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Strengthening Community Resilience Through Educational Campaigns on Zero Tolerance for Sexual Harassment: A Case Study Around ITB Campus

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ABSTRACT

In alignment with the mandate of the Ministerial Regulation of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology (Permendikbudristek) No. 30 of 2021 on the Prevention and Handling of Sexual Violence (PPKS) and ITB's Strategic Plan for continuous transformation to achieve national and global recognition, this community service initiative is designed to establish a zero-tolerance policy toward sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is a significant barrier to achieving educational goals; therefore, more rigorous efforts are needed to disseminate anti-sexual violence awareness from the university to external stakeholders surrounding the campus environment, such as vendors, café owners, boarding house managers, online motorcycle taxi drivers, and students. The socialization given by PPKS task force team for those audiences. These output include publications in mass media, pocketbooks, and stickers. Among the 156 participants who attended, the largest proportion comprised students (46.2%; n=72), followed by campus business operators (45.5%; n=71), café managers (6.4%; n=10), boarding house managers (1.3%; n=2), and online drivers (0.6%; n=1). It is expected the collaborative involvement of all stakeholders will strengthen efforts to prevent sexual violence within the campus environment.

Keywords: prevention, handling, sexual harassment, campus, community

INTRODUCTION

According to the Ministerial Regulation of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology No. 30 of 2021, sexual violence is defined as any act that degrades, insults, harasses, and/or assaults a person's body and/or reproductive functions due to power imbalances and/or gender disparities, resulting in or potentially resulting in psychological and/or physical suffering, including disruption of reproductive health and loss of the opportunity to pursue higher education safely and optimally. Sexual violence encompasses actions carried out verbally, non-physically, physically, and/or through information and communication technologies (Permendikbudristek No. 30 of 2021).

Sexual violence can occur to anyone and in any setting, including within educational environments. Survey data collected by the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia from 79 universities across 29 cities revealed that 77% of lecturers acknowledged the presence of sexual violence on their respective campuses (Kemendikbudristek, 2021). According to data from the National Commission on Violence Against Women (Komnas Perempuan) reported by VOA Indonesia, higher education institutions ranked first in the number of sexual violence cases across various educational levels between 2015 and 2021 (VOA Indonesia, 2022).

From a Foucauldian perspective, as discussed by Gordon (2018) sexual violence arises from the interplay of three critical variables: power, social construction, and the target of power. When these three elements converge, they create the conditions for sexual violence to occur. Conversely, if any one of these variables is absent, the act of sexual violence is unlikely to take place.

In the context of university, sexual violence can occur in both peer and hierarchical relationships among various members of the academic community, including lecturers, researchers, administrative staff, tutors, students, interns, non-academic workers such as campus security personnel and cleaning staff contract workers such as canteen or catering service providers, stage technicians, or repair personnel as well as visitors, including school excursion participants, students' parents, guest lecturers/researchers and students, institutional representatives, or members of the public utilizing campus facilities (Molstad et al., 2023).

Several cases of sexual violence also occur outside the campus and are perpetrated by external parties such as food vendors and motorcycle taxi drivers, and even in boarding houses. According to the 2022 survey conducted by the Coalition for Safe Public Spaces, the most frequently reported forms of offline harassment in public spaces include whistling, comments about the body, sexual remarks, and unwanted touching (Koalisi ruang publik aman, 2022).

Sexual violence is a significant barrier to achieving educational objectives. Beyond the campus itself, all parties supporting the educational process must not only focus on implementing the PPKS regulation but also strive to uphold the rights of the academic community to pursue higher education in a safe, healthy, and comfortable environment. Based on the mandate from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology, every university is required to establish a Task Force for the Prevention and Handling of Sexual Violence (Satgas PPKS). This task force serves as the frontline in realizing a violence-free campus environment (Kemendikbudristek, 2023).

The responsibilities of the task force have expanded following the issuance of Ministerial Regulation No. 55 of 2024, which broadens the scope of violence to include bullying, gender equality issues, and physical violence (Pencegahan Dan Penanganan Kekerasan Di Lingkungan Perguruan Tinggi, 2024).

Therefore, more assertive efforts are needed to promote anti-sexual violence education from the university to external parties who frequently interact with the campus community. This initiative aims to enhance the knowledge and awareness of external stakeholders through education on sexual violence as a preventive measure, a victim-centered response, and a moral development strategy to foster a safe campus environment. External parties are also expected to be more sensitive and responsive to issues of sexual violence and to uphold these principles in their daily social interactions.

This community service program aims to enhance the awareness and understanding of external stakeholders within the ITB campus community, such as residents around the ITB campus, regarding the prevention and handling of sexual violence by providing education on sexual violence as a preventive effort to reduce the occurrence of such incidents in the campus environment. The activities include the development of

pocketbooks and stickers, as well as publications as educational tools. Through this approach, it is hoped that the surrounding community will become more attuned to issues of sexual violence and contribute to the creation of a safe and violence-free campus environment.

METHOD

This community service initiative employed a participatory and educational approach aimed at increasing awareness and understanding of sexual violence prevention among external stakeholders in the ITB campus environment. The program was designed in response to the mandate of Permendikbudristek No. 30 of 2021 and aligned with ITB's strategic commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive academic ecosystem.

Target audience selection

Participants were selected based on their routine presence and interaction within the campus vicinity, including street vendors, online motorcycle taxi drivers, boarding house managers, café operators, and students. These groups were identified as key external stakeholders whose engagement is critical in building a community-wide culture of zero tolerance toward sexual violence. This selection was based on the understanding that sexual violence can occur in various settings, including within the campus, in boarding houses, in the surrounding community, or in public facilities.

Intervention design

The intervention consisted of interactive educational sessions facilitated by the ITB PPKS Task Force. These sessions included presentations on the definitions, forms, and impacts of sexual violence, as well as institutional mechanisms for prevention and response. The content was tailored to be accessible and relevant to the diverse backgrounds of the participants.

The event took place on November 21, 2024, at the East Hall of ITB Ganesa Campus. Before beginning the activity, the head of PPKS task force gave a welcoming speech, as well as the Head of Community Development Unit (Kasat Binmas) of the Bandung City Police Department. The stages of the community service activities are illustrated in Figure 1.

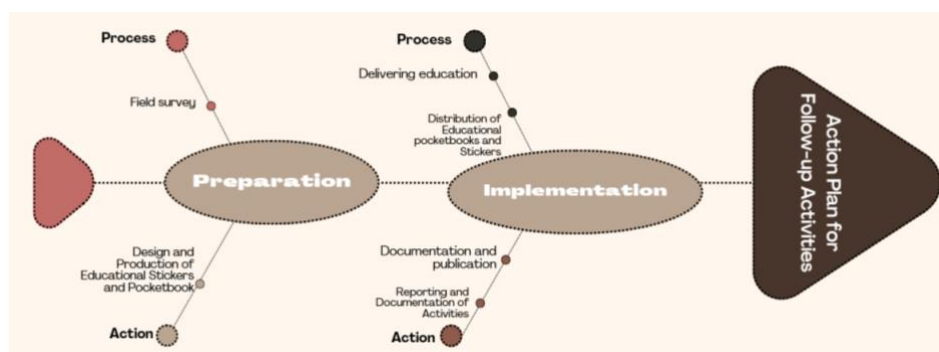


Figure 1. Phases of program implementation

Educational materials

To reinforce the messaging, participants received printed educational materials including pocket books, stickers, and access to media publications developed specifically for the campaign. These materials were designed to serve as ongoing references and visual reminders of the anti-violence commitment.

Data collection

Quantitative data were collected through participant registration and attendance records, capturing sociodemographic characteristics such as role, affiliation, and frequency of campus interaction. This data was analyzed to determine the proportional distribution of participant types and to assess outreach effectiveness.

RESULTS

The prevention and handling of sexual violence is one of the critical and urgent agendas mandated by the Ministry of Education through Ministerial Regulation No. 30 of 2021 issued by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology. This aligns with ITB's strategic plan to implement continuous transformation in pursuit of national and global recognition. One of the expected outcomes of this goal is the improvement of ITB's position in the QS World Ranking, which evaluates, among other factors, the safety and inclusivity of the campus learning environment. The implementation of best practices from the PPKS regulation is expected to enhance this aspect and support the institution in achieving a higher ranking (ITB, 2021).

The first steps in this community service began with the development of stickers and a pocketbook titled "Zero Tolerance for Sexual Violence in the ITB Campus Environment" before the outreach activities conducted for the surrounding community. The pocketbook was distributed to participants of the socialization program on the prevention and handling of sexual violence, serving as a guide for both campus members and the surrounding community in creating a sexual violence-free environment based on the principle of zero tolerance. The pocketbook and stickers are illustrated in Figure 1, and all the outreach steps can be seen at Figure 2. The steps include the Opening remarks by the Head of Community Development Unit (Kasat Binmas) of Bandung City Police Department, the education given by ITB PPKS taskforce, and a photo session with participants and the organizing team.



Figure 2. The output of community service: (a) pocketbook, (b) sticker

The target audience of this community service initiative included members of the ITB Ganesa campus community, both internal and external, such as street vendors, café entrepreneurs, boarding house managers, and online motorcycle taxi drivers.

Table 1. Characteristic of demography

Category	Frequency (n=156)	Percentage
Students	72	46.2%
Campus business operators	71	45.5%
Café managers	10	6.4%
Boarding house managers	2	1.3%
Online motorcycle taxi drivers	1	0.6%

In the context of sexual violence awareness campaigns within the campus environment, the involvement of various societal elements is crucial, as each group contributes differently to make a safe and comfortable atmosphere. Based on the data in Table 1, out of a total of 156 respondents, the majority were students (46.2%; n=72), followed by campus business owners (45.5%; n=71). This aligns with the fact that students are among the most vulnerable groups to sexual violence on campus. Studies have shown that students frequently face risks of sexual violence, both from fellow students and other individuals within the campus environment (Dekeseredy & Schwartz, 2011). Therefore, student participation in these awareness activities is essential to enhance their understanding of preventive measures and reporting mechanisms for sexual violence cases.

Campus business operators also play a significant role due to their frequent interactions with students in daily settings, such as in cafeterias, shops, or other facilities. A study by McMahon et al. (2018) highlights that non-academic actors within the campus environment can serve as strategic partners in identifying signs of sexual violence and providing support to victims.

Participation from boarding house managers and café owners was relatively low, despite their potential to contribute to a safer environment for students. According to research by Bows (2018), educating boarding house owners and service providers near campuses can improve their understanding of sexual violence issues and foster safer relationships with students (Bows, 2018). Only one individual (0.6%) from the category of online motorcycle taxi drivers attended the event. This group holds an equally important role, as they are often involved in student mobility, particularly at night. A study by Mateo-Babiano (2021) indicates that safe transportation is a critical need in efforts to prevent sexual harassment, especially in campus areas and public spaces (Utomo et al., 2021).

This community service activity was also attended by the Head of Community Development Unit (Kasat Binmas) of the Bandung City Police Department, who delivered a speech and expressed appreciation for the initiative. The ITB PPKS task force is encouraged to collaborate with communities in Ring 1 or those located near the ITB campus, as many students are active in these surrounding areas. The importance of enhancing security in high-risk locations, such as poorly lit campus areas at night, was emphasized to reduce the likelihood of unwanted incidents. Additionally, the education provided by the task force is expected to foster cooperation between the campus and the surrounding community.



(a)



(b)



(c)

Figure 3. Documentation of community service activities: (a) Opening remarks by the Head of Community Development Unit (Kasat Binmas) of Bandung City Police Department, (b) Presentation of materials by the speakers, (c) Photo session with participants and the organizing team

The dissemination of information on the prevention and handling of sexual violence, both within and beyond the campus, is essential to creating a safe environment that supports educational objectives (Jatiningsih et al., 2024). It is crucial to conduct outreach efforts addressing sexual violence prevention and response in both campus and surrounding areas to foster a secure and supportive learning atmosphere. This strategy must be comprehensive, involving individual, relational, community, and societal levels. A holistic approach should encompass personal awareness, interpersonal interactions, community engagement, and broader societal involvement.

Such efforts not only aim to prevent violence but also to build a responsive support system for victims, ensuring that the campus environment becomes more inclusive and equitable. These initiatives are not solely about avoiding violence; they also focus on developing a network of support that is sensitive to victims' needs, thereby promoting justice and inclusivity within the academic setting (CDC, 2016).

The elimination of sexual violence on campus requires a collective effort involving all campus stakeholders—faculty members, students, educational staff, and organizations both within and outside the university (Gleckman-Krut et al., 2022). Every party must be actively engaged in efforts to prevent sexual violence on campus areas. Personal awareness of the consequences of such violence is vital to reducing or even eliminating its occurrence. Creating a safe and comfortable learning environment is a shared goal among all academic members, contributing to Indonesia's aspiration of cultivating ethical and high-quality human resources. Collaborative involvement of all elements, including the academic community and surrounding residents, can significantly strengthen efforts to prevent sexual violence in the campus environment. ITB's PPKS Task Force has undertaken several sustainable efforts to prevent and address sexual violence within the academic community. These include ongoing socialization programs targeting ITB's academic members, consistent dissemination of information through leaflets and posters, enhanced campus security measures, and the enforcement of strict sanctions against perpetrators. These initiatives are designed to build long-term awareness, foster a safer campus environment, and ensure accountability in handling cases of sexual violence.

CONCLUSION

The high level of participation from students and campus business operators represents a positive step in this outreach initiative. However, the involvement of boarding house managers, café operators, and online motorcycle taxi drivers remains limited and

requires improvement. To support the sustainability of sexual violence prevention efforts, future outreach should adopt more inclusive communication strategies tailored to these groups. In addition, ITB should implement structured policies such as formal partnerships with external stakeholders, regular training for service providers around campus, and the integration of anti-violence protocols into campus safety procedures. These practical measures will help institutionalize the zero-tolerance approach and ensure long-term impact through consistent community engagement and accountability. Overall, the objectives of this activity have been successfully achieved, as evidenced by the active participation of diverse stakeholders and the effective dissemination of educational materials, contributing to a safer and more informed campus environment.

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