

Public Policy and Strategic Communication in Addressing Violence Against Women and Children in Public and Digital Spaces: A Conceptual Review for National Resilience in Indonesia

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Abstract: Violence against women and children in public and digital spaces has become a complex issue that threatens individual safety and undermines social stability and national resilience. Existing studies rarely examine this issues from the perspectives of public policy, strategic communication, and non-traditional security. This research investigates violence against women and children as a communicative and discursive phenomenon with direct consequences for national resilience and human security. Using a qualitative literature review approach, this study systematically examines academic publications, policy documents, and legal frameworks related to gender-based violence, digital communication, and national resilience, drawing on peer-reviewed publications and official government reports from 2014 to 2024. A descriptive-analytical framework was applied to identify thematic patterns and policy responses to persistent violence against women and children in Indonesia. The results show that Indonesia has established legal frameworks such as Law No. 12 of 2022 on Sexual Violence and Law No. 35 of 2014 on Child Protection, yet enforcement remains weak due to insufficient inter-agency coordination and limited gender awareness among law enforcement officials. From a strategic communication perspective, this fragmentation reflects weak public communication governance, resulting in ineffective policy delivery and public awareness. This study argues that gender-based violence should be understood not only as a social and legal issue but also as a strategic communication challenge affecting social cohesion and national security, underscoring the need for stronger cross-sectoral policy integration and inclusive communication strategies.

Keywords: Gender-Based Violence, Strategic Communication, Public Policy, Human Security, National Resilience

1. Introduction

Concerns about the rising incidence of violence against women are widespread. Violence against women and children in both public and digital realms has emerged as a multifaceted issue that impacts not only the victims but also societal stability and national integrity. However, research that situates this phenomenon within the realms of strategic communication and public policy in Indonesia is quite limited. This scenario necessitates a more comprehensive analysis to understand the relationship among gender-based violence, public discourse, and non-traditional security.

The belief that women are weak and less important than men is the main reason why women are harassed and hurt (Wartoyo & Ginting, 2023). Violence against women and children in public places is a major problem that affects



not only individuals but also social security and the strength of the country as a whole. Women and children who are sexually harassed, physically abused, or psychologically abused in public places can lose their dignity, safety, and health. This lack of safety can also cause more social unrest and make people less trusting of the legal system and the government's protection.

The UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (1993) characterizes violence against women as any gender-based act that causes, or is likely to cause, physical, sexual, or psychological harm to women, encompassing threats, coercion, or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, regardless of whether it transpires in public or private spheres. In the framework of enhancing national resilience, the protection of women and children is a critical component (UN General Assembly, 1993). National resilience includes military and physical defense, as well as the social, economic, and psychological security of citizens. The safety and protection of women and children in public settings fosters stable, coherent, and equitable social development.

Hanna Nadia B. Amasol (2024) emphasizes that violence against women and children (VAWC) is an escalating issue in society, primarily due to the vulnerability of the victims who are unable to resist those in positions of authority. In 2004, the Philippine government enacted Republic Act No. 9262, known as The Violence Against Women and Their Children Act, to safeguard the rights of women and children. This law aims to protect women and children from different kinds of violence. This study shows that to make anti-VAWC programs work better, we need to work harder to raise public awareness through ongoing educational programs and campaigns. Moreover, improved collaboration between governmental entities and non-governmental organizations is crucial for maximizing resource allocation for violence prevention programs (Amasol, 2024).

According to the Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS), Indonesia's population was expected to be 275,773,774 in the 2022 interim population forecast. There are 136,384,800 women in this group, and 28.82% of them are children between the ages of 0 and 17. Indonesia therefore has a large population of women and children, both of whom remain at considerable risk of violence. The 2021 National Survey of Women's Life Experiences (SPHPN) reveals that 25% of Indonesian women aged 15-64 have experienced physical and/or sexual assault by partners or others during their lifetimes. Economic factors often provoke violence against children, as poverty and parental frustration arising from financial stress lead to both verbal and physical abuse (Wahyudi & Habibah, 2023).

The 2022 KRPA Survey found that 80% of women had been sexually harassed in public places, which is about 7% of the 3,539 women who were asked. Most of these incidents happened on public streets and in parks. To stop the widespread violence against women, the government has made laws, policies, and groups to protect them. However, placing sole responsibility on women to protect themselves is not an adequate approach, since violence must be addressed at its source: the perpetrators. Treatment and rehabilitation function as preventive measures for violent offenders. The primary focus necessitating attention is individuals who commit acts of violence. Violence against women, particularly sexual violence, occurs in diverse contexts and is influenced by a range of factors, including economic, social, and political forces, as well as women's increased vulnerability in specific situations such as conflict and disasters. In wartime, women are more likely to be attacked, raped, tortured, and used for sex. Disasters and post-conflict situations make women even more vulnerable, especially when refugee shelters don't always meet women's specific safety needs.

Everyone needs to be involved in stopping and reducing violence against women and children in society. This is a pervasive problem that affects many people, requiring families, schools, and communities to work together to create a safe and supportive environment. The ongoing and repeated violence against women and children, often carried out by people in positions of power, is aimed at weak people from a variety of backgrounds. The Indonesian Child Protection Commission (KPAI) says that there are thousands of cases of physical, sexual, and psychological violence.

Violence against women and children in public spaces is a global issue that is escalating and becoming increasingly difficult to address due to the proliferation of digital and social media. Public space now includes not only physical places like streets, public transportation, schools, and businesses, but also digital spaces where people

can connect, share their thoughts, and build and maintain social relevance. In this context, violence against women and children is manifested not only through physical actions but also through violent rhetoric, symbolic aggression, hate speech, and widespread victim-blaming narratives in digital public forums.

Addressing this problem is important, as violence against women and children in public places can undermine social stability. The fear and unease that vulnerable groups feel affect everyone in society. This insecurity often stems from insufficient legal protection mechanisms and shortcomings in law enforcement, which grant impunity to offenders. Television hardly ever shows violence against women and children, and when it does, it usually shows it in a scary way that doesn't match what the victims actually went through (Ukaegbu & Azunwena, 2024). The survey showed that most of the people who answered thought the broadcasting program wasn't good enough because there weren't any suitable legal consequences for people who commit violence. This could make the program less effective at stopping violence (Ukaegbu & Azunwena, 2024).

The rise in incidents of violence against children and women on social media underscores the necessity of recognizing such violence not merely as a trivial concern within familial, educational, occupational, and communal contexts, but as a significant social and cultural issue that undermines national resilience. Consequently, the rigorous identification and management of violence against children and women are crucial components in establishing a robust and lasting national resilience framework.

From a non-traditional security perspective, violence against women and children in public spaces has implications that extend beyond the social sphere. The constant and uncontrolled spread of violent language can hurt social trust, make people less likely to work together, and create structural problems that make the country less resilient. Consequently, violence against women and children must be acknowledged as a discursive and communicative phenomenon inherently connected to social stability and human security, acting as a preliminary indicator of a nation's social vulnerability.

Still, there aren't many studies that systematically link violence against women and children to strategic communication and national resilience. Contemporary research infrequently examines violent language and narratives in the public domain as a principal analytical element in understanding non-military threats to national resilience. Additionally, there has been insufficient research utilizing bibliometric methods to identify conceptual patterns, commonly used terms, and global discourse trends related to violence against women and children in public spaces and digital media.

This study seeks to analyze the perception of violence against women and children in public and digital domains through the lens of strategic communication and public policy, aimed at enhancing national resilience. This approach is anticipated to enhance conceptual comprehension of gender-based violence as a non-military threat to social stability and human security.

This study is analytically situated within the human security and non-traditional security paradigm, which broadens the referent object of security beyond the state to encompass the safety and dignity of individuals and communities (UN General Assembly, 1993), while drawing on strategic communication perspectives that link public trust, policy legitimacy, and social cohesion. Accordingly, this review is guided by three research questions: (1) How is violence against women and children in public and digital spaces constructed and represented as a communicative and discursive phenomenon within Indonesia's public policy landscape? (2) To what extent do existing legal and institutional frameworks address this phenomenon from a strategic communication perspective? (3) What implications does this phenomenon carry for national resilience and human security in Indonesia?

2. Method

This research uses a qualitative method with a literature review approach. The purpose of using this literature review method is to gain a comprehensive understanding of the phenomenon of gender-based violence through a systematic examination of various scientific sources, policy documents, and relevant research findings. This approach was chosen because the issue of violence against women and children in public and digital spaces is a complex and multidimensional social phenomenon, requiring in-depth theoretical and conceptual analysis based on existing scientific sources. According to Creswell & Creswell (2018), the qualitative approach allows researchers to understand the meaning and social context of the phenomena being studied by examining textual and narrative data sourced from academic literature, policy documents, and previous research findings (Creswell & Creswell, 2018).

In this study, a systematic literature review was conducted on various scientific sources, both national and international, relevant to the topics of violence against women and children, digital media, strategic communication, and national resilience. This approach is also in line with Snyder's (2019) opinion, which explains that a literature review can serve as a conceptual basis for understanding the development of an issue, identifying research gaps, and constructing a comprehensive framework (Snyder, 2019).

The data collection procedure involved the examination of scientific journals, academic texts, official agency reports, and policy documents issued by governmental institutions and international organizations, including the UN, UNDP, and Komnas Perempuan. The sources were acquired from reputable academic databases, including Google Scholar, ResearchGate, and recognized national journal portals (Sinta). The primary criteria for literature selection are (1) direct relevance to the theme of violence against women and children in public and digital spheres, (2) pertinence to strategic communication or public policy matters, and (3) publication within the last decade to correspond with the evolution of digital media and contemporary social policy dynamics. Source authenticity is ensured by utilizing only literature that has been peer-reviewed and published by reputable academic institutions. The sources of public policy are validated according to the legitimacy of the papers and official publishers, such as ministries, governmental entities, or international organizations.

Each identified source was thoroughly examined, studied, and juxtaposed to discern commonalities in concepts, divergences in viewpoints, and the trajectory of conceptual evolution pertaining to gender-based violence and strategic communication. The employed analytical technique is descriptive-analytical, encompassing the description of literary material and the interpretation of conceptual relationships grounded in pertinent theoretical frameworks. Sugiyono (2017) elucidates that qualitative descriptive analysis seeks to methodically delineate the facts and attributes of the study subject based on existing data, without influencing or meddling in the variables under investigation (Sugiyono, 2017).

Additionally, the researchers also examined policy and regulatory documents related to the protection of women and children in Indonesia, such as Law Number 12 of 2022 concerning Sexual Violence Crimes, Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Child Protection, and national policies related to social resilience and human security. An analysis of these documents was conducted to understand the extent to which existing policies have accommodated strategic communication approaches in an effort to strengthen national resilience through the protection of vulnerable groups.

This research consists of four main phases:

1. Identifying the issue and emphasis of the study based on the challenges articulated in the introduction, including violence against women and children in public and digital domains as a strategic communication challenge for national resilience.
2. Gathering pertinent literature from diverse scientific and public policy sources.
3. Analyzing and synthesizing the literature by categorizing essential topics such gender-based violence, digital public space, social discourse, strategic communication, and social resilience.
4. Deriving conceptual findings to establish the correlation between the phenomena of violence and the issues of strategic communication within the framework of Indonesia's national resilience.

This literature review approach delineates the issue of violence against women and children conceptually while underscoring the necessity of incorporating strategic communication perspectives into social protection programs and national resilience initiatives in Indonesia. The analysis method is executed systematically to yield a thorough comprehension of the production and perpetuation of violence against women and children in both public and digital arenas, and its implications as a non-military threat to national resilience. This literature analysis aims to theoretically and practically enhance public communication governance and develop strategic strategies that effectively address gender-based violence issues.

3. Results and Discussion

Incidents of violence against women and children in 2023 escalated relative to the preceding year. There were 18,175 instances of violence against children involving 20,221 victims, and there were 11,441 instances of violence against women, including 11,712 victims. Incidents of violence against women and children persist at elevated levels, including child marriage, with actual figures exceeding recorded statistics. Cultural and societal conventions have created a barrier, leading to limited reporting of violence, particularly when the perpetrator is a close family member. Not being able to get justice makes victims less likely to report crimes and ask for help. Confronting socio-cultural determinants that rationalize violence, while reinforcing values and norms that advocate for safeguarding against all manifestations of child violence.

More recent official data indicate that this upward trajectory has continued. Komnas Perempuan's CATAHU 2024 report recorded 445,502 cases of violence against women nationally in 2024, an increase of nearly 10% from 401,975 cases in 2023, of which 330,097 cases were classified as gender-based violence against women (KBGtP), up 14.17% year-on-year (Komnas Perempuan, 2025). The subsequent CATAHU 2025 report recorded 376,529 KBGtP cases, a further 14.07% increase and the highest annual figure in a decade, with the personal domain (337,961 cases, 89.76%) continuing to dominate over the public (17,252 cases) and state domains (2,707 cases) (Komnas Perempuan, 2026). Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (PPPA) figures corroborate this trend: the SIMFONI-PPA reporting system recorded 27,027 violence cases between 1 January and 8 November 2025 alone, of which 23,090 victims were women (Towa News, 2026). On the child protection side, KPAI's 2024 annual report documented 2,057 complaints, including 265 cases of child sexual violence and 40 cases of child pornography and cybercrime, while its 2025 monitoring recorded 2,031 cases of violence against children, with girls comprising 51.5% of victims (KPAI, 2025; Tempo.co, 2026). These continuously rising figures reinforce this study's argument that the existence of legal instruments alone has not translated into effective on-the-ground protection.

Table 1. Annual Trends in Cases of Violence Against Women and Children in Indonesia, 2023–2025

Year	Total Case of Violence Against Women	Gender-Based Violence Against Women (Komnas Perempuan)	KAPI Complaints (Children)	Online Gender-Based Violence (SAFEnet)
2023	401.975	–	–	–
2024	445.502	330.097	2.057	–
2025	–	376.529	2.031	2.382

Source: *Komnas Perempuan (2025, 2026); KPAI (2025); Tempo.co (2026); Databoks (2026).*

The problem of violence against children stems from several internal and external factors. Erroneous parenting practices within families foster a culture of violence that children perceive as normative. Furthermore, the youngster experiences neglect, prompting them to resort to violence as a means of problem resolution. From an external viewpoint, the origins of violence against children are also attributed to inadequate law enforcement and a deterioration of societal ethics. Suryamizon's (2017) study indicated that violence against women and children is a significant infringement of human rights, hence necessitating preventive measures through amendments to legislation and governmental policies (Suryamizon, 2017). Preventive legal protection is anticipated to diminish or entirely avert

violence through initiatives such as legislative revision and an enhanced governmental role in assisting victims of violence. The government is obligated to provide justice and comprehensively address cases of abuse against women and children in law enforcement. The primary objective is to establish legal certainty for the victims and avert the recurrence of violence (Suryamizon, 2017). This paper underscores the significance of preventive strategies, including public awareness initiatives and specialized training for law enforcement personnel, to enhance sensitivity towards gender-based violence issues.

Violence against women and children constitutes a grave offense and poses a significant threat to sustainable development and quality of life. This violence incurs damages for women and children, jeopardizing their economic, educational, legal, social, psychological, and living conditions, while also threatening sustainable development and their lives. From January to December 2023, the predominant form of violence reported was psychological/physical, with 1,147 victims and 427 incidents documented. Sexual assault incidents involved 959 victims and 393 cases, whilst other incidents comprised 412 victims and 106 cases. Law No. 35 of 2014 defines violence as any action directed at a child that causes physical, psychological, sexual, or emotional anguish or suffering, including threats of coercion or unlawful deprivation of liberty.

The government has put out a lot of information about rules that are meant to protect women and children, such as: Law No. 12 of 2022 on sexual violence crimes, Law No. 23 of 2004 on the eradication of domestic violence, Law No. 23 of 2022 on child protection, amended by Law No. 35 of 2014, and Perppu No. 1 of 2016, which pertains to the second amendment of Law No. 23 of 2002 on child protection. These regulations define violence as any act against a child that causes bodily, psychological, or sexual harm and/or neglect, including threats to perpetrate such acts, coercion, or unlawful deprivation of liberty. Notwithstanding the promulgation of the aforementioned legislation aimed at safeguarding children and women, violence and both physical and psychological anguish inflicted upon them continue unabated, with a year-on-year escalation in the incidence of such incidents. Does the rise in reported incidents signify an enhanced knowledge among victims to notify authorities, or does it merely reflect an escalation in the audacity of the criminals' actions?

More recently, the government has also moved to address the digital dimension of child protection directly. In March 2025, President Prabowo Subianto signed Government Regulation (PP) No. 17 of 2025 on the Governance of Electronic System Administration in Child Protection (PP TUNAS), which took effect in April 2025 and obliges electronic system operators to provide age-based content classification, reliable age-verification mechanisms, and accessible parental-control features (Republik Indonesia, 2025). Its technical implementing regulation, Ministerial Regulation (Permenkomdigi) No. 9 of 2026, further requires high-risk digital platforms, including YouTube, TikTok, Facebook, Instagram, and Roblox, to restrict account access for users under 16 years old, with phased implementation beginning March 2026. This regulatory development illustrates a growing, though still recent and largely untested, policy recognition of digital spaces as a legitimate domain for child-protection governance, directly aligned with this study's central argument.

Table 2. Legal and Regulatory Framework on Violence Against Women and Children in Indonesia

No	Legal Instrument	Year	Main Focus/Scope
1	Law No.23 of 2002 on Child Protection	2002	General Child Protection
2	Law No. 23 of 2004 on the Elimination of Domestic Violence (PKDRT)	2004	Domestic Violence
3	Government Regulation in Lieu of Law (Perppu) No. 1 of 2016 (Second Amendment to Law No. 23 of 2002)	2016	Strengthening sanctions against perpetrators of sexual violence against children

4	Law No. 35 of 2014 on the Amendment to Law No. 23 of 2002 on Child Protection	2014	Strengthening the definition of and protection for children
5	Law No. 12 of 2022 on Sexual Violence Crimes (TPKS)	2022	Sexual violence, including in the digital sphere
6	Government Regulation No. 17 of 2025 on the Governance of Electronic System Implementation for Child Protection (PP TUNAS)	2025	Child protection in digital/electronic spaces
7	Minister of Communication and Digital Affairs Regulation No. 9 of 2026 (Implementing Regulation of PP TUNAS)	2026	Restrictions on children's accounts on high-risk digital platforms

Nevertheless, the proliferation of legal instruments does not inherently guarantee the effectiveness of protection for women and children. Insufficient inter-agency coordination, scarce resources, and inadequate gender sensitivity among law enforcement officials continue to pose significant challenges to effective policy implementation (Wati & Kismartini, 2019). Therefore, the efficacy of law relies not only on robust regulations but also on consistent enforcement and institutional dedication.

Violence against women and children, especially sexual violence, is common and can happen anywhere, even on the internet. Despite the rapid advancement of information technology, proficiency in its use remains insufficient. Collaboration with mass media (both print and electronic) to enhance the coverage of violence against women and children, including the provision of public education regarding the human rights of women and children. Currently, there exists a sort of information technology exploitation in violent offenses against women and children. Nurullia (2021) asserts that contemporary technology breakthroughs significantly influence scientific progress, yielding both beneficial and detrimental repercussions on human existence (Nurullia, 2021). The accessibility of cyberspace allows for universal operability and connectivity via the Internet, available to all individuals at any time and from any location, as noted by (Dewi & Raharjo, 2019). In criminology, the advancement of science and technology is regarded as a catalyst for crime, suggesting it motivates individuals to engage in malevolent acts or contributes to the incidence of criminal behavior (Singgi et al., 2020).

The 2022 Annual Report of the National Commission on Violence Against Women indicates that 2021 saw the largest number of gender-based cases in the decade, totaling 338, which is an increase of 96 instances from 2020. This development signifies that instances of violence are also frequent in the digital realm. Moreover, the safeguarding of women's rights in the workplace pertains to the broader context of women's existence as employees. The safeguarding of women's rights within labor law pertains to the principle of non-discrimination in wage structures and promotional opportunities, alongside the protection of rights associated with reproductive functions, as articulated in Article 28D, paragraph 2 of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia. The labor force participation rate (LFPR) from 2021 to 2023 indicates that women attained 54.52, which is not markedly different from the 84.26 achieved by male workers. Data from the PPA Symphony on human trafficking offenses in 2023 indicates that there were 235 adult female victims, constituting 51%, and 200 female kid victims, representing 44%. Safeguarding women's rights against human trafficking offenses seeks to protect women against activities including organ trafficking, sexual exploitation, and similar violations.

This digital dimension of gender-based violence has intensified markedly in subsequent years. Komnas Perempuan's own records show online gender-based violence (Kekerasan Berbasis Gender Online/KBGO) cases rising from just 16 in 2017 to 1,846 in 2025 (GoodStats Data, 2026), while independent monitoring by SAFEnet Indonesia recorded 2,382 KBGO reports in 2025 alone, an increase of roughly 25% from 2024, dominated by threats to distribute intimate content (1,150 cases), online sextortion (592 cases), and non-consensual intimate imagery (280 cases), most frequently occurring on WhatsApp, Telegram, and Instagram respectively (Databoks, 2026). Within Komnas Perempuan's public-domain violence category specifically, KBGO was the single most reported form of

violence in 2025, accounting for 1,091 cases. These figures substantiate this study's contention that digital spaces have become a primary, and rapidly growing, arena for gender-based violence rather than a peripheral concern.

Strategies that can be employed to combat violence against women and children; A primary strategy proposed is the revision of laws and regulations pertaining to violence against women and children. This amendment must broaden the law's purview to encompass other manifestations of violence, including physical, psychological, or sexual, within the Indonesian legal framework. Enhanced regulations will fortify protections for women and children. Implementing special protections for victims of violence is a crucial measure in combating violence. This technique encompasses providing victims with the right to protection from law enforcement, access to healthcare services, psychological support, and legal assistance to facilitate their recovery. The author underscores the significance of enhancing public knowledge of the perils of violence against women and children through public campaigns and education.

The goal of this campaign is to raise public awareness of women's and children's rights and how to protect them from violence. Public education can help reduce the stigma that victims face and encourage more people to report violent events. Another way is to set up a national organization that only helps women and children who have been victims of violence. People expect this place to protect, shelter, and help the victims get better.

It is very important for police officers to get special training on how to handle cases of violence against women and children. The goal of this training is to help officers better understand issues related to gender-based violence so they can respond more quickly and effectively when they do. To stop violence, it is important to have strict law enforcement against people who commit violent acts. The author emphasizes that law enforcement includes not just enforcing laws but also carrying out court decisions and making sure that victims have fair legal protection (Suryamizon, 2017).

After showing different data on the signs, trends, and rules about violence against women and children, it is important to look at how well these protective policies are being put into action. To understand how well the legal system protects victims and gives them justice, we need to look at the parts of the law that protect them.

3.1 Legal Protection in the Supervision and Handling of Violence Against Women and Children

The success or failure of law enforcement officers in carrying out their duties actually begins with the creation of the legal regulations they are required to enforce. Legal protection is a right that can be obtained by all citizens equally, and this right is granted by the government if the citizen meets certain requirements. Legal protection is an effort to protect society from arbitrary actions by authorities that are not in accordance with the rule of law, in order to achieve order and tranquility. Child protection can be defined as legal protection for various freedoms and human rights of children, in addition to interests related to child welfare. The responsibility for child protection is further explained in Article 20, which states, "The State, the Government, Regional Governments, Society, Families, and Parents or Guardians are obligated and responsible for the implementation of Child Protection." Optimizing the function of law enforcement to protect children has not yet been done, but despite this, there must be legal protection for child victims of violence. To ensure justice, legal certainty, and benefit for society, law enforcement must be carried out from the top down, from law enforcement officers to the public, and in a networked manner with child and women's protection institutions. The police are a state institution that plays a role in handling and processing cases of child and women's violence intensively and cooperatively.

The prosecutor's subsequent responsibility is to present the case in order to solicit the judge's ruling regarding the penalties for this criminal offense. The crucial function of law enforcement in instances of violence is to guarantee the protection of victims' rights. The fundamental rights of women include the right to life, the right to be free from torture and inhumane or degrading treatment, the right to liberty and security, the right to equal legal protection, and the right to reasonable and suitable working circumstances. Consequently, resources that prioritize women's and children's rights in addressing incidents of abuse are essential. The quantity of training for law enforcement agents is essential to enhance their competency, given that their numbers remain limited. The law enforcement procedure for

cases involving abuse against children and women will be suboptimal if there is inadequate sensitivity to upholding their rights within the legal framework (Nova, 2022). To avert issues, training should be provided to law enforcement authorities, including judges, prosecutors, police, lawyers, and support institutions, to facilitate legal prosecution.

According to Colin Crawford and Daniel Bonilla Maldonado, access to justice constitutes the opportunity for every citizen to present themselves before judicial or administrative state institutions in order to defend or secure their rights (Crawford & Maldonado, 2020). Furthermore, according to the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), access to justice refers to an individual's capacity to pursue and secure justice in accordance with human rights standards through both formal and informal institutions (UNDP, 2006). Children who are victims of violence encounter challenges in accessing suitable assistance and support owing to the deficiency of child protection services. Consequently, violence frequently remains concealed or unreported, complicating efforts to prevent, address, and manage its enduring effects.

When women and children encounter violence and want assistance, reporting mechanisms are not always accessible, and responses are not always suitable or prompt. Current initiatives to avert violence against children have not yet achieved the requisite availability and quality of a standardized protective system. In addition to the insufficient incidence and prevalence data, the program is disjointed across multiple fundamental service sectors. Violence against children can be mitigated and resolved; however, challenges such as intersectoral coordination, resource distribution and ability, as well as deficiencies in data and knowledge must be surmounted. The perspectives and dispositions of adults and peers regarding children, encompassing service providers, stakeholders, and family caregivers, affect the efficiency and precision of responding to violence against children. To facilitate the swift and efficient prevention and management of violence against children, it is essential to augment the capabilities of social networks within the child's surroundings.

Different law enforcement agencies, such as the police, prosecutor's office, and courts, have different standard operating procedures (SOPs) for dealing with violence against women and children. This difference could cause each institution to do things differently. Poor communication between these organizations often leads to poor coordination. Not being able to send information quickly and accurately could make case management harder, which could lead to delays or answers that don't make sense. Wati's & Kismartini (2019) research shows that it is still hard to meet policy goals for dealing with child abuse cases because of social and cultural barriers at the implementation level (Wati & Kismartini, 2019). The government's response to providing community services is lacking because of poor coordination and responsiveness, and the steps taken to prevent violent acts are not seen as effective enough.

The insufficient outreach to the community also significantly affects public awareness of child violence that may occur in their vicinity, although a limited segment of the community is already informed about this issue (Lestari et al., 2022). Policy implementation is considered successful when resource capacity is sufficient. Resources encompass human capital, financial assets, and temporal investments, all of which are critical determinants of policy success. The absence of well-defined and organized mechanisms for inter-agency coordination results in sporadic and inconsistent collaboration efforts. Without appropriate mechanisms in place, each institution tends to operate independently and without coordination. Furthermore, variations in legal enforcement and regulatory interpretation by law enforcement agencies can result in inconsistencies in case management. This is frequently associated with variations in the interpretation of relevant laws or regulations.

Factors contributing to inadequate violence reporting include the public's limited awareness, insufficient engagement from community leaders, and restricted access to information regarding violence. This outreach included several pieces of information on physical, psychological, and legal violence, as well as the role of community leaders in violence prevention (Fatmariza et al., 2020). The outreach initiatives in Nagari Pasie Laweh effectively enhanced community awareness and comprehension of violence against women and children.

People are starting to realize that violence isn't just physical harm; it can also be psychological harm. Moreover, societal attitudes have transformed, viewing violence against women not as a "shame" to be hidden, but as a matter that requires reporting and appropriate intervention. People in the community are starting to understand how

important it is to set up a dedicated institution in the village to deal with the issue of violence against women and children. This extension activity helps people in the community understand and do something about stopping and dealing with violence in their area (Fatmariza et al., 2020).

An effective legal protection strategy encompasses multiple approaches aimed at preventing and mitigating violence. First, enhancing public awareness through legal education and outreach initiatives is of utmost importance. This measure seeks to enhance comprehension of children's and women's rights, as well as society's duty to safeguard them from violence. Furthermore, the author underscores the significance of systematically organized anti-violence campaigns that engage diverse segments of society, including government agencies and non-governmental organizations (Wahyudi & Habibah, 2023). An additional recommended approach is to enhance healthcare and legal service systems dedicated to assisting victims of violence. This system encompasses the provision of legal assistance, psychological rehabilitation, and physical recovery services for victims. Furthermore, the article emphasizes the significance of targeted legal reforms that enhance protections for children and women, alongside improved law enforcement measures.

The updated laws are expected to fix the legal problems that often leave victims without enough protection. This legal protection method puts a lot of emphasis on prevention through education, strong law enforcement, and changes to policies that take into account the victims' social and economic situations. This makes violence against women and children less common. Domestic violence, particularly against women, often impacts children, potentially leading to fatal consequences such as child homicide.

One of the key findings in Dekel's research is that violence against children frequently takes place within the context of domestic violence, with women predominantly serving as the primary victims. Children are frequently caught in this cycle of violence, serving both as witnesses and as direct victims. This article also emphasizes that perpetrators frequently regard violence as an acceptable form of discipline or punishment, which can ultimately result in lethal violence against children (Dekel et al., 2019). This study concludes that a significant correlation exists between violence directed at women and violence directed at children within households characterized by violence. Therefore, interventions designed to eliminate violence against women must account for its effects on children and the potential transmission of such violence to them. This legal approach necessitates collaboration among all parties involved, both in the formulation of regulations and in the enforcement of the applicable rules.

Maysarah et al. (2025) discuss Total Defense Readiness, which refers to a nation's capacity to address non-military challenges, contingent upon its military strength, the efficacy of institutional collaboration, the pace of technological advancement, and the level of public engagement (Maysarah et al., 2025). This strategy can be implemented by enhancing inter-agency coordination, fostering gender-sensitive digital literacy, and promoting community engagement in early detection systems and victim protection related to violence against women and children in both public and digital spheres. Strategic communication is a crucial element that connects defense strategy and social policy to maintain national stability.

3.2 Synergy of Violence Handling Actors

Violence directed towards children and women is not a recent phenomenon. Violence against children has historically been a grim aspect of human civilization, paralleling the emergence of criminal activity with the evolution of humanity. Inappropriate conduct towards a child is termed child abuse. Child maltreatment is an alternative word frequently employed to characterize such circumstances. Physical violence, mental abuse, sexual violence, and neglect or rejection are all behaviors that must be prohibited.

Currently, there is no one-stop service system or integrated services from complaint, accompaniment, law enforcement process, rehabilitation, and reintegration at the central to regional levels that would facilitate and expedite proof and prevent victims from revictimization. The protection and equal fulfillment of rights for all Indonesian people, including women and children, is mandated in the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia. In order to fulfill this mandate, Integrated Services are needed, which is the provision of integrated, multi-faceted, cross-

functional, and cross-sectoral services for victims, their families, and/or witnesses of sexual violence. As an example, women-friendly and child-caring villages have been established. A village that integrates gender and children's rights perspectives into the governance of village administration, village development, and the guidance and empowerment of village communities, carried out in a planned, comprehensive, and sustainable manner, in accordance with Indonesia's development vision.

Efforts to strengthen cooperation networks, synergy, and coordination between ministries/agencies, local governments, communities, mass media, the business world, community-based service providers, legal aid institutions, and others for the prevention, handling, protection, and recovery of violence victims. The convoluted bureaucratic process often hinders effective cooperation between institutions. Limited human resources and budget can hinder the implementation of comprehensive and sustainable programs. Many well-planned programs cannot be implemented effectively due to a lack of funds or expert personnel.

Infrastructure and access to protection services in remote areas are still uneven. Many victims in rural areas have difficulty accessing legal, medical, and psychological assistance. The sub-optimal utilization of information technology for early detection, reporting, and handling of violence cases is also a constraint. However, an integrated information system between relevant institutions has not yet been well established. Violence against women and children is a complex phenomenon because it doesn't happen suddenly and cannot be addressed sporadically or unilaterally. The process of preventing, treating, and rehabilitating victims adds to the complexity of the problem. Due to its complexity, efforts to address violence involve multiple sectors and numerous participating parties. In 2023, the Indonesian Child Protection Commission (KPAI) received 2,656 cases related to the Fulfillment of Children's Rights (PHA) and Special Child Protection (PKA). KPAI was established in accordance with Law No. 35 of 2014 concerning Amendments to Law No. 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection. KPAI has a monitoring task carried out by the minister and commissions dealing with violence against women, human rights, child protection, and disabilities and is implemented by the community.

The child protection situation requires modifications to the ecological system that integrate the interconnected education, healthcare, social, and livelihood systems. Child protection responsibilities and obligations are carried out through the cooperation of all parties, namely the state, central government, local government, parents, and families. The presence of the state and government in child protection is to ensure the implementation of child protection, including the rights to education, survival, religion, and special protection, and the right to express opinions, as well as providing facilities and infrastructure and child protection policies. Meanwhile, parental responsibility in child protection is carried out through nurturing, caring for, educating, protecting, and developing children, preventing child marriage, and providing character education and moral values to children. On a more complex scale, the family also has a protective function for children. The family has the same obligations as parents, especially when the parents' whereabouts are unknown or they are unable to fulfill their obligations and responsibilities for any reason.

Preventing violence against women and children requires synergy and collaboration between ministries/agencies, local governments, and communities. Handling violence against women and children needs to be done comprehensively, quickly, and in an integrated manner. Strengthening the role of each institution is needed to ensure the fulfillment of the rights of women and child victims of violence so that the cycle of violence against women and children can be broken. Slow and insensitive legal processes often worsen the situation for victims. Victims must endure a long and exhausting process without adequate protection.

Better coordination mechanisms are needed between ministries/agencies, local governments, and communities in the prevention and handling of cases of violence against children and women. Good synergy can be achieved through strong commitment and cooperation from all parties. Expanding service access in some regions is one step that can be taken to expedite services for received reports of violence. Additionally, accelerating the legal process and providing adequate protection for victims can be done as soon as possible. The system for empowering women and protecting children is realized, among other things, through the establishment of integrated, one-stop-shop, and

networked technical service units formed by the government, local governments, communities, non-governmental organizations, donor agencies, or other institutions. The crucial issue is the highly multi-sectoral implementation of this technical service unit.

The difficulties of inadequate coordination and policy overlap expose a deficiency in public communication governance from a strategic communication viewpoint. Inconsistent interagency communication leads to insufficient public dissemination of violence reduction measures. The failure to create a coherent and empathetic narrative for victims of violence may erode public trust in the state, thereby impacting national resilience. Accordingly, the effectiveness of interagency strategic communication is essential for improving the national response to gender-based violence.

3.3 Violence Handling Strategies

Ensuring the safety of victims of violence should be paramount. The victim is entitled to safeguarding from family members, law enforcement, prosecutors, judiciary, legal representatives, social organizations, and other entities. This protection may be provisional or instituted via a court protection order. Victims of violence require the support of social workers and legal assistance throughout the examination process, as mandated by legal provisions. This support is anticipated to assist victims in navigating the legal system and recuperating following the violence. This journal underscores the significance of collaboration between the community and law enforcement in combating violence against women. Active community engagement is essential for reporting violence and facilitating the legal proceedings against offenders.

Based on the analysis results, it also highlights that one of the roots of violence against women is the patriarchal culture that is still strong in society. To address this issue, efforts are needed to change the social view that considers men more dominant than women, both within the family and in society. This can be done through education about gender equality and human rights. Preventing violence against women requires educating and socializing the public about the dangers of violence and the importance of respecting women's rights. This education is expected to prevent violence by raising public awareness of gender equality. The author emphasizes the importance of firm legal action against perpetrators of violence, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. The perpetrator must be dealt with according to the law to provide a deterrent effect and prevent further violence (Ginting et al., 2022).

It is important for the public, especially women, to have knowledge and understanding of the wise use of digital media to prevent cyber-based violence. According to data from the National Commission on Violence Against Women, violence against women, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, has significantly increased. Cyber-based violence (CBV) also showed a sharp increase, particularly in cases of domestic violence (DV), which increased by 920% in 2020 (Safarwati et al., 2022).

The first strategy used was to provide knowledge to the public, especially regarding the forms of violence that can occur both directly and virtually. This education is conducted through socialization and outreach initiatives to enhance community awareness and enable recognition of various forms of violence against women and children. This article emphasizes the significance of preventive strategies in combating violence against women and children. A suggested preventive measure is to inform the public about the judicious and proper utilization of digital media to mitigate potential cyber violence. Society must comprehend the protocols for reporting and lodging complaints regarding violence, whether in physical or virtual contexts. Understanding the appropriate reporting channels is essential for enabling prompt and precise follow-up by authorities on incidents of violence. In implementing this strategy, collaboration with local communities, such as RPTRA (Child-Friendly Integrated Public Space) managers, is very important. RPTRA is used as a center for education and socialization, especially for mothers who often gather there, so that information about violence and preventive measures can be disseminated more effectively (Safarwati et al., 2022).

Some factors hindering the complexity of addressing violence against women and children include: global migration and trafficking issues adding complexity to handling cases involving victims from various countries; human

trafficking for sexual exploitation or forced labor affecting regional stability; suboptimal intergovernmental cooperation in the region hindering law enforcement; cultural and social exchange between countries influencing patterns of violence against women and children; unequal accessibility to legal services for victims of violence, resulting in suboptimal reporting of cases; weaknesses in the national legal framework, particularly specific laws related to gender-based violence and child abuse; low levels of public education and awareness regarding violence issues affecting the minimal reporting of cases; weak implementation of existing regulations on preventing and addressing violence against women and children; and the limited and uneven distribution of human resources with the competence to handle cases of violence against women and children across different regions.

The necessary strategies include enhancing supervision and control to prevent and address cases of violence against children and women, optimizing the implementation of laws in handling violence against children and women, and increasing synergy between ministries/state institutions, local governments, and communities for the prevention and handling of violent crimes against children and women. The strategic efforts undertaken involve raising public awareness by establishing a system for preventing and handling violence against women and children through education on parenting and guardianship based on strengthening family resilience. The utilization of trust funds is carried out to increase the community's awareness of preventing violence against children and women. Additionally, activities are also carried out by empowering women and children through socialization so that they can become independent and competent, preventing them from becoming a vulnerable group susceptible to violence, and implementing gender equality parameters and child rights principles in development across various fields.

The use of information technology also needs to be optimized for tracking cases of violence and victim big data, which can be considered by stakeholders in policymaking for handling violence against women and children. The program in question can be in the form of a hotline for victims to receive counseling, support, and information regarding steps they can take. To support this, providing more resources for legal aid services for victims of violence becomes a necessity. This may involve the establishment of additional legal service offices in underrepresented regions and the provision of financial assistance or complimentary legal aid to impoverished victims. Furthermore, it develops and implements legal services utilizing an integrated database system that links police, hospitals, and courts to enhance information exchange. This system provides services for women and children who are victims of violence, employing a case management methodology.

The most important aspect of addressing violence is also having an integrated and unified system for complaints, reporting, and handling cases of violence against women and children, prioritizing the fulfillment of children's needs and the protection of violence victims. Accordingly, improving coordination and cooperation between institutions by utilizing digital technology to create a rapid response system and case management for complaints of violence against women and children. Strengthening multi-sectoral cooperation through a shared commitment to implementing comprehensive, rapid, and integrated violence response is a real solution. Cooperation is carried out by forming a national forum or task force and conducting joint training for law enforcement officers, healthcare workers, social workers, and other personnel, involving various relevant ministries and agencies. The forum is intended to formulate policies, align programs, and oversee the implementation of violence against women and children.

Therefore, strategies for addressing violence against women and children require not only strong legal and policy approaches but also public communication strategies capable of building awareness, empathy, and cross-sectoral collaboration. Strengthening the government's strategic communication capacity is an essential element in creating social resilience that is responsive to gender-based violence issues.

4. Conclusion

Violence against children and women encompasses physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, which may lead to bodily harm, psychological trauma, and death. The violence is considered a violation of the second principle of Pancasila, "Just and Civilized Humanity," which emphasizes the imperative of treating children and women with compassion and equity, rather than resorting to violence. The author outlines various factors that contribute to

domestic abuse and violence against children, including gender power imbalances, economic dependency, and ingrained patriarchal cultural influences.

Violence against women is a significant issue. This violence signifies a violation of human dignity and manifests in multiple facets of life, including education, economics, culture, religion, and ethnicity. The author emphasizes that violence against women is frequently attributed to factors including a dominant patriarchal culture, familial economic strain, and challenging environmental and occupational conditions. This violence causes physical, sexual, economic, and psychological distress, resulting in social differentiation between men (masculine) and women (feminine). To address this issue, collaboration between the community and law enforcement agencies is essential. Initiatives aimed at socialization to prevent violence, safeguard victims, and prosecute offenders in accordance with relevant legislation are crucial for diminishing and eradicating violence against women in Indonesia.

Broadcast media has great potential to raise awareness about violence against women and children. There is a need for increased broadcast frequency and stronger efforts to ensure that perpetrators of violence are truly punished as an effective form of prevention. Additionally, the presence of a complaint service is also important. Violence complaints can be made through various communication channels, such as a 24-hour hotline, social media, and collaboration with local institutions. Healthcare services include medical examinations and recovery for victims, while social rehabilitation services aim to restore victims' psychological and social conditions through counselling and life skills education.

This research affirms that violence against women and children is not only a social and humanitarian concern but also a strategic communication challenge that directly affects social stability and national resilience. Consequently, it is imperative to enhance cross-sectoral policy integration, augment public communication capabilities addressing gender-based violence, and devise communication strategies that foster collective awareness to expedite case reporting and broaden protective measures for at-risk populations.

5. Limitations and Future Research Directions

This review is subject to several limitations. First, as a qualitative literature review, it relies exclusively on secondary and textual sources — academic publications, legal instruments, and government reports — without primary empirical data such as interviews with victims, practitioners, or law enforcement officers, which limits its ability to capture lived experience directly. Second, the analysis is geographically bounded to the Indonesian context, which may limit the generalizability of its conclusions to other jurisdictions with different legal and cultural settings. Third, the descriptive-analytical and thematic approach employed here was not accompanied by a fully documented systematic review protocol (e.g., PRISMA), which may affect the reproducibility of the source selection process. Future research would therefore benefit from primary empirical studies — including interviews or surveys with victims and law enforcement personnel, and content analysis of digital hate speech and victim-blaming narratives — as well as comparative cross-country studies and systematic, PRISMA-guided reviews that quantitatively evaluate the effectiveness of existing policy interventions.

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