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RESEARCH ARTICLE

The Impact of Prison Overcrowding on the Rights and Well-being of Inmates in Indonesia: A Legal Perspective

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Abstract

Overcrowding in detention centers remains a critical issue within Indonesia's criminal justice system, particularly due to its detrimental impact on the fulfillment of prisoners' basic rights. This study aims to examine how the rights of inmates are upheld at the Class IIB Boyolali Penitentiary under overcrowded conditions and to identify the key obstacles encountered in the process. Employing an empirical juridical method with a qualitative approach, the research was conducted through interviews, observations, and the analysis of relevant legal documents. The findings reveal that, despite the overcrowded environment, efforts are still made to uphold fundamental prisoner rights, including access to healthcare, adequate nutrition, religious practices, legal aid, and family communication. However, the fulfillment of these rights is hindered by limitations in infrastructure, budget, and human resources. The study concludes that enhancing the effectiveness of alternative sentencing policies and improving prison management systems are essential to ensuring the optimal protection of prisoners' rights.

Keywords: Boyolali Detention Center; Prisoners Right; Overcrowding.

1. Introduction

Indonesia as a country of law, as stated in Article 1 paragraph (3) of the 1945 Constitution, requires all parties, including the state and citizens, to submit to and obey the law. Violations of the law will be subject to sanctions as a form of law enforcement. State Detention Centers and Correctional Institutions are places of law enforcement that detain lawbreakers to await court decisions or serve sentences.¹

According to the Regulation of the Minister of Law and Human Rights Number 33 of 2015, Prisons are places for the development of prisoners while serving their sentences, while Detention Centers are temporary detention centers for suspects or defendants who have not been proven to have committed a crime but are strongly suspected of having done so.

¹ Elma Azizah, Augustin Rina Herawati, and Teuku Afrizal, "Implementasi Kebijakan Penanganan Overcrowded Di Rumah Tahanan Kelas II B Siak Sri Indrapura (Studi Kasus Permenkumham Nomor 11 Tahun 2017)," *Journal of Public Policy and Management Review* 12, no. 3 (2023): 808–822.

Detention centers function to ensure their presence in the legal process and maintain public security.

The problem of overcrowding in detention centers has become a major issue in the criminal justice system in Indonesia. This condition occurs because the number of prisoners far exceeds the capacity of existing facilities, leading to problems of order, health, poor psychological atmosphere, and declining quality of correctional services. As a result, prisoner development programs become ineffective, and this can lead to human rights violations. Class IIB Boyolali Prison also faces a fairly severe overcrowding problem. Despite its limited capacity, this prison continues to receive new prisoners every day.

Table 1. The Number of Detainees and Prisoners

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Capacity	38	38	156	38	156	156
Prisoners	84	84	131	70	176	144
Detainees	38	80	77	148	122	274
Total	122	164	208	218	298	289
Over Capacity	84	126	52	180	142	133

Source: Central Statistics Agency of Central Java Province

Overcrowding has a negative impact not only on the quality of life of prisoners, but also hinders rehabilitation and social reintegration. In such conditions, the fulfillment of basic rights of prisoners, such as the right to health, guidance, and legal protection, is often neglected. This shows the urgent need to review correctional policies, especially regarding the handling of excess capacity in detention centers.

The government, through the Ministry of Law and Human Rights (Kemenkumham), has issued a policy for handling overcrowding through Permenkumham No. 11 of 2017 concerning the Grand Design for Handling Overcrowded in State Detention Centers and Correctional Institutions. This policy covers four main aspects: regulatory arrangements, institutional strengthening, provision of facilities and infrastructure, and empowerment of human resources, with programs designed in short, medium, and long-term roadmaps. However, the effectiveness of this policy needs to be reviewed further to ensure that prisoners' rights are still fulfilled in overcrowded conditions. The review can be carried out by analyzing its impact on prisoners' quality of life and identifying obstacles in its implementation.²

The formulation of the problem in this study is as follows: (1) How are the rights of prisoners fulfilled in Class IIB Boyolali Penitentiary in overcrowded conditions? (2) What are the obstacles that hinder the handling of overcrowding in Class IIB Boyolali Penitentiary?

Based on the formulation of the problem, the objectives of this study are to: (1) Analyze how the fulfillment of prisoners' rights in Boyolali Class IIB Prison is carried out in overcrowded conditions, especially in terms of fulfilling basic rights such as health, food, education, and cleanliness even though the prison is over capacity. (2) Identify the obstacles that hinder the fulfillment of prisoners' rights in Boyolali Class IIB Prison, both those

² Peraturan Perundang-undangan, *Peraturan Menteri Hukum Dan Hak Asasi Manusia Republik Indonesia Nomor 11 Tahun 2017 Tentang Grand Design Penanganan Overcrowded Pada Rumah Tahanan Negara Dan Lembaga Pemasyarakatan, 2017.*

originating from limited facilities, policies, human resources, and budget, which directly affect the quality of correctional services.

This study uses a human rights theory and distributive justice approach, which is oriented towards the principle of non-discrimination and equal access to correctional services for all prisoners without exception. The legal framework used includes the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, Law Number 22 of 2022 concerning Corrections, Law Number 39 of 1999 concerning Human Rights, and Permenkumham Number 11 of 2017 concerning the Grand Design for Handling Overcrowded. By referring to the theory and legal framework, it is hoped that the results of this study will be able to contribute to the development of correctional policies that are more humanistic and responsive to the factual conditions in the field.

2. Research Method

This study uses an empirical legal method, namely a legal research method that combines normative analysis of laws and regulations with field studies to see their application in social reality. This approach was chosen because it is considered relevant to describe how legal norms governing prisoners' rights are actually applied in overcrowding conditions at Boyolali Class IIB Prison.

This type of research is qualitative descriptive, with the aim of providing a comprehensive and in-depth picture of the implementation of the fulfillment of prisoners' rights and the obstacles faced in its implementation. Data sources consist of primary data and secondary data. Primary data were obtained through direct observation at Boyolali Class IIB Prison and in-depth interviews with key informants, namely the Head of the Prisoner Services Sub-section of Boyolali Class IIB Prison, prison officers, and inmates. Interviews were conducted in an unstructured manner to provide space for informants to express their opinions freely and openly. Meanwhile, secondary data were obtained from legal documents, such as the 1945 Constitution, Law Number 22 of 2022 concerning Corrections, Law Number 39 of 1999 concerning Human Rights, Permenkumham No. 11 of 2017, and other supporting documents such as prison annual reports, scientific journals, and policy articles.

The analysis process was carried out qualitatively through the stages of data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions, by comparing normative legal provisions and practices in the field. This analysis aims to see the extent to which the implementation of prisoners' rights in Boyolali Class IIB Prison is in accordance with applicable legal provisions and to evaluate the obstacles that arise in its implementation. The empirical legal approach in this study supports efforts to draw conclusions that are not only theoretical, but also factual and applicable, and opens up space for the formulation of more concrete policy recommendations.³

3. Discussion

3.1 Rights of Prisoners in Class IIB Boyolali Prison in Overcrowded Conditions

Every Indonesian citizen has the right to their rights, including prisoners serving their sentences in detention centers or correctional facilities. Fulfillment of prisoners' rights must be based on human rights (HAM) and the principle of equality before the law, which means

³ Muhammad Syahrur, *Pengantar Metodologi Penelitian Hukum: Kajian Penelitian Normatif, Empiris, Penulisan Proposal, Laporan Skripsi dan Tesis* (CV. Dotplus Publisher, 2022), p. 23.

that every prisoner has the right to receive equal treatment without discrimination. Protecting prisoners' rights supports justice and upholds human rights principles in the criminal justice system.

The law limits every individual's behavior in the country, but even though prisoners have broken the law, their human rights must still be respected. In the overcrowded conditions in Boyolali Prison, the fulfillment of basic rights such as the right to security, health, and welfare are often threatened due to inadequate facilities, cramped detention rooms, and lack of access to health services. This condition is contrary to Law Number 39 of 1999 which states that every individual has the right to humane and dignified treatment. Therefore, it is important for the government and prison managers to find solutions to overcome overcrowding, such as implementing alternative punishments, improving facilities, and implementing effective development programs so that the basic rights of prisoners are guaranteed according to human rights values. Based on the results of an interview with Mr. Taufik Rahmadi, he explained that:

*"Even in overcrowding conditions, we still try to fulfill the rights of these prisoners, especially for the right to food and legal aid, then the prisoners' clothing, and communication with their families we still fulfill. So even with the large number of prisoners and detainees, it is not a reason for us not to fulfill their rights."*⁴

- **The Right To Practice Worship In Accordance With One's Religion Or Beliefs;**

Worship is the right of every citizen, including prisoners, to fulfill their religious obligations. Article 29 of the 1945 Constitution guarantees freedom of worship according to religion and belief. This right is also expanded in the Regulation of the Ministry of Law and Human Rights Number 6 of 2013. The state is obliged to provide space for individuals, both civilians and prisoners, to practice worship.⁵

In addition to the right to worship, Article 3 Paragraph (1) of Government Regulation No. 32 of 1999 regulates the obligation of Correctional Institutions to provide officers who support religious education and guidance for prisoners. Mr. Taufik Rahmadi, Head of the Boyolali Prison Prison Service Sub-Division, stated that spiritual activities are the right of all inmates and that worship facilities are provided for them.

Boyolali Class IIB Prison provides the Baitul Muta'allim mosque for religious study and spiritual bathing activities for Muslim prisoners, as well as a hall for spiritual activities for Christian prisoners. However, overcrowding conditions have limited adequate prayer space to accommodate all prisoners. In addition, supporting facilities such as prayer equipment and religious books are often inadequate. Overcrowding can also trigger conflicts between prisoners with different religious backgrounds, which disrupts the implementation of worship.⁶

To address this, steps to fulfill the right to worship are taken, such as using the hall as an alternative prayer room and arranging rotating prayer schedules so that all prisoners can

⁴ Taufiq Rahmadi, "Kajian Terhadap Cara Penanganan Over Kapasitas Pada Beberapa Lapas Di Indonesia," *Gema Publica* 8, no. 2 (January 3, 2024): 102–114.

⁵ Dadang Supriyatna, "Bantuan Hukum Yang Ideal Bagi Masyarakat Tidak Mampu," *Jurnal Ilmiah Living Law* 10, no. 1 (2018): 11–22.

⁶ Nouval Yustiar Fallahudin, Endeh Suhartini, and Saddam Husain, "Model Pemenuhan Hak Narapidana Di Lembaga Pemasarakatan Kelas Ila Bogor Dalam Menjalankan Ibadah Sesuai Agama Dan Kepercayaan," *Karimah Tauhid* 3, no. 6 (2024): 6898–6912.

worship according to their beliefs. Prison officers are also given training to be able to manage religious activities effectively even in challenging conditions.

- **The Right to Receive Treatment, Both Physical and Spiritual;**

The Correctional System aims to prepare inmates to reintegrate into society in a healthy and responsible manner. Government Regulation Number 32 of 1999 regulates the right to spiritual and physical care, which includes spiritual guidance and moral education. Prisons and detention centers are required to provide officers for this guidance, and can cooperate with related agencies. Physical care includes sports, recreation, as well as clothing, sleeping, and bathing equipment.⁷

However, overcrowding in prisons and detention centers, including Boyolali Detention Center, is a major challenge in fulfilling these rights. The excess inmates have an impact on facilities and supervisors, such as the lack of space for sports, recreation, and limited basic equipment. In addition, the risk of spreading disease increases due to an unhealthy environment, and spiritual care is hampered by limited space and supervisors.

To overcome this, strategic steps are needed, such as adding health workers and spiritual supervisors, cooperation with religious institutions, and inmate capacity management programs, such as assimilation and parole. Improving health facilities and prayer rooms, as well as utilizing technology for digital spiritual guidance, can help ensure the fulfillment of prisoners' rights even in overcrowded conditions.

- **The Right to Receive Education, Instruction, And Recreational Activities as Well as Opportunities to Develop One's Potential;**

The right of prisoners to receive education and teaching is guaranteed by the 1945 Constitution and related laws and regulations, such as Article 9 Letter C of Law Number 22 of 2022 concerning the Correctional System. Education in prisons or detention centers is regulated in Article 10 of Government Regulation Number 57 of 1999, which includes recreational activities and development of prisoners' potential.⁸ Mr. Taufik Rahmadi, Head of the Boyolali Prison Detention Service Sub-Division, explained that despite facing overcrowding, his party is still trying to provide educational rights by collaborating with other institutions and organizing skills training.

However, overcrowding severely hampers the fulfillment of this right. Limited space and resources disrupt education, training, and recreational activities, which are essential for rehabilitation. With basic needs prioritized, inmates lose access to learning opportunities and mental health support, increasing the risk of tension and conflict within the facility.

- **The Right to Obtain Adequate Health Services and Food According to Nutritional Needs;**

Health services for prisoners are guaranteed by Law Number 22 of 2022 concerning Corrections and Law Number 36 of 2009 concerning Health. Each prison and detention center has a health clinic to ensure that prisoners receive proper health services. These services

⁷ Yudistira Rusydi, "Pengawasan Terhadap Pemenuhan Hak-Hak Narapidana Di Rumah Tahanan Negara Kelas 1 A Pakjo Palembang," *Jurnal Hukum Samudra Keadilan* 16, no. 2 (2021): 231–246.

⁸ Khairul Abdi, "Pemenuhan Hak Narapidana Berkegiatan Rekreasi Di Lembaga Pemasyarakatan Blangkejeren (Suatu Tinjauan Hak Asasi Manusia Dalam Islam)" (Universitas Islam Negeri Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh, 2023).

include promotive, preventive, curative, and rehabilitative measures, and must meet good health standards.⁹ At Boyolali Prison, health services are guaranteed with two nurses and a doctor's visit once a week.

In addition to health, prisoners have the right to nutritious food in accordance with the Law, which is prepared with good hygiene and quality standards. In Boyolali Prison, the kitchen has met the standards with trained staff and has halal certificates and permits.

However, overcrowding poses a great risk to the health of prisoners. High inmate density can cause the spread of infectious diseases, such as scabies, which often occurs in Boyolali Prison. Even so, routine cleaning is carried out every two weeks to overcome this problem. In addition, overcapacity results in limited medical resources, medicines, and health facilities, which hinders timely medical services. Providing nutritious food is also a challenge in overcrowded conditions, due to limited budgets and kitchen facilities.

- **The Right to Obtain Information Services;**

The right of prisoners to receive information services is part of human rights that must be respected, including while in correctional institutions. Information that needs to be provided includes prison regulations, legal procedures, development programs, health, education, and other rights. Providing this information helps prisoners understand their rights and obligations and prepare for reintegration into society after serving their sentence.

Information services in prisons and detention centers can be provided through guidebooks, bulletin boards, library access, counseling sessions, or electronic media (Government Regulation Number 32 of 1999). Correctional institutions are responsible for ensuring that information is easily accessible and understandable to inmates, including taking into account language barriers or literacy levels.

In Boyolali Detention Center, despite overcrowding, information services are still provided by providing bulletin boards, regular counseling, and direct socialization by officers. To overcome overcrowding, digital technology such as applications or online platforms can be used to provide access to information without physical queues. In addition, a priority system can be implemented to provide attention to urgent needs, and education on how to access information is also important for efficiency.

- **The Right to Obtain Legal Counseling and Legal Assistance**

The Indonesian government through Law Number 16 of 2011 concerning Legal Aid emphasizes that legal aid must be based on the principles of justice, equality before the law, transparency, efficiency, and accountability. One of the rights of the accused is to receive free legal aid from the Legal Aid Post (Posbakum), which provides legal assistance and advice. In Boyolali Prison, the existence of Posbakum aims to ensure that the rights of the accused or suspect are fulfilled and prevent unfair treatment.

Posbakum in Boyolali Prison is also an obligation of the state in guaranteeing access to justice, in accordance with Article 56 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Procedure Code which regulates the obligation of law enforcement to appoint legal counsel for defendants who are threatened with serious crimes or do not have legal counsel.

⁹ Amalia Rozakiya, *Tinjauan Hukum terhadap Pemberian Pelayanan Kesehatan dan Makanan terhadap Narapidana (Studi Kasus di Lembaga Permasayarakatan Tanjung Gusta Medan)* (Disertasi doktor, Universitas Medan Area, 2019), p. 31.

Despite facing overcrowding, the rights of prisoners to receive legal counseling must still be fulfilled. Solutions such as regular legal counseling (direct or online), cooperation with legal aid institutions, civil society organizations, and law universities, and the use of legal representatives by prisoners who have been trained, can help overcome resource constraints. This is important to ensure that prisoners' rights are respected in the legal system despite capacity challenges.¹⁰

- **The Right to Receive Humane Treatment and Be Protected from Torture, Exploitation and All Actions That Endanger Physical and Mental Health;**

Article 9 Letter I of Law Number 22 of 2022 emphasizes that prisoners have the right to be treated humanely, free from discrimination, torture, and exploitation, which is a respect for human rights. This right requires protection of the dignity and physical and mental safety of prisoners. Despite being faced with overcrowding conditions, which have limited basic facilities and increased the risk of discomfort and conflict, Boyolali Prison has attempted to manage this situation by increasing supervision and security.

Mr. Taufik Rahmadi explained that overcrowding is a challenge in ensuring humane treatment for prisoners, but they continue to strive to maintain comfort and security, including preventing dangerous acts such as suicide attempts. Efforts to reduce the number of prisoners through alternative sentencing programs and improving facilities are important steps to ensure the fulfillment of human rights, even in the midst of high density conditions.

- **The Right to Receive Guarantees of Work Safety, Wages, Or Work Bonus;**

In overcrowding conditions, fulfilling prisoners' rights related to work safety, wages, and work bonus requires a systematic approach. The first step is to ensure that work facilities in prisons meet safety and health standards, such as providing personal protective equipment (PPE) and safety training. A job rotation system can be implemented to provide fair opportunities for all qualified prisoners, even though facilities are limited. In addition, the provision of wages must be transparent and timely in accordance with regulations, reflecting the value of the prisoner's work.¹¹

- **The Right to Receiving National Services;**

Fulfilling the rights of prisoners to receive social services in overcrowded conditions remains a priority to maintain their dignity and human rights. Social services, including health, education, psychological guidance, and social rehabilitation, must be provided with a strategic approach despite limited facilities. Initial steps involve efficient resource management, such as ensuring the availability of trained social workers, and collaborating with community organizations or NGOs to support social services.

In addition, technology can be utilized, for example through digital coaching programs or telemedicine for health services. Prisoners must be given access to education, skills training,

¹⁰ Marisa Kurnianingsih et al., "Urgensi Pos Bantuan Hukum (Posbakum) Dalam Pemenuhan Hak Terdakwa Di Rutan Boyolali," *Risalah Hukum* 19, no. 1 (2023): 21–31.

¹¹ Utomo Buyung Saputro, "Analisa Yuridis Pelaksanaan Remisi Menurut Undang Undang Nomor 22 Tahun 2022 Tentang Pemasarakatan" (Universitas Islam Malang, 2024).

and psychological counseling for social rehabilitation. In the midst of overcrowding, it is important to provide social services fairly without discrimination, and strengthen supervision through routine inspections by independent institutions to ensure the fulfillment of prisoners' rights.¹²

The government needs to strengthen policies by incorporating social service standards into correctional regulations to ensure their fulfillment despite overcrowding. Regular evaluations, data collection on inmates' needs, and proper budget allocation are essential for effective service delivery. Empowering inmates through feedback systems or peer-led programs can also improve service quality. A rights-based and inclusive approach must be the foundation to uphold inmates' dignity amid structural limitations.

- **The Right to Accepting or Rejecting Visits from Family, Advocates, Companions, And the Community;**

The fulfillment of prisoners' rights to accept or reject visits from family, advocates, companions, and the community must still be guaranteed even in overcrowded conditions. This right is important for maintaining social relationships, moral support, and access to legal assistance. To overcome the limitations of space and resources, the visiting system needs to be arranged with a rotating schedule, allowing all prisoners to receive visits without disrupting order. The use of technology, such as virtual visits via video calls, can also be a solution to reduce the burden of overcrowding, while ensuring access to legal assistance is guaranteed.

Prisoners also have the right to refuse visits in accordance with their privacy principles. Strict supervision of the implementation of visiting rights needs to be carried out to prevent abuse of authority.

In addition, rights such as remission, assimilation, leave, and parole are still fulfilled even in overcrowded conditions. Remission is a solution to reduce the number of inmates, while assimilation and leave programs are more limited due to limited supervisory staff. The administrative process for conditional leave and parole can be slower due to the large number of applications. Parole is often used to reduce overcrowding, but more effective policies are needed to ensure that prisoners' rights are optimally met.¹³

3.2 Obstacles Hindering the Handling of Overcrowding at Class IIB Detention Center in Boyolali

Overcrowding in correctional institutions, including in Boyolali Class IIB Detention Center, is a serious problem that affects the fulfillment of prisoners' rights and overall management of the detention center. One of the main obstacles is the limited capacity of the detention center infrastructure, which is designed for a certain number of inmates. As the number of prisoners increases, the available space becomes very narrow and uncomfortable. This condition affects basic facilities, such as limited toilets and bathrooms, as well as inadequate ventilation, which risks increasing the spread of disease. In addition, limited budgets for detention center operations also worsen the situation, hindering the provision of quality food, access to health services, and the implementation of adequate coaching programs.

The high number of criminal cases received is also a major factor in overcrowding. Many inmates have minor criminal cases that can actually be resolved with alternative

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ Mitro Subroto and Muhammad Dhea Setiawan, "Pemenuhan Hak Narapidana Kelompok Rentan Lanjut Usia Pada Lembaga Masyarakat," *Innovative: Journal Of Social Science Research* 4, no. 5 (2024): 4211–4220.

punishments, such as fines or community service. However, the implementation of these alternatives is still limited. In addition, the slow legal process, with postponements of trials and execution of verdicts, extends the length of stay of prisoners in prison, which further adds to the burden of overcrowding. On the other hand, the lack of human resources (HR) in prison worsens management and supervision. The limited number of officers causes supervision of prisoners to be less than optimal, which affects the quality of service and security of the prison. Excessive workload also affects the mental and physical health of officers.

Lack of coordination between related institutions, such as the courts, prosecutors, and police, slows down the legal process and case handling. This also causes prisoners who should be transferred to correctional institutions to have to remain in prison. The impact of overcrowding is clearly visible in social and health risks. Overcapacity increases the potential for conflict between prisoners and the spread of infectious diseases, while the psychological pressure experienced by prisoners worsens their mental condition. The lack of support from the community and non-governmental organizations also worsens the situation. The involvement of social institutions or community organizations can help reduce pressure in prisons by providing alternative solutions, such as skills training or social work programs, but this support is still limited.

To overcome this problem, integrated strategic steps are needed. Increasing infrastructure capacity by building new blocks or optimizing existing space is urgently needed. The implementation of alternative punishments, such as restorative justice and social work, also needs to be encouraged to reduce the number of inmates in prisons. Accelerating the legal process by improving administration and increasing coordination between related institutions is very important. In addition, strengthening human resources by increasing the number of officers and increasing training for more efficient prison management must also be carried out. Support from the community and non-governmental institutions needs to be increased to help rehabilitate and empower prisoners. In the long term, more progressive policies in handling minor criminal cases, adequate budget allocation, and strengthening the overall correctional system will greatly help reduce overcrowding and ensure that prisoner development is carried out in a humane and effective manner.

- **Overcrowding Conditions in Class IIB Boyolali Prison**

The overcrowding condition in Boyolali Class IIB Detention Center has become a serious problem even though the relocation was carried out in March 2021. Before the relocation, the old Detention Center located on Jalan Merbabu, Boyolali, had an ideal capacity of 36 people, but the number of inmates reached around 170 people, which means it exceeded the capacity by 400%. To overcome this problem, in March 2021, 144 inmates were moved to a new building in Kampung Masahan, Mojosongo Village, Boyolali, which was built on an area of 14,880 square meters. The new detention center consists of several blocks, including a women's block and a men's block, with each block having 18 rooms designed to accommodate 12 people, so that its ideal capacity reaches 216 people.

However, even though the relocation has been carried out, in August 2023, Boyolali Class IIB Detention Center is still facing the problem of overcrowding. From the ideal capacity of 216 people, the number of inmates reached 311 people, which means more than double the ideal capacity and exceeding the capacity by 100%. This condition shows that even though relocation efforts have been made, the challenge of overcoming overcrowding in Boyolali Prison has not been fully resolved. Although the authorities stated that this condition can still

be managed well, overcrowding still risks creating problems with the comfort and quality of life of prisoners.

Overcrowding can disrupt the quality of life of prisoners, which in turn can have a negative impact on the process of their rehabilitation and reintegration into society. In addition, this overcapacity can also increase the potential for social and health problems in prison. Therefore, further steps are needed to overcome overcrowding, such as the construction of new, more adequate facilities or the implementation of more effective policies in managing the number of inmates. The government needs to take long-term action to address this problem in order to create better conditions for inmates and support a more effective correctional process.

- **Obstacles in Handling Overcrowding**

Handling overcrowding in Boyolali Class IIB Penitentiary faces various obstacles originating from internal and external factors. From the internal side, limited physical facilities are the main problem. Small detention spaces and poor sanitation worsen the condition, because inmates cannot move freely, which increases tensions between them and reduces the quality of life. Poor sanitation also increases the risk of spreading disease and health problems. In addition, the number of correctional officers that is not comparable to the number of inmates makes supervision, guidance, and rehabilitation less effective, which worsens the overcrowding condition. The lack of adequate rehabilitation programs, such as skills training, education, and mental and spiritual guidance, hinders the process of rehabilitating prisoners, which can cause them to re-engage in crime after being released. Therefore, in addition to increasing physical capacity, improving the quality of services and more effective rehabilitation programs are urgently needed.

Beban The limited workload of officers also worsens the problem of overcrowding. Officers must not only maintain security, but also handle various administrative aspects, supervision, and provide services to prisoners. Limited rehabilitation programs worsen the social and psychological conditions of prisoners, so that they feel there is no hope for change, which has the potential to worsen the cycle of crime.

On the external side, the high rate of detention caused by a suboptimal criminal justice system is the main factor. Many cases end up in temporary detention without considering alternatives such as parole or community-based supervision. The slow judicial process extends the detention period, which further worsens overcrowding. Therefore, reform is needed in the criminal justice system with an approach that focuses more on restorative justice and alternatives to detention.

Lack of budget support and government policies are also obstacles. Without adequate budget allocation, building facilities, improving sanitation, adding officers, and effective rehabilitation programs are difficult to implement. Government policies that are not optimal in overcoming overcrowding worsen this condition. In addition, the negative stigma of society towards prisoners hinders their reintegration process into society, which increases the risk of recidivism. Therefore, an active role is needed for the government in creating more inclusive policies and providing understanding to the community to reduce stigma towards prisoners, as well as improving the criminal justice system that is more based on rehabilitation and justice.

- **Solutions to Overcoming Overcrowding**

To overcome overcrowding in Boyolali Class IIB Detention Center, there are internal and external strategies that can be implemented. Internal strategies include optimizing existing facilities and increasing the capacity of officers. Rearranging cramped detention spaces and utilizing unused space, such as for coaching or education programs, can help reduce overcrowding. Technology, such as electronic monitoring systems, can also reduce the need for direct supervision, freeing up space for other activities. In addition, training for correctional officers is essential so that they can manage crowded situations more efficiently and provide better coaching to inmates, which in turn supports rehabilitation.

External strategies focus more on broader justice system policies and approaches. One of them is the implementation of alternatives to detention such as restorative justice and non-prison sentences (community service or restriction of freedom), which can reduce the number of inmates without ignoring the accountability of the perpetrators. This approach can encourage more constructive rehabilitation. In addition, increasing synergy between related institutions such as the police, prosecutors, and the Ministry of Law and Human Rights is very important for the efficiency of prison management. For example, the police and prosecutors can be more selective in carrying out detention with policies such as suspension of detention or remission. This policy will reduce the number of inmates, while at the same time facilitating the justice system.

Finally, policy advocacy that encourages rehabilitation-based criminal justice reform is key to overcoming overcrowding. The government needs to increase budget allocation for improving rehabilitation facilities and programs, and introduce alternative sentencing options. This reform also includes policies that speed up the judicial process, reduce delays, and increase more selective and fair detention selection. In addition, it is important to involve various elements of society in advocating for this policy in order to create a more humane and efficient justice system. By combining these internal and external strategies, it is hoped that the problem of overcrowding can be addressed more effectively, by creating a correctional system that focuses more on the rehabilitation and social reintegration of prisoners.

4. Conclusion

This study found that although Boyolali Class IIB Prison is facing quite serious overcrowding conditions, the prison authorities are still trying to fulfill the basic rights of prisoners, such as the right to worship, health services, decent food, legal aid, information, and humane treatment. The fulfillment of these rights is carried out through arranging service schedules, collaborating with external parties, and maximizing the use of available facilities. However, various obstacles remain the main obstacles, including limited facilities and infrastructure, lack of supervisors and supervisors, limited budget, and slow legal processes that have an impact on the high occupancy rate.

Overcrowding conditions not only have an impact on the quality of life of prisoners, but also hinder the rehabilitative function of correctional institutions. Rights such as education, recreation, privacy, and cleanliness are often neglected due to a greater focus on basic needs. These findings indicate a gap between the normative principles regulated in legislation and the reality of implementation in the field.

This study has limitations in the coverage area which only focuses on one prison, as well as the time of data collection which does not cover all crucial periods during the pandemic

or relocation period. In addition, the data obtained is mostly sourced from internal interviews, so it does not reflect external perspectives such as civil society organizations or independent oversight institutions.

As a recommendation, the author suggests policy reform through the implementation of alternative punishments such as social work, restorative justice, and community-based rehabilitation to reduce the burden on inmates. The government also needs to increase the budget and capacity of human resources in detention centers, and update regulations to be more adaptive to overcrowding situations. In addition, an independent oversight mechanism needs to be formed that involves civil society to ensure transparency and accountability in fulfilling prisoners' rights. Correctional system reform is not only about reducing the number of prisoners, but also about building a system that is just, humane, and upholds human rights.

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