

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGAINST STREET CRIME (STUDY AT SOUTH TAPANULI POLICE)

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ABSTRACT

Street crime is a form of crime that often occurs in public spaces and disturbs the community, such as theft, mugging and violence on the street. This research aims to analyze the law enforcement efforts carried out by the South Tapanuli Police (Polres) in dealing with street crime and identify factors that become obstacles in the law enforcement process. The research method used is an empirical juridical approach, with data collection techniques through interviews, observation and documentation studies. The results of the research show that the South Tapanuli Police have taken various preventive and repressive steps, such as routine patrols, outreach to the community, and taking action against criminals. However, there are still several obstacles such as limited personnel, lack of community participation, and lack of operational support facilities. Therefore, synergy is needed between the police, local government and the community to create conducive security conditions. It is hoped that this research can provide input in formulating more effective policies in eradicating street crime in the area.

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Introductions

The police as law enforcement officers must also enforce the law as strictly as possible to protect and provide a sense of security and comfort to their communities.⁴ Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia has regulated it through the duties and authorities of the main duties of the National Police which affirms that the main duties and authorities of the National Police are, among others:

1. Keeping the country safe and ordering the people
2. Become a law enforcer
3. Protect, protect and serve the people. (Alfarizi et al., 2025)

Crime or criminality is a form of social disease that is difficult to overcome because crime is not a fixed thing, it can happen to anyone of all ages, sometimes it is done unconsciously or consciously or because it is forced by special conditions and situations. It can be said that crime is behavior that deviates from religious and social norms as well as violates the rules of law that apply in the State, which is why people condemn these crimes. (Laksono et al., 2025)

Crime is indeed inseparable from social life, because in essence human beings are social creatures (zoon politicon) who always need the presence of their fellow human beings.⁶ However, social life does not always create peace; Sometimes there is a friction between one norm and another, so a balance is needed in maintaining cultural, religious, and moral values. To create conditions and guaranteed security, what is called law enforcement or law enforcement is needed. (Pratama et al., 2025)

Evil is also one of the realities in life that requires special handling. This is because crime will cause unrest in people's lives in general. Therefore, various efforts are always made to overcome these crimes, although in reality it is very difficult to eradicate crime completely because basically crimes will always develop with the times.

Street crime is very troubling for the community, the number of cases of street crime that encompasses the community, will greatly affect public order and security. If left unchecked, feelings of fear and insecurity will arise because street crime is the closest to the community. People's productivity in carrying out their daily lives will also be affected. For this reason, the community needs legal handling and action, which can protect the community and provide a sense of security from the disturbance of crime. (Sentanu et al., 2025)

Especially in developing countries like Indonesia, street crime is an ongoing and challenging social problem. The school of thought at that time argued that the social and economic conditions of society were fundamental to the origin of this crime. People from low socioeconomic backgrounds typically commit street crimes because they are constantly pressured to find shortcuts to meet their basic needs.

Street crime often leads to significant losses, both in physical, mental, and psychological aspects. Conditions like this must be faced every day by the lower class people who scavenge for their livelihood, so using shortcuts by committing street crimes that are in accordance with their level of ability is one of the fastest ways that can be taken. (Raihan et al., 2025)

The root of the problem of street crime is reviewed from the existing theory, it cannot be separated from the socio-economic conditions of the local community, there are still many people who live below the poverty line, population density that continues to increase, employment difficulties, and the lack of proper housing, conditions like this must be faced every day by the lower class people who scavenge for their livelihoods. So using shortcuts by committing street crimes that suit their level of ability is one of the fastest ways that can be taken. Street crime includes various forms of criminal acts, including theft as stipulated in Article 363 of the Criminal Code (KUHP), including theft with violence as stated in Article 365 of the Criminal Code, such as the case of motor vehicle theft (Ranmor). Extortion as stipulated in Article 368 of the Criminal Code is also included in the category of street crime. In addition, crimes such as rape as regulated in Article 285 of the Criminal Code, persecution as stated in Article 351 of the Criminal Code, and murder regulated in Article 338 of the Criminal Code are also part of the crimes that can occur in public spaces and are included in the category of street crime.¹² Various criminal acts in the form of street crimes contained in the daily life environment of the community are certainly very unsettling in the community. (Aziza & Ramadan, 2025)

The term street crime itself is not explicitly mentioned in Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia. However, the Indonesian Police has a zero street crime program as an operational policy to eradicate street crimes.¹⁴ The form of activities in the zero street crime program is related to the main duties and authorities of the National Police as stated in Article 14 Paragraph (1) letters a and b, Article 15 Paragraph (1) letters f, g, and i, and Article 16 Paragraph (1) letter a of Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia.

Based on the background description that has been presented, the author is interested in conducting research with the title "Street Crime Law Enforcement (Study at the South Tapanuli Police)". This interest is based on the importance of the role of police forces in responding to the increase in street crime and the need for a comprehensive evaluation of law enforcement policies, strategies, and effectiveness at the local level. (Luqmana & Makhali, 2025)

The problem of this research departs from the need to understand in depth how the policies and strategies of law enforcement implemented by the South Tapanuli Police in dealing with street crime. This study is also directed to analyze the extent of the effectiveness of law enforcement when viewed through the perspective of law enforcement theory. In addition, this study pays attention to various factors that affect the law enforcement process, both from legal and non-legal aspects, which have the potential to be an obstacle in handling street crime perpetrators in the jurisdiction of the South Tapanuli Police.

The purpose of this research is focused on efforts to find out and analyze the policies and law enforcement strategies implemented by the South Tapanuli Police in dealing with street crime. This study also aims to assess the effectiveness of law enforcement by using the theoretical framework of law enforcement as an analysis tool. The next goal is to identify and analyze the inhibiting factors that arise in the law enforcement process, both normative and sociological, so as to provide a complete picture of the dynamics of street crime law enforcement in the area.

The benefits of this research are expected to be felt practically and theoretically. Practically, the results of this research are expected to be input for law enforcement officials, especially the police, as a basis for evaluation and consideration in formulating more effective strategies and policies in dealing with street crime. For local governments, this research is expected to contribute to the formulation of crime prevention programs based on community participation. For the public, this research is expected to be able to increase legal awareness while encouraging active involvement in supporting law enforcement efforts against street crime.

Theoretically, this research is expected to contribute to the development of legal science, especially in the field of criminal law and law enforcement. This research adds to the treasure trove of academic studies on the effectiveness of street crime prevention by law enforcement officials at the regional level, as well as enriching scientific discourse related to the application of law enforcement theory in an empirical context.

Method

This research uses a normative juridical legal approach, which is research that is oriented towards positive legal studies related to street crime law enforcement in the South Tapanuli Police area through the analysis of applicable laws and regulations. This research not only seeks to describe the existing normative and empirical conditions, but also examines how the law should be applied (*das Sollen*) and formulate solutions to legal problems that arise in the practice of street crime law enforcement. (Muhammad, 2024)

Judging from the purpose of legal research, this research is included in the category of normative juridical legal research supported by empirical juridical legal research. Normative juridical research is carried out by examining secondary legal materials in the form of laws and regulations, legal doctrines, scientific literature, and expert opinions, including futuristic legal studies regarding the development of legal policies in the future. Meanwhile, empirical juridical research is used as a support by utilizing primary data to obtain a factual picture of the implementation of street crime law enforcement at the South Tapanuli Police Station.

In normative legal research, the analysis is focused on legal principles as a guideline for behavior, legal systematics, and the level of synchronization of laws and regulations both vertically and horizontally. This study also considers historical approaches and limited legal comparisons to trace the development and consistency of related legal arrangements. Futuristic legal formulation efforts are carried out using an interdisciplinary approach to produce relevant and applicable legal policy recommendations in the context of street crime law enforcement.

Result and Discussions

Law Enforcement Policies and Strategies Implemented by the South Tapanuli Police in Handling Street Crime

Law enforcement policies are an integral part of the national legal system that functions to maintain order, justice, and public welfare. Conceptually, the term "policy" means a series of actions that are rationally planned to achieve a specific goal. In the context of criminal law, law enforcement policy can be interpreted as a rational and systematic effort by the state to prevent and overcome crime through the application of criminal and non-criminal law instruments. (Bangun et al., 2025)

According to Barda Nawawi Arief, law enforcement policy is part of criminal policy that aims to protect the community (social defence) and achieve social welfare. Thus, law enforcement is not only a repressive action against criminals, but also includes preventive and educational efforts to build public legal awareness. (Pertiwi et al., 2025)

In practice, law enforcement policies involve various components of the criminal justice system, namely the police, prosecutor's office, courts, and correctional institutions. The four subsystems work synergistically and support each other to achieve legal goals, namely justice, utility, and legal certainty. (Arham et al., 2025)

Terminologically, the word "law enforcement" means the process of making legal norms a reality in people's lives. Soerjono Soekanto explained that law enforcement is an activity to harmonize the relationship between values contained in legal rules to create, maintain, and maintain peace of association.

From this understanding, there are two important aspects in law enforcement policy, namely the normative aspect and the empirical aspect. The normative aspect emphasizes the formal application of the rule of law based on laws and regulations, while the empirical aspect looks at how the law is carried out by law enforcement officials and accepted by the community. (Stuart & Schultz, 2025)

Therefore, the success of law enforcement policies is not only determined by the quality of legal regulations (legal substance), but also by law enforcement officials (legal structure) and public legal awareness (legal culture). Lawrence M. Friedman called these three elements the legal system triad which is the main indicator of the effective running of the legal system.

The main goal of law enforcement policies is to uphold the rule of law to create a sense of security and order in society. In the context of criminal law, this purpose is not only to sanction the perpetrator, but also to protect the victim as well as prevent future crimes. (Aulia, 2025)

Barda Nawawi Arief said that the policy direction of law enforcement in Indonesia must be oriented to a policy-oriented approach, namely the law must be used as a means to achieve social goals. This means that the law is not static but dynamic, so its implementation needs to be adjusted to social conditions and community development.

Effective law enforcement requires a balance between a juridical-formal approach and a social approach, as Satjipto Rahardjo affirms that "true law enforcement is an effort to uphold substantive justice, not just procedural certainty. According to Bagir Manan, the success of law enforcement is highly dependent on the quality of policies made and implemented by the authorities, because policies that are not in harmony with the needs of the community will cause distrust in legal institutions.¹⁰² Therefore, law enforcement policies by the South Tapanuli Police must be prepared adaptively to the social dynamics of their communities, which are vulnerable to street crime. (Nasution et al., 2025)

The implementation of law enforcement policies by the South Tapanuli Police is a tangible manifestation of the implementation of the functions and authorities of the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia as stipulated in Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia. Article 13 states that the main duties of the police are to maintain public security and order, enforce the law, and provide protection, protection, and services to the community. In the context of handling street crime, the implementation of law enforcement policies by the South Tapanuli Police includes three main stages, namely: (1) preventive policies, (2) repressive policies, and (3) rehabilitative and restorative policies. (Labibah & Saefudin, 2025)

Preventive policies are intended as a prevention strategy so that the potential for crime can be minimized. The South Tapanuli Police are trying to reduce the number of street crimes through community development activities (pre-emptive policy) and routine patrols at crime-prone points. Repressive policies are a form of law enforcement that

is carried out after a criminal act has occurred, with the aim of taking action against the perpetrators and providing a deterrent effect. The South Tapanuli Police implemented a repressive policy based on the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code and the Regulation of the National Police Chief No. 14 of 2012 concerning the Management of Criminal Investigations. According to Satjipto Rahardjo, law enforcement is not only about legal certainty (*rechtssicherheit*), but must also pay attention to social justice (*gerechtigkeits*) and utility (*zweckmassigkeit*). In practice, the South Tapanuli Police applies this principle by prioritizing a balance between decisive action and the protection of the human rights of perpetrators and victims. (Ferdiansyah et al., 2025)

The Effectiveness of Law Enforcement on Street Crime in the South Tapanuli Police Reviewed from Law Enforcement Theory

The effectiveness of law enforcement is a measure of the success of the legal system in achieving legal goals, namely justice, utility, and certainty. Effective law enforcement is not only determined by the firmness of law enforcement officials, but also by the extent to which the community understands, accepts, and obeys the law in the practice of daily life. The law can be said to be effective if the applicable legal norms are really implemented according to the intention of the lawmakers and have a positive social impact, especially in preventing the occurrence of crimes. (Sitanggang & Yusuf, 2025)

According to Soerjono Soekanto, the effectiveness of law enforcement is greatly influenced by five main factors: (1) the legal factor itself (legal substance), (2) the law enforcement apparatus factor, (3) the facility or facility factor, (4) the community factor, and (5) the cultural factor. These five factors interact with each other to form a complete legal system. If one of the factors is weak, then law enforcement will not run optimally. Lawrence M. Friedman proposed legal system theory which consists of three elements, namely legal structure, legal substance, and legal culture. The legal structure includes law enforcement agencies such as the police, prosecutor's office, and courts; the substance of the law includes the rules on which legal action is based; Meanwhile, legal culture is the mindset, attitude, and behavior of the community towards the law. In practice, these three elements must be balanced so that the law functions effectively. (Piliang & Madjid, 2025)

In the context of law enforcement against street crime, the effectiveness of the law is largely determined by the synergy between police officers and community participation.¹²⁵ Street crimes such as theft, robbery, and robbery often cause high social unrest. Therefore, law enforcement strategies are not only oriented towards enforcement (repressive), but also prevention (preventive) and community involvement (participatory). Effective law enforcement must also pay attention to the principle of an integrated criminal justice system, where each law enforcement officer (police, prosecutor's office, court, and correctional institution) works synergistically and does not overlap with each other. Good coordination between law enforcement agencies will speed up the case resolution process and increase public trust in legal institutions. Law should not only be understood as a normative text, but as a means of social engineering (law as a tool of social engineering). The effectiveness of law enforcement is not only measured by the number of perpetrators punished, but also by the extent to which the law is able to change people's behavior to be more orderly and law-conscious. Therefore, law enforcement officials, especially the police, must be able to carry out humanistic, educational, and restorative roles in dealing with street crime. (Aparatu et al., 2025)

Interview Results

This research was carried out in the jurisdiction of the South Tapanuli Police, which is a law enforcement institution that bears the responsibility of maintaining public security and order over a wide area, covering 15 sub-districts, with diverse geographical configurations from mountainous areas, rural areas, to urban centers. Such geographic variations are not neutral in the context of law enforcement; it forms a pattern of vulnerability, affects the accessibility of the apparatus to the crime scene, and determines the speed of response, so that law enforcement performance is always faced with the problem of "distance" and "affordability" inherent in the character of the region. From an institutional

perspective, the organizational structure of the South Tapanuli Police is supported by function units that are integrated with each other in accordance with the constitutional mandate of the National Police, including the Criminal Investigation Unit, Sat Samapta/Sabhara, Sat Intelkam, Sat Lantas, Sat Binmas, and other supporting units that work in coordinating and complementary relationships. This structure has normatively provided adequate work tools to carry out preventive, preemptive, and repressive functions at the same time, but its effectiveness is always determined by the institution's ability to transform formal structures into real operational capacities in complex field situations.

In a social space characterized by high community mobility and uneven distribution of settlements, types of street crime such as curamora, jambret, drunkenness, illegal racing, and spontaneous violence develop as a form of crime that is "fast", opportunistic, and often takes advantage of weak supervision at certain points. The findings of the interviews show that the disparity between the area and the availability of personnel is the main challenge that directly affects the reach of patrols, the intensity of supervision, and the quality of initial actions in the field. In responding to this situation, the Police implemented preventive policies through routine patrols, dialogical patrols, community development, legal counseling, and increased police presence at vulnerable hours. The focus of patrols is directed at vulnerable points such as the Sangkumpul Bonang Market, the inter-district border area, and the Batang Toru-Sipirok route, which criminally can be understood as "meeting" spaces between crime opportunities, target vulnerability, and limited situational control. This policy shows an orientation towards a community policing approach through strengthening Siskamling and social communication, but its effectiveness depends on the capacity to build public trust, as citizen participation will not grow in a climate of fear and skepticism of the legal process.

On the intelligence side, the Police collect data on groups that have the potential to be involved in criminal acts—for example, teenagers who drop out of school and motorcycle gang groups—as an early detection strategy and continuous surveillance. This practice shows the use of risk-based prevention logic, but still requires caution so as not to slip into generalizations that lead to social stigmatization, because stigmatization can encourage self-fulfilling criminal prophecies and actually weaken the effectiveness of social control. At the repressive stage, the Police carried out a quick response mechanism and investigation in accordance with the Criminal Code, including claims to follow up on community reports in the range of 10-20 minutes depending on the location. This kind of claim needs to be understood academically as an indicator of response capacity, not just a technical number, because the speed of a new response has legal value when it is supported by the quality of the initial action (crime scene security, recording, evidence collection, and inter-unit coordination) that determines the strength of the evidence at the prosecution stage. Periodic operations and raids (e.g., Operation Judiciary, Pekat, Brush Toba, and the seizure of vehicles without letters) show strategies for controlling and suppressing crime rates, but theoretically still require evaluation of proportionality, procedural accountability, and their long-term impact on prevention (whether to reduce crime rates or simply shift the location and time of the incident). (Ramadhanu et al., 2025; Sarifah et al., 2025)

The effectiveness of law enforcement in this context can be read through the framework of Soerjono Soekanto which places legal factors, apparatus, infrastructure, society, and culture as the main determinants. Structurally, coordination between the Criminal Investigation Unit, Sabhara, and Intelkam is considered to be going well, but the limited personnel cause the division of patrol areas to be less than optimal, thus creating an enforcement gap between normative obligations and operational capabilities. In terms of legal substance, the reliance on the Criminal Code/Criminal Code without more specific regulations on contemporary street crime encourages investigators to use general articles such as Article 363 or 365 of the Criminal Code, which in practice often give rise to a problem fit between the character of modern crimes (high mobility, networking, use of technology) and the formulation of delicacies that are not designed for that context. This regulatory vacuum is not just a technical problem, but a problem of criminal law policy, because the non-specificity of norms can reduce the deterrent effect and open up space for different interpretations that have an impact on the consistency of law enforcement. In terms of infrastructure, the lack of CCTV, limited patrol vehicles, and access to forensic facilities hinder evidence, prolong the procedural chain because evidence must be sent to the Regional Police, and ultimately reduce legal certainty. Social and cultural factors

appear most decisive: reluctance to report for fear of dealing with perpetrators, low trust in the legal process, and preferences for family settlement cause many events to go unrecorded, produce a dark number of crimes, and make data-driven policy evaluations biased. (Simangunsong et al., 2025; Taena & Yusuf, 2025)

The identified barriers show causal and mutually reinforcing linkages. The weak substance of the law encourages the problem of entrapment and aggravation, the lack of evidence and witnesses weakens the construction of the case, while the limitations of personnel and uneven digital analysis capabilities reduce the quality of tracing and mapping the perpetrator's network. On the technical level, the limited and partially unfeasible condition of patrol vehicles hampered the speed of response, while the limitations of forensic equipment slowed down the legal process. At the social level, family culture often directs cases out of formal channels, thereby reducing the accuracy of crime statistics and closing institutional learning opportunities for policy improvement. This condition shows that the problem of law enforcement is not only a matter of "firm or not", but also a problem of *law enforcement governance* that requires synergy between institutional capacity, the quality of norms, and the support of the community's legal culture.

In response to the limitations of substance, the Police optimized the aggravating articles in the Criminal Code and held cases to ensure the accuracy of the application of the article. This effort shows an internal strategy to maintain the quality of law enforcement, but remains within the limits of existing norms. Strengthening the capacity of investigators through investigative training, CCTV analysis, and collection of digital evidence is a step relevant to the demands of modern crime, but must be supported by systemic investment in technological infrastructure and operational standards of digital proof. Cooperation with local governments in the procurement of patrol vehicles and CCTV installation, including corporate CSR support, shows a multi-stakeholder policing model that has the potential to strengthen effectiveness, provided that accountability mechanisms and procurement governance are maintained so as not to give rise to conflicts of interest. At the same time, strengthening relations with the community through Siskamling, FKPM, and legal counseling leads to the restoration of public trust, because information from citizens is the earliest input for the success of prevention and disclosure.

In minor cases—especially those involving juvenile offenders—the police apply a restorative justice approach through communication between Bhabinkamtibmas, community leaders, victims, and the perpetrator's family. Academically, this approach can be seen as a more proportionate response to opportunistic and unorganized offenses, as well as a strategy to avoid the effects of labeling and criminal stigma that damage adolescents' futures. The penal mediation mechanism that results in an agreement (apology, compensation, or obligation to follow coaching) shows an orientation towards the restoration of social relations, not just criminalization. The effectiveness is even stronger when the Police work together with schools, customary institutions, and village officials so that coaching continues post-mediation, because restorative success requires real aftercare and monitoring. These findings are in line with John Braithwaite's idea of reintegrative shaming: shame that is guarded by community reacceptance can prevent the repetition of criminal acts, especially in societies with strong social ties. However, restorative approaches also require strict limits: not all cases are restorative to be resolved, there is a risk of inequality in the bargaining position of victims and perpetrators, and the absence of a monitoring mechanism can turn restorative into a formality. In Satjipto Rahardjo's progressive legal framework, restorative is a humanist step, but it requires normative and procedural control so that it is not abused.

This analysis can be deepened through Lawrence M. Friedman's legal system theory which places the structure, substance, and culture of law as the three pillars of law enforcement effectiveness. In the South Tapanuli Police, the organizational structure is relatively complete and coordination between units is considered solid, so that institutionally there is structural capital to work effectively. However, the legal substance that still relies on the Criminal Code/Criminal Code without rules that are more adaptive to modern street crime limits the effectiveness of this structure. When norms do not provide adequate instruments to deal with new crime patterns (organized, automobiles, utilizing technology), the authorities tend to patch the shortcomings with the interpretation of general

articles whose consequences can be in the form of inuniform application and weakened deterrent effects. The legal culture of the community—which tends to avoid formal processes, fear of reporting, and prioritize family settlements—is the most eroding factor in its effectiveness, as it cuts the information chain and reduces the visibility of crime for the law enforcement system. Friedman asserts that the culture of law is the element that animates the system; Good structure and substance will not work when the culture of public law does not support it. (Sianturi et al., 2025; Syahputra & Pangestika, 2025)

From a criminological perspective, the pattern of street crime involving school dropouts and economically weak youth can be explained through Robert K. Merton's strain theory which links crime to the tension between social goals and the availability of legal means, Sutherland's differential theory of association which emphasizes the learning of crime through peer group interaction, and Hirschi's theory of social control which links delinquency to weak family ties, schools, and communities. The framework helps to position law enforcement not only as a reaction to perpetrators, but as part of broader social risk management. It is in this context that community development strategies, legal counseling, and community-based prevention are not just additional activities, but an integral part of criminal policy that connects law enforcement with social prevention. (Mudhoffar et al., 2024)

A normative assessment of the effectiveness of law enforcement can also be formulated through Gustav Radbruch's three values of legal objectives: justice, certainty, and utility. From the aspect of justice, swift action against theft, jambret, and delinquency shows efforts to bring corrective justice, but there is still the issue of distributive justice when legal services are not evenly distributed to remote areas that are difficult to reach. From the aspect of legal certainty, evidentiary obstacles due to the lack of CCTV and evidence hinder the increase in cases at a certain stage, so that legal certainty for victims and the community has not been fulfilled optimally. From the aspect of utility, patrol programs, counseling, siskamling, and youth coaching provide real benefits for public safety, in line with Roscoe Pound's conception of the law as a means of social engineering. Aristotle's reading of distributive and corrective justice, as well as Rawls's principle of justice as fairness, makes it clear that the main challenge in South Tapanuli is not just "catching the perpetrators", but ensuring an equal distribution of legal services in the context of geographical and social inequality.

Overall, these findings confirm that street crime law enforcement at the South Tapanuli Police operates in a space determined by three major problems: limited operational capacity (personnel and facilities), limited legal substance that is adaptive to modern crime, and community legal culture that has not fully supported the formal process. Therefore, the development of handling strategies must be contextual: strengthening evidentiary technologies (digital forensics, CCTV, crime mapping), increasing the capacity of investigators in digital analysis, expanding the reach of patrols through more efficient resource management, and building public trust so that reporting increases. The integration of criminology, legal sociology, and public policy perspectives is necessary to design a responsive law enforcement model, as street crime is a multidimensional phenomenon that cannot be solved by repressive approaches alone. An adaptive and evidence-based model will strengthen legal certainty while increasing social benefits, without sacrificing the principle of justice that is the main orientation of the legal system.

Conclusion

The South Tapanuli Police have implemented law enforcement policies against street crime through preventive and repressive measures. Preventive efforts are carried out with routine patrols, legal counseling, involvement of the Police and Community Partnership Forum (FKPM), and community development. Repressive efforts are realized through rapid action, investigation and investigation, and the application of criminal sanctions in accordance with the provisions of the law. The implementation of this policy shows that law enforcement is underway, but its effectiveness is still limited due to the lack of personnel, facilities, and the suboptimal range of patrols in vulnerable areas.

Based on the analysis using Lawrence M. Friedman's legal system theory, the effectiveness of law enforcement in the South Tapanuli Police is in the category of quite effective. In terms of structure, the police have adequate

competence, but their performance is hampered by limited personnel, operational facilities, and supporting equipment. In terms of substance, regulations related to street crime are available, but their implementation is often constrained by evidence, limitations in investigative technology, and high workload of investigators. In terms of legal culture, public awareness and participation are still low, so social support for law enforcement has not been optimally formed.

Law enforcement obstacles to street crime stem from interrelated legal and non-legal factors. The unclear elements of delicacy in several criminal provisions and the limitations of technology-based technical rules make the investigation and proof process difficult. Non-legal factors such as a shortage of personnel, lack of support facilities, low community participation, and socio-economic conditions such as poverty, unemployment, and low education also strengthen the potential for street crime. This condition shows that tackling street crime requires strengthening the legal system as well as improving the social conditions of the community in a sustainable manner.

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