



## Effectiveness of Regional Regulation Number 4 Of 2023 Concerning the Empowerment and Protection of Women in the Household in Cirebon Regency

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### ABSTRACT

Violence is an act that is not only dominant in physical form but also in psychological form. Violence against women is an act that is meant to be a violation of human rights, with the existence of gender inequality that results in limited women's rights. To prevent and overcome violence against women, local governments established Regional Regulation (Perda) Number 4 of 2023 concerning Women's Empowerment and Protection. This study aims to analyze the effectiveness of Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 in preventing domestic violence against women. The research method used is Empirical Juridical with a sociological and normative approach to observe the application of Regional Regulations in the community. The types of data used are secondary data, including Regional Regulations, statistical data on the annual number of violence cases, and reports on the activities of agencies and institutions. Meanwhile, primary data includes journal books with data collection of interviews with DPPKBP3A and WCC Mawar Balqis as well as the distribution of questionnaires. The study's results show that Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 has not been said to be effective because the number of violent incidents is still increasing every year, which is certainly caused by several obstacles, including the availability of infrastructure, law enforcement, and supervision.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Women play an important role in domestic life, both as wives and mothers, in order to create a prosperous family. Women have a strong role in the family, especially in educating and nurturing children, who are the next generation of the nation. However, the reality is that women are often a vulnerable group in the household. This vulnerability is not only physical pressure, but includes other psychological, economic, and social pressures that can hinder women to their full potential. As a result, women's rights are often not fulfilled, especially in the context of the household in terms of roles and access to decision-making in the family.

In a complex social and cultural context, which is often influenced by patriarchal culture, women face various obstacles, especially in the family environment. Information according to the National Commission for Women states that the rate of violence against women in Indonesia, including in Cirebon Regency, is still high, as according to the annual data of the DPPKBP3A Symphony and the annual data of Titian WCC Mawar Balqis shows that there is an increase in the number of domestic violence (KDRT) every year. The factors that trigger the occurrence of domestic violence in women include gender inequality, economic conditions, norms and culture, as well as environmental and social influences that which require serious intervention from local governments.

As a strategic step to face these challenges, the Cirebon Regency government stipulated Regional Regulation (Perda) Number 4 of 2023 concerning Women's Empowerment and Protection. The regulation is designed to provide a clear legal basis in efforts to empower and ensure women's protection against potential violence and discrimination. Empowerment is one of the main pillars in creating gender equality, as in the SDGs, which are a series of goals set by the United Nations (UN) aimed at achieving a better and more sustainable life for all people in the world. The 5th and 7th SDGs are gender equality and reducing gaps; the relationship between the two goals is to be implemented to advance gender equality. Indonesia has various regions led by regional heads, so whoever becomes a leader is required to advance sustainable development goals from the village to the national level. However, despite the various programs and initiatives to support women's empowerment, challenges such as gender inequality, limited participation, and public understanding of their rights in the Regional Regulation are still obstacles.

This study aims to evaluate the effectiveness of Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 by considering the real impact and obstacles in its implementation on society, especially women in households. Through the analysis and collection of data, it is hoped that constructive recommendations will be made for policy reform regarding the effectiveness of women's empowerment and protection, with more effective measures in the future.

Reviewing the above background, the researcher is interested in discussing the effectiveness of Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 concerning the empowerment and protection of women in households in Cirebon Regency. With the following problem formulation:

## How Effective is Regional Regulation Number 4 of 2023 concerning the Empowerment and Protection of Women in the Household in Cirebon Regency?

### **Research Objectives**

The purpose of the study is to find out whether Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 is considered effective in the community and beneficial for institutions that deal with social problems in the empowerment and protection of women in the household, as well as to find out how the implementation in the Regional Regulation functions for the community. If it is not efficient, we hope that it can be a form of evaluation for local governments in providing comprehensive and targeted protection and empowerment services to the community through the research we conduct.

### **Research Benefits**

In its theoretical function, the research is expected to participate in the development of empirical juridical law studies, especially regarding the effectiveness of Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 concerning women's empowerment and protection in dealing with domestic violence (KDRT) problems. Meanwhile, in practical terms, through this research we can provide several evaluations and information to the local government of Cirebon Regency regarding the implementation and efficiency of Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023. In order to be a guideline for institutions that handle these problems in various fields such as the field of handling, protection, empowerment, and prevention of women, especially to increase the effectiveness of the implementation of the programs stated in the Regional Regulation. With the creation of this research as a form of benefit for the Regional Government to improve the policies of the programs that have been implemented and provide the right budget so that the protection of women, especially in handling domestic violence cases, can be more structured, clear, and on target.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **Human Right Constitution**

Human rights are fundamental rights inherent in every individual from birth, regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, or social status. Protecting human rights is an important element in the modern state of law, including in Indonesia, because it ensures that every individual has rights and freedoms guaranteed by law. The 1945 Constitution, as the country's supreme constitution, plays a crucial role in ensuring the protection of human rights for all Indonesian citizens (Rahman et al., 2024).

Constitutional rights are basic rights guaranteed by a country's constitution and include various aspects of life that are essential for the welfare of citizens. One of the crucial constitutional rights is the right to a good and healthy environment, as guaranteed by Article 28H Paragraph (1) of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia (1945 Constitution). This right demonstrates the country's commitment to ensuring every citizen can live in an environment supporting their health and well-being. The constitutional recognition of the right to the environment not only emphasizes the importance

of maintaining environmental quality but also underlines the state's obligation to protect and manage natural resources sustainably (Susanto et al., 2014).

### **Woman Empowerment**

Education is considered as a basic requirement and a fundamental right for the citizens of any nation. It is a powerful tool for reducing inequality as it can give people the ability to become independent. Women, who come across discrimination in many spheres, have a particular need for this. Education is regarded as an important milestone of women's empowerment because it enables them to face the challenges, to confront their traditional role, and change their lives. The education of women is the most powerful tool of change their position in society. Still, the large womenfolk of our country are illiterate, backward, weak, and exploited. Education also reduces inequalities and functions as a means of improving their status within the family. Empowerment and capacity building provides women an avenue to acquire practical information and learning for their improved livelihoods. India can become a developed nation only if women contribute to the best of her capacity and ability which is possible when she is educated and empowered (Shetty & Hans, 2015)

### **Women's Protection**

The prevalent societal perception of domestic abuse primarily manifests as physical aggression. However, the tendency to emphasize the physical and interpersonal aspects of violence makes it difficult to recognize forms of violence that do not involve these two aspects. It can be concluded that violence is subjectively meaningful. Each person has different reflections on violence depending on the socio-cultural context in which they are socialized. Moreover, violence is also systemic, driven, reproduced, and institutionalized by the existing socio-cultural systems. Violence against women has emerged as a global concern that garners significant attention in numerous nations, both socially, culturally, and legally. One form of violence that is often overlooked is symbolic violence, which can manifest itself in the form of social and cultural influences that discredit, dominate, and suppress the position of women in society. Unlike physical violence, which is visible, symbolic violence operates more through norms, language, and cultural representations that reinforce gender inequality. This phenomenon frequently transpires in intimate environments, where women not only endure physical violence but also face oppression through social structures that restrict their independence, rights, and dignity (Maulida et al., 2025).

## **METHODOLOGY**

### **Types of Research**

This study uses Empirical Juridical with an effort to observe law in a clear sense by analyzing how the function of law in society is. Therefore, this method is carried out through studying the application of laws and regulations to determine the effectiveness of the current law and its implementation in the community.

### **Research Approach**

A sociological approach to law by observing the application of local regulations in society and their impact on women's empowerment and protection in the household. Also, a normative approach by analyzing the substance of Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 to identify the suitability of the regulation with the needs of the community in dealing with social problems.

### **Research Location**

The research was conducted in Cirebon Regency, the determination of the place was based on the existence of Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 concerning the empowerment and protection of women in the household as the focus and purpose of the study. In this case, the area of the region is the main factor in the increase in the problem of domestic violence. Through the Regent's decision issued in 2017, several official institutions and community institutions were stipulated in participating in the mentoring and prevention process in the field of empowering women's protection. One of them is the DPPKBP3A Office and WCC Mawar Balqis.

The selection of locations at the DPPKBP3A Office to obtain administrative data, annual numbers of domestic violence cases, and interviews with officials responsible for the implementation of the Regional Regulation. Through WCC, Mawar Balqis is also carried out to find out the role closest to the victim and find out their views on Regional Regulations.

### **Research Instruments and Data Types**

In the study, observational data, interviews and questionnaire dissemination as well as literature studies were obtained. With the collection of secondary data, such as a copy of Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023, reports on the implementation of sector-leading policies in programs at the DPPKBP3A Office through the Regent Regulation, statistical data on domestic violence cases, and reports on social institution activities. As well as through books, journals and laws and regulations related to the application of regional regulations in the protection of women which are expected to illustrate the effectiveness of regional regulations in the protection of women in Cirebon Regency.

### **Data Collection Methods for Legal Materials for Determining Informants**

Through the paradigm of postpositivism using structured interviews and observations, in carrying out the interviews we have prepared several questions that will be presented to the informant to suit the research objectives that have been formulated. With In-Depth Interviews conducted with local government officials and social institutions, the purpose is to explore information about the implementation, obstacles, and perceptions of regional regulations, find out statistical data on cases of domestic violence and empowerment of women in Cirebon Regency.

Interviews are more flexible without using a predetermined guide or list of questions. The interviewer develops questions and shows the conversation to the informant spontaneously based on the responses or information provided by the interviewee and is not bound by the arrangement of questions that have been

prepared. For example, knowing the location of safe houses for victims of domestic violence, forms of approaches to victims, and ways to empower victims. Record the implementation of women's empowerment programs and observe observations in activities such as services and training, protection of women's empowerment, and socialization of Regional Regulations in the community.

Through the positivism paradigm using the distribution of questionnaires in 2 ways, namely, open-ended question (OEQ) where respondents are asked to provide answers to questions that have been asked with open answers. Also, the closed-ended question (CEQ) method where respondents are asked to provide answers between the answers that have been provided and the choice of answers, making it easier for respondents to fill out questionnaires as the final result.

Determination of Informant, the role of the resource person or informant is to collect research data and make the results of a continuous information. With this, becoming a source of information as the main tool to support research, the resource person hopes to inform an appropriate information in the theoretical framework and conceptual framework to be used in this research.

## **RESEARCH RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### **Effectiveness of Regional Regulation Number 4 of 2023 concerning the Empowerment and Protection of Women in Households in Cirebon Regency**

The term effective in English is effective in this case it means successful or a job is carried out well. Scientific dictionary defines effectiveness as meticulousness of application, assembly of functions, and supporting goals (KBBI, 2016).

As Mahmudi argues in his book *Public Sector Performance Management* which defines that "Effectiveness is the relationship between output and goals, the greater the contribution (contribution) of output to the achievement of goals, the more effective the organization, program or activity" (Mahmudi, 2005). Effectiveness focuses on the success of an activity, work, or program, considering it effective if the output produced meets the expected goals. Thus, effectiveness is the description of the entire cycle of inputs, processes and outputs that refers to the intended outcomes of an organization, program or activity that states the extent to which the goals (quality, quantity, and time) have been achieved, as well as the measure of whether or not an organization succeeds or fails to achieve its goals and targets (Mahmudi, 2005).

To comprehensively assess the effectiveness of Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023, it is necessary to analyze the three main dimensions that are the basis for the formulation of a policy, namely, philosophical, sociological, and juridical foundations. Philosophically, this Regional Regulation rests on the values of Pancasila, especially the 2nd and 5th precepts, which uphold humanity and social justice. In addition, this Regional Regulation should reflect the value of gender justice and respect for human rights. If in its implementation the Regional Regulation has not been able to guarantee real protection or empowerment for women, then this Regional Regulation has not reflected these philosophical values substantially.

From a sociological perspective, the Regional Regulation must be prepared based on the real needs of the people of Cirebon Regency, especially in the high number of domestic violence cases and the still strong patriarchal culture. The ineffectiveness in this area is very visible when the community is not involved in the formulation and implementation of the Regional Regulation, or when the program does not reach vulnerable communities. The absence of a proper cultural approach can also cause resistance from the community to the implementation of the Regional Regulation.

On the one hand, juridically, Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 has strong legal force because it refers to the 1945 Constitution Articles 28B and 28G, as well as National Laws and Regulations such as Law No. 12 of 2022 concerning TPKS and Law No. 7 of 1984 concerning the CEDAW Convention. So with this, if the Regional Regulation has not been accompanied by implementing technical rules, such as Regent Regulations or SOPs, it will make it difficult to implement in the field. In addition, the absence of adequate budget allocation and clear implementing institutions also contribute to the weak effectiveness of this Regional Regulation juridically.

The implementation of Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 which has not been maximized has made domestic violence more prevalent in Cirebon Regency, there is a need for law enforcement and optimal infrastructure facilities to minimize domestic violence, according to Rena Yulia in her book "Legal Protection for Crime Victims" explaining where the cause of domestic violence is the poverty factor, men (husbands) feel powerless in the family. Usually, conflicts at work also trigger mental disorders that make men (husbands) think that they have to control women in the house (Yulia, 2010).

The implementation of Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 in the field is still experiencing significant structural obstacles. Implementing institutions such as the Technical Implementation Unit and victim service institutions do not have optimal capacity, while coordination between agencies is still sectoral and lacks synergy. The implementation of the policy is also hampered by budget limitations in the Regional Revenue and Expenditure Budget (APBD) which causes its derivative programs to not reach all regions, especially remote villages. Despite initiatives such as entrepreneurship training and assistance for victims of violence, the scope of the program is still limited and women's participation in the Village Development Planning Conference (MUSREMBANGDES) is still low due to the lack of understanding of the rights guaranteed by the Regional Regulation.

To answer these challenges, a planned, inclusive, and community-based socialization strategy is needed. Effective approaches include the involvement of local leaders and village cadres in informal counseling using regional languages, the integration of Regional Regulation materials in PKK activities and entrepreneurship training, as well as gender-based legal literacy at the village level. In addition, the use of local and digital media as information channels expands the reach of public education. Strategic partnerships with NGOs and universities such as universities in Cirebon play an important role in strengthening advocacy, education, and monitoring the implementation of

regional regulations. The preparation and distribution of informative media such as pocket books and infographics is an important element in strengthening women's understanding of their rights and the protection mechanisms available. With this participatory and collaborative socialization approach, Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 has the potential to not only become a legal instrument, but also a tool for social transformation that places women as active subjects in the development and protection of human rights at the local level.

In realizing the implementation of the Regional Regulation, the work unit of the Integrated Service Center for Women and Children (P2TP2A) was formed which is an integrated service unit formed by the local government to provide services to women victims of violence comprehensively including information services, assistance and legal assistance, counseling services, media services and safe houses through referrals. DPPKBP3A is the Population Control and Family Planning, Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Office which is tasked with carrying out government affairs in the fields of population control, disaster families, women's empowerment, and child protection in accordance with applicable regulations. Meanwhile, the Woman Crisis Center (WCC) Mawar Balqis is a non-governmental organization engaged in the protection and empowerment of women, especially for victims of gender-based violence such as domestic violence, sexual harassment, and human trafficking. Its main task is to provide legal assistance, psychological counseling, and protection for women and children who are victims of violence. In addition, WCC Mawar Balqis conducts education, advocacy, and campaigns to prevent violence against women and children, as well as create public awareness about the importance of gender equality and the protection of women's human rights.

Table 1 . Annual Data of the Symphony of Forms of Violence in DPPKBP3A

No.	Forms of Violence	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
1	Physical	59	24	30	9	27	39
2	Psychic	28	12	49	5	32	83
3	Sexual	42	23	51	87	56	55
4	Economics	5	2	47	1	21	20

Table 2. Annual Data on Violence in Mawar Balqis

No.	Forms of Violence	2022	2023	2024
1	Physical	34	34	45
2	Psychic	2	3	2
3	Sexual	49	12	15
4	Economics	9	15	6

The high rate of violence in Cirebon Regency experienced by women can be seen from the 2019-2024 Online Information System (Simfoni) data and the 2022-2024 WCC Mawar Balqis Titian Data. The table above shows that Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 has not been said to be effective because the number of domestic violence is still increasing every year. In this case, the measure of the effectiveness of a regulation is not seen from the absence of violations of what is happening but whether or not the effectiveness of a regulation is seen from how this regulation emphasizes or reduces the number of violations that occur.

In an interview we conducted with the Head of PPA, Mrs. Hj. Saniri on Friday, November 29, 2024, according to her, with the existence of the Regional Regulation as official advocacy material for women in P2TP2A, this regional institution adheres to Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 in dealing with factors that trigger violence. Here are some of the factors that trigger the occurrence of domestic violence such as:

### **Gender Inequality**

Article 9 of Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 concerning the implementation of gender mainstreaming in the regions explains that the Regent is responsible for the implementation of regional gender mainstreaming. Provisions regarding the implementation of this are regulated in Regent Regulation No. 49 of 2018 concerning the Regional Action Plan (RAD) for Gender Mainstreaming in Cirebon Regency for 2018-2020.

Gender inequality itself describes a social system in which men as the dominant group control power over women's groups (Palulungan et al., 2020). It also refers to the imbalances and injustices that occur between individuals based on gender, including differences in access to opportunities, resources and rights. Men have greater potential compared to the number of women. With more impact felt by women such as in education, employment, health, political rights and legal protection, thus causing the influence of social norms that limit the role and potential of each individual.

For example, the gender inequality that occurs in the current government in Cirebon Regency, it can be seen that the role of men is more important than the position of women in the participation of the right to obtain the election of the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD). Women only get 30% and 70% are dominated by men, so that the membership of women's roles only amounts to 14 people out of 50 DPRD candidates elected in Cirebon Regency. In the core government, there are only 4 people who are the heads of agencies out of the total 32 available heads of agencies. It can be concluded that Cirebon Regency does not have appropriate gender equality between women and men.

### **Economic Conditions**

According to Collins and Coltrane in their book, they explain that violence will tend to increase during times of economic hardship (Collins & Coltrane, 1991). The economic condition in Cirebon Regency currently ranks as the 5th poorest in West Java (Lintang, 2024). Efforts to improve the role, quality, and ability of women in the economic sector as stated in Article 8 of Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 explain that:

1. The government implements programs, activities, and training to improve women's skills and expertise in order to realize the improvement of women's welfare;
2. Capacity building training through economic empowerment of underprivileged families; and
3. Comprehensive entrepreneurship training for women.

Referring to the article above, the implementation of the program is expected to be a useful program for women's empowerment in order to reduce the number of domestic violence in Cirebon Regency. One of the factors is due to the economy, so that violence occurs that creates psychological pressure, causing a person to get more pressure due to their economic condition which makes them more sensitive and causes violence that should not have happened. For example, if the economic conditions are unstable, experienced by men while women have high incomes, so that the man becomes depressed by venting his frustration, violence is committed against women.

### **Education**

Based on the results of the interview, it is known that education is not the basis for domestic violence, this can be based on the fact that someone with higher and lower education both commits domestic violence, what needs to be considered is the mindset between couples for daily life both in solving problems and in making decisions for the common good.

Religious doctrine is a big challenge in domestic violence because some teachings in religious education are often interpreted in a patriarchal manner, where men are considered the head of the household and have full authority over wives and children. This understanding can encourage excessive control over women, which in some cases leads to violence. The word 'educate' makes a misinterpretation that can justify acts of violence because a wife is obliged to obey her husband. So that women who are victims of domestic violence do not fight for their rights because of religious teachings on their safety and welfare, women are required to defend family interests for the sake of their children, and consider that this is a destiny that must be accepted.

### **Norms and Culture**

Traditional cultural heritage in Cirebon Regency, one of which is the performance of the Sintren Dance and Kuda Lumping, often comes under scrutiny because it involves ritual elements that require women to be in an unconscious state. This has led to violence and harassment because women are the objects of the cultural dance performance. In a performance that involves many spectators, it becomes vulnerable to harassment because there are inappropriate actions that can occur from the outside, such as trying to touch or harass the dancer when they are unconscious, and throwing money at the dancer's body as a form of curiosity by the audience.

This tradition also reveals the presence of patriarchal norms, as it positions women as ritual tools or symbols. In contrast, the role of men as handlers or ritual leaders is more dominant in shaping the course of the performance. This shows a lack of protection for women. This shows a lack of protection for women.

### **Environmental and Social Influences**

The influence of environmental and social factors is one of the occurrences of domestic violence in terms of the environment. If the climate still commits violence and makes it commonplace (habituated), the perpetrator will feel free to commit violence and easily gain access to sharp weapons. This action triggers security instability in the surrounding environment, making it easier for violence to occur. A person who has been used to experiencing violence against himself in the past will be at a higher risk of committing violence against others.

Community stigma and the influence of the social environment are factors in the high rate of domestic violence. Patriarchal culture is again the highest cause of placing women as weak creatures, so that violence against victims is still considered normal and even ignored by society. In addition, victims of domestic violence often experience stigma from people who call themselves '*victim blaming*', meaning putting the victim's position as the cause of the violence they experience. For example, the condition of an accident that causes disability in women causes the husband to remarry, the community comments and gives the stigma, as if justifying what the husband did. As well as the stigma of society on single parents (widows) who view such status as looking bad, so that there are still many victims of violence who choose to be in such a circle of violence because they are afraid of seeing themselves as widows.

### **Influence of Alcohol and Drugs**

Some individuals with low self-control tend to lead negative lives so that they can freely consume alcohol and illegal drugs that cause side effects on themselves, leading to emotional instability. The effect will be aggressive if a person does not immediately fulfill his wishes, then it will be easier to get emotional, and domestic violence will occur.

### **Forms of Domestic Violence (KDRT) That Occur Against Women**

In the opinion of experts, Evan Stark, an expert in the study of domestic violence, introduced the concept of coercive control. Domestic violence is not only about acts of physical violence, but also about systematic strategies used by perpetrators to control and dominate victims through threats, intimidation, and psychological manipulation (Fikri, 2024). Some of the victims who experienced violence include physical violence, psychological violence, sexual violence, and economic violence; This data was obtained from the results of interviews that have been conducted:

Physical Violence is any action or behavior that can cause pain, injury or suffering to the victim.

1. Severe Physical Violence, in the form of severe abuse: kicking, hitting, cornering, attempting murder or murder and all acts that result; serious injury, inability to carry out daily tasks, fainting, severe injuries to the victim's body and injuries that are difficult to heal or that pose a danger of death, loss of one of the five senses, disability, suffering from paralysis, miscarriage or death of a woman's womb and death of the victim.

2. Minor Physical Violence in the form of slapping, grabbing, pushing, and other acts that result in: minor injuries and physical pain, and injuries that do not fall into the severe category.
3. Repetition of mild physical violence can be included in the type of severe violence.

Psychic Violence is violence that can be characterized by possessive behavior, which results in fear, loss of confidence, loss of ability to act, helplessness, or severe psychological suffering in a person.

1. Severe Psychological Violence, in the form of acts of control, manipulation, exploitation, arbitrariness, humiliation, in the form of prohibition, coercion, and social isolation, degrading or insulting actions and speech, violent stalking, and threats of physical, sexual, and economic violence.
2. Mild Psychological Violence, in the form of acts of control, manipulation, exploitation, arbitrariness, humiliation, and humiliation in the form of prohibition, coercion, and social isolation in the form of degrading or insulting actions and speech.
3. Sexual Violence is any act that is in the form of forced sexual relations, forced sexual relations in an unnatural or undesirable way, forced sexual relations with other people for commercial purposes with a certain purpose.

#### Economic Violence

1. Severe economic violence is an act of exploitation, manipulation and control through economic means in the form of: forcing the victim to work by means of exploitation, including female seductresses, prohibiting the victim from working but abandoning her, taking without the victim's knowledge and consent, seizing and manipulating the victim's property.
2. Mild economic violence is in the form of deliberate efforts that make the victim dependent or economically powerless or not having their basic needs met.

#### **Factors Inhibiting the Effectiveness of Regional Regulation Number 4 of 2023 concerning Women's Empowerment and Protection**

The ineffectiveness of Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 concerning Women's Empowerment and Protection is certainly inseparable from the factors that hinder the implementation of the regulation. Here are some of the inhibiting factors:

#### **Facilities**

If adequate facilities are available, it will help an institution or agency serve the community optimally. It can be seen that the facilities for women's protection in Cirebon Regency are insufficient to support work in the field. The absence of safe places for victims of domestic violence is one of the inhibiting factors in carrying out their duties for DPPKBP3A and WCC Mawar Balqis in protecting victims. This institution needs adequate facilities to monitor the development of victims during the recovery period, assist in the development of psychological health, and provide security for victims. There are still many areas that have a high rate of violence, making institutions need Safe Houses for

victims, more than 1 place so that it is a special concern for the government so that the implementation of this Regional Regulation can be more effective.

### **Improvement of the Legal System and Protection**

The DPPKBP3A and WCC Office Mawar Balqis hopes that the legal system and regulations related to women's protection will be more effective. Including strengthening law enforcement against perpetrators of violence. Ensure a fast and efficient protection mechanism for victims. As well as providing easier access to justice for women without complicated or discriminatory legal barriers, with law enforcement being given priority. If there are reports of victims of domestic violence that must be handled immediately, then law enforcement officials are obliged to carry out their duties properly.

### **Supervision**

The socialization of the Regional Regulation is a crucial step to ensure that the community understands and supports its implementation. The socialization program that was carried out only invited representatives from the District and Village PPA Task Force and the Task Force for the Prevention and Handling of Sexual Violence at the education unit level, to participate in the activity. With the hope, after getting socialization, representatives of each sub-district & village can convey more to their citizens. However, information about the socialization of Regional Regulations in Cirebon Regency is still limited because in 1 year, only seven socializations were carried out. The lack of supervision from officers in the implementation of this program in several non-governmental organizations is a factor hindering efforts to prevent violence against women. There is no supervision to the lower level, in this case, namely supervision to the villages, whether the socialization of the DPPKBP3A is conveyed well to the community.

### **Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Regional Regulation Implementation**

This Regional Regulation regulates various important aspects, such as the prevention of violence against women, economic empowerment, and the provision of services for victims of violence. However, to date, comprehensive public data on the extent to which this Regional Regulation has been effectively implemented in the field is not available. This includes information on the number of cases handled, the empowerment programs implemented, and their impact on women's welfare in Cirebon Regency.

### **Membership and budget**

1. Cirebon Regency only has 53 MOTOKAR personnel spread across 40 sub-districts, thus unable to carry out Communication, Information, and Education (KIE) prevention optimally.
2. The involvement of Posyandu cadres has not been maximized in coordinating violence against women and children as well as human trafficking crimes (TPPO) in Cirebon Regency.
3. Budget financing for activities to prevent and handle violence against women is not optimal, prevention activities can only be carried out for some activities which do not include activities for the targeted villages and sub-districts.

### **Efforts to Empower and Protection Women in Regional Regulation (Perda) Number 4 of 2023 in Cirebon Regency**

Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 on women's empowerment and protection is a strategic step for local governments in improving the welfare and protection of women's rights. This Regional Regulation stipulates policies and programs that aim to empower women from various aspects of life, including economic, social, cultural, political and other aspects so that women are expected to play a more active role in regional development and improve their standard of living. This Regional Regulation cannot be said to be effective because the number of domestic violence cases is still increasing and there is no coaching and supervision institution at the village level.

Therefore, it is necessary to establish an independent institution at the village level that specifically handles domestic violence cases. The establishment of this institution must be supported by more technical regulations in the form of Regent Regulations (Perbup). The regulation must be based on a clear legal hierarchy, starting from laws at the central level, government regulations, ministerial regulations, to governor regulations and regional regulations at the district level.

The scope of violence against women from domestic violence includes prevention, service/handling and empowerment. Efforts to prevent violence against women are carried out in an integrated manner by local governments coordinated by regional apparatus in charge of women's empowerment. By implementing and forming a coordination work network in accordance with the membership of the P2TP2A cluster team in accordance with the Decree of the Regent of Cirebon Number; 463/Kep/238-DP2KBP3A/2017, establishes a violence prevention system in the form of economic training trained in entrepreneurship so that women are not dependent on men and there are several other work programs such as: GEBERCEPER Program (Joint Movement to Prevent Divorce), Sekoper Cinta (West Java Women's School), socializing laws related to the protection of women victims of domestic violence, as well as disseminating information related to the protection of women from violence. In addition to this prevention effort carried out by the local government, this prevention effort is also carried out by families and the surrounding community.

As an implementation at the village level, it is necessary to establish a women's supervision institution regulated through Village Regulations (Perdes). The formation of this Perdes must be discussed with the Village Consultative Body (BPD) and the village executive (kuwu and its staff). After the Regulation is determined, socialization is needed to the RT level so that the community understands the existence of the institution and feels safer.

Independent institutions at the village level play a leading role in handling domestic violence cases. No matter how small the form of violence against women, the case will be immediately handled and coordinated to the district level through the applicable legal channels. To ensure the effectiveness of coordination, it is necessary to establish a similar institution at the sub-district level that plays the role of coordinator in handling cases that occur in surrounding villages.

Through this system, there is a continuity of regulation from the central to regional levels, namely through laws, government regulations, ministerial regulations, governor's regulations, district regulations, and regulations at the village level. With the existence of a supervisory institution at the village level formed through the Kuwu Decree (SK) and a more targeted Perdes, the handling of domestic violence cases will be more effective because it is in direct contact with the community.

For example, the Babakan Gebang Village Regulation Number 05 of 2022, concerning Women-Friendly and Child-Friendly Villages in Cirebon Regency, regulates various provisions aimed at creating a village environment responsive to the needs of women and children. In its articles, this regulation regulates starting from the principles, objectives, and scope of implementation of women-friendly and child-friendly villages (DRPPA), to the participation of the community and village institutions. This Perdes aims to encourage gender equality, protection of women and children, and increase women's participation in village development. Furthermore, the Perdes stipulates the obligations of the village government in forming participatory forums, providing women and child-friendly services, and forming internal regulations that support women's empowerment. There are also articles that regulate the funding, evaluation, and reporting of DRPPA activities, as well as administrative sanctions for parties that do not implement the provisions as they should

Although regulations have been set, the technical implementation still encounters various obstacles, such as low public participation, limited socialization, and weak supervision. Therefore, a more humane and grounded approach is needed so that the substance of the local regulation can be accepted and implemented properly in society. One of them is the Persuasive Approach, which is carried out by building citizen awareness through RT/RW dialogue, the use of local figures such as village heads or religious leaders, and the dissemination of women's inspiring stories through local media or socio-religious activities. In addition, an Educational Approach is also needed to increase public understanding of the content of local regulations through gender-based legal education, village cadre training, and distribution of local regulation pocketbooks in various public facilities. Finally, the Participatory Approach is important to actively involve the community, such as forming a village women's forum, including women in Musrenbangdes, and developing derivative policies (Perbup) through public tests.

This approach is very relevant considering that the people of Cirebon, especially in rural areas, are still strong with a patriarchal culture that tends to reject a coercive approach. Therefore, cultural and behavioral change can only be achieved through an inclusive and participatory social education process, so that the Regional Regulation is not only a rule on paper, but is implemented and felt by the community, especially women.

The effectiveness of a regulation can be measured by the extent to which the legal product that has been made can be appropriately implemented. Therefore, monitoring of the effectiveness of Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 must continue to be carried out through small institutions at the village level that

are independent and outside the structure of the village apparatus. Coordination with village heads must also be strengthened with programs to increase human resources, so that the protection of women in the household can be realized more clearly and optimally.

## **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Based on the results of research conducted through an empirical juridical approach and along with the data listed, Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 cannot be said to be effective in preventing and reducing the rate of domestic violence in Cirebon Regency. Although normatively this regulation has met the philosophical, sociological, and juridical elements, in its implementation, various obstacles were found, such as the unpreparedness of infrastructure, low community participation, weak coordination between agencies, and lack of socialization and supervision, especially at the village level. In addition, the high rate of violence every year shows that this policy has not been able to provide a real protection and empowerment effect on women. Therefore, this Regional Regulation needs to be equipped with derivative regulations such as Regent Regulations and Village Regulations so that its implementation is more optimal for the community.

## **ADVANCED RESEARCH**

Future research should focus on the Effectiveness of Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023 concerning the empowerment and protection of women in the household in Cirebon Regency. To increase the effectiveness of Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2023, local governments need to take a comprehensive structural, cultural, and technical approach. Structurally, it is necessary to establish an Independent Supervisory Institution at the village level through Village Regulations (Perdes) supported by the Kuwu Decree to ensure the continuity of supervision and handling of domestic violence. Culturally, intensive community-based socialization using regional languages, involving customary, religious, and village women leaders is needed to build awareness of women's rights. Technically, the government must prepare Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for victim services, increase the budget in the Annual Budget Allocation (APBD), and expand women's economic training and gender legal literacy. The government is also encouraged to establish partnerships with universities and NGOs to support advocacy, monitoring, and public education sustainably. Therefore, the collaborative and participatory approach of the Regional Regulation is not only a legal-formal document, but can really be an instrument for the protection and empowerment of women in Cirebon Regency.

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