



# Policy Tools for Preventing and Handling Sexual Violence at Universitas Negeri Padang

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**Abstract:** This research discusses the policy tools made by Padang State University (UNP) in handling cases of sexual violence within the institution. Usually when sexual violence occurs, both against lecturers and students or female students, victims are confused about where to report it. If reported to the department or faculty level, victims usually cannot be handled properly because there are no guidelines that become benchmarks in preventing and handling sexual violence on campus. Therefore, a comprehensive and integrated policy tool is needed, starting from clear reporting procedures, structured case handling mechanisms, to an adequate victim assistance system. This research is a type of descriptive research with qualitative methods. The data collection techniques used are interviews and documentation. Informants in this study include the UNP PPKS Task Force, UNP Tendik, UNP Lecturers and UNP Students. This research uses the Policy Instrument Theory from Howlett and Ramesh (1995) which divides instruments into 3 (three) groups, namely, Compulsory Policy Instruments, Voluntary Policy Instruments, and Mixed Policy Instruments. The results of this study indicate that the implementation of the policy tools of Permendikbudristek No. 30 of 2021 at UNP has been running through various policy instruments, although there are several instruments that have not been implemented optimally. Referring to the Policy Instrument Theory proposed by Howlett and Ramesh (1995) shows that of the six existing policy instruments, four instruments have been fulfilled well, namely regulations, direct provisions, voluntary organizations, and information and exhortation. The other two instruments, namely public enterprises and subsidies, have not been fulfilled optimally due to constraints in coordination with government agencies and limited funding systems. UNP needs to strengthen coordination mechanisms with government agencies and develop a direct subsidy scheme for victims of sexual violence to ensure more effective policy implementation.

**Keywords:** Policy Tools, Sexual Violence, Universities.

## Introduction

Higher education is an institution that in carrying out its policies must be based on public policy. One of the policies made by Universitas Negeri Padang (UNP) is in handling cases of sexual violence within the institution. UNP has formed a Sexual Violence Prevention Handling Task Force (PPKS Task Force). The PPKS Task Force is tasked with providing assistance, handling cases, counselling, and advocating for victims of sexual violence. They also conduct socialisation and education to the entire academic community about the importance of preventing and handling cases of sexual violence. In addition, UNP

also raises awareness and understanding of sexual violence through activities such as seminars, workshops, and campaigns involving students, lecturers, and administrative staff (Suardi, 2024).

Problems faced in cases of sexual violence in higher education, such as UNP, include: limited government resources and infrastructure to effectively handle cases of sexual violence, power imbalances between perpetrators and victims, especially in hierarchical relationships in the academic environment, and the lack of integrated and sustainable prevention efforts to reduce the incidence of sexual violence in higher education Foucoult (in Kamahi, 2017) Currently, the dissemination of information by government organisations is still not officially established in the campus environment. The absence of a special institution or unit that directly represents in handling cases of sexual violence causes difficulties in coordination and implementation of established policies. The absence of a government organisation that specifically deals with this issue on campus results in the obstruction of the process of reporting, handling, and monitoring sexual violence cases. This also has an impact on the lack of supervision and evaluation of the effectiveness of the policies that have been established, as well as complicating the process of accountability and reporting to higher government agencies. This is not part of the public enterprise instrument (McMahon, 2023). Currently, UNP's opportunity to provide counselling on the prevention and handling of sexual violence is very limited because it must adjust to the right academic moment, for example during new student admissions and internship socialisation.

The Policy Instrument Theory proposed by Howlett and Ramesh (1995) divides policy instruments into 3 (three) groups, namely Compulsory Policy Instruments, Voluntary Policy Instruments, and Mixed Policy Instruments. External networking is part of the mandatory policy instruments. Initial interviews and observations showed that there were only 2 policy instruments for preventing sexual violence at UNP, namely regulations in the form of UNP Rector Regulation Number 19 of 2022 concerning Prevention and Handling of Sexual Violence in the Environment of Padang State University and voluntary organisations in the form of cooperation partners. The implementation of policies on the prevention and handling of sexual violence at UNP certainly cannot be carried out properly if supported by only two instruments (Salabay, 2024a). Based on the description of the background above, a policy tool is needed in handling this case.

## Methodology

Researchers use descriptive research with qualitative methods, because research describes, interprets and tells a situation as it is. Descriptive research with qualitative methods aims to make a systematic, in-depth, and accurate description of the facts and relationships between the phenomena studied.

According to Fairus (in Moleong, 2016: 6) qualitative research is research that intends to interpret phenomena experienced by research subjects such as behaviour, perceptions, motivations, actions, etc., holistically, and by means of descriptions in the form of words and language, in a special natural context and by utilising various natural methods.

Arikunto (2014: 3) argues that descriptive research is research intended to investigate circumstances, conditions or other things. Muktar (2013: 29) argues that descriptive qualitative research is a research intended to reveal an empirical fact objectively scientifically based on scientific logic, procedures and supported by strong methodology and theories according to the scientific discipline being pursued (Kamalludin, 2024).

## **Result and Discussion**

### **Policy Tools in Preventing and Handling Sexual Violence in Padang State University Environment**

#### **1. Regulation of Permendikbudristek No.30 of 2021**

Permendikbudristek describes policy as a choice that must be taken or not taken by the government to overcome an ongoing problem, including issues in the world of education. Thus, Permendikbudristek No. 30 of 2021 can be understood as a policy instrument used by the government to respond to and manage various challenges in the higher education sector in Indonesia. It also includes its application in various universities. The regulation of Permendikbudristek No. 30 of 2021 has shown several positive aspects in its application at UNP. The comprehensive regulatory structure has provided adequate protection for the rights of the academic community, especially women. This is indicated by the availability of a complaint place and a safe reporting system for victims. In addition, UNP has also organised various seminars related to gender and sexual violence as a form of prevention and education. The derivatives of the regulation of the Permendikbudristek itself at UNP are the Regulation of the Rector of Padang State University Number 19 of 2022 and the Decree of the Rector of Padang State University Number 794/UN35/KP/2022.

#### **2. Actors Implementing Policy Tools at Padang State University**

In implementing Permendikbudristek No. 30 of 2021. The PPKS Task Force acts as the front guard in handling and preventing cases of sexual violence by carrying out procedures for handling reports, categorising cases, and determining appropriate sanctions. Meanwhile, lecturers and education personnel have an important role in supporting the implementation of regulations through active involvement in prevention, socialisation and education activities for the academic community. Both work together to create a safe and conducive campus environment for the entire academic community.

The collaboration between the PPKS Task Force, lecturers, and education personnel reflects a shared understanding that the prevention of sexual violence is the responsibility of all elements of education. They realise that compliance with this regulation is mandatory and requires active involvement from all parties. Through their complementary roles, they contribute to creating a safe and conducive campus environment for the entire academic community of Universitas Negeri Padang.

#### **3. UNP services in preventing and handling sexual violence in the Higher Education Environment**

In the Prevention and Handling of Sexual Violence, Padang State University has a strategic role in implementing Permendikbudristek No. 30 of 2021. UNP services aim to ensure the creation of a safe and conducive campus environment for the entire academic community through various prevention and handling services for sexual violence cases. The

services provided include preventive aspects such as socialisation, education, and prevention campaigns, as well as curative aspects in the form of case handling, victim assistance, and the application of sanctions according to the level of violation that occurred. The main services provided include a Special Counselling Unit managed by a team of psychologists in handling trauma, legal services, and health services.

#### **4. Participation in the Dissemination of Preventing and Handling Sexual Violence at Universitas Negeri Padang**

Sexual violence on campus is a serious issue that requires comprehensive attention and handling from the entire academic community. Universitas Negeri Padang (UNP) as an institution of higher education has a great responsibility in creating a safe and conducive environment for all students, lecturers, and education staff. Efforts to prevent and handle sexual violence are crucial to ensure the basic rights of each individual are guaranteed in the campus environment. There are several important findings related to the participation of the UNP academic community in efforts to prevent and handle sexual violence. The active involvement of various parties, ranging from the PPKS Task Force, staff, lecturers, students, to related units, shows a collective awareness of the importance of overcoming this problem. Various forms of participation include aspects of prevention through socialisation, victim assistance, to enforcement of rules and sanctions for perpetrators (Nurtjahyo, 2022).

Padang State University has made various efforts to disseminate information about the prevention and handling of sexual violence through the PPKS Task Force. This effort is carried out by integrating material into the PKKMB programme, holding seminars and workshops, and disseminating information through websites and social media. Lecturers and education personnel have also actively participated in disseminating information through various means. Lecturers conduct classroom discussions and collaborate with student organisations, while education staff actively share information through WhatsApp groups and internal meetings (Butler, 2019a). They also play a role in educating students about the procedures for reporting sexual violence cases. Referring to the Policy Instrument Theory from Howlett and Ramesh (1995) which divides instruments into 3 (three) groups, namely, Compulsory Policy Instrument, Voluntary Policy Instrument, and Mixed Policy Instrument. shows that of the six existing policy instruments, four instruments have been well fulfilled, namely regulations (regulations), service providers (direct provisions), voluntary organisations, and information dissemination (information and exhortation). Meanwhile, the other two instruments, namely public enterprises and subsidies, have not been fulfilled optimally.

#### **Compulsory Policy Instrument Regulations**

The findings of this study are in line with the Policy Instrument Theory proposed by Howlett and Ramesh (1995), namely mandatory policy instruments are tools used by the government to ensure that policy targets can be achieved through the establishment of binding rules. At UNP, the implementation of regulations related to the prevention and handling of sexual violence has shown the characteristics of an effective mandatory instrument through several aspects, clear and structured regulations, where UNP does not only adopt Permendikbudristek No. 30 of 2021 directly, but implements it into various

internal policy instruments tailored to the campus environment, and establishes clear consequences for violations through strict administrative and academic sanctions.

### **Public enterprise**

This is not in line with the concept of Howlett and Ramesh (1995), which emphasises the importance of institutionalising policies through the establishment of special bodies or institutions that have the authority and capacity to implement policies within the campus environment. The limited access of government agencies to the campus environment may hinder the optimisation of resources and support that could have been utilised for more comprehensive handling of cases. This indicates the need for evaluation and improvement in the coordination system between UNP and government agencies.

### **Service Providers (Direct Provisions)**

The findings of this study are in line with the Policy Tool Theory proposed by Howlett and Ramesh (1995), namely that direct provision is an important policy instrument in ensuring effective policy implementation. This can be seen from the development of a comprehensive service system that includes aspects of prevention, handling, and recovery through the UNP PPKS Task Force. This service system includes information technology-based reporting mechanisms, continuing education programmes, multi-channel complaint services, professional assistance, as well as internal (legal office, psychological services, campus polyclinic) and external (UPTD women's empowerment and child protection) partnership networks.

### **Voluntary Policy Instruments**

#### **Voluntary organisations**

The findings of this study are in line with the Policy Instrument Theory proposed by Howlett and Ramesh (1995), namely that voluntary organisations play an important role as effective policy instruments through active participation and initiative. This is evident from the formation of student organisations concerned with anti-sexual violence and student activity units. Students proactively organise various campaigns, education and socialisation programs that reach fellow students, showing a collective awareness in supporting the implementation of anti-sexual violence policies (Gardiner, 2019).

The effectiveness of the role of voluntary organisations at UNP is also strengthened through an extensive network of collaboration, both internal and external. Internally, there is coordination with various units such as the legal office, psychological services, and campus polyclinics. While externally, partnerships are built with the UPTD for women's empowerment and child protection, and NGOs (Salabay, 2024b).

### **Mixed Instruments**

#### **Dissemination of information (Information and Exhortation)**

The findings of this study are in line with the Policy Instrument Theory proposed by Howlett and Ramesh (1995), namely that mixed instruments in the form of information dissemination require integration between mandatory and voluntary approaches to achieve maximum effectiveness. In the implementation of the information dissemination system that combines mandatory programmes such as the integration of materials in PKKMB with



voluntary initiatives such as social media campaigns and the development of publication materials. This strategy allows for a more comprehensive information dissemination mechanism that reaches all levels of the academic community (Butler, 2019b).

### **Subsidies**

The findings of this study are not fully in line with the Theory of Policy Tools proposed by Howlett and Ramesh (1995), namely that subsidy instruments should include comprehensive support both mandatory and voluntary to support policy implementation. Although UNP has allocated a special budget for the operations of the PPKS Task Force and provides various forms of financial and non-financial support for sexual violence prevention programmes, there are significant gaps in implementation. The absence of direct subsidies for victims of sexual violence and budget constraints that mean not all programmes can be optimally funded suggest that the implementation of subsidy instruments has not fully met the principles put forward by Howlett and Ramesh (Singh, 2019).

### **Conclusion**

Based on the research findings and discussions that have been carried out, conclusions can be drawn:

- 1) Mandatory policy instruments have been implemented through internal regulations which are derivatives of Permendikbudristek No. 30 of 2021. UNP has issued a Rector's Regulation that regulates in detail the mechanism for preventing, reporting and prosecuting cases of sexual violence. Service provision has also been implemented through the PPKS Task Force which provides a comprehensive service system covering prevention, handling and recovery. However, in the aspect of public companies, there are still obstacles to coordination with government agencies that need to be improved.
- 2) Voluntary policy instruments have been effective through the active role of student organisations and student activity units. They voluntarily form communities that care about anti-sexual violence and organise various campaigns and education programmes that reach fellow students. Collaboration is also built with various external stakeholders such as NGOs and gender activists (Torjesen, 2023).
- 3) Mixed policy instruments have been implemented through an information dissemination system that integrates mandatory and voluntary approaches. UNP uses various communication platforms and media to disseminate information on sexual violence prevention. However, there are still limitations in the subsidy aspect where there is no direct subsidy scheme for victims and limited budget for prevention and response programmes.

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