

The Role of the Muslimat Nahdlatul Ulama of North Sumatra in Preventing People from Committing Crimes during the Covid-19 Pandemic

by

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to determine the role of Community Organizations to participate in preventing criminal acts in the city of Medan, and to provide input to the Medan City Government on the importance of collaborating with CSOs to succeed in preventing criminal acts in the city of Medan. The type of research carried out in this study is normative juridical research, and is supported by empirical juridical research. In this case, the research location is an observational study at the Muslimat Nahdlatul Ulama (NU) of the North Sumatra Organization in Medan City. The nature of this research is analytical descriptive, meaning that this research describes how a legal provision in the context of legal theories describes various issues related to the role of Community Organizations in preventing the occurrence of criminal acts in the Covid 19 Era in Medan City.

Keywords: Community, social organization, crime, Covid-19, pandemic, Muslim community.

Introduction:

The problem of criminal acts committed by some people is to some degree often happens during people's lives and this is a worldwide problem, meaning that the delinquent crime is a problem that has existed throughout the ages from the early period of human existence, this can happen to people from different backgrounds, both adults and children. Because of this, all countries in the world always make sure regulations are there to tackle crime (Kanter and Sianturi, 2002).

The current covid-19 virus that causes a worldwide pandemic in 2020 until now, still grows and spreads hurriedly and is fatal. This covid 19 information reported by the mass media has also caused fright and concern for many people and has had a tremendous impact in the social field such as education, politics, and economics (Situmeang, 2021). In Indonesia itself, the COVID-19 pandemic has also had enormous waves, one of which is in the economic field which has caused

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many bankruptcies experienced by the business sector so that many people lose their jobs as a place to earn a living. This is supported by Anwar (2020) who argues At this time, people are not only worried about the spread of Covid-19, but people must also be aware of criminal acts. The phenomenon of crime during the PSBB conditions, the perpetrators are mostly ex-convicts of the assimilation program issued by the government through the Ministry of Law and Human Rights. This is because the current economic conditions are chaotic amid the coronavirus or Covid-19 pandemic, there is a lot of unemployment, and life is difficult so the potential for criminology is enormous. So it's not surprising that several inmates are desperate to return (Wurnasari, Larasati, Fortunata and Santoso, 2020).

The impact caused by the COVID-19 pandemic that we will examine is where the rampant crime that occurred during the Covid 19 pandemic, such as the increase in street crime both in quality and quantity, for example, the occurrence of frequent pickpocketing, robbery, motorcycle theft, demolition of minimarkets, fence thieves, car tires and others. The increase in these crimes is undeniably a bias from the many layoffs experienced by the public during the COVID-19 pandemic (Millah, 2020). According to the Kabaharkam Polri Inspector General Agus Andrianto as well as the Head of Central Operations (Kaopspus) for the Safe Nusa II, Contingency-Covid-19 handling in 2020 explained the increased cases as well as many factors that influence the decrease in crime. However, the prevention and handling of the spread of Covid-19 in Indonesia do not only affect formal and informal workers. Almost all aspects of life are disturbed even a new culture is being developed, especially for those who have lost their daily income. Thus, they are very difficult to meet their daily needs, especially the problem of meeting their food needs.

The 2019 Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic has caused some people to lose their jobs unexpectedly. This has led to an increase in crime in Surabaya during the COVID-19 pandemic (Triana and Fauzi, 2020). The loss of their jobs causes them to take shortcuts to earn income to support their families. Since the pandemic until now there have been at least a few cases of motor vehicle theft crimes that take advantage of the current situation. Conditions like this result in a change in behaviour in someone who is deviant so that they carry out actions that are contrary to the law, one of which is committing theft by taking other people's property secretly or secretly in an illegal or deviant way. From the perspective of the sociology of law, the current situation can be said that every society has a type of crime and criminals according to their social and economic conditions (Mahmud Marzuki, 2008).

This situation encourages researchers to conduct research in collaboration with the Indonesian Taklim Council Association. The study will emphasize the role of community organizations in preventing the occurrence of criminal acts in the Covid 19 Era in Medan City. The research problem proposed, is the role of the *Nahdlatul Ulama* Muslim Community Organization in preventing people from committing criminal acts in Medan City?

Research Method:

The type of research carried out in this study is normative juridical research, and is supported by empirical juridical research (Mamudji and Soekanto, 2009). In this case, the research location that the researcher will conduct is an observational study at Muslimat Nahdlatul Ulama (NU) of North Sumatra in Medan City. The nature of this research is analytical descriptive, meaning that this research describes how a legal provision in the context of legal theories describes various issues related to the role of community organizations in preventing the occurrence of criminal acts in the covid 19 in Medan city.

The Role of the Muslimat Nahdlatul Ulama (NU) of North Sumatra in Preventing People from Committing Crimes in Medan City:

The condition of the Indonesian people, especially in the city of Medan, is currently very worrying, one of which is due to the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic, which after the covid virus was declared a pandemic by WHO. It caused millions of people in the world to get sick and even die. This has an impact on the community's economy; many companies have lost money and even became bankrupt. Many people are laid off and lose their livelihoods. It's not only companies that are affected; many small businesses are also affected. It's also because of restrictions on people's movement or what is called PPKM.

The government has officially determined the implementation of PPKM or emergency PPKM from July 3, 2021, until now. PPKM is an abbreviation of Enacting Restrictions on Community Activities. PPKM was implemented to stem the rate of increase in the positive number of the coronavirus or Covid-19. Initially, PPKM was implemented in Java and Bali. Then the Emergency PPKM was expanded to 15 regions outside Java-Bali, covering regencies and cities in several provinces. It consists of the cities of Tanjung Pinang and Batam (Riau Islands), the cities of Singkawang and Pontianak (West Kalimantan), the cities of Padang Panjang and Bukittinggi (West Sumatra). Then, Bandar Lampung City (Lampung), Manokwari and Sorong City (West Papua), Bontang City, Balikpapan, Berau Regency (East Kalimantan), Padang City (West Sumatra), Mataram (NTB), and Medan City (North Sumatra). As the coordinator for implementing this policy, Jokowi has appointed Luhut Binsar Pandjaitan, the Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs and Investment.

The following are 16 details or points of emergency PPKM rules: Offices in non-essential sectors are required to implement 100 per cent work from home (WHF) or work from home. For the essential sector, a maximum of 50 per cent of employees are allowed to work from the office (WFO) by implementing strict health protocols. These essential sectors include finance and banking, capital markets, payment systems, information and communication technology, non-COVID-19 quarantine handling hotels, and export-oriented industries. For critical sectors, employees are allowed to WFO by implementing strict health protocols. These critical sectors include the fields of energy, health, security, logistics and transportation, the food, beverage, and supporting industries, petrochemicals, cement, national vital objects, disaster management, national strategic projects, basic utility construction, and the industry to fulfil basic needs of the community.

Teaching and learning activities must be online or online. The operating hours of supermarkets, traditional markets, grocery stores, and supermarkets are limited to 20:00 with a maximum visitor capacity of 50 per cent. The operating hours of pharmacies and drug stores are allowed 24 hours. Activities in shopping centres/malls/trade centres are temporarily closed. Restaurants, restaurants, cafes, old street vendors, and hawker stalls located in separate locations or shopping centres/malls may only provide delivery and take away services and are prohibited from accepting meals on the spot. Construction activities at construction sites and project sites may operate 100 per cent by implementing strict health protocols. Places of worship, namely mosques, prayer rooms, churches, temples, monasteries, temples, and other public places that functioned as places of worship were temporarily closed. Public facilities that include public areas, public parks, tourist attractions, or other public areas are closed. Art/cultural activities, sports, and social activities (locations for arts, culture, sports facilities, and social activities) are temporarily closed. Passengers of public transportation, mass transportation, conventional and online taxis, and rental vehicles are limited to a maximum of 70 per cent by implementing strict health protocols.

The wedding reception is attended by a maximum of 30 people by implementing strict health protocols and not providing meals at the reception. The preparation of food may only be in a closed place to be brought home. Domestic travellers using long-distance transportation (aeroplanes, buses, and trains) must present a vaccine card for at least the first dose, as well as the H-2 PCR test for aircraft and the H-1 antigen for other long-distance transportation. Masks are still worn when doing activities outside the home. Not allowed to wear a face shield without a mask.

The implementation of this PPKM resulted in an increase in the unemployment rate and then affected the crime rate in the community, even though in 2021 compared to 2020 according to the North Sumatra Police Chief, crime cases tended to decrease but the crime rate was still relatively high. Based on the data, the types of crimes that occurred throughout 2021 were 33,392 cases. Meanwhile, in 2020 there was a decrease in the number of crimes totalling 37,051 cases.

The data above illustrates that there are still many crimes that occur in the community, even the level of heinousness in committing crimes is classified as sadistic. Currently, it is demanded cooperation between the government, law enforcement officers, and the community to jointly prevent this crime from further disturbing the community. So in this study, we will highlight the role of the Muslimat Nahdlatul Ulama Community Organization in preventing people from committing criminal acts in the city of Medan. In this case, we interviewed the head of the Muslimat Nahdlatul Ulama, North Sumatra, namely Dra.H. Rohani, and Mrs Emmy Mariaty Nasution as secretary.

As explained by Dra.H. Rohani Muslimat NU is one of the largest organizations in Indonesia that is a forum for self-development, including for women. Because one of the visions and missions of Muslimat NU is the formation of young Muslim women who are devoted to Allah SWT, virtuous, charitable, capable and responsible, and useful for the Religion and the Nation, and the realization of a sense of loyalty to the principles, *aqidah (faith and conviction)*, and goals of Nahdlatul Ulama (NU) in enforcing Islamic law. As a form of organization, attention to women in the city of Medan is given by opening up opportunities to learn together and foster religious mentality and strengthen brotherhood among Muslims, so as not to become a woman who only has abilities in the household sector. Muslimat NU wants to show that women also can think and work on a par with men, especially in the aspect of science and religious insight.

With the above objectives, Muslimat NU is present to participate in preventing people from committing criminal acts in the city of Medan through a program to increase the development of women's resources in the city of Medan through three fields such as economics, education, and religion.

- i. **Economics:** NU embraces women, especially those who are members of Muslimat NU carrying out a creative economy program where this activity is a collaboration between women by establishing a joint shop where basic food items are sold and dishes made by Muslimat NU women such as banana chips, Loyang flowers cakes, tempeh chips, and others and there are also handicrafts such as mask hooks, woven wallets, cloth masks, and others, this has been carried out by Muslimat NU in Medan Marelan District, and will soon be initiated to be carried out in sub-districts in the city of Medan. In addition to these activities, the Muslimat NU Committee, in collaboration with the government, carries out sewing training for women who are members of Muslimat NU, so some women who have participated in this sewing training have now been able to open sewing services at home. With this creative economy program, it is hoped that mothers can help ease the burden on families which are currently being heavy due to

- the impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic, thereby reducing the possibility of family members committing criminal acts.
- ii. **Education Sector:** In the field of education, Muslimat NU collaborates with lecturers to provide motivation and counselling on matters relating to the importance of education for women so that women or NU Muslims are not only good at taking care of the household but also have broad insight about things that develop in society. Several times, Muslimat NU collaborated with Prima Indonesia University lecturers to carry out counselling on the importance of implementing National Character and Law Enforcement in Indonesia and the dangers of drug abuse. It is aimed at promoting values in the society so that the education of Muslimat NU women continues to be fostered. It is hoped that by understanding these new sciences, mothers can also socialize with their families and closest communities. It is also expected that this will prevent people from committing criminal acts.
 - iii. **Religious Affairs:** This religious field is an activity that we periodically carry out. This activity is carried out to continue to strengthen piety to Allah SWT, because with the stronger piety, in carrying out Allah's commands and staying away from any despicable action. The religious activities that are regularly carried out are:
 - **Wirid Yasin:** We usually do this activity on Thursday every week in their respective areas. Even though this worship is not mandatory, they have high enthusiasm to do it. This *Wirid Yasin* was carried out to maintain a sense of solidarity between Muslims, especially mothers who are members of Muslimat NU. This activity is also carried out when a member or family member dies for several days. In this *wirid* activity, it is not always filled with *wirid yasin* for 2 (two) weeks, interspersed with religious *tausiah* by religious leaders / *ustadz*. In addition to carrying out *wirid* and *tausiah* activities, the community also exchanges information and reminds each other if there are things related to problems that occur around their respective areas, including reminding each other if there are things - Disgraceful things happening in the area, including the problem of narcotics abuse, according to Mrs. Emmy Mariaty Nasution, through this *wirid*, mothers also take care of each other so that the bad influence of crime can be prevented from happening.
 - **Qatam Al Qur'an:** This activity is carried out by members of the Muslimat NU and women's communities in their respective areas. This activity is led by an *ustadzah* who has mastered the science of reading the Qur'an, so when there are people who read the Qur'an incorrectly, the *ustadzah* will correct his reading in the hope that with this activity, mothers are increasingly fluent in reading, and memorizing the Koran and increasingly understanding the contents of the Koran, so it is hoped that women will be further away from committing despicable acts, especially criminal acts.
 - **Harlah NU:** *Harlah* NU is an abbreviation of Nahdlatul Ulama's Birthday; this activity is carried out on January 31 every year by involving Muslim women from Nahdlatul Ulama. The Harlah event is often accompanied by several Islamic competitions in each sub-district of Medan city where the NU Muslimat Branch is located. We hope that the community, especially

Muslim youth, will love their religion more and be protected and prevented from the bad influences of the development of science and technology, such as online games, promiscuity, abuse of narcotics, and other crimes.

- **Alms Friday:** The organization does this Friday's alms activity by collecting donations from NU Muslim women who want to give alms and then after collecting it, it will be used to buy or cook rice boxes then distribute the boxed rice to pedicab drivers, *Ojek* Online brothers and the community - the less fortunate group of people in the Medan City area. Sometimes when there is assistance from certain parties, it also distributes food packages to help ease the burden on the community, so it is also hoped that it will prevent people from committing crimes because they need easier life.
- **Maghrib Koran:** This Magrib Koran activity is held to teach children (SD – SMP) to be able to read the Qur'an well which is sometimes interspersed with giving *tausiah* given by *Ustadz/Ustadzah*, this is done so that children can gain knowledge of religion and religion. They do not fill the void of time by playing online games or being influenced by bad associations.

Conclusion:

NU is one of the largest organizations in Indonesia that is a forum for self-development, including for women. Because one of the visions and missions of NU is the formation of young Muslim women who are devoted to Allah, virtuous, charitable, capable and responsible, and useful for the Religion and the Nation, and the realization of a sense of loyalty to the principles, *aqidah* (*faith and conviction*), and goals of Nahdlatul Ulama (NU) in enforcing Islamic law. NU also opens opportunities to learn together and foster religious mentality and strengthen brotherhood among Muslims, so as not to become a woman who only has abilities in the household sector, Muslimat NU wants to show that women also can think and work on a par with men, especially in the aspect of science and religious insight. With the above objectives, Muslimat NU is present to participate in preventing people from committing criminal acts in the city of Medan through a program to increase the development of women's resources in the city of Medan through three fields such as economics, education, and religion.

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