

## Reformulation of Criminal Sanctions for Perpetrators of Domestic Violence in the Modern Era

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### Abstract

This study aims to assess the effectiveness of punishment for perpetrators of domestic violence (DV) based on Law Number 23 of 2004 concerning the Elimination of Domestic Violence. Furthermore, this study aims to develop a concept for reformulating sanctions that better align with the legal demands of today's society. The method used in this study is a normative legal method with an approach encompassing legislation, concepts, and comparisons. The data used were obtained through a literature review covering primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials, and analyzed using descriptive qualitative analysis to identify deficiencies in the legal substance and patterns of sanction application in court practice. The results of the analysis indicate that criminal penalties in the DV Law still focus on a retributive perspective and do not include restorative and rehabilitative values. As a result, these sanctions are ineffective in creating a deterrent effect or in preventing recurrence of violence. The findings of this study emphasize the need to develop criminal sanctions that integrate a restorative justice approach. This approach will emphasize the moral responsibility of the perpetrator, recovery for the victim, and strengthening the family as a social unit. This reformulation is expected to produce a more humane criminal law system, capable of adapting to developments over time, and focused on substantial justice.

Keywords: development of criminal sanctions, domestic violence, restorative justice, contemporary law

## INTRODUCTION

Domestic violence (DV) is a complex and multifaceted human rights violation. Its impact is felt not only physically and mentally by victims but also shakes the social and moral fabric of families. The issue of domestic violence is not new in Indonesia; it has long been part of the social and cultural dynamics of a society still steeped in patriarchal thought patterns and inequality in relationships between men and women. In the modern legal context, domestic violence has been recognized as a crime that endangers the values of humanity and justice, thus obliging the state to implement strict laws and effectively protect victims.

The enactment of Law Number 23 of 2004 concerning the Elimination of Domestic Violence (UU PKDRT) marked a significant milestone in Indonesian legal history. This law affirms that all forms of domestic violence, whether physical, psychological, sexual, or neglect, are criminal acts subject to sanctions. However, after nearly twenty years in effect, the effectiveness of implementing criminal sanctions under this law remains questionable. Many domestic violence incidents end with light sentences, amicable settlements, or even no prosecution, primarily due to cultural factors, financial dependence, and weak legal protection for victims.

In the judicial process, the approach to perpetrators of domestic violence tends to be influenced by a retributive paradigm, namely the view that punishment is intended to repay the perpetrator's actions. This paradigm makes punishment a repressive tool, rather than a way to correct the perpetrator's behavior or restore the victim's well-being. However, in a more modern context, punishment should also serve as prevention and rehabilitation, so that perpetrators realize their mistakes and do not repeat the same actions. A punitive approach that focuses solely on sanctions without addressing the social and psychological roots of domestic violence can actually reinforce the cycle of violence.

Furthermore, the Domestic Violence Law does not clearly regulate the restorative justice approach, which could be an alternative option for resolving certain domestic violence cases. Restorative justice is an approach that emphasizes improving social relationships between perpetrators, victims, and the community, rather than simply imposing punishment. In cases of domestic violence, restorative justice can play a crucial role in healing the victim's trauma, educating the perpetrator, and improving family dynamics without neglecting the principles of justice and human rights protection.

The rise in domestic violence cases in the modern era is also closely related to rapid social change, including shifting gender roles, economic pressures, and advances in information technology. Digital media has created space for the emergence of new forms of violence, such as psychological violence through social media, digital control of partners, and the non-consensual distribution of private content. This requires the criminal justice system to adapt, both in substance, structure, and legal culture, to meet the challenges of the times. Reform of criminal sanctions is crucial so that the law functions not only as a tool of repression but also as a vehicle for social transformation.

From a criminal law policy perspective, reformulating prison sentences involves efforts to improve legal elements, enforcement methods, and legal culture. The provisions relating to punishment in the Domestic Violence Law need to be reviewed to be more balanced and in line with the modern goals of criminal justice: justice, benefit, and legal certainty. The legal structure, specifically those responsible, such as police, prosecutors, and judges, should have a gender perspective and understand the social context behind domestic violence cases. Furthermore, society needs to change its legal culture so that it no longer views domestic violence as a private matter taboo for open discussion.

The shortcomings in the application of criminal penalties to domestic violence cases can be seen from several angles. First, from a normative perspective, where the criminal

provisions in the law still allow for different interpretations, which allows for inconsistent punishments. Second, in law enforcement, many officers still hold gender biases or are insensitive to victims, so the legal process often does not support true justice. Third, from a social and cultural perspective, where victims often feel pressure from their environment or economy to reconcile with their perpetrators, so that the deterrent effect of punishment is not achieved. In this situation, reformulating criminal penalties must go beyond simply increasing penalties; it is crucial to create more efficient, just, and humane legal mechanisms.

Several developed countries have implemented innovations in the criminal justice system for perpetrators of domestic violence. For example, in the United States, there is a program called the Domestic Violence Intervention Program that requires perpetrators to attend counseling sessions and emotional management training. In the Netherlands, they use the Family Group Conference approach to improve social relationships between perpetrators, victims, and families. In Australia, a restorative justice system has become part of criminal law policy related to domestic violence. These models emphasize that the purpose of punishment is not only to punish, but also to improve behavior, help victims, and restore social harmony. Indonesia can learn from these practices by adapting them to the local cultural context and the values of Pancasila.

Under Indonesian law, reformulating penalties for perpetrators of domestic violence should focus on three key points. First, applying balanced and fair sanctions, taking into account the level of culpability, the impact of the act, and the social conditions of both parties. Second, strengthening rehabilitation mechanisms for perpetrators through psychological counseling, behavioral therapy, and social development programs. Third, providing protection and recovery for victims, including restitution, compensation, and security guarantees and legal assistance. Thus, criminal law can function as a tool that is not only repressive but also has preventive and curative properties.

Reformulating penalties for perpetrators of domestic violence aligns with the principles of national legal reform, as outlined in the National Medium-Term Development Plan and modern criminal law policies. Legal changes should aim to create a legal system that is responsive to social change, prioritizes humanitarian values, and provides protection to vulnerable groups, including women and children. In this context, justice is measured not only by the severity of the punishment imposed, but also by the extent to which the law can bring about social change and real protection for victims.

Based on this, this study arose from concerns regarding the low effectiveness of punishment for perpetrators of domestic violence and the importance of a new approach to the criminal justice system in Indonesia. Changing criminal sanctions does not aim to eliminate all existing mechanisms, but rather to improve and adapt them to the increasingly complex needs of modern justice. Formulation of the problem: What are the current criminal sanctions for perpetrators of domestic violence in the Indonesian legal system? What are the shortcomings and challenges in implementing criminal sanctions against perpetrators of domestic violence in Indonesia? What is the ideal concept of criminal sanctions for perpetrators of domestic violence in today's era so that it can provide balanced justice for both victims and perpetrators?

This research has the aim to: Analyzing the regulation and implementation of criminal sanctions against perpetrators of domestic violence according to Law No. 23 of 2004; Identify factors that cause criminal sanctions against perpetrators of domestic violence to be ineffective; Formulate a concept of criminal sanctions that are more efficient, fair, and in accordance with current societal developments.

Theoretically, this research is expected to contribute to the advancement of legal science, particularly in the field of criminal law and criminal policy, by offering a more humane and contextually appropriate sanction model.

Practically, the results of this study are expected to provide input for policy makers (legislators) in revising the Domestic Violence Law and for law enforcement officers in adopting a fairer and more effective approach in handling domestic violence cases.

Sociologically, this research is expected to increase public awareness of the importance of justice that supports victims and encourages the formation of a legal culture that respects humanitarian values and gender equality.

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

### **1. Types and Characteristics of Research**

This research is normative legal research (doctrinal research) that focuses on the analysis of positive legal norms applicable in the Indonesian legal system, particularly those related to criminal sanctions for perpetrators of domestic violence (KDRT). Normative legal research was chosen because the issues discussed are conceptual and normative, namely examining how the law should function (*das sollen*), not just how the law is applied in practice (*das sein*). This research is prescriptive-analytical, analyzing existing legal norms to identify weaknesses, inconsistencies, and opportunities for improvement, as well as providing conceptual recommendations for refining more ideal criminal sanctions. With this approach, the research is not limited to describing positive law but also proposes a conceptual model as a basis for future reform of national criminal law.

### **2. Research Methods**

In normative legal research, the methods used are multidimensional to obtain a holistic analysis. The methods applied include:

#### **Legislative Method**

This method was adopted to analyze legal provisions governing domestic violence, particularly Law Number 23 of 2004 concerning the Elimination of Domestic Violence, as well as other relevant laws and regulations, such as the Criminal Code (KUHP), Law Number 12 of 2022 concerning Criminal Acts of Sexual Violence, and Law Number 39 of 1999 concerning Human Rights. Through this method, researchers analyzed the norms, structures, and criminal sanctions regulated, and identified alignments between the regulations.

This method is used to review theoretical concepts regarding punishment, restorative justice, and the reformulation of criminal sanctions proposed by criminal law experts. The conceptual method allows researchers to evaluate whether the criminal sanction system in the Domestic Violence Law aligns with developments in modern criminal theory that emphasize substantial justice, victim restoration, and perpetrator rehabilitation.

This method is conducted by comparing the criminal justice systems for domestic violence perpetrators in several other countries, such as the United States, the Netherlands, and Australia, which have implemented models of punishment oriented toward rehabilitation and restorative justice. This comparison aims to gain alternative insights into the legal system that can serve as inspiration for formulating a reformulation model for criminal sanctions in Indonesia.

Although this research focuses primarily on normative studies, sociological methods are used as a complement to understand the reality of legal implementation in society. Through secondary data analysis, researchers evaluated reports, court decisions, and data from the National Commission on Violence Against Women and victim protection agencies to illustrate the discrepancy between legal norms and their implementation in the field.

### 3. Types and Sources of Legal Materials

This research utilizes three types of legal materials, namely: Primary Legal Materials, which consist of legal materials that are authoritative and binding, include: Law Number 23 of 2004 concerning the Elimination of Domestic Violence; Criminal Code (KUHP); Law Number 12 of 2022 concerning Criminal Acts of Sexual Violence; Law Number 39 of 1999 concerning Human Rights; Court decisions relevant to domestic violence cases; International conventions, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), which has been ratified by Indonesia through Law Number 7 of 1984.

Secondary Legal Material, namely legal material that provides information or explanations regarding primary legal material. This material includes:

Textbooks related to criminal law and human rights;

Academic journals, legal writings, and previous research results related to legal revision and restorative justice;

Annual reports from the National Commission on Violence Against Women, legal aid institutions, and non-governmental organizations that focus on domestic violence issues.

Tertiary Legal Materials, namely materials that support understanding of primary and secondary legal materials, including legal dictionaries, legal encyclopedias, and official online sources from government and academic institutions.

### 4. Legal Material Collection Techniques

Legal material collection is conducted through library research. Researchers collect and review primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials from various sources, such as:

University libraries and legal research institutions;

National and international legal data sets (e.g. JDIH Kemenkumham, HeinOnline, JSTOR, and Google Scholar);

Official documents from state institutions and civil society organizations.

The collection process is carried out in a planned manner by identifying appropriate legal norms, recording expert views, and reviewing implementation through court decisions and annual reports from relevant institutions.

### 5. Legal Material Analysis Techniques

The legal materials that have been collected are analyzed using descriptive qualitative analysis methods, through the following stages:

- a. Inventory and Classification, namely grouping legal materials based on their level of importance and relevance to research problems, both at national and international levels;
- b. Legal Interpretation, namely explaining legal provisions using several methods, including;
- c. Grammatical interpretation, to understand the meaning of legal terms in regulations;
- d. Systematic interpretation, to interpret legal norms in the context of the entire legal system;
- e. Teleological interpretation, to understand the intent and purpose behind the creation of legal norms; Comparative Analysis, to compare the criminal sanctions system related to domestic violence in Indonesia with other countries, in order to find deficiencies and improvements that can be made;
- f. Prescriptive Analysis, to develop conceptual ideas and recommendations regarding the ideal model for changing criminal sanctions in accordance with modern criminal law theory and restorative justice.

Through this analysis, the research results are not only descriptive, but also provide conceptual ideas to address normative problems in regulating criminal sanctions for perpetrators of domestic violence.

## **6. Validity and Validity of Data**

The validity of data in normative legal research is maintained through source and theory triangulation methods. Source triangulation is conducted by comparing various legal materials (such as statutes, court decisions, and academic studies) to ensure consistency in interpretation. Meanwhile, theory triangulation is conducted by referring to several criminal law theories—such as the theory of the purpose of punishment, the theory of restorative justice, and the theory of criminal law policy—to test the validity of the legal arguments developed. In addition, the analysis process also uses the legal hermeneutics method, which places legal texts in their social and historical context, so that the research results are not only normative but also contextual to changes in modern society.

## **7. Location and Time of Research**

This research was conducted from January to May 2025, primarily at the University of Indonesia Faculty of Law Library, the National Library, and the National Digital Legal Resource Center (JDIH). Legal material collection and analysis were conducted simultaneously to ensure the research findings remain relevant to current legal issues related to domestic violence and changes in criminal law.

## **8. Research Flow of Thought**

This research process is structured in an orderly manner, starting with problem identification, legal document collection, analysis of applicable legal norms, assessment of deficiencies in the application of criminal sanctions, and finally, determining the concept for developing an ideal criminal sanction. In this way, it is hoped that this research will contribute both theoretically and practically to criminal law policy related to the elimination of domestic violence.

# **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

## **1. General Overview of Criminal Sanctions for Domestic Violence (KDRT) in Indonesia**

Domestic violence is a violation of human rights and a criminal act that threatens the dignity of individuals, particularly women and children. In Indonesia, regulations regarding domestic violence are specifically regulated in Law Number 23 of 2004, which focuses on the Elimination of Domestic Violence (UU PKDRT). This law marked a pivotal milestone in the history of protection for victims of gender-based violence in this country.

Normatively, Articles 44 to 53 of the Domestic Violence Law stipulate various types of criminal sanctions for perpetrators of domestic violence, including physical, psychological, and sexual violence, and domestic neglect. The types of criminal sanctions regulated include: Prison sentences (ranging from 3 months to 15 years); Fines (between Rp. 15 million and Rp. 300 million).

Although legally considered quite comprehensive, in practice, many shortcomings remain, preventing the goal of victim protection from being fully realized. Several court decisions indicate that perpetrators are often given sentences disproportionate to the impact on the victims. For example, in Denpasar District Court Decision No. 174/Pid.Sus/2022/PN Dps, a perpetrator of physical violence against his wife was sentenced to only six months in prison, citing reconciliation and remorse.

This finding indicates that the criminal sanctions system in the Domestic Violence Law still focuses on retributive justice and has not fully implemented a restorative justice approach that places more emphasis on victim recovery and the moral responsibility of the perpetrator.

## **2. Problems in the Application of Criminal Sanctions to Perpetrators of Domestic Violence**

Through analysis of various legal materials, both primary and secondary, as well as court decisions, several fundamental problems were found in the application of criminal sanctions for perpetrators of domestic violence in Indonesia, namely:

### **a. Inconsistency between the objectives of punishment and the rehabilitative effects**

Criminal sanctions in the Domestic Violence Law still place too much emphasis on deterrence, without adequately providing rehabilitation for perpetrators and recovery for victims. In many situations, victims remain trapped in the same domestic relationship with the perpetrator, resulting in prison sentences that actually worsen the family's socio-economic situation.

A criminal justice system that focuses solely on imprisonment fails to address the underlying social and psychological issues underlying violent acts. In this context, a reformulation is needed that allows perpetrators to participate in behavioral rehabilitation programs, psychological counseling, and gender equality education as part of the sanction.

### **b. Lack of regulations on non-prison sanctions**

In modern criminal law, there is a tendency to develop alternative sentencing options such as community service, mandatory reporting, or rehabilitation programs. However, the Domestic Violence Law does not provide a clear scope for non-prison sanctions. As a result, courts often have no choice but to impose a prison sentence, even though in some cases, other forms of sanctions would be more appropriate to achieve substantial justice.

### **c. Protection of victims is still very limited**

Although the Domestic Violence Law includes provisions for victim protection, its implementation remains severely inadequate. Victims often receive no compensation, psychological support, or security guarantees after the perpetrator is released. Within the framework of restorative justice theory, victim restoration is a primary goal of law enforcement.

### **d. There is no integration between the Domestic Violence Law and national criminal policy.**

The sentencing policies contained in the Domestic Violence Law are not yet fully aligned with the ongoing changes to national criminal law, particularly through the Draft Criminal Code (RKUHP). The RKUHP includes a more adaptive sentencing concept, introducing the principles of proportionality and alternative sentencing. However, to date, there has been no alignment between the Domestic Violence Law and this proposed concept.

## **3. Theoretical Analysis: Criminalization in a Modern Legal Perspective**

To understand the need for changes to criminal sanctions, it is necessary to explore the various theories of punishment that exist in modern law.

### **a. Retributive Theory (Classical)**

Retributive theory assumes that punishment is a form of moral retribution for the wrongdoing of the perpetrator. In the context of domestic violence, this theory underlies the imposition of harsh prison sentences as a response to violent acts. However, this theory has

been criticized for not considering the interests of the victim and for being ineffective in preventing recurrence of violence.

b. Utilitarian and Rehabilitative Theories

Utilitarian theory emphasizes that punishment should benefit society, both in terms of deterrence and rehabilitation for the perpetrator. In this regard, punishment for perpetrators of domestic violence should be aimed at improving their behavior, not simply imposing punishment. A rehabilitative approach is more in line with the long-term goals of maintaining family protection and preventing recurrence of violence.

c. Restorative Justice Theory

Restorative justice is a new perspective in the contemporary criminal justice system. It focuses on improving social relationships between perpetrators, victims, and the community. In cases of domestic violence, this approach encourages perpetrators to take responsibility for their actions through dialogue, mediation, restitution, and rehabilitation programs.

Several countries, such as Australia and Canada, have adopted restorative justice mechanisms to address domestic violence cases, particularly through the Domestic Violence Intervention Program (DVIP), which includes mandatory counseling and monitoring of perpetrator behavior. This model has been proven to reduce recurrence rates and increase victims' sense of security.

#### **4. The Importance of Changing Criminal Sanctions for Perpetrators of Domestic Violence in the Modern Era**

Based on previous observations and theoretical studies, changes to criminal sanctions for perpetrators of domestic violence in Indonesia are urgently needed. These proposed changes encompass normative, structural, and substantive aspects.

a. Normative Change

Normative changes were implemented by updating the sanctions provisions in the Domestic Violence Law to align with more modern principles of justice. Several key points to consider are:

Adding non-prison sanction options, such as behavioral rehabilitation, community service, and counseling requirements;

Create guidelines for sentencing that take into account the level of violence, power relationships, and the psychological state of the victim;

Making restitution and compensation obligations for victims the responsibility of the perpetrator, not just an option;

Aligning the Domestic Violence Law with the Draft Criminal Code, especially in terms of the principle of proportionality and the purpose of punishment.

b. Structural Changes

These changes must also encompass the criminal justice system and law enforcement officials. Law enforcers, such as police, prosecutors, and judges, need to be educated on restorative approaches and gender-sensitive justice. Establishing dedicated domestic violence units focused on restorative justice within the police and prosecutors' offices could be a concrete step toward improving the effectiveness of law enforcement.

c. Substantial Change (Justice for Victims and Rehabilitation of Perpetrators)

Criminal sanctions should not only focus on punishing the perpetrator, but also on restoring social balance. Perpetrators should undergo mandatory counseling programs, behavioral therapy, and emotional management training, facilitated by social institutions and professional psychologists. In this way, punishment can serve as a tool for behavioral change, not simply revenge.

## 5. Conceptual Model of Changes in Criminal Sanctions for Domestic Violence

Based on normative and comparative analysis, the researcher proposes a model for changing criminal sanctions for perpetrators of domestic violence in the modern era with the following details:

- a. Current Regulatory Aspects (PKDRT Law) Proposed Change Model;
- b. Types of Sanctions Imprisonment and fines Imprisonment, fines, behavioral rehabilitation, community service, mandatory counseling;
- c. Focus of Punishment Retributive Restorative;
- d. Victim's position as a passive party as the main subject of recovery;
- e. Implementation of Prison-Oriented Punishment Integration between correctional institutions and social institutions;
- f. The ultimate goal of deterring the perpetrator is behavioral transformation, victim recovery, and social harmony.

This reform model is based on restorative justice theory, modern criminal justice theory, and the principle of human rights protection. It is hoped that this reformulation will create a balance between the interests of the state, society, perpetrators, and victims.

## 6. Impact of Reformulation on National Legal Policy

Changes in criminal sanctions for domestic violence have a significant impact on national criminal law policy, namely:

- a. Criminal Law Policy;
- b. Changes to criminal sanctions will enrich the concept of criminal law policy in Indonesia by positioning punishment as a means of social rehabilitation, not just for punishment;
- c. Protection of Human Rights;
- d. The restorative approach strengthens the protection of human rights, especially the right of victims to receive reparation and the right of perpetrators to be treated humanely;
- e. Correctional System Reform;
- f. A correctional system is needed that is not only oriented towards detention, but also educates and rehabilitates perpetrators of domestic violence through special programs based on psychology and family counseling;
- g. Effectiveness of Law Enforcement.

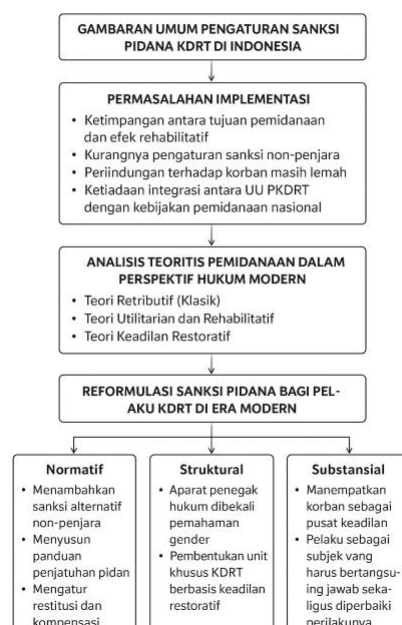
With the choice of sanctions, the burden on correctional institutions can be reduced, while the substantial goal of justice can still be achieved through the restoration of social relations.

## 7. Synthesis and Main Findings

From the entire analysis, several important findings can be concluded: Criminal sanctions in the Domestic Violence Law are still retributive in nature and do not conform to the modern criminal justice paradigm; Changes in legal norms are needed to include alternative sanctions that are oriented towards the rehabilitation of perpetrators and the recovery of victims.

Incorporating restorative justice principles into domestic violence law can strengthen legal protections and reduce recurrent cases of violence. This change aligns with the goals of reforming the national criminal justice system and Indonesia's commitment to international human rights instruments.

**REFORMULASI SANKSI PIDANA BAGI PELAKU  
KEKERASAN DALAM RUMAH TANGGA DI ERA MIDERN**



**Figure 1. Synthesis and Main Findings**

## CONCLUSION

The criminal sanctions in Law Number 23 of 2004 concerning the Elimination of Domestic Violence still have a retaliatory nature and do not fully reflect the more modern objectives of criminal punishment. The provisions regarding imprisonment and fines in the Domestic Violence Law still prioritize punishment of the perpetrator (punishment-oriented) and fail to address the perpetrator's rehabilitation needs and the victim's recovery. This results in the law's effectiveness in preventing similar violence from occurring, while protection for victims remains inadequate.

From the perspective of modern criminal law theory, there needs to be a paradigm shift from retaliatory justice to restorative justice; The concept of restorative justice views criminal acts not only as violations of the law, but also as disruptions to social balance and human relationships. Therefore, the sentencing process should focus on improving the relationship between the perpetrator, the victim, and the community, rather than simply imposing punishment. Problems in implementation indicate a lack of integration between the criminal sanctions system regulated in the Domestic Violence Law with national criminal policy and the principles of human rights protection; Many court decisions show that perpetrators of domestic violence receive light sentences, while victims often receive no compensation or psychological reparation. This situation reflects the gap between legal norms and actual law enforcement practices.

Comprehensive changes need to be made to the criminal sanctions for perpetrators of domestic violence, both from a normative, structural and substantial perspective; Normatively, alternative sanctions such as community service, mandatory counseling, and behavioral rehabilitation are needed. Structurally, law enforcement officers must be equipped with an understanding of gender and a restorative approach. Substantively, the criminal justice system should prioritize victims as the focus of justice and view perpetrators as individuals who must take responsibility and correct their actions.

The ideal model for reformulating criminal sanctions for perpetrators of domestic violence in modern times is a mixed model of retributive and restorative justice; This means that prison sentences can still be imposed for perpetrators of serious crimes, but they must be

accompanied by mandatory rehabilitation programs. Meanwhile, for less serious cases or for perpetrators who demonstrate a desire to change, non-imprisonment sanctions such as counseling, community service, or family education programs can be imposed.

Changes in criminal sanctions for domestic violence are in line with the direction of modernization of national criminal law contained in the Draft Criminal Code (RKUHP); The Draft Criminal Code (RKUHP) has adopted the principle of proportionality, more humane sentencing objectives, and sentencing options that support social reintegration. Therefore, aligning the Domestic Violence Law and the Draft Criminal Code will strengthen real justice and enhance protection for victims of domestic violence.

Philosophically and sociologically, changes in criminal sanctions for domestic violence reflect the development of legal justice values in modern society; In the digital age and with increased access to information, public awareness of human rights and gender equality is growing. Criminal law must adapt to these developments, serving not only as a tool for enforcing punishment but also as an instrument for social change and moral education for the community.

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