

The Role of the Manado Police Criminal Investigation Unit in Suppressing Crimes Using Sharp Weapons

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ABSTRACT

Crimes involving the use of sharp weapons constitute a serious threat to public security and social order in urban areas. The widespread possession and misuse of sharp weapons have contributed to increasing levels of street crime, generating fear and insecurity within society. This study aims to analyze the role of the Criminal Investigation Unit (Satreskrim) of Manado City Police in suppressing crimes involving sharp weapons and to identify factors that hinder the effectiveness of its performance. This research employs an empirical juridical method, focusing on the implementation of normative legal provisions in real social conditions. Data were analyzed qualitatively through statutory review and field-based findings. The results indicate that Satreskrim Polresta Manado plays a strategic role as a law enforcement agency through preventive, repressive, and community-oriented measures, including patrols, investigations, and public engagement. However, the effectiveness of these efforts is constrained by limited personnel, insufficient technological support such as CCTV and information technology systems, and low public participation in providing information. The study concludes that strengthening human resources, technological infrastructure, and community cooperation is essential to enhance the effectiveness of law enforcement in suppressing crimes involving sharp weapons.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Crimes involving the use of sharp weapons are a form of violent crime that has a high level of risk to life safety and public order. The use of sharp weapons in various criminal acts, such as persecution, fights between groups, and street crimes, not only causes physical casualties, but also creates fear, anxiety, and insecurity in society. This phenomenon shows that crimes with sharp weapons are not only criminal law in nature, but also have a wide social impact on the stability and quality of life of the community (Muliadi, 2012).

In the urban context, crimes using sharp weapons tend to be influenced by various criminogenic factors, including uncontrolled social association, liquor consumption, conflicts between groups, and low

public legal awareness. In addition, the availability of sharp weapons that are relatively easy to obtain in daily life makes these objects vulnerable to misuse for criminal purposes. This condition increases the potential for spontaneous and planned criminal acts with a high level of violence (Anam, 2018).

Manado City as one of the centers of economic and social activity in North Sulawesi Province is inseparable from this dynamic. The growth of urban areas, high population mobility, and the heterogeneity of the social background of the community also affect the level of vulnerability to crime, including crimes using sharp weapons. In some cases, these criminal acts involve certain groups and occur in public spaces, causing unrest and lowering the sense of security of the community at large (Florida et al., 2023).

As an institution that has the main authority in maintaining public security and order, the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia plays a strategic role in tackling crime with sharp weapons. In the organizational structure of the police, the Criminal Investigation Unit (Satreskrim) functions as the unit responsible for the investigation and investigation of criminal acts. The role of Satreskrim is not only repressive through law enforcement against criminals, but also includes preventive and pre-emptive efforts to prevent criminal acts and build public legal awareness (Soekanto & Mamudji, 2015).

However, the effectiveness of the role of the Satreskrim in suppressing crime using sharp weapons is inseparable from various internal and external obstacles. Limited personnel, lack of support for technological facilities and infrastructure such as CCTV-based surveillance systems, and low public participation in providing information to law enforcement officials are factors that often hinder the optimization of law enforcement. In addition, the apathy and fear of the public to report have also weakened efforts to eradicate crime (Sinaulan, 2018).

In the perspective of modern law enforcement, the fight against crime with sharp weapons cannot rely solely on a repressive approach alone. A comprehensive and collaborative law enforcement strategy is needed by involving the community, local governments, and other stakeholders. Community-based approaches and strengthening community legal awareness are important elements in creating a safe and conducive environment (Marzuki, 2017).

Based on this background, the study of the role of the Manado Police Criminal Investigation Unit in suppressing crimes using sharp weapons is relevant to be studied academically. This article aims to analyze the role and strategy of the Manado Police Satreskrim in efforts to counter sharp armed crime and identify factors that affect the effectiveness of its implementation. The results of this study are expected to make a theoretical and practical contribution to the development of more effective law enforcement policies to improve public security and order.

2. METHODS

This research uses an empirical juridical legal research method, which is legal research that examines the application or implementation of normative legal provisions in law enforcement practices in society. This approach was chosen because the research not only examines the legal norms that govern the authority and role of the police, but also examines how these roles are carried out factually by the Criminal Investigation Unit (Satreskrim) of the Manado Police in suppressing crimes that use sharp weapons. With an empirical juridical method, this research is able to connect between law as a norm (law in the books) and law in practice (law in action).

The research approaches used include juridical approaches and sociological approaches. The juridical approach is carried out by examining laws and regulations related to the police and the criminal act of using sharp weapons, including Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia, the Criminal Code (KUHP), the Criminal Procedure Code (KUHAP), and Emergency Law Number 12 of 1951 concerning Sharp Weapons. Meanwhile, a sociological approach is used to understand the social reality of law enforcement, especially the role of the Manado Police Criminal Investigation Unit and the factors that affect the effectiveness of its performance in suppressing sharp weapon crimes.

The data sources in this study consist of primary data and secondary data. Primary data was obtained through field research conducted in the jurisdiction of the Manado Police, by digging up information from police officers serving in the Criminal Investigation Unit, especially related to crime prevention strategies, law enforcement patterns, and obstacles faced in practice. Secondary data was obtained through library research which included laws and regulations, criminal law and police textbooks, scientific journals, previous research results, and official documents relevant to the research topic.

Data collection techniques are carried out through document studies, interviews, and literature studies. The study of documents is used to examine internal police regulations and policies related to the handling of crimes using sharp weapons. Interviews were conducted in a limited and targeted manner with police officers in order to obtain an empirical picture of the role of the Manado Police Satreskrim in suppressing these crimes. The literature study is carried out to strengthen the theoretical and conceptual framework of the research.

The data obtained were then analyzed qualitatively descriptively, by grouping, interpreting, and connecting normative and empirical data to answer research problems. The analysis was carried out by assessing the suitability between the applicable legal provisions and law enforcement practices by the Manado Police Satreskrim, as well as identifying inhibiting factors in efforts to combat crime using sharp weapons. The results of the analysis are then used to draw conclusions and provide relevant recommendations for increasing the effectiveness of the police role.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

1. Overview of Crimes Using Sharp Weapons in the Jurisdiction of the Manado Police

Based on the results of empirical research, the crime of using sharp weapons in the jurisdiction of the Manado Police is still a form of violent crime that causes public unrest. This type of crime is generally in the form of persecution, fights between individuals or groups, as well as street crimes that involve the use of knives, machetes, or other sharp weapons. This pattern shows that sharp weapons are often used as a tool to increase the threat in violent crimes, especially in public spaces. These findings are in line with the research of Muliadi (2012) who stated that violent crimes with sharp weapons have a strong correlation with weak social control and uncondusive environmental conditions.

Factors that trigger crime using sharp weapons in Manado include liquor consumption, conflicts between groups, and the influence of the social environment. Research by Lewoleba and Fahrozi (2020) confirms that alcohol consumption and social conflict are the dominant factors that increase the escalation of violence in society. This condition reinforces the finding that the handling of sharp gun crime cannot be separated from social and preventive approaches other than criminal law enforcement.

2. The Repressive Role of the Manado Police Criminal Investigation Unit

The results of the study show that the Manado Police Satreskrim carries out a repressive role through investigations and investigations of perpetrators of crimes using sharp weapons. The action was carried out based on the provisions of the Criminal Code and Emergency Law Number 12 of 1951 concerning Sharp Weapons. This repressive step aims to provide a deterrent effect to the perpetrators and maintain the stability of public security. According to Widodo (2020), repressive law enforcement is an important element in controlling violent crimes, especially in urban areas that have a high level of vulnerability.

However, the effectiveness of the repressive approach still faces limitations. Research by Florida, Sapari, and Suriyanto (2023) shows that law enforcement that is not balanced with structural prevention tends to be reactive and has not been able to significantly reduce crime rates. This is also reflected in the findings of this study, where despite the crackdown, crimes using sharp weapons still continue to occur.

3. The Role of Satreskrim

In addition to repressive law enforcement, the Manado Police Satreskrim also carries out a preventive role through routine patrols and raids on sharp weapons in crime-prone areas. This effort aims to prevent criminal acts before a crime occurs. This preventive approach is in line with the concept of crime prevention which emphasizes the importance of the presence of law enforcement officers in public spaces as a form of deterrence (Sutrisno, 2021).

Efforts are made through approaches to the community, such as legal counseling and security appeals. This approach reflects the implementation of *community policing* that places the community as a strategic partner of the police. Sinaulan (2018) emphasized that the success of law enforcement is greatly influenced by the level of trust and public participation in supporting police duties. However, the results of the study show that public participation in providing information is still relatively low, thus limiting the effectiveness of the pre-emptive approach.

4. Inhibiting Factors in Suppressing Sharp Gun Crime

This study found that there are internal and external factors that hinder the role of the Manado Police Criminal Investigation Unit in suppressing crime using sharp weapons. Internal factors include limited personnel, high workload, and lack of support for technological facilities and infrastructure, such as CCTV-based surveillance systems. Anam (2018) stated that the limited resources of law enforcement officials have a direct impact on the effectiveness of supervision and enforcement of violent crimes.

External factors include low public legal awareness, the culture of carrying sharp weapons, and people's fear of reporting to law enforcement officials. This condition is strengthened by the findings of Lewoleba and Fahrozi (2020) who stated that low community participation is one of the main obstacles in crime prevention efforts. These factors suggest that tackling sharp gun crime requires a multidimensional approach involving social, cultural, and legal aspects.

5. Law Enforcement Implications and Critical Analysis

From the perspective of law enforcement, the results of this study show that the role of the Manado Police Satreskrim has been carried out in accordance with the normative authority regulated in Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia. However, the effectiveness of this role still needs to be improved through strengthening preventive and collaborative strategies. Widodo (2020) emphasized that law enforcement that is oriented towards enforcement alone is not enough to address violent crimes in a sustainable manner.

In the author's view, stronger synergy is needed between the police, local governments, and the community in suppressing crime using sharp weapons. An integrated approach that combines law enforcement, social prevention, and increasing public legal awareness is the main key to success. This is in line with the view of Sutrisno (2021) who emphasized that strengthening the role of the police must be directed at the development of social partnerships to create public security and order in a sustainable manner.

Based on the results of the normative study and empirical findings, the author argues that the efforts of the Manado Police Satreskrim in suppressing crime using sharp weapons have shown a fairly consistent commitment to law enforcement, especially through repressive actions against criminals. However, the author considers that the approach that is still dominant in the form of enforcement has not been fully able to answer the complexity of the social factors behind sharp weapon crimes. In the author's view, the effectiveness of crime prevention will be more optimal if the law enforcement strategy is balanced with the strengthening of preventive and pre-emptive approaches that involve active community participation and policy support of local governments. Without this synergy, law enforcement has the potential to be only reactive and short-term. Therefore, the author is of the view that strengthening the role of Satreskrim needs to be directed to a collaborative, community-based, and

prevention-oriented law enforcement model in order to create public security and order more effectively.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the research and discussion, it can be concluded that the crime of using sharp weapons in the jurisdiction of the Manado Police is still a real threat to public security and order. The triggering factors for these crimes are complex, including liquor consumption, social conflicts, low legal awareness, and weak public participation in crime prevention efforts. This condition shows that sharp weapons crime cannot be understood solely as a criminal law problem, but also as a social problem that requires comprehensive handling.

The Manado Police Criminal Investigation Unit has carried out its role in accordance with its legal authority, both through repressive law enforcement in the form of investigations and investigations of criminals, as well as through preventive and pre-emptive efforts such as patrols, sharp weapon raids, and approaches to the community. However, the effectiveness of this role still faces various obstacles, especially limited human resources, lack of support for technological facilities and infrastructure, and low public participation in supporting law enforcement.

Therefore, countering crime using sharp weapons requires strengthening a more integrated and sustainable law enforcement strategy. Synergy between the police, local governments, and the community is the main key in creating public security and order. A law enforcement approach that combines repressive actions with community-based prevention efforts is expected to increase the effectiveness of the role of the Manado Police Satreskrim in suppressing crime using sharp weapons in a sustainable manner.

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