

Journal of Government & Civil Society

Journal of Government
and Civil Society

Volume 8

No. 2

Pages 161 - 343

October 2024

ISSN 2579-4396



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Collaborative Governance in Prevention and Control of Sexual Abuse in Local Level

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Collaborative Governance in Prevention and Control of Sexual Abuse in Local Level

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ABSTRACT

The rising incidence of sexual violence against children and women in Tasikmalaya City has become a pressing concern, with reported cases increasing from 58 in 2021 to 73 in 2022. In response, the Tasikmalaya City Government has initiated collaborative efforts involving local non-governmental organizations (Puspa), psychologists, and law enforcement agencies to combat this alarming trend. This study aims to critically analyze the effectiveness of these multi-stakeholder collaborations in preventing and addressing sexual violence in the region. Grounded in the collaborative governance theory articulated by Ansell and Gash, the research employs qualitative methods, including in-depth interviews with key stakeholders and data analysis facilitated by NVivo 12+. An initial bibliometric review of relevant literature through the Scopus database, supplemented by VOSViewer, helped identify research gaps in the domain of sexual violence prevention. The findings reveal significant shortcomings in the collaborative framework currently employed, notably in areas such as stakeholder dialogue, mutual trust, commitment levels, role clarity, and overall outcomes. These deficiencies underscore the necessity for a more structured approach to collaboration that encompasses all stages of program planning and implementation. The study provides actionable recommendations aimed at enhancing stakeholder collaboration, ultimately striving to reduce the prevalence of sexual violence and improve protective measures for vulnerable populations in Tasikmalaya City. This research not only contributes to the academic discourse on collaborative governance but also holds significant implications for policy-making and community interventions aimed at safeguarding children and women.

Keywords: Sexual abuse, prevention, collaboration, and case handling

ABSTRAK

Peningkatan kasus kekerasan seksual terhadap anak-anak dan perempuan di Kota Tasikmalaya menjadi perhatian serius, dengan jumlah kasus yang dilaporkan meningkat dari 58 pada tahun 2021 menjadi 73 pada tahun 2022. Menanggapi hal ini, Pemerintah Kota Tasikmalaya telah memulai upaya kolaboratif yang melibatkan organisasi non-pemerintah lokal (Puspa), psikolog, dan lembaga penegak hukum untuk mengatasi tren yang mengkhawatirkan ini. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis secara kritis efektivitas kolaborasi multi-pemangku kepentingan dalam pencegahan dan penanganan kekerasan seksual di daerah tersebut. Berdasarkan teori tata kelola kolaboratif yang diungkapkan oleh Ansell dan Gash, penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif, termasuk wawancara mendalam dengan pemangku kepentingan kunci dan analisis data yang difasilitasi oleh NVivo 12+. Tinjauan bibliometrik awal terhadap literatur yang relevan melalui basis data Scopus, dilengkapi dengan VOSViewer, membantu mengidentifikasi celah penelitian dalam domain pencegahan kekerasan seksual. Temuan menunjukkan adanya kekurangan yang signifikan dalam kerangka kolaborasi yang saat ini diterapkan, terutama dalam aspek dialog antar pemangku kepentingan, kepercayaan timbal balik, tingkat komitmen, kejelasan peran, dan hasil secara keseluruhan. Defisiensi ini menyoroti perlunya pendekatan kolaborasi yang lebih terstruktur yang mencakup semua tahapan perencanaan dan pelaksanaan program. Penelitian ini memberikan rekomendasi yang dapat ditindaklanjuti yang

Citation : Gunawan, H., Widiastuti, W., Sarofah, R., & Lestari, V. (2024). Collaborative Governance in Prevention and Control of Sexual Abuse in Local Level. *Journal of Government and Civil Society*, 8(2), 326-343. <https://doi.org/10.31000/jgcs.v8i2.9752>

bertujuan untuk meningkatkan kolaborasi antar pemangku kepentingan, yang pada akhirnya berusaha mengurangi prevalensi kekerasan seksual dan meningkatkan langkah-langkah perlindungan bagi populasi rentan di Kota Tasikmalaya. Penelitian ini tidak hanya berkontribusi pada wacana akademik tentang tata kelola kolaboratif, tetapi juga memiliki implikasi signifikan bagi pembuatan kebijakan dan intervensi komunitas yang bertujuan untuk melindungi anak-anak dan perempuan.

Kata Kunci: Kekerasan seksual, pencegahan, kolaborasi, penanganan kasus

INTRODUCTION

Any person under the age of 18, or the age of majority in their jurisdiction, whichever is greater. It also mandates that states take all necessary precautions to safeguard children from all types of abuse, including sexual exploitation and neglect (UN 1989) (Amerhauser & Scaturro, 2021). Since the early 1970s, both the prevalence of knowledge about and responses to the issue of sexual violence against women have been on the rise (Christy et al., 2022; Kola & LaFaver, 2022). Despite widespread agreement on the importance of preventing sexual abuse, there are significant regional and national variations in how this issue is addressed and how it is perceived by the public and in policymaking (McCartan et al., 2021).

Women and children who have been physically abused are at a higher risk of becoming sexual abuse victims (Corsini-Munt et al., 2017; Montgomery et al., 2021). Sexual abuse in childhood is a major social issue that has far-reaching consequences for abused children, their families, communities, and society at large (Kenny & Wurtele, 2012). The government has been compelled to act swiftly in response to the rising tide of sexual violence against children and women by enacting policies aimed at preventing sexual violence. In order to effectively address adolescent pregnancy, a multi-sectoral package of prevention is needed. This package should include comprehensive sexuality education, which will inform and empower adolescents to make educated decisions about their sexual and reproductive health. The prevention approach in the school environment is one of the most optimal indicators in preventing sexual violence (Caffe et al., 2017; Lu et al., 2022; Solehati et al., 2022).

Sexual assault can lead to a variety of negative outcomes, including STIs, physical and sexual abuse, psychological problems, and substance abuse (Crocetti et al., 2022; Crompton et al., 2022). Lu et al. (2022) found that due to their constant and longitudinal contact with children and their families, schools are the most promising institutions for delivering sexual violence prevention efforts. Identifying, responding to, and reporting sexual harassment are all skills that students can gain from school-based violence prevention programs. Together, the police, medical professionals, non-governmental organizations, legal counsel, and other child protection services can better aid child victims of violence and their families through collaborative programs. The child's need for safety, respect, and anonymity are all taken into account. Purpose and procedure for identifying and evaluating child abuse victims and providing them and their families with the necessary medical, psychological, and social support (Slane et al., 2018; Subramaniyan et al., 2017).

Researchers conducted a search study on the Scopus database and produced 218 articles with the keyword sexual abuse. There are 3 main clusters that can be explained, including cluster 1, namely adult, anxiety, sexual abuse, sexual crime, violence, mental illness. Meanwhile cluster 2 is human, intersectoral collaboration, child advocacy, cross-sectional study. Cluster 3 is awareness, victims, mental health, treatment outcomes, psychology, mental health services, prevention and control.

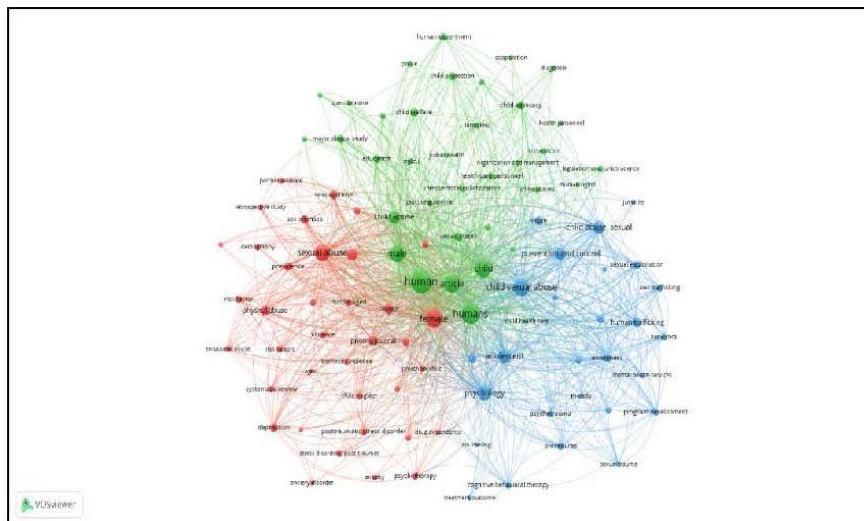


Figure 1. Literature Study With the Keyword Sexual Abuse
Source : VOSViewer, 2023

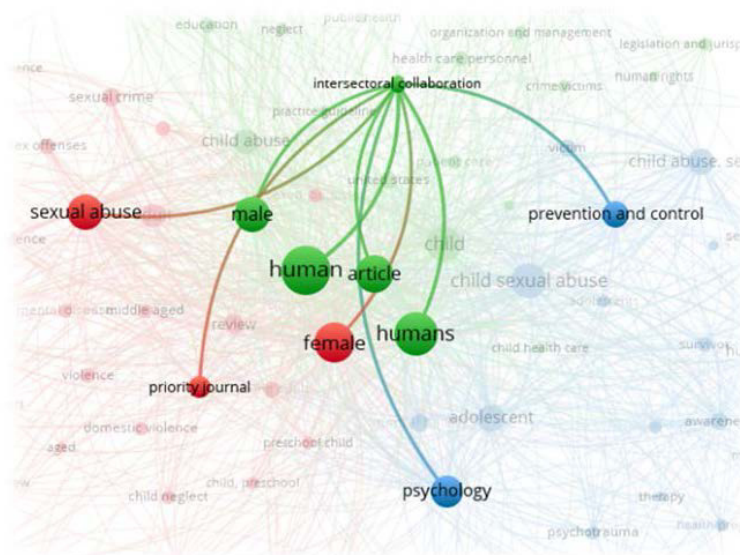


Figure 2. Determination of Gap Research
Source: VOSViewer, 2023

Researchers conducted a study to look at intersectoral collaboration in preventing and overcoming sexual abuse in the region. In this article, we use the theory of collaborative governance (Ansell & Gash, 2008). In the collaborative governance model proposed by Ansell and Gash, there are five stages in the collaborative governance process, namely; (1) face-to-face dialogue that is carried out to reach consensus, negotiation, and is the core of the collaborative process; (2) building trust which is done for avoiding suspicion, (3) commitment to the process, which is carried out to achieve goals through a sense of connection with each other, and having a sense that the collaboration process is shared property and responsibility; (4) understanding together, namely the stage where all stakeholders must understand the problem to be completed, the goals to be achieved and the values agreed upon within carrying out collaboration; (5) the achievement of temporary results, namely the existence of real results obtained from collaboration, these results can provide feedback that can be encourages a cycle of building trust and increasing deep commitment collaboration. While preventing sexual violence According to the World Health Organization (WHO) (2017) there are several ways to prevent sexual violence, including:

1. Individual Approach, carried out through designing programs for perpetrators of sexual violence where perpetrators must be responsible for their actions such as determining appropriate punishment for perpetrators of sexual violence. As well as providing education for the prevention of sexual violence such as reproductive health education, outreach about sexually transmitted diseases, and self-protection education from sexual violence.
2. Developmental Approach, namely preventing sexual violence by instilling education in children from an early age, such as education about gender, introducing children to sexual harassment and the risks of sexual violence, teaching children ways to avoid sexual violence, teaching boundaries for sections personal body in children; and teach the limits of sexual activity carried out during the child's development period.
3. Community Social Prevention such as: holding anti-sexual violence campaigns, providing sexual education in social environments, socializing the prevention of sexual violence in social environments.
4. Approach to Health Workers, namely: Health workers provide Health Document Services which have a role as medical evidence for victims who experience sexual violence, Health workers provide health training on sexual violence in the context of early detection of sexual violence, Health workers provide places of care and protection against victims of sexual violence.
5. Legal and Policy Approaches Regarding Sexual Violence, namely providing a place for reporting and handling acts of sexual violence, providing legal regulations regarding acts of sexual violence and punishment for perpetrators as protection for victims of

sexual violence, establishing international agreements for legal standards against acts of sexual violence; and holding an anti-sexual violence campaign.

If seen from previous articles, studies on 3 different clusters are still rarely carried out. Therefore, researchers seek to conduct research in analyzing the success of collaboration, especially at the local government level. The research was conducted in one of the cities in Indonesia, namely the City of Tasikmalaya. As one of the cities with an increasing number of sexual violence from 2020-2021.

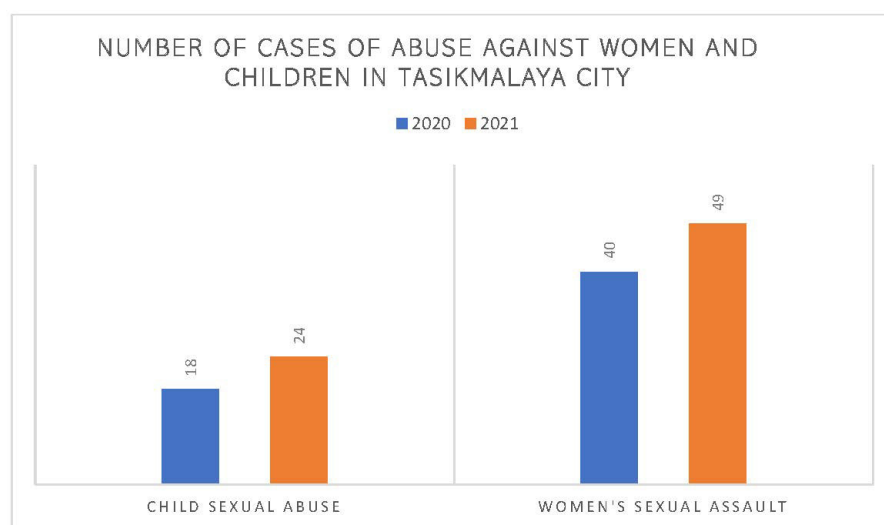


Chart 1. Number of Cases of Abuse against Women and Children in Tasikmalaya City

Source: Population Control, Family Planning, Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Services

Based on the diagram above, it shows that there has been an increase in cases of sexual violence in Tasikmalaya City in 2020-2021. This is influenced by the lack of collaboration between stakeholders and the lack of significant prevention in efforts to reduce cases of sexual violence. Specifically, this study explains how the process of collaboration between local government and other stakeholders in efforts to prevent cases of sexual violence in the Tasikmalaya City?

METHODS

This study uses a qualitative approach. With data collection techniques in the form of interviews and literature review. The analysis used in this study is descriptive analysis using the N-vivo 12+ software. After importing transcripts, qualitative analysis commences

via open coding. Open coding is defined as “transcribing a concise conceptual ‘code’ that corresponds to the participant’s discourse while reading an interview.” This could allow investigators to devote more time to discovering underlying themes, interpretation, and theory in the context of a larger project, as opposed to squandering time with copy-and-paste manual coding processes. Furthermore, NVivo guarantees straightforward, effective, and efficient coding, which facilitates retrieval. I was able to link a paragraph from one source to another paragraph from the same or a different source and retrieve the information with less effort using NVivo.

The selection of qualitative techniques has a significant impact on the argument in favour of NVivo 12+ data processing. The application’s features can aid researchers in understanding the context of data collection and in examining correlations between variables. Crosstab analysis, for instance, can be used to determine the variables influencing informants’ opinions regarding sexual violence. Concept maps make it easier for researchers to create more precise theoretical models by helping to visualise the connections between topics discovered during interviews. In order to provide a full picture of the dynamics of this issue, researchers look at a variety of perspectives, including those of the municipal government, NGOs, and psychologists. They incorporate data from pertinent reports and interviews pertaining to sexual violence in Tasikmalaya City. Researchers can link and contrast interview data with other secondary data using NVivo 12+, producing more reliable and responsible results.

The informants in this study were determined using a purposive technique, namely informants who could provide information according to the research instrument, including the city government, the Office of Population Control, Family Planning, Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection, Psychologists and Non-governmental organizations. The author uses snowball sampling and the objective of the sampling technique is the person who is considered to know best what the author expects.

Secondary data collection was obtained through social media, archives, maps, previous reports/research and reports from government institutions that support research. The subject used as study material in this research is the case of sexual violence in Tasikmalaya City by analyzing the collaborative work process between “Taman Jingga” as a non-governmental organization, local government, and psychologists in efforts to prevent and overcome sexual violence. Data processing was carried out using Nvivo 12 plus software. Data sources for this research include: interview results and websites that are relevant in presenting news based on interviews with several informants regarding the dynamics of sexual violence in Tasikmalaya City. The Nvivo 12 plus analysis in this study uses the features of crosstab analysis, concept map analysis, and text research analysis. Data analysis was carried out in three stages, the first was entering the interview results files, the second stage was data analysis with Nvivo 12 Plus software, reading text and

content that had similarities, other data, adjusted to the nodes and child nodes or the theory used, finding related items, looking for interrelated meanings, words and context between interviews and articles (Houghton et al., 2017; Jackson, K., & Bazeley, 2019; Maher et al., 2018; Wong, 2008).

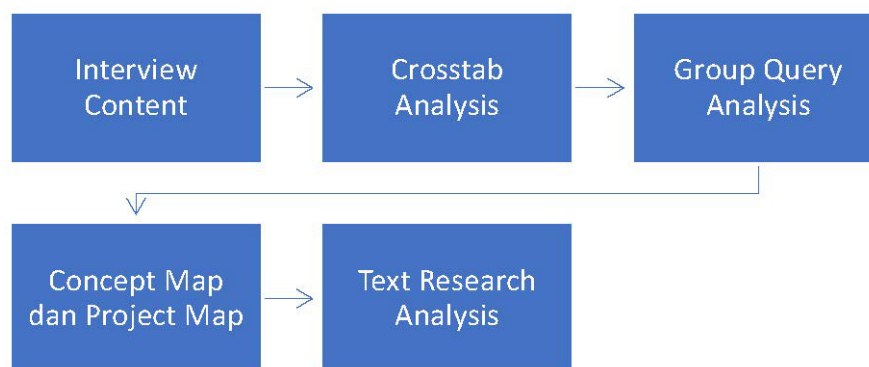


Figure 3. Data Analysis Flow
Source: (Maher et al., 2018)

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Sexual violence can be part of child abuse, youth and partner violence. Globally, an estimated 120 million women under the age of 20 experience some form of sexual violence. Although there are no global estimates of sexual violence against boys, data from 24 mostly high- and middle-income countries show that it ranges from 8% to 31% in girls and 3% to 17% in boys under 18 years of age. Government and non-government organizations must work together in order for multisectoral collaboration to end violence against children.

1. Roles, responsibilities, and core capabilities of the sectors involved being clearly defined;
2. A central authority charged with coordinating violence prevention efforts across sectors, with the power to make decisions, carry them out, and hold other groups accountable;
3. Mechanisms to promote and incentivize cooperation, including the establishment of shared objectives and a shared commitment to implementing similar strategies, the holding of regular meetings and workshops, and the creation of violence prevention expertise within government agencies that can outlast funding or political changes. Government and non-government organizations must work together in order for multisectoral collaboration to end violence against children.

Therefore, based on a report from WHO (2020), it is stated that there is a need for collaborative action to support the prevention and management of sexual violence against women and children. For example, based on the following WHO report, several countries are starting to implement collaborative work patterns in preventing sexual violence.

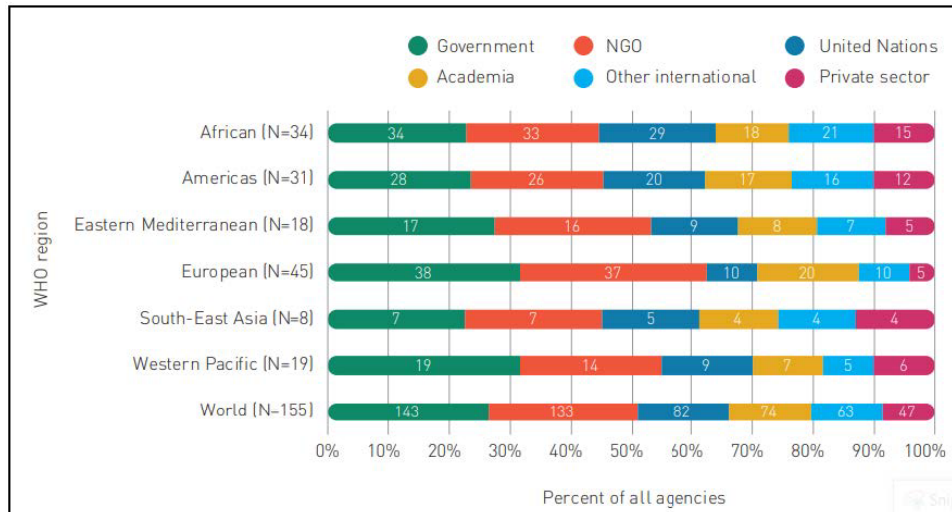


Figure 4. Sectors Included in Multisectoral Coordinating Mechanisms to Address Violence against Children by WHO Region, 2018 (N=155 Reporting Countries)
Source: (World Health Organization, 2020)

All countries have drawn up an action plan against sexual violence. For example collaboration between government, NGOs, academia, United Nations, private sector and other international organizations. Therefore, the Indonesian government should have implemented a work pattern that started with the local government. Several regions in Indonesia experience an increase in cases of sexual violence every year. The study in this research took one of the regions in Indonesia, namely the City of Tasikmalaya. Researchers conducted a qualitative study to analyze the distribution of roles in collaborative work patterns.

If they pursue responsibility, victims of sexual assault frequently encounter numerous challenges, such as prejudice, ostracism, re-victimization, and dishonest law enforcement. The shame attached to sexual assault can cause female victims to be rejected or discarded by their families and communities. Women may jeopardise their social standing, financial security, and social capital by coming forward with reports of sexual assault.

Sexual violence that occurred in the City of Tasikmalaya has increased so that several strategic policies are carried out in 2021 and 2022. In 2021 prevention efforts will be made, among others, for groups of women who are vulnerable to violence through

strengthening Family Resilience through socialization “Jabar Cemas” especially for vulnerable families violence, exploitation and discrimination against women, the outreach and reporting processes were responded to promptly and follow-up efforts in the form of psychological and physical interventions for women victims of violence and mediation were carried out facilitated by P2TP2A.

Meanwhile, in the second group vulnerable to violence, namely children, several strategies have been implemented, namely the outreach and reporting process has been responded to immediately, there has been an increase in public awareness to report cases of violence against children and increased cooperation/coordination between stakeholders in making efforts to prevent violence against children. Researchers attempt to analyze five stages in the process of collaborative governance and efforts to prevent sexual violence.

Collaborative Governance

In this piece, we use the term “collaboration” to refer to a more general process involving numerous parties and methods. Based on the results of interviews and data tracking using NVivo 12+, it shows that collaborative efforts are predominantly carried out by non-governmental organizations with efforts to carry out collaborative activities in preventing and dealing with sexual violence. One of the challenges in implementing collaboration is the need for a technical organization or what is called UPTD PPA so that there is a special agency that handles overcoming sexual violence.

In this study, there is intense involvement of civil society through collaboration with other groups in preventing sexual violence. Cross-sector collaboration that occurs in Tasikmalaya City is very helpful in programs to handle sexual violence. In Tasikmalaya City, Civil Society actors are active in helping to fill the less than optimal role of the government in handling cases of sexual violence. With the direct involvement of civil society, all components involved in the collaboration have the capacity to take joint action with their respective capacities. The role of civil society includes conducting legal advocacy for victims of sexual violence to fulfill their rights, in addition, civil society also provides assistance to victims such as providing counseling services.

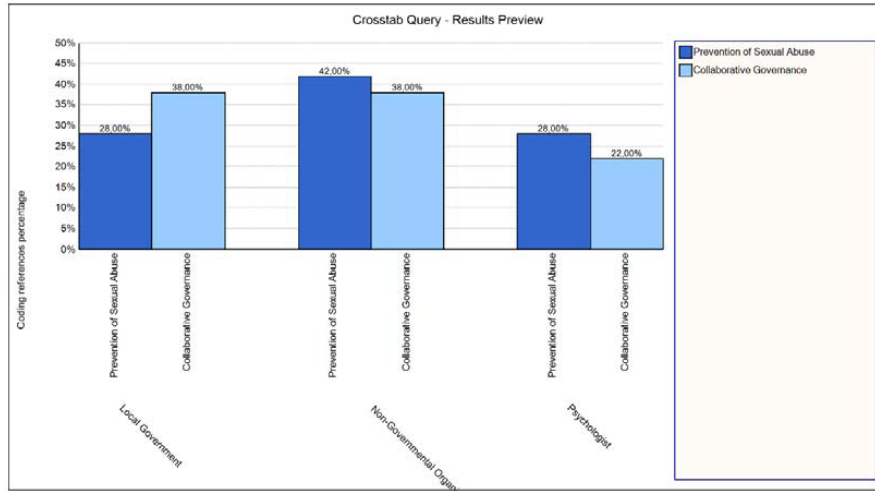


Figure 5. Implementation of Collaborative Work Patterns and Prevention of Sexual Violence in the Tasikmalaya City.
 Source: Crosstab Query NVivo 12+, 2023

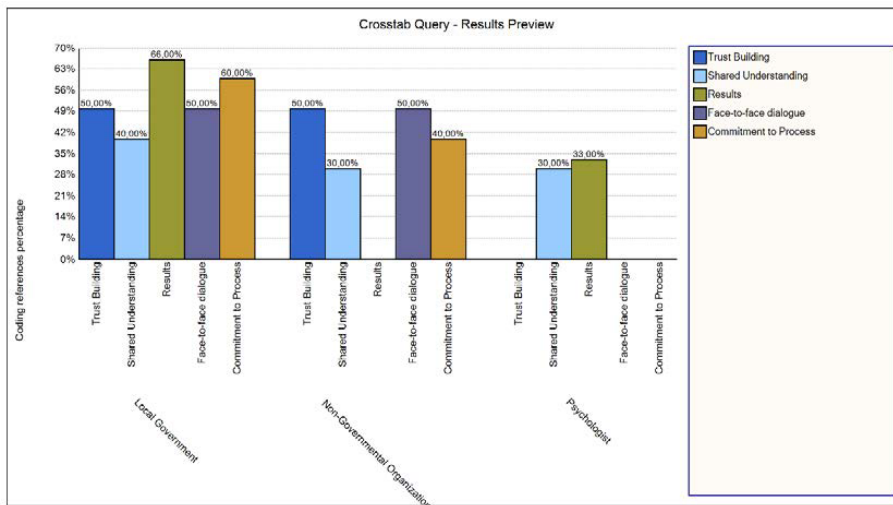


Figure 6. Collaborative Governance based on Indicators
 Source: Crosstab Query NVivo 12+, 2023

Based on the picture above, after conducting interviews with 3 different stakeholders, it can be concluded that each different agency or stakeholder has several different views on the ongoing collaboration process. Each indicator will be discussed below:

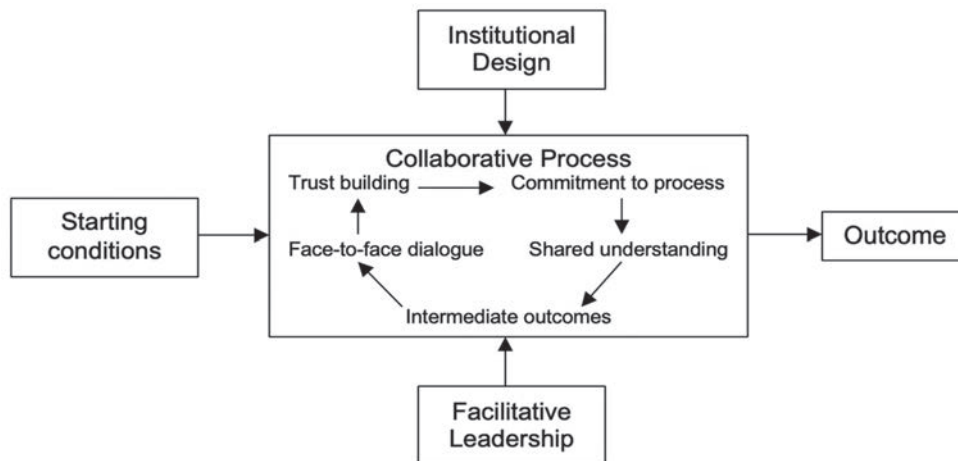


Figure 7. Collaborative Governance

Source: Collaborative Governance Model by Ansell and Gash (Afandi et al., 2023)

The Collaborative Governance Model by Ansell and Gash is a framework that shows how collaborative governance can work within an organization or system, focusing on how important equitable, inclusive, and durable collaborative governance is to achieving overall goals. Because this model is flexible, it can be used in a variety of situations, including the public, private, and not-for-profit sectors. The presence of Collaborative Governance can be seen from the necessity of institutions to collaborate with other institutions due to their limited capabilities in executing their respective programs or activities (Shafia & Kamil, 2023).

Face-to-Face Dialogue

The implementation of sexual violence prevention work is carried out by implementing dialogue between the local government, non-governmental organizations and psychologists. The process of dialogue between stakeholders is carried out by coordinating efforts to assist and handle cases. However, there are still many obstacles found in the field because the human resources in the local government are still not good enough to become a leading sector in the dialogue process. Several programs from the provincial government, for example the “Motekar”, “Puspa” and “Taman Jingga” organizations have become NGO organizations that actively coordinate with the local government. However, the dialogue that was carried out was still limited to coordinating the prevention of sexual violence that occurred. The dialogue process in determining joint action plans/ programs is still very difficult to carry out due to budget constraints. The dialogue process also did not involve youth groups or the community in general. It can be seen in the figure that the results of the interviews which show the dominance of face-to-face indicators were only discussed by the local government and NGOs.

Budgetary constraints and the calibre of human resources within regional governments are two major issues that continue to face these governments. Aside from that, there is still room for improvement in terms of youth organisations' and the public's participation in the conversation process. based on the collaboration theory developed by Ansell and Gash, which holds that effective face-to-face dynamics, a robust institutionalisation process, and the participation of all pertinent parties are necessary for collaboration. Therefore, guaranteeing sufficient budget support and incorporating a large number of stakeholders are necessary for effective face-to-face interaction.

Previous research has been carried out by (Kesumaningsih et al., 2023) increasing the government's contribution in supporting violence prevention both in the form of infrastructure and budget, apart from that there is still a need to realize the completion of special mayor regulations regulating violence against children and women. This research also discusses that collaboration is important to carry out with the support of infrastructure.

a. Trust Building

Building trust between stakeholders is still very limited to unsupportive infrastructure processes. For example, the organization "Taman Jingga" which operates in the field of preventing sexual violence still complains about the availability of infrastructure provided by the regional government. For example, facilities for handling cases that prioritize victim privacy are still not available in Tasikmalaya City. Legal regulations as a legal umbrella that require the existence of a UPTD unit or technical unit have not been implemented by the Tasikmalaya City government. Apart from that, a complaint hotline is also not yet available, making it difficult to build public trust in submitting complaints and contacting the government in the event of an emergency.

Several complaints received by NGOs are usually assessed and coordinated with the Regional Child Protection Commission (KPAD). However, in practice there are different and difficult steps to build trust between stakeholders. Some of the cases that occurred included violence against children, households, women, bullying and verbal violence. The case will be jointly handled by the P2TP2A team (Integrated Service Center for the Empowerment of Women and Children). If the case causes trauma to the victim, a psychologist will be involved. Meanwhile, if it ends in a criminal report, it must involve the police.

b. Commitment to the process.

The presence of NGOs in cases of preventing and handling sexual violence is carried out with a commitment to resolve each case completely. However, budget limitations make it difficult to carry out various innovative activities in the handling process. So the media is needed to contribute to solving sexual violence cases. In the process of management, empowerment and protection of women, preventive action has not yet

been demonstrated. Preventive measures, for example using social media, should be implemented by local governments. Based on the results of interviews, budgetary issues, human resources are always the reasons for collaborative work processes.

c. Shared Understanding

Understanding of each role in the collaborative work process has been implemented well. However, unfortunately each existing role has not resulted in preventive action or overcoming sexual violence. The “Taman Jingga” institution is a non-profit organization whose main focus is educational activities rather than advocacy. However, currently the organization has shifted to “Puspa”, which is part of a regional government organization that can focus on advocacy activities, for example policy advocacy. Because this organization is still in the process of being established, this research provides an understanding that assistance with advocacy activities can overcome human resource problems and other strategic policies.

d. Results Achievement

Some temporary results obtained in the collaboration process have not been maximized. For example, a halfway house that should exist to facilitate the handling of cases of violence in the City of Tasikmalaya. Apart from that, the problem of transitioning into a technical institution for the implementation of countermeasures against sexual violence has not yet been implemented.

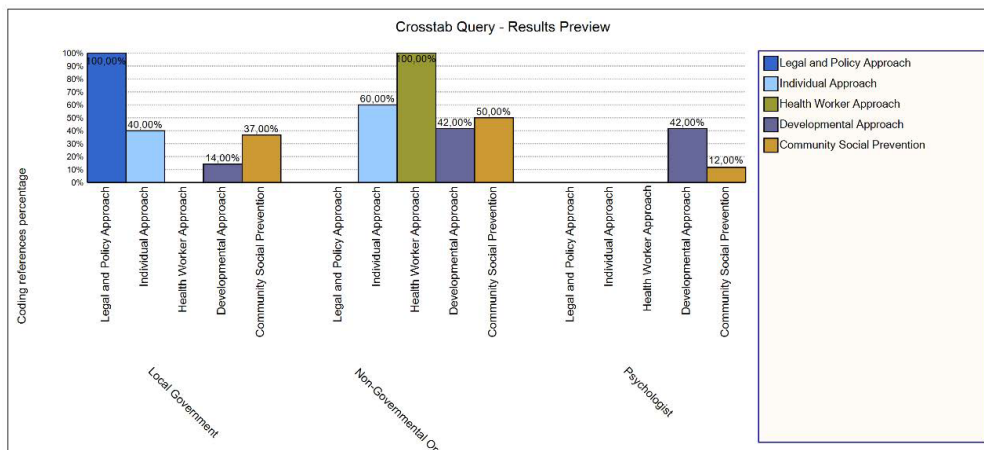


Figure 8. Prevention of Sexual Violence Based on Indicators

Source: Crosstab Query NVivo 12+, 2023

Prevention of sexual violence needs to be carried out by paying attention to individual approaches, developments in community social prevention, health worker approaches and legal and policy approaches. Regional governments carry out prevention efforts using legal and policy approaches. For example, seeking to establish a UPTD and

accommodating regulations in carrying out collaboration. Meanwhile, non-organizational organizations prioritize prevention processes by collaborating with health workers and repairing victims' trauma. Meanwhile psychologists try to prevent violence with an individual approach. Some activities include utilizing children's day campaign activities, socializing women's violence in the family. As well as socializing child-friendly schools to prevent bullying cases. Prevention activities must also be carried out by paying attention to collaborative efforts. Based on the results of interviews, it was found that the individual approach had an influence on community social prevention indicators, while other collaboration indicators influenced sexual violence prevention indicators in Tasikmalaya City. So that the prevention activity program can run efficiently if it is accompanied by a collaborative work pattern.

Table 1. Pearson Correlation Coefficient

Code A	Code B	Pearson Correlation Coefficient
Individual Approach	Community Social Prevention	0,957744
Trust Building	Health Worker Approach	0,937864
Trust Building	Community Social Prevention	0,874066
Trust Building	Individual Approach	0,859883
Shared Understanding	Community Social Prevention	0,855989
Individual Approach	Health Worker Approach	0,831846
Trust Building	Developmental Approach	0,829768
Individual Approach	Developmental Approach	0,826897
Shared Understanding	Individual Approach	0,821954

Source: Cluster Analysis and Correlation Coefficient, 2023.

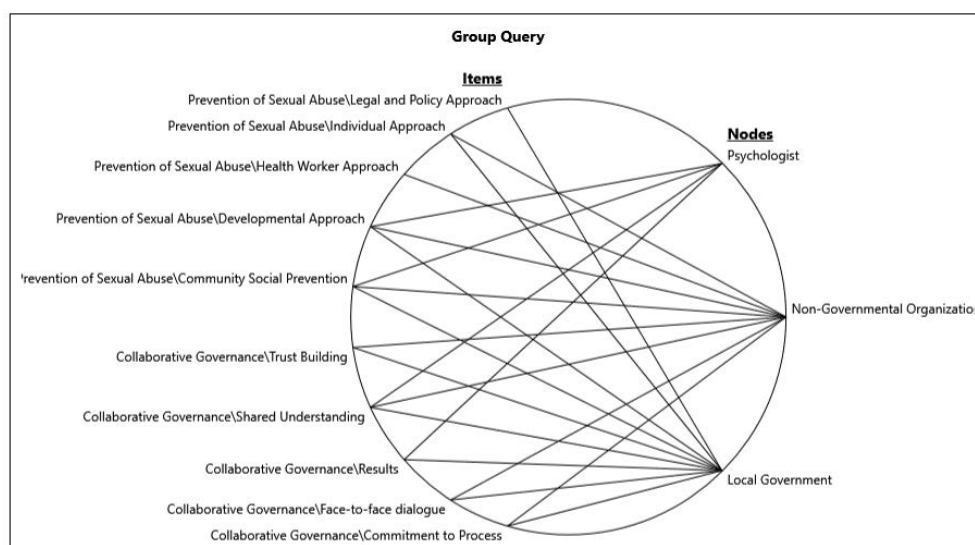


Figure 9. Cluster Analysis
Source: Cluster Analysis NVivo 12 +, 2023

CONCLUSION

Forms of cooperation in preventing cases of sexual violence have not been maximized based on collaboration indicators, for example conducting routine dialogues, building public trust, and achieving maximum results. This is influenced by the establishment of work programs that are not innovative as well as support for infrastructure and human resources. The collaboration process will influence forms of preventing sexual violence in Tasikmalaya City. Therefore, the presence of organizations under the coordination of local governments is very helpful in carrying out prevention efficiency. However, the role of the community must also be present so that the planning and implementation process for dealing with sexual violence can reduce cases of violence.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thank you to Universitas Siliwangi and the stakeholders who became resource persons in supporting the success of this research.

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