

Criminal Policy To Combat Child Exploitation As Beggars And Vagrants Through A Community-Based Approach In Bima City

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Abstract

Introduction: The phenomenon of child exploitation as beggars and vagrants is a serious problem that threatens the safety and development of children and requires the attention of parents, families, communities, the government, and law enforcement officials. Handling child exploitation through a legal (repressive) approach that only relies on the police and civil service police has not been effective and optimal in preventing the increasingly worrying practice of child exploitation. This study aims to explore and find a concept for handling child exploitation as beggars and vagrants through a community-based approach, as well as to formulate and implement a concept for handling child exploitation as beggars and vagrants based on a community approach. **Methodology:** This type of research is empirical research, using a legal sociology approach, a legal anthropology approach, and a legal psychology approach. The data collection technique is carried out using a qualitative approach with a case study. The results of the study indicate that the exploitation of children as beggars and vagrants in Bima City is caused by a lack of parental/family supervision, poverty, dropping out of school, minimal child activity in positive activities, incomplete regulations and policies, and the community is still permissive towards begging and vagrancy activities. Furthermore, the concept of overcoming the exploitation of children as beggars and vagrants must use a community-based approach that emphasizes the active role of the community. The implementation of this concept is carried out through child protection and monitoring programs, holding rehabilitation and reintegration programs for children who are victims of exploitation, and creating a child-friendly village/sub-district environment that is physically and socially safe, comfortable, and supports optimal child growth. The research purpose is to give an analysis on the criminal policy concept for handling child exploitation as beggars and vagrants through a community-based approach. The scientific contribution from this research is that it offers a concept for handling child exploitation as beggars and vagrants based on a community approach.

Keywords: *beggars; children; exploitation; homeless; prevention.*

Introduction

Children play a strategic role as the successors to the ideals of the nation and state, and therefore must be protected from all forms of inhumane, degrading treatment that result in human rights violations. Psychologically, children under the age of 18 are mentally unstable, so they may not yet understand what they are experiencing or what they are doing (Ananda, Ediwarman, Yunara, & Ikhsan, 2023). The guarantee of child protection has actually been accommodated through Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Child Protection which determines all activities to guarantee and protect children, so that they can live, grow, develop and participate optimally in accordance with their human dignity and honor, and receive protection from all forms of exploitation.

In general, exploitation refers to the act of excessive and irresponsible use of something for personal gain, without considering the negative impact on others or the environment. Meanwhile, human or child exploitation is the act of exploiting or enslaving humans for personal or group gain without regard for the child's human rights, dignity, health, education, and welfare, and causing harm to the child. In the context of child exploitation, there are arbitrary actions and discriminatory treatment against children carried out with the aim of forcing children to do something without regard for the child's basic rights (Mappaselleng, 2022). This can take the form of slavery, forced labor, human trafficking,

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forced prostitution, or the use of child labor, including the use of children as beggars and vagrants for personal gain or the benefit of certain groups.

Beggars and vagrants are vulnerable groups who are less fortunate and at high risk of facing various social problems and are often considered as part of the problem of poverty and social inequality in Indonesia (Tuarita et al., 2024). The activities of beggars and vagrants are very disturbing and worrying because they have a negative impact on the survival of society. The first impact is disrupting public order and peace, especially on the streets or in crowded areas (Tuarita et al., 2024). Second, there is stigmatization and discrimination against beggars and vagrants (Idza, 2023). Third, it reflects the cycle of poverty because it reflects the economic conditions that occur in the family (Idza, 2023). The increase in the number of beggars and vagrants is due to the worsening socio-economic conditions which have led to an increase in poverty levels.

Bima City, West Nusa Tenggara Province, is one of the areas where begging and vagrancy are rampant. Begging is carried out by a number of children in public places/crowded centers, markets, red lights and roadsides and has even entered residential areas (from house to house). Likewise, many vagrants roam around and choose to sleep in the corners of shops/offices and even on the side of the road in conditions that do not comply with the norms of a decent life in general. In fact, the policy of overcoming beggars and vagrancy as a social problem is the obligation of the government, in accordance with the mandate in Article 27 Paragraph (2) of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia which states: "Every citizen has the right to work and a decent living for humanity." Therefore, the government has a role and obligation to overcome and strive to ensure that every citizen can obtain work with decent wages (Syahputri et al., 2025), thus closing the space for any child to become a beggar or vagrant. Legally, Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Child Protection is intended to provide protection, care, and welfare for children by taking into account the rights and obligations of parents, guardians, or other parties legally responsible for the child. However, the mandate of the constitution and the law have not been seriously implemented by local governments in the form of regional policies specifically to address or prevent begging and vagrancy among children.

The policy for controlling, supervising, and preventing beggars and vagrants in Bima City has so far only referred to Bima City Regional Regulation Number 7 of 2015 concerning the Implementation of Public Order and Community Peace by relying on the role of the Civil Service Police Unit with related agencies, the Social Service, and the Child and Women's Protection Service. However, it has not been effective in preventing the rampant exploitation of children as beggars and vagrants in Bima City, so it is necessary to formulate concepts and implement policies that can be effectively used to overcome child exploitation in Bima City. Based on this condition, research is very important to find and find solutions to overcome the problem of beggars and vagrants in Bima City.

Several previous studies relevant to this research, including; Reza Akbar Nugraha L, et al. concluded that although there are legal regulations that provide protection for Indonesian children, there are still weaknesses in the substance of the rules/articles regarding child protection, so that in their implementation they are often exploited by groups or individuals for special interests (Nugraha et al., 2023). Ideally, the concept of child protection should not only be placed as an exclusive obligation of the state, the responsibility of parents, but also requires participation and support from the community to overcome any attempts to exploit children as beggars and vagrants (Nugraha et al., 2023). Research by Aziz Taufik Rohman et al. revealed that the efforts of the Civil Service Police Unit in dealing with beggars and vagrants are generally carried out through preventive and repressive efforts (Rohman & Purnomosidi, 2024). However, the results have not been optimal in providing a deterrent effect on the community. Research by Masrul Ikhsan et al. concluded that the implementation of social policies to address homelessness and begging requires a more integrated and sustainable approach. Efforts to implement order, social rehabilitation, and economic empowerment require increased coordination between agencies, budget allocation, and increased public education to increase the effectiveness of social policies in addressing child begging and homelessness (Ikhsan, Kamaruddin, Nisaa, Vio Vani, & Rahmanul, 2024). While research specifically examining the exploitation of children as beggars and vagrants in Bima City has never existed, the phenomenon of child exploitation as beggars and vagrants in Bima City is increasingly prevalent. The difference and fundamental novelty of this research lies in the discovery of a concept for addressing the exploitation of children as beggars and vagrants using a community-based approach.

Based on the background description above, the problems in this research can be formulated as follows: (1) What is the concept of community-based prevention of child exploitation as beggars and

vagrants? (2) How to implement the concept of community-based prevention of child exploitation as beggars and vagrants?

Methodology

This type of research is empirical law research or also known as sociological legal research, which studies law conceptualized as actual behavior as an unwritten social phenomenon experienced by humans in social life (Utsman, 2014). This type of research uses an interdisciplinary approach that provides an analysis of how social, political and economic factors influence the enforcement and application of law (Afandi, 2022) in society. According to Soetandyo Wignyosoebroto, this type conceptualizes law not only as a positive norm or a judge's decision, but rather as a form of institutionalized social behavior pattern and symbolic meaning of social interactions in society (Syamsuddin, Ridwan, & Iksan, 2021). The approaches used are the sociological approach to law, the anthropological approach to law, and the psychological approach to law (Jiwanti & Soponyono, 2022). The sociological approach to law is intended to analyze the reactions and interactions that occur due to the operation of law in society (Wardiono, 2019). The anthropological approach to law examines ways of resolving problems in society by describing tensions and disputes regarding the types of cases, motives, and methods used to resolve them (Jiwanti & Soponyono, 2022). Meanwhile, the psychological approach to law views law from a psychological perspective, specifically regarding compliance and legal awareness related to factors that lead to unlawful acts (Utsman, 2014). The type of data used in this study is primary data sourced from primary and secondary legal materials (Wardiono, 2019). The data collection technique used was a qualitative approach with a case study (Hermoyo et al., 2024). A qualitative approach is a process of in-depth data collection on patterns of child exploitation as beggars and vagrants. Case studies, on the other hand, are intended to analyze real and specific phenomena, events, or cases related to child exploitation as beggars and vagrants (Fahmi, Azhari, Surbakti, Budiono, & Wula, 2025). The data analysis technique uses qualitative descriptive methods, which describe, explain, and provide comprehensive and logical conclusions (Filatova, We, Feng, Orozovna, & Kashymbekov, 2024).

Results and Discussion

The Concept of Overcoming the Exploitation of Children as Beggars and Vagrants Using a Community-Based Approach.

Child exploitation refers to an act of using children to provide benefits for others, satisfaction or profit that often results in unfair, cruel, and dangerous treatment of children. Child exploitation is an act intended to exploit, take advantage of, or blackmail children for personal, family, or certain group benefits. The perpetrators of child exploitation have often been those closest to the child, including; their own parents or family, the helplessness of parents or family is often passed on to children to become beggars and vagrants. It cannot be denied that the main root of child exploitation is related to the level of family welfare (A. Budiono et al., 2019). Based on data and research results, it shows that poverty is closely related to various forms of child exploitation, because the reason for poverty encourages children to be forced or ordered to become beggars and eventually become vagrants (Dahlan, 2022).

The exploitation of children as beggars and vagrants is often caused by several reasons (Hartotok, Absori, Dimiyati, Santoso, & Budiono, 2021), including: lack of parental/family supervision, poverty and dropping out of school, lack of involvement of children in positive activities, weak law enforcement, incomplete regulations and policies for preventing children as beggars (Absori Absori, Hernanda, Fitriadi, Wardiono, & Budiono, 2023), and society still being permissive towards begging and vagrant behaviour (Pratama, 2021). In fact, in Bima City, children who are exploited or active as beggars and vagrants are children aged between 6 and 12 years and most of them are children who come or are deliberately brought from outside Bima City, especially from Sumba, Flores, Ende Regency, East Nusa Tenggara Province to become beggars and vagrants in Bima City.⁵ So far, the presence of children as beggars has been monitored, and some of them have even been secured and given guidance by the Social Service together with the Bima City Civil Service Police Unit, but this has not had a deterrent effect on the children, so they continue to beg.⁶

⁵ Hasil Wawancara dengan Yuliana, Kepala Dinas Sosial Kota Bima, tanggal 22 Juli 2025 pukul. 10.00 Wita

⁶ Hasil Wawancara dengan Nurhidayah selaku Perkerja Sosial Masyarakat (PSM) pada Kantor Dinas Sosial Kota Bima, tanggal, tanggal 22 Juli 2025 pukul. 10.30 Wita

This situation was also confirmed by Juhriati, Head of the Bima City Child Protection Agency (LPA), who explained that children from East Nusa Tenggara Province were deliberately brought in and coordinated by certain individuals from the same area. They were housed in specific accommodations (rented houses) and employed as beggars in crowded places such as shopping centers/markets, traffic lights, and restaurants, using various methods such as busking, singing, dancing, and even clowning.⁷ This was also confirmed by the victims (Lukas, Wulang and Abraham), children from Sumba Regency, East Nusa Tenggara, who explained that they initially came to Bima City because they were invited and joined a family who already lived in Bima City, provided free accommodation and then told to work as beggars (begging) on the streets and busy centers, they were told to work every day from 15.00 WITA to 22.00 WITA, the results of this begging activity were then handed over to their coordinator for daily living expenses.⁸ Meanwhile, according to Nandar, Ikram and Subhan, children native to Bima City, explained that they became beggars because of pressure from their parents to meet their daily needs with their families. On average, they are orphans or from broken homes without fathers, so they become the backbone of the family to earn a living without paying attention to their education, health and safety.⁹

According to Ririn Swandayani as Acting Head of the Bima City Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Agency (DPPPA), efforts to prevent children from becoming beggars and vagrants have been carried out in the form of routine quarterly joint patrols involving the Civil Service Police Unit (Pol. PP), the Social Service and the Bima City Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Agency (DPPPA), several children who work as beggars have been secured and given guidance so that they no longer carry out similar activities (begging) and vagrancy which can endanger and disturb the comfort of the community, even the children in question have made a statement that they will no longer be beggars. However, in reality, they continue to repeat their actions by becoming beggars again in the future, making it difficult for the government to overcome the phenomenon of beggars and vagrancy in Bima City.¹⁰

Meanwhile, according to Yuliana as Head of the Social Service of Bima City, the obstacles faced in dealing with children as beggars and vagrants lie in the absence of regional regulations/regulations specifically governing beggars and vagrants, weak coordination between officials/agencies, and the lack of facilities in the form of a Safe House as a safe and comfortable center for fostering/recovery for children as victims of physical and psychological dangers, including children as victims of exploitation, so that prevention of child exploitation practices in Bima City has not been optimally carried out to date.¹¹ Regarding the constraints of regional regulations/regulations regarding the handling of beggars and vagrants, according to Amiruddin as a Member of the Bima City DPRD¹² There are no specific regulations yet, so with the current rampant phenomenon of beggars and vagrants in Bima City, there is a need for regional regulations as a legal instrument to address this (Yuspin, Wardiono, Nurrahman, & Budiono, 2020).

Eka Turkiani, Head of the Women and Children Protection Unit of the Bima City Police, acknowledged that the phenomenon of child beggars in Bima City is frequently encountered at various points, especially at traffic lights and busy centers. He even stated that the children in question are dropped off by their parents at certain times and then picked up again. Despite this rampant and sometimes disturbing practice, no one has reported/complained about the exploitation of children, resulting in no legal action. The police have so far only provided legal counseling and general guidance regarding child and adolescent delinquency in several schools.¹³ According to the author, crime prevention approaches that still use preventive approaches (socialization and general guidance) and repressive approaches (law enforcement) are not considered optimal in preventing the practice of exploiting children as beggars and vagrants so far, so it is necessary to emerge another approach as an alternative new approach in overcoming crimes against children which are increasingly complex. As

⁷ Hasil Wawancara langsung tanggal, tanggal 27 Juli 2025 pukul. 14.30 Wita

⁸ Hasil Wawancara langsung tanggal, tanggal 2 Agustus 2025 pukul. 14.30 Wita

⁹ Hasil Wawancara langsung tanggal, tanggal 2 Agustus 2025 pukul. 16.30 Wita

¹⁰ Hasil Wawancara langsung, tanggal 25 Juli 2025 pukul. 11.00 Wita

¹¹ Hasil Wawancara langsung, tanggal 22 Juli 2025 pukul. 10.00 Wita

¹² Hasil Wawancara langsung, tanggal 20 Agustus 2025 pukul. 13.00 Wita

¹³ Hasil Wawancara langsung tanggal, tanggal 27 Juli 2025 pukul. 15.30 Wita

a new approach that can be used in overcoming the exploitation of children as beggars and vagrants, a community-based approach can be used (Izziyana et al., 2019).

A community-based approach in the context of combating child exploitation as beggars and vagrants is a crime prevention and handling strategy that places the community as the primary subject in combating child exploitation as beggars and vagrants, thus the community is not merely an object of legal protection. This approach begins with the assumption that preventing child exploitation as beggars and vagrants is not only the responsibility of the government and law enforcement officials alone, but is a shared responsibility of all members of society (A Absori, Hernanda, Fitriadi, Wardiono, & Budiono, 2023). Therefore, the involvement of community groups is very important in combating child exploitation as beggars and vagrants, which is increasingly rampant and tends to increase over time (Arief Budiono, Absori, Wardiono, Yuspin, & Gulyamov, 2023).

The concept of a community-based approach to addressing the exploitation of children as beggars and vagrants is based on the following theoretical framework:

Social Control Theory

In a study of social contract theory (Travis Hirschi, 1969), it was emphasized that deviant behavior often occurs when an individual's social ties to society weaken or disappear. Therefore, from this theoretical perspective, it is assumed that strong social ties within society can suppress deviant behaviour (Travis, 2002), especially the behavior of exploiting children as beggars and vagrants. Referring to the social contract theory, preventing the exploitation of children as beggars and vagrants can be done by strengthening social ties/bonds, which include four main elements: attachment, commitment, involvement, and belief, which can be implemented as follows:

Elements of Social Bonding	Implementation of Child Exploitation Prevention	Forms of Child Exploitation Prevention Practices
Attachment	Building positive emotional relationships with parents, family, friends, and teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parenting and family counseling programs; - School activities that encourage good teacher-student relationships; - “Zero Beggars and Homeless” Program
Commitment	Encourage individuals to have long-term goals and social investments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scholarship assistance and educational support for children; - Job skills training for children and youth; - Award program for student achievement.
Involvement	Free time is used for positive activities that reduce the opportunity for children to beg.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extracurricular activities at school (sports, arts, science); - Youth organization, mosque youth and other social activities
Trust	Instilling moral values and belief in legal norms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Character education for children; - Legal counseling on the negative impacts of beggars and vagrants - Campaign program free from beggars and vagrants

In addition, the implementation of social control theory in preventing the exploitation of children as beggars and vagrants can be done in the following ways (Arief Budiono, Absori, Ngestiningrum, & Nugroho, 2018):

Strengthening the Role and Function of the Family in the following ways:

- a. Providing economic, emotional support and parental attention to children.

- b. Conduct intensive supervision of children's activities so that they are not influenced by exploitation networks.
- c. Instilling moral, religious and responsible values from an early age.

The element that is strengthened in this context is the child's attachment to the family, thereby reducing their vulnerability to being invited to become beggars/vagrants.

Improving Access and Quality of Education

- a. Providing educational assistance (scholarships, school supplies) for children from poor families.
- b. Building supportive teacher-student relationships so that children feel valued and motivated to go to school.
- c. Provide interesting extracurricular activities to keep children active and off the streets.

Strengthened elements: Commitment and Involvement so that children feel they have a positive future and are busy with their development.

Community Empowerment and Social Institutions

- a. Establish community-based child protection posts to detect the number of vulnerable children early;
- b. Inviting religious organizations, mosque youth and youth groups to provide special guidance to street/abandoned children;
- c. Providing skills training for vulnerable families to prevent exploitation of children;

Strengthened elements: Attachment to the community and Belief that child exploitation is a wrong and punishable act.

Law Enforcement and Child Protection

- a. Take firm action against perpetrators of child exploitation on the streets.
- b. Returning child victims to their families or orphanages and providing social rehabilitation.
- c. Monitor the implementation of child protection laws consistently and draft regional regulations/regional policies that specifically prevent the exploitation of children as beggars and vagrants.

Strengthened elements: Belief in legal norms causes children and families to understand that exploitation violates the law and children's rights.

Situational Crime Prevention Theory

Situational Crime Prevention theory was developed by Ronald V. Clarke (1970–1980) and stems from the traditions of Rational Choice Theory and Environmental Criminology. The perspective of Situational Crime Prevention theory concludes that crime often occurs when there is an opportunity, and can be prevented by reducing the existing opportunities through changes in the situation or physical environment (Wardiono et al., 2021). Therefore, the focus of this theory is to prevent crime by changing environmental conditions, increasing the risk of being caught, and reducing the benefits for the perpetrator (Kamarulzaman, Ismail, Basher, & Ismail, 2025). It does not emphasize the perpetrator's motivation, but rather the opportunity that allows a crime to occur (Akers, 2013). The Situational Crime Prevention approach emphasizes reducing opportunities for crime by changing the physical/social situation or environment to make crime more difficult, high risk, and less profitable (Wortley & Townsley, 2016). Implementation of the situational crime prevention theory to overcome the exploitation of children as beggars and vagrants can be done with strategies, implementation steps, and final objectives as explained in the following table:

Main Strategy	Implementation Steps	Final destination
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Increasing Efforts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Close children's access to vulnerable points (red lights, markets, crowded centers); - Regulation of locations where children are usually exploited 	Addressing exploitative actions against children as beggars and vagrants
Increase the risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Installing CCTV in public areas; - Routine patrols by child protection officers & volunteers; - Involve the community to report if they see children begging. 	Monitor and expose perpetrators of child exploitation as beggars and vagrants
Reduce profits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conducting a campaign "don't give money to child beggars" - Providing complaint and rehabilitation services for children 	Closing the loopholes and profits from exploitative child behavior
Reducing triggers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Providing social/psychological support to street children; - Providing alternative activities (learning, skills training) 	Diverting children's focus and tendencies to become beggars and vagrants
Eliminate justification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legal socialization regarding the Child Protection Law; - Education to parents and the community about the dangers of exploitation 	Building awareness that exploiting children as beggars is a violation of law and morals

Restorative justice approach

The philosophy of the restorative justice approach emphasizes social restoration, perpetrator accountability, and victim recovery rather than simply imposing punishment. In the context of addressing children's issues, the restorative justice approach focuses on the child's best interests, protection, and social reintegration (Bazemore & Umbreit, 2001). Regarding the exploitation of children as beggars and vagrants, it is not merely a legal issue, but is also a social problem that must be resolved collaboratively through a process of cooperation between individuals or community groups with all parties in order to achieve common goals by sharing information, resources, and participating fully.

The primary goal of restorative justice is to improve the relationship between the perpetrator, the victim, and the community, as well as to restore the social balance disrupted by crime or the exploitation of children as beggars and vagrants. In this regard, the main principles of restorative justice are as follows (Braithwaite, 2001):

- a) Participatory. Involvement of all affected parties (victims/children, perpetrators, the community, law enforcement officers).
- b) Restoration, Focus on reparation for the victim's losses, not just revenge or imprisonment of the perpetrator.
- c) Responsibility of the perpetrator, the perpetrator is expected to admit his mistake and repair the losses caused by his actions.
- d) Social reintegration, Returning perpetrators and victims to society with better social relationships.
- e) Dialogue and deliberation, Resolution is carried out through mediation, conferences, or joint deliberation.

Thus, the restorative justice approach in preventing the exploitation of children as beggars and vagrants can be carried out with the following strategies, steps and objectives:

Strategy	Concrete Steps	Final destination
Recovery of victims (children)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Placing street children in temporary protection centers (Safe Houses); - Providing education and skills training 	Restoring the dignity and future of children so that they no longer become beggars and vagrants
Responsibility of the perpetrator/family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage parents/families to sign a commitment not to exploit children; - Providing economic support/rehabilitation to vulnerable families. 	Stopping the cycle of exploitation and improving relationships between children, parents and families
Community involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Involving community leaders, youth, religious leaders, village/sub-district government, and forums for discussing street children cases; - Establish a community-based child monitoring system; 	Building shared responsibility to protect children
Alternative punishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prioritize mediation or diversion on condition that it supports the child's recovery; - Prioritize rehabilitation over punishment. 	Resolving cases without damaging the child and family's social networks
Social reintegration of children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop policies for reintegrating children into schools or a safe and comfortable family environment; - Providing follow-up support (living expenses assistance, social monitoring) 	Ensure children do not return to the streets after being handled

Thus, the restorative justice approach enables child victims of exploitation to receive protection, recovery, and a better future. Families and communities share responsibility for preventing further child exploitation, while perpetrators are not only punished but also encouraged to repair the social damage caused by their exploitative actions. Restorative justice can prevent opportunities for continued child exploitation by rebuilding healthy and strong social relationships and a safe and welcoming environment for children's future development.

Implementation of the Community-Based Concept of Combating Child Exploitation as Beggars and Vagrants.

The community-based approach, as explained previously, is a strategy for addressing social problems that prioritizes the active participation of the community as the main actor (Wortley & Townsley, 2016). In the context of addressing child exploitation as beggars and vagrants, this approach emphasizes collaboration between citizens, families, local institutions, and the government to prevent, detect, treat, and rehabilitate exploited children. This approach is based on the assumption that communities best understand local social conditions and can therefore be at the forefront of protecting children from any actions or behaviors that could potentially harm their development (Huvos, Higinbotham, Marcove, & O'Leary, 1977). So the main components of the Community-Based Approach in overcoming the exploitation of children as beggars and vagrants consist of programs, activities, and implementation which can be seen in the following table:

Program	Activity	Implementation
Prevention (preventive)	Reducing risk factors that lead to child exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Counseling for vulnerable families; - Economic skills training for parents; - "Stop giving money to child beggars" campaign
Protection and monitoring	Providing direct protection to children in the environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish village/sub-district child protection units; - People report if they see children being exploited; - Environmental patrol by volunteers

Case handling	Handling exploited children in a humane manner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Connecting children with social institutions; - Providing temporary shelter and counseling (Safe House); - Family mediation and post-incident supervision.
Rehabilitation and reintegration	Returning children to their families/communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education and health support; - Small business skills and capital training; - Social assistance by local figures.
Community empowerment	Strengthening community capacity to protect children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Child protection training for RT/RW, teachers, religious leaders; - Formation of children's forums and child care groups.

In the concept of a community-based approach, children are not only placed as passive subjects, but also as the main actors directly involved in prevention, mentoring, and monitoring activities against the potential exploitation of children as beggars and vagrants. So that the implementation of the concept of a community-based approach requires a joint role (multi-party collaboration) which includes the role of parents/families, community/religious leaders, educational institutions, religious organizations, village/sub-district officials, local governments, and law enforcement officials which are directed towards the following objectives (Mardiyati, 2015):

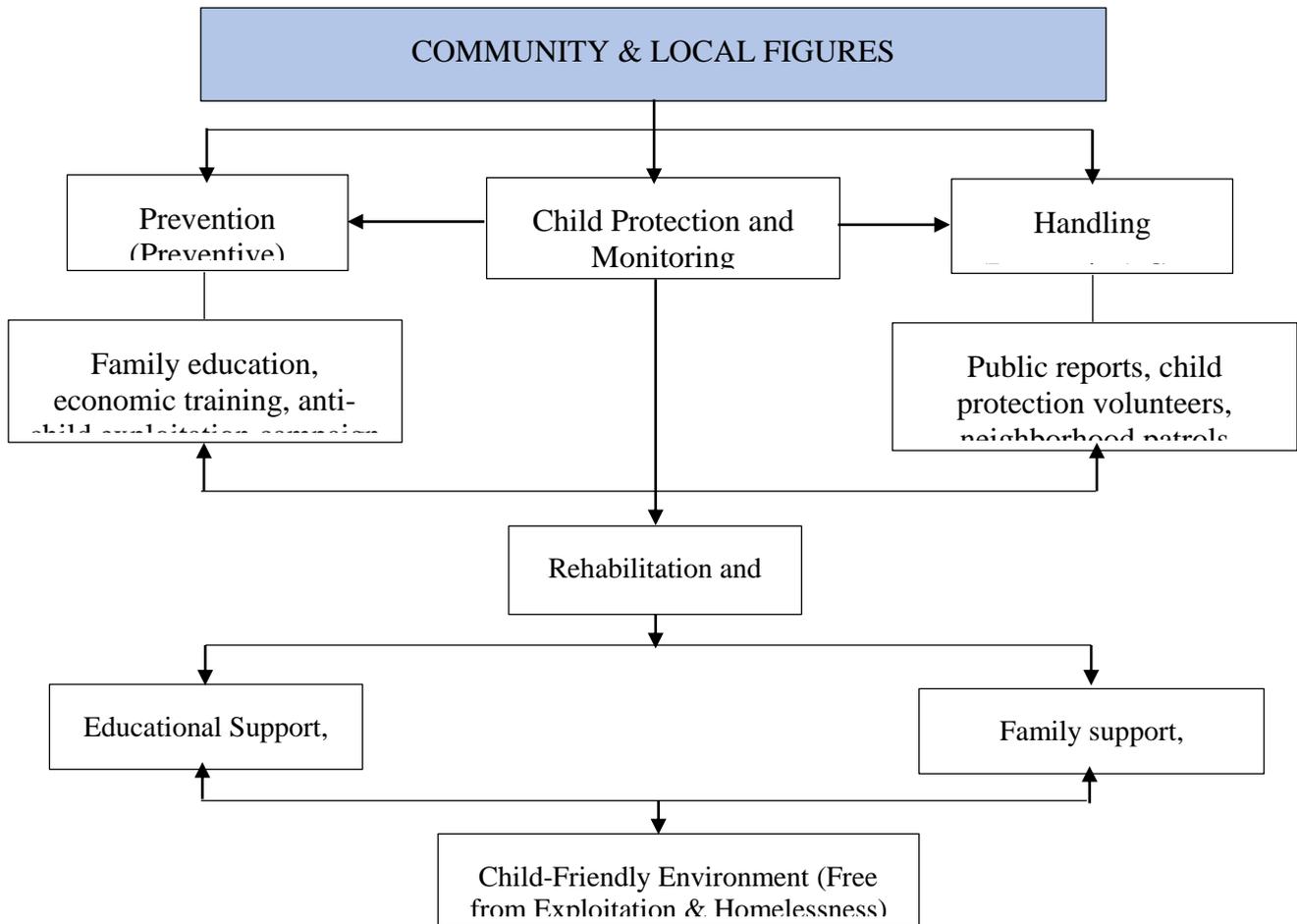
- 1) Prevent child exploitation through education, awareness raising and family empowerment;
- 2) Addressing ongoing cases of exploitation with reporting mechanisms, advocacy and rapid intervention;
- 3) Rehabilitate child victims of exploitation so that they can regain their rights to education, health and protection;
- 4) Building family economic independence so as not to make children a source of income through exploitation.

Prevention of child exploitation practices as beggars and vagrants using a community-based approach makes the role of community groups consisting of local community leaders (RT/RW, teachers, religious leaders, youth and women's leaders, and local village/sub-district organizations) very important in providing protection and monitoring of children's activities. The concept of child protection and monitoring programs is carried out through prevention and case handling patterns. Preventive patterns can be carried out by educating vulnerable family groups, providing economic training in the form of educational activities and competency development to increase the knowledge, skills, and abilities of individuals or communities in the economic field such as community empowerment and business development, and conducting anti-child exploitation campaigns to prevent and stop the activities of using children as beggars and vagrants. Meanwhile, the repressive case handling pattern is carried out by actively encouraging the community to provide information and reports on child exploitation activities, forming child protection communities/volunteers and conducting routine patrols of children's activities to avoid exploitative actions. In addition, it is necessary to create rehabilitation and reintegration programs for children who are victims of exploitation as beggars and vagrants. A child rehabilitation and social reintegration program is an integrated process to restore children who have been victims of exploitation, neglect, or behavioral disorders so they can return to independent and productive lives in society (Moorthygari et al., 2025). Rehabilitation aims to restore children's abilities through education, training, and psychological support, while reintegration aims to return children to social structures, such as their families and communities, to avoid stigma and discrimination (Hasan & Al-Salam, 2025).

With the prevention pattern above, the community is encouraged to create a child-friendly village/sub-district environment by creating a physical and social atmosphere that is safe, comfortable, and supports optimal child growth and development. A child-friendly village/sub-district environment is a planned and sustainable effort to create an environment that respects, guarantees, and fulfills children's basic rights, and protects them from violence, exploitation, and discrimination. In order to realize this friendly village/sub-district environment, the involvement or active participation of the

village/sub-district government, the community, and other community components is needed to ensure that children have access to quality education, health facilities, safe and creative play spaces, and the opportunity to participate in decision-making in their lives.

The concept of dealing with the exploitation of children as beggars and vagrants can be explained in the scheme below:



Conclusion

Based on the results and discussion above, it can be concluded that the concept of overcoming child exploitation as beggars and vagrants using a community-based approach emphasizes community participation. Community participation from the perspective of social control theory is intended to strengthen social ties/bonds that include attachment, commitment, involvement, and belief in society. Meanwhile, community participation based on the theory of situational crime prevention encourages the community to reduce or close the opportunity for child exploitation by engineering/changing the existing social situation or environment. In the process of resolving child exploitation cases, the priority is the restorative justice approach to safeguard the best interests of the child, protection, and social reintegration so that children can live and grow in a safe and comfortable social environment. Meanwhile, the implementation of the concept of overcoming child exploitation as beggars and vagrants with a community-based approach is carried out through child protection and monitoring programs through prevention patterns and case handling patterns. Preventive patterns can be carried out by educating vulnerable family groups, providing economic training in the form of educational activities and competency development, and conducting anti-child exploitation campaigns to prevent and stop the activity of exploiting children as beggars and vagrants. Meanwhile, the repressive case handling pattern is carried out by actively encouraging the community to provide information and reports on child exploitation activities, forming child protection communities/volunteers and conducting routine patrols of children's activities to avoid exploitative actions, developing rehabilitation and reintegration programs

for children who are victims of exploitation as beggars and vagrants. And finally, the community is encouraged to create a child-friendly village/sub-district environment by creating a physical and social atmosphere that is safe, comfortable, and supports optimal child growth and development.

There is a need for a regional regulation of Bima city that specifically regulates the handling of beggars and vagrants in the city by emphasizing the active role of the community to overcome the practice of exploiting children as beggars and vagrants in Bima City.

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