

## THE URGENCY OF BUILDING LEGAL AWARENESS IN THE BOND OF LOVE IN YOUTH

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### Abstrak

Tujuan dari penelitian ini sebagai sebuah edukasi terhadap para remaja atas pentingnya pemahaman tentang membangun kesadaran hukum atas relasi pacaran dalam ikatan Cinta. Kemudian, analisis literatur digunakan dalam melakukan pendekatan pada penelitian ini, yang berkaitan dengan pelanggaran dan kekerasan dalam menjalin relasi cinta di kalangan remaja untuk memperoleh sebuah tinjauan mengenai fenomena hukum melalui analisis yang disajikan secara deskriptif-analitis melalui beberapa prosedur yang ditempuh secara kualitatif. Selanjutnya, hasil penelitian ini menyatakan bahwa pemahaman atas hukum di kalangan remaja dalam ikatan cinta melalui relasi pacaran merupakan perkara yang begitu penting untuk diberikan. Apalagi dengan semakin banyaknya penyimpangan dan pelanggaran yang terjadi dalam relasi pacaran dikalangan remaja tersebut. Pemahaman atas hukum pada remaja dibutuhkan penyesuaian dengan perkembangannya, sehingga dibutuhkan sebuah langkah yang strategis agar bisa menjaga relasi yang baik dengan pasangan secara sehat tanpa adanya pelanggaran atau kekerasan.

**Kata Kunci:** Kesadaran Hukum; Ikatan Cinta; Remaja

### Abstract

*This research aims to educate youths on the importance of understanding building legal awareness of courtship relationships in the bond of love. Then, the literature analysis is used to approach this research, which relates to violations and violence in a love relationship among adolescents, to obtain an overview of legal phenomena through an analysis presented in a descriptive-analytic manner through several qualitative procedures. Furthermore, the results of this study state that an understanding of the law among teenagers in the bond of love through courtship relationships is a*

*fundamental matter to be given, especially with the increasing number of irregularities and violations that occur in courtship relationships among these teenagers. Understanding the law in adolescents requires adjustment to its development, so a strategic step is needed to maintain a good relationship with a partner healthily without any violations or violence.*

**Keywords:** *Legal Awareness; Bond of Love; Youth*

## A. INTRODUCTION

During adolescence, a person experiences development in preparation for adulthood. Adolescence is a transitional stage of life, and living conditions are arguably unstable. At the level of immature and stable emotions, it is characterized by emotional outbursts in front of others, unable to view situations and conditions critically, and having emotional reactions that are difficult to control. In addition, adolescence is very vulnerable to various negative influences, such as criminalization, drugs, and sexual crimes. It is called a hostile act because teenagers are deviant.

In adolescence, which is a transitional period, adolescents feel doubts about their role. At this time, the status of a teenager was no longer a child, nor was he an adult. On the other hand, the unclear status of adolescents is also beneficial because it gives them time to try different lifestyles and determine the behaviour, values, and traits that are appropriate for them.

The characteristics of adolescents in the identity search stage are vulnerable to the emergence of a problem. Internalization of a problem arises when a teenager leads to a problem experienced within him. Maturity of mental, emotional, social and physical in the state of a teenager who is still unstable is one factor in delinquency. Juvenile delinquency is a large part of the social problems that exist in society. Social issues about adolescent delinquency threaten the peace that causes a situation within. There is a discrepancy between elements in culture in society.

The term juvenile delinquency which refers to a wide range, from socially unacceptable behaviour, such as excessive behaviour, to status violations to criminal acts. Then, Juvenile delinquency is an evil behaviour or delinquency of young people; it is a symptom of social (pathological) illness in children and adolescents caused by social neglect to develop a form of deviant behaviour (Kartono, 2014).

Crime incidents are increasingly being reported; the public can see how brutal today's youth are. The increasing crime rate is not only carried out by adults but also by teenagers. Juvenile delinquency acts are varied and varied, but their actions are usually limited to what they do according to the urging of their needs and desires that must be met when compared to criminal acts committed by adults who have become a habit and make the crime a profession (Unayah & Sabarisman, 2015).

There are differences between index offences and status offences: index offences; are criminal acts committed by teenagers and adults, such as robbery, assault, rape, murder. Status offences are actions that are not as serious as index violations, such as running away, playing truancy, drinking under the legal age, free sex and uncontrollable children. This

action is carried out by teenagers under a certain period, classifying them as juvenile offenders.

In addition to the legal classification of index offences and status offences, many behaviours are considered delinquent and are included in the widely used type of abnormal behaviour. Conduct disorder is a psychiatric diagnostic term used when several behaviours such as truancy, running away, burning, being cruel to animals, breaking into and trespassing, excessive fighting or deviant actions. Appears within six months. If three or more of these behaviours occur before the age of 15 and the child or adolescent is deemed unmanageable, or out of control, the clinical diagnosis is a conduct disorder.

In recent years, violations of the law in the bond of love among teenagers have become increasingly common. Men and women have the potential and are equally involved in violating the bond of love through courtship relationships. Both of them can be the perpetrator or even become victims, but women have the potential to become victims in this courtship relationship. In this case, it is proven that a man tends to use physical violence to control their partner while a woman is more likely to use physical violence to defend her safety.

Violence in the bond of love through radiance among adolescents impacts various aspects of the victim's life and has the potential to be sustainable, so preventive action is much more effective than curative. Therefore, strategies such as debriefing and mentoring for adolescent development must focus on adults in their roles as educators, especially parents, teachers, religious leaders and government officials as protectors. However, teenagers who are victims of violence should have self-defence against harassment and various coercion or pressure from their partners.

Violations in the bond of love among teenagers through dating relationships are violent emotional, psychological, physical, and sexual acts. The act can be used with or without intention or understanding in a love relationship involving at least one teenager. There are several violations in the relation of love bonds, namely physical, emotional, verbal, psychological and others.

In physical violence, any violent behaviour that aims to control or hurt a partner includes threats and acts of intimidation, such as intentionally hitting, slapping, or physically being pulled by a partner. The violence that takes the form of verbal abuse or abuse is usually a sign that a relationship has the potential to become physically violent, and some teens may mistake aggression or verbal abuse for love. Meanwhile, emotional violence is more felt or impacts feelings of hurt, pressure, anger, feelings of restraint, inferiority and other uncomfortable feelings. The three are often referred to as violent behaviour in love bonds through courtship relationships. However, violent behaviour in love bonds includes physical abuse and sexual harassment and psychological abuse.

Solving the problem of violence in love bonds among teenagers through courtship relationships should be a concern for all levels of society by seeking strategies to deal with this issue that involve the parties involved in youth development. Therefore, it is necessary to have an excellent legal understanding given to every teenager about maintaining good relationships in love bonds through the courtship to control various cases of violations in these bonds so that no one is harmed.

## B. THEORETICAL REVIEW

Laws and all rules are virtual structures or structures that are not visible as the support for human life. Seeing the essential nature of the individual human being, a society based on minimal laws is usually static. Humans are generally lazy and reluctant to get sick; social progress cannot occur spontaneously. The law can then act as social engineering for that progress. In this case, legal awareness becomes a binder or a common language as a trust system or as an ideal. Law has a noble purpose: to form a society in legal order. The most core pawn of the urgency of legal awareness for humans is that humans are different from animals. This situation of inadequacy encourages humans to create external structures to live well.

At first, the law functions to regulate human behaviour and maintain all habits that already exist in society, but in its development, the law functions as a means to achieve goals. Law anywhere will grow from the way of life, view of life and the needs of the people's lives, so that the law will grow and develop with the community. As explained by Roscoe Pound, quoted by Sunarjati Hartono (1986), the law is a social institution to meet social needs. The balancing line will be more presented in life if the human being can relate values in his pattern of action, so the pressure point for this legal awareness is the synergy between the mindset and the design of actions taken by humans.

Law is protection for human interests in the form of rules or norms. The diversity of interests that exist in every human being can sometimes lead to conflict between one human and another, resulting in losses. As a result, human interests are threatened, both from others and outside. Law serves to protect human interests. Therefore, the law must be implemented to save the interests of these human interests. In practice, the law can occur typically and peacefully, but there can also be violations of the law in practice.

In this case, the role of the law must be honest, namely to uphold justice equally without discrimination for the welfare of human life because the law was created to be implemented. The law can no longer be called a law if it has never been implemented. The application of law always involves humans and their behaviour. The law regulates human life, although there are often violations of the law, both in the form of relations between humans, nature, even God is regulated by law.

The law helps create and enforce justice to create a just and prosperous life. The law needs to be formulated so that it does not occur due to mistakes and different understandings of the law itself. This mistake will be detrimental to humans themselves as law enforcers. Official institutions such as the police are given the task of dealing with law violations. The prosecutor's office is structured to prepare for examining cases before a court session.

Legal awareness and law have a very close relationship. Legal awareness is a factor in legal discovery. At a certain point, legal awareness is expected to encourage someone to obey and carry out, or not to carry out what is prohibited and or what is ordered by law. Therefore, increasing legal awareness is an integral part of realizing law enforcement. According to Soerjono Soekanto (1982), legal awareness is awareness or values contained in humans about existing laws or about laws that are expected to live. What is emphasized is the sharing of deals about the function of law and not a legal assessment of various concrete events in the society concerned. Sudikno Mertokusumo explained that legal

awareness means awareness of what we should do or should not do or act, especially towards other people (Mertokusumo, 1981). This means awareness of our respective legal obligations to others.

In terms of legal substance, it cannot be ascertained that the material from legal awareness is not a law because there has never been any evidence that the contents of legal awareness are accurate. Vehicle over statute refers to how people understand the law and legal institutions, i.e. understandings that give meaning to people's experiences and actions. Legal awareness is formed in the effort, and why is a matter of practice to be studied empirically. In other words, legal awareness is a matter of law as behaviour and not law as the rule of law on principle. In addition, legal awareness is the awareness that exists in every human being about what the law is or what the law should be, a specific category of our mental life by which we distinguish between law and not law, between what should be done and what should not be done.

With the interaction between legal awareness and the formation of law within that framework, attention or a living sense of direction is the only source of law, not yet reflected in the law incarnated through legislation, which then H. Krabbe explained in his book "De Modern Staat" of all the rules, whether statutory law, customary law, or unwritten law, legal awareness is the basis of law (Loudoe, 1985). In such public legal awareness, in the process of law formation as above, public legal awareness is often a political consideration for some parties that cannot be ignored in the process of conflict in understanding public legal awareness.

It can be concluded that legal awareness is the public's perspective on the law, what should and should not be done to the law, and respect for other people's things (tolerance). Legal awareness also means awareness of the law, the awareness that the law protects human interests who are aware that humans have many interests that require legal protection.

### **C. RESEARCH METHOD**

Literature analysis is used in approaching this research, which is related to violations and violence in establishing love relationships among adolescents, to obtain an overview of legal phenomena through examining various studies that have been published previously. Observations were made on the legal aspects based on library sources still relevant to this research. The process analysis results are presented in a descriptive-analytic manner through several qualitative procedures because the study emphasizes the process of deductive and inductive inference and analysis of the dynamics of the observed phenomena relation using scientific logic (Kawangung & Lele, 2019).

### **D. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

#### **The Urgency of Building Legal in Youth**

Fostering legal awareness demands social reform, which is currently a concern and is being promoted in various development efforts. Thus, the enforcement of new legal regulation will become a reality if it is supported by legal awareness of all citizens. Awareness of the law's enactment is the basis of the implementation of the law itself.

Legal awareness here is awareness to act by legal provisions. Community legal awareness is a kind of bridge that connects legal regulations with the lawful behaviour of community members. The growth of public legal awareness is strongly influenced by the operation of various factors and forces. In this case, the actions that citizens will take in response to different legal regulations are very dependent on the contents of the legal norms themselves, the sanctions, the activities of law enforcement and all extra juridical factors that work on them.

In working the law, every community member is seen as a legal address. The legal address is as a role occupant, and as a role holder, he is expected to fulfil certain expectations as stated in the legislation. Thus, community members are expected to meet the roles written in the regulations. Therefore, it is necessary to make various efforts towards fostering public legal awareness.

Legal guidance to the community should be oriented to various efforts to instil, socialize, and institutionalize different values that underlie these legal regulations. For this reason, it is necessary to pay attention to the problem of legal communication and the dissemination of legislation so that members can know of the community as the target of the legal arrangement, which can be done through legal counselling. Legal counselling activities are carried out in various forms, including lectures, discussions, legal awareness meetings, exhibitions, simulations, legal awareness family competitions, legal consultations, interactive dialogues, newspapers, magazines and other forms.

Socialization or legal counselling by state, government or community institutions can be a reasonable and practical effort in responding to legal culture in the community. Community participation is mainly triggered by legal awareness to act legal or illegal, comply with the law or disobey the law. Related to legal counselling activities in building legal awareness in romantic bonds among teenagers, it must also be properly socialized.

Deviant behaviour carried out by teenagers in criminal acts may make us rethink integration in society. Juvenile delinquency in the form of criminal acts can significantly influence society, even though their impact is unintended. The rise of crime news among teenagers encourages us to ask the cause of the action.

One of the causes of the high rate of juvenile crime, or more precisely juvenile delinquency, is the community's dysfunctional family and social dysfunction. Families are considered to have failed in educating teenagers, causing them to take deviant actions, which lead to social sanctions being given by the community. Under the pretext of security and order, the sanctions make teenagers more challenging to manage. In this case, it is also what causes the community to have failed in taking preventive measures to prevent such deviant behaviour.

Understanding the law among teenagers in the bond of love through courtship is a fundamental matter to be given, especially with the increasing number of irregularities and violations that occur in dating relationships among teenagers, such as violence, free sex deviations, abortion, and others. Understanding of the law in adolescents requires adjustment to development.

Aggression activities during dating are categorized as physical violence, psychological abuse and sexual coercion (Zahra & Yanuvianti, 2019). In the form of aggression, the category of physical violence is hitting, slapping, pushing, and throwing

objects that can be dangerous. Then, in the form of charge in the psychological abuse category, such as insults, shouting and mentioning specific names and calls that are degrading. Meanwhile, sexual coercion is an act that involves forcing sexual activity against a partner who does not want it by using verbal or physical violence (Sari & Rokhanawati, 2018).

Sexual activity among teenagers is very concerning because it has led to a criminal act that has violated the provisions of the regulations contained in criminal law. Child sexual behaviour is not a new problem in society. Such sexual behaviour is alarming the security and public order, especially parents and community. Child abuse needs special attention from the government as a policymaker. Therefore, if a teenager commits a crime, the teenager is also given sanctions, especially for acts of sexual harassment.

Sexual violence among adolescents is all forms of coercion and threats to engage in sexual activity. Sexual activity can include touching, molestation and even pressure to have sex. Then, the impact of sexual violence can be physical and psychological and social. The material impact can be in cuts or tears in the blood membrane. Then, the psychological impact can include mental trauma to the opposite sex, fear, disappointment, and even the victim's desire to commit suicide. On the social impact, they get cynical treatment from the people around them, suspicion of being involved in socializing, etc.

The violence that occurs in courtship relationships in love bonds against women usually consists of several types, for example, attacks on physical, mental, economic and sexual. Physically, violence is carried out, such as hitting, punching, kicking, grabbing, pinching, etc. In contrast, violence against a person's mentality usually includes excessive jealousy, coercion, cursing in public and so on. Violence in Relationships Dating is closely related to health, both short term and long term, which includes: physical injury, digestive tract disorders, chronic pain syndrome, and depressive behaviour or threats of suicide (Ayu, Hakimi, & Hayati, 2013).

Several young women who experienced unwanted pregnancies due to sexual violence in the form of coercion in having sexual relations admitted that there was an element of force in having sexual relations with their partners. Adolescent girls who experience unwanted pregnancies due to sexual violence are also abandoned by their partners. The couple the young woman expected to be responsible for her pregnancy chose to leave, suggesting aborting the pregnancy and letting the young woman bear the pregnancy and the effects of the unwanted pregnancy alone (Fajrina, 2012). Sexual violence can create problems in ineffective emotion regulation, such as suicidal thoughts expressing inappropriate emotions.

Violence in dating relationships on economic issues can also occur in teenagers' lives. This is evidenced by the presence of a partner who often borrows money or other items without ever returning them, always asks for a treat, and so on. If a teenager is forced to kiss his partner, if he starts groping his body, or moves him to have sexual intercourse, he has committed violence included in sexual violence. Generally, dating Rape is preceded by other acts of violence.

Dating violence does not always happen purely or without other triggering factors for violence. Violence in dating can occur because of the distance factor between individuals who are dating far apart, resulting in communication disorders in dating

relationships. Violence in dating is not only carried out directly and openly; it can also be carried out covertly behind the denial of infidelity and the words of affection for the boyfriend.

Violence in dating can be created because of pressure from the boyfriend himself, who demands him to take a very urgent decision to commit violence. Then, possessive behaviour can be in the form of supervising every boyfriend's activities, limiting the association to the prohibition to associate with certain people, and being included in the category of violence in dating relationships among teenagers. However, possessive behaviour is sometimes based on the hidden positive values behind this behaviour.

### **Strategies and Efforts to Build Legal Awareness in the Bond of Love in Youth**

Fostering legal awareness of adolescents in romantic bonds is to change the form of behaviour based on the need for harsh environmental conditions, which can grow and develop adolescents' participation in the security sector. Changes in adolescent behaviour can be realized; it is necessary to raise adolescents by changing habits, attitudes and behaviour towards partners, no longer based on their obligations or obligations but instead on the value of loyalty in the bond of love.

So that efforts to build legal awareness among teenagers in romantic relationships can run optimally, strategic steps are needed, such as increasing efforts to involve teenagers in legal socialization, both individually and in groups of teenagers, with the hope of realizing adolescent legal awareness through behavioural changes that romantic bonds are not just viewed with a sense of love and affection, but how to maintain a good relationship with a partner healthily without any violation or violence in the relation of love.

The role of the family is highly correlated with a person's tendency to commit violent behaviour in courtship relationships, but not with peers and significant others. This case shows the magnitude of the influence of support from the family, especially the teenager's parents, in creating healthier and more constructive interactions with the opposite sex. The family plays an important role, and this is recognized by many. The family is an essential element in socializing the values, norms, and goals agreed upon in society. The high rate of juvenile crime due to the non-compliance of the rules and standards that apply in society is considered a family fault. From a theoretical point of view, it is not only the family that is blamed; the community can also be blamed for not strictly enforcing rules or assisting the socialization of norms and goals in society.

Family is the primary environment for each individual. Before a child knows the wider environment, a child first knows his family environment (Karimullah, 2021b). Therefore, before children get to know the norms and values of society, the first time, the child will absorb the norms and values that apply in his family to be part of his personality (Mardiah, Satriana, & Syahriati, 2017). Parents play an essential role in a child's positive and negative emotions. This shows that parents are still a critical environment for a child (Karimullah, 2021a).

Efforts that can be made to provide legal understanding to adolescents who establish love bonds through courtship relationships so that no violation can harm other parties can be made by giving reasonable supervision of relationships among teenagers, realizing a harmonious family life and giving the attention needed by the youth. The



teenager. These various efforts come from the family environment. The steps that can be shown in educational institutions are to intensify the section on boosting religious lessons, understanding the law, counselling guidance for teenagers. Not only that, but the community environment also dramatically influences the growth and development of a teenager because positive community activities or organizations help towards achieving reasonable goals.

Understanding the law for teenagers can also be done through cognitive and proactive methods, which emphasize more on how to socialize the law among teenagers who are invited to participate or be actively involved in expressing their opinions on the importance of legal awareness. In addition, good moral development for every teenager is also significant because, with this good moral development, teenagers will better understand the importance of morals in carrying out good social relations in their environment.

## E. CONCLUSION

Understanding the law in youth the bond of love through courtship is a fundamental matter to be given, especially with the increasing number of irregularities and violations that occur in dating relationships among teenagers, such as violence, free sex deviations, abortion, and others. Understanding of the law in adolescents requires adjustment to its development so that a strategic step is needed, such as increasing efforts to involve adolescents in legal socialization, both individually and in groups of adolescents with the hope of realizing adolescent legal awareness through behavioural changes that love bonds are not only viewed with love and affection. Affection, but how to maintain a good relationship with a partner healthily without any violation or violence in the relation of love.

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