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Topic: Strengthening Legal Frameworks for Combating Human Trafficking and Enhancing Protection of Women and Children

Legal Analysis of Legal Protection for Women Involved in Narcotics Distribution

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Abstract. *Women often become victims of human trafficking and victims of human exploitation, which results in women also often being exploited in narcotics distribution networks, even though they are victims of narcotics distribution, women who face the law often receive heavy sentences, so that the existing sentences often harm women's lives. The type of legal research used is non-doctrinal. Based on the study conducted, it can be seen that in reality, there are facts that law enforcement officers, especially the police, have detained women who are perpetrators of drug crimes. This is done because the police as law enforcement officers consider the crime committed to be a crime that is punishable by seven (7) years in prison. Such reasons are indeed justified. However, it should be noted that women becoming drug couriers is an act that they have done for the first time (not recidivists) and if examined further they are not part of a drug distribution network but rather a group of children whose labor is used to help distribute drugs. The obstacles to legal protection for women who fall into the circle of drug distribution are the facilities and infrastructure that are currently available are still very lacking, the lack of investigative personnel is also one of the obstacles or constraints in the implementation of law enforcement, drug transactions are carried out secretly so that they are difficult to track or net by the police using various modus operandi, Producers, Dealers, Distributors/couriers, Users are currently very careful in carrying out their actions so that police officers find it difficult to go undercover, and the readiness of officers at the time of arrest must also be prepared so as not to become an obstacle in carrying out their duties.*

Keywords: *Distribution; Law; Narcotics; Women.*

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1. Introduction

The problem of narcotics and illegal drugs, often abbreviated as narcotics, is becoming increasingly unstoppable. According to data presented by the Indonesian National Police (Polri), the number of drug abuse cases in December 2023 reached 2,464 cases, then in January 2024 it became 3,874 cases. Based on this data, it can be seen that there was an increase of 57% from 2023 to 2024. Furthermore, the Indonesian National Police also showed that in December 2023 there were 3,269 suspects, which then became 5,148 suspects in January 2024.¹

The types of drugs used varied with varying amounts, in December 2023 the use of methamphetamine was 691,964.2 grams, the use of marijuana was 309,589.46 grams, the use of XTC was 141,381.98 grams, and the use of gorilla tobacco was 114,997.92 grams. Drug use in January 2024 changed, namely the use of methamphetamine became 394,435.6 grams, the use of marijuana became 519,463.59 grams, the use of XTC became 232,147.61 grams, and the use of gorilla tobacco became 5,458.7 grams. Based on the existing data, it can be seen that the use of marijuana and XTC increased throughout December 2023 to January 2024, marijuana use increased by 68% while XTC use increased by 64%.²

The increasing number of cases, suspects, and types of drugs used indicates that Indonesia is experiencing a drug emergency. This aligns with the view of the Chairman of the Indonesian People's Consultative Assembly, Bambang Soesatyo, who stated that "In ASEAN, Indonesia is the country with the highest rate of drug transactions. Drug use is not only found in urban areas but has also spread to rural areas, making Indonesia a drug emergency."³

Drug abuse in Indonesia has reached alarming levels. Further evidence suggests that 50% of correctional facility inmates are involved in drug-related crimes. Crime news in both print and electronic media is filled with stories about drug abuse. Drug victims span all levels of society, from students, artists, housewives, traders, public transportation drivers, street children, workers, and so on. Drugs are easily obtained, and can even be homemade, making them difficult to detect. Illegal drug factories have even been discovered in Indonesia.⁴

¹Indonesian National Police, January 2024 Monthly Report, Drug Investigation Directorate and Regional Police, accessed through <https://data.polri.go.id/dataset/6b8068cb-425d-4d49-bc00-3d38e57e703f/resource/ceb76c99-8cab-4cc0-8c79-88efb0cb233c/download/lapbul-januari24-ttd-1.pdf>, on April 15, 2024.

²Loc, cit.



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³National Police Criminal Information Center, Indonesia is in a Drug Emergency Phase, accessed via https://pusiknas.polri.go.id/detail_artikel/indonesia_berada_di_fase_darurat_narkoba, on May 2, 2024.

⁴Fransiska Novita Eleanora, "The Dangers of Drug Abuse and Efforts to Prevent and Overcome It (A Theoretical Review)", Jurnal Hukum, Vol XXV, No. 1, 2011, p. 440.

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Drugs are a serious problem, and their impact can also be seen. Drug use outside of medical indications, without a doctor's instructions or prescription, and its use is pathological (causing disorders) and creates obstacles in activities at home, school or campus, the workplace, and social environments. Drug dependence results from substance abuse accompanied by tolerance (increasingly high doses) and withdrawal symptoms, which are characterized by an irresistible desire, a tendency to increase the dose, and physical and psychological dependence. Drugs have very broad negative impacts, including physical, psychological, economic, social, cultural, defense, and security, and so on. If drug abuse is not properly anticipated, it will damage the nation and state.⁵

The status of drugs as a serious crime against humanity makes the drug eradication system difficult to take for granted. All elements involved in the vicious cycle of drug crime deserve serious attention from all law enforcement agencies and the public. This includes attention to drug users and abusers. Drug abusers and users are one of the parties contributing to the high rate of drug trafficking in this country. This can be viewed both as the abusers or users who create a need for drugs in society, thus opening up the drug trade market into Indonesia, and as the involvement of drug abusers or users who transform into a medium for drug distribution in society.

Various definitions of victims have been put forward by experts and are sourced from international conventions that discuss victims, some of which are as follows:

1. According to Arif Gosita, victims are those who suffer physically and mentally as a result of the actions of other people who seek to fulfill their own or other people's interests which conflict with the human rights of the injured party.⁶
2. Muladi, victims are people who, individually or collectively, have suffered harm, including physical or mental harm, emotional harm, economic harm, or substantial impairment of their fundamental rights, through acts or commissions that violate criminal laws in each country, including abuse of power.⁷

⁵*Loc, cit.*

⁶Arif Gosita, *Problems of Crime Victims*. Akademika Pressindo. Jakarta, 1993, p. 63.

⁷Muladi, *Human Rights, Politics and the Criminal Justice System*, Diponegoro University Publishing Agency, Semarang 1997, p. 108.

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Meanwhile, according to Article 1 paragraph (2) Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 13 of 2006 concerning Protection of Witnesses and Victims defines a victim as a person who experiences physical or mental suffering and/or economic loss as a result of a crime. Furthermore, according to Government Regulation Number 7 of 2018 concerning Protection of Victims, A victim is a person who experiences physical or mental suffering and/or economic loss as a result of a crime. Based on the various explanations above, it is clear that the victim is a party who suffers physically and mentally as a result of the actions of others who commit a crime seeking to fulfill their own or others' interests that conflict with the interests of the injured party's human rights. The position of material and non-material losses for drug abusers or drug users in this case is not due to the criminal acts committed by others, but rather due to their own actions. In fact, drug users often become drug dealers, this shows how broad the position of drug users is, which is not only seen as victims.

According to religious teachings, it is very clear that using drugs is prohibited. The Qur'an itself explains in (Surah al-A'rof: 157) which means "And makes lawful for them all good things and prohibits for them all evil things" (QS. Al-A'rof: 157). In Surah Al Baqarah it is also explained, Allah says "And do not throw yourselves into destruction" (QS. Al Baqarah: 195). A scholar also explains that Ibn Taimiyah rahimahullah said, "Drugs are the same as intoxicants that are forbidden based on the consensus of scholars. Even every substance that can eliminate reason is forbidden to be consumed even if it is not intoxicating." Thus, anything that can damage the health of both the mind and soul of a human being is forbidden. In addition, drugs can damage the morals of a human being who can violate social norms in the social order. Not only are drugs damaging psychologically and socially, they can also cause economic damage. When drug users consume these substances, they become addicted and potentially do anything to obtain and purchase them. We see countless examples of drug users sacrificing their possessions, selling, and pawning everything they own to obtain these dangerous substances.

So it can be said that drugs in the Islamic perspective are something that is not permitted and forbidden, because they damage the social situation of human life in terms of themselves as individuals (psychological), aspects of individuals in society (social) and other aspects such as damage to the economic aspect, damage in these aspects can cause a human being to go towards destruction.⁸

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Women are a very important element of the nation, this is because women play an important role in determining the development of the nation's next generation. The reality of life in society shows that women are often involved in drug trafficking. The results of the investigation will serve as initial evidence as the basis for prosecution, making the investigation process a legal process that deserves careful attention. Investigations with the same procedures are also carried out for female suspects. Based on data from the National Narcotics Agency (BNN), from 2018 to 2022, 4,297 women were recorded as involved in the illicit drug trafficking in Indonesia. This number is alarming due to the increasing level of crime committed by women. Regarding the involvement of women in drug trafficking in Indonesia, in reality, women who are trapped in the vortex of drug trafficking are often due to economic pressures. However, in law enforcement, the punishment for female drug offenders is not considered fair.⁹

2. Research Methods

The type of legal research used is non-doctrinal. In this non-doctrinal legal research, law is conceptualized as a manifestation of the symbolic meanings of social actors as seen in their interactions. The true reality of life does not exist in the empirical realm, which is also the realm of observation, and does not appear in the form of objectively patterned and structured behavior (let alone normative) and therefore can be measured to produce quantitative data. The reality of life actually exists only in the realm of meaning, which appears in the form of symbols that can only be understood after being interpreted. Such realities cannot be easily "captured" through external observation and measurement. These realities can only be "captured" through experience and internal experiences that produce a complete picture of understanding.¹⁰

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Women in the Snare of Drug Trafficking

The transformation of drug abusers or users into couriers, dealers, and suppliers demonstrates the shift in the status of drug abusers or users from victims to

⁸Then Tresna Jaya, Drugs in an Islamic Perspective, accessed through <https://ntb.bnn.go.id/narkoba-dalam-perspektif-islam/#:~:text=So%20it%20can%20be%20said%20that%20drugs,like%20damage%20in%20their%20economic%2C>, on May 12, 2024.

⁹[https://www. women in the drug business](https://www.women in the drug business), accessed on November 12, 2025.

¹⁰Soetandyo Wignjosoebroto, Law, Paradigm, Method, and the Dynamics of the Problem, HUMA, Jakarta, 2002, p. 198.

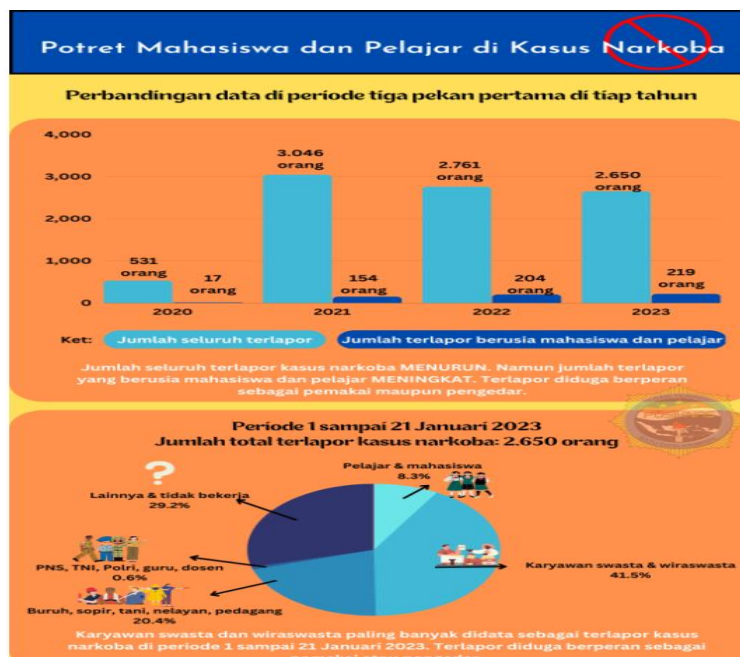
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perpetrators in the drug crime system. According to the National Police's National Crime Information Center, the number of students and college students involved as drug abusers or user. The number of people who later became dealers increased from 2023 to 2024. In December 2023, there were 641 teenagers aged 19 to 24 involved as users, 200 teenagers were also involved in drug trafficking rings to get money to buy drugs for personal consumption. Then, this number increased in January 2024, in January 2024 the number of teenagers. Which 1,058 people were involved in drug cases, while 345 teenagers were users and involved in drug trafficking rings.¹¹

Data on the number of teenagers involved in drug cases

(Source: National Police Criminal Information Center)



¹¹National Police Criminal Information Center, Indonesia is in a Drug Emergency Phase, accessed via https://pusiknas.polri.go.id/detail_artikel/indonesia_berada_di_fase_darurat_narkoba, on May 2, 2024. See also: National Police Criminal Information Center, Beware, More and More Students and Pupils Are Getting Caught Up in Drug Cases, accessed via https://pusiknas.polri.go.id/detail_artikel/waspada_makin_banyak_mahasiswa_dan_pelajar_terjerat_kasus_narkoba, on May 3, 2024.

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The involvement of teenagers as both users and perpetrators of drug trafficking can be seen in the drug case that ensnared a teenager with the initials MS, which was uncovered by the Manado Police, North Sulawesi, on Sunday, January 22, 2023. The arrest began after a report was received from residents in Ternate Baru Village, Manado. From the arrest, it was discovered that MS was proven to be in possession of 30.09 grams of methamphetamine, the perpetrator was an abuser who, because he needed money to buy methamphetamine to meet his needs for methamphetamine addiction, MS then became a drug dealer. Modusperpetrator, which involves packaging methamphetamine in small packages containing approximately 0.2 grams, then placing them in designated locations for buyers to pick up. Therefore, the perpetrator and the buyers never meet. The perpetrator also admitted to distributing 15 grams of methamphetamine using the same method on February 5, 2024, before being arrested. The perpetrator claimed to have obtained the methamphetamine from someone in Jakarta.¹²

Based on the explanation above, it is clear that drug abusers or users also have a high potential to become drug dealers, which can have serious consequences for the future of the nation and state. There is no definition of drug users in the law. Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics, which was later partially updated by the Government Regulation in Lieu of Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 2 of 2022 concerning Job Creation. The existing term is only narcotics abuser as referred to in Article 1 paragraph (15) of Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics, which states that "A drug abuser is a person who uses narcotics without the right or against the law." Meanwhile, the distribution of narcotics is regulated in Article 1 paragraph (6) Republic of Indonesia Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics states that "Illegal Trafficking of Narcotics and Narcotics Precursors is any activity or series of activities carried out without rights or against the law which is determined as a criminal act of Narcotics and Narcotics Precursors. Narcotics".

Based on provisions of Article 1 Article (15) of the Republic of Indonesia Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics, it can be concluded that the elements of parties who can be called parties who abuse narcotics are:

¹²See also: National Police Criminal Information Center, Beware, More and More Students and Pupils Are Getting Caught Up in Drug Cases, accessed via https://pusiknas.polri.go.id/detail_artikel/waspada_makin_banyak_mahasiswa_dan_pelajar_terjerat_kasus_narkoba, on May 3, 2024. See also: Antara News North Sulawesi, The Narcotics Directorate arrested a dealer of 30.09 grams of crystal methamphetamine in Manado., accessed through <https://manado.antaranews.com/berita/247089/ditresnarkoba-tangkap-pengedar-sabu-3009-gram-di-manado>, on May 12, 2024.

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- a) People who use narcotics;
- b) Unlawfully or illegally.

Based on these provisions, it can be seen that a person who consciously and without pressure, unlawfully or without the right to use narcotics, without the right or unlawfully in this case means not in accordance with legal provisions and without permission uses narcotics for actions prohibited by The law, in this case, is consumed for non-medical needs and without health supervision or a prescription from a legitimate health institution. The state of using narcotics without permission is considered a prohibited act or an act that violates the law or *wederrechtelijk*, because it is dangerous to human health and safety. Drug abusers or users in this case cannot be completely said to be victims, this is because their position is free from threats, pressure, or deception from other parties when drug users use drugs illegally, the main cause is the influence of the environment outside themselves.

Sigmund Freud, from a psychoanalytic perspective, has his own view of what makes a criminal. An imbalance in the relationship between the Id (human's basic natural needs), the Ego, and the Superego weakens humans and, consequently, makes them more likely to engage in deviant behavior or crime. Freud stated that deviance results from excessive guilt as a result of an overly exaggerated superego. People with an overly exaggerated superego may feel guilty for no reason and seek punishment; their way of coping with this guilt is by committing crimes. Crimes are committed to appease the superego because they subconsciously desire punishment to alleviate their guilt. Furthermore, Freud also explained crime from the "pleasure principle." Humans have a biological basis that is driven by urges and works to achieve satisfaction (the pleasure principle). This includes the desire for food, sex, and survival, which are controlled by the Id. Freud believed that if these desires cannot be obtained legally or in accordance with social rules, people will instinctively seek to do so illegally. In reality, the moral understanding of right and wrong instilled since childhood should function as a superego that balances and controls the Id. However, if moral understanding is lacking and the superego is not fully developed, the result can be that the child grows into an individual who is less able to control the urges of the Id, and is willing to do anything to achieve what he needs. According to this view, crime is not the result of a criminal personality, but of a weakness of the ego. An ego that is unable to bridge the needs of the superego and the id will be weak and make humans vulnerable to deviant behavior. Meanwhile, according to Albert Bandura, a sociologist, explains that criminal behavior is the result of a psychological learning process, the mechanism of which is obtained through exposure to criminal behavior committed by those

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around him, then there is repeated exposure accompanied by reinforcement or rewards; thus increasingly supporting people to want to imitate the criminal behavior they observe. Based on the views of the two psychological philosophers above, it is clear that criminal behavior is the result of damage to social systems and structures. In the Bioecological approach by Urie Brofenbrenner, there is an interaction of personal factors (the individual himself, including aspects of personality, trauma, biological aspects) with factors of the surrounding social system. This means that criminal behavior will emerge as an interaction between personal factors and environmental factors that must be identified. Based on this perspective, it is clear that criminal acts occur when a person's personality, including their psychological state, is damaged by trauma and psychological shock stemming from social experiences and a damaged environment with its various negative impacts. This understanding clearly demonstrates that while the environment can influence a person, it is not totally so. This is due to the individual's ability to control themselves intellectually, spiritually, and emotionally. These intellectual and emotional aspects provide the logical basis for choosing whether or not to commit a crime.¹³ Self-control against unlawful acts or criminal acts or *wederrechtelijk*, can be prevented through adherence to prevailing norms in society, including religious norms, moral norms, norms of decency, and legal norms. Norms regulate the relationship between humans and humans and the relationship between humans and God. Moral norms regulate a person's behavior or actions in terms of personal morals and ethics. Norms of politeness regulate all forms of actions that are considered polite and impolite in society, and legal norms regulate actions that contain commands and prohibitions implemented by the government or legal institutions. These four social norms have the following functions: regulate behavior in social life, create social order and stability, control behavior and prevent violations of norms, form the social identity of individuals and groups, increase solidarity and social relations between members of society, direct social change in accordance with the development of society, and respect individual freedom by maintaining a balance between freedom and interest together.¹⁴ These norms were born primordially from the noble values of Indonesian society, while the noble values of Indonesian society were born from the primordial culture, traditions, and customs of Indonesian society, which were then crystallized in Pancasila. Philosophically, the noble values that then manifested into social norms are essentially the basic philosophy of the Indonesian nation that provides guidance when carrying out national and state life in Indonesia. The existence of drug abuse has clearly deviated far from the basic

¹³Margaretha, Why Do People Commit Crimes?, accessed via https://psikologi.unair.ac.id/en_US/artikel-mengapa-orang-melakukan-kejahatan/, on May 12, 2024.

¹⁴Rahmah Ningsih, Citizenship Education, Esa Unggul University, Jakarta, 2019, pp. 6-9.



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philosophy of national and state life, so it is also clearly far from the mandate of current social norms. In other words, drug users have shown that they are no longer Indonesian citizens with character and noble Pancasila culture.

The distribution of narcotics involving women varies from 2017 to 2021. In 2017, the number of narcotics crimes in Padang City was 77 cases, of which 9 were housewives, 1 was a female student, and 1 was self-employed, representing 14.28%. In 2018, there were 113 cases, involving 7 were housewives and 3 were self-employed, representing 8.9%. In 2019, there were 88 cases, involving 12 housewives, representing 13.6%. In 2020, there were 105 cases, involving 10 housewives, representing 9.5%. In 2021, from January to July, there were 54 cases, involving 10 housewives, representing 1.85%.¹⁵

Women who come into conflict with the law often face challenges. The state, however, has an obligation to ensure that women receive justice and are free from discrimination in the judicial system. This is often the case, as women often do not receive it at every level of the legal process. Women who come into conflict with the law often face drug cases. Female drug traffickers who are involved in criminal investigations experience pressure from both investigators and other drug trafficking gangs. This is where the role of a legal advocate lies, ensuring the victim feels safe throughout the legal process and ensuring the perpetrator is charged with the most appropriate article. The legal process faced by women is neither easy nor quick. Amidst the bitterness experienced by women in conflict with the law, several regulations have been issued to ensure access to justice and a trial free from discrimination for women and children. This includes the Decree of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court No. 88/KMA/SK/V/2016 concerning the Establishment of a Working Group on Women and Children. Representatives from the working group then attended the Southeast Asia Women Judges Workshop in Bangkok in June 2016, which covered basic concepts of gender, the application of gender equality principles, guidelines for applying a gender perspective when adjudicating cases, and recommendations for participating countries to develop more gender-sensitive justice systems. In Indonesia, a follow-up to the workshop was the Supreme Court's plan to create regulations regarding the handling of women in court.

Until finally on August 4, 2017, the Supreme Court finally ratified Supreme Court Regulation (Perma) No. 03 of 2017 concerning Guidelines for Adjudicating Cases of Women in Conflict with the Law. However, there are no specific regulations governing the treatment of investigators towards female suspects. In reality, the

¹⁵[https://www. women in the drug business](https://www.women in the drug business), accessed on November 12, 2025.

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judiciary is free from discrimination for women and children. Namely with the Decree of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court No. 88 / KMA / SK / V / 2016 concerning the Establishment of a Working Group on Women and Children. Representatives from the working group then attended a workshop on Women Judges in Southeast Asia in Bangkok in June 2016 which included basic concepts on Gender, the application of the principle of gender equality, guidelines for applying a gender perspective when adjudicating cases, and recommendations for participating countries to develop a more gender-sensitive justice system. In Indonesia, the follow-up to the workshop was that the Supreme Court (MA) planned to create regulations regarding the handling of women in court. Until finally on August 4, 2017, the Supreme Court finally ratified Supreme Court Regulation (Perma) No. 03 of 2017 concerning Guidelines for Adjudicating Cases of Women in Conflict with the Law. However, there are no specific regulations governing the treatment of female suspects by investigators. In reality, law enforcement officers, particularly the police, have detained women who have committed drug crimes. This is because the police, as law enforcement officers, consider the crime they committed to be a crime punishable by seven (7) years in prison. This reasoning is certainly justified. However, it should be noted that women who become drug couriers are their first-time offenders (not repeat offenders), and upon further examination, they are not part of a drug distribution network but rather a group of children whose labor is exploited to assist in drug trafficking.

3.2. Legal Protection for Women Involved in Narcotics Trafficking

Legal protection for women involved as drug dealers in Indonesia is regulated in Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics and the Criminal Code. Law enforcement focuses on a balance between punishment for criminal acts and protection of human rights, considering that women are often victims of exploitation, manipulation, or human trafficking by syndicates. The obstacles to legal protection for women caught in the drug trafficking cycle include:¹⁶

- a) Current facilities and infrastructure are still severely lacking. Facilities and infrastructure pose a significant obstacle to providing special protection for women who commit drug crimes. This obstacle stems from the lack of budgetary support for the construction of adequate infrastructure to carry out proportional and accountable investigations into women's cases, such as the inadequate Special Service Room (RPK). As is well known, women who commit

¹⁶Martadius, Philips A. Kana, and Fahmiron, "Legal Protection By Investigators Against Women Dealing With The Law In Narcotic Criminal Actions", UNES Journal of Swara Justisia, Volume 7, Issue 1, 2023, p. 553-554.

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crimes require special treatment during the investigation, prosecution, and trial stages. During the investigation stage, women must be examined in the Special Service Room (RPK), currently known as the Women and Children Protection Unit (PPA). This unit is designed to accommodate and examine women during the investigation process. A special room or unit specifically designed for women who commit crimes, including drug offenses, is essential. Regardless of their position and status in the drug trade, women remain women who lack the special needs and physical limitations, and whose rights are guaranteed by law.

- b) The shortage of investigative personnel is also a barrier or obstacle in law enforcement. Both male and female police personnel significantly impact the implementation of law enforcement protection, given the significant imbalance compared to the vast areas targeted by drug raids.
- c) Drug transactions are carried out secretly so that they are difficult to track or catch by the police by using various modus operandi to deceive the police, such as using this woman as a drug courier.
- d) Producers, dealers, distributors/couriers, and users are now increasingly cautious about their actions, making it difficult for police officers to go undercover. Investigating women as couriers requires specific techniques while still protecting their rights.
- e) Officers' preparedness during arrests must also be ensured to avoid obstacles in their duties. For example, when making an arrest, law enforcement officers are sometimes unaware that a female perpetrator is involved. Furthermore, female officers are sometimes absent during the arrest process. This is essential because if a female perpetrator is identified, a body search will also be conducted by a female officer. Therefore, this can also hinder law enforcement officers' preparation if it is not properly addressed in law enforcement.

The various obstacles faced in law enforcement protection against drug trafficking by women align with the Due Process Model. This due process model strongly upholds the supremacy of law. In criminal cases, no one can be above the law. All

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law enforcement must comply with constitutional requirements and obey the law, and must respect these principles, even if the perpetrator is a woman.¹⁷

4. Conclusion

In reality, there are facts that law enforcement officers, especially the police, have detained women who are perpetrators of drug crimes. This is done because the police as law enforcement officers consider the crime committed to be a crime that is punishable by seven (7) years in prison. Such reasons are indeed justified. However, it should be noted that women becoming drug couriers is an act that they have done for the first time (not recidivists) and if examined further they are not part of a drug distribution network but rather a group of children whose labor is used to help distribute drugs. The obstacles in legal protection for women who fall into the circle of drug distribution are the facilities and infrastructure that are currently available are still very lacking, the lack of investigative personnel is also one of the obstacles or constraints in the implementation of law enforcement, drug transactions are carried out secretly so that they are difficult to track or net by the police using various *modus operandi*, Producers, Dealers, Distributors/couriers, Users are currently very careful in carrying out their actions so that police officers find it difficult to go undercover, and the readiness of officers at the time of arrest must also be prepared so as not to become an obstacle in carrying out their duties.

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¹⁷M. Yahya Harahap, Discussion of Problems and Application of the Criminal Procedure Code, Investigation and Prosecution, Sinar Grafika, Jakarta, 2000, pp. 95-96



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