

The Effectiveness of Correctional Institutions in Providing Health Care Facilities to Prisoners (Study at Class II A Binjai Prison)

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Abstract

Correctional Institution officers in the development of inmates in correctional institutions act as mentors and educators, social workers, guardians or parents, security guards, and communicators with the community, ensuring that the development progresses quickly and accurately according to established programs.

This research was conducted in Binjai City, specifically at the Class II A Binjai Correctional Institution (Lapas) Office. This research used an empirical juridical approach, and data obtained in the field were presented descriptively using an empirical normative approach.

This study aimed to determine the function of correctional institutions in providing guidance to inmates and the obstacles they face in developing the character and personality of inmates. Based on the research results, the author found that correctional institutions implement their development programs effectively based on the provisions of Law Number 12 of 1995, which was amended to Law Number 22 of 2002 concerning Corrections, referring to Government Regulation Number 32 of 1999 concerning the requirements and procedures for implementing the rights of inmates. The obstacles faced in implementing the character and personality formation of correctional inmates are the low interest of the inmates themselves in participating in the development program, the lack of adequate correctional technical personnel, the lack of enthusiasm of officers to carry out their duties, officers lacking mastery in their respective fields of duty, and the lack of supporting facilities and infrastructure in carrying out duties.

Keywords: Effectiveness, Correctional Institutions, Health Facilities, Inmates.

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Introduction

The 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia and Pancasila as the foundation of the state. The 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, as the constitution, is the highest legal basis of the Indonesian nation, serving as the basis for the formation of regulations or laws governing public interests. These regulations are essentially part of governing every aspect of society.

This means that the constitution guarantees legal protection for every citizen, not only providing protection for constitutional mandates, which are outlined in various regulations that can provide guidance to every state institution, especially correctional institutions. The imposition of criminal penalties is not merely an act of revenge, but, most importantly, an effort to provide guidance and protection. This protection is intended for the community, as well as for the convicts themselves, so they can repent and become good members of society.

Thus, the new concept of punishment is no longer merely imprisonment but also an effort to rehabilitate and socially reintegrate. This concept in Indonesia is referred to as the Correctional System. The correctional system is regulated in the Republic of Indonesia Law Number 12 of 1995 which was amended to become the Republic of Indonesia Law Number 22 of 2022 concerning Corrections. The definition of the correctional system according to the law is as follows: "The correctional system is a system that regulates the direction, boundaries, and methods of fostering correctional inmates based on Pancasila, implemented in an integrated manner between the inmates, the inmates, and the community to improve the quality of inmates so that they recognize their mistakes, improve themselves, and refrain from repeating criminal acts. Thus, they can be accepted back into society, can actively participate in development, and can live normally as good and responsible citizens. To realize the role of correctional institutions, firm action is needed and to be a role model so that Indonesia can become a state based on the rule of law. Therefore, the existence of Indonesia as a state based on the rule of law must be proven by the existence of state power institutions."

The concept of correctional was refined by the decision of the prison leadership service conference on April 27, 1964, which decided that the implementation of imprisonment in Indonesia would be carried out through the correctional system. A statement that, in addition to being a goal, imprisonment can also be a means of guidance and development. The correctional system is a refinement of the prison system, starting from the idea of the need for better treatment of inmates. Inmates. Although the correctional system is essentially implemented to achieve its goals, there is an element of retribution for the actions of inmates.

Prisoner development is one of the most important components of crime prevention efforts in the Indonesian criminal justice system. Development is part of the process of rehabilitating inmates' character and behavior during their sentence of deprivation of liberty, so that upon their release from prison, they are ready to reintegrate into society. Corrections are the final component of the criminal justice system within the Integrated Criminal Justice System.

Corrections are part of the criminal justice system that aims for resocialization. Therefore, to achieve the goals of the criminal justice system, particularly resocialization, a system known as correctional institutions is needed, which must be implemented in the process of developing inmates.

Based on the above background, the author is interested in conducting a study entitled "The Effectiveness of Correctional Institutions in Providing Health Facilities for Inmates (Study at Class II A Prison)" Binjai".

Literature Review

According to Soerjono Soekanto, the theory of legal effectiveness defines effectiveness as the extent to which a group can achieve its goals. A law is considered effective if it has a positive legal impact, achieving its goal of directing or changing human behavior, thus

establishing legal behavior. Discussing legal effectiveness leads to a discussion of the power of law to regulate and/or compel society to obey the law. Law is effective if the factors influencing it function optimally.

The effectiveness of a law or regulation is achieved when society behaves in accordance with the expectations or desires of the statute. From the various definitions of effectiveness above, effectiveness is defined as a level or benchmark for the success of a predetermined action or effort. Legislation, whether at a higher or lower level, aims to ensure that both the public and law enforcement officials can implement it consistently and without discrimination. Everyone is considered equal before the law (equality before the law).

Research Methodology

In this study, the approach used to solve the problem is an empirical juridical approach. The intended juridical approach is to view law as a norm (*das sollen*), because in discussing the problem in this study, legal materials (both written and unwritten law, or primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials) are used. Meanwhile, the empirical approach views law as a social and cultural reality (*das sein*) because this study uses primary data obtained directly from the research location.

The intended empirical juridical approach in this study is to analyze the formulated problem by combining primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials (which constitute secondary data) with primary data obtained in the field, namely legal regulations concerning the provision of guidance at the Class II A Binjai Penitentiary..

Results and Discussion

4.1 The Function of Correctional Institutions in Providing Health Facilities to Inmates at Class II A Binjai Prison

Correctional institution officers work based on the Decree of the Minister of Justice of the Republic of Indonesia dated February 26, 1985, No. 01.PR.07.03 of 1985. The officers are divided into sections, namely the student guidance section, work activity section, administration section, security and discipline section, and the Correctional Security Unit (KPLP). These sections are responsible for their duties under the leadership of the Head of the Correctional Institution.

Officers, also referred to as personnel, have the responsibility of guiding inmates who have violated the law and rehabilitating them based on the correctional system. This is not an easy task, as the correctional system requires not only adequate facilities but also high performance. Performance is the result achieved by an individual or group within an organization in accordance with their authority and responsibilities. Officers are a crucial element in the rehabilitation of inmates. Officers must have the ability to perform their duties because guiding inmates is not only related to the inmates themselves but also involves the community, which is expected to actively and positively participate in inmate rehabilitation.

Based on field data from the Correctional Database System (SDP) dated October 17, 2025, the total number of inmates at Class II A Binjai Prison is 1,628, with 172 detainees and 1,457 convicted inmates. The prison's capacity is ideally 857 inmates. Meanwhile, the number of officers and employees at the Class II A Binjai Prison is only 150. This data indicates that Class II A Binjai Prison is over capacity, requiring the officers to increase their personnel and enhance their capabilities.

To improve the capabilities of officers in carrying out their duties as mentors for inmates and students in the prison, it is necessary to optimize the performance of the officers themselves. This can be done by identifying the officers' potential in specific fields and assigning them tasks related to their skills or knowledge. This approach is expected to help achieve the goals of enhancing officer performance. Discipline and mature character are inseparable in correctional duties, which involve guiding human behavior with sincerity and a desire to act

positively. If officers lack discipline or proper character, serving as role models for inmates, the intended goals cannot be achieved.

The success of inmate rehabilitation largely depends on the correctional officers, as they directly interact with the inmates. Therefore, officers hold a central role in the rehabilitation process, and their quality affects the outcome of the rehabilitation. The roles of correctional officers in the inmate rehabilitation system include:

1. Officers as Mentors and Educators

The primary duty of correctional officers is to act as mentors or educators to help inmates become aware and capable of contributing to society after completing their sentences. Correctional institutions are encouraged to provide guidance to inmates based on their needs for psychological and skill development. Officers must plan, implement, and evaluate the rehabilitation process and the development of inmates as students. In some cases, educators or mentors may be brought from outside, such as religious lecturers or skilled instructors from the Job Training Center (BLK). This indicates that correctional officers may not always possess sufficient professional skills and may require external support.

2. Officers as Social Worker

As social workers, correctional officers must treat inmates humanely, fostering good relationships between officers and inmates and among inmates themselves, creating cooperation within the institution. Research shows that the relationship between officers and inmates at Class II A Binjai Prison has been well-established. Officers assist inmates in skill development, provide guidance on living properly, and help reduce feelings of inferiority, anxiety, fear, or uncertainty when reintegrating into society, all without expecting anything in return. Officers should demonstrate exemplary behavior, avoiding actions such as taking or requesting inmates' food or cigarettes unless voluntarily given, and must treat all inmates fairly.

3. Officers as Guardians or Parents

Officers should avoid displaying inappropriate or indifferent behavior and remain responsive to inmate concerns. Failure to act fairly among inmates can cause inmates to feel alienated and resolve issues independently.

4. Officers as Security Maintainers

One of the functions of officers is maintaining security. They ensure order in the rehabilitation process and prevent or manage disturbances, such as inmate fights, and safeguard equipment and institutional facilities. In case of disturbances, the Correctional Security Unit (KPLP) and other officers take security measures according to regulations, such as processing incidents, separating inmates, or applying disciplinary sanctions like cleaning duties or solitary confinement.

According to research conducted at the prison, the rehabilitation process begins when an inmate first enters the facility, undergoes a physical examination, and completes registration. Inmates are then placed in designated rooms/blocks to undergo the Environmental Introduction Period (MAPENALING) for seven days. After completing MAPENALING, inmates are placed in shared rooms/blocks with other inmates for the rehabilitation process, which is divided into:

1. Rehabilitation phase: carried out during the first one-third to one-half of the sentence with maximum security supervision.
2. Assimilation phase: carried out from one-half to two-thirds of the sentence, inside or outside the prison, with medium security supervision.
3. Integration phase: carried out after two-thirds of the sentence until the end of the sentence.

In general, the provision of rehabilitation in Indonesian correctional institutions follows procedures outlined in Law No. 12 of 1995, amended to Law No. 22 of 2022 on Corrections,

and Government Regulation No. 32 of 1999 on the Rehabilitation of Inmates. However, some inconsistencies are still found during the rehabilitation process in prisons.

Field data from Class II A Binjai Prison shows that the prison has a health facility called the Pratama Clinic Class II A Binjai Prison, which has obtained an operational permit from the Investment and Integrated Service Office of Binjai City, No. 400.7/001-SIO-K/DPMPTSP/XI/2024. The clinic plays an essential role in providing inmates with health facilities. The clinic staff includes two female doctors, one female dental nurse, one male general nurse, and two male health data officers.

The Pratama Clinic Class II A Binjai Prison also has a cooperation agreement with DR. R.M. DJOELHAM Regional General Hospital in Binjai, No. 119/537/RSUD.DJOELHAM/I/2023, to handle inmates with conditions that cannot be treated at the clinic. Health services provided include:

1. Outpatient services
2. Inpatient services
3. Medical support services
4. Emergency services
5. Medication services

Inmates requiring health services outside the prison clinic must meet the procedural requirements of the cooperation agreement with DR. R.M. DJOELHAM Hospital:

1. Presenting an ASKES/BPJS/KIS membership card
2. A referral letter from a doctor at the prison clinic
3. In emergency situations, these requirements may be fulfilled afterward.

Inmates receive health services from DR. R.M. DJOELHAM Hospital in Binjai according to the applicable health/social insurance standards. The security of inmates during hospitalization is maintained by correctional officers.

4.2 Obstacles Faced in Implementing Character and Personality Development and Providing Health Facilities for Inmates at Class II A Binjai Prison

In the process of inmate rehabilitation, various obstacles are encountered, coming from officers, inmates, society, facilities and infrastructure, as well as administrative issues. Obstacles from officers include the lack of experts in psychology or technical skills, and even when available, their numbers are very limited. Efforts to overcome this have included bringing in temporary officers from outside, such as religious lecturers, doctors, sociologists, and technical staff from the Indonesian Job Training Center (BLK) branch in Medan.

Another obstacle in implementing inmate rehabilitation at Class II A Binjai Prison is the low work motivation of officers, which causes the rehabilitation process to not run effectively. This indicates that the rehabilitation goals are not fully achieved. Therefore, special attention must be given to the officers as human resources, as the success of the rehabilitation process largely depends on their knowledge, skills, and the support of adequate facilities and infrastructure. The causes of obstacles include:

- The rehabilitation program is not being implemented effectively.
- Low interest of inmates in participating in rehabilitation programs.
- Insufficient technical correctional staff.
- Low motivation of officers to perform their duties.
- Officers lack mastery in their respective duties.
- Inadequate support from facilities and infrastructure for task execution.

Considering these issues and the goals to be achieved, the most effective solution, in the author's opinion, is to conduct periodic briefings and strict supervision. These obstacles have resulted in the rehabilitation system for inmates not being implemented properly and consistently.

1. Obstacles from Inmates

Obstacles from inmates include many inmates not understanding the purpose of the rehabilitation program. They still view themselves as unfree individuals who have committed crimes and are difficult to reintegrate into society. Some inmates resist officers' instructions and violate prison rules, which are actually designed for their own benefit.

2. Obstacles from Society

Article 2(b) of Law No. 22 of 2022 on Corrections states that the correctional system is organized so that inmates realize their mistakes, improve themselves, and do not repeat the crimes they committed. Society has a significant influence on the rehabilitation process because inmates will eventually return to the community after serving their sentences. Obstacles from society include negative perceptions, where Class II A Binjai Prison is often still referred to as a "prison for bad people." Other obstacles include the lack of visits or support from family members and the absence of guarantees from victims' families that they will not seek revenge. To address this, the prison strives to provide the best possible rehabilitation so that inmates do not commit crimes again after returning to society. Over time, this can change society's perception and provide information about the rehabilitation process through media, newspapers, or other channels to improve the public's view of inmates.

3. Obstacles Related to Facilities and Infrastructure

In implementing inmate rehabilitation at Class II A Binjai Prison, obstacles related to facilities and infrastructure are encountered. These include inadequate buildings, which are already overcapacity, and a shortage of staff.

Additionally, obstacles in providing health services to inmates include the insufficient number of healthcare workers. The limited number of medical personnel at Class II A Binjai Prison hinders the provision of adequate healthcare. Furthermore, inmates often do not have complete administrative documentation, such as BPJS Health cards, and lack initiative to manage their personal and health-related administrative records.

Conclusion

1. The function of correctional officers in inmate rehabilitation at the Correctional Institution includes acting as mentors and educators, social workers, guardians or parental figures, maintainers of security, and communicators with the community. This is aimed at ensuring that the rehabilitation process runs efficiently and accurately according to the established program, and in accordance with Law Number 22 of 2022 on Corrections and Government Regulation Number 32 of 1999 on the Requirements and Procedures for Implementing the Rights of Correctional Inmates.
2. The obstacles faced by Class II A Binjai Correctional Institution in implementing character and personality development for inmates include ineffective implementation of the rehabilitation program, low interest of inmates in participating in rehabilitation activities, insufficient technical correctional staff, low motivation of officers in performing their duties, officers' lack of expertise in their respective fields, and inadequate support from facilities and infrastructure in carrying out tasks..

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