

## **The role of actors in implementing policies for protection of child victims of sexual violence in Aceh**

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Received November 1, 2023	Revised November 7, 2023	Accepted November 28, 2023
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### **Abstract**

*Protection of child victims of sexual violence is a critical issue in Aceh, Indonesia. Children, as a vulnerable group, need strong protection and support to overcome the negative impacts that may arise from sexual violence. In this context, many actors implement child protection policies, including the central government, DPR RI, regional governments, and institutions such as the Indonesian Child Protection Commission (KPAI) and the Witness and Victim Protection Agency (LPSK). This research uses a descriptive qualitative approach with literature study methods and online data search. Data analysis techniques involve organizing data, coding, and developing descriptions and themes. It is hoped that the results of this research will provide a better understanding of the role of policy actors in protecting children from sexual violence. This article identifies these actors and describes their role in implementing policies to protect child victims of sexual violence in Aceh. These actors' roles include legislation, supervision, assistance, trauma recovery, legal assistance, motivation, and collaboration between institutions. The analysis results show that cooperation and coordination between these actors is essential to ensure that children who are victims of sexual violence receive comprehensive protection. As awareness of the importance of child protection increases, this article provides a better understanding of how these actors play a role in protecting children in Aceh from sexual violence.*

**Keywords:** child protection; sexual violence; policy actors; actor's role

### **Abstrak**

Perlindungan anak korban kekerasan seksual adalah isu yang sangat penting di Aceh, Indonesia. Anak-anak, sebagai kelompok rentan, memerlukan



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perlindungan dan dukungan yang kuat untuk mengatasi dampak buruk yang mungkin timbul dari kekerasan seksual. Dalam konteks ini, banyak aktor yang terlibat dalam penerapan kebijakan perlindungan anak, termasuk pemerintah pusat, DPR RI, pemerintah daerah, dan lembaga seperti Komisi Perlindungan Anak Indonesia (KPAI) dan Lembaga Perlindungan Saksi dan Korban (LPSK). Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif dengan metode studi literatur dan penelusuran data melalui internet. Teknik analisis data meliputi pengorganisasian data, koding, dan pengembangan deskripsi serta tema. Hasil penelitian ini diharapkan dapat memberikan pemahaman yang lebih baik tentang peran aktor kebijakan dalam perlindungan anak dari kekerasan seksual. Artikel ini mengidentifikasi aktor-aktor tersebut dan mendeskripsikan peran mereka dalam penerapan kebijakan perlindungan anak korban kekerasan seksual di Aceh. Peran aktor tersebut meliputi legislasi, pengawasan, pendampingan, pemulihan trauma, bantuan hukum, motivasi, dan kerjasama antar lembaga. Hasil analisis menunjukkan bahwa kerjasama dan koordinasi antara aktor-aktor ini sangat penting untuk memastikan bahwa anak-anak yang menjadi korban kekerasan seksual mendapatkan perlindungan yang komprehensif. Seiring dengan meningkatnya kesadaran akan pentingnya perlindungan anak, artikel ini memberikan pemahaman yang lebih baik tentang bagaimana aktor-aktor ini berperan dalam melindungi anak-anak di Aceh dari kekerasan seksual.

**Kata Kunci:** *Perlindungan Anak, Kekerasan Seksual, Aktor Kebijakan, Peran Aktor*

## INTRODUCTION

Children are naturally a vulnerable group; clear evidence shows that childhood trauma is common and has a significant impact because young children are especially vulnerable to its negative effects (Bartlett & Smith, 2019). This serious impact can be seen in their physical, emotional, and psychological condition, which often results in them living a life that is not optimal. For example, some victims tend to isolate themselves and limit their social relationships (Zahirah et al., 2019). This range of vulnerabilities is caused by the inability of children to obtain their rights independently, so special treatment is required from parents, family, society, and the state. In fact, Human Rights Law Number 39 of 1999 has firmly mandated that vulnerable groups, including children, have the right to treatment and protection because of the specificities inherent in their individuals.

The condition of children's vulnerability becomes very real when we see the increasing cases of sexual violence experienced by them, especially girls. Nationally, in Indonesia, in 2022, there will be 8085 cases of sexual violence affecting children (Kemenpppa, 2023). Children are state assets who will play an important role in developing the nation's future. Therefore, the government should pay special attention to child protection.

Nationally, the government has Child Protection Law Number 35 of 2014, which is an amendment to Law Number 23 of 2002. Article 15 states that children have the right to protection from sexual crimes, and Article 20 states who the responsible parties are in the implementation of child protection, including the State, Government, Regional Government, Community, Family, and Parents or Guardians. However, this mandate is still not fully implemented in people's lives. Apart from the large number of cases of sexual violence against children, the handling of victims is also very worrying, as explained by Umi Hanisah Abdullah, an Acehnese female cleric who is also the founder of a traditional Islamic boarding school with the concept of a safe house for children and women in West Aceh, revealing that in Aceh victims of violence sexual relations are often expelled and labeled as bringers of disaster, even sheltering the victim is considered a disgraceful act (Humas Provinsi Aceh, 2023; Ulya, 2022).

During the 2022 period, 204 sexual violence cases against children occurred in Aceh, and as of September 2023, 145 cases had been recorded (Kemenpppa, 2023). This figure is likely to continue to increase until the end of the year. Then, looking at the existing conditions in Aceh, there is no shortage of legal instruments to regulate the management of the protection of children who are victims of violence. The actors involved have their respective roles according to their main duties, such as social services, for example, which can assist victims, act as liaisons, act as motivators and recover from victims' trauma, and provide legal assistance (Nauri & Sudarmawan, 2022).

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Then the question becomes who implements the policy to protect child victims of sexual violence in Aceh and what is the role of these actors. Moreover, Aceh Province, with its specialties according to Aceh Government Law Number 11 of 2006, has issued Child Protection Qanun Number 11 of 2008 as a form of guidance for child protection in the Aceh Province region. The rights of children who are victims of sexual violence in Article 31 of the Child Protection Qanun Number 11 of 2008 state that they have rights in the form of protection, informed by the community to the authorities, receiving integrated services, and receiving ongoing treatment up to the rehabilitation stage and confidential treatment for individuals, groups or institutions, both government and non-government. So, the form of labeling and expulsion of victims of sexual violence, as described previously, does not need to occur if each actor implementing the policy is responsible for the implementation of child protection.

This article aims to identify the actors involved in implementing policies to protect children victims of sexual violence and also to describe the role of each actor. Knoepfel et al. define policy as a series of decisions or activities resulting from structured and repeated interactions between different actors, both public and private, who are involved in various ways in the emergence, identification, and resolution of public problems (Knoepfel et al., 2011). So, the role of actors in dealing with public problems is very vital.

## **METHOD**

The author compiled this research using a descriptive qualitative approach (Creswell & Creswell, 2018), using literature study methods on journal articles and searching for related data via the internet. Research articles

come from journals indexed by Scopus, Sinta, and Google Scholar by including the keywords "child protection", "sexual violence", "policy actors", and "actor's role". Other data was collected from official government websites such as [www.kemenpppa.go.id](http://www.kemenpppa.go.id), [www.humas.acehprov.go.id](http://www.humas.acehprov.go.id), and related stakeholder websites, as well as from the mass media. Data analysis techniques go through the process of 1) organizing and preparing data, 2) reading all the data collected, 3) coding, 4) producing descriptions and themes, and 5) interpreting the meaning of descriptions and themes (Creswell & Creswell, 2018).

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Implementation includes all activities to implement policies set by the government. The activities take the form of establishing new organizations (departments, institutions, bureaus, etc.) or giving new responsibilities to existing organizations. These organizations must translate laws into operational rules and regulations. They have to recruit personnel, create contracts, spend money, and carry out tasks. All of these activities involve bureaucratic decisions (decisions that determine policy) (Dye, 2017; Shafritz et al., 2017). Pressman and Wildavsky define *implementation* as a process of interaction between setting goals and actions directed at achieving them, as well as the ability to form the next relationship in the cause-and-effect chain so as to obtain the desired results (Shafritz et al., 2017).

Policy plans drawn up by policymakers are often distorted. This is in accordance with the words of Prussian General Karl von Clausewitz, where no matter how well a major operation is planned, in fact, there are delays, misunderstandings, and other things that make the implementation less than ideal (Shafritz et al., 2017), and this is a common phenomenon that occurs in the activities of administering public affairs. This condition makes actors in policy implementation have a vital role. Actors can mobilize resources, form coalitions, and plan strategies to ensure policy objectives are achieved.

## **Main Actors in Policy Implementation in the Protection of Child Victims of Sexual Violence in Aceh**

There are two broad categories of participants in policy implementation, namely official and unofficial actors. Official actors are involved because their responsibilities are regulated in the Law or Constitution, so they have the power to implement the established policies. Official actors include institutions including the executive, legislative, and judiciary. Unofficial actors are those who play a role in policy without being given the authority or obligation to participate. Their presence is an effective way to channel the desire of parties who are not involved in the policy to participate, and their role must be addressed. Examples of unofficial actors are individual citizens, interest groups, political parties, research institutions, mass media, and non-governmental organizations (Birkland, 2015). Meanwhile, Compston names the separation of actors as public actors and private actors (Compston, 2009).

Policymakers, especially in Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Amendments to Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection, include a number of actors in the regulation. Among these actors are Parents, Guardians, Family, Community, Companions, Government (President - Supporting Elements), and Regional Government (Governor/Regent/Mayor - Supporting Elements). Meanwhile, in Qanun Number 11 of 2008 concerning Child Protection, the actors consist of the Aceh Government (Governor/Mayor/Regent - Supporting Elements), DPRA, Parents, Family, Guardians, and Companions.

### **a. Central Government**

The Central Government is an official actor, stated in Law Number 35 of 2014 as a term representation for the President of the Republic of Indonesia, along with elements of the President's assistants. The President's assistant elements who directly implement the policy of protecting child victims of sexual violence in Aceh include the Supreme Court, the Police, the Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Indonesia, the Ministry of Law and Human Rights, the Indonesian Child Protection Commission and the Witness and Victim Protection Agency

(Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection, 2021). Other elements assisting the president, such as related ministries, have delegated authority to provincial and district departments.

b. People's Representative Council of the Republic of Indonesia (DPR RI)

In the Child Protection Law, the DPR RI does not explicitly mention this. However, the DPR RI can be classified as an official actor because its duties and responsibilities are regulated in Law Number 2 of 2018 concerning the MPR, DPR, DPD, and DPRD. The DPR RI is a People's Representative Institution that represents the aspirations of all levels of society and oversees ensuring that the implementation of every policy of these aspirations is effective (T. Kurniawan, 2015).

c. Regional Government (Governor / Regent / Mayor)

The Regional Government in the Child Protection Law consists of the Governor at the Provincial level and the Regent/Mayor at the Regency/City level. The Regional Government, in carrying out its duties, is supported by the regional apparatus, which in Government Regulation Number 18 of 2016 is defined as an assistant element to the Regional Head and the Regional People's Representative Council in the implementation of Government Affairs which fall under the authority of the Region. Meanwhile, in the Child Protection Qanun, the Regional Government has its nomenclature: the Aceh Government for the Provincial level, headed by the Governor, and the Regency/City Government for the Regent and Mayor.

The Regional Governments described above are all official actors with duties and authorities granted by law. Regional Government is also mentioned in Law Number 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government, and for Aceh Government, it is mentioned in Law Number 11 of 2006 concerning Aceh Government. The services related to child protection at the Aceh Province level include Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Service, Social Service, UPTD PPA, and Sharia Court.

d. Aceh People's Representative Council (DPRA)

The Aceh People's Representative Council (DPRA) is a government administration institution in Aceh whose members are elected directly through elections. The DPRA in the Qanun is mentioned in point 4 of the general provisions of the Child Protection Qanun, but its authority needs to be explained explicitly in the Qanun. The DPRA is generally classified as an official actor, although its authority and duties are explained in Law Number 11 of 2006 concerning the Government of Aceh.

e. Companion

Companions in the Child Protection Law are social workers with professional competence in their field. In contrast, in the Child Protection Qanun, they are defined as social workers and/or volunteers, either individuals or institutions, who can assist victims. The Companion is an official actor from this definition and the authority regulated in the Child Protection Law and Qanun. Social Workers are also regulated in Law Number 14 of 2019 concerning Social Workers.

f. Society

The Child Protection Law defines *society* as individuals, families, groups, social organizations, and/or community organizations. Policymakers include the community as policy actors actively involved in child protection. Even though it is mentioned in the law, there are no guidelines for the duties regulated, so it falls to unofficial actors.

Meanwhile, in the Child Protection Qanun, it can be defined as individuals, traditional and social institutions, religious institutions, and non-governmental organizations that operate in child protection and care. Like in the child protection law, the community in the child protection Qanun is classified as an unofficial actor. The Community actors include the Aceh Traditional Council, Aceh Ulama Consultative Council (MPU Aceh), Non-Governmental Organizations, Dayah, and Mass Media.

g. Family

Family in the Child Protection Law and Child Protection Qanun has the exact definition as the smallest unit in a society consisting of husband and wife, husband and wife and their children, father and children, mother and children, or blood family in a straight line upwards. Or down to the third degree. The family, both in the Child Protection Law and the Child Protection Qanun, is included in the official actors whose authority is regulated to be involved in child protection.

h. Parents/Guardians

Parents in the Child Protection Law and Child Protection Qanun have the exact definition: biological father and/or mother, father and/or stepmother, adoptive father and/or mother. While the definition of a Guardian has differences, in the Child Protection Law, a Guardian is a person or body who exercises parental authority over a child, whereas in the Child Protection Qanun, a person or body who exercises parental authority over a child or a person who no longer has parents. Alternatively, incompetent parents can carry out legal actions for personal interests or their assets. In both the Child Protection Law and the Child Protection Qanun, parents/guardians are both included as official actors.

### **Role of Actors in Policies for the Protection of Child Victims of Sexual Violence**

Actor behavior influences policy implementation. A public policy will work if actors take action according to what is mandated by the policy. Not all public and private actors intervene actively and significantly in policy implementation. Every individual or social group who feels concerned about the collective problem addressed by a policy is an actor (at least potentially), even if (temporarily) unable to take real action in one or more phases of public intervention (Knoepfel et al., 2011). From the results of identifying actors

involved in child protection policies in Aceh, which are regulated in the principal regulations of the Child Protection Law and Child Protection Qanun. These actors have the authority and role in implementing policies.

a. Central Government

Policy actors within the central government consist of the President and his apparatus. The government must provide child protection through government work programs in each ministry and institution. The president can design child protection plans using existing government resources. Each element of the presidential assistant at the central level has an institutional representative at the regional level who implements the policies formulated at the central level.

Several central government actors have a crucial role in implementing child protection policies in Aceh regarding law enforcement and defending justice for victims. The Supreme Court is responsible for providing justice to victims and prosecuting perpetrators of sexual violence against children. In Aceh, there are two courts, namely the general court and the sharia court, depending on the law used in the case. The Attorney General's role is as a public prosecutor who defends the interests of victims in court and ensures that perpetrators of sexual violence are prosecuted according to the law. The police have a role as investigators in the case and are also responsible for the physical protection and security of the victim during the investigation and trial. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Law and Human Rights is responsible for carrying out sentences against perpetrators after being sentenced by the court, ensuring that the punishment follows the decision. These actors work together to protect children from sexual violence and ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and punished according to the law.

The Indonesian Child Protection Commission (KPAI) has a significant role in protecting children who are victims of sexual violence. Supervision: supervising the implementation of the protection and fulfillment of children's rights by the government and the private

sector. Complaint Recipient: KPAI acts as a body that can receive complaints from the public regarding cases of sexual violence experienced by children. Mediator: KPAI has the authority to mediate disputes related to violations of children's rights, including cases of sexual violence. Advocacy and Education: KPAI can advocate for better policy changes for protecting children from sexual violence. They can also educate the community, schools, and related institutions about the importance of protecting children from sexual violence and the actions that must be taken in cases like this.

Cooperation: KPAI can collaborate with other institutions that have a role in child protection, such as the police, social institutions, and hospitals. This collaboration can ensure that cases of sexual violence against children are handled more effectively. Reporting to the Authorities: KPAI should provide reports to the authorities regarding suspected violations of laws relating to child protection.

The Witness and Victim Protection Agency (LPSK) was established by Law Number 31 of 2014 concerning witness and victim protection. This institution plays a role in protecting witnesses and victims. In protecting child victims of sexual violence in Aceh, LPSK is present if victims or witnesses need the presence of this institution for assistance and protection. The form of protection provided by LPSK is adjusted to the child's inherent rights to ensure their security and safety (Eleanora & Sari, 2019). Among the LPSK protections are support for fulfilling procedural rights, physical protection, medical assistance, psychological assistance, and psychosocial rehabilitation assistance (Siregar et al., 2023)

b. People's Representative Council of the Republic of Indonesia (DPR RI)

The DPR RI has legislative, supervisory, and budgeting functions (T. Kurniawan, 2015). In protecting child victims of sexual violence in Aceh, the DPR RI and the Government act as designers and shapers of child protection laws. Apart from that, in Article 72 letter (d) of Law Number 17 of 2014, the DPR is tasked with supervising laws and

government policies. The central Government's policy regarding the protection of child victims of sexual violence in Aceh is under the supervision of the DPR RI.

c. Regional Government (Governor / Regent / Mayor)

Social services are one of the supporting tools for regional heads. One of the main tasks of the Aceh Social Service is to carry out government affairs in the field of social welfare, including child protection. In this context, the Aceh Social Service has the function of implementing technical policies, facilitating, coordinating, monitoring, and evaluating social protection for victims of sexual violence involving children. They are also responsible for providing technical guidance, assistance, and social services to victims and ensuring that appropriate preventive and rehabilitative measures are taken to recover victims of sexual violence.

Apart from that, the Aceh Social Service also plays a role in coordinating cooperation with other related agencies and institutions in the field of social welfare, including handling cases of sexual violence against children. Through this collaboration, they can integrate various efforts to protect child victims of sexual violence, including law enforcement, mental health, and education, to ensure that victims receive the comprehensive protection and support they need. In general, the role of the Social Service is to assist in recovery from trauma as a broker, as an advocate, provide legal assistance, and as a motivator (Nauri & Sudarmawan, 2022).

Local governments also have Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Service (DPPPPA). The role of the Aceh DPPPPA is regulated in Aceh Gubernatorial Regulation Number 113 of 2016 concerning the position, organizational structure, duties, functions, and work procedures of the Aceh DPPPPA. The role of this service includes two main aspects: collecting data and information on gender and children and fulfilling children's rights. First, in terms of collecting data and information on gender and children, this Department is responsible

for collecting, processing, and analyzing data related to cases of sexual violence against children in Aceh. They also play a role in presenting accurate and up-to-date information regarding these cases.

Apart from that, the Aceh DPPPPA also has a role in fulfilling children's rights. They are tasked with formulating policies that focus on fulfilling children's rights, including the rights of children who are victims of sexual violence. This includes efforts to increase access for child victims to health services, psychosocial support, legal protection, and assistance during the legal process. In addition, this Service must coordinate various related institutions and agencies to ensure that the rights of children who are victims of sexual violence in Aceh are fully protected. This includes collaboration with law enforcement agencies, health care providers, and non-governmental organizations focused on child protection.

The Regional Technical Implementation Unit for the Empowerment of Women and Children (UPTD PPA) is central to protecting child victims of sexual violence in the Aceh region. UPTD PPA provides various services, including medical aspects, psychological counseling, legal assistance, and social support for victims (Furi & Saptatiningsih, 2020; Harahap, 2023). They also provide legal information assistance during the legal process, ensuring victims' legal rights are respected. In addition, UPTD PPA tries to reduce the impact of discrimination that victims may experience, provides temporary protection, receives complaints, and manages follow-up to Integrated Women and Children Empowerment (KTPA) Cases.

UPTD PPA also plays a role in developing an effective referral system, providing temporary protection, facilitating mediation if necessary, and providing long-term assistance for victims. With this multifunctional role, UPTD PPA is at the forefront in ensuring that child victims of sexual violence receive the protection, services, and support needed for their recovery, which is an integral part of child protection efforts at the regional level.

Last but not least, the local government in Aceh has a Sharia Court. Play a role in providing justice to victims and prosecuting perpetrators of sexual violence against children within the scope of Sharia justice, which applies to Qanun Jinayat.

d. Aceh People's Representative Council (DPRA)

The DPRA has a role as the designer and shaper of the Aceh Qanun on Child Protection together with the Governor of Aceh. In implementing the Child Protection Qanun, the DPRA acts as a supervisor of its implementation as well as other Aceh Government policies related to the protection of Child Victims of Sexual Violence in Aceh

e. Companion

Companions are social workers as regulated in Law Number 14 of 2019 concerning social workers. In the protection of child victims of sexual violence in Aceh, social workers have a vital role in helping these children overcome the traumatic impact and take steps for their recovery.

The role of social workers in dealing with child victims of sexual violence in Aceh is as brokers, advocates, mediators, counselors, educators, and motivators. Social Worker as Broker helps connect victimized children with the resources and support systems they need, such as health, education, or counseling services. Social Worker as Advocate, representing child victims of sexual violence in fighting for their rights and assistance in facing legal processes in the Police and Courts. Social Worker as Mediator: Assist in resolving conflicts or problems between child victims and the parties involved, including their families. Social Workers as Enablers: Providing individual counseling to child victims to help them overcome the traumatic impact of sexual violence, encouraging increased self-confidence in child victims. Social Worker as Educator: Providing psychoeducation to child victims, helping them understand the incidents of sexual violence they experienced, and providing support in managing emotions and trauma.

As well as teaching self-protection skills to child victims to help them avoid similar risks in the future. Social Worker as Motivator: Providing motivation and emotional support to child victims, helping them find the enthusiasm to continue life and achieve their dreams (R. A. Kurniawan et al., 2019; Maulida et al., 2020; Nauri & Sudarmawan, 2022).

f. Society

The Aceh Child Protection Qanun community has the authority and opportunity to play an active role in child protection. Just as the Aceh Traditional Council has the task of instilling traditional values in Aceh that do not conflict with religious values, likewise with handling victims of sexual violence, the Aceh Traditional Council also plays a role in instilling social values in indigenous communities (Hamdi, 2018). Aceh also has a deliberative council for Acehnese ulama, which provides advice on legal opinions on Qanun in Aceh and guidance on sharia values for the entire Acehnese community (Riski, 2022).

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) also have a role in protecting child victims of sexual violence in Aceh. They carry out legal advocacy to ensure that children's rights are fulfilled, such as counseling to help victims overcome trauma and recover mentally and educate the public about the problem of child sexual violence. NGOs are also involved in policy advocacy, providing social support, monitoring cases of sexual violence to ensure justice, recovery for victims (Sudarto, 2021), community formation, and prevention outreach to create a safer environment for children (Mahmudah & Widiyarta, 2023).

Aceh is famous for its Islamic law; the cultivation of these values often occurs in the Dayah (traditional Acehnese Islamic boarding school) environment, such as Umi Hanisah Abdullah, an Acehnese female cleric who is also the founder of a traditional Islamic boarding school the concept of a safe home for children and women in West

Aceh—established Dayah to provide assistance and protection for victims of sexual violence in Aceh (Ulya, 2022).

Apart from that, professional groups of journalists or mass media have their own role in protecting child victims of sexual violence. The mass media has a big responsibility in handling sexual crime cases by protecting the identity of victims (Teguh & Ariel, 2020) and directing their reporting towards efforts to save and protect victims, reduce the number of cases, and report on steps to prevent sexual crimes. In its implementation, the role of mass media includes two crucial aspects: protecting victims' privacy and using a gender perspective in reporting sexual crime cases (8enam.com, 2021).

#### g. Family and Parents/Guardians

The family is the spearhead of child protection because children are within the family's and parents' scope. The role of families and parents in dealing with child victims of sexual violence includes assistance in reporting incidents to the authorities, such as the police, social services, Aceh women's empowerment, and child protection services, as well as the UPTD PPA. Then, the family and parents play a role in understanding the victim's condition and carrying out psychological recovery for the victim by strengthening the child's mentality (Burahman & Susanti, 2022; Hatta, 2015).

## CONCLUSION

From the article that has been presented, it can be concluded that the implementation of the policy to protect child victims of sexual violence in Aceh involves various actors, from the central government level to the regional level, including the community and non-governmental organizations. Each actor has their role and responsibility in protecting children who are victims of sexual violence. Central and regional governments are essential in designing policies, providing legal support, and providing the health and psychosocial services victims need. The DPR RI and DPRA also play a role in formulating regional laws and regulations that support child protection. Meanwhile, companions,

social institutions, and mass media provide assistance, counseling, and advocacy for victims and increase public awareness about the importance of protecting children from sexual violence.

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