

## SOCIAL CONTROL AND THE ESCALATION OF SEXUAL CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN IN THE LATE-MODERNITY ERA: A CRIMINOLOGICAL ANALYSIS IN INDONESIA

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### ABSTRACT

Sexual violence against children is a phenomenon that has been on the rise in the late modern era. This study aims to analyse the main causes of sexual violence against children through the perspectives of social control and typology of violence, based on empirical data from the period 2020–2025. Using qualitative methods, this article elaborates on data from Simfoni PPA as well as Martin Innes' social control theory and J. Conrad's typology of violence. The results of the analysis show a consistent upward trend in cases nationally and in DKI Jakarta, which is an indicator of the failure of social control mechanisms. This study concludes that criminal policy must shift from a moral panic response to a rehabilitative, re-educational, and perpetrator profiling approach based on scientific data. These findings emphasise the urgency of reformulating child protection policies that are not only repressive in nature, but also emphasise strengthening preventive social control at the family and community levels, integrating data-based reporting systems, and developing measurable rehabilitation and re-education programmes for perpetrators. However, this study reveals a knowledge gap regarding effective mechanisms for systemic and sustainable preventive social control, particularly in the context of families and domestic environments in Indonesia. Theoretically, this study contributes to expanding the understanding of the relationship between risk-based policy design, spatial analysis, and early detection of violence cases, thereby narrowing the opportunities for crime and increasing the effectiveness of holistic state interventions.

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## INTRODUCTIONS

The development of society towards advanced modernity has fundamentally shifted the patterns of social control and institutional order in social life. In this landscape, the supervisory function that was previously strongly exercised by families, local communities, and religious norms has eroded due to increasingly fluid social mobility and the penetration of information technology. Innes (2003) emphasises that in late modernity, social uncertainty creates criminogenic gaps when formal and informal control mechanisms fail to adapt to the pace of social change. In the Indonesian context, this degradation of control is reflected in the increase in violence against children as the most vulnerable group in the social structure (Azmi, 2025).

National data shows a consistent upward trend throughout the 2020–2025 period. Based on the women and children protection information system (Simfoni PPA), the number of cases of violence against children increased from 11,278 cases in 2020 to 19,626 cases in 2024, and in the January–August 2025 period alone, 19,535 cases were recorded. This trend shows an average increase of around 10–15% per year, with sexual violence as the dominant category, especially in metropolitan areas such as DKI Jakarta. This surge is not merely a statistical fluctuation, but an indication of a social anomaly that shows the weakening effectiveness of legal instruments and social control systems in responding to the dynamics of contemporary crime.

The high prevalence of sexual violence, both in the domestic sphere and in cyberspace, shows that this issue can no longer be understood solely as an individual pathology. Referring to the typology of violence proposed by J. Conrad, violence against children in the contemporary context tends to shift towards instrumental violence that exploits power relations, the vulnerability of victims, and gaps in social supervision. This shift is in line with the findings by Finkelhor et al. (2015), which confirms that patterns of victimisation in children are undergoing a transformation towards more complex, layered forms, often involving repeated exposure in various social contexts. This complexity is exacerbated by the development of digital spaces that enable manipulative practices such as online grooming to take place covertly and systematically. Findings from UNICEF (2022) further strengthen this argument by showing that threats to children have now transcended physical domestic boundaries and moved into anonymous digital spaces that are difficult to monitor. Thus, the surge in cases of sexual violence against children reflects not only a quantitative increase but also a qualitative change in the patterns, mediums, and mechanisms of violence.

Theoretically, this dynamic can also be explained through Social Learning Theory from Burgess and Akers's (1966) which emphasises that deviant behaviour is learned through the processes of differential association, definition of norms, differential reinforcement, and imitation. In digital society, these learning processes are no longer limited to face-to-face interactions, but take place through virtual communities, social media algorithms, and repeated exposure to content that has the potential to normalise deviance. Thus, digital space is not merely a medium, but a new locus of deviation that expands the arena for the socialisation of deviant behaviour.

Although the discourse on child protection has been widely discussed, the majority of research in Indonesia is still stuck in a legal-normative paradigm that focuses on the construction of articles and the severity of sanctions. A significant research gap lies in the absence of integrative studies that simultaneously connect: (1) social control theory in the perspective of advanced modernity, (2) the typology of violence as a framework for classifying motivations and contexts, (3) the post-pandemic surge in cases as a structural phenomenon, and (4) digital space as a new locus of deviance. Existing studies tend to separate these dimensions, thus failing to explain the relationship between the failure of value transmission, the fragmentation of social control, and the increasingly complex patterns of sexual violence against children.

This study attempts to fill this gap by synthesising Innes' (2003) social control framework, Conrad's typology of violence, and Burgess and Akers' (1966) Social Learning Theory, and integrating them with empirical data from the 2020–2025 period. The novelty of this research lies in its integrative analysis of the post-pandemic surge in cases and the failure of social control in the intangible digital space. With this approach, sexual violence against children is

understood not only as an individual violation of the law, but as an indicator of dysfunctional value communication, a weakening of the risk detection system, and a transformation of social association patterns in the digital era.

The implication is that the solution does not lie solely in intensifying retributive sanctions, which are often reactive and triggered by moral panic, but rather in strengthening a prevention architecture based on value communication, early risk detection, and the revitalisation of the social control functions of families and communities. Thus, this study offers a paradigm shift in criminal policy from a punitive orientation towards rational, preventive, and empirically based risk-based preventive governance.

## METHODS

This study uses a qualitative approach with an exploratory study design to analyse the root causes of sexual violence against children based on empirical data from the period 2020–2025. This approach was chosen because the study focuses not only on quantifying the number of cases, but also on gaining an in-depth understanding of the social patterns, control mechanisms, and characteristics of violence that occur in the Indonesian social context. The analysis was conducted by integrating factual data from the Online Information System for the Protection of Women and Children (Simfoni PPA) with the theoretical framework of social control developed by Martin Innes and the typology of violence according to J. Conrad.

The unit of analysis in this study is cases of sexual violence against children recorded in the Online Information System for the Protection of Women and Children (Simfoni PPA) during the period 2020–2025, particularly those that reflect patterns of perpetrator-victim relationships, location of incidents, and forms of violence.

The data used in this study is secondary data sourced from official Simfoni PPA reports from 2020 to 2025, which include the number of cases, characteristics of victims, the relationship between perpetrators and victims, and the location of incidents. This empirical data was then enriched with literature studies from scientific journals, academic books, and research reports relevant to social control theory and the typology of violence. Data collection techniques were carried out through documentary studies of statistical reports and literature studies to strengthen the conceptual basis of the research.

Simfoni PPA data analysis was conducted through systematic categorisation, identification of annual trends, and pattern mapping to identify recurring characteristics of sexual violence. Data analysis was carried out using qualitative thematic analysis techniques, beginning with data reduction to identify categories of sexual violence against children, followed by a categorisation process based on the typology of violence and the identification of patterns of weak social control, both formal and informal. Next, theoretical interpretation was carried out by linking empirical findings with the social control perspective to explain how the failure of social control mechanisms contributes to violence. This process was concluded with the preparation of an analytical synthesis to formulate the structural and social root causes of the problem.

The interpretation technique used is analytical interpretation, which systematically links empirical patterns with the theoretical framework of social control and typology of violence to explain how the failure of mechanisms of surveillance, regulation, and social control contributes to the occurrence of sexual violence. To ensure validity and credibility, this study uses source triangulation by comparing Simfoni PPA data with scientific publications and reports from relevant institutions, as well as theoretical triangulation through the integration of more than one conceptual framework in the interpretation process. Reliability is strengthened through consistent coding and categorisation procedures. This study is limited to the use of aggregated secondary data and does not involve direct interviews with victims or perpetrators, so interpretations depend on the quality and completeness of official reports. All data analysed is anonymous and aggregated, upholding research ethics and child protection principles.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Data Elaboration: Control Failures and ‘Signal Disorders’ in the Domestic Environment

Empirical data reaching 19,535 cases in August 2025, with sexual violence dominating at 58.6%, is a clear manifestation of what Innes (2003) refers to as Signal Disorder. In Innes' perspective, a disorder or crime not only affects the direct victims, but also acts as a ‘message’ that informs the public about the collapse of social authority in a space. This spike in numbers is a warning signal that the family institution, as the smallest unit of informal social control, has systematically lost its protective capabilities.

1. **The Collapse of Control Signals and the Blurring of Boundaries** Theoretically, Innes emphasises the importance of control signals, which are actions or conditions that indicate that an environment is under the supervision and control of norms. This is in line with Mustofa's (2021) view that "the lack of privacy for children makes it easier for sexual violence against children to occur in the domestic environment. Children should not be allowed to sleep with other adults in the same room." This quote illustrates the occurrence of 'blurring of boundaries.' The bedroom, which should be the most sacred private space for children, has been desecralised. When physical boundaries (walls/space) and normative boundaries (privacy ethics) collapse, primary prevention mechanisms are also destroyed. In late modernity, this lack of privacy is a form of ‘social permissiveness’ that provides opportunities for perpetrators, as explained in Routine Activity Theory.
2. **Signal Suppression and the Dark Number Phenomenon** This analysis becomes even more acute when linked to the dark number phenomenon described by Stoltenborgh et al. (2021). The figure of 19,535 is only the tip of the iceberg of a much darker reality. Families often engage in ‘signal suppression’; they detect disturbances or crimes but consciously cover them up in order to maintain ‘collective dignity’ or social status. This suppression is a fatal form of social control failure, because by covering up crimes, families actually reinforce perpetrators to continue victimising without fear of social sanctions.
3. **Violence as a Cultural Norm and Risk Normalisation** When analysed using J. Conrad's typology, domestic violence is often rooted in violence as a cultural norm. There is a cultural anomaly in which allowing children to share private spaces with adults is considered ‘normal’ or ‘commonplace’ in the name of family.

This cultural normalisation creates ‘risk blindness’. Society ignores the fact that sexual urges are a natural potential which, if not controlled by a strict social architecture, will seek release on the weakest and most available targets. As a result, the home, which is theoretically positioned as a ‘safe haven,’ has instead transformed into the ‘most dangerous space for victimisation.’ This occurs because within the home, external supervision from the state or neighbours is minimal, while internal supervision (by parents) has been co-opted by flawed norms.

The increase in cases of sexual violence against children in the period 2020–2025 is not only related to the low morals of the perpetrators, but is also a result of the failure of privacy management and control signals at the household level. The relational closeness between the perpetrator and the child, combined with weak internal family supervision, is a major determining factor in the occurrence of sexual violence in the household (Saefudin et al., 2025). This causes the private sphere to lose its protective capacity, making it a highly vulnerable environment.

A legal framework for child protection is in place, but its implementation still faces structural obstacles. Sociocultural factors such as stigma, victims' dependence on perpetrators, and family pressure result in low reporting rates (Gemilang & Idris, 2024). This situation demonstrates the gap between legal norms and social practices, meaning that corrective measures against domestic violence have not been effective.

The priority given to family reputation in the cultural construct encourages the closure of cases of child sexual abuse within the home (Ayu, 2024; Hutabarat et al., 2022). The impact is evident in the high number of unreported cases, meaning that official data does not reflect the true prevalence (Prastiawan and Apriyani, 2025).

The construction of “risk blindness” within families is not only a cultural issue, but is reinforced by structural weaknesses in internal and external oversight. The synergy between cultural normalisation, power imbalances, and

weak institutional responses forms a criminological configuration that enables repeated child sexual abuse in the domestic sphere (Wiweka et al., 2024). This issue is systemic and highlights the need for improvements in child protection governance at the family and institutional levels. This issue is systemic and highlights the need for improvements in child protection governance at the family and institutional levels.

### **Digital Identity Construction: Differential Associations in the ‘Uncontrolled Space’**

Social transformation in the digital age shows a fundamental shift in the mechanisms of social control over children. This phenomenon is in line with the concept of institutional disorientation in the era of late modernity, where traditional institutions such as the family and school no longer have complete dominance in the process of transmitting social values and norms. The unlimited flow of digital information means that children obtain behavioural references from external sources that are not always in line with prevailing social values. In this context, social media has evolved from a mere means of communication into a semi-autonomous social space that is relatively difficult for family authorities and educational institutions to monitor directly. This condition has implications for the weakening of the effectiveness of informal social control and the emergence of the dominance of virtual peer groups in shaping children's social identities.

Intense interaction between children and the digital environment facilitates criminogenic social learning processes, especially when exposed to content that distorts moral norms. Repeated exposure encourages the internalisation of deviant values through mechanisms of imitation and behavioural normalisation, in accordance with the Differential Association-Reinforcement framework. Violence in the digital realm has shifted from physical domination to technology-based instrumental violence. Perpetrators use psychological manipulation and exploit the vulnerability of victims, with the main mechanisms being anonymity and grooming, making early detection more difficult than with conventional physical violence.

On the other hand, the effectiveness of formal social control faces structural challenges due to the imbalance between technological development and legal regulatory adaptation. Legal systems tend to be reactive and procedural, while technological developments are exponential and disruptive. This condition causes the digital space to potentially become an area with a relatively low level of supervision of deviant behaviour. As a result, there is a disconnect between formal legal norms in physical space and the behavioural practices of society in digital space. When legal policies focus more on a post-incident repressive approach, without preventive intervention in the digital social learning process, cyberspace has the potential to continue to be a medium for the reproduction of deviant behaviour.

The implications of these findings indicate that child protection in the digital age requires a multidimensional approach that not only emphasises law enforcement but also strengthens preventive social control through digital literacy, strengthening the role of the family, and integrating values education into the digital ecosystem. Without intervention at the upstream level, namely in the process of shaping children's perceptions and social learning in the digital space, the effectiveness of child protection has the potential to remain limited in facing the complexity of risks in the era of digital modernity.

This study has shown that social media is not only a communication platform but also an important context in identity formation, where adolescents explore, negotiate, and repeatedly present themselves in the digital public sphere (Avci et al., 2025). Children's digital identities begin to form on social media from an early age through interaction and exposure to online content, Berg et al. (2024) reinforces these findings by showing that the relationship between digital social interaction, social pressure, and psychosocial health is key to understanding the dynamics of children's digital identity. In addition, analysis of online risks and harm also shows that children's involvement in digital media without adequate protection has the potential to cause significant psychosocial risks, including exposure to harmful content, cyberbullying, and privacy violations (Gath & Swit, 2024). The issue of child safety on social media continues

to be a focus of growing research, signalling the urgency of policy intervention and digital literacy education (Saputra et al., 2025).

### **Criticism of the 'Moral Panic' Policy: Between Pathology and Scientific Rationality**

The results of the analysis show that the increase in cases of sexual violence against children in the period 2020–2025 has a significant impact on the psychological condition of society. The community showed a higher level of concern for child safety, whether in the family, school, or public spaces. From a criminological perspective, this condition can be explained through the concept of moral panic. According to Martin Innes, moral panic arises when a type of crime is considered so dangerous that it triggers a strong social reaction, including pressure on the government to enact harsher punishment policies. In the case of child sexual abuse, demands for severe punishments such as chemical castration can be seen as a form of collective emotional reaction to increasing feelings of insecurity.

However, the results of conceptual analysis show that the chemical castration approach has limitations in addressing the complexity of the causes of child sexual abuse. Based on J. Conrad's typology of violence, sexual crimes are not only caused by biological factors, but also by psychological and social factors. Pathological violence is related to the perpetrator's sexual disorders or deviations, while instrumental violence is related to specific motives such as power, control, or psychological satisfaction. Chemical castration only targets biological aspects in the form of reducing sex hormones, so it does not address the perpetrator's psychological factors, mindset, or behavioural strategies. This is reinforced by Muhammad Mustofa's view, which emphasises that understanding the perpetrator's profile is far more important than simply imposing physical punishment (Mustofa, 2021). The perpetrator's profile includes their psychological history, behavioural patterns, social environment, and patterns of interaction with the victim. Without understanding these factors, interventions risk being ineffective in preventing repeat offences. In other words, chemical castration has the potential to only provide a temporary sense of security for the community without completely eliminating the potential for recidivism.

In addition, the analysis also shows that modern social control approaches should place more emphasis on prevention rather than reaction after a crime has occurred. The concept of communicative social control emphasises the importance of early detection systems for individuals at high risk of committing crimes. This approach can be implemented through the identification of risk factors, behaviour monitoring, and access restrictions for vulnerable groups such as children. With this approach, potential crimes can be prevented before they occur, rather than only being dealt with after victims emerge.

Ronald L. Akers and Robert Burgess's social learning theory explains that criminal behaviour is formed through a process of learning from the social environment. Individuals can learn deviant behaviour through interaction with their environment, exposure to digital media, and certain social experiences. Therefore, if criminal behaviour is learned, effective intervention must focus on changing the perpetrator's mindset, behaviour, and social environment. Cognitive rehabilitation and behavioural re-education approaches are important in the system for handling sexual offenders. These interventions can include psychological therapy, behavioural counselling, and monitoring of the offender's social and digital environment. In addition, strengthening the child protection system through education, environmental monitoring, and digital literacy is also an important part of preventing sexual crimes.

Overall, the results of the analysis show that child protection requires a more comprehensive approach, namely combining punishment, prevention, rehabilitation, and risk management. Policies that focus solely on physical punishment are not sufficient to reduce crime rates in a sustainable manner. Therefore, evidence-based approaches and risk management are considered more effective in creating sustainable and comprehensive child protection.

This shows that the public response to increasing child sexual abuse is often influenced by moral panic, which is a strong and emotional social reaction to certain crime threats. This phenomenon encourages demands for extreme punishments such as chemical castration, even though this approach only targets the biological aspects of the perpetrator and does not address their psychological factors, mindset, or behavioural strategies. In line with the

research by Ambarwaty (2024) which shows that chemical castration has not been proven to significantly reduce recidivism rates and raises ethical and human rights issues.

From a criminological perspective, criminal behaviour is studied through social interaction, experience, and environmental exposure (social learning theory), so that changes in the behaviour and social environment of the perpetrator are key to effective intervention. An evidence-based approach emphasises early detection of risk factors, cognitive rehabilitation, behavioural counselling, and monitoring of the perpetrator's social and digital environment, so that potential crimes can be prevented before they occur. Thus, effective child protection policies must be multidimensional, combining prevention, rehabilitation, proportional punishment, and evidence-based risk management, rather than just physical punishment, in order to reduce violence rates in a sustainable and comprehensive manner (Bradford et al., 2013).

### **Strategies and Policy Recommendations**

Criminological analysis of the increase in sexual violence against children shows that this phenomenon is related to the failure of social control within families and weak institutional supervision. These findings indicate a systemic pattern in which social norms and internal household supervision structures are not functioning optimally, creating vulnerability to sexual violence. Criminological analysis of the increase in sexual violence against children shows that this phenomenon is related to the failure of social control within families and weak institutional supervision. These findings indicate a systemic pattern in which social norms and internal household supervision structures are not functioning optimally, creating vulnerability to sexual violence.

#### **a. Differentiation of Sanctions and Deconstruction of Rehabilitation: Focus on Re-Education**

Data shows that deviant behaviour in children is often the result of social learning processes. Analysis shows that interventions that emphasise restoring children's social and moral capacities through intensive education and guidance are more relevant than repressive punitive approaches. Research by Mustofa (2021) shows that rehabilitation-based educational institutions can improve children's understanding of social values and norms, thereby reducing the risk of repeating deviant behaviour.

Deviant behaviour in children can be understood as the result of a social learning process, as explained in differential association theory, so that rehabilitation strategies must include a process of unlearning (the removal of old deviant behaviours or understandings) and re-learning (the learning of new values and norms) through intensive psychological intervention and social assistance. This approach aims to reconstruct children's moral definitions of sexuality, while fostering critical awareness of the consequences of their actions in a social context. Overall, the strategy of differentiated sanctions and rehabilitation based on re-education emphasises the importance of a preventive and corrective approach that prioritises the development of children's moral and social capacities, rather than simply punishment, thereby creating a child justice system that is humane, educational, and sustainable.

#### **b. Transparency of Perpetrator Profiles as a Preventive Control Signal**

Analysis shows that limited transparency of information regarding perpetrators of sexual violence contributes to the continuation of violence in society. These findings reinforce evidence that weak internal and external supervision within families and related institutions makes it easier for perpetrators to continue committing violence without fear of social sanctions.

#### **c. Transformation of Social Control through Massive Digital Literacy**

According to UNICEF data (2022), there has been an increase in cases of online child sexual exploitation and abuse (OCSEA). Literature analysis shows that the effectiveness of traditional social controls, such as family and educational institution supervision, has declined in the digital realm (Avci et al., 2025; Berg et al., 2024). In addition, children's interactions on social media have the potential to facilitate the learning of deviant behavior through the internalization of virtual norms that are less supervised (Gath & Swit, 2024). These findings emphasise the need for an approach that considers the influence of digital media on the formation of children's social identity and the risk of

behavioural deviation. Thus, the findings of the analysis show that community responses driven by moral panic tend to be reactive and emotional. This emphasises that child protection interventions need to be evidence-based and oriented towards a comprehensive and systemic understanding of patterns of sexual violence against children, rather than merely reacting to cases that arise.

The results of this study indicate that an educational rehabilitation approach for child perpetrators of sexual violence is relevant to empirical evidence emphasising the effectiveness of systematic psychosocial-based interventions. A structured rehabilitation programme comprising intake, assessment, implementation, and evaluation stages can reduce deviant behaviour in child perpetrators while improving their moral and social capacity through individual and group counselling (Rizqian, 2021). These findings support a strategy of differentiated sanctions that emphasises that sanctions should be educational, proportionate, and should not hinder children's social development. This approach is in line with the principles of unlearning and re-learning, whereby deviant behaviour formed through the social learning process can be changed through intensive psychological intervention.

In addition, the restorative justice perspective shows that the rehabilitation of child perpetrators of sexual violence is more effective in preventing recidivism than a law enforcement approach alone. Ibipurwo et al. (2022) emphasises that rehabilitation programmes involving behavioural counselling and social guidance strengthen children's capacity to understand the social impact of their actions, thereby providing scientific justification for the establishment of education-based rehabilitation institutions.

Psychosocial interventions combined with community- and family-based supervision have proven effective in limiting the access of at-risk children and adults to situations that trigger deviant behaviour. Nabilah (2025) emphasises that community-based monitoring mechanisms can optimise rehabilitation outcomes, thereby aligning with recommendations for the establishment of a National Database System for Sexual Offenders.

In the context of prevention, massive digital literacy strategies serve as a form of modern social control, especially in dealing with Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (OCSEA). Digital-based educational interventions significantly increase children's knowledge, self-protection skills, and ability to become active bystanders in cyberspace, as well as helping parents improve their digital literacy. Pratiwi et al. (2025) emphasises that integrating digital literacy into formal education curricula strengthens children's capacity to recognise and respond effectively to the risks of online sexual exploitation.

Overall, empirical evidence from the literature reinforces this study's findings that an integrated approach combining educational rehabilitation, transparency of perpetrator profiles, and massive digital literacy can build a preventive, responsive, and sustainable child protection system. The integration of these three pillars not only reduces the potential for recidivism, but also simultaneously strengthens formal and informal social control, providing the proposed policy with a strong scientific basis for national implementation.

## CONCLUSION

The escalation of data on violence against children in Indonesia during the period 2020–2025, which peaked at 19,535 cases as of August 2025, is empirical evidence that social control mechanisms are at their lowest point. This phenomenon should not be viewed merely as a failure of law enforcement, but rather as a form of systemic degradation in the architecture of social oversight in the era of late modernity. Referring to Martin Innes' thinking, this statistical surge acts as a signal of disorder that confirms that traditional institutions, both in the domestic and public spheres, have lost their protective capacity in the face of increasingly complex crime dynamics.

This study concludes that the handling of child sexual crimes can no longer rely on reactive responses triggered by moral panic. Criminal policies that only seek to satisfy public emotions through punitive-retributive sanctions, such as chemical castration, have been proven theoretically to fail to address the root of the problem. J. Conrad's typology emphasises that instrumental and pathological sexual violence requires precise cognitive intervention and risk

management, not merely biological mutilation that ignores the perpetrator's social learning process (differential association).

Therefore, a multidimensional policy reorientation is required. Restructuring informal controls is crucial, with the strengthening of socialisation functions in the smallest unit of society, namely the family. Families must be reconstructed as the main line of defence through the enforcement of privacy ethics and proactive supervision, so that the chances of domestic violence can be minimised. Policy rationality must be data-driven, with policy recommendations based on scientific foundations through perpetrator profiling and transparency of recidivism data. This approach aims to create control signals that can mitigate risks before victimisation occurs. The transformation of control in cyberspace is also important given the shift of children's associations to virtual communities. Digital literacy needs to be positioned as a new instrument of social control, so that the state and society can intervene in the process of negative reinforcement on social media so that children's digital identities are not formed in a criminogenic environment.

Ultimately, child protection in the modern era requires a balanced cooperation between strict law enforcement and a strong social system. Protection should not only focus on imposing sanctions, but also on strengthening the function of social control as a means of instilling and conveying social values to society. With this approach, Indonesia can realise the constitutional mandate to educate the nation while ensuring a safe and supportive environment for the growth of future generations.

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