H., who stated that acts of vigilantism generally occur spontaneously and are triggered by the collective emotions of the community after the occurrence of a criminal act. The uncondusive psychological situation makes the community act together without considering the legal consequences, even before the police arrive at the scene.

In addition, the limitations of evidence, such as the lack of documentation and independent witnesses, also hampered the evidentiary process. This obstacle is exacerbated by the growing assumption in society that vigilante acts are justified in

certain situations, reflecting low legal awareness and weak support for formal law enforcement processes. Thus, the obstacles to law enforcement against vigilantism are more influenced by social, cultural, and technical factors in the field, so that the firmness of the apparatus is needed accompanied by increasing public legal awareness to ensure the upholding of the principles of the rule of law.

4.4.3 Efforts made by the Lampung Provincial Regional Police in overcoming occurrence Actions vigilantism

Based on Results interview with Mr. Heri Suprpto, S.E., IPDA, as Pamin 4 Sub-divisions of the Directorate of Community Development (Ditbinmas) of the Lampung Police, known that The Lampung Provincial Police has made various strategic and sustainable efforts in order to prevent and overcome the occurrence of vigilantism in the community. The efforts are designed not only to respond to events that have occurred, but also to build legal awareness community preventively so that the tendency of vigilante actions can be minimized from an early age. One of the main efforts made is preventive approach through coaching and counseling to the community.

IPDA Heri Suprpto explained that the Ditbinmas actively carries out legal counseling, socialization of laws and regulations, and education about the legal consequences and social impact of actions vigilantism. Through this activity, the community is directed to resolve legal problems through legal mechanisms in accordance with the principles of the rule of law, while understanding the risks of criminal sanctions and the long-term impact on environmental order and security.

In addition to the preventive approach, the Lampung Regional Police also applies a preemptive approach by involving community leaders, religious leaders, and traditional leaders. According to IPDA Heri Suprpto, the involvement of informal figures is strategic because it has a strong moral and social influence, so that the message of kamtibmas and legal awareness can be conveyed more effectively. The presence of these figures is expected to be able to reduce potential conflicts and prevent emotional mass reactions when criminal acts occur.

If an act of vigilantism has occurred, the police will continue to make decisive and measurable repressive efforts. IPDA Heri Suprpto emphasized that the act of vigilante itself is an unjustifiable violation of the law, so the perpetrators are processed in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations. The enforcement of this law aims to uphold justice, provide a deterrent effect, and affirm the presence of the state in maintaining public order and protecting the human rights of citizens. In addition, the Lampung Regional Police improves the speed and quality of responses to community reports through optimizing the role of Bhabinkamtibmas and coordinating with village officials, sub-districts, and community protection units. With the implementation of preventive, preemptive, and repressive efforts in a balanced manner, the Lampung Provincial Police is committed to creating a conducive kamtibmas situation and increasing public trust in the police institution.

5. Conclusion

Law enforcement against vigilantism in the area of the Lampung Provincial Regional Police is carried out through criminal law mechanisms in accordance with the Criminal Code and the Criminal Code by applying the principles of due process of law and equality before the law. The police carried out security, investigation, and investigation of the perpetrators regardless of status, accompanied by the presence of officers at the scene of

the incident, enforcement, and giving appeals to the public. However, law enforcement still faces obstacles in the form of spontaneous and group actions, difficulties in identifying perpetrators, lack of witnesses and evidence, and strong public assumption that vigilante alone is a natural reaction. The factor of social solidarity and family settlement also weakens the effectiveness of law enforcement. To overcome this, the Police implement preventive, preemptive, and repressive efforts through legal counseling, involvement of community and religious leaders, increasing rapid responses, and strict enforcement in accordance with laws and regulations to prevent the practice of vigilantism and increase public trust in law enforcement officials.

The suggestion conveyed is that the public is expected to increase legal awareness by not committing acts of vigilantism and entrusting the legal process to the police. The Lampung Provincial Police needs to optimize prevention efforts and enforce the law firmly, professionally, and consistently. The government is expected to support law enforcement through policy strengthening, providing infrastructure, and improving education and legal socialization in a sustainable manner.

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