

# The Strategic Role of Community Policing and Motorcycle Theft Prevention in Indonesia Font

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#### Abstract

Motorcycle theft cases in Indonesia have increased throughout the year. Efforts have been made to reduce motorcycle theft crimes. However, these efforts have not been successful due to various factors, one of which is the limited effectiveness of community policing in Indonesia, largely attributed to a lack of openness and public trust in police cooperation. Through a literature analysis, the police must serve, protect, be transparent, and offer community counseling to ensure that community policing in Indonesia functions efficiently and effectively. Then, through the combination of two policing models, such as hot spot policing and e-policing, it is intended that community policing in Indonesia would be able to effectively reduce the number of motorcycle theft crimes, and the cooperation and partnerships that have been built and established previously can be appropriately maintained.

Keywords: community policing, motorcycle theft case

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#### INTRODUCTION

Crime in the form of theft in Indonesia continues to increase every year. There is data on theft cases from the Regional Police (Polda), where crimes against property/goods without violence (theft, aggravated theft, motor vehicle theft, damage/destruction of goods, deliberate burning, and receiving) from 2018-2021 experienced a decrease or spike, namely in 2018, there were 90,757 reported to the authorities (BPS, 2023). Although it decreased in 2021 by 69,347 cases, in 2022, there was a spike, reaching 91,892 cases in the last five years (BPS, 2023).

Speaking about theft, in 2023, theft was the most common crime, where Polda Metro Jaya prosecuted 367 thefts, such as motorbikes, car thefts, thefts accompanied by violence, thefts accompanied by aggravated, petty thefts, and ordinary thefts (Pusiknas Bareskrim Polri, 2021). Based on data from the Pusat Informasi Kriminal Nasional (Pusiknas) Bareskrim Polri, 394,001 crimes occurred throughout 2023 as of November, which has increased when compared to the total crimes that occurred in 2022, which was 322,200 incidents, and in 2021, Pusiknas noted that 275,258 crimes occurred (Jauhari, 2023). Indonesia itself uses a community policing model, a proactive approach to policing that empowers change management involvement in service production, including policing with and for communities (Gill et al., 2014; Fenn & Bullock, 2021; Sorrentino, Ruggiero, & Mussari, 2023), where partnership, cooperation, and problem-solving are the main goals in this policing model. The Republic of Indonesia adopted community policing as a strategy that was then made into a policy of Peraturan Pemda Number 3 of 2015 concerning Community Policing (or PolMas as a short name) (Peraturan Polri, 2023). When it comes to the area that occurs of theft crimes, of the five Resort Police (Polres) that handle motorcycle theft cases, the South Jakarta Metro Police is the Polres that handles the most cases in



the jurisdiction of the Polda Metro Jaya until mid-2024, and the total average cases handled by the Polda Metro Jaya for motorcycle theft crimes is 126 cases. On average, seven motorcycle thefts occur every day in the jurisdiction of the Polda Metro Jaya (Pusiknas Bareskrim Polri, 2023).

Overall, in Indonesia, it was reported that there were at least five Regional Police (Polda) that did not report handling motorcycle theft cases, namely the North Kalimantan Police, Southeast Sulawesi Police, Gorontalo Police, Maluku Police, and North Maluku Police from 1 to 17 July 2024, with 141 cases handled by the North Sumatra Police which is the provincial level unit that handles the most motorcycle theft cases, and the number of motorcycle theft cases reported to the police was 927 cases (Pusiknas Bareskrim Polri, 2024). The North Sumatra Police was the region with the highest number of incidents in 2022, with 16,347 crime incidents, followed by the East Java Police and West Java Police, with 9,923 and 8,881 incidents (BPS, 2023). The areas with the fewest non-violent property/goods crime cases are the North Maluku Regional Police with 126 cases, the North Kalimantan Regional Police (313 cases), and the Gorontalo Regional Police with 345 cases (BPS, 2023). That being said, property crimes that occur in the regions usually involve theft and robbery (Ceccato & Abraham, 2022), while crimes that occur in big cities are in the form of white-collar crimes where the crimes are more serious, such as corruption, money laundering, and other serious crimes committed by people from the upper socio-economic class (Mustofa, 2021).

Based on the data presented, despite the implementation of community policing, the number of motorcycle thefts has not decreased significantly. Community policing in Indonesia itself is considered not to have been formed optimally, even after the collaboration, both by the community and legal institutions (i.e., the police) has been accomplished, because community policing in Indonesia has not been able to increase legitimacy and cooperation. Seeing the rapid development of technology, literature analysis can be used to study it methodologically and carefully, especially regarding the improvement of community policing in Indonesia, which is adjusted to the development of global society.

#### **DISCUSSION**

The community itself is expected to have a positive impact, where this community can strengthen social ties and networks, promote transformative justice, and strive to contribute to eradicating crime by improving more effective public services, this is what is expected from the community regarding community policing, where community policing requires various levels of collaboration, ranging from basic improvements in police relations with the community to strategic partnerships for sharing power and responsibility (Sorrentinoa et al., 2023). Community policing is implemented to detect and identify public security and order (Kamtibmas) problems in the environment and find solutions to the issues that can provide services to the community where there is a sense of comfort so that it can create trust and avoid anxiety and worry about the community and free from threats or terror where the police provide a sense of security and comfort, physical and psychological safety is fulfilled, security guarantees and a sense of trust are given so that community policing can be carried out properly and smoothly, but there are limitations in police personnel and strategies and knowledge to build cooperation in carrying out community policing (Himawan, 2023). The pattern of community policing itself is largely determined by how the police can resolve problems, are oriented to serving and protecting the public (community), can rely on resources well, can coordinate/convey messages well and wisely to the community, and can maintain cooperation and partnerships that are based on Human Rights (HAM) with the community (Sawir et al., 2023).

The problem-solving process in community policing depends on the input or initiative from both the police and the community. Where the problem disappears completely, the number of problems can reduce the level of incidents and environmental factors to discourage criminals who want to commit crimes, where protection from the police to the community is critical (Ningtias, 2022). The existence of collaboration between the police and the community, where there is interdependence, shared thinking, unification of thoughts, joint decision-making, responsibility, and routine patrols, is a form of anticipating the occurrence of motorcycle theft, as well as patrols, counseling, use of technology, and street lighting. And providing security counseling and maintaining partnerships with institutions (Lubby, 2024). Lack of cooperation between the police and the community where the community is apathetic when motorbike theft occurs and the community also does not participate enough so that the information obtained is not enough to catch the perpetrators when the problem is not resolved and is just left alone, as well as external factors such as the lack of adequate tools (technology) to help solve the problem, the countermeasures carried out are conducting night patrols and patrols with the Jurnal Ilmu Kepolisian



community, and providing counseling so that the community and the police can contribute more to solving problems to prevent motorbike theft (Purba et al., 2022).

Also, the lack of implementation of community policing in preventing street crimes such as communication between each other (police and community), resources (human, budget, equipment, and authority), disposition (appointment of bureaucracy and officer incentives), bureaucracy (standards of operational procedures and fragmentation, prevention methods (techniques used for community policing), and agencies (partnerships carried out by the police with the community) which are still less than optimal. Therefore, a review of community policing (or community policing) is needed, which is still lacking in its implementation (Purba et al., 2021). There are several efforts made by the police to prevent motorbikes, namely the need for cooperation between the community and the police, where the police themselves have prepared a special call center to make it easier for the public to report (not only for motorbike theft crimes, but for other types of crimes), conducting border post raids, conducting and maintaining cooperation with other legal institutions and other Resort Police (Polres), conducting patrols and reviving the security post, and working with the community to monitor recidivists (Hasan et al., 2024), as well as carrying out repressive (action) and preventive (prevention) crime control to detect and identify public security and order (Kamtibmas) problems in the environment and can resolve problems where good communication is needed and maintaining partnerships with the police and the implementation of community policing so that community policing can be maintained properly (Verjenia, 2020).

Since it is not possible to analyze the community policing model for theft cases (especially motorcycle theft) in several places in Indonesia, the methodology used for this article begins with several exploratory, in-depth, and contextual studies in the form of literature reviews. After that, an in-depth study and content analysis were conducted using case studies. Through this content analysis process, it can be seen how the community policing model is applied to the crime of theft (especially motorcycle theft) and how its current development can be identified and applied in depth.

The main problem of community policing in Indonesia has not been running well, namely in the implementation method, where there is conceptual ambiguity and several internal and external factors of the organization that affect the work of community policing. Several articles explained that the main problem of community policing not running effectively is the lack of cooperation. Considering the increasing crime rate every year, several human resources (HR) are also greatly needed, as the community's needs will also increase, especially in terms of security. However, what happened was that there were shortcomings in terms of implementation, namely regarding the problem of facilities to facilitate the community in strengthening cooperation effectively, where the condition of human resources (HR) of this institution is considered still less than ideal, where some members of this institution still do not have enough knowledge and skills in the field of technology in carrying out their duties to serve the community so that this is considered less effective. Then, there is the budget problem, which is considered insufficient to accelerate the service process to the community. The lack of this planning institution before implementing community policing where thorough preparation is needed, for example, collecting accurate data on the community, such as population data in the community policing area (target area), then data on the characteristics and vulnerability of the target area to crime (in this case, namely the case of motorcycle theft).

## Koban and Door-to-Door for Community Policing

Speaking about community policing, Indonesia itself has collaborated with Japan in the form of implementing Japanese community policing, namely Police Box / Security Box, or another name, Koban, is a form of community policing in police stations located throughout Japan that operates 24 hours a day with the main task of responding to incidents and accidents in their jurisdiction, providing directions, handling lost items, providing advice on security and other issues to those in their jurisdiction, patrolling, and making house-to-house visits (Suzuki et al., 2023) is very preventive in increasing environmental security and preventing crime in the community (Suzuki et al., 2023). The main task of the police members of Koban is to guard in front of the police post, guarding from the inside, and field duties consisting of patrols and door-to-door visits to homes and businesses, as well as officers stationed at the police box work according to the schedule set for each day, and if a crime, accident, or other emergency occurs, the response to the incident must be prioritized (Cho & Shi, 2005). In this case, Indonesia is slowly implementing the same system as community policing implemented in Japan. JICA program coordinator Anzai Toshiya, at the 2022 Community Policing Jurnal Ilmu Kepolisian



Symposium in Indonesia and Japan, explained that currently, the implementation of the quality of community policing in Indonesia is still very lacking, considering the minimal evaluation of the activities of officers in the field, which will certainly affect the motivation of the police officers themselves, and this will also affect the quality of the work performance of the police officers (Hapsari, 2022). For example, door-to-door system visits are also part of the Bhabinkamtibmas methods that developed from Japanese community policing, which is carried out by visiting the homes of residents within their area of responsibility (Ningtias, 2022) are conducted as a form of *siskamling*/ circular patrols where in this case, police officers can understand the situation of the area/region being patrolled; then, with this visit, the police can also listen carefully to the opinions and suggestions of the surrounding community and police officers share information about crimes and accidents in the area/region, safety measures, and other information that can help the community to always be alert and careful, in this case, for example, the crime of motorbike theft (Cho & Shi, 2005; Ningtias, 2022). It is estimated that legal institutions (preferably the police) can make the best use of this cooperation, where not only the application method is reviewed but also how cultural values, considering that all communities are not the same, are implemented, can help community policing in Indonesia run effectively and according to what the community expects.

## **Hot-spot Policing on Community Policing**

Target areas on community policing implemented in Indonesia itself is still less effective where there is no fixed schedule for the police to patrol or visit areas where motorcycle theft cases often occur (hot spot policing) where this is very necessary in addition to preventing motorcycle theft incidents, also to collect data on cases of motorcycle theft that have previously occurred in the area/ region to help community policing work effectively (Braga et al., 2019). Hot spot policing, where police are placed in crime-prone areas (Maple, 1999; Braga, Turchan, Papachristos, & Hureau, 2019), can be applied to community policing where, in addition to establishing cooperation with the community in preventing crime, the police also implement hot spot policing where the police conduct patrols (or siskamling) around the community/residents to monitor and guard the area so that the area is safe, where crimes can occur (in this case, crimes in the form of motorcycle theft) can occur, especially areas that are prone to crime (in this case, crimes in the form of motorcycle theft). The concept of Routine Activity Theory (RAT) is where predatory crimes (e.g., robbery, various forms of assault (e.g., sexual assault), murder, theft, and housebreaking) can only occur if the right target is accessible to a motivated perpetrator without a competent guardian (Wilcox, 2010; Benson, 2021). Crimes such as motorcycle theft can increase due to the carelessness of the community/residents around them and the lack of strict supervision. Providing counseling to the police, the community, and the community/residents around, it is urged to always lock the motorcycle handlebars with a Secure Key Shutter (SKS), not forget to remove the key, not leave the motorcycle carelessly in the open, and use a spare double key. In addition to conducting patrols/circular patrols, the community/residents around are advised to install CCTV at home or around the house in the area to monitor and prevent crime (in this case, motorcycle theft). Then, data on previous cases of motorcycle theft (for example, the place/location of the incident, the time, and modus operandi) and, most importantly, data from recidivists related to previous crimes where the police do not include data on the list of previous motorcycle theft, recidivists so that the community itself is careless and does not know if one of the people in their environment might be a previous motorcycle theft recidivist and the community itself becomes careless so that motorcycle theft can happen again. It is necessary to quickly trace the report from the police with accountability for the implementation of the task, so that the incident can be recorded and traced as the cause of the increase in motorcycle theft figures every year, and can be prevented before this incident occurs again. Input from the community is needed so that community policing in preventing motorcycle theft can be implemented effectively, where it is still found that reporting is only in an administrative form and not implemented. Then, the lack of public knowledge about community policing itself is caused by the rare police officers who provide counseling and increase motivation to the community about community policing itself, and some of the public's responses/assessments of the police and these institutions are not positive (both parties look down on each other). In this case, the police are expected to be able to maintain trust and be able to protect the community so that the community is more open and willing to cooperate, so that crime can be prevented, and in this case, the crime of motorcycle theft.

## **BHABINKAMTIBMAS on Indonesia's Community Policing**

The policing community implemented in Indonesia itself is in the form of an institution formed by the police, namely BHABINKAMTIBMAS (Bhayangkara Pembina Keamanan dan Ketertiban Masyarakat), where this program aims to handle criminal acts through cooperation with the community, police, and other legal Jurnal Ilmu Kepolisian



institutions. This institution is expected to be able to create a safe and comfortable situation according to the needs and expectations of the community. The functions of Bhabinkamtibmas implemented in the Regulation of the Chief of Police Number 3 of 2015 are: Listen to complaints from community members regarding security issues and keep maintaining and providing explanations and solutions; maintaining friendly/ cooperatively relationships; training, counseling, security, and discussing in the legal field to increase legal awareness by upholding human rights; disseminating information regarding the policies of the Police leadership related to maintaining community security and peace (harkamtibmas); encouraging the implementation of siskamling in maintaining the environment and community activities; providing police services to communities in need; mobilizing positive community activities; coordinating Kamtibmas training efforts with village officials and other related parties; and carry out consultation, mediation, negotiation, facilitation, motivation to the community in harmony and justice as well as resolving crime and social problems (Junior & Adhari, 2023). One form of implementation of activities carried out by Bhabinkamtibmas is the door-to-door system, where police officers introduce themselves to the community and visit at least several residents' homes in one day, accompanied by the delivery of information/messages related to maintaining security and the community, legal counseling, and other information so that the community can be more vigilant and by making this visit, police officers are expected to be able to carry out early detection of crime through information obtained from the community. The Bhabinkamtibmas Leading Sector itself has a very important task, where cooperation and partnerships carried out with the community must be maintained and strengthened. If there is input from both parties, it is expected that they will communicate with each other through deliberation and consensus so that problems can be resolved effectively and quickly. Using the problem-solving method is expected to solve the problem by describing and presenting the problem, inviting the community or both parties into the problem-solving process, and working with the local government to coordinate with the community or both parties so that a solution can be found through consensus (Heriwati, Mahsyar, & Usman, 2023).

# E-policing in Indonesia's Community Policing

After the COVID-19 outbreak, everyone was required to stay at home and minimize activities outside. However, cases of motorbike theft have increased until now by using the E-Policing concept, is a policing model in the digital era that seeks to penetrate the barriers of space and time so that various police services can be carried out quickly, precisely, accurately, transparently, accountably, informatively, and easily accessible (Dwilaksana, 2010; Dwilaksana, 2020) that effectively applied to community policing, so that the relationship between the police and the community can be established 24 hours a day and 7 hours a week, without any space and time limits that make it easier for the community to communicate with the police (Dwilaksana, 2020). For example, CCTV footage was found of where a motorbike theft occurred. Therefore, the recording can be analyzed more quickly for data collection and can be immediately followed up. This policing model can also be used for other crime cases, such as E-tickets, borrowing cases, and many other types of crimes. Therefore, the police need to improve the quality of community policing assisted by the hot spot policing model and e-policing to perfect the working method of this community policing model. In addition, it is expected that Bhabinkamtibmas could strengthen community policing with the help of implementing the hot spot policing model and e-policing so that peace and security are maintained. In this case, it can prevent the occurrence of motorcycle theft crimes.

# **CONCLUSION**

Community policing in Indonesia is currently considered to be very lacking in terms of application and implementation. Various factors that influence the implementation of the policing community in Indonesia are less effective. By using the implementation of Japanese community policing and using hot spot policing and e-policing to support community policing work effectively and quickly, it is hoped that the police and the community can strengthen and maintain cooperation and partnerships and provide counseling on community policing so that the community can be more open and help each other so that cases of motorcycle theft can decrease and together find the right solution to solve the problem of motorcycle theft. Of course, there are still many limitations in this article. Since it used the literature review method, it cannot review more specifically why the number of motorcycle theft crimes in Indonesia is increasing. For instance, community policing in Indonesia, which is adapted from community policing in Japan, needs to be adjusted to the current situation in Indonesia, especially in providing information and approaches to the community (in Japan itself, the





relationship between Koban and the surrounding community is very close and strong in which they collaborate to reduce crime in the residents' residential and settlement areas). It is hoped that in the future, other researchers and writers can conduct further research and investigations into this crime problem.



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