



## ***Women's Criminal Behavior: Case Study of Women's Convict at the Sungguminasa Gowa Class II A Women's Penitentiary***

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### ***Abstract***

*Increasing women's participation in the public sphere and the roles that women play show increased welfare for women. This is the impact of awareness about gender equality in various fields. However, this expanded role also extends to the realm of criminal activity. Although men still dominate crime perpetrators, there has been a significant increase in crimes committed by women. Therefore, this research aims to explain the factors that cause women to commit crimes and the impact of the training they receive. The research method used is qualitative with observational data collection techniques without participation, in-depth interviews with 20 women convicts, documentation, and audio and visual material. Data analysis was carried out in three stages: data reduction, presentation, and conclusion. The research results show why women commit crimes: 1) Social factors are related to the social environment and destructive relationships in society, and 2) Educational factors, namely the lack of knowledge of better alternative actions and risk considerations. 3) Economic factors, namely demands for the cost of living. 4) Patriarchal cultural factors that trigger women's psychological pressure. The impact of the training obtained is the formation of a new awareness of sound life principles, skills and abilities training, social empowerment, and economic independence.*

**Keyword :** *Criminal, Women's Convict, Women's correctional institution*

## INTRODUCTION

Crime is an act that does not respect legal norms and the values that apply in society. Such actions have the potential to occur where and when because the actualisation of criminal acts does not recognise space and a specific time. Criminal acts have the potential to arise due to disorganisation in society. Several things characterise social disorganisation; as Kartono said (2014), a society experiencing disorganisation is characterised by the following characteristics: fast-paced changes, unstable, no continuity experiences from one group to another, there is no organic intimacy in social relations, and lack of or absence of agreement among members of society.

Criminals are acts that can be committed by anyone, regardless of gender and age, because crime is not a gendered act. As the perpetrator, women become subject and release themselves as *the other*, namely the object or victim of the crime. Referring to Arivia (2003), releasing oneself as *the other* is one way for women to affirm their existence as Being for others (*etre pour les autres*).

Changes that occur in society due to the increasingly sophisticated development of science and technology bring positive impacts and new threats as part of the complexity of life. One of them is the criminal acts women commit by touching various dimensions. This action is undoubtedly against feminine norms that are inherent in women. As explained by Simone de Beauvoir in Murata (1999), these norms are inherent feminine norms in women, namely as caregivers, caretakers, passive, and accepting. Crime women commit breaks down the walls of social construction by viewing the actualisation of feminine traits owned by women, namely as gentle creatures, full of love, affectionate, obedient, passive, patient, and so on.

This can be seen through the types of criminal acts committed by women in This modern era, which are not only limited to abortion practices, violations of morality, and shoplifting alone but are increasingly diverse. James W. Coleman in Mutmainnah (2014) suggests that criminal practices develop with increasingly competitive community life. Development Community life can be seen based on modern personality traits as described by Sztompka (2011), namely the readiness to accept new experiences and openness to innovation and change as a manifestation of the advancement of science and technology. There is a development of types of actions

crimes committed by women are directly proportional to the increase in the number of women committing crimes.

SIMFONI data from the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection noted that there was a significant increase in the number of women perpetrators of violence. The presentation of women as perpetrators started in 2016 at 8.6%; in 2020, it increased to 10.8%, and in 2024, it will be 11.2%. Crime is committed in the form of physical violence, psychological violence, sexual violence, exploitation, trafficking, neglect, and others. The types of crimes committed by female inmates in Class II A Sungguminasa Women's Prison include narcotics, murder, theft, embezzlement, fraud, corruption, child protection, forgery of documents, and trafficking. Thus, this study aims to explore in depth the reasons or factors that cause women to take action in crime and the impact of the guidance received in correctional institutions. Women's class II A Sungguminasa Gowa.

## **METHODS**

This study uses a qualitative descriptive approach. Through this approach, Qualitative research is expected to provide in-depth and accurate explanations about factors driving women to commit crimes and the impact of coaching obtained. Data collection techniques in this study were obtained through data primary by conducting in-depth interviews with 20 female prisoners who fall into the informant category. Secondary data was obtained through research documents such as journals and books related to the research focus. Data analysis uses three stages: data reduction, presentation, and conclusion (Creswell, 2014).

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### **Factors Driving Women to Commit Crime**

The first factor is the social factor. This concerns the social environment and destructive relationships in society. In the case of female prisoners in the Penitentiary Class II A Sungguminasa Gowa Women's Penitentiary, social factors that encourage the emergence of crimes committed by women, including social circles which is terrible, lead women to enter into bad relationships destructive, and relationships built with

others in a variety of ways situations and conditions. Batu (2022) stated in his research results that socialising is one factor that traps women in criminal acts.

In addition, weak social control of community institutions triggers criminal behaviour. Deviant individuals because they are considered too tolerant. The leniency found that individuals display deviant behaviour as usual. A society that adheres to a deviant subculture provides a strong tendency for teenagers to behave negatively. Sometimes, without realising it by its citizens, the actions carried out were deviant from generally applicable norms (Suwendri, 2020).

Another social institution that also has an important function is the school. School is second place after the family environment that can shape individual behaviour. Rumadan (2021) stated that schools have a significant role in forming human character. Schools are seen as a place to cultivate human beings who will later be helpful for the development and prosperity of their people. Moreover, from a criminological perspective, schools also function as capable institutions to prevent crime. Teachers interact with students daily, making teachers see the attitudes of children who tend to be delinquent; the teacher also must straighten out students' character to direct them towards a positive attitude. Understanding a student's personal qualities is essential, especially whenever it appears that students are spreading or bringing in hostility in class and creating tension.

**The second factor** is education, namely the lack of knowledge about better alternative actions and risk considerations. Lack of knowledge is correlated with the perpetrator's low level of education. The lack of female prisoners' knowledge, including knowledge related to values and norms, should be carried out in social life so that it loses direction and the purpose of life as it should be. This education or knowledge can be acquired in formal schools and within the family.

As a social institution, the family should create bonds—family ties between family members- so that a relationship is born based on love for each other. Lack of love for each other can potentially trigger the emergence of evil behaviour. Modern families face many changes and challenges, bringing complex consequences and problems. One of them is the crisis of knowledge of love. From (2010) depicts the suffering of modern humans thirsty for lessons of love. Of course, the lesson of loving and giving affection is contained in the family function, namely the affection function, but unfortunately, the

perpetrators are prisoners. These women, apart from having a low level of education, some also comes from a disharmonious family background and even have parents who are divorced.

Family disharmony is the result of the failure of functions to function. Family influences the formation of character or individual personality. Family: It is hoped that it will become the first place for character formation and planting values and norms that have failed to perform their functions. Kusumayani (2021) stated that one of the reasons why women are involved in criminal acts is family factors: *broken* home/not harmonious and lack of parental attention. This is the basis of the initial trigger for the growth of evil behaviour in an individual.

Low education forms awareness and knowledge obtained by prisoners in the family and formal education. Especially In family education, Amini (2011) stated that a child should get a good understanding of the introduction of essence and nature of human beings, recognition of the various potentials of the human soul, knowledge of the goals that must be achieved in the process of human life, what factors and facilities only that which must be used to achieve goals, and knowledge of things that obstacles to achieving goals, as well as ways to overcome them. In the interview carried out by the author, this understanding was not obtained by the prisoners, so under certain conditions, criminal acts become a justification for the practice of life experienced by the perpetrator. In addition to the educational aspects of the family, parenting patterns and interactions woven within the family also significantly contribute to the formation of individual character. Suppose we observe the development of an increasingly complex society. This modern era has given rise to many changes in the implementation of institutional functions in the family.

**The third factor** is the economic factor. This is a complex factor that contributes to encouraging women to commit criminal acts. Limitations women in accessing jobs amidst the demands of living costs, so that committing criminal acts becomes an illegal alternative way to make money. As NW and ST said. The economic limitations they experience cause them to have difficulty meeting their daily needs and paying bills. Their children's education. The compulsion to face the conditions is the reason for committing criminal acts

**The fourth factor** is the patriarchal culture, which influences the psychology of women. Changes in the role of women in society have the potential to be the wrong trigger for the birth of tension. Great opportunities for women to work in the public sphere are not directly proportional to cooperation from life partners in domestic activities. The pressure from this patriarchal culture can be seen in the double burden that women carry, where the domestic role is still considered a dominant responsibility on the shoulders of women. As experienced by LI, AN, and KY. The public and domestic roles that have been carried out have triggered the emergence of psychological stress and fatigue, which leads to quarrels within the family household. Although the echo of equality between men and women continues to be promoted in various fields, the pressure of patriarchal values is still experienced by women. The pressure of values This patriarchy is also seen, as stated by Prianto (2023), in that the opening of opportunities for women to participate equally in public spaces creates additional psychological pressure for women to support their families. This has the potential to trigger women to commit criminal acts.

## **The Impact of Development of Female Prisoners at the Sungguminasa Gowa Class II A Women's Penitentiary**

**First**, a new awareness of the principle of good living must be formed. Formation This awareness is obtained through positive activities provided by the institution. Correctional through spiritual formation. This coaching includes lectures on religious studies every Friday, regular religious studies every Wednesday, and congregational prayers. Carried out five times a day, except for non-Muslim prisoners, then dedicated to carrying out his worship according to his own beliefs, and routinely held every Sunday. Also, the primary religious holidays will be celebrated festively. This spiritual development is a form of implementation of coaching patterns that will indirectly improve prisoners' personalities, mentality, and attitudes toward the life they will live. As stated by 20 prisoners who became informants, injections of religious lectures and advice can reawaken the prisoners' awareness and create self-confidence for those new to tidying up.

**Second, Social Empowerment.** This social empowerment is realised through patterns of interactions built by prisoners in correctional institutions and Following coaching programs well and with discipline. As for coaching social activities at the Class II A Sungguminasa Women's Correctional Institution, Gowa is through a sports program held every afternoon. The performance of matches held were badminton and volleyball between teams. This match aims to train and foster solidarity, togetherness, and persistence in healthy and constructive competition. This is demonstrated by the activeness of all prisoners in participating in sports activities and competitions. Mutual support between each other, and there is no chaos arising in prison.

**Third,** the training of skills and abilities that are owned. The presence of special programs that hone skills and abilities to make prisoners aware of their talents and abilities can be their provisions for activities productively and potentially earning money so that you can become a person independent. The skills program implemented by the Prison includes:

a) Sewing Skills

This sewing skill is a form of independence training for interested prisoners. The independence referred to is not only in terms of completing a job that has been managed but can also impact economic independence. Through this activity, inmates can explore their hidden talents, spurring them on to become productive inmates.

b) Salon Skills

This salon skill is provided for prisoners who have a talent for make-up and so on. This activity is also considered strategic for being carried out by female prisoners. Where women, by nature women, have the provisions to do this activity. Women represent the qualities of beauty, or in the Javadi language, Amuli women represent the attributes of God's Jamaliyah. All activities of caring for and beautifying the physical are inherent in women.

c) Cooperative Management

This type of coaching only requires a few directions and does not require much effort. In this field, prisoners are taught to manage the goods being traded and finances orderly.

d) Clinic

Clinic facilities provided by the Women's Correctional Institution Class II A are not only used for consultation on prisoners' health but also to train prisoners who

have an interest, talent, or expertise in the health sector to provide first aid to prisoners who are sick and assist specialist doctors from the prison.

e) Handicrafts

Skills in this field include making decorative flowers, flower pots, knickknacks, and clothing accessories using used goods to increase resale value.

f) Library Management

Apart from skills that have economic value, the Correctional Institution also provides a library space for prisoners who want to study knowledge by utilising books that can be borrowed for free.

g) Culinary Arts

Skills in culinary arts are critical activities close to women's daily lives. This coaching includes various food, drinks, and cakes with various dishes. All the results of kitchen skills will be presented to prison officers, who usually will be given for free, and some will be sold. ½ of the proceeds from the sale will go into the savings of each prisoner who produces food.

Various skills gained during prison incarceration have a very positive impact on prisoners. The HR informants, WT, NR, and TI, stated that their interest in sewing can finally be realised through coaching in prison, and they can earn money from these skills. In addition, informants ST, AN, KY, and LI stated that the skills provided by the prison help them manage finances and see business opportunities that they can manage with their cooking skills.

**Fourth**, economic independence. Prisoners own economic independence, which results from work or efforts from skills development. Although the prisoners are still undergoing the process of being rehabilitated in the institution of socialisation, they are very enthusiastic to create. The works they own are sold to the institution's officers, and the proceeds from the sales are obtained, some of which are set aside in their savings. This is shown from the interviews conducted with HR, WT, NR, NW, and TI, who said that the efforts and creativity produced were selling well in prison. The proceeds from



the sales are used as their savings. This activity becomes a hope for prisoners to become provisions that can be developed when released and reintegrated into society.

## **CONCLUSION**

Research results show that women's criminal behaviour tends to be driven by external demands. Some reasons women commit crimes are 1) external social factors, namely concerning the social environment and destructive relationships built in society; 2) Educational factors, namely the lack of knowledge about alternatives, better actions, and risk considerations, both education obtained through family or in formal education. 3) Economic factors, namely demand cost of living. 4) Patriarchal cultural factors that trigger psychological stress. These factors have a relationship with each other. Where the patriarchal cultural factor becomes the leading root cause of low education for women, economic limitations, and the formation of destructive social relations in society, actions The crimes committed by this woman can also be interpreted as a form of behavioural resistance against the patriarchal culture that makes women victims and places them in a disadvantageous position or role. This affects negatively on various dimensions of women's lives. The impact of coaching What prisoners get is a new awareness of life principles, trained skills and abilities, social empowerment, and economic independence.

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