



Inclination of Female Students as Victims of Criminal Acts of Sexual Harassment at University Scope

Gayatri Dyah Suprobowati and Ismi Dwi Astuti Nurhaeni
Universitas Sebelas Maret, Surakarta, Indonesia
gayatridyah@staff.uns.ac.id

Abstract. This research aims to determine the various factors that cause the emergence of sexual thoughts among female students who are victims of sexual violence at the university. This research uses empirical research methods. The data sources for this research are primary and secondary data. Primary data was obtained through direct interviews with the Salierang Community, a community of victims of sexual disclosures that occurred within the university. Meanwhile, secondary data was obtained through literature studies such as journals, previous research, and news from newspapers and other electronic media. The research results showed that the tendency of female students to become victims of sexual crimes was revealed to be caused by various factors, including patriarchal culture, social media, and gender-biased regulations. The results of this research are helpful for universities to eliminate patriarchal cultural practices, utilize social media to prevent and handle sexual violence and develop regulations that favor the best interests of victims.

Keywords: Female Students, Victims of Criminal, Sexual Harassment, University.

1 Introduction

Criminal sexual behaviors inherently involve elements of aggression and coercion [1][2][3]. Sexual harassment, which violates both decency and law, is not only a national legal concern but also an international issue [2], [4], [5] [6]. As defined [7][8], sexual harassment refers to actions that involve unwanted sexual behavior imposed unilaterally on the victim [9]. This harassment can manifest in various forms, including symbols, written content, speech, and actions with a sexual nature, often accompanied by coercion.

Sexual harassment and rape can occur at any time and in any location. Both men and women of all ages can be victims of sexual harassment [10] [11] [12] [13]. Research from Indonesia and other countries indicates that such harassment often happens in environments considered 'safe,' like schools, universities, dormitories, and workplaces. Perpetrators are frequently individuals known to the victims, such as friends, colleagues, teachers, or supervisors, though it can also occur in public settings [14] [15] [16] [17].

Based on data from [18] annual records, there are a total 338,496 cases of gender-based violence. The number has increased significantly since 2020 [19], with 137 cases, and in 2021, with 181 cases. Sexual harassment is a sensitive issue for women [20]. Women become the objects of sexual harassment against the protection and

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freedom of their rights in all field [21] [22]. One of several reasons that causes women to be the victims of sexual harassment is the value system that considers them to be lower than men. Moreover, cases of violence and sexual harassment are often carried out by public officials, ASN, medical personnel, members of the TNI, and members of the National Police. The problems occur due to the existence of a patriarchal culture, including family relations, economics, and the power and influence possessed by the perpetrators that make it easier for them to intimidate victims. As a result, the victims of sexual harassment often do not get enough support in solving the case.

Based on the sample of female victims, sexual harassment has a strong relationship with physical violence and unsafe sexual practices, and it may lead to Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) [23]. Nowadays, cases of sexual harassment often occur even in the University Scope. Based on the findings obtained by the researcher, the researcher found several cases of sexual harassment committed in the university environment, including:

1. The case of RW by SS at the University of Indonesia (UI);
2. The case of a UGM student whose male friend was harassed during KKN;
3. The case of the UIN Jakarta student whom male friends harassed during KKN;
4. The case of sexual harassment that was conducted by 3 lecturers to 4 students in 2016-2018 at UIN Bandung;
5. In Samarinda, 54 out 70 female students experienced sexual violence.

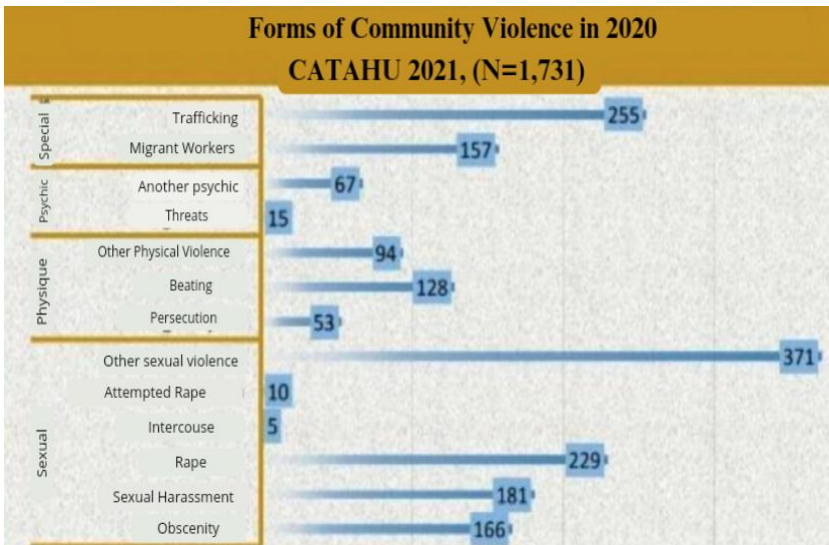


Figure 1. Forms of Community Violence in 2020

Sources: CATAHU, 2021

Based on those examples of sexual harassment that occurred in the university environment, it can be seen that even among educated people, there is still a possibility to receive sexual harassment. This tragic phenomenon happened because, in reality, several university policies could potentially encourage harassment. One of these is the culture with the assumption of "moral wisdom of the academic community," and the "university's good name" is also often prioritized. This culture causes the university to cover up cases of sexual harassment in their surrounding environment [24] [25].

The empowerment of reporting and counseling service institutions is often tucked away and lost, and there is no general learning subject in university that learns about gender perspective [26]. Cases of harassment that currently occur and prejudice against female students do not correlate with the victim's way of dressing. Some cases of sexual harassment even are experienced by women who are dressed in closed clothes. Based on the description of the background that the researcher conveyed, the researcher found the main point of the problem, namely the inclination of sexual harassment to occur against female students [27] [28].

2 Method

This study employs an empirical method, utilizing both primary and secondary data. Primary data was gathered directly through interviews with members of the Salierang Community, who are victims of sexual harassment at the university. Secondary data was collected through literature reviews, including journals, prior research, and reports from newspapers and other electronic media.

3 Results and Discussion

The findings indicated that among the 20 female student respondents in this study, instances of harassment could be classified into five types of sexual harassment. These include: a) Physical harassment, which targets specific body parts with sexual intent. This information is detailed in Table 1, which presents the number and percentage of female students encountering different forms of sexual harassment within the university environment, as outlined in the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology Regulation Number 30 of 2021.

Table 1. Number and Percentage of Female Students Experiencing Various Forms of Sexual Harassment in the University

Form of Sexual Harassment Based on the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology Regulation Number 30 of 2021	Number of respondents who have experienced sexual harassment	Percentage of respondents who have experienced sexual harassment
Delivering discriminatory utterance or physically harassing the victim through appearance, condition	12	60%
Showing genitals intentionally or without the consent of the victim	3	25%
Delivering words of seduction, jokes, and or whistles	18	90%
Staring at the victim sexually and passionately	9	45%
Sending messages, pictures, photos, audio, and videos with sexual nuances without permission	8	40%
Taking, recording, distributing photos or videos of victims with sexual content	1	5%
Peeking or accidentally seeing the victim doing personal activities in the bathroom	1	5%
Persuading, promising, threatening the victim to engage in sexual activity without the victim's permission	3	15%
Giving punishment or sanctions of a sexual nature	1	5%
Touching, hugging, kissing the victim's body without consent	15	75%
Undressing the victim without permission	10	50%
Attempted rape without penetration	5	25%

Based on the table 1, it can be concluded that the most frequent sexual harassment experienced by the victims is verbal harassment in the form of words, seduction, jokes, or whistling, as much as 90%, while the least experienced is taking recordings, distributing photos or videos recorded by victims with sexual content, peeking or deliberately seeing victims who carry out private activities in the bathroom and give punishments or sanctions of a sexual nature, each as much as 5%.

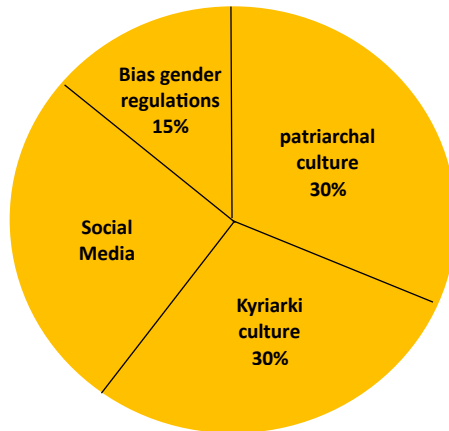


Figure 2. The tendency of students to become victims

Based on the results examining and interviewing the 20 respondents, 30% of female students experienced sexual harassment due to patriarchal culture, 30% to kyriarchy culture, and 25% of the influence of social media development as a result of widespread content. Adults on social media are often widely distributed and easily accessible, causing someone sometimes to want to try or feel what is seen from photos or videos of adult content spread on social media. Lastly, nowadays, in every agency, including in the educational environment, there are biased gender regulations. An example of the bias regulation is a virginity test that should be done as a requirement if we want to carry out education at the agency.

The research results reveal a trend of sexual harassment among female students influenced by several factors. First, inadequate legal protection for female harassment victims in Indonesia is partly due to the prevailing patriarchal culture. This culture, which acts as both a social belief and institution, establishes a system of inequality where women are marginalized and considered second-class citizens. Accepting this system perpetuates various forms of injustice, oppression, and the violation of victims' human rights by perpetrators. Keren Gueta points out that early feminist criminology emphasized the importance of considering gender to better address the needs of women involved in the justice system.

Second, acts of sexual harassment can occur due to the existence of a higher power possessed by a person (kyriarchy). Where most people will use their power to commit harassment. Generally, perpetrators will think that the victim is a weak person who has no power to speak. Moreover, the perpetrators also believe that victims have their fears in mind that prevent them from making a report to the authorities. It can be seen from the table above, which states that there are as many as 30% of the victims receive sexual harassment due to the kyriarchy system. *Third*, the influence of social media. The development of information and communication technology allows humans to communicate without the limitations of distance and time. Through various social media, the process of distributing sexual harassment acts in the form of videos, pictures, and writings of domestic violence and forced sex is becoming

straightforward. The media can be disseminated and accessed by perpetrators who are directed to the victim without the permission of the person concerned. *Fourth*, gender bias regulations. The existence of a regulation that is set but causes deviations in law enforcement and justice, especially for women's rights. The existence of a virginity test for women will undoubtedly have an impact on women because it is a personal matter. Loss of virginity for a woman does not necessarily have sexual intercourse. It is possible due to factors such as accidents.

4 Conclusion

The tendency of female students to become victims of sexual crimes was revealed to be caused by various factors, including patriarchal culture, social media, and gender-biased regulations. The results of this research are helpful for universities to eliminate patriarchal cultural practices, utilize social media to prevent and handle sexual violence and develop regulations that favor the best interests of victims.

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