

Protection for Women with Disabilities Who Are Victims of Sexual Violence

Wahyuni Wahyuni¹, Muharuddin Muharuddin²

^{1,2} Faculty of Law, Universitas Muhammadiyah Sorong, Indonesia

*correspondence email: whyniirmdhni@gmail.com

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Abstract: *This study aims to examine the legal protection provided to women with disabilities who are victims of sexual violence in Sorong City and to identify various obstacles encountered in the implementation of such protection. This study uses an empirical legal method with data obtained through literature studies and interviews, which are then analyzed using an empirical legal approach to the implementation of protection for women with disabilities who are victims of sexual violence in Sorong City. The novelty of this study lies in its focus on the implementation of legal protection for women with disabilities who are victims of sexual violence in Sorong City. The results of the study show that (1) legal protection for women with disabilities who are victims of sexual violence in Sorong City is not yet optimal. There are no specific regulations at the local level that specifically regulate persons with disabilities. Although protection services for victims are available, their implementation is still limited. (2) Some of the obstacles faced include a lack of professionals such as psychologists and specialized interpreters, difficulties for victims in providing consistent statements, and a lack of preparedness among law enforcement officials in handling cases where the victim is a person with disabilities. The study's conclusions on legal protection for persons with disabilities who are victims of sexual violence in Sorong City indicate that there have been significant efforts by the government and related institutions. Although there is a legal framework that guarantees the rights of persons with disabilities, such as Law No. 8 of 2016, implementation in the field is still hampered by a lack of training for law enforcement officers, as well as a lack of supporting resources such as professional personnel and communication aids.*

Keywords: Women With Disabilities; Sexual Violence; Legal Protection.

Abstrak: *Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji bentuk perlindungan hukum yang diberikan kepada perempuan penyandang disabilitas sebagai korban kekerasan seksual di kota sorong serta mengidentifikasi berbagai kendala yang dihadapi dalam pelaksanaan perlindungan tersebut. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode yuridis empiris dengan data yang diperoleh melalui studi kepustakaan dan wawancara yang selanjutnya dianalisis dengan metode pendekatan yuridis empiris tentang implementasi perlindungan terhadap perempuan penyandang disabilitas korban kekerasan seksual di kota sorong. Kebaharuan dari penelitian ini ialah terletak pada fokus penelitian yang menekankan pada pelaksanaan perlindungan hukum kepada korban perempuan penyandang disabilitas yang menjadi korban kekerasan seksual di wilayah kota sorong. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa (1) perlindungan hukum terhadap perempuan penyandang disabilitas korban kekerasan seksual di Kota Sorong belum optimal. Belum tersedia regulasi khusus di tingkat lokal yang secara spesifik mengatur tentang penyandang disabilitas. (2) Beberapa kendala yang dihadapi*

antara lain minimnya tenaga profesional seperti psikolog dan penerjemah khusus, kesulitan korban dalam memberikan keterangan secara konsisten, serta kurangnya kesiapan aparat penegak hukum dalam menangani kasus yang korbannya disabilitas. **Kesimpulan dari penelitian** Perlindungan hukum terhadap penyandang disabilitas korban kekerasan seksual di kota sorong menunjukkan adanya upaya yang signifikan dari pemerintah dan lembaga terkait, Meskipun terdapat kerangka hukum yang menjamin hak-hak penyandang disabilitas, seperti undang-undang nomor 8 tahun 2016, implementasi di lapangan masih terhambat oleh kurangnya pelatihan bagi aparat penegak hukum, serta minimnya sumber daya pendukung seperti tenaga profesional dan alat bantu komunikasi.

Kata kunci : Perempuan Disabilitas; Kekerasan Seksual; Perlindungan Hukum.

1. INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is a country based on the rule of law as stated in Article 1 paragraph (3) of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, which affirms that all aspects of national and state life must be based on law. Within this framework, the law functions as an instrument to guarantee justice, order, and legal certainty. One branch of law that plays an important role in protecting society from various forms of crime is criminal law. Criminal law has a repressive and preventive function against various violations, including crimes against a person's dignity and physical integrity. In line with the principle of the rule of law, the protection of human rights is the responsibility of the state. The state is obliged to respect, protect, and fulfill these rights without discrimination.

This is emphasized in Article 28I paragraph (4) of the 1945 Constitution, which states that the protection and promotion of human rights is the responsibility of the state, particularly the government. Regulations governing the protection of human rights are explicitly stated in Articles 28A to 28J of the 1945 Constitution. One of the most fundamental rights is the right to live safely and free from all forms of violence, including sexual violence.¹

In Indonesia, sexual violence remains a serious problem that threatens various segments of society, including vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities. Persons with disabilities, as defined in Law No. 8 of 2016, include individuals with physical, intellectual, mental, or sensory limitations. They often face barriers to living independently, making them more vulnerable to exploitation and violence, including sexual violence.²

People with disabilities who are highly dependent on the assistance of others, coupled with their limited ability to convey their feelings or experiences, make them easy targets for perpetrators of sexual violence. One striking example in Sorong City is the case of sexual violence against a 25-year-old woman with a disability, whose initials are UT. This case occurred on February 9, 2025, when UT was reported to have been kidnapped by a perpetrator whose initials are H. After an intensive search, UT was found naked in the hills

¹ Farhandika Nafil, "Penegakan Hukum Pidana Bagi Terdakwa Penyandang Disabilitas Intelektual," *Universitas Islam Negeri Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta* (Universitas Islam Negeri Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta, 2020).

² Amelia Putri And Wisnu Nugraha, "Implementasi Undang-Undang Nomor 8 Tahun 2016 Terkait Pemenuhan Hak Atas Pekerjaan Bagi Penyandang Disabilitas Di Kota Bekasi" 6, No. September (2024): 1–9.

behind Belagri, Sorong City. The perpetrator, H, was arrested and admitted to having had sexual intercourse with the victim. This case shows how vulnerable women with disabilities are to sexual violence and the need for serious attention from law enforcement officials.

The legal treatment that has not been specifically biased towards victims with disabilities shows that there are loopholes in the existing legal protection system. Sexual violence is still a complaint-based offense, so its enforcement depends on reports from the victim or the nearest party. In the case of persons with disabilities, mental conditions and limited communication are often obstacles to reporting. In fact, the 1945 Constitution -The 1945 Constitution Article 28H paragraph (1) guarantees the right of individuals to receive special treatment for the sake of equality, and Law Number 19 of 2011 concerning the Ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities affirms that persons with disabilities are entitled to special protection from violence and discrimination.³

In Sorong, this situation is becoming increasingly urgent. With a growing population and vulnerable persons with disabilities, legal protection for women with disabilities who are victims of sexual violence needs to be a priority. Although data on cases of sexual violence against persons with disabilities in this region is still minimal, this does not diminish the urgency of providing better protection.

Therefore, the state needs to enforce the law more progressively by providing protection and imposing heavier penalties on perpetrators of sexual violence against persons with disabilities.⁴ In addition, law enforcement officials need to be equipped with adequate understanding of the conditions and special needs of persons with disabilities.⁵ Stronger legal protection is not only a form of fulfilling human rights, but also a strategic step to create substantive justice for vulnerable groups in society.

2. METHOD

This study uses empirical legal research with a socio-legal research approach. Primary data was obtained through in-depth interviews with law enforcement officials and legal aid institutions in the city of Sorong. Secondary data was collected through a literature review of legislation, legal literature, and official documents related to the protection of persons with disabilities. Data collection techniques included interviews, observation, and document review. The data obtained was analyzed qualitatively by describing the field findings, comparing them with positive legal provisions, and assessing their compatibility with human rights principles.

3. DISCUSSION

3.1. Legal Protection for Persons with Disabilities Who Are Victims of Sexual Violence

³ Resya Ade Leskayanti And Geatriana Dewi, "Penegakan Hukum Terhadap Pelaku Tindak Pidana Kekerasan Seksual Terhadap Anak Penyandang Disabilitas," *Jurnal Prodi Ilmu Hukum (Jpih)* 1, No. 2 (2023): 119–28, [Http://Jurnal.Uts.Ac.Id/Index.Php/Jpih](http://Jurnal.Uts.Ac.Id/Index.Php/Jpih).

⁴ Perwita Chandra Puspa Et Al., "Perlindungan Hukum Terhadap Korban Pelecehan Seksual Kepada Penyandang Disabilitas Dalam Lingkungan Masyarakat," No. 1 (2025).

⁵ Randi Hilman Nurjaman, "Pemenuhan Hak Dan Perlindungan Hukum Bagi Penyandang Disabilitas Di Kota Bandung," *Journal Forikami.Com*, No. Issn 1111-1111 | Doi: 10.11111/Nusantara.Xxxxxxx (2023).

in the City

Sorong City is the capital of West Papua Province and is the center of economic growth in the western region of Papua Island. With an area of approximately 1,105 km², the city had a population of around 302,452 at the beginning of 2025.⁶ The data shows that there are 503 persons with disabilities, consisting of 49.8% men and 50.2% women. The data also reveals that the majority of persons with disabilities have a low level of education, with 31.9% having only completed elementary school.⁷ Although specific data on cases of sexual violence against persons with disabilities in Sorong City is limited, this issue is part of a national problem that requires serious attention. Persons with disabilities, especially women, are often victims of sexual violence due to various factors, including physical, mental, and social limitations. Based on the results of an interview with Mr. Samsul on May 19, 2025, there were 15 cases of sexual violence in 2024 and 81 cases of violence against children. Then, in 2025, there were 4 cases of sexual violence from January to April and 33 cases of violence against children. Mr. Samsul also added that "cases involving persons with disabilities have only occurred this year for the first time".⁸ This statement was also confirmed by a judge at the Sorong District Court. Based on an interview with Judge Lutfi Tomu on July 4, 2025, he said, "It is true that during my tenure at the Sorong District Court, I have never handled a case of sexual violence involving a victim with a disability".⁹

The role of the Sorong City Government in handling cases of sexual violence against women is divided into two areas. First, the realm of prevention (in abstracto/preventive), which refers to efforts made to minimize and eliminate the potential for sexual violence against women. Second, the realm of handling (in concreto/repressive), which refers to measures focused on the recovery and reintegration of victims so that they can return to living their lives optimally after experiencing sexual violence, namely:

3.1.1 In Abstracto/Preventive Efforts in Sorong City

The abstract efforts made by the Sorong city government are efforts to prevent sexual violence against women, especially women with disabilities. The actions taken by the Sorong city government to combat violence against women in abstracto include socialization, which is a strategic effort to manage communication, information, and education related to women's rights, as well as issues of harassment and violence experienced by women, both with and without disabilities. These activities are carried out in schools and community forums, with the main objective of building collective awareness about the vulnerability of

⁶ <https://Papuabarat.Bps.Go.Id/Id/Statistics-Table/2/Mzixizi=/Jumlah-Penduduk-Papua-Barat-Daya--2024.Html>, Diakses Pada Tanggal 15 Juni 2025

⁷ <https://Www.Unimudasorong.Ac.Id/Artikel/Diseminasi-Baseline-Data-Penyandang-Disabilitas-Di-Kota-Sorong>, Diakses Pada Tanggal 15 Juni 2025

⁸ Hasil Wawancara Dengan Bapak Aiptu Samsul Selaku Kaurmintu Satreskrim Polresta Sorong Kota Pada Tanggal 19 Mei 2025 Di Polresta Sorong Kota

⁹ Hasil Wawancara Dengan Bapak Lutfi Tomu Selaku Hakim Di Pengadilan Negri Sorong Kelas 1b Pada Tanggal 4 Juli 2025 Di Pengadilan Negri Sorong

women with disabilities to sexual violence.

Based on the results of an interview with Mr. Petrus Ribo, S. Sos, Head of the Child Rights Protection Division, he said that "The preventive efforts carried out by the PPA social service are routine annual socialization programs focused on children's issues. For children who need special protection, the Sorong City Government involves various stakeholders who are concerned with child protection issues. For example, in handling cases related to HIV/AIDS, the Sorong City Government collaborates with the Sorong City AIDS Commission (KPA) to organize socialization programs on HIV/AIDS. In addition, prevention efforts are also carried out through broadcast media, such as Radio Republik Indonesia (RRI) and local television station CWM in Sorong City. The government also utilizes mass media and organizes direct outreach meetings with the community. In its implementation, the Sorong City Government collaborates with a number of organizations, such as the Sorong Sehati Foundation, the Papua Lestari Foundation, and UNICEF, particularly in organizing outreach programs in schools on sexual violence against children and women."¹⁰

Through this outreach activity, it is hoped that there will be a decrease in the number of sexual violence cases in Sorong City. In addition, this activity also aims to provide parents with a better understanding so that they can be more vigilant and proactive in protecting their family members, especially women with disabilities who are a vulnerable group and need special protection from their surroundings.

3.1.2 In Concreto/Repressive Measures in Sorong City

From the results of an interview with Mrs. Eka Tri Lestari, Head of the Sorong City Police's Women and Children Protection Unit, she stated that "The police's efforts in handling sexual violence crimes include handling sexual violence by enforcing the law in a transparent and accountable manner, providing legal assistance to victims, providing psychological support to victims, providing social rehabilitation for victims, increasing public education and understanding, monitoring legal proceedings, and providing protection for vulnerable groups".¹¹

This was followed by an interview with Mr. Petrus Ribo, S.Sos, Head of Child Rights Protection at the Sorong City Social Services Agency for Women and Children, who explained that "Legal protection begins with receiving complaints from the community. After receiving the report, the Social Services Agency for the Protection and Fulfillment of Children's Rights immediately conducts an assessment or initial information gathering to identify the victim's needs. If the assessment results show that the victim needs psychological services, the agency will refer them to a counseling team and psychologist, and collaborate with the Indonesian Psychologists Association (HIMPISI) in the process of restoring the victim's mental condition. In addition, if the victim requires health services such as a medical

¹⁰ Hasil Wawancara Dengan Bapak Petrus Ribo Selaku Kabid Perlindungan Pemenuhan Hak Anak Pada Tanggal 27 Mei 2015 Di Kantor Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan Dan Perlindungan Anak

¹¹ Hasil Wawancara Dengan Ipda Eka Tri Lestari Selaku Kanit Ppa Polresta Sorong Kota Pada Tanggal 19 Mei 2025 Di Polresta Sorong Kota

examination and report as evidence in legal proceedings, the Social Services Agency for Women's Protection and Children's Rights will accompany the victim to the police station to be referred to a hospital for a medical examination. In this case, coordination is carried out with various relevant agencies to ensure that the victim's rights are fulfilled".¹²

The Social Services Agency for Women's Protection and Children's Welfare also provides legal assistance, accompanying victims throughout all stages of the legal process, from reporting the crime to the police to the court proceedings. The aim is to ensure that cases of sexual violence experienced by victims are dealt with thoroughly through legal channels.¹³ On the other hand, psychological services play an important role in providing mental support and helping victims overcome their trauma.¹⁴ This approach is expected to accelerate the physical and mental recovery process, enabling victims to return to living their lives to the fullest.

3.2. Provision of Legal Aid for Women with Disabilities Who Are Victims of Sexual Violence in Sorong City

Law enforcement in a broad sense encompasses all efforts to apply and implement legal provisions, including taking action against any form of violation or deviation from the law committed by legal subjects.¹⁵ This enforcement can be carried out through judicial mechanisms or non-litigation channels, such as arbitration or other (alternative dispute resolution).¹⁶ In the context of the rule of law, every individual has equal rights before the law regardless of differences in background, including persons with disabilities. Women with disabilities, as part of a vulnerable group, are also guaranteed equal status in law as other citizens.

Cases of sexual violence against women, especially those with disabilities, are a serious concern in Sorong City. The local government has responded to this issue by implementing a number of policies, including referring to Law Number 8 of 2016 concerning Persons with Disabilities. This law was drafted to provide comprehensive legal protection for persons with disabilities, including in the context of sexual violence.¹⁷ Efforts made by local governments include socialization activities on the rights of persons with disabilities, providing legal assistance to victims, and implementing preventive measures to prevent sexual violence.

However, the implementation of these policies in the field still faces a

¹² Hasil Wawancara Dengan Bapak Petrus Ribo Selaku Kabid Perlindungan Pemenuhan Hak Anak Pada Tanggal 27 Mei 2015 Di Kantor Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan Dan Perlindungan Anak

¹³ Tina Marlina, "Pelaksanaan Pendampingan Psikososial Sebagai Perlindungan Khusus Terhadap Anak Korban Kejahatan Seksual (Studi Di Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan Dan Perlindungan Anak Kab. Kuningan)," *Jurnal Ilmiah Indonesia* Vol.4, No. No.8 (2019).

¹⁴ Hendrayadi Et Al., "Konseling Traumatis Traumatic Counselling," *Jurnal Kolaboratif Sains* 7, No. 1 (2024): 272–87, <https://doi.org/10.56338/Jks.V7i1.4860>.

¹⁵ Satjipto Rahardjo, *Ilmu Hukum* (Bandung: Citra Aditya Bakti, 2000).

¹⁶ M. Yahya Harahap, *Hukum Acara Perdata* (Jakarta: Sinar Grafika, 2005).

¹⁷ Titin Agustin, "Stigma Sosial Terhadap Perempuan Disabilitas Korban Kekerasan Seksual," *Jurnal Ilmu Sosial Dan Ilmu Politik* 24, No. 1 (2020): 44–58, <https://doi.org/10.22146/Jsp.51648>.

number of obstacles. One of the main obstacles is the lack of special training for law enforcement officials in handling cases of sexual violence involving victims with disabilities.¹⁸ The inability to understand the communication needs of victims with disabilities often results in suboptimal law enforcement processes.¹⁹ In addition, coordination between agencies, such as the Social Services Agency, Health Agency, and law enforcement officials, has not been effective, resulting in weak policy implementation at the local level. The public's lack of understanding about the importance of protecting women with disabilities has also exacerbated the situation.²⁰ Although this issue has become a concern for the government, there is still a gap between the policies that have been formulated and their implementation in the field. Therefore, it is necessary to increase the capacity of law enforcement officials through training, strengthening cross-sectoral cooperation, and comprehensive public education to ensure the effective fulfillment of the rights and protection of women with disabilities.

In reality, there are several cases in which the provision of legal assistance to women with or without disabilities who are victims of sexual violence in Sorong City has been halted. These obstacles are experienced by legal aid institutions, victims, and law enforcement officials, including the following:

3.2.1 Constraints on Legal Aid Institutions

Legal aid institutions face various challenges in handling cases of sexual violence against women with disabilities. One of the main challenges is the unavailability of professional support staff such as psychologists and specialized interpreters, especially for victims with mental retardation, deafness, or speech impairment.²¹ The lack of these resources limits victims' access to legal services that are inclusive and sensitive to disability needs.²²

Based on Article 25 of Law Number 8 of 2016 concerning Persons with Disabilities, which states that "the State is obliged to ensure the availability of assistants, interpreters, and other aids in the judicial process so that persons with disabilities can access justice on an equal basis." In addition, the aspect of evidence also poses a serious obstacle. The lack of eyewitnesses and evidence often complicates legal proceedings.²³ Many victims feel ashamed or disgusted after experiencing violence, so they clean themselves and remove important physical evidence of the violent incident, such as the perpetrator's DNA, which can

¹⁸ Lutfiyah Nurlaela Dan Ibnu Sina Chandranegara, "Tantangan Implementasi Hak Penyandang Disabilitas Dalam Sistem Peradilan Pidana Di Indonesia," *Jurnal Ham* Vol. 13, No. 2 (2022): 189–90.

¹⁹ Yustina Triani, "Pemenuhan Hak Perempuan Penyandang Disabilitas Korban Kekerasan Seksual Vol. 50 No. 3 (2020): 437," *Jurnal Hukum Dan Pembangunan* Vol.50, No. 3 (2020): Hlm. 437.

²⁰ Yustina Dwi. Anggraeni, "Kedudukan Hukum Penyandang Disabilitas Sebagai Korban Tindak Pidana Dalam Perspektif Sistem Peradilan Pidana," *Jurnal Hukum Dan Pembangunan* 50, No. 2 (2020): 327–44, <https://doi.org/10.21143/jhp.vol50.no2.2461>.

²¹ Andi. Kurniawan, "Inklusivitas Pelayanan Hukum Bagi Penyandang Disabilitas Dalam Sistem Peradilan Pidana," *Jurnal Hukum Dan Ham* 13, No. 2 (2022): 112–26, <https://doi.org/10.30641/Ham.2022.13.112-126>.

²² Lutfiyah Nurlaela Dan Ibnu Sina Chandranegara, Op. Cit, Hlm. 188-189

²³ Lilik Mulyadi, *Hukum Pembuktian Dalam Praktik Peradilan Pidana* (Jakarta: Sinar Grafika, 2015).

be obtained through a medical examination and report.²⁴ Unfortunately, many victims also do not undergo medical examination because they feel it is not important or due to limited understanding of the law.²⁵ Therefore, the provision of professional assistance, legal education for victims, and disability-friendly evidence are absolute prerequisites for ensuring the fulfillment of victims' rights in the legal process.

3.2.2 Challenges faced by victims with disabilities

Victims of sexual violence in Sorong City, including those with disabilities, face various obstacles. One of the main obstacles is the inability of victims, especially women with intellectual disabilities, to clearly describe the events they have experienced. This limitation often results in the victim's testimony being considered inconsistent or unconvincing in legal proceedings.²⁶

In addition, many victims do not fully understand the physical, psychological, and social impacts of the violence they have experienced, thereby exacerbating their traumatic condition.²⁷ This lack of knowledge can cause victims to be reluctant to report or talk about their experiences of violence, which is a serious obstacle in the legal process.²⁸ In addition, the social stigma experienced by women with disabilities also exacerbates their vulnerability. The families of victims often lack the knowledge or ability to provide adequate support, and may even be afraid to report cases due to social pressure or distrust of law enforcement agencies.²⁹ This situation shows that legal protection for women with disabilities who are victims of sexual violence still requires special attention and reinforcement, both in terms of legislation and social support from the community.

3.2.3 Constraints on Law Enforcement Officials

In enforcing the law in cases of sexual violence against persons with disabilities in Sorong City, law enforcement officials face a number of crucial obstacles. One of the main obstacles is a lack of understanding and training regarding the characteristics and needs of persons with disabilities. This is exacerbated by the fact that cases of sexual violence against

²⁴ Luh Putu Laksmi Savitri, "Peran Alat Bukti Visum Et Repertum Dalam Perkara Tindak Pidana Kekerasan Seksual," *Jurnal Hukum Ius Quia Iustum* Vol. 25, No. 2 (2018): Hlm. 284-286, <https://doi.org/10.20885/Iustum.Vol25.Iss2.Art5>.

²⁵ Dan Siti Muslikah Kumalasari, Dini, "Persepsi Korban Penyandang Disabilitas Terhadap Kekerasan Seksual," *Jurnal Psikologi Insight* 2, No. 1 (2020): 1-12, <https://doi.org/10.32528/Insight.V2i1.3369>.

²⁶ Sri Endah Wahyuningsih, "Perlindungan Hukum Terhadap Penyandang Disabilitas Sebagai Korban Kekerasan Seksual," *Jurnal Hukum Ius* Vol. 9, No. 3 (2021): Hlm. 567-583, <https://doi.org/10.29303/Ius.V9i3.1054>.

²⁷ Dan Netti Aryani Dilla, Riska, "Perlindungan Hukum Terhadap Perempuan Penyandang Disabilitas Mental Sebagai Korban Kekerasan Seksual," *Jurnal Ham* 13, No. 2 (2022): 153-70, <https://doi.org/10.30641/Ham.2022.13.153-170>.

²⁸ Komnas Perempuan, "Catatan Tahunan Komnas Perempuan 2020: Kekerasan Terhadap Perempuan Di Ranah Publik Dan Privat" (Jakarta: Komnas Perempuan, 2020), <https://komnasperempuan.go.id>. Diakses Pada Tanggal 17 Juni 2025.

²⁹ Komnas Perempuan, "Catatan Tahunan Komnas Perempuan 2023: Menegakkan Keadilan Di Tengah Rentannya Korban" (Jakarta: Komnas Perempuan, 2023), <https://komnasperempuan.go.id>. Diakses Pada Tanggal 17 Juni 2025.

women with disabilities are relatively new, so officials do not yet have sufficient experience..³⁰

The lack of knowledge about various forms of disability, as well as how these disabilities affect the victim's ability to communicate, makes it difficult for officials to obtain optimal information.³¹ During the investigation stage, the police often encounter communication barriers with victims, especially those who have limited ability to speak or understand the questions asked. The unavailability of support facilities such as sign language interpreters and other disability-friendly facilities also complicates the investigation process.³² As a result, the investigation process is not optimal and has the potential to neglect the legal protection that should be provided equally to victims with disabilities.

Strategic steps to strengthen legal protection for women with disabilities who are victims of sexual violence include the provision of adequate support resources, such as interpreters and psychological counselors. In addition, the provision of communication aids and accessible facilities is essential so that victims can be fully involved in the legal process.³³ Strengthening coordination between institutions is also necessary to create an integrated and effective legal protection system.

The active role of the government and society is essential to realize effective legal protection. Law No. 13 of 2006 on Witness and Victim Protection and Law No. 8 of 2016 on Persons with Disabilities are important legal bases that guarantee the rights of victims. With the support of family, community, and relevant institutions, it is hoped that women with disabilities who are victims of sexual violence can achieve optimal recovery and be free from the trauma caused by the crimes they have experienced.

4. CONCLUSION

Legal protection for persons with disabilities who are victims of sexual violence in Sorong City shows significant efforts by the government and related institutions. Although the number of cases of sexual violence against persons with disabilities is still relatively low, attention to persons with disabilities is still low, attention to this issue is very important given the vulnerability faced by women with disabilities. The local government has implemented preventive measures such as socialization and education to raise public awareness, as well as repressive measures that include law enforcement and assistance for victims. However, providing legal assistance to women with disabilities who are victims of sexual violence in Sorong faces significant challenges. Although there is a legal framework that guarantees the rights of persons with disabilities, such as Law No. 8 of 2016, implementation in the field is still hampered by a lack of training for law enforcement officials and a lack of supporting

³⁰ Jovita Magdalena Et Al., "Tunawisma Penyandang Disabilitas Mental Korban Pemerkosaan" 12, No. 11 (2024): 2982–95.

³¹ R. Agus Widodo, "Tantangan Penegakan Hukum Dalam Kasus Kekerasan Seksual Terhadap Penyandang Disabilitas," *Jurnal Yustisia* 11, No. 1 (2022): 77–90, <https://doi.org/10.20961/Yustisia.V11i1.61078>.

³² Ayu Diah Pratiwi, "Aksesibilitas Penyandang Disabilitas Dalam Proses Hukum: Studi Kasus Di Wilayah Indonesia Timur," *Jurnal Hukum Dan Pembangunan* 51, No. 1 (2021): 101–18, <https://doi.org/10.21143/Jhp.Vol51.No1.2684>.

³³ Lilis Herawati, "Pentingnya Pendamping Psikologis Dalam Proses Hukum Bagi Penyandang Disabilitas Korban Kekerasan," *Jurnal Psikologi Hukum* 8, No. 1 (2021): 55–69.

resources such as professionals and communication aids. The obstacles faced by victims, including difficulty in expressing their experiences and social stigma, exacerbate the situation. In addition, law enforcement officials often lack an adequate understanding of the special needs of persons with disabilities, resulting in a suboptimal law enforcement process.

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