

The Role of Bhabinkamtibmas in Combating Criminal Acts in Creating Security and Public Order (Case Study of Natuna Police)

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Abstract. *This study discusses the role of Bhabinkamtibmas in overcoming criminal acts in order to create security and public order, with a case study at the Natuna Police. The background of this study is based on the importance of the presence of the police in the community, especially in rural areas, as the spearhead in maintaining security and order. The role of Bhabinkamtibmas, which has so far only been seen as an executor of supervisory duties, has now developed into a social mediator and facilitator of conflict resolution in a preemptive, preventive and persuasive manner. This study uses a sociological legal approach with analytical descriptive research specifications. Data were obtained through field studies and literature studies, involving interviews with a number of Bhabinkamtibmas in the jurisdiction of the Natuna Police as well as the community and village leaders. Data analysis was carried out qualitatively based on crime prevention theory, Lawrence M. Friedman's legal system theory, Satjipto Rahardjo's progressive legal theory, and justice theory. The results of the study indicate that Bhabinkamtibmas plays an important role in early detection of security disturbances, conflict resolution through mediation, and legal education for the community. However, this role is faced with various obstacles such as limited legal authority, minimal supporting facilities and infrastructure, and low public understanding of the duties and functions of Bhabinkamtibmas.*

Keywords: Authority; Conflict; Mediation; Resolution.

1. Introduction

The Indonesian National Police, as a law enforcement agency in Indonesia, plays an important role in ensuring public safety and preventing criminal acts. According to Law Number 2 of 2002, the Indonesian National Police has the

responsibility to provide protection, shelter, and assistance to the community, as well as to enforce the law.¹ In carrying out these functions, the police are required to work professionally and prioritize the principles of justice, transparency, and accountability. This is in line with article 27 of the 1945 constitution concerning the rights and obligations of Indonesian citizens.², including the right to legal protection and justice, as well as the right to decent work and livelihood. This article emphasizes that every citizen has equal standing before the law and government, and has the right to be defended and receive fair protection.³.

The right of every citizen to obtain a sense of security and comfort is philosophically guaranteed in the 1945 Constitution, especially through Articles 27, 28, and 30. This right is the basis for the existence of the National Police institution which is tasked with maintaining public security and order (*kamtibmas*). The task of the Police in maintaining public order and security is a manifestation of the mandate of the 1945 Constitution, in which the Police act as a state apparatus to guarantee the rights of citizens to security and comfort in community, national and state life. In terms of regulations, the government continues to update policies to strengthen the role and function of the police. In the context of national development, the role of a professional and integrated police force is very much needed as a foundation for security stability that supports the country's economic, social and political development. Thus, increasing capacity, professionalism, and utilization of technology in the police force is crucial so that the Police are able to carry out their duties effectively and efficiently.⁴

Bhabinkamtibmas are personnel assigned to either villages or sub-districts with the primary responsibility of maintaining security, order, and fostering good relations with the local community. In addition, Bhabinkamtibmas also has a role in resolving social problems through preventive and persuasive approaches. Bhabinkamtibmas functions as a law enforcer and mediator in criminal law, especially in criminal cases, which allows for non-litigative dispute resolution.⁵ Mediation by Bhabinkamtibmas is often an effective alternative to

¹Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the Republic of Indonesia National Police

²The 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia

³Rudy Sembiring, The Role of the Indonesian National Police in the Implementation of the Criminal Justice System, *Journal of Police Science*, no. 3, 2023, p. 17

⁴Alwi Al Hadad, Increasing the Role of the Police in Maintaining and Fostering Domestic Security, *National Resilience Journal*, Vol. 21, No. 2, 2015, pp. 1–10.

⁵Albertus wahyurudhanto and Mifta Hadi, *Strengthening Bhabinkamtibmas*, 1st edition, Kaizen Media Publishing, West Java, 2020, pp. 1-5.

resolving conflicts between individuals at the village community level, especially in areas prone to social tensions and limited access to formal justice institutions.⁶

Therefore, an in-depth, structured, and factually based scientific research is needed to explore the extent of Bhabinkamtibmas' real contribution in handling criminal acts in the jurisdiction of the Natuna Police, which is known to have unique geographical and social conditions. This research is important to present an objective assessment of the effectiveness of the implementation of Bhabinkamtibmas' duties in border areas that are vulnerable to various criminal threats and security disturbances. The main objective of this study is to assess the extent to which the implementation of Bhabinkamtibmas' duties and roles are in accordance with the mandate of applicable regulations, as well as to explore the various obstacles they face in the field—both from internal aspects such as limited personnel and lack of supporting facilities, as well as from external aspects such as low community involvement and weak cross-sector synergy. In addition, this research is also directed at developing a strategy to strengthen the role of Bhabinkamtibmas in a more planned and implementable manner, in an effort to maintain the stability of community security on an ongoing basis. A collaborative approach between the police, local government, and local community elements is one of the aspects emphasized. The results of this study are expected to be the basis for formulating policies at the Natuna Police level and higher institutions, in order to strengthen the position of the Police as a credible, modern, and adaptive legal institution in the country's border areas.

2. Research Methods

Research techniques are a set of procedures designed to help scientists learn more about their chosen topic. An investigator's methodology is a set of rules about how they should study and understand the world around them. While research is an approach to solving scientific problems that relies on certain thinking and methodical processes. To answer the research challenges, this study uses a procedural strategy known as sociological legal methodology. This method involves reviewing secondary data first, then moving on to primary data. Analysis and solutions to legal problems are provided using the sociological legal approach method according to the desired objectives. To find out more about how Bhabinkamtibmas helps the Natuna Police overcome illegal activities, this method relies on direct investigation.

3. Results and Discussion

⁶Indonesian National Police, Bhababinkamtibmas Smart Book: The Role and Function of Mediation in Maintaining Public Security and Order, Edition 1, Indonesian National Police Public Relations Division, Jakarta, 2014, pp. 3-14

3.1. The Role of Bhabinkamtibmas in Handling Criminal Acts in Creating Security and Order

Bhabinkamtibmas plays a very strategic role in efforts to combat criminal acts in Natuna Regency. This role is significant considering the duties and approaches of Bhabinkamtibmas which are different from other police units. As an extension of the Police at the village and sub-district levels, Bhabinkamtibmas emphasizes a preemptive approach, namely early prevention efforts against potential disturbances to public security and order (kamtibmas). This is done through legal counseling activities, socialization about potential disturbances to kamtibmas, and ongoing guidance to the community in order to create collective awareness and vigilance against the possibility of criminal acts.

Crime Prevention Efforts carried out by Bhabinkamtibmas are not incidental, but rather a continuous and ongoing process. From the perspective of criminology and law enforcement, crime prevention cannot be considered as an action that has a final result. This is due to the social dynamics that are always changing and developing, so that there is always the possibility of new forms of crime emerging. Therefore, crime prevention is more appropriately viewed as a series of systematic processes and strategies to minimize the possibility of crime occurring.

More specifically, in the context of the Natuna Police jurisdiction, Bhabinkamtibmas has an important role in preventing criminal acts. Through its role involving preemptive, preventive, and repressive approaches, Bhabinkamtibmas is at the forefront in creating a sense of security in the community. The following is a more detailed explanation of the role of Bhabinkamtibmas at each stage:

1) Preemptive Stage

Preemptive is an initial strategy carried out by Bhabinkamtibmas in order to create security and public order. As a representative of the Police at the village or sub-district level, Bhabinkamtibmas has a unique position because they interact directly with the community intensively and routinely. They carry out their duties not only as security guards, but also as social educators who shape the community's legal awareness through a humanistic approach.

The preemptive action carried out by Bhabinkamtibmas is directed at instilling good moral, social, and legal values in the daily lives of residents. Through this approach, it is hoped that these norms will be strongly internalized in the individual. When someone has an understanding and moral awareness, then even though there is an opportunity to commit a crime, the intention to do so will not arise. This proves that effective prevention does not only depend on supervision, but also on character formation. In preemptive action, Bhabinkamtibmas takes the following actions:

a. Counseling and Guidance

Bhabinkamtibmas routinely conducts outreach by reaching out to various community groups, from villagers to youth communities and religious leaders. The goal is for the community to understand the importance of collectively maintaining security, as well as avoiding actions that violate the law. The outreach material presented is quite diverse, including education on preventing criminal acts such as theft, fraud, fights between residents, to the spread of radicalism. The delivery of the material is carried out interactively through lectures in the village hall, group discussion forums, and in some cases also through the screening of educational films that illustrate the impact of violating the law. These methods are designed to attract active community participation and provide an understanding that is applicable and easy to digest.⁷ Thus, the counseling and coaching carried out by Bhabinkamtibmas becomes an integral part in building a culture of legal awareness and security response in society.

b. Formation of Kamling Post

One of the real manifestations of the role of Bhabinkamtibmas in the community is the initiative to establish and foster the Neighborhood Security Post (Poskamling). Poskamling is a means of community participation in maintaining environmental security independently and independently. By establishing Poskamling, residents are invited to participate in efforts to prevent crime and overcome disturbances to public order in their area. This is in line with the community policing approach, where security is not only the responsibility of the police, but also a concern and shared responsibility of the community.⁸

In the process of forming the Poskamling, Bhabinkamtibmas plays an active role as a facilitator and mentor. They motivate the community to be involved voluntarily and sustainably in environmental security activities. After the Poskamling is formed, Bhabinkamtibmas does not let go, but continues to provide assistance. They guide residents in compiling organizational structures, compiling patrol schedules, and establishing operational procedures in carrying out environmental security tasks effectively.

c. Implementing Door to Door System (DDS)

DDS is a direct approach where Bhabinkamtibmas routinely visits residents' homes to establish intensive and personal communication. This activity not only aims to monitor security conditions in the fostered area, but also functions as a medium to build close social relations between security forces and the community. DDS allows Bhabinkamtibmas to directly understand social

⁷Muhammad Rafiek Nasution, *Criminology and Crime Prevention*, Graha Ilmu, Yogyakarta, 2017, pp. 75-78

⁸Soerjono Soekanto, *Op. cit.*, p. 88.

dynamics, potential conflicts, and community needs. In its implementation, DDS is an effective means to convey public order messages directly.

Bhabinkamtibmas uses this opportunity to provide an appeal about the importance of maintaining environmental security, preventing crime, and inviting residents to actively report if they find anything suspicious. In addition, DDS also opens up space for the community to convey complaints, input, or information that is not always accessible by formal mechanisms. This approach reflects the values of community policing, which places the community as the main partner in creating shared security.

d. Giving Advice

Bhabinkamtibmas routinely delivers public order and security appeals through various communication media that are easily accessible to the public. The media used include banners, billboards, brochures, pamphlets, and digital platforms such as social media. The content of the appeals delivered usually focuses on security issues that are developing in the fostered area, such as preventing theft, online fraud, juvenile delinquency, drug abuse, and the dangers of radicalism. The use of this media aims to ensure that public order and security messages can be spread widely and delivered consistently to all levels of society, both in residential areas, markets, places of worship, and schools.

In addition to print and digital media, Bhabinkamtibmas is also active in delivering direct appeals in various community activities. Strategic moments such as religious events, community meetings (RT/RW), mutual cooperation activities, and traditional events are used as a means of delivering public order messages. This approach is considered more effective because it is carried out in an informal and friendly atmosphere, so that the message conveyed is easier to accept and understand. This activity also strengthens the presence of Bhabinkamtibmas as part of the community, not just as law enforcement officers, but also as friends and community mentors.

e. Early detection

As police officers who are in direct contact with the community at the grassroots level, Bhabinkamtibmas have a strategic position to observe social dynamics directly. They routinely monitor various developing local issues, such as disputes between residents, land conflicts, intolerance, and economic problems that can trigger social unrest. Through routine interactions and personal approaches with the community, Bhabinkamtibmas can identify early signs of potential conflict, both horizontal between residents and those related to tensions between social groups. When such indications are detected, Bhabinkamtibmas acts quickly with a mediation approach, deliberation, or facilitation of dialogue between the conflicting parties. This step is important to prevent the conflict from developing into open violence that could disrupt local security stability.

With the ability of early detection and mediation role carried out, Bhabinkamtibmas becomes the vanguard in creating sustainable social stability. Their success in preventing conflict early on is highly dependent on the closeness and trust that has been built with the community. This approach is also in line with the community policing paradigm, where security and order are built through cooperation between the police and the community in a participatory and proactive manner.

f. Partnership with Community Leaders

Bhabinkamtibmas utilizes the social role of figures to help internalize positive values and legal norms in society. For example, in religious events such as religious studies or Friday sermons, religious figures can insert messages about the importance of maintaining environmental security and avoiding criminal acts. Likewise, in traditional forums, moral messages conveyed can be directed to strengthen compliance with applicable legal regulations. The role of community figures as conveyors of this information has proven to be more effective because they have emotional closeness and trust from their community.

By involving local figures, the message conveyed by Bhabinkamtibmas is not only heard, but also internalized and implemented by the community. Their involvement is able to bridge communication between security forces and residents, while preventing the emergence of misunderstandings or resistance to police programs. This partnership also strengthens the implementation of the principle of community policing, where security and order are not solely the responsibility of the authorities, but are the result of cooperation and trust between residents and Bhabinkamtibmas as security instructors at the village or sub-district level.

1) Preventive Stage

Preventive efforts carried out by Bhabinkamtibmas in dealing with criminal acts are a strategic follow-up to pre-emptive measures, which overall are still in the realm of prevention before a crime occurs. In contrast to pre-emptive efforts that focus more on instilling values and norms in society, preventive efforts by Bhabinkamtibmas focus more on reducing or eliminating opportunities for perpetrators to commit criminal acts. The basic principle in this strategy is that preventing crime is much more effective and efficient than having to change the behavior of perpetrators after they have committed a crime. Bhabinkamtibmas in this effort does:

a. Patrol

This patrol is a strategic step to prevent criminal acts, especially theft, which often occur in various vulnerable areas. With the presence of Bhabinkamtibmas directly in the field, the community not only feels safer and more protected, but also becomes a deterrent for criminals who may plan to commit crimes. The presence of officers who routinely go around the surrounding environment helps create a conducive atmosphere and reduces the opportunity for perpetrators to act.

Patrols conducted by Bhabinkamtibmas are focused on locations that historically and factually have a high risk of crime. Points such as traditional markets, shops, residential complexes, and ATMs are the main focus because these places are often the targets of theft or other crimes. In addition to securing these locations, Bhabinkamtibmas also monitors suspicious activity and ensures that existing security systems, such as street lighting and CCTV, are functioning properly to minimize the risk of crime.

b. Supervision

Bhabinkamtibmas actively carries out intensive surveillance of locations that are considered prone to theft. This surveillance is carried out using various integrated methods, one of which is through direct observation in the field to monitor the situation in real time. In addition, Bhabinkamtibmas also utilizes technology, such as monitoring through surveillance cameras (CCTV), which are installed at strategic points to detect suspicious activity quickly and accurately. The use of CCTV not only helps in preventing crime, but also facilitates the process of identifying the perpetrator if a crime occurs.

In addition to physical and technological supervision, Bhabinkamtibmas closely coordinates with local security officers, such as security guards, neighborhood administrators, and other related officers. This collaboration aims to create synergy in maintaining environmental security as a whole, so that the potential for theft can be minimized through solid cooperation and responsiveness to public reports. Coordination also allows for quick and appropriate handling when there are indications of threats or criminal incidents that are about to occur.

c. Building Relationships with the Community

Bhabinkamtibmas actively builds harmonious and close relationships with the community in their area of responsibility as an important part of preventive efforts in maintaining security and order. This relationship is built through various direct and personal activities, such as village visits, regular visits to residents' homes, and attendance at various community events such as religious studies, local celebrations, and community meetings. These activities not only strengthen relationships, but also open up effective communication space between Bhabinkamtibmas and the community, thereby creating a sense of mutual trust and openness.

With good relationships and intensive communication, Bhabinkamtibmas is able to obtain more accurate and faster information regarding potential security disturbances, including indications of theft. Information obtained directly from the community is very valuable in taking anticipatory and preventive measures in a targeted manner. In addition, the consistent presence of Bhabinkamtibmas in the community also increases the sense of security and collective awareness of residents to actively participate in protecting their environment from various forms of crime.

2) Repressive Stage

The repressive efforts carried out by Bhabinkamtibmas are part of the stages of overcoming criminal acts carried out after a crime has occurred, with an emphasis on the aspect of law enforcement through applicable legal processes and the imposition of proportional sanctions on perpetrators. Bhabinkamtibmas also plays a role in the repressive stage by supporting the investigation and prosecution process against perpetrators of criminal acts. This involvement includes providing initial information to investigators, assisting in the process of identifying perpetrators, and assisting in arrests in the field, especially in cases that occur in their area of responsibility.

These repressive efforts are not solely aimed at punishing the perpetrators, but also have an educational and corrective dimension, namely trying to make the perpetrators realize their mistakes and not repeat their actions. In some cases, Bhabinkamtibmas also plays a role in providing post-action guidance with a persuasive and humanist approach, especially for perpetrators of minor crimes or juvenile offenders who are vulnerable to recidivism.

In certain situations that threaten the safety of officers or the public, police officers, including Bhabinkamtibmas when at the scene, can support tactical repressive actions such as the use of physical force or firearms, in accordance with standard operating procedures and applicable laws and regulations. This action is only justified if the perpetrator provides active resistance, attempts to escape, or endangers the lives of others. Therefore, repressive efforts carried out by Bhabinkamtibmas, both directly and in collaboration with other functional units, continue to prioritize the principles of legality, proportionality, and accountability in their implementation.

If the law enforcement process carried out by law enforcement officers is carried out optimally, it is expected to be able to reduce the crime rate in the future. Effective enforcement starting from the investigation, inquiry, prosecution, court hearing, to the verdict by the judge is believed to be able to have a significant deterrent effect on perpetrators of criminal acts. The steps taken in the enforcement process include the following:

a. Investigation

When a theft occurs in its area of responsibility, Bhabinkamtibmas not only acts as a liaison between the community and the police, but also participates in the initial investigation process to identify the perpetrators and collect relevant information and evidence. In carrying out these duties, Bhabinkamtibmas actively collaborates with the Criminal Investigation Unit (Satreskrim) of the Natuna Police as part of law enforcement efforts. This form of cooperation includes rapid reporting of incidents, data collection of witnesses and victims, and delivery of intelligence information from the community obtained through a personal approach. This role shows that Bhabinkamtibmas has a strategic function not only in prevention, but also in supporting the police's repressive process through synergy between units, so that the investigation process can run more effectively, in a focused manner, and in accordance with applicable legal provisions.

b. Arrest

Bhabinkamtibmas also plays an important role in the process of arresting perpetrators of criminal acts, including in cases of theft that occur in their area of responsibility. As the police officers closest to the community, Bhabinkamtibmas are often the source of accurate initial information regarding the whereabouts of the perpetrators based on observations in the field or reports from residents. This information is then submitted to technical functional units such as the Criminal Investigation Unit (Satreskrim) for follow-up. In addition to providing data and information, Bhabinkamtibmas also participates in the arrest process by helping to secure the location, maintaining a conducive situation, and accompanying the perpetrators in the initial process of action. The presence of Bhabinkamtibmas at this stage reflects a form of synergy between community development and law enforcement, while also showing that their role is not limited to preventive measures, but also includes direct support for repressive actions carried out in accordance with applicable legal procedures.

c. Guidance for the perpetrators

The role of Bhabinkamtibmas in handling criminal acts does not only stop at the aspect of arresting the perpetrator, but also includes post-action coaching functions, especially for perpetrators of minor crimes such as theft. After the perpetrator is successfully secured, Bhabinkamtibmas also carries out educational and persuasive coaching roles, with the main goal of preventing the recurrence of unlawful acts in the future. This coaching is carried out through a humanitarian approach that emphasizes the importance of changing attitudes and behavior, as well as fostering legal awareness in the perpetrator. In the process, Bhabinkamtibmas provides moral guidance, social value counseling, and motivation so that perpetrators can return to living productive lives and contribute positively to society. This approach is in line with restorative efforts in law enforcement, which do not only focus on punishment alone, but also on

restoring social relations and reintegrating perpetrators into community life. Thus, the coaching function carried out by Bhabinkamtibmas plays an important role in forming legal awareness and supporting the creation of a safe and orderly environment in a sustainable manner.

3.2. Weaknesses of the Role of Bhabinkamtibmas in Handling Criminal Acts in Creating Security and Public Order

Although the role of Bhabinkamtibmas is very vital in maintaining public security and order, there are several weaknesses that are often faced in its implementation, such as limited personnel, limited facilities and infrastructure, lack of training in abilities and skills, varying levels of public trust, local socio-political pressure, lack of cross-sector coordination, complex crime rates, limited access and reach.

One of the main challenges in carrying out Bhabinkamtibmas duties is the limited number of personnel, which affects the effectiveness and scope of security services in the community. Ideally, one village or sub-district should be accompanied by one Bhabinkamtibmas so that coaching and monitoring of public order conditions can be carried out optimally. However, in reality, one member often has to supervise several areas at once, making it difficult to detect potential disturbances early on, slowing down the handling of citizen problems, and reducing the intensity of communication with the community. This deficiency also has the potential to cause excessive workloads that have an impact on decreasing personnel performance and motivation.

There are still many Bhabinkamtibmas who work with minimal facilities, such as the lack of operational vehicles, communication tools, or access to information, which hinder mobility and rapid response to situations. Limited facilities and infrastructure are also one of the weaknesses faced by Bhabinkamtibmas in carrying out their duties in the field. Many personnel are still not supported by adequate equipment, such as operational vehicles, communication tools, or other supporting devices that are essential to support mobility and work effectiveness and inadequate facilities according to the geographical conditions of the task area, for example the absence of boats in river areas or trail vehicles in the mountains. In addition, the minimal budget for fuel and allowances also hinders the effectiveness of the implementation of Bhabinkamtibmas duties. This condition makes the response process to emergency situations less than optimal, and makes it difficult to implement community development and service programs quickly and on target. As a result, the presence of Bhabinkamtibmas as the spearhead of the police at the village level cannot be felt optimally by the community.

One of the most striking weaknesses in the implementation of Bhabinkamtibmas duties is the lack of routine and comprehensive training to improve the capacity and skills of personnel. As the front line of the police at the village or sub-district level, Bhabinkamtibmas is expected to be able to carry out various important functions, such as resolving community problems, mediating conflicts, providing legal counseling, and supporting the implementation of government programs. These various tasks certainly require broad capabilities, not only in the technical aspects of the police, but also in terms of effective social and communication approaches. However, there are still many personnel who have not received training that is in accordance with the demands of work in the field. Limited provision in areas such as conflict management, communication skills, use of technology, and understanding the social and cultural context of the community, are obstacles to carrying out tasks optimally. As a result, the quality of service to the community can decline and has the potential to reduce public trust in the police institution. For this reason, increasing competence through targeted and ongoing training is very necessary so that Bhabinkamtibmas can carry out its role professionally and responsively.

In some cases, the community has not fully trusted or been open to the Bhabinkamtibmas, especially in some areas that have past trauma or tension with the security forces and the lack of public understanding of the duties and functions of the Bhabinkamtibmas often makes some residents less willing to communicate, provide information, or involve them in resolving problems that arise in the surrounding environment. This ignorance contributes to low levels of trust, which ultimately hinders the realization of strong cooperation between the police and the community. In fact, synergy between the two is needed to create stable security and order conditions. Therefore, Bhabinkamtibmas needs to continue to prioritize a friendly, open, and consistent approach in carrying out their role, in order to build trust and gain full support from residents in their assigned areas.

Local social and political pressure is one of the serious challenges that can weaken the role of Bhabinkamtibmas in carrying out its duties neutrally and professionally. In the context of a society with strong political dynamics, such as approaching village head elections, general elections, or conflicts between groups, Bhabinkamtibmas are often in a difficult position. They can face pressure from community leaders, local elites, or certain groups who try to influence their attitudes and actions for political or group interests. This situation risks creating a perception of non-neutrality, which can ultimately damage the image and public trust in the police institution. This kind of pressure can also interfere with the objectivity of Bhabinkamtibmas in carrying out the function of fostering and maintaining security.

Lack of coordination between sectors is one of the important weaknesses for Bhabinkamtibmas in carrying out its duties. Often, Bhabinkamtibmas works separately without close cooperation with other institutions or agencies, such as local governments, social services, or community organizations, which should be important partners in maintaining security and order. The lack of communication and collaboration between these sectors hinders preventive measures to address social problems, such as poverty, unemployment, or drug abuse, which are often related to security disturbances.

The increasingly complex crime rate is a major challenge for Bhabinkamtibmas in carrying out its duties. Various types of crimes, ranging from traditional crimes such as theft to more organized and transnational crimes such as drugs and terrorism, require a more sophisticated and integrated approach. However, limited personnel and facilities often make it difficult for Bhabinkamtibmas to identify, analyze, and handle various types of crimes effectively. These increasingly hidden and organized crimes require cooperation between various institutions and the use of technology to improve detection and prevention capabilities. Without adequate support, Bhabinkamtibmas will have difficulty in maintaining security and providing a sense of security for the community to the maximum.

3.3. Obstacles and Solutions of Bhabinkamtibmas in Handling Criminal Acts in Creating Security and Public Order

In carrying out their duties as the spearhead of the National Police at the village and sub-district levels, Bhabinkamtibmas often face various obstacles that hinder the effectiveness of efforts to combat criminal acts and create security and public order (kamtibmas).

1) Internal barriers

The obstacles faced by a Bhabinkamtibmas come from internal factors:

a. Human resource (HR) limitations

One of the main obstacles faced by Bhabinkamtibmas is the limited number of personnel. In many cases, one Bhabinkamtibmas must supervise more than one village or sub-district. This condition certainly makes routine presence in each fostered area less than optimal. In fact, the physical presence of Bhabinkamtibmas is very important as a form of early prevention and personal approach to the community. This imbalance in workload can also affect the effectiveness of task implementation and the rapid handling of public order disturbances.

There are still Bhabinkamtibmas members who have not received adequate training. Skills such as conflict mediation, legal counseling, and social approaches

are essential in their daily tasks. Without mastery of these competencies, efforts to combat crime tend to be reactive and less strategic. Therefore, routine training and personal capacity development must be a priority for the institution. Strengthening human resources will improve the quality of Bhabinkamtibmas services in the community.

b. Facilities and infrastructure

In addition to the limited number of personnel, another significant obstacle is the lack of supporting facilities and infrastructure. Bhabinkamtibmas often faces limitations in communication tools, operational vehicles, and adequate technological devices. When a crime or security disturbance occurs, the limited facilities hinder a quick response in the field. As a result, the incident handling process becomes slow and ineffective. Therefore, increasing logistical support is one of the crucial aspects to support Bhabinkamtibmas' performance.

c. Limitation of authority

Bhabinkamtibmas has a strategic role, but is also structurally limited in legal authority. They are not given full authority to carry out law enforcement actions, but only function as early detectors and initial reporters. This causes dependence on other parties to follow up on findings or field reports. In certain conditions, this limitation makes it difficult for Bhabinkamtibmas to resolve problems quickly. Supporting regulations are needed so that their functions can be expanded in a measurable manner and remain in accordance with the law.

2) External Barriers

The obstacles faced by a Bhabinkamtibmas come from external factors:

a. Lack of Support from the Community

Active community participation is an important element in creating environmental security. However, not all residents have the awareness and willingness to get involved. Some people are reluctant to report because of fear, apathy, or distrust of the authorities. This worsens the effectiveness of early detection and mapping of potential social conflicts. Therefore, a humanist approach and intensive communication are needed so that the community is more open and feels safe to cooperate with officers.

b. The fostered areas have different social and cultural backgrounds

Bhabinkamtibmas's areas of responsibility often have diverse social and cultural backgrounds. Differences in customs, local values, and social norms can be a challenge in establishing effective communication. Ignorance or insensitivity to

local culture can lead to resistance or misunderstanding. Therefore, understanding local social conditions must be part of Bhabinkamtibmas's work approach. This strategy will strengthen their presence as community partners, not just supervisory officers.

c. Low Legal Awareness of the Community

The low level of understanding of applicable legal norms results in many citizens still not realizing the boundaries between legitimate and unlawful behavior. As a result, deviant acts such as theft, fighting, or vandalism of public facilities are often considered commonplace or resolved informally without involving law enforcement. This condition triggers the toleration of violations of the law, because society is not sensitive to the importance of law enforcement in maintaining social order.

Furthermore, low legal literacy also has an impact on the passive attitude of the community in responding to criminal acts. Many residents are reluctant to report because they do not understand legal procedures, are afraid of being blamed, or are worried about being involved in a long and complicated legal process. Even in some cases, the perpetrators are protected by their families or social environment because of kinship, emotional ties, or considerations of the interests of certain communities. This protection of perpetrators, both explicitly and implicitly, is a serious obstacle for Bhabinkamtibmas in identifying, securing, and prosecuting perpetrators of crimes in accordance with applicable laws.

3) Internal Solutions

Facing the challenge of limited human resources, one solution that can be implemented is to increase the number of Bhabinkamtibmas personnel. This addition must also be accompanied by an even distribution according to the needs and area of the supervised area. With a lighter workload, the effectiveness and intensity of visits to the community can increase. In addition, coordination between Bhabinkamtibmas will also be easier to do in the framework of collective work. Even distribution of personnel is an important foundation for the success of preventive and early detection efforts.

Providing supporting facilities and technology is a must for optimizing field work. The availability of modern communication tools, vehicles, and information systems greatly supports the speed and efficiency of Bhabinkamtibmas in carrying out their duties. The use of digital technology can also be used for data collection, vulnerability mapping, and integrated reporting. With adequate technological support, Bhabinkamtibmas can be more adaptive to developments in the era. This also helps them build credibility in the eyes of the community.

4) External Solutions

In creating a safe and orderly environment, it is not enough to rely on the authorities alone. Strengthening synergy with community leaders, RT/RW, religious leaders, and local youth needs to be done consistently. Through a persuasive approach and community activities, public trust in Bhabinkamtibmas will grow. In addition, legal education and social awareness campaigns can increase active citizen participation. Thus, the community will become a strategic partner in maintaining the security of its own environment.

The last solution that is no less important is continuous training and strengthening of inter-agency cooperation. Training not only improves technical competence, but also strengthens communication and conflict resolution skills. In addition, collaboration with village officials, Babinsa, Satpol PP, and social institutions must be strengthened to create a comprehensive approach. This effort will create synergy in combating crime and maintaining public order and security. With a combination of training and collaboration, Bhabinkamtibmas will be better prepared to face the challenges of the times and increase its positive presence in the community.

4. Conclusion

Based on the results of the research that has been conducted, it can be concluded that Bhabinkamtibmas plays a strategic and multifunctional role in overcoming criminal acts and creating security and public order in village and sub-district areas. Their existence is not only as law enforcement officers, but also as mentors, liaisons, and protectors of the community who work directly in the field. These roles include early detection, conflict mediation, legal counseling, coordination between institutions, and collecting security information directly from the community. The success of Bhabinkamtibmas in carrying out their duties cannot be separated from the challenges they face. The main obstacles identified in this study include limited personnel, minimal facilities and supporting technology, lack of training and capacity building, and low community participation in maintaining environmental security. Complex socio-cultural conditions and limited legal authority are also significant barriers to optimizing their role.

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