

ANALYSIS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT ON THE CRIME OF NARCOTICS ABUSE IN NEGERI BARU VILLAGE, BLAMBANGAN UMPU DISTRICT, WAY KANAN REGENCY (Study at the Drug Investigation Unit of the Right Way Police)

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Abstract

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Drug abuse in rural areas has distinct characteristics compared to urban settings, including weaker social control, limited access to information, and lower levels of legal awareness. This study aims to analyze the factors contributing to drug abuse in Negeri Baru Village, Blambangan Umpu District, Way Kanan Regency, examine law enforcement efforts undertaken by the Way Kanan Police Narcotics Investigation Unit, and identify the obstacles encountered in combating drug abuse. The research employed normative and empirical juridical approaches using both secondary and primary data collected through literature review, interviews, and field observations. The data were processed through identification, classification, systematization, and qualitative analysis. The findings reveal that drug abuse is influenced by both internal factors, such as individual behavior and low self-control, and external factors, including peer influence, family conditions, and the surrounding social environment. Law enforcement conducted by the Way Kanan Police Narcotics Investigation Unit applies a repressive approach through investigation, arrest, and prosecution of offenders in accordance with applicable legal provisions. However, its effectiveness is constrained by difficulties in obtaining valid evidence, limited personnel, inadequate facilities and infrastructure, and low public awareness and participation. Therefore, strengthening preventive measures, increasing public legal awareness, and intensifying highway vehicle inspections are recommended to reduce drug trafficking and abuse in rural areas.

INTRODUCTION

Narcotics abuse is a form of transnational crime that has a wide impact on the social stability, security, and quality of a country's human resources(Ichwani et al., 2022).

Globally, the circulation and abuse of narcotics continues to increase along with technological advancements, population mobility, and the development of organized crime networks(Magalhães & Pereira, n.d.). The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) affirms that narcotics not only threaten the health of individuals, but also weaken the social order, exacerbate crime, and hinder sustainable development(Moodley & Horne, 2025). Therefore, law enforcement against narcotics crimes is a strategic issue that requires serious attention from the state and law enforcement officials(Tumalavicius, 2023).

The narcotics problem in Indonesia has been categorized as a national emergency. Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics emphasizes that narcotics on the one hand are beneficial for medical interests, but on the other hand they have a destructive impact (destructive, destructive or destructive) if abused(Singer, 2008a). This is also emphasized in Government Regulation Number 43 of 2013 concerning the Implementation of Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics.

Data from the National Narcotics Agency shows that the circulation and abuse of narcotics is not only concentrated in urban areas, but has penetrated into rural areas with circulation patterns that are increasingly closed and difficult to detect(Aning & Pokoo, 2014). This condition demands an adaptive law enforcement strategy based on regional characteristics(Singer, 2008b)(Hartono et al., 2024).

Theoretically, law enforcement is largely determined by a variety of interrelated factors. Soerjono Soekanto stated that the success of law enforcement is influenced by five main factors, namely the law itself, law enforcement officials, facilities and infrastructure, society, and legal culture(Swanstrom, 2007). In the context of rural areas such as Way Kanan, these five factors often do not run optimally, resulting in the weak investigation and enforcement process for narcotics crimes. On the other hand, criminological theory views narcotics abuse as a social phenomenon influenced by the environment, economic pressure, and weak social control, so that its handling cannot rely solely on a repressive approach alone(Othman & Idris, 2016)(Zainudin Hasan et al., 2023).

The phenomenon of narcotics abuse in Negeri Baru Village, Blambangan Umpu District, Way Kanan Regency has different characteristics compared to urban areas. Rural areas generally have looser social controls, limited access to information, and relatively low levels of community legal awareness. In addition, economic factors, unemployment, and the influence of the social environment also trigger the involvement of rural communities in narcotics abuse, both as users and as part of a small-scale circulation network.

Way Kanan Regency as one of the areas with extensive rural geographical characteristics, scattered settlements, and limited transportation access, faces challenges in law enforcement efforts against narcotics abuse crimes. The circulation of narcotics tends to be closed and based on small networks, especially for methamphetamine-type narcotics, making it difficult for law enforcement officials to obtain information, evidence, and witnesses. The Drug Investigation Unit (hereinafter abbreviated as Satresnarkoba) of the Way Kanan Police as the spearhead of law enforcement in the narcotics sector is faced with geographical constraints, limited infrastructure, and lack of public participation in reporting narcotics crimes.

Although various studies have discussed law enforcement against narcotics crimes, most studies still focus on urban areas or on the normative aspects of laws and

regulations(Shelley, 1995). Research that specifically examines law enforcement against narcotics perpetrators in rural areas, especially with empirical studies on police work units such as the Way Kanan Police Narcotics Task Force, is still limited. This shows that there is a research gap between theoretical studies and law enforcement practices in rural areas such as in Negeri Baru Village, Blambangan Umpu District, Way Kanan Regency, where the majority of people still live by gardening and trading which have their own complexities.

Law enforcement against criminal acts is an effort to ensure legal certainty, order and legal protection in this era of modernization and globalization can be carried out, if the various dimensions of legal life always maintain harmony, balance and harmony between civil morality based on actual values in a civilized society(Haken, 2011).

RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses normative juridical approaches and empirical juridical approaches. The normative juridical approach is carried out through the study of laws and regulations, literature, and legal materials related to narcotics abuse, while the empirical juridical approach is carried out through field research to obtain primary data(Nurhayati et al., 2021). The research data consisted of primary data and secondary data collected through literature studies and interviews with parties related to law enforcement of narcotics abuse crimes(Benuf & Azhar, 2020). The data obtained were then processed through the identification, classification, and systematization stages, then analyzed qualitatively to examine the factors that cause narcotics abuse, the implementation of law enforcement by the Way Kanan Police Drug Investigation Unit, as well as the obstacles faced in law enforcement in Negeri Baru, Blambangan Umpu District, Way Kanan Regency.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Narcotics abuse in Negeri Baru Village, Blambangan Umpu District, Way Kanan Regency is a problem that is influenced by various interrelated factors. The results of the study show that narcotics abuse is not only caused by the individual characteristics of the perpetrator, but also influenced by the family environment, society, and the ease of obtaining narcotics. This condition shows that narcotics crime is a social phenomenon that requires comprehensive handling through preventive, repressive, and rehabilitative approaches.

The results of interviews with the Head of Narcotics of the Way Kanan Police show that internal factors are one of the main causes of narcotics abuse. These factors include personality aspects, curiosity, low self-control ability, anxiety, depression, and an individual's inability to deal with the pressures of life. This psychological state encourages perpetrators to use narcotics as a means of escape from various problems faced, so that narcotics abuse develops into repetitive behavior.

The findings of the study also show that the desire to try and loyalty to social groups are internal factors that strengthen a person's tendency to abuse narcotics. The desire to be accepted into social groups and prestige so that they are not considered different causes individuals to follow group behavior despite being aware of the legal risks. This condition shows that the social learning process has an important role in the formation of deviant behavior, because individuals tend to imitate actions that are considered prevalent in their social environment.

In addition to internal factors, research found that the family environment is an

external factor that greatly influences narcotics abuse. Lack of parental attention, weak family supervision, economic conditions, and less harmonious family relationships cause individuals to lose social control early on. As a result, the family is unable to carry out its function as the first institution in shaping character and supervising the behavior of family members so that the chances of narcotics abuse are greater.

The community environment also has a significant influence on the emergence of narcotics abuse. People who lack concern for social supervision and low legal awareness cause narcotics circulation to develop relatively easily. In addition, the stigma against perpetrators and former drug users also hinders the process of social coaching and reintegration so that they can more easily re-interact with an environment that supports deviant behavior.

The results of the study show that the ease of obtaining narcotics is an external factor that increases the risk of abuse. The geographical location of Lampung Province as a cross-Sumatra route makes the area vulnerable to narcotics trafficking. This condition is taken advantage of by the illicit circulation network so that people's access to narcotics becomes easier. Therefore, geographical factors and the mobility of narcotics distribution are challenges for law enforcement officials in controlling their circulation.

The findings of the study are in line with Subagyo Partodiharjo's opinion that narcotics abuse is influenced by family factors, the influence of others, and individual internal factors. The equation shows that narcotics abuse is the result of an interaction between an individual's psychological condition and the social environment that forms deviant behavior. Thus, countermeasures are not enough only through law enforcement, but also require strengthening the functions of family, education, and society.

The implementation of law enforcement against narcotics abuse by the Way Kanan Police Drug Investigation Unit is carried out through a repressive approach in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations. Law enforcement is carried out starting from investigation, investigation, arrest, detention, to handing over the case to the prosecutor's office to be further processed through trial. This series of actions shows that law enforcement officials are trying to implement the criminal justice process professionally in handling narcotics crimes.

The results of the study show that the implementation of law enforcement is in accordance with the concept of total enforcement put forward by Joseph Goldstein. The concept emphasizes that all provisions of criminal law must be enforced comprehensively, although in practice the implementation of law enforcement is still limited by the provisions of the criminal procedure law and the limited resources owned by law enforcement officials. Therefore, the effectiveness of law enforcement is not only determined by the existence of legal norms, but also by the ability of the apparatus to implement them.

Despite this, the effectiveness of law enforcement still faces various obstacles. One of the main obstacles is the difficulty of investigators in obtaining valid evidence as required in the Criminal Code. Narcotics trafficking is carried out behind closed doors with an organized network so that the proof process requires investigative capabilities, technological support, and adequate interagency coordination.

In addition to the evidentiary aspect, the study also found that the limited number of investigator personnel and the lack of experts are obstacles in the law enforcement process. The number of investigators is not proportional to the area and the high number of cases causes case handling to not be carried out optimally. On the other hand, the

limitation of experts in the field of narcotics requires investigators to bring in experts from outside the region so as to prolong the investigation process.

The next obstacle comes from the limited facilities and infrastructure to support the investigation. The lack of multimedia devices, wiretapping tools, and digital technology causes the process of tracking narcotics trafficking networks to be less effective. In fact, the development of the perpetrator's modus operandi has taken advantage of information technology so that it requires the support of more modern equipment to increase the effectiveness of investigations.

Based on Lawrence M. Friedman's perspective, the obstacles to law enforcement can be analyzed through three elements of the legal system, namely structure, substance, and legal culture. From the aspect of legal structure, obstacles can be seen in the limitations of personnel, facilities, and technical capabilities of investigators. From the aspect of legal substance, obstacles arise due to evidentiary provisions that require the fulfillment of valid evidence in accordance with the Criminal Code. Meanwhile, from the aspect of legal culture, obstacles come from low public awareness, the tendency to solve problems in a family way, and the lack of community participation in providing information to law enforcement officials.

Research data shows that the number of cases of narcotics abuse in Negeri Baru Village continues to increase, namely nine cases in 2024, nine cases in 2025, and eleven cases in 2026. This increase shows that the repressive approach has not been fully able to reduce the number of narcotics abuse if it is not balanced with preventive efforts through legal education, community empowerment, family strengthening, and rehabilitation for narcotics users.

Overall, the results of the study confirm that law enforcement against narcotics abuse in Negeri Baru Village has been carried out in accordance with positive legal provisions through a repressive approach. However, its effectiveness is still influenced by internal factors of the perpetrators, the social environment, the limitations of law enforcement officials, facilities and infrastructure, and the low legal culture of the community. Therefore, efforts to overcome narcotics abuse need to be carried out in an integrated manner through synergy between law enforcement officials, local governments, families, educational institutions, and the community to strengthen prevention while increasing the effectiveness of law enforcement.

CONCLUSION

Narcotics abuse in Negeri Baru Village, Blambangan Umpu District, Way Kanan Regency is influenced by internal and external factors. Internal factors include curiosity, low self-control, psychological conditions, and a desire to be accepted in a social environment. Meanwhile, external factors include weak family supervision, peer influence, economic pressure, low public legal awareness, and ease of obtaining narcotics. Law enforcement by the Way Kanan Police Drug Investigation Unit has been carried out in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations through investigations, investigations, arrests, and transfer of cases as a form of repressive law enforcement. However, the effectiveness of law enforcement still faces obstacles in the form of difficulties in obtaining legal evidence, limited number of investigator personnel, inadequate supporting facilities and infrastructure, and low public participation and legal awareness in assisting the disclosure of narcotics crimes.

The Way Kanan Police Drug Investigation Unit needs to optimize prevention and

law enforcement efforts through increasing patrols and vehicle raids on routes that have the potential to become narcotics trafficking trajectories, accompanied by strengthening investigators' capabilities and fulfilling investigative supporting facilities and infrastructure. On the other hand, local governments together with the National Narcotics Agency, community leaders, educational institutions, and families need to improve legal education, counseling on the dangers of narcotics, and community empowerment through sustainable cooperation to strengthen social control and prevent narcotics abuse in the community.

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