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Implementation of Restorative Justice in ... (Zahrah Alenta Puti Santosa & Denny Suwondo)

# Implementation of Restorative Justice in Criminal Acts of Assault Based on Pancasila Justice Values (Case Study: Yogyakarta Regional Police)

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**Abstract.** Indonesia, as a state based on the rule of law and grounded in Pancasila, places the Police as the frontline of law enforcement, including in implementing restorative justice as an alternative mechanism for resolving assault cases by prioritizing restoration over retribution. The practice of restorative justice at the Regional Police of DI Yogyakarta demonstrates its alignment with restorative justice values. The objectives of this study are to identify and analyze the implementation of restorative justice in assault crimes based on Pancasila justice values at the Regional Police of DI Yogyakarta, and to examine the obstacles and solutions in implementing restorative justice in such cases within the same institution. The research method used in this thesis is a socio-legal approach. The theories employed include the theory of Pancasila justice and the theory of legal effectiveness. The findings of this research are as follows: The implementation of restorative justice in assault cases at the Regional Police of DI Yogyakarta is already aligned with justice values and the principles of Pancasila. Through the use of police discretion reinforced by Regulation of the Chief of Police (Perkapolri) No. 8 of 2021, the settlement of assault cases at the DI Yogyakarta Regional Police is no longer solely dependent on criminal punishment, but rather focuses on restoring harm through peace agreements. The involvement of victims, offenders, religious leaders, community leaders, and internal police supervisors shows that the restorative justice process is positioned as a deliberative mechanism that respects human dignity and reflects Pancasila values. The obstacles to implementing restorative justice in assault cases at the Regional Police of DI Yogyakarta include: from the legal aspect, the absence of explicit regulation on restorative justice in the Criminal Procedure Code (KUHAP); from the law enforcement aspect, limited investigator capacity and a predominantly retributive mindset, coupled with layered and time-consuming administrative procedures for restorative justice, hinder the realization of the principles of quick, simple, and low-cost justice; from the facilities and infrastructure aspect,

although the DI Yogyakarta Regional Police possesses relatively adequate facilities; and from the societal and cultural aspect, a mindset that glorifies imprisonment and perceives peace agreements as a form of "legal weakening" results in low acceptance of restorative justice, evidenced by only two cases resolved restoratively during the 2022-2025 period.

**Keywords:** Assault; Investigation; Justice; Restorative; Termination.

#### 1. Introduction

The Republic of Indonesia affirms itself as a state of law as stated in Article 1 Paragraph (3) of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia. The principle of equality before the law is reaffirmed in Article 27 Paragraph (1) which states that all citizens have the same position before the law and government and are obliged to uphold both without exception. The concept of a state of law in Indonesia is based on the values of Pancasila, which are formed from process the length and background of the birth of the Preamble to the 1945 Constitution, as a manifestation of the nation's will to establish a just state.<sup>1</sup>

The implementation of the principle of restorative justice in the Republic of Indonesia Police carried out by the police is carried out through activities such as mediation between victims and perpetrators/offenders, family group discussions, which are restorative for both victims and perpetrators where involvement in the settlement process is between the victim and perpetrator as well as a third party, namely the Police who act as mediators and facilitators to bridge the two parties to reach an agreement and the goals to be achieved through the process. Deliberation is to recover all losses and injuries that have been caused by the incident.<sup>2</sup>

The application of Restorative Justice is a resolution process carried out outside the criminal justice system by involving the victim, the perpetrator, the victim's and perpetrator's families, the community and parties who have an interest in a crime that has occurred to reach an agreement and settlement. According to G. Widiartana, Restorative justice is a fair resolution that involves the perpetrator, victim, their family and other parties involved in a crime, together seeking a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Prima Muliadi, et. al., Supervision of Police Discretionary Authority Regarding Termination of Criminal Investigations Based on Restorative Justice in the North Sumatra Regional Police. Iuris Studia: Journal of Legal Studies, Vol. 5, No. 1, 2024, pp. 58-70.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Moh. Supriyadi, et al. Application of the Principle of Restorative Justice in the Settlement of Criminal Cases of Fraud and Embezzlement in the Sale and Purchase of Get Arisan Online Based on Police Report Number: Lp-B/165/IV/Res. 1.11./2021/Satreskrim/SPKT Pamekasan Police. Yustitia Journal, Vol. 24, No. 2, 2023, pp. 140-152

resolution to the crime and its implications, with an emphasis on restoration and not revenge.<sup>3</sup>

The implementation of restorative justice has undergone a phase of development, both progress and challenges. The various regulations mentioned above embody the essence of long-awaited legal certainty. The legal challenges facing the implementation of restorative justice are fraught with challenges and obstacles. Furthermore, the implementation of restorative justice faces a divergence between applicable requirements and the reality on the ground. This prompted the author to analyze the implementation of restorative justice at the Yogyakarta Regional Police.<sup>4</sup>

One concrete implementation of restorative justice is evident in the resolution of criminal acts of assault. The crime of assault falls under the classification of crimes against the body, as regulated in Book II, Chapter XX, Articles 351 to 356 of the Criminal Code. However, these articles do not explicitly and in detail define the types of assault. However, if these articles are examined and interpreted in a specific manner, a detailed classification of the types of assault will naturally emerge.<sup>5</sup>

Regarding abuse in Article 351 of the Criminal Code, R. Soesilo, in his book entitled "The Criminal Code (KUHP) and its Complete Article-by-Article Commentaries," states that the law does not provide provisions for what is meant by "abuse." According to jurisprudence, "abuse" is defined as intentionally causing discomfort (suffering), pain, or injury. According to paragraph 4 of this article, abuse also includes "intentionally damaging someone's health."

The case of the termination of the investigation into the crime of assault at the Yogyakarta Regional Police occurred in a case caused by the reporter, S, and the accused because the reporter did not accept the accused's reckless riding of a motorbike in a village area. The tension then continued that evening when the accused went to the reporter's house to discuss the matter. The meeting situation became heated and ended in an argument that resulted in the reporter suffering bruises on the face, abrasions on the hands, and pain in the chest. Due to this incident, the reporter reported the accused to the police to be processed legally according to applicable regulations. The case was then handled by the Yogyakarta Regional Police's General Criminal Investigation Directorate, which then facilitated

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>G. Widiartana, Victimology: The Victim's Perspective in Crime Prevention, UAJY, Yogyakarta, 2013, p. 102

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Ani Purwati, Restorative Justice and Diversion in Resolving Child Crime Cases, CV. Jakad Media Publishing, Surabaya, 2020, p. 21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>HiroR. R. Tompodung, A Legal Study of the Criminal Act of Assault Resulting in Death, Lex Crimen, Vol. X, No. 4, 2021, pp. 65-73

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Rahmi Zilvia and Haryadi, "Disparity in Criminal Sentences for Perpetrators of Assault Cases," PAMPAS: Journal of Criminal, Vol. 1, No. 1, 2020, pp. 96-107

the Restorative Justice process after seeing that the conflict began as a personal problem and did not have a broad impact on the community.

Soerjono Soekanto explained that law enforcement is influenced by five main factors: legal substance, which includes statutory regulations; legal structure, which includes law enforcement officials; legal culture, which reflects public legal awareness; supporting facilities and infrastructure; and the community as the subject of the law. If any of these factors is not functioning properly, law enforcement, including the application of restorative justice, will not be effective.

#### 2. Research Methods

This research method uses a sociological juridical approach that emphasizes empirical studies through direct observation to understand how social phenomena influence the implementation of law, particularly the application of restorative justice in criminal acts of assault at the Yogyakarta Regional Police. The research is descriptive-analytical by combining primary data obtained through interviews with the police and secondary data in the form of laws and regulations, legal literature, and other official documents. Data collection was carried out through interviews and literature studies which were then analyzed qualitatively using an inductive mindset, starting from specific facts found in the field to draw general conclusions to produce a comprehensive understanding of the implementation of restorative justice based on the values of justice.<sup>7</sup>

#### 3. Results and Discussion

# 3.1. Implementation of Restorative Justice in Criminal Acts of Assault Based on Pancasila Justice Values in the Yogyakarta Special Region Police

The law's primary role is to create order, given that order is a fundamental requirement for an orderly society. To achieve order in society, efforts must be made to establish certainty. Certainty is defined as legal certainty within the law and certainty due to the law. This is because the concept of law has two aspects. The first is that there is a definite law for concrete events. The second is the existence of legal protection against arbitrariness. Legal certainty is essentially certainty about how citizens resolve legal problems. How the role and usefulness of legal institutions for society and beyond.<sup>8</sup>

The implementation of restorative justice in criminal case management does not signal the end of law enforcement. It is crucial to recognize that restorative justice does not have the capacity to eliminate incarceration, as many criminal matters

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Johnny Ibrahim, Normative Legal Research Theory & Methodology, Bayumedia Publishing, Malang, 2013, p. 40.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>Armunanto Hutahaean, Implementation of Restorative Justice by the Indonesian National Police to Achieve Legal Goals, Jurnal Hukumto-ra: Law to Regulate and Protect Society, Volume 8 Issue 2, 2022, pp. 140-148

can be addressed without resorting to retributive measures. Restorative justice, with its humanistic methodology, is not intended to replace retributive justice. A humanistic approach must be integrated from the outset of legal formulation, serving as an intrinsic component of the criminal justice framework and a judge's moral authority in the courts. Furthermore, a humanistic approach does not represent a new consideration beyondsystemRather, this approach serves to question its legitimacy and serves as a mechanism for checks and balances on judges' moral judgments. Furthermore, only in the domain of criminal law that prioritizes human development can its benefits be considered superior to those of corporal punishment.<sup>9</sup>

The implementation of discretion by a police investigator certainly has its own patterns and forms. Which hinfluenced by the circumstances and situation of the case, social and economic conditions and local culture as well as the legal conditions and situation experienced by a police investigator.

According to IPDA Rosyada Galih Bintoro, SH, Head of Unit 1, Unit 5, Sub-Directorate I/ Kamneg, Directorate of Criminal Investigation, restorative justice is a good breakthrough for resolving problems/cases outside of court. The practice of restorative justice canfulfila sense of justice for the victim where the victim can obtain material compensation in accordance with the losses experienced in the criminal act of abuse.<sup>10</sup>

In the process of negotiating a settlement through a restorative justice approach, there are two crucial elements that complement each other in resolving the dispute as a whole: repairing material damage and symbolic repair. In this approach, the victim plays an active role in the process.the, while the perpetrator is encouraged to take responsibility for his actions in order to be accountable for actions that harm the victim and provide compensation for the losses he has caused by apologizing for material losses.

Implementation of restorative justice inPoliceSpecial Region of Yogyakarta on May 2022 with police report LP/B/0352/V/2022/SPKT/POLDA DIY with the name of the reporter S, with the case position as follows:

Initially, there was a misunderstanding between the reporter, Mr. S, and the accused because the reporter was not accepted when driving recklessly on a village road. Then, in the evening, a meeting took place between the reporter and the accused at the reporter's house, but during the meeting the situation became heated, resulting in an argument/commotion which resulted in the victim/reporter

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>Mujiburrahman, Restorative Justice in the Settlement and Obstacles of Criminal Cases in the Criminal Code, Jurnal Hukum Ius Publicum, Vol. 4, No. 2, 2023, p. 131.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>Interview with IPDA Rosyada Galih Bintoro, SH as PS. Panit 1 Unit 5 Subdit I/ Kamneg Ditreskrimum on November 1, 2025

suffering bruises on the face and abrasions on the hands and chest. Due to this incident, the victim reported it to the police.

Followed up. The Restorative Justice process was carried out at the Yogyakarta Regional Police's Criminal Investigation Directorate office, led by the Head of the Investigation and Supervision Division, attended by supervisory elements including Propam, Paminal, and Bidkum, as well as by religious leaders, community leaders, the complainant, the suspect, and their respective legal counsel.

According to Muladi, the essence of the purpose of punishment in the context of Pancasila is primarily to understand the fundamental, multidimensional approach to the impact of criminal acts. Therefore, the purpose of punishment is to repair the damage, both individual and social, caused by the crime. Therefore, the failure of the principle of retributive justice, which is oriented towards retribution, no longer has a significant impact. decline Crimes, both in quantity and quality, are a significant challenge. This makes restorative justice a viable option. Furthermore, the lack of guidelines or standards on how to calculate a fair punishment burden when imposing criminal sanctions, particularly imprisonment, in criminal cases in Indonesia, makes the sense of justice and legal certainty immeasurable or uncertain. There are only minimum and maximum guidelines for imposing prison sentences and fines.

The implementation of restorative justice in this case reflects the practice of justice that aligns with the values of Pancasila, particularly the principles of the second and fourth principles. According to Yudi Latif, Pancasila justice does not merely view the law as a mechanism for punishment, but as a means of restoring social harmony in a humane manner. In the case resolution process at the Yogyakarta Regional Police, the involvement of the victim, perpetrator, community leaders, religious leaders, and internal police supervisors demonstrates that the resolution was carried out through dialogue and respect for human dignity. The victim was given space to express his suffering, while the perpetrator was directed to take moral and material responsibility in line with the second principle is about "just and civilized humanity" and the fourth principle is about resolving problems through deliberation that guarantees all parties.

Reparation for material losses addresses the aspects of certainty and utility, while apologies, admissions of wrongdoing, and social reconciliation reflect the values of unity and restoration of social relations as embodied in the third principle. Achievement a peace agreement accepted by both parties, the RJ mechanism does not just stop the case, but restores social relations in the community. This is in line with the fifth principle, where social justice is not just punishment, but restoration of conditions and respect for the dignity of all parties.

3.2. Obstacles and Solutions to the Implementation of Restorative Justice in Criminal Acts of Justice-Based Assault in the Yogyakarta Special Region Police

See As a country based on law, the Indonesian nation has experienced setbacks in achieving its ideals. beginning the founding of this nation, both conceptually and practically. The concept of the rule of law, at its inception, aimed to ensure that state administration was based on a constitution and written laws, which serve as boundaries for the powers that govern. A state governed by law is inseparable from the power that exercises it. This universal fact is unavoidable, as law enforced without power is a mere fantasy. Conversely, power exercised without law is anarchy.<sup>11</sup>

National Law is essentially a system. A system is an orderly arrangement or structure, a whole consisting of interrelated parts, arranged according to a plan or pattern, the result of a thought process to achieve a goal. This system consists of a number of elements, components, or functions that constantly influence and interact with each other, linked by one or more principles.<sup>12</sup>

In every legal action, obstacles will certainly be encountered, whether from the absence or lack of legal information related to matters related to legal actions that are spread, non-compliance of the community regarding existing laws, the inaccessibility of some areas, there is no good cooperation with the community and the still lack of information and public understanding regarding restorative justice. Likewise, regarding the implementation of restorative justice, are there any obstacles experienced in its implementation? However, matters related to obstacles in the implementation of legal actions certainly need to be continuously improved so that the implementation of legal actions can be understood and complied with by the entire community.<sup>13</sup>

The following are the obstacles in the implementation of restorative justice in criminal acts of assault at the Yogyakarta Regional Police, if analyzed using Soerjono Soekanto's theory of legal effectiveness:

#### a. Legal Factors

The law serves to promote justice, certainty, and expediency. In the practice of law enforcement, there are times when there is a conflict between legal certainty and justice. Legal certainty is concrete and tangible, while justice is abstract. Therefore, when a judge decides a case solely by applying the law, justice may sometimes be denied. Therefore, when considering a legal issue, justice should at least be the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>Sarip Sarip and Abdul Wahid. The Plurality of the Vision of the Pancasila Legal State in the Legal Mission of the Indonesian State. Legal Reflections: Journal of Legal Studies, Vol. 2, No. 2, 2018, pp. 109-124.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>HR Benny Riyanto, National Legal Updates in the 4.0 Era. Jurnal Rechts Vinding: Media for National Legal Development, Vol. 9, No. 2, 2020, p. 161.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>Mohammad Hakim Pratama Rahim, Obstacles to the Implementation of Restorative Justice in Narcotics Crimes at the Gorontalo City Police Resort, Jaksa: Journal of Legal and Political Studies, Vol. 2, No. 2, 2024, pp. 258-266

top priority. Because law is not solely viewed from the written perspective; there are many existing rules within society that can regulate people's lives. 14

Current regulations use the phrase "termination of investigation by law based on restorative justice," an implicit phrase written in Police Regulation No. 8 of 2021. However, the Criminal Code (KUHP) and the Criminal Procedure Code (KUHAP) do not contain the phrase "termination of investigation by law based on restorative justice." The Criminal Code regulates the termination of prosecution due to insufficient evidence; non-criminal offense; and legal consequences (death of the suspect, statute of limitations).

The lack of a single legal framework specifically governing restorative justice creates a lack of clarity regarding its legal basis. The Indonesian National Police (Polri) issued the Police Regulation (Perpol) on restorative justice based on practical needs. As a result, the legal framework for restorative justice is scattered across various regulations, rather than a single, unified law.

#### b. Law Enforcement Factors

Investigators, in addition to implementing Law Number 8 of 2021, have a policy as stated in Article 15 paragraph (1) letter b "helping to resolve disputes between community members that can disrupt public order", Article 16 paragraph (1) letter I "In order to carry out the duties of the Republic of Indonesia National Police, they are authorized to take other actions according to responsible law", Article 18 paragraph (1) "For the public interest, officials of the Republic of Indonesia National Police in carrying out their duties and authorities can act according to their own judgment." In other words, this cannot be separated from the meaning of "Positive Discretion".

Discretion according to Thomas J. Aaron Discretion is an authority given to the Police to make decisions in certain situations that require their own considerations concerning intellectual moral issues in the boundary between law & morals. A similar opinion that supports the existence of other alternatives in resolving cases/disputes outside the litigation process was put forward by Prof. CFG. Sunaryati Hartono that law enforcement should not be carried out literally or merely as a formality, but truly carried out with the intention of creating justice, both for the parties to the case/dispute and for the wider community.<sup>15</sup>

The implementation of the restorative justice concept in the assault case at the Yogyakarta Regional Police is part of police discretion. Assault cases are a form of complaint-based offense. A complaint-based offense occurs when a complaint or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup>lbid, p. 51

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup>Robertus Kokok Subiantoro and Ishviati Joenaini Koenthi. Discretionary Use of Firearms by Members of the Mobile Brigade Corps of the Yogyakarta Special Region Regional Police. Legal Research Results Review, Vol. 4, No. 2, 2022, pp. 896-908.

report is filed by a victim of a crime. A complaint-based offense can be withdrawn if the complainant withdraws their report, for example, due to a settlement or peace agreement that is recognized by investigators after the investigation has progressed.

#### c. Facilities and Infrastructure Factors

The facilities and infrastructure at the Yogyakarta Regional Police are generally adequate to support the implementation of police duties, including the implementation of restorative justice in criminal case resolution. The Yogyakarta Regional Police boast a well-organized organizational structure, a representative public service space, and supporting facilities such as a mediation room, documentation equipment, and a digital administration system that help expedite the case handling process. The presence of supporting units such as the Legal Affairs Division (Bidkum), the Internal Affairs Division (Propam), and the Internal Affairs Division (Paminal) also strengthens internal oversight, ensuring the proper implementation of all case resolution processes, including restorative justice.

The availability of these supporting facilities has a positive impact on the investigation process, particularly when investigators must facilitate meetings between the complainant, the accused, community leaders, and internal oversight bodies. A secure and well-organized mediation room allows for a conducive dialogue process, while supporting documentation equipment helps ensure that each stage of restorative justice is clearly and accountably documented.

#### d. Community Factors

Law has both direct and indirect effects on driving social change. Methods of influencing society through an organized and pre-planned system are called social engineering or social planning. <sup>16</sup>For law to truly influence societal behavior, it must be disseminated widely and institutionalized within society. The existence of certain communication tools is a prerequisite for the dissemination and institutionalization of law. This legal communication can be conducted formally, namely through officially organized procedures.

Law enforcement originates from society and aims to achieve peace within society. Society has certain opinions about the law. <sup>17</sup>However, the public mindset still holds that criminal cases must always be resolved with imprisonment as a form of appropriate retribution. This is rooted in the traditional understanding that crimes must be met with physical punishment to deter perpetrators. This perception often leads some citizens to reject peace processes or restorative justice, as they are seen as a form of "forgiveness" for the perpetrator. Lack of understanding of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup>Soerjono Soekanto, Legal Awareness and Legal Compliance, Rajawali Pers, Jakarta, 1982, p. 115

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup>Satjipto Rahardjo, Law and Society, Angkasa, Bandung, 1980, p. 87.

purpose of restorative justice leads people to believe that peace is the same as allowing the perpetrator to go free without legal consequences.

#### e. Cultural Factors

The weakness of the legal culture of terminating investigations into assault crimes at the Yogyakarta Regional Police is evident in the persistent retributive paradigm adopted by some law enforcement officers, who believe that the primary goal of handling criminal cases is to impose appropriate punishment on the perpetrator. This perspective leads officers to focus more on the evidentiary process and punishment rather than on efforts to restore harm and social relations between the perpetrator and victim. When the retributive paradigm is dominant, the application of restorative justice is often considered to have no deterrent effect, leading some investigators to be less proactive in promoting reconciliation or even hesitate to recommend terminating investigations even when the requirements for restorative justice have been met. The tangible impact of this dominant retributive culture is reflected in data on the implementation of restorative justice at the Yogyakarta Regional Police, where only two cases were successfully resolved through restorative justice mechanisms between 2022 and 2025. This very small number indicates that the application of restorative justice has not yet become a new legal culture among officers. The small number of cases resolved restoratively indicates that officers are not yet fully prepared to abandon a punitive orientation and shift to a restorative approach. This condition shows that regulatory changes alone are not enough, without a transformation of the legal culture within the police, especially a change in perspective from retributive to restorative.

The solution to the obstacles experienced by investigators in terminating the investigation into the crime of assault at the Yogyakarta Regional Police:

a. Reconstruction of the Criminal Procedure Code to Explicitly Accommodate Restorative Justice

The reformulation of the Criminal Procedure Code (KUHAP) must accommodate restorative justice to avoid a legal vacuum. By incorporating restorative justice into the law as a formal legal basis, the police will no longer rely solely on the Chief of Police Regulation (Perkap) or Police Regulation (Perpol), ensuring legal certainty in the implementation of restorative justice.

Improving the Competence of Officers Through Special Training

Law enforcement officers must be provided with training in the concept of restorative justice, including mediation skills. This training is necessary to shift the paradigm of officers from a retributive orientation to a restorative one.

c. Optimizing Infrastructure Through the Development of Standardized Mediation Spaces

The Yogyakarta Regional Police need to strengthen infrastructure and facilities, such as a representative mediation room, a fast digital documentation system, and administrative support staff, so that the restorative justice process can run efficiently.

#### d. Continuous Socialization to Increase Public Awareness

Intensive public outreach is needed regarding the goals and benefits of restorative justice through community forums, social media, and collaboration with religious leaders, traditional leaders, and community institutions. Public education aims to raise awareness that restorative justice is not a disguised compromise, but a resolution mechanism that emphasizes reparation for victims and real accountability for perpetrators. Improving public legal literacy will help shift a retributive mindset toward a restorative understanding.

e. Transforming the Police's Internal Legal Culture Through Restorative-Based Performance Evaluation

The police's internal legal culture needs to be reformulated through changes to investigator performance indicators that measure not only the number of cases referred but also the effectiveness of restorative resolution, victim satisfaction, and the success of social recovery. These new indicators will encourage officers to be more proactive in implementing restorative justice.

#### 4. Conclusion

The implementation of restorative justice in cases of assault within the Yogyakarta Regional Police is aligned with the values of justice and Pancasila. Through the use of police discretion, reinforced by the Chief of Police Circular Letter No. SE/8/VII/2018 and Chief of Police Regulation No. 8 of 2021, the resolution of assault cases, such as those in LP/B/0352/V/2022/SPKT/POLDA DIY, no longer relies solely on criminal penalties, but rather on restitution through peace agreements, admissions of guilt, apologies, and the fulfillment of victims' rights. The involvement of victims, perpetrators, religious leaders, community leaders, and internal police supervisors demonstrates that the restorative justice process is positioned as a deliberative mechanism that respects human dignity and reflects the values of Pancasila. Obstacles to the implementation of restorative justice in cases of assault within the Yogyakarta Regional Police demonstrate that the effectiveness of restorative justice is largely determined by the synergy of five legal system factors according to Soerjono Soekanto: law, law enforcement, infrastructure, society, and legal culture. From a legal perspective, the lack of explicit restorative justice provisions in the Criminal Procedure Code (KUHAP); from a law enforcement perspective, investigator capacity and a paradigm that is still retributive, coupled with the multi-layered and time-consuming administrative process of restorative justice, hinder the realization of the principles of speed, simplicity, and low cost; from a facility-infrastructure perspective, although the

Yogyakarta Regional Police have relatively adequate facilities; from a societal and cultural perspective, a mindset that still glorifies imprisonment and suspects peace as a "weakening of the law" makes acceptance of restorative justice low, reflected in only two cases being resolved restoratively in the 2022–2025 period. The solution to these obstacles is to reconstruct the Criminal Procedure Code to explicitly accommodate restorative justice, strengthen the capacity of officers through special training, strengthen supporting facilities for restorative justice, conduct massive outreach to change the retributive mindset of the community, and transform the internal legal culture of the police based on restorative performance indicators.

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