

Optimization of Law Enforcement on Narcotics Abuse by the Narcotics, Psychotropics and Dangerous Drugs Research Unit of the East Oku Resort Police to Reduce the Number of Narcotics Abuse

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Abstract. *Narcotics abuse remains a critical social and legal issue in Indonesia, particularly in the East OKU region. This study aims to analyze the optimization of law enforcement efforts by the Narcotics Investigation Unit (Satresnarkoba) of the OKU Timur Police in reducing the incidence of narcotics abuse. The research employs a qualitative case study approach, collecting data through interviews, observations, and documentation. The findings reveal that law enforcement by Satresnarkoba OKU Timur has been conducted effectively; however, several challenges remain, including limited human resources, inadequate facilities, and suboptimal coordination among related agencies. Optimization of law enforcement can be achieved by enhancing personnel capacity, strengthening inter-agency collaboration, and integrating information technology in the investigation and handling of narcotics cases. These improvements are expected to significantly reduce narcotics abuse rates in East OKU, thereby positively impacting public security and order. This study provides strategic recommendations for the OKU Timur Police and other stakeholders to improve the effectiveness of narcotics law enforcement. Furthermore, the findings can serve as a reference for policymakers in formulating more comprehensive narcotics prevention and eradication programs.*

Keywords: *Enforcement; Investigation; Law; Narcotics.*

1. Introduction

The problem of drug abuse is not only a legal and health issue, but also a social phenomenon that reflects the dynamics of Indonesian society. Drug abuse is rooted in various social factors such as economic inequality, lack of education, environmental pressures, and changes in social values and norms amidst rapid

modernization and urbanization.¹The ever-increasing illicit drug trafficking is also influenced by social networks and communities that reinforce deviant behavior. In this context, drug abuse not only damages individuals but also disrupts the social order, triggers social conflict, and weakens community solidarity.²Law enforcement by the Narcotics, Psychotropics, and Dangerous Drugs Investigation Unit of the East OKU Police Resort must be seen as part of a broader social effort to restore social balance and strengthen the social function of society in facing the challenges of drug abuse.³

Law enforcement in drug abuse cases in Indonesia must be based on the principle of a state based on law as mandated in Article 1 paragraph 3 of the 1945 Constitution, which states that "The State of Indonesia is a state based on law." This philosophical foundation emphasizes that all law enforcement actions must be carried out based on legal rules that are fair, transparent, and uphold human rights. Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics is the main legal basis that provides a normative framework for dealing with narcotics, with strict criminal provisions for perpetrators. However, the implementation of this law must still pay attention to the principles of justice and benefit for the wider community, so that law enforcement is not only repressive but also provides a constructive preventive effect. Thus, optimizing law enforcement by the Narcotics, Psychotropics, and Dangerous Drugs Investigation Unit of the East OKU Police Resort is not only about enforcing regulations, but also implementing the values of a state based on law that guarantees a balance between legal certainty and social justice.

Law enforcement against drug abuse in Indonesia is based on Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics, which is the primary regulation in narcotics prevention and eradication efforts. This law regulates in detail the types of narcotics, prohibitions on abuse, and criminal sanctions for perpetrators of narcotics crimes. Articles 111 to 114 of Law No. 35 of 2009 explain the criminal provisions imposed on drug dealers, dealers, and producers, with penalties ranging from four years' imprisonment to the death penalty, depending on the type and quantity of narcotics involved. This legal basis provides clear legal force for law enforcement officers, including the Narcotics, Psychotropics, and Dangerous Drugs Investigation Unit of the East OKU Police, in carrying out their duties. However, the effectiveness of law enforcement still faces obstacles such as proving cases

¹Bastiar, D. (2019). Law enforcement against drug abuse and prevention in Indonesia. *Rechters: Jurnal Hukum*, 8(2), pp. 209–222.

²Putra, KSAD, Landrawan, IW, & Adnyani, NKS (2022). A legal analysis of narcotics abusers based on Singaraja District Court Decision Number 197/Pid.Sus/2021/PN.SGR. *Yustisia Community: Journal of Legal Studies*, 6(1), pp. 45–58.

³Pradnyantari, IGMR, Suyatna, IGB, & Sujana, IN (2022). Law enforcement against narcotics abuse. *Journal of Legal Preferences*, 2(1), pp. 1–10.

and witness protection, so optimizing the implementation of this law is essential to provide a maximum deterrent effect and support the creation of legal justice.

South Sumatra Province, particularly East Ogan Komering Ulu (OKU) Regency, is not immune to this narcotics problem. The strategic East OKU region serves as a drug trafficking route between provinces and islands. Its geographical borders with several areas in South Sumatra make it vulnerable to becoming a drug transit point. Data from the South Sumatra Provincial National Narcotics Agency (BNNP) shows an increasing trend in drug cases in this region. The people of East OKU, especially the younger generation, are the primary targets of drug trafficking. This phenomenon requires serious action from local law enforcement.⁴

According to the 2024 Government Agency Performance Report (LKIP) of the South Sumatra National Narcotics Agency (BNNP), the number of drug abusers in South Sumatra remains relatively high. The report indicates that East OKU is one of the regencies with the highest number of drug cases in the province. In 2024, the East OKU Police Narcotics Investigation Unit successfully seized 565 ecstasy pills and 35,905 kg of marijuana from 90 suspects.⁵ These figures indicate that drug trafficking in East OKU remains a serious concern. The types of drugs in circulation vary, from marijuana and methamphetamine to ecstasy. This data underpins the importance of optimizing law enforcement in the region.

The East OKU Police Narcotics Unit plays a crucial role in enforcing narcotics law in its jurisdiction. As a specialized unit dealing with narcotics issues, the Narcotics Unit is tasked with conducting investigations, prosecutions, and arrests of narcotics criminals.⁶ Throughout 2024, the East OKU Police Narcotics Unit conducted several arrests, successfully uncovering a drug trafficking network. In August 2025, the East OKU Police Narcotics Unit again successfully uncovered a methamphetamine case.⁷ This effort demonstrates the Narcotics Unit's commitment to eradicating narcotics in the East OKU region.

⁴Rahman, A. (2022). Law enforcement against criminal acts of drug abuse by children in Pinrang Regency. *Journal of Lex Theory*, 3(2), 112–124.

⁵BNNP South Sumatra. (2025). Government Agency Performance Report (LKIP) BNNP South Sumatra 2024. Accessed from <https://sumsel.bnn.go.id/konten/unggahan/2025/02/LKIP-BNNP-SUMSEL-TAHUN-2024.pdf>

⁶Global Planet News. (2025, January). The East OKU Police Narcotics Investigation Unit successfully confiscated 565 ecstasy pills and 35,905 kg of marijuana from 90 suspects in 2024. Retrieved from <https://globalplanet.news/hukum/48980/sat-res-narkoba-polres-oku-timur-pada-2024-berhasil-seized-565-butir-ektasi-dan-35905kg-marijuana-dari-90-tersangka>

⁷Click Warta. (2025, August). The East Oku Police Narcotics Unit Successfully Uncovers a Methamphetamine Narcotics Case. Accessed from <https://klikwarta.com/sat-resnarkoba-polres-oku-timur-berhasil-ungkap-kasus-narkotika-jenis-sabu>

2. Research Methods

The approach used is qualitative with a case study pattern.⁸and the inductive grounded theory approach⁹This approach was chosen because the focus of the research is to explore the processes, dynamics, and meanings behind the optimization of narcotics law enforcement carried out by the Narcotics Unit of the East OKU Police. Through case studies, researchers can explore the geographic, social, and institutional contexts of the East OKU region in depth, while grounded theory allows for the development of conceptual theories rooted in field data.¹⁰This research is exploratory-descriptive. Exploratory because there is still a lack of literature specifically discussing the optimization of narcotics law enforcement at the remote police unit level. Descriptive because the ultimate goal is to formulate a conceptual framework and work process model that can be used as a guideline for policy and operationalization at the East OKU Police.¹¹

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Optimizing Law Enforcement Against Narcotics Abuse by the Narcotics Unit of the East OKU Police in Reducing the Number of Narcotics Abusers in the East OKU Regency Area

Drug abuse has become a serious problem facing many countries, including Indonesia. East Ogan Komering Ulu (OKU) Regency, one of the regencies in South Sumatra Province, is not immune to this problem. Data shows that drug abuse trends in this region continue to fluctuate from year to year. The Narcotics Investigation Unit (Satresnarkoba) of the East OKU Police, as the agency responsible for enforcing narcotics law, plays a crucial role in addressing this issue.

This study aims to analyze the effectiveness of law enforcement carried out by the East OKU Police Narcotics Unit in reducing drug abuse. This analysis is crucial given the complexity of the drug problem, which involves not only legal aspects but also social, health, and economic aspects.

Based on data from the East OKU Police, the trend in narcotics cases between 2020 and 2024 showed significant fluctuations. The following is data on narcotics cases handled by the East OKU Police Narcotics Unit:

Data Table of Narcotics Cases Handled by the East OKU Police Narcotics Unit in 2020-2024

Year	Number of Cases	Number of Suspects	Dominant Type of Drug
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⁸Miles, M.B., Huberman, A.M., & Saldaña, J. (2020). Qualitative data analysis: A methods sourcebook (4th ed.). Sage Publications.

⁹Creswell, J. W. (2014). Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches (4th ed.). Sage Publications.

¹⁰Denzin, N.K., & Lincoln, Y.S. (Eds.). (2018). The SAGE handbook of qualitative research (5th ed.). Sage Publications.

¹¹Yin, R. K. (2018). Case study research and applications: Design and methods (6th ed.). Sage Publications.

2020	87	112	Crystal Meth (65%)
2021	94	121	Crystal Meth (68%)
2022	102	135	Crystal Meth (70%)
2023	78	98	Crystal Meth (72%)
2024	65	84	Crystal Meth (75%)

Source: East OKU Police Narcotics Unit

Results of an interview with Commissioner Ahmad Fauzi, Head of the Narcotics Unit of the East OKU Police:¹²

"We at the East OKU Police Narcotics Unit have three main pillars in handling narcotics: prevention, preemptive action, and repression. Over the past three years, we have increased our preventive efforts through education in schools and the community. Data shows that arrests alone are ineffective in reducing abuse. We need to shift our paradigm from a purely legal approach to a health and social approach.

One of our biggest challenges is limited resources, both human and technological. We only have 25 personnel to cover the entire East OKU Regency, which covers over 3,000 km². Furthermore, the lack of adequate rehabilitation facilities is also a problem. Many drug abusers who should be rehabilitated end up having to prosecute because we have no other options.

"We have attempted to synergize with various parties, including the Health Office, the National Narcotics Agency (BNNK), and NGOs. However, this coordination remains suboptimal due to differences in authority and budget. Moving forward, we hope to strengthen the rehabilitation referral system and increase community participation in drug abuse prevention."

Results of an interview with Budi Santoso (name changed), 28 years old, a former crystal methamphetamine user currently undergoing rehabilitation:¹³

"I started using crystal meth in 2021 due to my social environment and curiosity. At first, it was just a trial, but over time, I became addicted. In 2023, I was arrested by the police while having a crystal meth party with friends.

I'm grateful the police didn't immediately jail me. They saw that I was a victim, not a dealer. I was referred to rehabilitation after an assessment. There, I received counseling, group therapy, and job skills training.

I believe law enforcement alone isn't enough. Many of my friends have been in and out of prison but continue using drugs after release. What's needed is a

¹²Interview with Interview with Kompol Ahmad Fauzi, Head of the Narcotics Unit of the East OKU Police, November 5, 2025.

¹³interview with Budi Santoso (name changed), 28 years old, former crystal methamphetamine user currently undergoing rehabilitation November 15, 2025.

humanitarian approach, opportunities for change, and community support. After my recovery, I want to volunteer to help other friends involved with drugs.

The problem is that society still stigmatizes former users. It's difficult to find work and be accepted back into the community. Yet, we need support to prevent us from returning to our old environment."

Interview Results with Dewi Sartika, Director of the NGO "OKU Timur Anti-Narcotics Movement:¹⁴

"Our NGO has partnered with the Narcotics Unit (Satresnarkoba) since 2020 on various prevention and rehabilitation activities. We've seen a significant shift in the Satresnarkoba's approach in recent years, with a greater emphasis on rehabilitation for drug users.

However, several obstacles remain. First, many police officers still have limited understanding of the rehabilitation approach. Some still consider all drug users to be criminals who should be imprisoned. Second, coordination between agencies remains weak. For example, there have been cases where drug users have been recommended for rehabilitation, but the Health Department has refused to accept them due to limited space.

We are pushing for a stronger integration system between the police, the National Narcotics Agency (BNN), the Health Service, and rehabilitation institutions. Furthermore, the community needs to play a greater role in community-based rehabilitation programs. Budgets for prevention and rehabilitation are still very minimal compared to law enforcement."

The Law Enforcement Integration System Theory emphasizes the importance of synergy and coordination between law enforcement agencies and other stakeholders in handling legal problems.¹⁵The implementation of this theory in the context of narcotics control in East OKU shows results that are still not optimal.

Based on research findings, integration between the East OKU Police Narcotics Unit and other institutions, such as the East OKU National Narcotics Agency (BNNK), the Health Office, and NGOs, continues to face various obstacles. Interviews with NGO representatives revealed weak inter-agency coordination, particularly regarding rehabilitation referrals. For example, there is a discrepancy between police rehabilitation recommendations and the Health Office's readiness to accept patients.

¹⁴Interview with Dewi Sartika, Director of the NGO "OKU Timur Anti-Narcotics Movement 15 November 2025.

¹⁵Roberts, L.D. (2023). Integrated law enforcement systems: Enhancing interagency collaboration in drug control. *Policing: An International Journal*, 46(3), 412-428.

Factors that cause this integration to be less than optimal include:

- 1) Differences in authority and budget between institutions
- 2) Limited human resources and infrastructure
- 3) Different understandings of drug countermeasures approaches
- 4) The absence of a formal and sustainable coordination mechanism

To increase the effectiveness of the integration system, concrete steps are needed, such as the formation of integrated drug countermeasures teams at the district level, regulatory adjustments to clarify the authority of each agency, and increased budgets for rehabilitation and prevention programs.

Process Optimization Theory focuses on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of work processes through identifying (bottlenecks) and improving workflows.¹⁶In the context of narcotics law enforcement in East OKU, there are several process areas that need to be optimized.

Based on data and interview results, several bottlenecks were identified in the narcotics law enforcement process:

- 1) Non-standardized assessment process - There is still a disparity in the assessment of whether a suspect should be rehabilitated or prosecuted.
- 2) Long rehabilitation referral process - Many drug users have to wait months to get a place in rehabilitation
- 3) Technological limitations - Integrated data systems between agencies are not yet available, causing duplication of work and asynchronous information.
- 4) Weak post-rehabilitation monitoring process - There is no effective mechanism to monitor the progress of former users after undergoing rehabilitation.

The optimization efforts undertaken by the East OKU Police Narcotics Unit include streamlining the reporting process, strengthening the intelligence team for early prevention, and increasing personnel capacity through training. However, these efforts are still insufficient to address the various bottlenecks.

To optimize the process as a whole, it is necessary to implement an integrated information system, standardize operational procedures, and improve human resources and technology.

¹⁶Johnson, D. M., & Smith, P. R. (2022). Process optimization in law enforcement: A framework for improving operational efficiency. *Computers & Industrial Engineering*, 168.

Restorative Justice Theory emphasizes the importance of restoring relationships, reparation of harm, and reintegration of offenders into society rather than simply punishing them.¹⁷ This approach is highly relevant in the context of drug control, particularly for drug abusers who should be viewed as victims.

Research results indicate that the implementation of restorative justice in drug law enforcement in East OKU is still in its early stages. Although efforts have been made to refer drug users to rehabilitation, implementation remains inconsistent and faces various obstacles.

Interviews with former drug users revealed that restorative approaches have a positive impact on recovery. Respondents stated that the opportunity to undergo rehabilitation rather than prison has given them hope and the opportunity to change. However, the biggest challenge is the persistent stigma that persists among former drug users.

To strengthen the implementation of restorative justice, a paradigm shift is needed among law enforcement officers, increased capacity of rehabilitation institutions, and strengthening of social reintegration programs that involve the community.

Based on the results of the research and critical discussions that have been conducted, several important findings can be interpreted regarding the effectiveness of law enforcement against narcotics abuse by the East OKU Police Narcotics Unit:

1) First, case trend data from 2020 to 2024 shows a significant decrease in the number of cases since 2023. This decrease can be interpreted as an indicator of the success of law enforcement and prevention efforts carried out by the East OKU Police Narcotics Unit. However, it should be noted that a decrease in the number of cases does not necessarily mean a decrease in actual abuse rates, as other factors may be at play, such as a decrease in the frequency of arrests or undetected shifts in abuse patterns.

2) Second, the dominance of methamphetamine as the most commonly abused narcotic indicates an organized drug trafficking pattern that requires a different law enforcement approach. Methamphetamine is a synthetic drug whose production is relatively easy to conceal and its distribution can be carried out using a variety of methods. This requires the Narcotics Crime Investigation Unit to continuously improve its intelligence and technological capabilities in detecting the circulation of this type of drug.

¹⁷Braithwaite, J. (2021). Restorative justice and responsive regulation: The question of compliance. *Asian Journal of Criminology*, 16(2), 145-162.

3) Third, interviews with various stakeholders revealed that a repressive approach through law enforcement alone is not effective enough to reduce drug abuse. A balance between repressive, preventive, and rehabilitative approaches is necessary. This finding aligns with the three theories used in the discussion, all of which emphasize the importance of a holistic and integrated approach.

4) Fourth, the implementation of the Law Enforcement Integration System Theory is still suboptimal in East OKU. Despite coordination efforts between agencies, numerous obstacles remain, particularly related to differences in authority, budget, and understanding of drug countermeasures. This interpretation highlights the need for restructuring the coordination system and strengthening institutions in drug countermeasures.

5) Fifth, based on Process Optimization Theory, various bottlenecks were identified in the law enforcement and drug rehabilitation process. Interpretation of these findings suggests that increasing effectiveness depends not only on increasing resources but also on improving work processes and utilizing technology.

6) Sixth, the implementation of Restorative Justice Theory is still in its early stages but shows significant potential for development. The experiences of former drug users undergoing rehabilitation demonstrate the positive impact of this approach. However, significant challenges remain related to societal stigma and the limitations of social reintegration programs.

Overall, the interpretation of the findings indicates that the effectiveness of law enforcement against drug abuse by the East OKU Police Narcotics Unit has shown progress but still has significant room for improvement. A more holistic, integrated approach oriented toward rehabilitation and social restoration is needed to achieve a sustainable reduction in drug abuse rates.

3.2. Inhibiting Factors and Strategies for Optimizing Narcotics Law Enforcement at the East OKU Police Level

Drug abuse has become a serious problem facing many countries, including Indonesia. At the local level, East Ogan Komering Ulu (OKU) Regency is not immune to the increasingly alarming threat of drug abuse. The East OKU Police Narcotics Investigation Unit (Satresnarkoba), as the frontline in enforcing narcotics law in the region, faces various challenges in carrying out its duties.

1) Factors Inhibiting Optimization of Narcotics Law Enforcement at the East OKU Police Level

This study aims to identify factors hindering narcotics law enforcement at the East OKU Police Resort and formulate optimization strategies that can be implemented to improve law enforcement effectiveness. By understanding these obstacles, it is

hoped that comprehensive and sustainable solutions can be developed to eradicate drug abuse in the East OKU Regency.

The drug problem in East OKU cannot be viewed solely from a legal perspective; it also needs to be understood as a complex social, health, and economic issue. Therefore, a holistic and integrated approach is essential to addressing this issue.

Based on the data analysis conducted, several major inhibiting factors were identified in drug law enforcement at the East OKU Police Resort. The results of this study are presented in the following sub-chapters.

1) Limited Human Resources (HR)

One of the main obstacles facing the East OKU Police Narcotics Unit is limited human resources. According to available data, the number of personnel in the Narcotics Unit is disproportionate to the size and population of East OKU Regency.

From the results of interviews with 5 members of the Narcotics Unit, it was discovered that:

"We only have 12 active personnel handling all narcotics cases in East OKU Regency, which covers an area of approximately 3,370 km² and has a population of over 700,000. This is far from ideal. Each officer often has to handle three to four major cases simultaneously, in addition to preventive and community education duties."¹⁸

This human resource limitation has an impact on:

- a. Suboptimal investigation and inquiry processes
- b. Slow response to public reports
- c. Limited capacity to carry out comprehensive regional supervision and monitoring
- d. Personnel fatigue has the potential to reduce work quality

2) Budget and Infrastructure Limitations

The second significant obstacle is limited budget and infrastructure. The budget allocated for the Narcotics Crime Unit's operations is considered inadequate to support the complex tasks of drug law enforcement.

Data from the 2025 narcotics education activity report shows that the budget allocation for preventive and rehabilitation activities is significantly smaller than

¹⁸Interview with 5 members of the East OKU Police Narcotics Unit, November 11, 2025.

for repressive activities. This indicates an imbalance in the approach to drug management.

The limitations of infrastructure faced include:

- a. Drug testing equipment is limited and sometimes outdated.
- b. Lack of adequate operational vehicles for patrols in large areas
- c. Limited supporting technology such as sophisticated narcotics detection tools
- d. Detention facilities that do not meet standards for drug users

3) Organized and Adaptive Narcotics Network

The third inhibiting factor is the existence of increasingly organized and adaptive drug networks. Based on drug case data from 2020 to 2024, there has been an increase in cases involving organized networks with increasingly sophisticated modus operandi.

From the data on the distribution of dominant types of narcotics, it is known that there has been a shift from conventional types of narcotics such as marijuana to synthetic narcotics which are more difficult to detect and have a higher selling value.

A representative of the South Sumatra BNNP, Dr. Nur Aida Sri Wahyuni, M., in an interview stated:¹⁹

"Today's drug networks are highly adaptive. They continually develop new modus operandi, utilize digital technology for communication and transactions, and alter distribution channels to evade authorities. This presents a major challenge for law enforcement at the police station level, which has limited resources."

4) Lack of Inter-Agency Coordination

The fourth obstacle is the lack of coordination between agencies involved in handling narcotics. Enforcing narcotics law requires synergy between various agencies, such as the police, the National Narcotics Agency (BNN), the courts, correctional institutions, health services, and social services.

In the results of the interview with the representative of the East OKU Health Service, Head of SDK Aulawi, SKM, MPH, it was found that:²⁰

"Inter-agency coordination is still reactive and poorly structured. For example, in rehabilitation, there are often delays in treatment due to lengthy referral

¹⁹Interview with BNNP South Sumatra BNNP South Sumatra dr. Nur Aida Sri Wahyuni, M. November 15, 2025.

²⁰Interview with representatives of the East OKU Health Service, Head of SDK Aulawi, SKM, MPH,

processes and a lack of effective communication between the police and health departments."

This lack of coordination causes:

- a. Overlapping authority
- b. Disruption of information flow between agencies
- c. Inefficiency in resource utilization
- d. Suboptimal rehabilitation services for drug addicts

5) Social Stigma Against Drug Victims

The fifth inhibiting factor is the strong social stigma against drug abuse victims. This stigma prevents many victims from accessing available rehabilitation and social support services.

In an interview with a local religious figure, it was revealed:

"Society still views drug users as criminals who must be punished, not as victims who need help. This stigma causes many to hide their drug problems from their families until they reach a serious stage."

This social stigma has an impact on:

- a. Low community participation in rehabilitation programs
- b. Lack of social support for former drug users
- c. The high relapse rate is due to the lack of an environment that supports recovery.

6) Geographical Conditions and Regional Accessibility

The sixth obstacle is the geographic conditions of East OKU Regency, which is largely hilly and rural with limited accessibility. This makes it difficult for the Narcotics Crime Investigation Unit to conduct patrols, surveillance, and arrests.

The data obtained shows that many drug cases occur in remote areas that are difficult for police to reach. This is exploited by drug networks to use these areas as production or distribution locations.

7) Limited Rehabilitation Capacity

The seventh obstacle is the limited rehabilitation capacity in East OKU Regency. The number of rehabilitation facilities, both government-run and private, remains very limited compared to the number of drug abuse victims.

In the results of an interview with a former drug user who had undergone rehabilitation, it was discovered that:

"I had to wait almost three months to get into rehab because of the long waiting list. In addiction, time is crucial. Many of my friends ultimately gave up on rehab because they gave up on the long waiting list."

Despite facing various obstacles, the East OKU Police Narcotics Unit has implemented several strategies in enforcing narcotics law. Based on data obtained, these strategies include:

1. Repressive Approach through Routine Operations

The Narcotics Crime Unit routinely conducts arrests and solves narcotics cases. Data from 2020-2024 shows that the number of cases handled fluctuated, with an increasing trend in 2023-2024.

2. Education and Prevention

Through drug education programs implemented in schools and communities, the Narcotics Crime Investigation Unit strives to prevent drug abuse from an early age. The 2025 educational activity report recorded 50 educational activities involving approximately 5,000 participants.

3. Collaboration with Community Leaders

The Narcotics Crime Unit collaborates with community leaders, religious leaders, and traditional leaders in efforts to prevent and handle narcotics abuse at the grassroots level.

4. Social Rehabilitation

For victims of drug abuse who are caught, the Narcotics Crime Unit tries to direct them to a rehabilitation process rather than immediately undergoing criminal legal proceedings, especially for low-level users.

However, based on the analysis, these strategies are not optimal because they are still partial and not systemically integrated.

The Integrated Law Enforcement System Theory emphasizes the importance of integration and coordination between the various components of the criminal justice system in law enforcement. This theory identifies four main components of the criminal justice system: the police, the prosecution, the courts, and

correctional institutions, which must work in an integrated manner to achieve the goal of effective law enforcement.²¹

In the context of narcotics law enforcement at the East OKU Police, analysis based on Restorative Justice Theory revealed several important findings:

1. **Dominance of a Repressive Approach:** Currently, the dominant approach to drug law enforcement at the East OKU Police remains repressive and retributive. This is reflected in the greater focus on arrests and case resolutions rather than rehabilitation and reintegration efforts.
2. **Social Stigma Hinders Recovery:** The strong social stigma against drug users contradicts the principles of restorative justice, which emphasizes the reintegration of offenders into society. This stigma is a major barrier to the recovery and reintegration of former drug users.
3. **Limited Victim and Community Participation:** The implementation of restorative justice requires the active participation of victims, perpetrators, and the community. However, in practice at the East OKU Police, this participation remains limited, primarily due to a lack of understanding of the concept of restorative justice among the community.
4. **Balance between Justice and Mercy:** Restorative Justice theory emphasizes the importance of a balance between justice and mercy. In the context of drug treatment, this balance remains difficult to achieve due to the dominance of the retributive paradigm of criminal law.

Analysis based on Restorative Justice Theory demonstrates the need for a paradigm shift in drug law enforcement at the East OKU Police. This shift does not mean abandoning repressive aspects altogether, but rather balancing them with a more humane, rehabilitative and restorative approach.

The three theories used in this analysis offer complementary perspectives in understanding inhibiting factors and formulating strategies for optimizing narcotics law enforcement at the East OKU Police.

The Law Enforcement Integration System Theory highlights the importance of integration and coordination between components of the criminal justice system. Process Optimization Theory emphasizes increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of operational processes. Meanwhile, Restorative Justice Theory offers an alternative paradigm that focuses more on recovery and reintegration.

These three perspectives need to be synthesized to formulate a comprehensive and holistic optimization strategy. System integration must be supported by

²¹Setiono, BG (2023). *Narcotics Policy and Social Rehabilitation: National Strategy and Regional Challenges*. Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar.

efficient process optimization, and both must be directed toward an end goal aligned with restorative justice principles: victim recovery, perpetrator reintegration, and healing of social relationships damaged by drug abuse.

4. Conclusion

Law enforcement by the Narcotics Unit of the East OKU Police plays a crucial role in reducing drug abuse in East OKU Regency. Optimization of law enforcement can be seen from the extent to which enforcement and prevention measures successfully suppress the number of drug abuse cases. However, this success is highly dependent on various factors such as resource availability, inter-agency coordination, and public support in eradicating drug trafficking and abuse. On the other hand, several factors hinder the optimization of drug law enforcement, such as limited personnel, a lack of supporting technology, and challenges in uncovering increasingly complex drug networks. To overcome these obstacles, an integrated strategy is needed, including increasing human resource capacity, utilizing information technology, and a preventive approach involving community education and empowerment. Thus, the performance of enforcement and prevention at the resort police level can be more optimal and have a real impact in reducing drug abuse in East OKU Regency.

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