### The Role of the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Service in Assuring the Rights of Children as Victims of Sexual Intercourse in South Central Timor District

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
<u>Keywords:</u> Child Copulation, Children's rights, Role	The large number of cases of sexual intercourse with children where the rights of the child who is the victim of sexual intercourse are not fulfilled. This study aims to determine the role of the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection in guaranteeing the rights of children as victims of sexual intercourse in the South Central Timor District, and to find out the Obstacles of the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection in guaranteeing the fulfillment of the rights of children as victims of sexual intercourse in the South Central Timor District. The research method used in this research is juridical-empirical legal research which is related to the research problem under study. The legal sources and materials used are primary legal materials, secondary legal materials and tertiary legal materials. The results of the study show that the fulfillment of the rights of children who are victims of sexual intercourse in the South Central Timor district by the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection of South Central Timor District, but there are several obstacles encountered in the process of fulfilling the rights of children as victims of sexual intercourse.It is suggested that the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection of the South Central Timor Regency can carry out an evaluation in overcoming the obstacles that have so far been encountered in carrying out the task of fulfilling the rights of children who are victims of sexual intercourse in the South Central Timor Regency area.
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#### **INTRODUCTION**

Children are a gift from God Almighty who must be cared for and protected. Every parent is obliged to provide a decent living for a child, both in terms of good parenting, teaching good things such as manners, and respect for elders as well as various other good ethics. It doesn't stop there, parents are obliged to provide and guarantee that a child's growth and development takes place properly and is free from all forms of violence that they should not accept. Because in the end a child plays an important role as the nation's successor, but it cannot be denied that there are still many parents who do not take good care of their children. The growth and development of children who are in the phase of having great curiosity is often seen as naughty behavior by their parents. Lack of education about this kind of thing causes children to often get abusive treatment both physically and verbally by parents. The mental and physical vulnerabilities of a child make them more easily influenced and deceived. As a result of this educational pattern, children both consciously and unconsciously seek a sense of comfort from outside the home which they do not get from inside the home. It becomes a kind of interrelated chain. Children who do notget love and attention from their parents will easily be influenced and deceived, especially if they are supported by an unstable mental and psychological condition. The case that occurred in Timor Tengah Selatan District itself was a case of child sexual intercourse committed by both peers and adults, because they easily approached children who were looking for affection outside the home, by giving luresor promising something to the child. to want to have sex, all of which are forced on children. The low level of parental knowledge and low economic conditions result in attention and protection for children not being carried out optimally.

Protection of children's rights is not only limited to protecting and preventinga child from becoming a victim of sexual intercourse, but also includes fulfilling the rights of children who have become victims of sexual intercourse. The ongoing legal process and the trials of perpetrators of child sexual intercourse are only one form of protection from a legal perspective that a child must receive as the right of a victim of sexual intercourse. As we know, in Indonesia, patriarchal values are highly respected in parts of Indonesia.

In this research, the main issues are a) What is the role of the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Service in guaranteeing the rights of children as victims of sexual intercourse in the South Central Timor District?. b) What are the obstacles from the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Service in guaranteeing the rights of children as victims of sexual intercourse in the South Central Timor District?.

#### METHOD

In order to obtain the necessary data, the researchers conducted research by taking locations in Ruis Village, Manggarai Regency, Reok District. This research is a type of empirical legal research, namely the type of research that examines law in reality or reality in society



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regarding the Effectiveness of Village Fund Management in Village Developmentin Ruis Village, Reok District, Manggarai Regency Based on Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages.

This type of research is juridical-empirical legal research. Empirical legal research is a research method that looks at law from the side of reality and examines how the law works in society. This research also examines the statutory and legal provisions in force, therefore it is referred to as empirical juridical law research.

The research location is the place where the author conducts research in order to obtain the necessary data, the location of this research is the research carried out in the South Central Timor District, in this case at the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection, South Central Timor District.

The sources and data from this study are: Primary Data, namely data obtained from the main source, namely from respondents and informants as well as sources in the field. In this study, primary data was obtained in the South Central Timor District.

Secondary data, namely library data and legal material documents which include primary legal materials, secondary legal materials, tertiary legal materials

#### Data collection technique

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Interview is a data collection technique by conducting direct questions and answers between researchers and respondents or informants or informants to obtain information related to existing problems based on a list of questions that have been prepared beforehand.

Studies is, by collecting secondary data, namely studying books, journal websites, literature and laws and regulations that are relevant to the problem under study.

#### Processing and analysis of data

The data that has been obtained will be processed through the stages of data checking ( editing ). Data checking is the activity of checking and changing the data obtained and compiled so that it becomes a scientific work. Data marking ( coding ), classify data. that has been obtained, Tabulation of data ( tableing ) is the stage of moving data into a simple tabular form to facilitate analysis activities. The data that has been obtained from the field is then processed and analyzed qualitatively, in order to obtain a clear and directed picture of the problem under study in accordance with the facts in the field.

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

#### The Effectiveness of Village Fund Management in Village Development in RuisVillage, Reok District, Manggarai Regency

#### 1. Planning

Planning is a very important part in management, because there are many important factors in it, starting from the time of implementation, the budget needed to how longit will take for implementation. Planning according to Adisasmita (2011: 22) is a process of systematically preparing activities to be carried out to achieve a goal. The planning stage is the hamlet meeting



and village meeting which aims to plan the villagework program in the future.

From research conducted at the Office of the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection in South Central Timor district, the number of cases of sexual intercourse that occurred with children as victims in the period 2018-2022. In which during this period the criminal act of intercourse with a child as a victim sometimes experienced an increase and decreased, this can be seen in the table below.

**Table 1.** Number of cases of sexual intercourse with children recorded by the Office ofWomen's Empowerment and Child Protection of South Central Timor District

No	Year	Number of Cases
1	2018	21
2	2019	27
3	2020	21
4	2021	28
5	2022 (until May)	12
	Total	109

Source Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection of South Central Timor District (accessed 17 may 2022)

# The role of the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Service in guaranteeing the rights of children as victims of sexual intercourse in the South Central Timor District Region

Based on the large number of cases of sexual intercourse with children, the role played by the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection in guaranteeing the rights of children as victims of sexual intercourse in Timor Tengah Selatan District is grouped into two, namely Prevention which includes :socialization . and countermeasures which include: ensuring the realization of an optimal judicial process, conducting counseling by professional staff for victims of sexual intercourse, providing opportunities for victims to express their opinions, and coordinating with the police, social services and other related institutions.

#### a. Prevention

#### **b.** Socialization

Socialization activity is a process when an individual acquires theculture of his group and internalizes to a certain degree its social norms, thereby guiding that person to take into account the expectations of others. Based on the results of an interview I conducted with Mr. Andi Kalumbang as the Head of the Integrated Service Center for the Empowerment of Women and Children, the following steps The first thing that was done by the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Service in guaranteeing therights of children as victims of promiscuity was by conducting outreach activities. The socialization activities carried out targeted parents, educational institutions related to children starting from the elementary school level to the high



school level. One of the rights of children who are victims of sexual intercourse is to ensure that the offender gets the appropriate reward according to his actions. Through the socialization **c. Countermeasures** 

The countermeasures taken by the Women's Empowerment and ChildProtection Service in the event of sexual intercourse with a child include:

1. Ensuring the Realization of an Optimal Judicial Process

The optimal running of the judicial process reflects that the Statethrough law enforcement officers who are authorized to guarantee the rights of children as victims of sexual intercourse have been fulfilled. In the judicial process it is often found that perpetrators or victims' families intervene in the course of the judicial process. As the results of the interview I conducted with Ms. Sarci Maukari as Deputy Director of the Sanggar Suara Perempuan Foundation, as one of the institutions that collaborate with the Office for Women's Empowerment and Child Protection in South Central Timor District, Ms. Sarci explained that the perpetrator through the victim's family committedfraud by trying to pay officers to get leniency or acquittal of all alleged charges. this is where the role of officers from the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection as well as assistance officers from the NGO Sanggar Suara Perempuan is needed. The presence of officers in every examination process up to the reading of court decisions can minimize variouskinds of fraudulent acts that can occur which will harm the rights of childrenas victims of sexual intercourse as stated in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, namely the Right to Protection, protection from discrimination, exploitation, violence and neglect, so that it does not actually benefit the perpetrators who should be punished according to their actions. 2. Professional Counseling

According to ASCA (American School Counselor Association) counseling is a face-to-face relationship that is confidential, full of acceptance and giving opportunities from the counselor to the client. The counselor uses his knowledge and skills to help clients overcome their problems <sup>8</sup>. Intercoursethat occurs in children will certainly have a negative impact on the child, both physically and psychologically. For physical injuries, the women's empowerment and child protection services will accompany and direct children to be examined and treated by professional health workers, both at regional public hospitals and independent medical practitioners. These efforts are embodiment of Article 90 point (1) of the Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 11 of 2012 Concerning the Child Criminal Justice Systemin addition to the rights that have been regulated in the provisions of the legislation as referred to in Article 89 namely, child victims and child witnesses have the right on , (a) medical rehabilitation and social rehabilitation efforts, both within and outside the institution; and (b) security guarantees, both physical, mental and social. So that in this process the child will continue o be accompanied by both parents and officers in order to provide a sense of security for the child and provide physical, mental and spiritual development which is the child's right, so that they can recover and grow according to their age. For families of victims who do not have the funds or costs to carry out examinations, the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection of South Central Timor Regency has signed an MoU (Memorandum Of Understanding) with the Soe City General Hospital, different for child victims who require examination post mortem, the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection of South Central Timor Regency will

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provide financial assistance called the post mortem fee, the source of which is government funds. Injuries or trauma that befalls children are certainly not only physical. Psychologically or mentally the child must also experience a shock. Prolongedtrauma will appear in the child's psyche. One of the things that can be seen clearly is that children will become gloomy and afraid to socialize with anyone. This of course will have a big impact on the survival of the child as a whole. The child's growth process will be hampered, the child will continue to live in fear and guilt, the result will be loss of self-confidence from within the child .

3. Facilities for Victims to Express Opinions

The process of fulfilling a child's rights as a victim of sexual intercourse can be carried out well if the victim is willing to tell what he is experiencing without feeling afraid. There are still many victims who prefer not to tell and report what they are experiencing because they are afraid that they will instead be blamed or receive threats from their families or theperpetrators themselves, so providing facilities for victims to be able to express what they are experiencing is very important. This is in accordance with the rights of children according to the Convention on the Rights of the Child grouped into 4 categories, one of which reads , a child has the right to participate. Where a child has the right to express an opinion in all matters thataffect the child, including in the case of children who are victims of sexual intercourse.

4. Based on the results of my interview with Mr. Andi Kalumbang, S.IP. as the Head of the Integrated Service Center for the Empowerment of Women and Children, the facilities provided are in the form of victims who can report online to officers either by telephone or by sending short messages or short period letters which will then be followed up by the officer by directing and Accompany the victim to make a report at the police station. This makes it easier for victims who are not ready to directly report what happened to them. In addition, shelters are provided for victims who feel that if they return to their homes, their safety will be threatened. Another facility provided is a protection car, the car is used to facilitate the mobility of victims and their families during the legal process and fulfillment of children's rights. The provision of this car protection facility considering that many victims whose homes are far from urban areas which require quite a long time to access.

5. Coordinate with Relevant Agencies

In general what is meant by coordination is aligning or balancing the work activities of one party with another party in order to achieve the goals of each party and end with a common goal .Reports made by victims of sexual intercourse can be made to government agencies related to child protection. One of them is being able to report to the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection. As one of the agencies that focus on child protection. Reports made to the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection are not immediately taken action, after receiving a report then officers from the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection will coordinate and direct and accompany victims to report to the Local Police as the party authorized to take action . Every stage that the victim goes through will alwaysreceive assistance from officers from the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection. As an example during the examination and information gathering stages, the victim will continue to be accompanied so that he feels safe and wants to convey what he is experiencing. In addition, assistance is also carried out to prevent interference with the rights of victims by irresponsible parties.



Coordination carried out by the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection of South Central Timor Regency was not only carried out with agencies under the auspices of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, coordination and cooperation were also carried out with related private institutions which have the same focus on protecting women andchildren. One of them is coordination with a non-profit organization in the form of a foundation, namely Sanggar Suara Perempuan. Where this foundation functions to provide services, mediate, facilitate and provide assistance to women and children victims of violence.

6. Obstacles from the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Service in guaranteeing the rights of children as victims of sexual intercourse in the South Central Timor District area

Based on results interview that the author conducted with Mr. Andi Kalumbang, S.IP Head of the Integrated Service Center for the Empowerment of Women and Children regarding what obstacles were faced by the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection, it can be described:

a. Victims' families are not open to cases of sexual intercourse that befall children

Many cases of sexual intercourse with children actually occurred but could not be identified or assisted by officers from the South Central Timor District Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Service as a result of families feeling that what had happened to their children was a disgrace, so thefamilies chose to remain silent and hide the cases that had befallen them. victim. Based on the results of the interviews I conducted with Ms. Sarci Lenamah as the parents of the victims on behalf of Asnat Nenohaifeto and Ms.Ince Nenobais as the parents of the victims on behalf of Santi Liokae, the answers given were basically similar to the parents or extended family of the victims preferring to cover up the problem what happened compared to seeking justice by reporting to the authorities. The background is that the parents and families of the victims are afraid that if the neighbors or people around them find out about the problem, the parents and family will feel ashamed and ostracized which will then become a topic of conversation among the residents. Parents and families feel that these cases occur becauseof the inability to look after and educate children so that children become victims of sexual intercourse. In addition, based on the statement of the child who was the victim, he chose to agree not to report what happened to him to the authorities, because apart from not being able to argue with the child's parents and family, they feel that if the case is exposed, they will not have a future and it will not be difficult to get a partner when they are adults. as a result of the status of a victim of sexual intercourse that will stick with him forever. Parents' awareness of the rights of their children who have been victims of sexual intercourse must be increased, because parents are one of thefront lines protecting children. By holding outreach to parents regarding the importance of having an open and wise attitude in dealing with the situation of their children who are victims of sexual intercourse, this is a good first step so that their children's rights as victims of sexual intercourse can be fulfilled and the perpetrators will receive appropriate sanctions.

b. Victims are afraid of being ridiculed and cannot be accepted back in society if the victim reports to the authorities

Sexual intercourse that occurs with adolescents often cannot be identified either by the family or by the Office of Women's Empowerment andChild Protection of South Central Timor District. This is because the victim tries to cover up what has happened to him. Victims who



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are in the mental state of adolescents who are still experiencing puberty and are unstable will feel afraid that if the victim reports his problem to the authorities, the surrounding community will know so that the victim feels that he will become the subject of conversation and will no longer be negative from society or the victim's peers who want to socialize and be friends with him. This of course will make it difficult for the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection of South Central Timor Regency in an effort to protect the rights of victims which should be available to victims if victims dare to tell about what happened to them instead they will feel guilty and are reluctant to.

c. Lack of supporting infrastructure for women's empowerment and child protection officers in carrying out their duties

Based on the results of interviews that the author conducted with Mr. Andi Kalumbang, S.IP., as the Head of the Integrated Service Center for the Empowerment of Women and Children in South Central Timor District, cases of sexual intercourse with children that occurred in South Central Timor district have a wide distribution location. The terrain traveled sometimes makes it difficult for officers from the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Service to reach victims directly, this is because apart from the damaged roads, they are also hampered by the vehicles used that do not match the road conditions in the field. Limited operational vehicles sometimes require officers to use private vehicles to provide assistance and reach child victims of intercourse, this of course will make it difficult for officers to carry out their functions and duties. When carrying out assistance, when the officer assesses that the child victim needs to get medical treatment and report it to the authorities.

#### CONCLUSION

Based on the discussion of the problems above, it can be concluded: 1) The role of the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Service in Assuring the Rights of Children as Victims of Sexual Intercourse in the South Central Timor District are as follows: Conducting socialization activities targeting parents and all educational institutions, Ensuring an optimal judicial process, Conducting counseling for children who are victims intercourse accompanied by professional experts, Provide facilities for victims to dare to express opinions, Coordinate withrelevant agencies that are authorized and focused on women's empowerment and child protection 2) Obstacles from the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Service in securing the rights of victims of promiscuity in the South Central Timor District are: Are Not Open To The Cases Of Sexual Intercourse That Affected Their Children.Many cases of sexual intercourse with children actually occurred , but could not be identified or assisted by officers from the Office for Women's Empowerment and Child Protection, South Central Timor District .

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