

Assessing Legal Protection Effectiveness for Women Facing Digital Sexual Violence



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ARTICLE INFO

Article history

Received: March 11, 2025

Revised: November 22, 2025

Accepted: November 30, 2025

Keywords

Digital;
Protection;
Sexual;
Violence;
Women;

ABSTRACT

The Electronic Information and Transactions Law functions as the principal legal framework for addressing online gender-based sexual violence in Indonesia; however, legal and structural weaknesses within this framework continue to obstruct the achievement of effective legal protection for victims. This study critically examines both the normative construction and empirical implementation of the ITE Law in order to formulate a more victim-oriented model of legal protection for individuals affected by online sexual violence. The research applies a constructivist paradigm through an empirical juridical method and utilizes a socio-legal approach supported by statutory and case-based analyses. This study identifies three principal findings. First, Article 27 paragraph (1) of the ITE Law prioritizes the regulation of digital content over victim protection, thereby weakening the victim-centered approach to online gender-based sexual violence. Second, the reliance on electronic document-based evidence, coupled with persistent victim-blaming practices, constrains the fulfillment of victims' restitution rights and weakens their procedural legal position. Third, patriarchal cultural dominance sustains social stigma against female victims and discourages access to legal remedies. Based on these findings, this study proposes regulatory reform through the insertion of the phrase "with consent," reclassification of offenses to protect victim identity, and strengthening public awareness of digital privacy to ensure effective and equitable legal protection.



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1. Introduction

Over the last five years, cases of online sexual violence in Indonesia, particularly those involving the non-consensual distribution of intimate photos and videos targeting women, have shown a significant upward trend. Data from the Annual Report on Violence Against Women, published since 2021, indicate a sharp escalation in complaints of online gender-based violence, which intensified

during and after the coronavirus pandemic.¹ Statistical records from the National Commission on Violence Against Women demonstrate that reported cases reached 940 in 2020, increased to 1,721 in 2021, slightly declined to 1,697 in 2022, decreased further to 1,272 in 2023, and then surged dramatically to 4,178 cases in 2024. This trend reflects the growing severity and complexity of online sexual violence in Indonesia and underscores the urgent need for strengthened legal protection mechanisms, as illustrated in the chart below.

Chart 1: Trends in Online Sexual Violence Complaints Reported to the National Commission on Violence Against Women, 2020–2024



Source: Data from the National Commission on Violence Against Women in 2025

The non-consensual dissemination of private pornographic content through social media and digital platforms constitutes a serious form of online sexual violence. Data from the Cyber Civil Rights Initiative indicate that women account for the majority of victims of this crime.² Perpetrators often compel victims to produce intimate photographs or videos and subsequently distribute the material without consent. In other instances, offenders record victims secretly using hidden cameras without their knowledge. As the prevalence of this form of violence continues to increase, many states have formally recognized online sexual violence

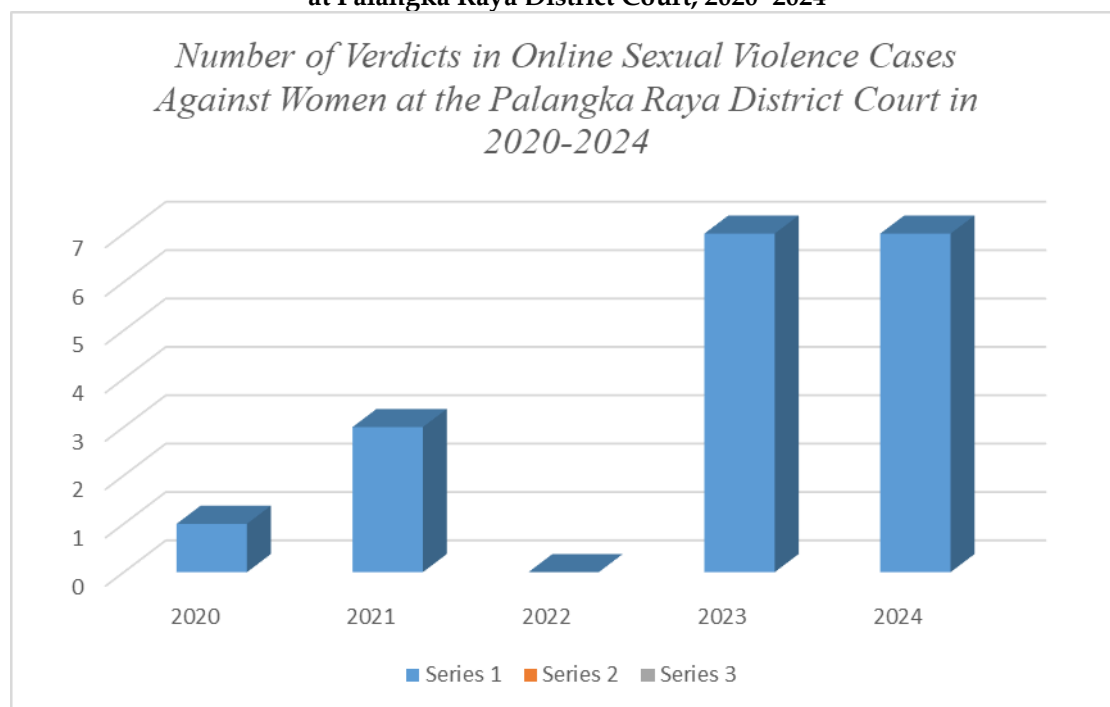
¹ Alfred Acanga and others, 'Gender Perspectives in Disaster Response: An Evidence-Based Review', *Progress in Disaster Science*, 26 (2025), 100416 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pdisas.2025.100416>

² 'Proceedings from the 22nd Congress of the World Association for Sexual Health, Singapore, July 25–28, 2015', *The Journal of Sexual Medicine*, 12 (2015), 294–381 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1111/jsm.12956>

as a criminal offense and have enacted specific regulatory frameworks to prosecute perpetrators.³

These actions are predominantly driven by motives of revenge, aimed at humiliating victims, violating social norms, and destroying their reputation, dignity, and personal integrity. Perpetrators are frequently former intimate partners, ex-spouses, close acquaintances, or individuals who harbor personal resentment toward the victims.⁴ However, some offenders illegally obtain such content for economic motives, including blackmail and extortion by threatening its dissemination for financial gain. Empirical findings further demonstrate that Central Kalimantan Province, particularly Palangka Raya City, ranks among the regions with the highest incidence of online sexual violence cases over the past five years.⁵

Chart 2: Number of Court Verdicts in Online Sexual Violence Cases Against Women at Palangka Raya District Court, 2020–2024



Source: Palangka Raya District Court Case Tracking Information System (SIPP), January 2025.

The data presented in the chart demonstrate a significant increase in cases of online sexual violence against women prosecuted by the Palangka Raya District

³ Priscilla Akutu-Carter and others, 'Psychosocial Approaches to Supporting Female Survivors of Domestic Abuse: A Focus on Gender as a Social Determinant of Mental Health', in *Reference Module in Social Sciences* (Elsevier, 2025) <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-443-26629-4.00069-1>

⁴ Andry Alamsyah and Yoga Sagama, 'Empowering Indonesian Internet Users: An Approach to Counter Online Toxicity and Enhance Digital Well-Being', *Intelligent Systems with Applications*, 22 (2024), 200394 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.iswa.2024.200394>

⁵ Bambang Ali Kusumo and others, 'Corporate Crime Prevention Through Sustainable Governance and Regulatory Reform', *Journal of Sustainable Development and Regulatory Issues (JSDERI)*, 3.3 (2025), 616–40 <https://doi.org/10.53955/jsderi.v3i3.168>

Court over the five-year period from 2020 to 2024. All recorded victims were women across various age groups. The court handled one case in 2020, three cases in 2021, no cases in 2022, seven cases in 2023, and nine cases in 2024. Interviews conducted with investigators from the Cyber Sub-Directorate V of the Central Kalimantan Regional Police (*Ditreskrimsus POLDA Kalteng*) reveal that many incidents fail to proceed to court because victims experience shame, withdraw their reports, or choose to reconcile with perpetrators.⁶

In addition to psychological trauma, victims also fear criminalization under the Pornography Law. Furthermore, judicial practice continues to categorize online sexual violence as an electronic crime rather than as a morality offense, as stipulated in the Chief Justice's Decree on Court Information Services. Consequently, the Case Tracking Information System (SIPP) does not obscure victims' identities.⁷ An examination of twenty court decisions issued by the Palangka Raya District Court over the past five years confirms that all verdicts disclose the full names and identities of female victims, thereby exacerbating their psychological burden. Field interviews further indicate that viral case exposure triggers victim-blaming, public stigma, and legal vulnerability, including the risk of criminal prosecution under the Pornography Law. Comparative analysis of similar cases from several district courts also shows consistent disclosure of victims' identities, which further reinforces systemic injustice and secondary victimization against women.⁸

Courts in various regions of Indonesia have not yet fully accommodated the immaterial losses suffered by female victims of online sexual violence in their judicial considerations.⁹ The state bears a fundamental obligation to ensure effective legal protection for women victims, as such protection directly concerns bodily autonomy and the persistent social stigma imposed by society. In judicial practice, district courts generally rely on three principal legal instruments in adjudicating cases of gender-based sexual violence, namely the Pornography Law, the Law on the Crime of Sexual Violence, and the Electronic Information and

⁶ Agbessi Amouzou and others, 'The 2025 Report of the Lancet Countdown to 2030 for Women's, Children's, and Adolescents' Health: Tracking Progress on Health and Nutrition', *The Lancet*, 405.10488 (2025), 1505–54 [https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(25\)00151-5](https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(25)00151-5)

⁷ Sri Rahayu Amri and others, 'Protection against Child Sexual Violence Model: Legal, Health and Educational Perspectives', *Safer Communities*, 24.3 (2025), 202–26 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1108/SC-09-2024-0059>

⁸ Anis Mashdurohatun, Bambang Sugihartono, and others, 'Combating Digital Defamation: Regulations, Challenges and Protecting Reputation', *Journal of Sustainable Development and Regulatory Issues (JSDERI)*, 3.3 (2025), 486–514 <https://doi.org/10.53955/jsderi.v3i3.147>

⁹ Pouria Babvey and others, 'Using Social Media Data for Assessing Children's Exposure to Violence during the COVID-19 Pandemic', *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 116 (2021), 104747 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2020.104747>

Transactions Law.¹⁰ However, the substantive norms contained in these regulations continue to exhibit significant deficiencies and have not yet reflected the values of justice expected by victims, particularly in guaranteeing protection against criminalization, ensuring the right to restitution, and eliminating victim-blaming practices. These normative shortcomings demonstrate the urgent need for a fundamental reconstruction of the legal framework governing victim protection.¹¹

Article 29 of the principal legislation governing pornography in Indonesia, namely Law Number 44 of 2008 on Pornography, criminalizes any person who produces, creates, reproduces, duplicates, distributes, broadcasts, imports, exports, offers, trades, rents, or provides pornographic content as referred to in Article 4 paragraph (1), with imprisonment ranging from a minimum of six months to a maximum of twelve years and/or fines between IDR 250,000,000 and IDR 6,000,000,000.¹² Through an examination of comparable viral cases in several regions based on data obtained from five District Court Case Tracking Information Systems (SIPP), namely the Sampit, Pandeglang, Sleman, Jambi, and Manokwari District Courts, the author identified seven court decisions that still explicitly disclose the full names and identities of victims of online sexual violence, all of whom are women, a practice that demonstrably exacerbates the victims' psychological suffering¹³. Empirical findings further indicate that court rulings across various jurisdictions have not adequately taken into account the immaterial losses endured by female victims, thereby underscoring the urgent need for comprehensive legal protection that safeguards women's bodily autonomy and mitigates the negative social stigma imposed upon victims of online sexual violence. Although Indonesian courts generally rely on the Pornography Law, Law Number 12 of 2022 on the Crime of Sexual Violence, and Law Number 1 of 2024 concerning the Second Amendment to the Electronic Information and Transactions Law as the legal basis for adjudicating gender-based digital sexual

¹⁰ Sarah Baird and others, 'A Call to Action: The Second Lancet Commission on Adolescent Health and Wellbeing', *The Lancet*, 405.10493 (2025), 1945–2022 [https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(25\)00503-3](https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(25)00503-3)

¹¹ Perna Banati and others, 'Intersectionality, Gender Norms, and Young Adolescents in Context: A Review of Longitudinal Multicountry Research Programmes to Shape Future Action', *The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health*, 8.7 (2024), 522–31 [https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642\(24\)00079-8](https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642(24)00079-8)

¹² Basanta Kumara Behera, Ram Prasad and Shyambhavee Behera, 'Chapter 3 - The Life Cycle Vulnerabilities of Rural Women', in *Healthcare Strategies and Planning for Social Inclusion and Development*, ed. by Basanta Kumara Behera, Ram Prasad, and Shyambhavee Behera (Academic Press, 2022), pp. 77–114 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-323-90447-6.00002-3>

¹³ Basanta Kumara Behera, Ram Prasad and Shyambhavee Behera, 'Chapter 5 - Social, Economic, and Health Disparities of Rural Women', in *Healthcare Strategies and Planning for Social Inclusion and Development*, ed. by Basanta Kumara Behera, Ram Prasad, and Shyambhavee Behera (Academic Press, 2022), pp. 159–201 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-323-90447-6.00005-9>

violence, the substantive provisions of these statutes remain normatively weak and have not yet ensured the realization of justice for female victims.¹⁴

Several prior studies have examined the effectiveness of legal protection for women facing digital sexual violence from both empirical and normative perspectives. Said and McNealey, in their article “Nonconsensual Distribution of Intimate Images: Exploring the Role of Legal Attitudes in Victimization and Perpetration,”¹⁵ demonstrate that despite the existence of criminal regulations, law enforcement remains ineffective due to evidentiary difficulties, low reporting rates, and victims’ fear of social stigma. Polyzoidou, through a comparative legal analysis in “Digital Violence Against Women: Is There a Real Need for Special Criminalization?”¹⁶ argues that general cybercrime and pornography laws are inadequate to capture the specific harms of digital sexual violence, particularly violations of dignity and consent. In the Indonesian context, Octora, Tiopan, and Wijaya, in “Consistency of Criminal Sanctions Regulations in Protecting Women Victims of Non-consensual Pornography Content Dissemination,”¹⁷ find that existing criminal sanctions prioritize punishment of perpetrators without adequately ensuring restitution, identity protection, and recovery for victims. Collectively, these studies confirm that weaknesses in legal substance, enforcement mechanisms, and legal culture continue to limit the effectiveness of legal protection for women victims of digital sexual violence.¹⁸

Accordingly, this study examines why current regulations on the legal protection of female victims of online sexual violence have not yet been grounded in values of justice, identifies the normative weaknesses embedded in the existing regulatory framework, and formulates a justice-based reconstruction of legal protection for female victims of online sexual violence.

¹⁴ Basanta Kumara Behera, Ram Prasad and Shyambhavee Behera, ‘Chapter 2 - Rural Women’s Health Disparities, Hunger, and Poverty’, in *Healthcare Strategies and Planning for Social Inclusion and Development*, ed. by Basanta Kumara Behera, Ram Prasad, and Shyambhavee Behera (Academic Press, 2022), pp. 43–76 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-323-90447-6.00006-0>

¹⁵ Iman Said and Rachel L. McNealey, ‘Nonconsensual Distribution of Intimate Images: Exploring the Role of Legal Attitudes in Victimization and Perpetration’, *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 38.7–8 (2023), 5430–51 <https://doi.org/10.1177/08862605221122834>

¹⁶ Vagia Polyzoidou, ‘Digital Violence Against Women: Is There a Real Need for Special Criminalization?’, *International Journal for the Semiotics of Law*, 37.6 (2024), 1777–97 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11196-024-10179-3>

¹⁷ Rahel Octora, Demson Tiopan and Farrel Christyanto Wijaya, ‘Consistency of Criminal Sanctions Regulations in Protecting Women Victims of Non-Consensual Pornography Content Dissemination’, *European Journal of Law and Political Science*, 3.2 (2024), 1–9 <https://doi.org/10.24018/ejpolitics.2024.3.2.122>

¹⁸ Sadiq Bhanbhro, Anna Cronin de Chavez and Adelaide Lusambili, ‘Honour Based Violence as a Global Public Health Problem: A Critical Review of Literature’, *International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare*, 9.3 (2016), 198–215 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1108/IJHRH-10-2015-0032>

2. Research Method

This study applies a constructivist paradigm that conceptualizes law not merely as a body of written norms but as a social reality formed through human interaction, thereby requiring law enforcers to consider the perspectives of offenders, the conditions of victims, and the values developing within society in the process of case resolution.¹⁹ Based on this paradigm, the research examines justice-based legal protection for women who are victims of online sexual violence. The study employs an empirical legal research design with a descriptive-analytical character that positions law as actual social behavior manifested in real social relations rather than solely as formal regulation.²⁰ The research collects empirical data from factual conditions at the research site (*das sein*) and evaluates them against the ideal legal standards that ought to apply (*das sollen*).²¹ This study adopts a socio-legal approach that emphasizes empirical observation, monitoring, and analytical assessment of law as it operates in society, particularly in relation to justice-based protection for women victims of online sexual violence.²² To strengthen the analysis, the socio-legal approach is integrated with statutory and case approaches. The research utilizes both primary and secondary data sources, in which primary data are obtained directly from the community under study, while secondary data are derived from legislation, court decisions, and relevant scholarly literature.²³

3. Results and Discussion

Legal Protections for Women Facing Digital Sexual Violence

Law Number 44 of 2008 on Pornography establishes the philosophical foundation of pornography regulation in Indonesia by affirming that, as a state based on Pancasila, Indonesia is obliged to uphold moral values, ethics, noble character, and human dignity while responding to the increasing production and distribution of pornography that threaten the social order. This law explicitly

¹⁹ Anis Mashdurohatun, Deny Arly Asmara, and others, 'The Independence of Civil Servant Investigators in Indonesian Immigration: A Fiqh Siyasah Perspective', *Jurnal Ilmiah Mizani: Wacana Hukum, Ekonomi Dan Keagamaan*, 12.1 (2025), 345 <https://doi.org/10.29300/mzn.v12i1.5120>

²⁰ Anis Mashdurohatun, Deni Setiyawan, and others, 'LEGAL ATTITUDES TOWARD COHABITATION: A REVIEW OF LIBERAL AND ISLAMIC STATES', *PETITA: JURNAL KAJIAN ILMU HUKUM DAN SYARIAH*, 10.1 (2025) <https://doi.org/10.22373/petita.v10i1.376>

²¹ Muhammad Azam and others, 'Harmonizing Contemporary International Commercial Law with Sharia-Based National Legal Systems: A Comparative Study of Pakistan, Turkey, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Saudi Arabia', *MILRev: Metro Islamic Law Review*, 4.2 (2025), 1074–96 <https://doi.org/10.32332/milrev.v4i2.11334>

²² Anis Mashdurohatun, Yusfandi Usman, and others, 'Rethinking Palm Oil Plastic Regulations for Sustainable and Ecological Justice', *Journal of Human Rights, Culture and Legal System*, 5.2 (2025), 500–530 <https://doi.org/10.53955/jhcls.v5i2.681>

²³ Deni Setiyawan and others, 'Exploring Abhakalan Culture (Early Marriage) in Madura: A Dialogue of Customary Law, Religion, and The State', *AHKAM: Jurnal Ilmu Syariah*, 24.2 (2024), 345–64 <https://doi.org/10.15408/ajis.v24i2.36070>

prohibits various forms of production, distribution, utilization, and exploitation of pornographic materials as regulated in Articles 4 to 10, including the prohibition against using any person as an object or model containing pornographic content, as well as the prohibition of funding and facilitating such acts.²⁴

The state further obliges both the central and regional governments to implement preventive measures through the disconnection of distribution networks, supervision, digital content blocking, and cross sector cooperation as regulated in Articles 17 to 19, while also providing mechanisms for public participation in reporting, representative lawsuits, legal socialization, and community education as set out in Articles 20 to 22. With regard to evidentiary matters and data protection, Article 27 mandates the strict confidentiality of electronic data by law enforcement officers.²⁵ The law also firmly regulates criminal sanctions in Articles 29, 32, 35, and 36 by imposing significant terms of imprisonment and fines for acts of production, distribution, possession, exploitation, and public display of pornography. Normatively, this law is founded on belief in God, respect for human dignity, diversity, legal certainty, non-discrimination, and the protection of citizens.²⁶

In the context of online sexual violence, the law reflects three main orientations of legal protection, namely the preservation of moral values based on religious teachings, the formulation of clear prohibitions accompanied by strict legal sanctions, and the protection of all citizens, particularly women and children, from the harmful effects of pornography. The scope of regulation includes the prohibition and restriction of production and distribution, child protection, and prevention based on the roles of both the state and society. Nevertheless, the dominant orientation toward moral control and content prohibition indicates that the protection of women who are victims of online sexual violence remains implicit and has not yet fully positioned victims as the primary subjects of legal protection.²⁷

Law Number 12 of 2022 on Sexual Violence Crimes establishes a comprehensive legal framework for the protection of women who are victims of online sexual

²⁴ Jack Cagney and others, 'Prevalence of Sexual Violence against Children and Age at First Exposure: A Global Analysis by Location, Age, and Sex (1990–2023)', *The Lancet*, 405.10492 (2025), 1817–36 [https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(25\)00311-3](https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(25)00311-3)

²⁵ Denton Callander and others, "'What Will We Do If We Get Infected?': An Interview-Based Study of the COVID-19 Pandemic and Its Effects on the Health and Safety of Sex Workers in the United States', *SSM - Qualitative Research in Health*, 2 (2022), 100027 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssmqr.2021.100027>

²⁶ Stroma Cole and others, 'Water Insecurity Is Associated with Gender-Based Violence: A Mixed-Methods Study in Indonesia', *Social Science & Medicine*, 344 (2024), 116507 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2023.116507>

²⁷ Hastoro Dwinantoaji and others, 'Issues Related to Men Participation Towards Incidence of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) After The Merapi Eruption 2010 in Indonesia', *The Open Public Health Journal*, 12 (2019), 430–38 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.2174/1874944501912010430>

violence in Indonesia by adopting a victim oriented and rights based approach. Although the statute applies in a gender neutral manner, its substantive provisions explicitly recognize the structural vulnerability of women as the group most frequently affected by sexual violence. Prior to the enactment of this law, the handling of sexual violence relied mainly on morality oriented provisions within the Criminal Code, which often failed to ensure substantive justice for victims.²⁸ The law introduces a progressive expansion of the classification of sexual violence offenses, including electronic based sexual violence, and recognizes coercion, manipulation, and abuse of power as constituent elements that invalidate consent. It guarantees the rights of victims to legal assistance, psychological and medical rehabilitation, restitution, protection of identity, temporary security measures, and removal of abusive electronic content.²⁹

The statute also obliges law enforcement officials to apply a human rights based and victim sensitive perspective at all stages of investigation, prosecution, and adjudication, while prohibiting out of court settlement except in limited cases involving child offenders. In addition, the law mandates integrated services through state institutions and community based service providers to ensure access to justice and recovery for victims.³⁰ Through the regulation of evidence, closed court proceedings, and remote examination mechanisms, the law seeks to prevent revictimization and safeguard the dignity of victims. Normatively, this legal framework reflects a shift from a moralistic approach toward a transformative justice model that prioritizes prevention, accountability of perpetrators, and comprehensive recovery of victims. Therefore, Law Number 12 of 2022 represents a significant advancement in strengthening legal protection for women victims of online sexual violence within the Indonesian legal system.³¹

Law Number 1 of 2024 on the Second Amendment to Law Number 11 of 2008 on Electronic Information and Transactions establishes a normative balance between the constitutional right to express opinions and the right to protection of personal dignity, honor, security, and legal certainty, including for women who become victims of online sexual violence. Through this amendment, the state affirms its obligation to guarantee public order, justice, and legal certainty by adapting legal

²⁸ Husnul Fitri, 'Exploring Travel Behavior among Women with Disabilities in Jakarta', *Transportation Research Interdisciplinary Perspectives*, 25 (2024), 101097 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trip.2024.101097>

²⁹ Furizal and others, 'Social, Legal, and Ethical Implications of AI-Generated Deepfake Pornography on Digital Platforms: A Systematic Literature Review', *Social Sciences & Humanities Open*, 12 (2025), 101882 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssaho.2025.101882>

³⁰ Christine Gale and others, 'Drivers of Child-Parents Separation Informed by Children and Young People: Findings from an Eight Country Comparative Study', *Child Protection and Practice*, 7 (2025), 100260 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chipro.2025.100260>

³¹ Ali Ghaddar, Sanaa Khandaqji and Jinane Ghattas, 'Justifying Abuse of Women Migrant Domestic Workers in Lebanon: The Opinion of Recruitment Agencies', *Gaceta Sanitaria*, 34.5 (2020), 493–99 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gaceta.2018.11.001>

instruments to the rapid development of information and communication technology. Consistent with the objectives of the Constitution to promote public welfare and intellectual advancement, the regulation of electronic transactions functions as a means of achieving social welfare through lawful digital governance. Philosophically, the law positions freedom of expression within the limits of respect for human dignity, which must not be impaired by acts of defamation, harassment, intimidation, or sexual exploitation in digital spaces.³²

Several provisions directly relate to the protection of victims of online sexual violence, including Article 27 paragraph one which prohibits the unlawful distribution of electronic content violating decency, Article 27A which criminalizes online attacks against honor and reputation, Article 27B which regulates digital extortion and coercion, and Article 29 which prohibits electronic threats and intimidation directed at victims. Article 36 further links these offenses to material losses, while Article 40 authorizes the government to prevent the dissemination of unlawful digital content through access termination and content moderation by electronic system operators. Article 45 establishes criminal sanctions for violations involving immoral electronic content. Despite their protective intent, these provisions have generated critical debate due to their potential for misapplication and their capacity to restrict public freedom of expression, as well as their vulnerability to being used against victims who seek to report online sexual violence.³³

Digital sexual violence cases in Indonesia reveal significant challenges in enforcing Law Number 1 of 2024 on the Second Amendment to Law Number 11 of 2008 concerning Electronic Information and Transactions and Law Number 12 of 2022 on Sexual Violence Crimes. In the Alwi Hosen Maolana case of 2023, the victim experienced sexual assault while intoxicated, and the perpetrator recorded and distributed the content to coerce the victim into maintaining the relationship. The prosecution relied on the Electronic Information and Transactions Law, resulting in a sentence of six years imprisonment, a monetary fine of one billion rupiah, and an additional restriction on internet access, which was later annulled on appeal. The application of this law in the case raised criticism because the victim did not receive protection as a sexual violence survivor despite clear physical assault.³⁴

³² Lukman Nul Hakim and others, 'Psychological Correlates of Anti-Sexual Harassment: Dataset of Indonesia's Generation Z', *Data in Brief*, 31 (2020), 105944 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2020.105944>

³³ Josua Halomoan Napitupulu and others, 'An Integrated Legal Framework for Digital Investment Fraud Prevention in Indonesia', *Journal of Sustainable Development and Regulatory Issues (JSDERI)*, 3.3 (2025), 540–67 <https://doi.org/10.53955/jsderi.v3i3.154>

³⁴ R. Narendra Jatna and others, 'Strengthening the Business Judgment Rule in Indonesia: Lessons from Malaysia', *Journal of Sustainable Development and Regulatory Issues (JSDERI)*, 3.3 (2025), 568–89 <https://doi.org/10.53955/jsderi.v3i3.157>

In the case of JN bin TP in 2024, the perpetrator threatened and distributed intimate images of the victim through WhatsApp after their engagement ended, targeting the victim and third parties. The court applied both the Electronic Information and Transactions Law and the Pornography Law, imposing two years imprisonment and a fine of two hundred million rupiah without protecting the victim's identity in official publications. Similarly, the HS bin HD case of 2024 involved the dissemination of intimate content to third parties to harm the victim's reputation, yet the court relied solely on the Pornography Law, providing no restitution or additional protection while recording the victim's identity publicly. Cases KN and MAAL in 2025 and SI and BK in 2024 further highlight the limitations of legal protection when victims become indirectly criminalized or fail to receive restitution.³⁵ Cases demonstrate that although the Electronic Information and Transactions Law addresses online dissemination of intimate content, its application often obscures comprehensive protection for women victims, emphasizing the urgent need for law enforcement reforms to guarantee legal safeguards, psychological recovery, and anonymity in court proceedings.³⁶

Legal protection for women victims of online sexual violence in Indonesia faces persistent challenges in achieving justice. The country currently lacks legislation that specifically governs protection for victims of online sexual violence. Case analyses reveal that authorities continue to apply Law Number 1 of 2024 on the Second Amendment to Law Number 11 of 2008 on Electronic Information and Transactions and Law Number 44 of 2008 on Pornography as the primary legal basis. These laws, however, do not comprehensively safeguard women from online sexual violence. Law Number 12 of 2022 on Sexual Violence Crimes explicitly regulates electronic-based sexual violence. Article 4, Paragraph 1 identifies sexual violence as acts that violate decency against the will of the victim, while Paragraph 2 clarifies that unauthorized dissemination of pornographic material, even if initially produced consensually for private purposes, constitutes online sexual violence. International studies on revenge porn and sexual cyberbullying demonstrate that perpetrators aim to humiliate or threaten victims as revenge, derive satisfaction from possessing intimate content of former partners, and engage in extortion to obtain material or other advantages.³⁷

³⁵ Tejal Jesrani and Daimiris Garcia, 'Gendered SLAPPs: Addressing Criminal Prosecutions against Exposers of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence under International Human Rights Law', *International Journal of Law, Crime and Justice*, 80 (2025), 100729 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijlcj.2025.100729>

³⁶ Edwin Jurriëns, 'Reconnecting with the Urban Vernacular through Post-New Order Visual Art', *Bijdragen Tot de Taal-, Land- En Volkenkunde / Journal of the Humanities and Social Sciences of Southeast Asia*, 179.2 (2023), 175–215 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1163/22134379-bja10052>

³⁷ Amina Yusuf Kanyama and Suitbert Emil Lyakurwa, 'Self-Awareness Life Skills and Risky Sexual Behaviours among Primary Schools Adolescents in Tanzania', *Health Education*, 125.4 (2025), 507–34 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1108/HE-01-2025-0013>

Current legal frameworks remain overlapping and ambiguous, particularly regarding the production and accessibility of sexual content in electronic media. This ambiguity frequently disadvantages women victims by denying restitution and opportunities to restore their reputations. Cases in Jambi illustrate that victims may face criminalization for content initially intended for private use. Article 27 of the Electronic Information and Transactions Law criminalizes unauthorized distribution, yet gaps in legal protection persist.³⁸ Legal protection should reinforce human rights to prevent harm and losses. Indonesian courts often overlook victims' psychological conditions and the broader social consequences of online sexual violence. Although Law Number 12 of 2022 provides more detailed regulations, its technical approach remains insufficiently grounded in social justice, gender equality, and a comprehensive understanding of digital violence dynamics. This inadequacy limits the provision of effective and equitable protection for women victims of online sexual violence.³⁹

Legal Protection Effectiveness for Women Facing Digital Sexual Violence

Legal protection for women victims of online sexual violence in Indonesia exhibits significant weaknesses in both substance and structure, resulting in insufficient justice and inadequate safeguards. Legal substance, which encompasses written and unwritten rules, standards, and principles, functions to regulate behavior, define rights and obligations, and provide sanctions for violations. Effective law enforcement relies on the integration of legal substance, legal structure, and legal culture. Deficiencies in any of these components disrupt the performance of the legal system and may generate new legal challenges.⁴⁰ Law Number 44 of 2008 on Pornography demonstrates critical limitations in addressing women victims. The law does not fully integrate a gender perspective and treats women as indirect victims of pornography, often ignoring individuals featured in pornographic content as potential victims. The law applies gender-neutral formulations and focuses primarily on protecting children, leaving adult women without clear mechanisms for protection, restitution, or rehabilitation. Article 29 of the law criminalizes the dissemination of pornographic material without differentiating between perpetrators and victims, thereby exposing women to potential criminal liability even when they have not acted coercively.

³⁸ Paul Vinod Khiatani, Wing Hong Chui and Dagim Dawit Gonsamo, 'Advancing Child Protection Systems in Indonesia and Ethiopia: A Comparative Analysis of Progress and Challenges', *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 170 (2025), 107762 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2025.107762>

³⁹ Shazmin Khalid, Shrijna Dixon and Lavanya Vijayasingham, 'The Gender Responsiveness of Social Entrepreneurship in Health – A Review of Initiatives by Ashoka Fellows', *Social Science & Medicine*, 293 (2022), 114665 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2021.114665>

⁴⁰ Ilona Kickbusch and others, 'The Lancet and Financial Times Commission on Governing Health Futures 2030: Growing up in a Digital World', *The Lancet*, 398.10312 (2021), 1727–76 [https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(21\)01824-9](https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(21)01824-9)

Law Number 12 of 2022 on Sexual Violence Crimes establishes comprehensive definitions, prevention strategies, and victim protection measures, including restitution and rehabilitation. However, Article 16 restricts restitution to cases with penalties exceeding four years, while Article 35 grants state compensation primarily to victims of high-income perpetrators, leaving many women inadequately protected.⁴¹ Law Number 1 of 2024 on Electronic Information and Transactions emphasizes content distribution rather than victim protection, exposing women featured in electronic content to criminal liability regardless of coercion or consent. Structural weaknesses further persist due to limited gender awareness, inadequate training, and the predominance of male investigators in handling cases, which discourages reporting and compromises justice. These deficiencies highlight the urgent need for justice-oriented legal reforms that prioritize comprehensive protection, rehabilitation, and social reintegration for women affected by online sexual violence in Indonesia.⁴²

The legal framework of Law Number 1 of 2024, which amends Law Number 11 of 2008 concerning Electronic Information and Transactions, demonstrates significant structural weaknesses in safeguarding women victims of online sexual violence. In cases involving electronic information and transactions, the primary evidence consists of electronic documents, leading courts to apply only the provisions of the Electronic Information and Transactions Law. This approach excludes the application of the Sexual Violence Crimes Law, which provides comprehensive protection measures such as restitution. For instance, in online sexual violence cases in Sampit, legal actions focused solely on the Electronic Information and Transactions Law, while victims were denied access to restitution and other forms of legal protection stipulated in the Sexual Violence Crimes Law. As a result, victims experience inadequate legal support and limited access to justice, leaving them vulnerable to ongoing harm and secondary victimization.⁴³

The judicial language in cases of online sexual violence frequently categorizes these incidents as special criminal acts under the Electronic Information and Transactions Law rather than as moral or sexual crimes. This classification often neglects the victim's perspective and fails to account for the psychological and social impact of the offenses. Courts have included the full names of victims and detailed descriptions of their experiences in official documents, which are accessible to the public. Consequently, the state, through its documentation

⁴¹ Monika Maciejewska and Wojciech Kęblowski, 'How Does Transport Scarcity Affect the Everyday Lives of Women? Herstories of Daily Mobility in Santiago de Cuba', *Journal of Transport Geography*, 123 (2025), 104103 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jtrangeo.2024.104103>

⁴² Bambang Manumayoso and others, 'Sustainable Tourism in Indonesia's Ring of Fire: Toward Ecological Justice and Green Energy', *Journal of Sustainable Development and Regulatory Issues (JSDERI)*, 3.3 (2025), 590–615 <https://doi.org/10.53955/jsderi.v3i3.105>

⁴³ Martitah Martitah and others, 'Insufficient Criminal Justice System Response to the Severity of Domestic Violence during the Pandemic in Indonesia', *Heliyon*, 10.14 (2024), e33719 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2024.e33719>

practices, inadvertently reinforces victimization by exposing private trauma. This issue arises because cases are recorded and managed as electronic information and transaction offenses rather than as moral or sexual crimes within the Court Case Tracking Information System.⁴⁴

These structural deficiencies highlight a critical gap in the legal protection system. The exclusive reliance on the Electronic Information and Transactions Law limits the scope of victim-centered remedies and fails to uphold principles of justice, dignity, and privacy. Moreover, the lack of integration between the Electronic Information and Transactions Law and the Sexual Violence Crimes Law results in inconsistent legal outcomes, inadequate restitution, and insufficient safeguards for victims of online sexual violence. Addressing these weaknesses requires a reform of legal structures and procedural practices to ensure that online sexual violence cases are consistently classified and adjudicated in a manner that prioritizes victim protection. Integrating victim-centered approaches, including privacy safeguards, restitution mechanisms, and comprehensive judicial training on gender-sensitive handling of digital sexual violence, is essential to provide effective and equitable legal protection for women victims. Without such reforms, current legal structures perpetuate gaps that undermine both justice and the rights of victims, highlighting the urgent need for systemic improvement in Indonesia's digital sexual violence legislation.⁴⁵

Legal culture plays a fundamental role in shaping how a legal system functions within the broader cultural context of society. Anthropologists define legal culture as the totality of social values related to law rather than merely a collection of thoughts and behaviors. In this framework, societal norms, perceptions, and values actively influence the drafting, interpretation, and enforcement of legislation. When legal culture receives insufficient attention, the legal system experiences rapid dysfunction, manifested in misunderstandings of legal provisions and discrepancies between statutory regulations and societal practices. Legal culture actively generates law, legal substance constitutes the product of this process, and legal structure encompasses the institutions and actors responsible for its implementation. Consequently, strengthening legal culture is essential to enhance the effectiveness, legitimacy, and societal acceptance of the legal system.⁴⁶

⁴⁴ John A Naslund and others, 'Digital Technology for Treating and Preventing Mental Disorders in Low-Income and Middle-Income Countries: A Narrative Review of the Literature', *The Lancet Psychiatry*, 4.6 (2017), 486–500 [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2215-0366\(17\)30096-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2215-0366(17)30096-2)

⁴⁵ Aria Aulia Nastiti and others, 'Sociodemographic Factors and Their Association with HIV Risk Behaviors among Indonesian Females Aged 15–24 Years: A Nationwide Study', *Journal of Pediatric Nursing*, 79 (2024), e170–76 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pedn.2024.10.017>

⁴⁶ Muhammad Bello Nawaila, Sezer Kanbul and Fezile Ozdamli, 'A Review on the Rights of Children in the Digital Age', *Children and Youth Services Review*, 94 (2018), 390–409 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2018.09.028>

Law Number 44 of 2008 on Pornography exemplifies the limitations of legal culture in Indonesia. The wide-ranging and culturally variable definition of pornography in Article 1 challenges legal certainty due to the diversity of regional interpretations. For instance, cultural norms in Aceh significantly differ from those in Papua, resulting in inconsistent enforcement and public understanding. Judicial cases in Jambi, where victims of online sexual content faced criminal charges alongside perpetrators, illustrate how societal perceptions may discourage reporting by victims due to potential legal repercussions.⁴⁷ Law Number 12 of 2022 on Sexual Violence Crimes reveals deficiencies in gender sensitivity. Legal authorities and the public frequently prioritize physical forms of sexual violence over online or nonphysical manifestations, failing to recognize the significant psychological, social, economic, and political consequences for victims. Society often perceives reporting as insufficient to stop the dissemination of illicit sexual content or to hold offenders accountable, thereby undermining both restorative and preventive objectives of the legislation.⁴⁸

Law Number 1 of 2024, which amends Law Number 11 of 2008 on Electronic Information and Transactions, highlights structural weaknesses in legal culture through the pervasive phenomenon of victim blaming. Society often attributes responsibility to victims for provoking offenses, a perception reinforced by entrenched patriarchal norms. This cultural attitude discourages victims from reporting offenses and limits their access to justice. Moreover, social and legal responses frequently stigmatize female victims while minimizing accountability for male perpetrators. These patterns underscore the urgent need for a legal culture that emphasizes victim protection, gender sensitivity, and equitable treatment. Without corresponding cultural reforms, statutory frameworks alone cannot provide justice, protection, or legitimacy for women who experience online sexual violence.⁴⁹

Justice-Based Legal Protection for Women Facing Digital Sexual Violence

In the United Kingdom, the Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015 criminalizes the distribution of private sexual images intended to cause distress. The law emphasizes consent and recognizes the psychological harm experienced by victims. The government provides support through police involvement, online resources, awareness campaigns, emergency hotlines, and support centers. For example, the

⁴⁷ Khaerul Umam Noer, Siti Chadijah and Endang Rudiatin, 'There Is No Trustable Data: The State and Data Accuracy of Violence against Women in Indonesia', *Heliyon*, 7.12 (2021), e08552 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2021.e08552>

⁴⁸ Siti Nurbayani, Moh. Dede and Millary Agung Widiawaty, 'Utilizing Library Repository for Sexual Harassment Study in Indonesia: A Systematic Literature Review', *Heliyon*, 8.8 (2022), e10194 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2022.e10194>

⁴⁹ Jan Priebe and Sudarno Sumarto, 'Reducing Child Marriages through CCTs: Evidence from a Large-Scale Policy Intervention in Indonesia', *Journal of Public Economics*, 242 (2025), 105306 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpubeco.2025.105306>

Ask for ANI campaign creates a safe environment for immediate victim assistance. UK legislation, including the Copyright, Designs, and Patents Act 1988 and the Protection from Harassment Act 1997, grants victims rights to prevent unauthorized reproduction of images and pursue civil remedies for distress and harassment.⁵⁰ The Criminal Justice and Courts Act also criminalizes upskirting and distribution of sexual images without consent, with penalties of imprisonment and fines.⁵¹

In the United States, most states and the District of Columbia criminalize non-consensual intimate imagery, including deepfakes, with variances in classification, penalties, and civil remedies. Victims can seek damages for emotional, financial, and therapeutic losses. Federal legislation is limited, though proposals such as the SHIELD Act aim to criminalize distribution without consent.⁵² Germany enforces strict privacy laws, including and copyright protections, allowing victims to demand deletion and pursue damages. The GDPR further empowers victims to remove content and protect their privacy. Australia prioritizes preventive measures, victim rehabilitation, and identity protection. State laws criminalize distribution of intimate images without consent, while services such as 1800 RESPECT provide mental health and legal support.⁵³ Malaysia protects victims under the Penal Code and Communications and Multimedia Act, criminalizing possession, distribution, and harassment through obscene content, while civil remedies safeguard privacy.⁵⁴

Reconstructing legal values entails actively revising and rebuilding the principles of existing regulations to ensure alignment with societal development, contemporary needs, and the principles of justice and legal certainty. This process strengthens the legal system by making it more equitable, responsive, and capable

⁵⁰ Treviliana Eka Putri, Paska Darmawan and Richard Heeks, 'What Is Fair? The Experience of Indonesian Gig Workers', *Digital Geography and Society*, 5 (2023), 100072 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.diggeo.2023.100072>

⁵¹ Astha Ramaiya, Mengmeng Li, and others, 'Measuring Safe, Stable and Nurturing Relationships among Adolescents in China, Democratic Republic of Congo and Indonesia: Association with Peer-Violence Experiences', *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 165 (2025), 107494 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2025.107494>

⁵² Astha Ramaiya, Jakevia Wheeler, and others, 'Understanding How Adolescents Experience Violence and Its Perceived Impacts on Mental Health: A Qualitative Study Across 13 Countries', *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 77.3 (2025), 428–35 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2024.03.006>

⁵³ Samad Rasoulzadeh Aghdam and others, 'Gendering Urban Resilience: A Critical Approach to Policymaking for Sustainable and Inclusive Cities', *Cities*, 170 (2026), 106578 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2025.106578>

⁵⁴ Paul Reedy, 'Interpol Review of Digital Evidence for 2019–2022', *Forensic Science International: Synergy*, 6 (2023), 100313 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fsisyn.2022.100313>

of addressing current challenges.⁵⁵ The Indonesian Pancasila, particularly its Fifth Principle on Social Justice for All Indonesians, provides a normative foundation that emphasizes humanity, morality, democracy, and social equity. Despite this, current legal frameworks frequently fail to acknowledge the suffering experienced by women victims of online sexual violence, restore their dignity, or provide comprehensive support mechanisms.⁵⁶

Women who experience online sexual violence suffer both material and immaterial losses, yet Indonesian laws remain limited, generating legal uncertainty and insufficient protection.⁵⁷ Victims often confront social stigma and encounter obstacles in accessing psychological and legal support. Legal reforms must clearly classify the non-consensual distribution of images or videos as online sexual violence, thereby enabling victims to obtain moral and material restitution. The government, legal institutions, and advocacy organizations must collaborate to secure privacy protection, ensure victim rehabilitation, and conduct public awareness campaigns aimed at reducing online harassment and societal stigma.⁵⁸

Acknowledging different victim typologies, including victims with minor guilt and completely innocent victims, is critical to assigning accountability to perpetrators rather than victims. Legal reconstruction must emphasize strong protection, uphold victim dignity, and restore rights while guaranteeing the rigorous prosecution of offenders.⁵⁹ Media organizations should actively disseminate accurate information and avoid sensationalism that exacerbates harm. By centering justice, protection, and rehabilitation, reconstructing regulatory values can foster a legal environment that is equitable, supportive, and responsive to the specific vulnerabilities of women victims of online sexual violence in Indonesia.⁶⁰

To reconstruct the legal substance of three primary regulations addressing the protection of women victims of online sexual violence. This reconstruction aims to enhance legal certainty, close normative gaps, and adapt regulations to the

⁵⁵ Arthur Josias Simon Runturambi and Ridwan Arifin, 'New Patterns and Trends of Migration: Hybrid-Crimes among Indonesian Migrant Workers in Southeast Asia', *Regional Science Policy & Practice*, 17.10 (2025), 100215 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rspp.2025.100215>

⁵⁶ Sekarwangi Saraswati and Olim Narzullayev, 'Integrating Miranda Rights to Promote Human Rights Compliance', *Journal of Sustainable Development and Regulatory Issues (JSDERI)*, 3.3 (2025), 459–85 <https://doi.org/10.53955/jsderi.v3i3.94>

⁵⁷ M Scherban and E Kulchavenya, 'T12-O-09 Prostate Tuberculosis - New Sexually Transmitted Disease', *Sexologies*, 17 (2008), S163–64 [https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/S1158-1360\(08\)72972-4](https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/S1158-1360(08)72972-4)

⁵⁸ Evan N Shenkin and Michele Abee, 'International Spaces for Feminist Cross-Border Resistance', *Political Geography*, 112 (2024), 103111 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.polgeo.2024.103111>

⁵⁹ Claudia Stoicescu and others, 'Synergistic Effects of Exposure to Multiple Types of Violence on Non-Fatal Drug Overdose among Women Who Inject Drugs in Indonesia', *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 129 (2024), 104486 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugpo.2024.104486>

⁶⁰ I Wayan Sukania and others, 'Legal Protection of Intellectual Property Rights in Indonesia for SME Performance', *Journal of Sustainable Development and Regulatory Issues (JSDERI)*, 3.3 (2025), 515–39 <https://doi.org/10.53955/jsderi.v3i3.104>

evolving nature of digital crimes.⁶¹ In the Pornography Law, amendments clarify the prevention obligations, extending them beyond central and regional governments to specifically include the Ministry of Communication and Digitalization.⁶² Highlighting institutional actors is essential given that digital sexual crimes heavily depend on cyber-space monitoring. The reconstruction also incorporates the phrase “intentionally and without coercion from any party” in criminal provisions, refining the distinction between voluntary actions and acts of coercion or exploitation, which frequently occur in online sexual violence cases.^{63v}

In the Law on Sexual Violence Crimes, the reconstruction reinforces the obligation of judges to determine the amount of restitution that convicted offenders must pay. This modification strengthens the legal position of victims as subjects entitled to material recovery from digital sexual violence.⁶⁴ By explicitly designating the responsible party for restitution, the amendments eliminate ambiguities in previous provisions, ensuring that perpetrators bear the burden of compensating victims. Within the Electronic Information and Transactions Law, the reconstruction adds the requirement of “subject consent” in articles regulating the distribution of content violating public morality. This change addresses the phenomenon of non-consensual intimate content, including the distribution of private images or videos without authorization. By emphasizing the victim’s perspective, the revised norms clearly differentiate between voluntarily shared content and content disseminated without the subject’s consent.⁶⁵

The reconstruction of the legal framework for protecting women victims of online sexual violence requires a comprehensive and systematic approach across multiple regulations. In the Pornography Law, Law Number 44 of 2008, discrepancies often occur between the perceptions of investigators and victims. Victims frequently regard disseminated content as violating their dignity, whereas investigators may not consider it to meet the criteria for pornography.

⁶¹ Nicole E van Gelder and others, ‘Effectiveness of the SAFE EHealth Intervention for Women Experiencing Intimate Partner Violence and Abuse: Randomized Controlled Trial, Quantitative Process Evaluation, and Open Feasibility Study’, *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, 25 (2023) <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.2196/42641>

⁶² Miranda van Reeuwijk, Amala Rahmah and Kristin Mmari, ‘Creating an Enabling Environment for a Comprehensive Sexuality Education Intervention in Indonesia: Findings From an Implementation Research Study’, *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 73.1, Supplement (2023), S15–20 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2022.07.016>

⁶³ Stein Emil Vollset and others, ‘Burden of Disease Scenarios for 204 Countries and Territories, 2022–2050: A Forecasting Analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021’, *The Lancet*, 403.10440 (2024), 2204–56 [https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(24\)00685-8](https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(24)00685-8)

⁶⁴ Abdul Wahab, ‘Futures of Deepfake and Society: Myths, Metaphors, and Future Implications for a Trustworthy Digital Future’, *Futures*, 173 (2025), 103672 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.futures.2025.103672>

⁶⁵ Tika Widiastuti and others, ‘Capturing the Barriers and Strategic Solutions for Women Empowerment: Delphi Analytical Network Process’, *Journal of Open Innovation: Technology, Market, and Complexity*, 10.3 (2024), 100345 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.joitmc.2024.100345>

Reconstruction of the legal structure should involve experts in information technology and psychology during investigations and judicial proceedings to determine intentionality and coercion.^{66v}

In the Law on Sexual Violence Crimes, Law Number 12 of 2022, reconstruction focuses on enhancing the capacity of law enforcement to understand and apply the criminal elements of the law. Non-physical sexual harassment, as regulated in Article Five, penalizes individuals who act against the body, sexual desire, or reproductive organs with the intent to degrade human dignity based on sexuality or morality.⁶⁷ Collaboration with clinical psychologists is essential to scientifically assess the credibility and quality of victim testimony due to the high burden of proof required in these cases. Additionally, the presence of female judges, prosecutors, and police officers is crucial for mitigating stigma and providing empathetic and informed support to victims. Female law enforcement officers can improve reporting rates and strengthen the prevention and response to gender-based online harassment.⁶⁸ In the Electronic Information and Transactions Law, Law Number One of 2024, reconstruction emphasizes the professionalization of law enforcement and the integration of both the ITE Law and the Sexual Violence Crimes Law in addressing online sexual violence cases. Judicial language must reflect the perspective of the victim, protect their identity, and prevent secondary victimization while maintaining clarity in the description of the perpetrator's actions. Reconstruction of legal culture requires public education, awareness campaigns, and gender-sensitive training for law enforcement personnel. In the Pornography Law, campaigns must clarify that victims are not criminally responsible for content created without coercion. In the Sexual Violence Crimes Law, public understanding of non-physical sexual harassment and its psychological, social, and economic impacts must increase.⁶⁹

In the ITE Law, reconstruction must address patriarchal cultural norms that contribute to victim blaming and social stigma, particularly in cases of revenge pornography and non-consensual intimate content. Following Philipus M. Hadjon's Legal Protection Theory, reconstruction should include public education to promote awareness of digital privacy and consent, legal reform to enforce

⁶⁶ Yanuar Farida Wismayanti and others, 'Child Sexual Abuse in Indonesia: A Systematic Review of Literature, Law and Policy', *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 95 (2019), 104034 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2019.104034>

⁶⁷ Yanuar Farida Wismayanti and others, 'The Problematicization of Child Sexual Abuse in Policy and Law: The Indonesian Example', *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 118 (2021), 105157 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2021.105157>

⁶⁸ Musarat Yasmin, Tahira Jabeen and Sania Noor, 'Examining Digital Hate: Gendered Discursive Strategies in Online Harassment of Pakistani Influencers', *Computers in Human Behavior Reports*, 19 (2025), 100759 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chbr.2025.100759>

⁶⁹ Anis Mashdurohatun, I Made Dwi Jayantara, and others, 'Delayed Justice in Protecting Emergency Medical Workers', *Journal of Sustainable Development and Regulatory Issues (JSDERI)*, 3.2 (2025), 347-71 <https://doi.org/10.53955/jsderi.v3i2.116>

stricter penalties for perpetrators, psychosocial support for victims, and cultural reform that promotes gender equality in social and educational policies. These measures aim to eliminate discrimination, prevent secondary victimization, and create a legal and social environment that effectively protects and empowers women victims of online sexual violence in Indonesia.⁷⁰

4. Conclusion

Current legal regulations in Indonesia intended to protect women victims of non-physical online sexual violence have not fully adhered to principles of justice. The three main laws, namely the Pornography Law, the Sexual Violence Crimes Law, and the Electronic Information and Transactions Law, demonstrate overlaps, ambiguities, and inconsistencies in interpretation. Consequently, victims often face criminalization, lack of restitution, and social stigma, while judicial decisions frequently neglect their psychological needs. These weaknesses manifest across three dimensions. In legal substance, the Pornography Law allows institutional bias and may criminalize victims, the Sexual Violence Crimes Law restricts restitution to offenses punishable by four years or more in prison, and the Electronic Information and Transactions Law emphasizes content over victim protection. In legal structure, differences between investigator and victim perspectives, insufficient female law enforcement personnel, limited gender-sensitive training, and reliance on electronic evidence impede the effective application of protections. In legal culture, ambiguous definitions of pornography, societal prioritization of physical over online sexual violence, and patriarchal norms contribute to victim blaming and social stigma. Reconstruction of these regulations is essential. For the Pornography Law, substantive reconstruction clarifies institutional authority and intentionality, structural reconstruction integrates IT and psychological experts, and cultural reconstruction enhances public awareness through campaigns. For the Sexual Violence Crimes Law, substantive reform extends restitution to all victims, structural reform establishes female law enforcement officers and provides training, and cultural reform strengthens gender-sensitive understanding. For the Electronic Information and Transactions Law, substantive reconstruction specifies consent, structural reconstruction improves law enforcement professionalism and protects victim identity, and cultural reconstruction promotes digital privacy, consent, and gender equality. These measures aim to create a more just and protective legal framework for women victims of online sexual violence in Indonesia.

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⁷⁰ Octora, Tiopan and Wijaya.

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