

The Urgency of Legal Protection by Child Protection Institutions for Children as Workers

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Abstract

This research is legal research that examines the urgency of legal protection by child protection institutions for children as workers. The objectives of this research include: 1) to evaluate the implementation of the position and authority of the Bima City LPA in handling cases of children as workers in Bima City; 2) to evaluate the handling of legal protection by LPA Bima in cases of children as workers in Bima City. The research method used is a normative-empirical type of legal research, namely a type of normative legal research that is supported and equipped with empirical data relating to the position and authority of the Bima City LPA in dealing with children as workers in Bima City. The research results found that cases of children as workers in Bima City are still widespread. Bima City LPA in its position and in its authority carries out child protection and fulfillment of children's rights as well as providing the widest possible services for children as workers to grow and develop optimally both physically, mentally and socially and have noble morals to realize the welfare of children as workers by providing guarantees for the fulfillment of their rights and treatment without discrimination so as to create the welfare of children as fair and independent workers.

Keywords: Legal Protection, Child Protection Institution, Children as Workers

INTRODUCTION

Realizing Indonesian independence and delivering the Indonesian people to the front gate of independence of an independent, united, sovereign, just and prosperous Indonesian State is the mandate of the preamble to the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia (UUD NRI) in the second paragraph. One way to realize this mandate and hope is through obtaining proper education from a young age. Children are heirs and at the same time portraits of the nation's future in the future so that every child has the right to survival, growth and development, participation and the right to protection from acts of violence and discrimination as well as civil rights and freedom (Suryaningrum & Maulana, 2022). Thus, the formation of the Child Protection Law must be based on the consideration that child protection in all its aspects is part of national development activities, especially in advancing national and state life (Kamil & Fauzan, 2008). The position of children as the young generation who will carry forward the nation's noble ideals, future leaders and as a source of hope for previous generations requires the widest possible opportunity to grow and develop appropriately both spiritually, physically and socially (Gultom, 2010). Child protection in Indonesia means protecting the potential of human resources and developing Indonesian people as a whole towards a just and prosperous society, materially and spiritually based on Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia (UUD NRI) (Nashriana, 2014). As mandated in the Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia (UUD NRI) 1945 Article 28 B paragraph (2) which states: "*Every child has the right to survival, growth and development and the right to protection from violence and discrimination*"

Children are given the freedom to grow and develop so that they can receive good education and health insurance until adulthood, then be prepared to become workers. Categories of children based on age factors are regulated in Law no. 35 of 2014 concerning Amendments to Law no. 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection in Article 1 point 1 states: "*A child is someone who is not yet 18 (eighteen) years old, including children who are still in the womb.*" (Law no. 35 of 2014, 2014). It is further regulated in Law no. 13 of 2003 concerning Employment in Article 1 number 26 states: "*A child is anyone under 18 years of age.*" (Law no. 13 of 2003, 2003). Based on these provisions, it can be determined that anyone under 18 years of age is categorized as a 'child'.

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The issue related to children that attracts the author's attention and is considered very urgent and needs special attention is related to children as workers, where this phenomenon is a global problem that is often found in several countries, one of which is Indonesia (Sandra, 2022). Children are often used as tools to seek material gain by certain individuals, whether from the child's own family or other parties who exploit children economically, where they are expected to help the family's economy or just for personal gain for the other parties (Lismaidi & Jempa, 2017). Children as workers are considered bad and a violation of human rights. The phenomenon of child labor is an illustration of how complex and complicated problems related to children are.

However, the fact is that child labor is still often found in Indonesia. Economic factors are one of the causes of the emergence of child laborers in Indonesia who force parents to employ their children to make ends meet. In fact, there are many irresponsible individuals who want to gain pragmatic benefits by threatening children to work. Apart from that, cases of child neglect are also the basis for these children working to support themselves. As a result, many children throughout Indonesia cannot enjoy education because they have to work (Dawood, 2017).

These demands often result in children being employed in formal and non-formal sectors. In the formal sector, children are usually used as laborers or even the majority of children in rural areas are employed in agriculture and other sectors. Meanwhile, in non-formal work environments, children work as beggars, street children, pedicab drivers, hawkers, market transporters, parking attendants, trash collectors, street scavengers, bricklayers and so on. The main cause of child labor is poverty. Parents let their children work so they can contribute 20-25 percent of the family income (Lismaidi & Jempa, 2017). Seeing this phenomenon, of course, apart from long-term losses, these children are also very vulnerable to violence, labor and economic exploitation (Lismaidi & Jempa, 2017). One of the phenomena of children as workers, the author encountered directly in the Bima City area, especially dominated by children who work in the non-formal sector, where children work by selling their wares until late at night, even until the goods run out. Based on this phenomenon, the author assumes that in reality children work out of compulsion. Unfavorable economic conditions are the main cause of the high rate of child labor. The low economy creates many problems so involving children to help parents becomes a necessity in meeting life's needs. Apart from economics, the number of cases of underage child labor stems from widespread solicitation from individuals usually called mothers as an example of children being forced to sell therapeutic products with the promise of large salaries (Lombokpost, 2020).

We can prevent child protection against all forms of child exploitation as early as possible, namely by providing guidance, development and protection of children, as well as the importance of the role of the community, either through the Bima City Child Protection Institute (LPA), religious institutions, non-governmental organizations, community organizations, social organizations, the business world, mass media, or educational institutions (Piri, 2013). The Bima City Child Protection Agency, as one of the institutions that has a big role in dealing with every problem faced by children, must always be at the forefront in responding to every problem in society that involves children, including acts of exploitation of children as workers. The role of the Bima City Child Protection Institute in developing children and preventing forms of exploitation such as employing children to earn a living is by encouraging the participation of all parties using mass media to build partnerships in the context of child protection, receiving complaints regarding violations of children's human rights and facilitating and carrying out its role as an institution institutional referrals to find solutions to child violations based on the vision of protecting and fulfilling all children's rights in accordance with the Child Rights Convention (KHA) and the Child Protection Law.

The objective conditions for the implementation of street children's education carried out by the Bima City Child Protection Institute, include providing formal education, especially for child workers who are below the poverty line, providing capital for small businesses to poor families in order to reduce working hours for children who should be studying and play, and provide understanding to the head of the household about children's rights and child protection laws, so that children can concentrate more on their school education (Suwarni, 2016). However, looking at the social reality regarding the implementation of fulfilling children's rights and child protection in Bima City, there are still many children who have not received their rights in accordance with the mandate of the Child Protection Law. This statement was expressed by Bima City DPRD

Special Committee Member, H. Armansyah, like there are still many children in Bima City who should get an education, but because of the circumstances and inability of their parents, due to parents' divorce, as well as the status of children who are orphans, so the children The person must work to support himself and his family (Kahaba.net, 2016).

Based on data from the Bima City Social Service, the number of abandoned or working (employed) children reached 474 in 2022-2023, with details of 234 boys and 240 girls. This number is based on data from the Central Statistics Agency in 2020, making Bima City, which is located in West Nusa Tenggara, the second highest region in Indonesia with a percentage of 6.55% child labor compared to other regions. So this figure is a form of rebuttal to Bima City which received the title as a Child Friendly City which has been ratified through Bima City Regional Regulation No. 11 of 2020 concerning the Implementation of Child Friendly Cities. So this is a challenge for the Bima City Child Protection Agency in carrying out its duties and functions to guarantee children's rights as workers in Bima City. Exploitation of child labor still occurs in Indonesia. The dynamics of regulations regarding child labor are considered not to fully protect children's rights (Malik, 2024). In the context of human rights protection, as human beings, children also have the same rights as other human beings on this earth, namely rights which are understood as rights that are inherent naturally from the time they are born, and without which human children cannot live as human beings (Kharisma, 2022). Therefore, it is important to conduct legal research with the title "The Urgency of Legal Protection by Child Protection Institutions for Children as Workers in Bima City" in measuring the level of effectiveness in the implementation of position and authority as well as legal handling carried out by Child Protection Institutions in ensuring legal protection for children as workers in Bima City.

RESEARCH METHOD

Research Type

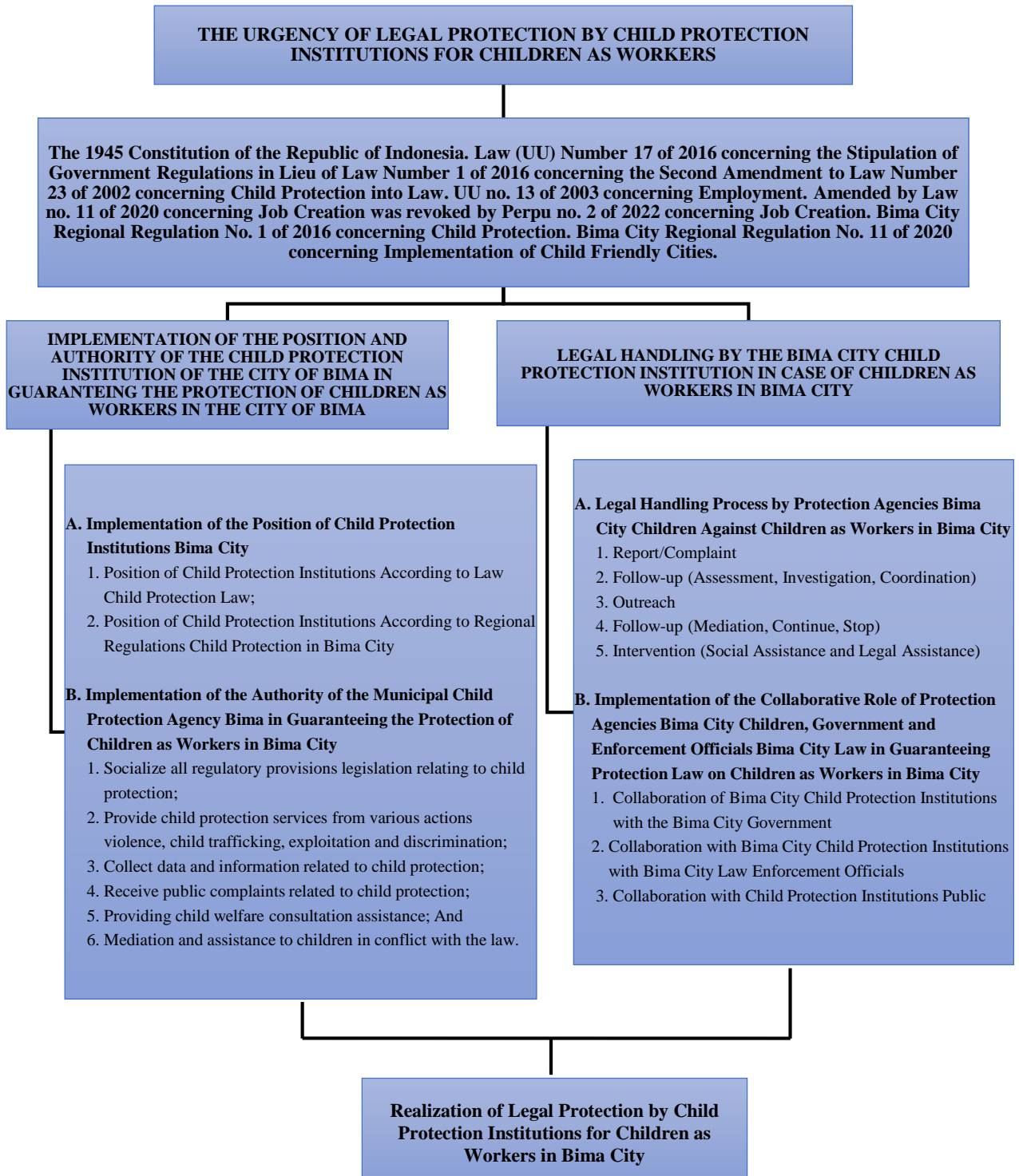
This research uses the Normative-Empirical type of legal research. Normative-Empirical legal research according to Irwansyah (2020) is translated into legal research equipped with empirical data. In this research, the primary data used comes from observations and interviews. The object of study in Normative-Empirical legal research is to examine and evaluate the effectiveness of a norm in the process of applying and working that norm in society (Irwansyah, 2020). So it can be concluded that Normative-Empirical legal research is a type of normative legal research that is supported and equipped with empirical data. Empirical data is used to analyze law which is seen as patterned community behavior in people's lives which always interact and relate in social aspects. In this research regarding legal protection by child protection institutions for children as workers in Bima City.

Research Approach

The approaches used in this research consist of: 1) **Statute Approach**, according to Irwansyah (2020), the legislative approach is an approach taken by examining all statutory regulations that have a correlation with the problem (legal issue) being researched; 2) **Conceptual Approach**, the conceptual approach is a type of approach in legal research that provides an analytical perspective on solving problems in legal research seen from the aspect of the legal concepts behind it or from the values it contains; 3) **Case Approach**, the case approach is carried out through a study of cases related to the legal issues being faced (Irwansyah, 2020). The case approach in this research refers to the analysis of the case of the arrest of an irresponsible person who exploited children from NTT to be employed as beggars in Bima City who was sentenced to 7 years in prison. As well as cases of deaths of children who were employed as child jockeys; 4) **Structural Approach**, the structural approach is an approach to the operation of law in society based on the structures found in society. Focus on a group, organization, society and culture. Relating to social roles, institutional patterns, social processes, cultural patterns, culturally patterned emotions, social norms, group organization, social structure equipment for social control and so on. The structural approach in this research is related to the Bima City LPA, Bima City Government, Bima City Law Enforcement Officials and the community (consisting of families and parents) in Bima City.

Research Design

Chart 1. Research Design



Location of Research

The location of this research was carried out in Bima City, West Nusa Tenggara (NTB) Province.



Figure 1. Map of Bima City

Figure 1. Map of Bima City (Source: Bappeda Bima City 2015)

Some of the basic reasons why the author chose Bima City as a research location are not only because it is the author's home area, but also because of several main reasons that the author has observed, as follows:

Child Friendly City (Kota Layak Anak) Predicate

In 2021 it received the title as a Child Friendly City. The predicate is sufficient to provide a general overview of how the Government and people of Bima City pay close attention to every effort to protect the dignity of children. Recently, there have been many incidents of sexual abuse of children and the phenomenon of children selling peanuts at several red light intersections in Bima City. The focus of the research proposal this time is on the emergence of child workers selling merchandise, especially boiled peanuts in plastic packages for Rp. 5,000-. (Five thousand rupiahs). Quoted from the media Lombok.tribunnews.com, from the data collection results, the children came from Flores and Sumba Regencies, East Nusa Tenggara (NTT). They offer nuts and crackers that have been wrapped in plastic bags. The price is IDR 5,000 per one plastic bag, which contains very little compared to the original dose (Anita, 2022). Quite a lot of people buy it, for reasons of pity. It is important for this problem to become an important concern for all elements of society. Stop every act of exploitation in the name of children. Children are the next generation and hope of the nation whose rights to growth and development must be guaranteed.

The number of abandoned children is quite high

With an area of only 222.25 km², the number of abandoned children in several areas in Bima City is quite high. Based on the results of interviews on Wednesday, April 3 2024 and data from the Bima City Social Service, it shows that the total number of neglected children who also work in the non-formal sector in Bima City is 474 children with details for each region as follows:

Tahun	Status Kasih	KETERANGAN
2022	Belum K... Cerai Mud...	DTKS
2023	Cerai Mati Kawin	NON DTKS

KELURAHAN	JENIS KELAMIN		Grand Total
	Laki - laki	Perempuan	
KODO	2	1	3
KUMBE	4	2	6
LAMPE	2	2	4
LELAMASE	3	2	5
NUNOGA	3	3	6
OL POG	3	5	8
OMBO	3	5	8
Grand Total	234	240	474

Figure 2. Data on Abandoned Children in Bima City

Figure 2 Data on Abandoned Children in Bima City (Source: Bima City Social Service)

This neglected children data also covers children who work in the non-formal sector based on findings from the Bima City Social Service. The condition of abandoned children who do not have parents and/or guardians is the main reason why they work, such as selling on the street, to make a living (Interview With Mr. Rusdan, S.E., 2024).

Target Cities for Child Labor

Bima City is often a target city for parents or certain mafias to send their children and employ them in Bima City. Based on investigations carried out by the Bima City Child Protection Agency, for example in 2017, control was carried out against children from Sumba, NTT who were employed as beggars and provided with Rp. 10,000 by certain individuals to make a lot of profit by offering the lure of being fed enough food 3 times a day and being given nice clothes and things. These children consist of children who were neglected by their parents and children who 'followed' their friends on board the ship heading to Bima City (Interview Wit Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., 2024). The Bima City Child Protection Agency has partnered with the Government and Law Enforcement Officials in handling this case and has succeeded in arresting the suspect and was sentenced to 7 years in prison (Interview Wit Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., 2024). Children employed as beggars are only one of the findings of the Bima City Child Protection Agency regarding cases of child exploitation. There are other examples of children who work in the non-formal sector, such as selling peanuts at red lights, children selling baskets and others. These children usually appear seasonally, thus becoming an obstacle for the Bima City Child Protection Agency in providing legal treatment (Interview Wit Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., 2024).

In 2020, referring to data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS), it shows 10 provinces with the highest percentage of child labor. In the top 3 highest positions, the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) shows that the child labor rate in Southeast Sulawesi is the highest child labor rate in Indonesia, reaching 8.05%. This data increased compared to the previous year which was only 5.26%. In second place, West Nusa Tenggara Province (including Bima City) with child workers reached 6.55%, up from the previous year which was only 4.08%. In third place, North Sumatra with child labor at 6.39%, up from the previous year which was only 4.01%. According to the Central Statistics Agency, the increase in the number of child laborers has increased due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic which has been ongoing since early 2020.

Figure 3. Percentage of Children 10-17 Years Who Work (2020)

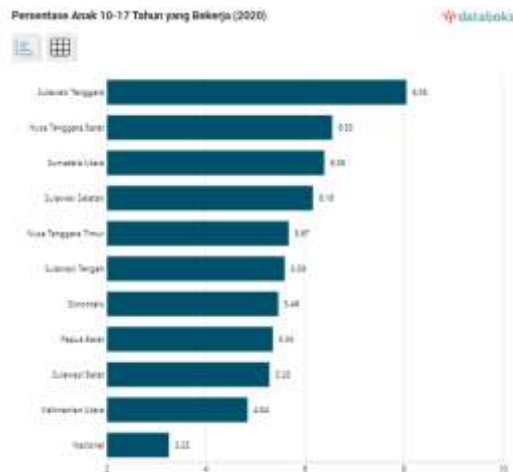


Figure 3. Child Labor in the 10 Highest Provinces in 2020 (Source: <https://databoks.katadata.co.id/datapublish/2021/07/23/pekerja-anak-di-10-provinsi-tertinggi-pada-2020>)

This shows that cases of children being employed or working in West Nusa Tenggara Province, including Bima City, are still very high. Based on these reasons, Bima City became the research focus location that the author chose and felt was appropriate in carrying out research on legal protection for children as workers by the Bima City Child Protection Institute.

Population and Sample

The population in this study is the Child Protection Institute and groups of children who work in Bima City, who come from other areas such as Flores and Sumba Regencies, East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) as well as from 5 sub-districts (West Rasanae, East Rasanae, Asakota, Mpunda and Raba) in Bima City.

The sample in this study consisted of the Bima City Child Protection Institute and neglected children who worked in the non-formal sector based on data from the Bima City Social Service which was dominated by children from Kodo Village (3 children), Kumbe Village (6 children), Lampe Village (4 children), Lelamase Village (5 children), Nungga Village (6 children), Oi Fo'o Village (8 children), Oimbo Village (8 children). As well as one of the children selling peanuts on Jalan Datuk Dibanta at the Bima post office red light who comes from Sumba, East Nusa Tenggara (NTT).

Data Types and Sources

The types and sources of data used in this normative-empirical research consist of three data sources, including:

Primary data is a source of data obtained directly from the first source, namely community behavior and information from interviews from sources. Primary data in this research was obtained from direct interviews with reliable sources, namely:

Chair of the Bima City Child Protection Agency (LPA), Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., on April 18 2024.

Legal Services Division and Advocate for Legal Assistance for Children, Mrs. Lily Marfu'atun, S.H., M.H., (via WhatsApp telephone), on April 16 2024.

Secretary of the Bima City Social Service, Mr Rusdan, S.E., at the Bima City Social Service Office, on April 3 2024.

Bima City Manpower and Transmigration Service employee, Mrs. Ratna, at the Bima City Manpower and Transmigration Service Office, on April 4 2024.

Interview with one of the child workers from Sumba, NTT (name changed), on December 8 2023.

Secondary Data is a type of data in the form of library materials that can provide information to strengthen the main data.

Tertiary data is supporting data to perfect research consisting of the Big Indonesian Dictionary and the Legal Encyclopedia.

Data Analysis

After all the data needed to support the research has been collected, the next step is to analyze the data, which is the activity of compiling the data that has been collected systematically so that analysis can be carried out. In this research, descriptive analysis techniques are used, which begin by grouping the same data and information according to sub-aspects and then carry out interpenetration in giving meaning and understanding the relationship between each aspect of the research problem so as to obtain a complete conclusion (Subahyo, 1991).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Implementation of The Position and Authority of The Child Protection Institution of The City of Bima In Guaranteing The Protection of Children As Workers in The City of Bima

Implementation of the Position of the Bima City Child Protection Agency

Position of Child Protection Institutions According to the Child Protection Law

Linguistically, position in the Big Indonesian Dictionary means status, whether for a person, place or thing (KBBI, 2024). Position clearly means the definition/arrangement of a status, the division of roles and status possessed by 'something'. The Child Protection Agency (LPA) is a social institution that independently carries out and implements every legal protection effort for children in the form of assistance even when the child is in conflict with the law. Children are a trust and gift from God that must always be looked after because they

have the honor, honor and dignity inherent in being human beings that must be upheld. Children's rights are part of Human Rights (HAM) as stated in Article 28 B Paragraph (2) of the 1945 Constitution as a result of the second amendment which states: "*Every child has the right to survival, growth and development, and the right to protection from violence and discrimination.*" Therefore, children can also be said to be the next generation of humans (Malik, 2024). In the context of protecting human rights, as humans, women and children also have the same rights as other humans on this earth, namely rights that are understood as rights that are inherent in their nature from the moment the child is born. Based on this content, various statements emerged that all forms of exploitation of children are an obstacle to the success of the country's development (Malik, 2024).

An effective child protection system requires interrelated components. These components include a social welfare system for children and families, a justice system that complies with international standards, and mechanisms to encourage appropriate behavior in society. Apart from that, a supporting legal and policy framework is also needed as well as a child protection data and information system in safeguarding children's rights (Gunarto, 2021). The establishment of the Child Protection Law which is a mandate from the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia. Children are intact, complete and complete, the law regulates that child protection is all activities to guarantee and protect children and their rights so that they can live, grow, develop, and participate optimally in accordance with human dignity, and receive protection from violence and discrimination (Malik, 2024). 1997 was the starting point of an important period in the history of the implementation of child protection in Indonesia. Apart from initiating the National Child Protection Movement (GNPA), in 1997 the government also formed an official institution to handle the implementation of child protection. Exactly on December 5 1997, the Minister of Social Affairs at that time, Inten Soewono, inaugurated the establishment of the Child Protection Institute (LPA) through Minister of Social Affairs Decree No. 81/HUK/1997 9. However, there has not been a single successful period. passed, through the National Child Protection Forum held on 26-28 October 1998 it was agreed that the status and position of LPA would no longer be under the coordination of the Ministry of Social Affairs. LPA, which has the status of a non-governmental organization, then changed the name of the institution to Komnas PA, which obtained its legality through a notarial deed issued on October 5 1999. In subsequent developments, the government issued Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection as an effort to increase the effectiveness of independent child protection (Zain, 2021).

The Child Protection Law has gone through several changes since it was first created in 2002, namely Law no. 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection until the latest amendment to Law no. 17 of 2016 concerning Child Protection. The position of LPA is a 'home' for every child's problems that deserve to be protected by the state. So constitutionally, strengthening child protection is based on the 2002 Child Protection Law (Zain, 2021). In Article 72 Paragraph (2) of Law no. 23 of 2002, regulates the position of LPA which is categorized as a form of 'Community Role' in an effort to provide protection to children. "*The role of the community as intended in paragraph (1) is carried out by individuals, child protection institutions, social institutions, non-governmental organizations, institutions.*" (Law no. 23 of 2002, 2002). Law no. 23 of 2002, mandates the position of LPA as part of the role of society which must not lose its attention to the implementation of the rights of every child. What is meant by the role of the community in Article 72 Paragraph (1) is that: "*The community has the right to have the widest possible opportunity to play a role in child protection.*" (Law no. 23 of 2002, 2002). In the explanation of Law of the Republic of Indonesia no. 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection, in providing guidance, development and protection of children, the role of the community is needed, either through child protection institutions, religious institutions, non-governmental organizations, community organizations, social organizations, the business world, mass media, or educational institutions. So the conclusion of the LPA's position in Law no. 23 of 2002 is one of the means of implementing child protection from the community.

In 2014 a new law was passed, namely Law no. 35 of 2014 concerning Amendments to Law no. 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection. This change is a response to the phenomenon at the end of 2013, KPAI stated that Indonesia had entered emergency status for violence against children. According to Badriyah Fayumi, throughout 2013 more than 290 children became direct victims of sexual violence. Meanwhile, child sexual violence through online media reached 1,800 people (Zain, 2021). Furthermore, KPAI agreed to offer changes to Law no. 23 of 2002 as a priority agenda for the DPR RI's national legislative program. Through the DPR RI

plenary meeting, Law No.35 of 2014 concerning Amendments to Law No.23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection was approved. President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono signed the law on 17 October 2014. The position of the LPA in Law no. 35 of 2014 concerning Child Protection is still the same as contained in Law no. 23 of 2002, in Article 72 Paragraph (2), namely: "*The role of the community as intended in paragraph (1) is carried out by individuals, child protection institutions, social welfare institutions, community organizations, educational institutions, mass media and the business world.*" (Law no. 35 of 2014, 2014). However, in Law no. 35 of 2014 there are changes with the presence of Article 72 Paragraph (3) which provides specific content for LPA in its position as part of the role of society, as follows:

"The role of the community in implementing child protection as intended in paragraph (1) is carried out by: a) providing information through outreach and education regarding children's rights and laws and regulations regarding children; b) provide input in the formulation of policies related to Child Protection; c) report to the authorities if violations of Children's Rights occur; d) play an active role in the rehabilitation and social reintegration process for children; e) monitor, supervise and take responsibility for the implementation of Child Protection; f) provide facilities and infrastructure and create a conducive atmosphere for children's growth and development; g) play an active role in eliminating negative labeling of child victims as intended in Article 59; and h) provide space for children to participate and express opinions." (Law No.35 of 2014, 2014).

Changes to the Child Protection Law occurred again in 2016. In 2016, the second amendment to Law No. 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection was issued. Considering that acts of exploitation of children are increasing. Based on these considerations, President Joko Widodo signed Government Regulation in Lieu of Law No.1 of 2016 concerning the Second Amendment to Law No.23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection. In this Perpu there is no change in the position of the LPA from the previous Law, namely Law no. 35 of 2014, namely that the LPA still functions as a community role and as an independent social institution. The latest amendment and the new Child Protection Law is Law no. 17 of 2016 concerning Copy of Government Regulation Determination in Lieu of Law No. 1 of 2016 concerning the Second Amendment to Law no. 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection Becomes Law. There are no changes in this Law regarding the position of LPA and it is still the same as the previous Child Protection Law. Law no. 17 of 2016 is an amendment to Perpu no. 1 of 2016 to re-transform child protection regulations into law.

Further regulations relating to the position, authority, objectives, duties and functions of the LPA are regulated in derivative regulations in each region which are ratified in the form of Regional Regulations in each area where the LPA is domiciled. For example, the Bima City LPA is legally regulated in Bima City Regional Regulation No. 1 of 2016 concerning Child Protection.

The Position of Child Protection Institutions According to the Regional Regulation on Child Protection in Bima City

Regarding the position of the Bima City Child Protection Agency (LPA) starting from the definition of the Bima City LPA, which is an independent institution that specifically handles problems in the field of children and the fulfillment of community-based children's rights in Bima City. The Bima City LPA is obliged to carry out a series of child protection activities/programs and strengthen national mechanisms that are conducive to child protection. Because children's development will determine the quality of human resources in the future and it is the nation's next generation that will become the nation's successors. So it must be prepared and directed from an early age so that they can grow and develop into children who are physically and spiritually healthy, advanced, independent and prosperous, becoming quality resources and able to face future challenges (Dawood, 2019). Bima City Regional Regulation No. 1 of 2016 concerning Child Protection is a derivative of Law no. 17 of 2016 concerning Stipulation of Government Regulations in Lieu of Law no. 1 of 2016 concerning the Second Amendment to Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection into Law, in carrying out legal protection for children in Bima City, this includes regulating the role and position of the Bima City LPA as an institution mandated to provide legal assistance and protection in children.

Bima City LPA is juridically regulated in Article 17 of Bima City Regional Regulation (Perda) No. 1 of 2016 concerning Child Protection, is an institution that carries out child protection and fulfills children's rights and provides the widest possible services for children to grow and develop optimally both physically, mentally and socially and have noble morals to realize children's welfare by providing guarantees for fulfillment of their rights

and treatment without discrimination so as to create the welfare of children who are just and independent (Perda Bima City No. 1 of 2016, 2016).

The implementation of the position of the Bima City LPA is based on Article 18 of the Bima City Regional Regulation No. 1 of 2016, as follows:

- 1) Providing protection and respect for children's basic rights;
- 2) Prevent acts of violence and all forms of exploitation of children; and
- 3) Active in influencing government policy to side with the best interests of children

The main reason that became the basis for the formation of the Bima City LPA was because of the increasing cases of violence against children in Bima City. In the interview with the Chair of the Bima City LPA, he also discussed the history of the establishment of the Bima City LPA. "The LPA was first established on March 13 2013. The LPA was initially formed through the social service, where there is a special children's section that handles children. "So the ones who pioneered and gave rise to the LPA were actually the social services." (Interview With Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., 2024).

Figure 4. Bima City LPA logo



Figure 4. Bima City LPA logo

The dynamics of child cases are increasing and with the legal basis in the Bima City Regional Regulation No. 1 of 2016 concerning Child Protection which is a derivative of local law with the existence of a child protection law, it is mandatory for the existence of the Bima City LPA as an extension of the Social Service and the Bima City Government in providing services and legal protection for children. Article 16 paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) Bima City Regional Regulation No. 1 of 2016 concerning Child Protection is the basis for the formation of the Bima City LPA, as follows:

- 1) In order to increase the effectiveness of monitoring the implementation of the fulfillment of children's rights, the Regional Government establishes an LPA or other similar institution;
- 2) LPA is independent; and
- 3) The formation, organizational structure and work procedures of the LPA are determined by a Mayor's Decree (Perda Bima City No. 1 of 2016, 2016).

This article explains in detail that the formation of the Bima City LPA is an obligation to fulfill children's rights. This article also underlies that the Bima City LPA, in carrying out its duties to provide legal protection for children, will continue to partner and collaborate with the Government and Bima City Law Enforcement Officials. Bima City LPA is an independent institution. In carrying out its role and position, the Bima City LPA has several divisions that focus on their respective fields, including the Organization and Network Division, Advocacy and Investigation Division, Legal Services Division and Development Division. Led by a chairman and deputy chairman, the Bima City LPA also works under the supervision of a Board of Trustees consisting of the Mayor of Bima, the Deputy Mayor of Bima, and the Head of the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Division. Each division member in the Bima City LPA will coordinate with each other in implementing legal assistance and protection for children.

Figure 5. Bima City LPA Members and Volunteers



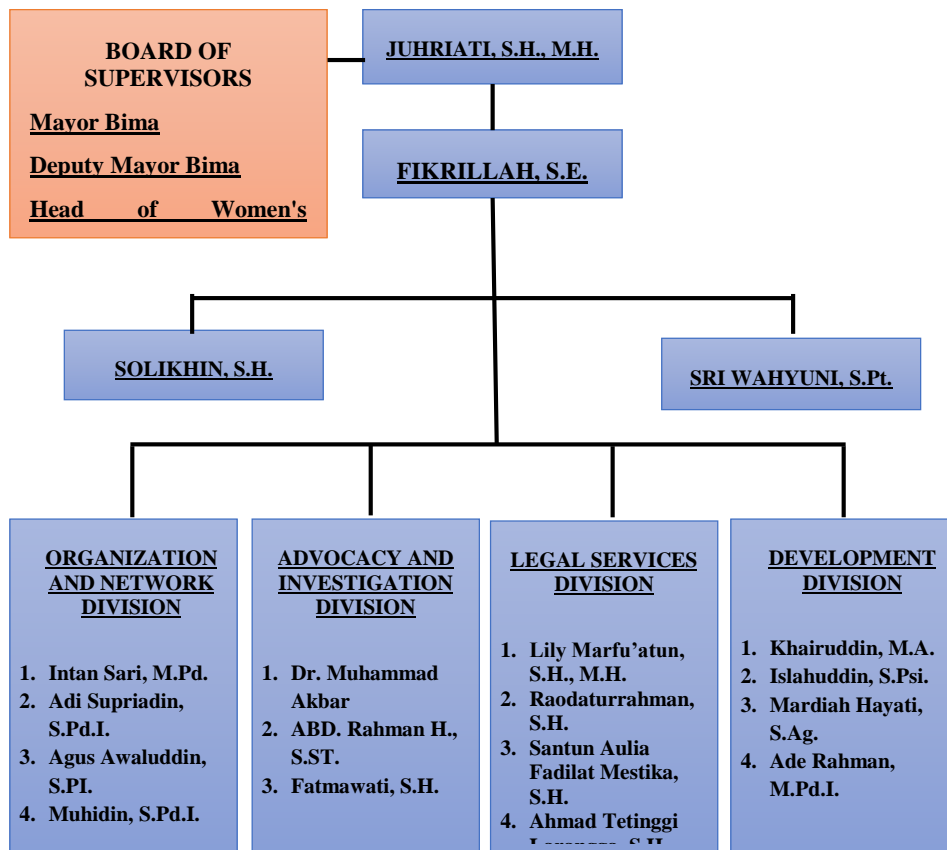
Gambar 1. Anggota dan Relawan LPA Kota Bima

Figure 6. LPA Member Meeting



Figure 6. LPA Member Meetin

Chart 2. Management Structure of the Bima City Child Protection Agency (LPA)



In carrying out its role and position, each division in the Bima City LPA is carried out based on the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)/Case Handling Flow of the Bima City LPA which is a guideline or reference for carrying out work tasks in accordance with the functions and performance assessment tools. Each SOP in

providing legal protection for children is implemented by different divisions according to their respective positions.

“For example, legal intervention. So legal service friends do it. Legal services division hub. For example, our division has been diverted and the follow-up intervention will be coaching. So friends from the coaching division will do the work. There is advocacy and investigation for treatments before the assessment.” (Interview With Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., 2024).

At the end, after the formation of each division that will carry out child protection, in implementing its role and position, the Bima City LPA has also prepared a work program which is the target that it wants to realize in the future. According to the Chair of the Bima City LPA, Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., in preparing the work program this is done by holding work program meetings by each division. Starting from long-term work programs every 5 years to short-term work programs every year.

1. Implementation of the Authority of the Bima City Child Protection Agency in Guaranteeing the Protection of Children as Workers in Bima City

According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI), authority means the right or power one has to do something. The authority of the Bima City LPA is the rights, duties or obligations regarding the position held in providing services, handling the law towards children, including children as workers. Child workers are children aged 4 to 18 years who work in various fields of work continuously and take up almost all their time as children so they cannot go to school like children in general (Malik, 2024). Children as workers have become a world issue where many children around the world enter the world of work at school age. The problem of child labor is not just a problem of children doing work to earn wages, but is closely related to exploitation, dangerous work, hampered access to education and hampering children's physical, psychological and social development. In certain cases and forms of child labor, this has been included as a qualification for children working in the most intolerable situations (Arliyanda, 2022).

Based on Article 19 of Regional Regulation no. 1 of 2016 concerning Child Protection, regulates the authority/duties of the Bima City LPA, as follows:

- a. Conduct socialization of all legal provisions relating to child protection.

Socialization is a routine agenda that is often carried out by the Bima City LPA, one of which is by socializing the Child Protection Law and the importance of upholding children's rights to students on campus, SMA/SMK/MA children at school and to parents. Socialization is carried out in several forms, namely Socialization, Public Dialogue, Social Guidance, school visits and community organizations.

Figure 7. School Visit Socialization



Figure 7. School Visit Socialization SDN 31 Lelamase Kota Bima and SDN 21 Kota Bima

Figure 8. IAIM Bima Campus Visit (Public Dialogue)



Figure 8. LAIM Bima Campus Visit (Public Dialogue)



Figure 9. Social Guidance for the Community and Parents

Figure 9. Social Guidance for the Community and Parents

- b. Providing child protection services from various acts of violence, child trafficking, exploitation and discrimination.

Child protection services by the Bima City LPA are provided directly to both children as perpetrators and children as victims.

Figure 10. Child Protection Services (Direct Hospital Visit)



Figure 10. Child Protection Services (Direct Hospital Visit)

Figure 11. Child Protection Assistance at the Bima City LPA Secretariat



Figure 11. Child Protection Assistance at the Bima City LPA Secretariat

- c. Collect data and information related to child protection.

The data collection process began at the stage of complaints from both parents and the community which were carried out by the Bima City LPA either through direct visits to the parents' residences or at the Bima City LPA secretariat.

Figure 12. Collection of information from Parents and Children



Figure 12. Collection of information from Parents and Children

d. Receive public complaints related to child protection.

The form of complaint that is usually received by the Bima City LPA is in the form of a direct complaint from the victim's parents or from the community around the victim's child or the perpetrator's child who feel and witness firsthand events that are detrimental to the child and disturbing the community.

Figure 13. Complaints by Parents and Children as Victims



Figure 13. Complaints by Parents and Children as Victims

e. Providing child welfare consultation assistance; And

Consultation and recovery assistance for children as victims is what is most often provided by the Bima City LPA. In several cases, parents are often found who are reluctant to bring their children to consult with the Bima City LPA for reasons of embarrassment, fear of exposing their children to disgrace. In fact, if a child who is a victim is left without further assistance, there is a risk that the child's mental health will be affected and they will continue to become perpetrators.

Figure 14. Direct Consultation Assistance and Early Recovery for Children as Victims



Figure 14. Direct Consultation Assistance and Early Recovery for Children as Victims

f. Mediation and assistance for children in conflict with the law.

Mediation and assistance for children in conflict with the law usually involves Bima City LPA partners, namely Law Enforcement Officials in Bima City. After accompanying a child who is in conflict with

the law, the child will then be provided with psychological recovery services in collaboration with a psychologist.

The Bima City LPA itself has the authority to provide services, assistance and legal protection for children based on the Bima City LPA's Standard Operating Procedures/Case Handling Flow. In the case of children as workers, the same case handling process applies as for other child cases. In implementing its authority to provide protection to children as workers in Bima City, it is carried out starting from the process of incoming reports, to follow-up by Bima City LPA partners, namely the local Regional Government/Village Government, Law Enforcement Officials and the Community (Family) which is the final task from the Bima City LPA's assistance and protection for children as workers. Based on an interview with the Chair of the Bima City LPA, Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., children as workers in Bima City are dominated by children from Sumba, NTT. Apart from that, there are children from Flores Regency and children from East Rasanae District, Bima City (See Figure 2). The children as workers found and handled by the Bima City LPA are children who are employed in the non-formal sector which is dominated by children selling peanuts at red lights, including children who are employed as beggars by irresponsible individuals at several points. and what is still being debated today is children who are employed as child jockeys. In fact, there is still a difference in understanding between the Bima City LPA and the Government regarding the definition of working children. Because if you look at the Labor Law, the work carried out by children in the non-formal sector does not meet the requirements to be said to be work. However, once again, if you look at the goals and outcomes aimed at obtaining economic interests, they can be categorized as working children. The following jobs in the non-formal sector are a problem for child workers in Bima City:

1. Children work as peanut sellers

The problem of children selling peanuts began with the arrival of children from Sumba, NTT, who boarded a ship to Bima in search of a source of income at the encouragement of their parents or without their parents' knowledge. There are also some children who are originally from Bima City, but not as many as there are children from Sumba. They sell nuts to supplement living costs or to supplement school fees. These children selling peanuts sell their peanuts for Rp. 5,000 to road users wandering around red lights. The strategic locations where they sell peanuts are usually in 3 main places, namely Serasuba Square, the red light at the Tolomundu Post Office intersection in Bima City and the red light at the intersection around the Bima Mayor's office, which is a road with heavy traffic in Bima City.

This is different from the children selling peanuts from Sumba, NTT. According to the Bima City LPA, the main reason why these children come to sell to Bima is that they feel the prosperity of living in Bima. In Bima they can eat delicious food 3 times a day and can buy nice clothes.

Figure 15. Children selling peanuts at the red light around the Bima Mayor's office



Figure 15. Children selling peanuts at the red light around the Bima Mayor's office

Figure 16. Children Selling Nuts in Serasuba Field



Figure 16. Children Selling Nuts in Serasuba Field (Sumber: Bimanews.id)

These children who sell nuts usually appear accidentally and seasonally in the month of Ramadan in 2024. They will return to selling around the red light at the Tolomundu Post Office at the end of the month of Ramadhan. According to the Bima City LPA, these children are good at reading moments when it is easier for people to spend money to buy their merchandise. "But after that they came again. "There were people who were selling nuts last Ramadan." (Interview With Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., 2024). In 2023, the author also interviewed one of the children selling peanuts. According to their confession, several people ordered them to sell peanuts from morning till night. If their merchandise has not been finished then they cannot return and will not receive wages. This is proof that acts of exploitation of children's rights have been carried out openly, taking advantage of the pity of the people who cannot bear to see these children selling, so that some even give money for free because they cannot bear to take the nuts the children are selling. .

2. Children Employed as Beggars

Unlike the children who sell peanuts, the children who are employed as beggars also come from Sumba, NTT, but they come in an organized manner and the children of certain individuals control them. There are also children who see their friends boarding the ship and they end up joining in without their parents knowing. On the ship they met this person and were promised good food, good clothes and a good place to live, the important thing was that they wanted to work begging every day.

"There are individuals who work children like beggars. If it's begging, they won't be selling anything. Well, begging is actually part of hiring. The proportion is as a beggar. He just wasn't hired to provide goods for sale. Sometimes they don't get paid, because no one wants to. That's why they said, Mom, we are quite happy with being able to eat 3 times a day with rice. In Sumba we only eat tubers." (Interview With Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., 2024).

Figure 17. Bima City DP3A Service Collaborates with Satpol PP to Hold Raids on Homeless Children and Beggars



Figure 17. Bima City DP3A Service Collaborates with Satpol PP to Hold Raids on Homeless Children and Beggars (Source: Bima City Women's and Children's Empowerment Service)

Some children are even neglected by their parents. "No one knows. There is a child who is almost three months old, when you confirmed where he lives, the answer in this RT was confirmed by his mother, not realizing that the child was no longer there. Even up to three months, you know." (Interview With Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., 2024). This shows that parents'

indifference encouraged these children to dare to join their friends on a ship to another area. Just like children selling peanuts, these children who beg also appear throughout the month of Ramadan 2024, they take advantage of the month of Ramadan to gain a lot of profit because they know that the month of Ramadhan is the month to increase alms.

3. Children Hired as Child Jockeys

Children working as child jockeys still encounter a lot of debate between the community and the Bima City LPA. The practice of little jockeys is actually a practice in the name of culture. The Bima City LPA itself has conducted direct discussions and interviews with cultural figures and historians in Bima.

"However, actually in history, when we tried to discuss this in detail with several historians, then people who actually have documents regarding how traditional horse racing developed in Bima, according to Mrs. Dewi. He stated that from the many references and documentation, he did not find that horse racing in ancient times used child jockeys." (Interview With Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., 2024).

Based on information from Mrs. Dewi Ratna Muchlisa as head of the Samparaja Museum, Bima City, historical traces (based on documentation of horse racing in the past) do not show that horse riding at that time was carried out by children, but rather by adults whose height was even higher than the horse being ridden.

"Horse racing started on Queen Wilhelmina's birthday, those riding horses were people who were not children."It can be seen from their posture, from the documentary photographs which can still be clearly seen, that they are almost taller than the horses." (Interview With Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., 2024).

Figure 18. Horse racing used to be ridden by adults



Figure 18. Horse racing used to be ridden by adults

Figure 19. Horse racing is now ridden by children



Figure 19. Horse racing is now ridden by children

So the reason for preserving the culture of child jockeys should be a mistake in understanding and viewing history. It cannot be seen as normal for children whose bodies are still small to ride a horse with a large body which is very risky for their safety. Not to mention the only protective equipment he uses is a small helmet on his head. The child's body is not wearing any protection, so if it falls there is a high risk of being injured or breaking something.

In connection with cases of children as workers, the Government and the Bima City LPA again do not yet have an understanding regarding children as workers. Because looking at the facts that occur, such as children begging and selling peanuts at red lights is seasonal. For example working a week and then disappearing and the children changing. According to the Chair of the Bima City LPA, the children who work often change or are different children than before. Apart from that, changes have also occurred in the locations where they beg or sell. Several times someone was caught in a raid by the Bima City Social Service and strict action was taken against the child, parents and those who took advantage of the child.

"But thank God, with frequent raids, they received quite strict measures. There are some children who often repeat themselves. We were very forced to secure it at the police station. Just to scare them." ((Interview With Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., 2024).

The authority of the Bima City LPA in handling cases of children as workers only applies to guidance and legal protection in the form of assistance. The main task in controlling and taking action in cases of children as workers is the Social Service which is an extension of the Bima City Government and Bima City Law Enforcement Officials. The Bima City LPA has the authority to assist child cases as workers starting from handling social rehabilitation, then returning to school, assisting back to school, to ensuring that these children really no longer experience social stigma from society. Although there are still people who are reluctant to accept these children. As a child care institution, Bima City LPA has duties and functions in implementing child protection by prioritizing the best interests of children. Both children who work as peanut sellers, children who are employed as beggars and children who are employed as child jockeys. All of this cannot be justified because children are not asked or ordered to do things that are dangerous to their lives, let alone commercial in nature and get paid.

Legal Handling by The Bima City Child Protection Institution in Case of Children as Workers in Bima City

1. The legal handling process carried out by the Bima City Child Protection Agency towards child workers in Bima City

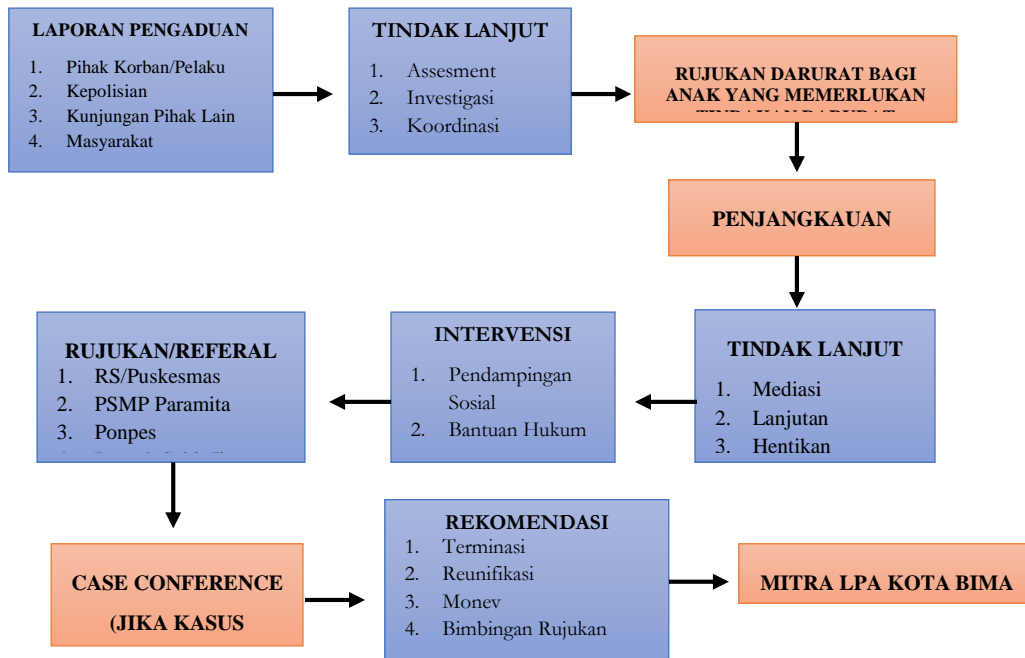
Legal protection and handling of children is all activities to guarantee and protect children and their rights so that they can live, grow, develop and participate optimally in accordance with human dignity, as well as receive protection from violence and discrimination. It is currently estimated that more than 152 million people are child workers, or around 10 percent of the number of children worldwide. The majority (71%) work in the agricultural sector. As many as 69 percent do unpaid work because they work in their own homes and almost half (73 million people) work in jobs that endanger their health, safety and moral development (Gunarto, 2021).

In essence, children are not allowed to work because their time should be used to study, play, have fun, be in a peaceful atmosphere, get opportunities and facilities to achieve their dreams, but in reality many underage children are actively involved in economic activities, become child workers in the non-formal sector due to economic pressure experienced by parents or other factors (Sandra, 2022). Legal protection efforts for children need to be carried out as early as possible, namely since the fetus is in the womb. Starting from the concept of protection, the obligation to provide protection to children is based on the principles of non-discrimination, the best interests of the child, the right to life, survival and development, and respect for the child's opinion (Suryaningrum & Maulana, 2022). Based on the explanation regarding the SOPs for each division owned by the Bima City LPA, handling or providing legal protection for children as workers in Bima City is one of the tasks of the Legal Services Division. Based on an interview conducted with one of the members of the Bima City LPA Legal Services Division, Mrs. Lily Marfu'atun, S.H., M.H., that:

"In terms of providing legal protection to children as workers, the LPA is more like providing assistance. So in the LPA there are SOPs for each field, including us in the Legal Services Division. So, for example, cases of children as workers are differentiated based on recommendations, whether they receive legal treatment, which or social treatment. If it falls into the legal handling category, it goes to the police. If it falls into the social handling category, it continues to social services, like that. "So the Bima City LPA does not handle the child's legal process but rather provides legal

protection in the form of accompanying and assisting children who are in conflict with the law.” (Interview With Mrs. Lily Marfu’atun, S.H., M.H., 2024).

Chart 3. SOP/Flow for Handling Bima City LPA Cases



Based on the results of the interview, the form of legal protection implemented by the Bima City LPA is in the form of guidance, assistance and helping children who are victims, including children as workers when they have to deal with the law. The implementation of providing legal treatment and protection for children as workers is based on the SOP/Flow for Handling Child Cases carried out by the Bima City LPA, based on an interview with the Chair of the Bima City LPA, as follows:

Complaint Report

The case of children as workers began with the submission of reports or complaints to the Bima City LPA from the public as an example of the consequences of holding a horse race which killed a 12 year old child jockey named AB on August 13 2023.

Figure 20. Atmosphere of AB Joki Cilik Funeral Home



Figure 20. Atmosphere of AB Joki Cilik Funeral Home

Several cases of children as workers are also direct findings from the Bima City LPA. "So the flow of handling the case starts with us getting information directly at the location when we see that a child is being employed." (Interview With Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., 2024). There are also reports of children being employed from LPA partners, namely the Social Services and Police.

Follow-up (Assessment, Investigation, Coordination)

Follow-up at the first level is carried out through assessment, investigation and coordination. The assessment carried out by the Bima City LPA on children as workers is an initial assessment to simply find out the child's identity, especially regarding residence and address data. This data and information becomes a reference for the Bima City LPA in conducting outreach and assistance at the child's home. During this initial assessment and investigation, the Bima City LPA took an approach by inviting children to chat using a method that made the children comfortable, then asking questions without trying to dig up somewhat sensitive information at the start. Later, when the child feels comfortable, the child will tell himself about what he experienced. *"Sometimes children, because they have often been asked questions in a frontal way, end up not being brave enough to tell stories freely."* (Interview With Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., 2024).

The investigation technique from the Bima City LPA is to first chat with the children of these workers as an example of children who sell peanuts while buying them. Invite them to chat to find out where they get their nuts, how much they can sell in a day, what the money from sales is used for and so on. After the data and information were collected, the Bima City LPA held coordination and joint meetings to determine the next steps.

Follow-up (Mediation, Continue, Terminate)

The next step is outreach and follow-up in the form of mediation, to decide whether the case will continue or be stopped. The case was held with all Bima City LPA administrators to determine what kind of intervention would be carried out. There are two types of intervention, there is intervention in the form of outreach (continue), there is intervention that continues with the legal process, and there is intervention through mediation. *"So, in the case of children as workers, our intervention is by conducting outreach."* (Interview With Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., 2024). For cases of children as workers, the Bima City LPA usually takes outreach intervention steps, trying to dig up information by conducting outreach at home. At the child's house, the Bima City LPA began to see and observe the child's condition, then sought information and gathered information from the parents and neighbors to find out the child's profile in more detail. Especially those related to children's activities before going to work. After the information is obtained, it continues with social assistance

Intervention (Social Assistance, Legal Assistance)

The next step is intervention in the form of social assistance and legal assistance. The social assistance carried out by the Bima City LPA is to strengthen the capacity of parents by providing information services related to child protection, children's rights and parents' obligations in protecting and fulfilling children's rights. This includes trying to provide an illustration to parents. If children are still allowed to work, then parents can be said to be involved in the practice of employing children. Furthermore, the Bima City LPA continues to strengthen capacity, ensuring children go to school by conducting outreach and observations at schools. If one day we find this child again doing the same activity (working), then the LPA will completely hand over the children to the Bima City Social Service to receive further protection. The Social Service will carry out collaboration with the Bima City LPA, and the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Service. The workers' children will be directed to stay in a safe house to provide guidance, understanding and enlightenment to the children. Until they made a statement that they would no longer do the same thing. Then parents are also given the obligation to make a statement not to employ their child again. If these children are re-employed then further intervention is carried out legally, because this is a form of child exploitation.

Based on an interview with the Secretary of Bima City Social Services, Mr. Rusdan, S.E., when parents tell their children to work, it is actually a violation of the Child Protection Law. *"But when this child faces a problem, for example there is violence while working, sometimes we get information to process that complaint, together with BNS PPA"* (Interview With Mr. Rusdan, S.E., 2024). The problem of child labor involving many parties is a challenge for parties to work together effectively in harmonizing legislation and law enforcement, expanding and increasing access to mandatory education and training, social protection and making effective policies. Apart from that, coordination and synchronization is needed between related parties in the form of social workers, government, community and stakeholders.

Implementation of the Collaborative Role of Bima City Child Protection Institutions, Government, Law Enforcement Officials and Bima City Community in Guaranteeing Legal Protection of Children as Workers in Bima City

a. Collaboration between the Bima City Child Protection Agency and the Bima City Government

The collaboration between the Bima City LPA and the Bima City Government is carried out through cooperation and partners with the Bima City Social Service in handling and legal protection for children as workers. As previously explained, children as workers cannot be categorized as workers based on the Employment Law. Previously, the author had conducted research and interviews with Mrs. Ratna, an employee of the Manpower and Transmigration Service of Bima City, that children under the age of 15 were not allowed to work and had never been registered with the Manpower and Transmigration Service of Bima City as workers (Interview With Mrs. Ratna, 2024).

Figure 21. Data on workers in Bima City in 2021



Figure 21. Data on Workers in Bima City in 2021 (Source: Bima City Manpower and Transmigration Service)

Data from the Bima City Manpower and Transmigration Service shows that children who work cannot be said to be workers, especially those who work as peanut sellers, beggars and child jockeys have never been recorded. However, the Bima City LPA and the Bima City Social Service have an understanding that all forms of activities that generate economic benefits and involve children are a form and embodiment of children as workers in Bima City.

As previously explained in the legal protection duties of the Bima City LPA towards children as workers. At the intervention stage, the Bima City Social Service will be involved in handling follow-up actions for legal protection for children as an extension of the Bima City Government. The Social Service will accompany the workers' children together with the Bima City LPA in the Bima City Safe House (Shelter).

The existence of this Safe House (Shelter) was initially intended as a temporary shelter for women and children victims of physical, sexual and other crimes. The location of the Safe House itself is kept secret according to standards based on applicable regulations. The safe house is intended to provide a sense of security and comfort in mental recovery for women and children victims of violence in Bima City (Interview With Mr. Rusdan, S.E., 2024).

Figure 22. Safe House



Figure 22. Safe House (Shelter) UPTD PPA Bima City (Source: <https://rumahaspirasi-dp3a.bimakota.go.id/>)

In efforts to handle and legally protect children as workers in 2024, there have been no complaints submitted to the Bima City Social Service. However, just like in the Bima City LPA, there were findings by the Social Service regarding children who worked in the non-formal sector as peanut sellers at red light intersections. "Children are included in the category of underage workers, for example those selling at intersections. Oh yes, the one selling the nuts. Yes, peanuts. That's actually not allowed. We carry out coaching raids. But mostly, 100% of people are from outside Bima City." (Interview With Mr. Rusdan, S.E., 2024). There is no coercion for children who sell, but their children working as peanut sellers is a form of parental negligence in protecting and guaranteeing their children's rights. After these findings, the Bima City Social Service coordinated with the Bima City LPA which will provide initial legal treatment and protection for these children as workers. The Bima City LPA and the Bima City Social Service agree that allowing children to sell nuts at red light intersections is a form of exploitation of children's rights and there is a very high risk for children to be injured by passing motorized vehicles.

The Bima City LPA and the Bima City Social Service agree that selling peanuts is just a way for children to beg.

"They sell peanuts while waiting for people's mercy. People give thousands, they still accept it. And I've seen that in the last month, maybe because it's Ramadan, it's starting to be active again. We have not carried out raids because they are in coordination with TOPPT, DNS Child Protection. Maybe it's because of Ramadan too. We haven't had time to go down yet." (Interview With Mr. Rusdan, S.E., 2024).

The last raid was carried out by the social service in 2023. The Bima City Government, through the Social Service, Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (DP3A) and Satpol PP, disciplined child beggars by selling peanuts. People often complain about beggar children under the guise of selling peanuts. After carrying out a raid on children selling peanuts. The Social Service carries out Rehabilitation Social Assistance directly to carry out assessments and notifications to parents as well as guidance assisted by the Bima City LPA. On that occasion, socialization was also carried out regarding child protection laws. Based on the results of further assessments, a number of children who were detained were apparently not or had already dropped out of school. The proceeds from begging by selling peanuts are enough to meet the family's needs, including buying a cell phone (Suarantb.com, 2023). Like the Bima City LPA in legal protection and handling of children, apart from coordinating with the Bima City LPA, the Bima City Social Service has its own Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) in its implementation.

Figure 23. Bima City Social Service SOP for the Protection and Handling of Children in Conflict with the Law



Figure 23. Bima City Social Service SOP for Protection and Handling of Children in Conflict with the Law (Source: Bima City Social Service)

This SOP is a reference especially for the Bima City Social Service in assisting children who are in conflict with the law or during the process of resolving cases of children as workers who experience violence while working or there are certain individuals who coordinate the children of these workers. This treatment is usually carried out by the Social Service together with the Bima City LPA, the workers' children are then put into a safe house. The final output is that the worker's children and their parents must write a statement and provide understanding to both parents.

b. Collaboration between the Bima City Child Protection Agency and Bima City Law Enforcement Officials

Collaboration and cooperation between the Bima City LPA and Bima City Law Enforcement Officials takes the form of collaboration with the local police agency (Bima City Police). In the Bima City LPA SOP, this collaboration is stated in the second follow-up, namely the mediation stage for children as workers, whether the child is a victim of worker exploitation or the child is a victim and intervention in the form of legal assistance.

Figure 24. Mediation Assistance for Children in Conflict with the Law with Bima City Police Officers



Figure 24. Mediation Assistance for Children in Conflict with the Law with Bima City Police Officers

This mediation is about helping children who are in conflict with the law. There are several forms of collaboration between the Bima City Police and the Bima City LPA that have been carried out, including the findings of the Bima City LPA regarding cases of children employed as beggars by organized individuals and the handling of children employed as child jockeys.

In 2017, the circulation of child workers from Sumba-NTT coming to Bima City received serious attention from the Bima City LPA Institute. At that time, the Bima City LPA asked the police to investigate allegations of exploitation of children who were employed as beggars by unscrupulous individuals in an organized manner (Kahaba.net, 2017). Apart from that, the Chair of the Bima City LPA urged the Bima City Government through the relevant SKPD to immediately collect data on the whereabouts of children from NTT who are suspected of being employed as beggars in Bima City. The Bima City LPA asked the Bima City Police to directly inspect the places suspected to be the location of the children being employed. The LPA also coordinates with the Bima City Social and Labor Service to take firm action against individuals and business actors who deliberately employ children. Even though these children do not come from Bima City, children who live and reside in Bima City are still the responsibility of the Bima City Government and have the right to receive protection, including the fulfillment of their rights.

Collaboration between the Bima City LPA and the Bima City Police has succeeded in arresting the person named Francisco (Pseudonym). He used the lure of good food, nice clothes and a place to live for the children he brought from NTT. The children who are employed as beggars are only provided with Rp. 10,000 and asked to beg from morning to night. This person was finally tried and sentenced to 7 years in prison. In the case of children who are employed as child jockeys, the Bima City LPA and the Bima City Police have an agreement to reject this activity on the grounds that it poses a high risk and is dangerous to the safety of children who become racing jockeys, as well as being a form of exploitation of the right to life of children who are allowed to be involved in it. dangerous work just to gain economic gain (Interview With Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., 2024).

c. Collaboration between the Bima City Child Protection Institute and the Bima City Community

At the community and family level, various components must be integrated into a single child protection service chain that encourages and improves the welfare and capacity of child protection families to fulfill their responsibilities. This includes the cooperation that exists between families and parents with the Bima City LPA.

In Article 1 Paragraph (3) it definitively contains regarding the family: "*The family is the smallest unit in society consisting of husband and wife, or husband and wife and their children, or father and children, or mother and children, or blood family in a straight line to above or below up to the third degree*" (Law No. 35 of 2014, 2014), and Article 1 Paragraph (4) definitively contains regarding parents: "*Parents are the biological father and/or mother, or father and/or stepmother, or adoptive father and/or mother.*" (Law No. 35 of 2014, 2014). So based on the basic content of the law, the two subjects addressed, namely family and parents, are important components that must play a role in providing protection to children.

If we dissect the results of observations and findings from the Bima City LPA, the existence of family and parents is a basic factor that motivates children to work to meet family needs, whether selling on the street, begging and becoming a child jockey. **First**, regarding the issue of children selling, for example selling peanuts at red lights or selling snacks on the side of the road, this is usually used by families or parents to attract the sympathy of people passing by to sell their wares. One of them was that the writer met on the side of the road opposite the Asi Mbojo (Bima) Museum, two children aged around 5 years and 7 years who were sitting on the side of the road in the hot sun looking after their 'Pangaha Bunga' (Flower Snacks) merchandise. Not far away, his mother was watching from a kiosk and taking shelter from the hot sun. Then the mother told her children to offer the snacks to those of us who walked past them. These innocent little children didn't understand what their mother meant, so we ended up giving them money out of pity and admonishing the mother to pay more attention to her children.

Second, regarding the issue of children begging, one of the incidents that the head of the Bima City LPA encountered was when he visited a fast food place, a mother who worked as a parking attendant asked her child to ask the customers there for money. reason to use to buy clothes. **Third**, on the issue of child jockeys, as explained previously, from the findings of the Bima City LPA, families and parents use cultural reasons as the reason for employing children as child jockeys, even though historical records have never shown that children can participate as horse riders large size which is very risky for their safety (Interview With Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., 2024). Because of these reasons, it is the main reason that the family and parents are the first causes of the emergence of children who work. Bima City LPA as an institution mandated to carry out legal assistance and protection for children has made several efforts to establish communication and straighten out understanding from the child's family or parents either directly at the time of the incident or with further guidance such as visiting the child's home or his/her parents. One of the things that the Bima City LPA has done is with children who were employed as child jockeys.

Figure 25. Visit to the home of parents of children employed as child jockeys



Figure 25. Visit to the home of parents of children employed as child jockeys

"For example, in the case of children as little jockeys, we are trying to provide enlightenment regarding the rights of these children. Re-ensuring that we cannot expose these children to a vulnerability to violence. Because if these children are in a condition that is vulnerable to violence and it becomes something that is shown to the general public by adults, then that becomes a crime. We once had a discussion, facilitated by Perdasi, and our parents actually gave us the understanding that the LPA's presence was not actually an enemy of the little jockey's parents or extended family, but rather as a companion and protector of the child. They finally understood it. In fact, they finally gave hope." (Interview With Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., 2024).

The partnership between the Bima City LPA and the families and parents of the workers' children was built using a family approach. So that families/parents feel safe and comfortable to share their hopes for the good of their children as well as their demands for meeting life's needs. When discussing with the Bima City LPA, the families and parents of the children who work as little jockeys on the one hand also felt worried about their children's safety.

"Parents, seeing their children in the middle of racehorses, especially since several accidents have occurred, they are actually starting to feel worried. "But again, what is called euphoria, sometimes there is pride in itself when this child becomes a jockey who is quite proud of his income and his popularity." (Interview With Mrs. Juhriati, S.H., M.H., 2024).

The Child Protection Law has imposed obligations and responsibilities on parents to provide protection to children and educate children from a young age and to become the first school for children to receive character education and instill good manners. Because parents consisting of father and mother are the closest unit to the child and best understand the child's character and traits.

CLOSING

Conclusion

Based on the presentation of the results and discussion above, the following conclusions can be drawn:

The Bima City Child Protection Agency (Bima City LPA) has a clear and valid reference position as a reference in its formation and in the implementation of its position and authority. At the national level there is the Child Protection Law which provides legality for the position of LPA starting from Law no. 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection, to Law no. 17 of 2016 concerning the Stipulation of Government Regulations in Lieu of Law Number 1 of 2016 concerning the Second Amendment to Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection into Law. At the regional level, the position of the Bima City LPA is found in Bima City Regional Regulation No. 1 of 2016. The authority of the Bima City LPA consists of: 1) Carrying out socialization of all statutory provisions relating to child protection; 2) Providing child protection services from various acts of violence, child trafficking, exploitation and discrimination; 3) Collect data and information related to child protection; 4) Receive public complaints related to child protection; 5) Providing child welfare consultation assistance; and Mediation and assistance to children in conflict with the law.

The process of handling and legal protection for children as workers in Bima City is carried out by the Bima City LPA based on the SOP/Flow for Handling Child Cases, which consists of: 1) Report/Complaint; 2) Follow-up (Assessment, Investigation, Coordination); 3) Outreach; 4) Follow-up (Mediation, Continue, Terminate); 5) Intervention (Social Assistance and Legal Assistance. In providing legal protection for children as LPA workers, Bima City also collaborates and cooperates with various parties such as: 1) Bima City Government (Bima City Social Service); 2) Law Enforcement Officials (Bima City Police Chief); 3) Community (Family and Parents).

Recommendation

The recommendations that the author can convey are the results of research and the hopes of various parties who have been interviewed previously, as follows:

For the Bima City Government: This recommendation was born from the hopes of the Bima City LPA in efforts to prevent and provide legal protection for children, namely: 1) Regulate the entry and exit routes of the

community at city and regional borders in order to prevent certain individuals who plan to seek profit in the City Bima; 2) Collect data on everyone who comes in and out of Bima City, as well as getting identity, address of origin, residence address in Bima City and what needs they have so they come to Bima.

For APH (Bima City Police): Bima City Police must be more sensitive to every phenomenon related to children, massive monitoring of locations that are often used as places for children to beg or locations where children's rights are exploited must receive special attention.

For the Community/Family/Parents: The community around where working children live must be able to play a role in preventing children's rights from being further exploited by irresponsible individuals. Likewise, society and parents are at the forefront of child protection. Understand that economic conditions should not be a reason for employing children whose physical and psychological conditions are still vulnerable to risks when working, whether children who sell, beg or children who are employed as child jockeys.

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