



Handling Cases of Child Sexual Abuse from an Islamic Legal Perspective (Case Study at DP3A Banda Aceh)

Nada Adzkia

Faculty of Sharia, State Islamic University Ar-Raniry, Banda Aceh

Email: nadaadzkia02@gmail.com

Fakhrurrazi M. Yunus

Faculty of Sharia, State Islamic University Ar-Raniry, Banda Aceh

Email: arrazie@ar-raniry.ac.id

Aulil Amri

Faculty of Sharia, State Islamic University Ar-Raniry, Banda Aceh

Email: aulil.amri@ar-raniry.ac.id

Abstract

The protection of children is a fundamental aspect of Islamic teachings, especially in terms of sexual violence that touches on issues of morality, dignity, and humanity. Islam strictly prohibits adultery and actions that lead to it, including sexual abuse of children. A severe issue that persists in Indonesia is sexual violence against minors, including in Banda Aceh City, with various forms ranging from harassment to rape. Children who should receive protection actually become victims in their immediate environment, such as family, neighbours, and even peers. Through a case study at DP3A Banda Aceh, this study seeks to examine how situations of sexual abuse against children are handled from the standpoint of Islamic law. Data were gathered through observations, interviews, and literature reviews from books, journals, rules and regulations, and Qur'anic verses using a legal sociological method and a normative-empirical juridical approach. The study was descriptive and qualitative in nature. According to the study's findings, DP3A Banda Aceh plays a significant role in providing social recovery, legal support, and psychological support to victims of sexual assault against minors. However, this effort still faces various challenges, such as minimal reporting of cases, social stigma against victims, and limited human resources and coordination between institutions. In the context of Islamic law in Aceh, handling this case requires a comprehensive approach, integrating religious values, local customs and the national legal system to give children, the country's future generation, the best possible protection.

Keywords: Sexual Violence, Child Sexual, Efforts, Prevention, DP3A.

Introduction

In Islam, protecting children is of utmost importance. Since sexual violence is fundamentally linked to a person's values, it is extremely harmful to children who experience it. In Islam, it is not only forbidden to kiss or touch the body parts of a woman, but it is also forbidden to look at a woman with lust because it will lead to adultery. In verse 32 of Surah Al-Isra', it is stated that "Do not approach adultery, for it is an abomination and an evil way".¹

Allah has given every parent the responsibility to raise their children. Children are one of the things that every parent eagerly awaits and looks forward to in family life. Because they are not yet able to meet their own needs, parents of children who *are* not yet *mumayyiz* are fully responsible for their survival. By observing and imitating the behaviour of those closest to them and others, children will become more aware of what is happening around them and more critical of the behaviour that occurs. In Islam, the role of parents is to educate their children in accordance with their nature, which is to believe in Allah, instilling religious knowledge and obedience. In order for a child to be the pride of their parents, community, and nation, their education must be supported and guided as a process of growth.

Not only parents, but children also have rights and responsibilities that parents are obliged to fulfil. In Islam, children have a very special position and must be protected, so Islam regulates the rights of children and what their parents must fulfil, including the right to life, security, proper education, health services, and affection. Children desperately need their parents to accompany and guide them before they *reach puberty*.² The 1945 Constitution and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child both mention human rights. As the future of the nation and state, children are the next

¹ Farah Dibba Natanegari, "Perlindungan Terhadap Anak Korban Kekerasan Seksual Prespektif Hukum Islam (Studi Kasus Di Woman Crisis Centre Srikandi Kabupaten Banjarnegara)" (Skripsi, UIN Prof. K. H. Saifuddin Zuhri, 2021). p. 4

² Novriansyah, "Upaya Dp3a Dalam Pencegahan Kekerasan Terhadap Anak Dalam Keluarga (Studi Kasus Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan dan Perlindungan Anak di Provinsi Aceh)" (Skripsi, UIN Ar-Raniry, 2022). p. 1

generation who will carry on the values of the nation. Therefore, every child has the right to participate, grow and develop, as well as, the right to civil liberties, protection from violence, and most importantly, the ability to be protected from violence.

Violence against children is a major problem in Indonesia, and in the city of Banda Aceh in particular. In addition to neglect and abuse that endangers the integrity of the body and degrades the dignity of children, violence against children can take the form of physical, mental, sodomy, incest, or sexual violence, and can be committed by people who should be responsible for the development of children.³

One of the ways in which the vision and mission of the city of Banda Aceh is implemented is by stopping cases of sexual violence against children. Aceh has the authority to independently implement Islamic law, and the welfare of women and children is part of its framework.

The vision and mission of the Banda Aceh City DP3AP2KB is to assist the government in the empowerment of women and the protection of children. This vision and mission also form the basis for the DP3AP2KB performance in developing strategies to combat sexual violence against children and prioritising the implementation of Sharia law if the safety and security of children is to be the main priority. Therefore, the DP3AP2KB uses Islamic law as the basis for developing its strategies.⁴

Children under the age of 18 are classified as children. Families, neighbourhoods and peers often perpetrate violence against children. Children, who should be the future leaders and potential of the nation, often experience violence and are not protected. *UNICEF* states that nearly one billion children worldwide experience physical violence such as sexual violence, psychological violence and even death every year. According to

³ Haspiani Muin, "Peran Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan Dan Perlindungan Anak Dalam Penanganan Kekerasan Terhadap Anak Di Kota Makassar" (Skripsi, Universitas Muhammadiyah, 2023). p. 1

⁴ Nuzulul Rahmi, Nofriandi, dan Saddam Rasanjani, "Strategi Penanggulangan Kekerasan Seksual Terhadap Anak Oleh Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan Perlindungan Anak Pengendalian Penduduk Dan Keluarga Berencana Di Kota Banda Aceh," *Jurnal Ilmiah Mahasiswa FISIP USK* 1, no. 1 (Februari 2023): 3-11, <https://www.jim.unsyiah.ac.id/Fisip>.

ECPAT (*End Child Prostitution in Asia Tourism*), sexual violence against children is defined as a relationship or interaction between a child and an adult, such as a parent, sibling, or stranger, in which the relationship is used to satisfy the perpetrator's sexual needs. This sexual violence is usually carried out through coercion, threats, bribery, and deception by the perpetrator against the child.⁵

There are several factors that can lead to sexual violence, including the perpetrator's inability to control their sexual urges or a lack of education about children's sexuality, which can result in sexual violence against children. Perpetrators may also harbour hatred towards the victim or their family, which leads them to use sexual violence as a form of revenge.⁶

In dealing with situations of violence against children, the Banda Aceh Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Agency (DP3A) is an institution tasked with upholding children's rights and has an important role to play. DP3A members are required to provide optimal services ranging from prevention and case handling to the recovery of victims of violence.

In the context of Aceh, which implements Islamic law, handling cases of violence against children has its own complexities that require a comprehensive approach that takes into account religious, cultural and local wisdom aspects. The role of DP3A members is very important in integrating these various approaches to ensure that child victims of violence receive comprehensive protection.

Efforts to address cases of violence against children in Banda Aceh still face various obstacles. Despite various efforts that have been made. This is due to several factors, such as a lack of cooperation between institutions, a

⁵ Kukuh Nur Iman, "Peran Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan Dan Perlindungan Anak (DP3A) Dalam Melakukan Penanganan Kasus Kekerasan Anak Di Kabupaten Bekasi" (Skripsi, UIN Syarif Hidayatullah, 2022). p. 1-4

⁶ Fachria Octaviani dan Nunung Nurwati, "Analisis Faktor Dan Dampak Kekerasan Seksual Pada Anak," Jurnal Ilmu Kesejahteraan Sosial "Humanitas" Fisip Unpas 3, no. 2 (September 2021): 57 -59, <https://journal.unpas.ac.id/index.php/humanitas/article/download/4118/1920/18571>.

lack of human resources, and social stigma that prevents the community from reporting acts of violence.⁷

This article presents novelty through empirical and normative studies that integrate the Islamic legal approach with child protection practices carried out by the Banda Aceh Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Agency (DP3A). The main focus that makes this article unique is its attempt to analyse how Islamic legal values and principles are applied in handling cases of sexual violence against children, particularly in the local context of Aceh society, which formally implements Islamic law. Unlike previous studies that only reviewed positive law or limited themselves to child protection theory, this article highlights the synergy between state apparatus and Islamic values in efforts to handle and rehabilitate victims of child sexual violence. This study also contributes to academic literature by directly describing the role of local government agencies (DP3A) as implementers of child protection under the shadow of Islamic Sharia implementation. Furthermore, this article offers a new perspective by examining the social, cultural, and religious dynamics that influence the process of handling victims, including challenges such as social stigma, lack of education, and limited coordination between legal and religious institutions. Using case studies and a qualitative approach, this research opens up academic discussion on the importance of a *maqashid syariah* (Islamic legal objectives)-based approach in policies for the protection of child victims of sexual violence. Thus, this article makes a relevant and innovative contribution, both in the development of contemporary Islamic law and in the formulation of child protection policies based on local and religious values.

Research Method

This study uses a sociological approach to law and is a form of normative-empirical legal research. This study was conducted in the Syiah Kuala District of Banda Aceh City, Aceh Province, specifically at the Banda

⁷ Mis Suwarni, "Peran Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan Dan Perlindungan Anak (Dp3a) Aceh Dalam Penanggulangan Kekerasan Terhadap Anak" (Skripsi, UIN Ar-Raniry, 2023). p. 8

Aceh DP3A office. The research data consists of primary data sourced from field interviews. One of the main sources of data is the data I obtained from interviews with a member of the Special Child Protection Division at the Banda Aceh DP3A, who provided important information regarding the role of the institution in handling cases of sexual violence against children and observations, as well as secondary data from journals, books, legislation, and the Qur'an. The data analysis approach used is descriptive qualitative, with a structured and comprehensive presentation of the social reality in the field based on the data obtained.

Efforts to Prevent Sexual Violence against Children

Prevention is a form of action that aims to inhibit, obstruct, or restrain the occurrence of an event. In the context of social issues, prevention can be interpreted as a series of strategic efforts carried out to prevent the emergence, development, or recurrence of social problems in society.⁸ Anticipatory measures against child abuse are a fundamental right of all children. Among these fundamental rights are the rights to protection, growth and development, and survival. In addition to being the responsibility of the government, efforts to prevent violence must be comprehensive and integrated, involving the active participation of all levels of society, especially the younger generation. This includes parents as well. One way to prevent violence against children is to shield them from all forms of violence, including through efforts to prevent sexual violence (). Various prevention strategies that can be implemented to protect children from sexual violence include:⁹

a) Start talking about body parts

Introduce children to their body parts from an early age. Teach them the correct names for all body parts, including their private parts, even if it is

⁸ Rahma Apriliza Hasibuan, Syarifah Balqis, dan Suryadi, "Upaya Pencegahan Kekerasan Terhadap Anak," *Konsensus* 1, no. 3 (Juni 2024): 126-39, <https://journal.appisi.or.id/index.php/konsensus/article/view/227>.

⁹ Nursaini Simatupang, "Kekerasan Seksual Terhadap Anak Dan Pencegahannya," *Sanksi* 1, no. 1 (2022): 467-70, <http://jurnal.umsu.ac.id/index.php/sanksi/issue/view/1356/showToc>.

difficult at first. If a child experiences sexual abuse, naming all their body parts will help them speak more clearly.

- b) Teaching children about certain body parts that are private to prevent sexual abuse

This is a very significant issue. Children are often victims of violence or sexual abuse, usually perpetrated by people close to them. For this reason, it is important to instil in children that only their father and mother have access to their private body parts. This is also for cleaning or healing wounds. Teach children not to hesitate to refuse if other family members show a desire to interact with them without a clear purpose.

- c) Talk to your child about body boundaries

Remind your child repeatedly that inaccessible areas of the body should not be touched, examined, or photographed. They should not treat others in the same way. Tell your child to say no if someone asks them to touch someone else's sensitive areas. Sexual violence usually begins when the perpetrator tries to persuade the child to touch their body or someone else's body.

- d) No secrets

Children are usually asked by the perpetrator to keep the crime a secret. Children are often afraid of threats. Therefore, encourage your child to discuss everything, especially their intimate body parts. Remember to tell your child that if they tell their parents, they will not be angry.

- e) Teaching children how to deal with uncomfortable situations

Saying "no" to anyone, especially adults, can make children feel uncomfortable or even afraid. If a child feels uncomfortable, tell them to say no and tell the adult to go away. Teach children to find a way to leave if they are in an uncomfortable or frightening situation. Saying that they want to go to the toilet to pee is one example.

- f) Teach children to create a code

If parents feel that their child is unsafe, they can give them a password or code that they can use. This can be used when there are guests in the house or when the child is staying overnight with a school friend.¹⁰

Types and Factors of Sexual Violence against Children

Law Number 12 of 2022 is the current legal framework in Indonesia that explicitly regulates sexual violence crimes. In an effort to reduce the increasing rate of sexual violence in the country, the public is optimistic about this regulation.

There are several types of sexual violence, according to the National Commission on Women (KOMNAS):

a) Rape

An attack in which the victim is forced to engage in sexual intercourse with the penis in the mouth, anus, or vagina. In addition, the perpetrator may press down on the victim's body using fingers or other objects.

b) Sexual harassment

Defined as sexual acts committed by someone who is aware of the victim's body parts or sexuality and who makes physical or non-physical contact with the victim.

c) Sexual intimidation/sexual assault

This involves attempted rape or threats targeting sexuality in an attempt to terrorise or oppress women. Sexual harassment and intimidation can occur directly or indirectly, and can be disseminated through various media, including email, text messages and letters.¹¹

d) Perpetrators and risk factors

Children may experience sexual abuse by members of their own family, including their biological or stepfather. In addition, biological brothers and sisters can also commit sexual abuse. Siblings who have mental disorders such

¹⁰ Devi Yanti, “‘Pencegahan Pelecehan Seksual Pada Anak’, <https://rsj.acehprov.go.id/berita/kategori/artikel/pencegahan-pelecehan-seksual-pada-anak>., diakses pada 27 Juni 2025

¹¹ Ahsinin Adzkar, *Mencegah dan Menangani Kekerasan Seksual terhadap Perempuan dan Anak di Lingkungan Pendidikan* (Jakarta: Pusat Kajian Wanita UI, 2014). p. 25-27

as *paedophilia*, *exhibitionism* (a sexual deviation where a person wants to expose their genitals to others) and *voyeurism* (a sexual behavioural disorder where a person derives satisfaction or deviant sexual stimulation from spying on people in a state of undress). Violence against children often occurs due to loopholes or opportunities exploited by perpetrators, such as when the victim lives in the same place as the perpetrator, is a neighbour, or is persuaded by the perpetrator with promises of gifts and attention.

Three aspects of factors that potentially increase the likelihood of child sexual abuse incidents are reviewed:

- a) Social factors, such as high crime rates, lack of access to social services, high levels of poverty and unemployment, community customs or norms in child-rearing patterns, the impact of cultural change, and the influence of the mass media.
- b) Parents who experienced physical or sexual abuse as children, their inability to care for their children, lack of self-confidence, lack of social support, poverty, population density, problems with environmental interactions, domestic violence, depression, and health problems are examples of parental or family situation factors. Suicide rates within families and among parents, parents' standard of living, and their lack of knowledge about child development.
- c) Factors originating from the child's own condition, such as children with physical or mental disabilities, children raised by single parents, children with a history of being victims of sexual abuse, children who are not accepted by their families, children involved in drug abuse, and children with low self-confidence.

Due to its horrific and unpleasant impact on the mental health, development, and future of victims, sexual violence against children is a feared and undesirable reality. A number of studies have shown that boys and girls between the ages of one and eighteen are victims of sexual violence. They know and trust most of the perpetrators. Parents must be more vigilant

in supervising and protecting their children from the dangers of sexual violence.¹²

Legal Provisions and Criminal Penalties for Perpetrators of Sexual Violence against Children

Law No. 12 of 2022 is the current legal framework in Indonesia that explicitly regulates sexual violence crimes. In an effort to reduce the increasing rate of sexual violence in the country, the public is optimistic about this regulation. Article 4 of the Law on the Elimination of Sexual Violence lists nine types of sexual violence, namely: sexual harassment, both physical and non-physical; forced marriage; forced sterilisation and contraception; sexual exploitation; sexual slavery; sexual torture; and sexual violence through electronic media. Beyond these nine forms, the Law also regulates other forms of sexual violence that fall under the realm of criminal offences.¹³

Therefore, the Government provides protection to victims of sexual harassment, as stipulated in Article 281 of the Criminal Code, which regulates sexual harassment.

- a) According to Article 281 of the Criminal Code, a person who deliberately commits indecent acts in public is punishable by a maximum imprisonment of two years and four months. Here, indecent acts include all forms of sexual harassment, ranging from verbal to physical harassment.
- b) In addition to Article 281 of the Criminal Code, Article 289 of the Criminal Code regulates sexual harassment against minors. Indecent acts against minors are punishable by a maximum imprisonment of seven years. This shows that the government is very concerned about protecting children from sexual harassment.

¹² Ira Aini Dania, "Kekerasan Seksual pada Anak," *Jurnal Kedokteran dan Kesehatan-Fakultas Kedokteran Universitas Islam Sumatera Utara* 19, no. 1 (2020): 48, <http://bit.ly/OJSIbnuSina>.

¹³ Fitria Aneta, "Tindak Pidana Kekerasan Seksual Yang Dilakukan Oleh Ayah Kepada Anak Kandungnya Menurut Undang- Undang Perlindungan Anak Dan Undang-Undang Tindak Pidana Kekerasan Seksual," *Sumbang 12 Journal* 3, no. 3 (Januari 2025): 18, <https://jurnal.umsb.ac.id/index.php/smb12lj/article/download/6383/4190>.

- c) Furthermore, Article 292 of the Criminal Code regulates sexual harassment with threats of violence. This article states that anyone who uses threats of violence to force another person to commit indecent acts is punishable by a maximum imprisonment of nine years. This article shows that the government also provides protection for victims of sexual harassment who are threatened with violence.
- d) Furthermore, Article 294 of the Criminal Code regulates sexual abuse with threats of violence resulting in death. This article stipulates that anyone who commits indecent acts with threats of violence resulting in death shall be punished with life imprisonment or a maximum imprisonment of twenty years. This shows that the government imposes strict sanctions on perpetrators of sexual harassment resulting in death.¹⁴

Child Protection in Islamic Law

At-taharusy al-jinsi is the term for sexual violence in modern Arabic. Etymologically, the word *at-taharusy* describes acts that provoke hostility (*at-tahyijj*), cause harm (*al-ifsad*), and sow discord and hatred (*al-igra*). Linguistically, this phrase covers all sexual words or behaviour intended to hurt or disturb others. Both physical and non-physical sexual abuse are mentioned in the Qur'an.¹⁵

To realise a generation that *is insankâmil* and *berrahmatan lil 'alamin*, other instructions related to child protection have been properly formulated and regulated. Thus, efforts to protect children have begun from the beginning of life, namely by respecting the right to life of the foetus before it is born. In Surah Al-Isra verse 31, Allah says, "Do not kill your children for fear of poverty. Rather, do not kill them out of fear. Both they and you receive sustenance from Us." Killing them is a great sin," says Al-Isra' verse 31:9.

¹⁴ <https://mh.uma.ac.id/jerat-pidana-pasal-pelecehan-seksual/>, accessed on 4 June 2025

¹⁵ Muhammad Riyan, "Perlindungan Anak dari Kekerasan Seksual dalam Hukum Positif dan Islam," *Journal of Social Science Research* 4, no. 4 (2024): <https://j-innovative.org/index.php/Innovative>.

Based on various Islamic teachings related to children's rights, the discussion of child protection in Islam is very comprehensive because it begins with the preparation of children from birth to adulthood.¹⁶ Various forms of protection taught include: showing affection, including to children born out of wedlock who are legally recognised; being fair in the granting or distribution of rights; maintaining the honour and good name of children; immediately searching for children who are lost; protecting children from various forms of violence; and ensuring that children are not neglected by fulfilling their financial needs in a proper manner.¹⁷

DP3A's Efforts in Preventing Sexual Violence against Children

In Aceh, incidents of violence against women and children continue to increase. Violence still occurs frequently, especially in large cities. Because the community prefers to resolve disputes amicably, many incidents of violence against women and children in villages go unreported. Victims choose to remain silent for many reasons, including fear of bringing shame to their families and concerns about the costs they will incur for legal proceedings.

In addition to providing protection, the Aceh Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Agency (DP3A) also handles cases of violence against women and children. By forming the Regional Technical Implementation Unit for Women and Child Protection (UPTD PPA), the Aceh DP3A is currently working to improve child protection services, according to the head of the agency. In addition, the DP3A is concentrating on training integrated community-based activists who are women-friendly and child-friendly. Apart from, the DP3A strives to address issues and protect children in Aceh. One of their efforts is the Children's Forum Movement. DP3A also provides facilities for children, such as Child-Friendly Mosques and Child-Friendly Islamic Boarding Schools, which will give children the opportunity to express themselves, protect their rights, and be creative. Furthermore, DP3A offers a Family Learning Centre that aims to strengthen family resilience and life. This

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

programme offers increased child participation in the family, parenting and child protection skills, education and caregiving, as well as family and child therapy.¹⁸

Number of Cases of Sexual Violence against Children

Year	Psychological Violence	Physical Sexual	Sodomy	Physical Violence	Sexual (Incest)	Number
2020	134	159	16	86	4	399
2021	143	131	4	108	8	394
2022	148	150	17	116	8	439
2023	126	149	13	128	2	429

DP3A Steps When Receiving Reports of Sexual Violence against Children

When DP3A receives reports of sexual violence against children, there are several steps that are generally taken, namely:

- 1) Report Receipt: Receiving reports from victims, families, communities, or other parties.
- 2) Initial Verification: Conducting initial verification of incoming reports to ensure the accuracy of the information.
- 3) Reaching Out and Assessing Needs: Reaching out to victims and conducting an initial assessment of their psychological, medical, and legal needs.
- 4) Assistance: DP3A will provide initial assistance to victims and their families. This may include psychological assistance, assistance during medical examinations, or assistance in filing reports with the police.
- 5) Coordination: Coordinating with relevant institutions such as the police for legal processes, hospitals for medical treatment and medical examinations, and social workers or psychologists for psychological assistance.

¹⁸<https://www.kba.one/news/peran-dp3a-aceh-dalam-meminimalisir-kasus-kekerasan-seksual-pada-anak/index.html>, accessed on 26 June 2025

- 6) Development of a Handling Plan: Together with the victim and their family, as well as relevant institutions, develop a comprehensive handling plan.¹⁹

Coordination between DP3A and Other Institutions

DP3A plays an important role as coordinator in handling cases of sexual violence against children, which requires a comprehensive approach. This collaboration is carried out through coordination between, among others:

- 1) Police: Coordinating in the reporting, investigation, and examination of cases to ensure that legal proceedings are carried out in accordance with the work system and the protection of victims' rights.
- 2) Hospitals/Community Health Centres: Coordinating the medical treatment of victims, including physical examinations, *medical reports*, and treatment of physical trauma.
- 3) Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs): Collaborating with NGOs focused on child and women's protection to provide legal assistance, psychological counselling, safe houses, or social rehabilitation.
- 4) Schools: Coordinate with schools if the victim is a student to ensure a conducive school environment, assist in the child's rehabilitation process, and raise awareness about violence prevention.
- 5) Integrated Service Centre for Women and Children Empowerment (P2TP2A): DP3A is often part of or closely coordinates with P2TP2A, which is an integrated service unit for victims of violence.

Special Team or DP3A Service Unit

Generally, DP3A has a service unit or special team that handles cases of sexual violence against children, although the name may vary in each region. This unit usually consists of social workers, psychologists, or staff who are specially trained in resolving cases of violence against children. In some

¹⁹ "DP3AP2KB Kota Banda Aceh," accessed 7 August 2025, <https://dp3ap2kb.bandaacehkota.go.id/>.

regions, this unit may be known as part of P2TP2A (Integrated Service Centre for Women and Children Empowerment) which is directly under the coordination of DP3A or is its main partner.

Forms of Assistance Provided by the DP3A

The DP3A will provide comprehensive assistance to victims of sexual violence against children, namely:

- 1) Psychological Assistance: Providing psychological support, counselling, and trauma therapy to help victims recover from the emotional and psychological impact of violence. This can be done by DP3A's internal psychologists or by referring victims to psychologists/psychiatrists at health facilities.
- 2) Legal Assistance: Supporting victims during legal proceedings, including reporting to the police, assisting with investigations, and assisting with trials. DP3A can recommend legal aid organisations or offer pro bono lawyers.
- 3) Social Assistance: Providing social support so that victims can re-interact in the community without stigma. This can take the form of assistance at school, ensuring the victim's safety, or finding solutions if there are problems related to housing or education. If necessary, DP3A can also facilitate the placement of victims in a *safe* house.²⁰

Challenges Often Faced by DP3A

There are several challenges frequently faced by DP3A in addressing cases of sexual violence against children, including:

- 1) Lack of Reporting: Many cases remain unreported because victims are afraid, ashamed, or threatened.

²⁰ Silvy Halidasari, "Peran Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan Dan Perlindungan Anak (Dp3a) Aceh Dalam Pencegahan Dan Penanganan Kekerasan Terhadap Perempuan Dan Anak" (UIN AR-RANIRY Banda Aceh, 2024).

- 2) Lack of Public Awareness: The public still lacks awareness about the importance of reporting cases of sexual violence, and the stigma against victims remains high.
- 3) Limited Resources: Limited budgets, experts (psychologists, social workers), and supporting facilities such as safe houses.
- 4) Lengthy Legal Processes: Protracted legal processes can cause repeated trauma for victims.
- 5) Pressure from perpetrators/environment: Pressure from perpetrators or the surrounding environment who try to cover up the case.
- 6) Lack of Family Support: Sometimes, the victim's own family does not fully understand or provide adequate support.²¹

Programmes for the Prevention of Sexual Violence against Children

DP3A has various prevention programmes to reduce the incidence of sexual violence against children, including:

- 1) Education and Socialisation: Holding seminars, workshops, or outreach programmes in schools and communities about children's rights, forms of sexual violence, and how to protect them.
- 2) Parental Capacity Building: Providing training to parents on positive parenting and ways to build good communication with children.
- 3) Awareness Campaigns: Conducting campaigns through mass media, social media, or public events to raise public awareness.
- 4) Task Force Formation: Forming teams or task forces at the community or village level for early detection and rapid response to cases of violence.
- 5) Curriculum Integration: Encouraging the integration of child protection material into the education curriculum.²²

²¹ Adella Utami et al., "Gender Dan Pembangunan: Peran DPPPA Dalam Penanganan Kekerasan Pada Perempuan Di Provinsi Aceh," *Community: Pengawas Dinamika Sosial* 10, no. 2 (2024): 273-87.

²² "Keberhasilan Program DP3A: Perlindungan Anak Dan Pemberdayaan Perempuan Jadi Prioritas," accessed August 7, 2025, <https://www.acehportal.com/news/keberhasilan-program-dp3a-perlindungan-anak-dan-pemberdayaan-perempuan-jadi-prioritas/index.html> .

DP3A's Efforts to Raise Public Awareness

DP3A's efforts to raise public awareness of sexual violence against children include:

- 1) Public Campaigns: Running campaigns to inform the public about the risks of sexual violence, children's rights, and the importance of reporting incidents through print, electronic, and social media.
- 2) Outreach and Workshops: Holding regular outreach activities and workshops in communities, schools, and community organisations.
- 3) Collaboration with community leaders: Disseminating messages about violence prevention by enlisting the help of religious, traditional, and community leaders.
- 4) Provision of Educational Materials: Distributing brochures, posters, or guidebooks that are easily understood by the community on the prevention and handling of sexual violence.
- 5) Encouraging Public Participation: Encouraging the community to actively participate in maintaining a safe environment for children.²³

The Impact of DP3A Role in Protecting Children

Although there are still many challenges, in general, the role of DP3A has had a significant impact in contributing to the prevention of sexual violence against children, such as:

- 1) Raising Awareness: By increasing public awareness of the issue of sexual violence against minors, the DP3A is able to uncover and report more incidents.
- 2) Legal Protection: With legal assistance, victims have a better chance of obtaining justice and perpetrators are punished according to their actions.
- 3) Victim Recovery: The psychological and social support provided helps victims recover from trauma and return to normal activities.

²³ "DP3A Aceh Ajak Masyarakat Cari Solusi Menekan Kekerasan Anak Dan Perempuan Di Aceh | Waspada Aceh," accessed August 7, 2025, <https://waspadaaceh.com/dp3a-aceh-ajak-masyarakat-cari-solusi-menekan-kekerasan-anak-dan-perempuan-di-aceh/>.

- 4) Strengthening Networks: DP3A plays a role in building stronger coordination networks between various institutions, so that case handling becomes more integrated.
- 5) Prevention: Prevention programmes contribute to a reduction in violence in the long term.²⁴

However, to assess the extent of this impact, periodic evaluations and more detailed data collection are needed.

DP3A Hopes and Plans for the Future

DP3A's hopes and future plans for improving the handling of cases of sexual violence against children generally include:

- 1) Strengthening Resources: Increasing the capacity of human resources (experts), budget, and supporting facilities such as safe houses.
- 2) Improving Coordination: Strengthening coordination with all relevant parties, including law enforcement, health institutions, NGOs, and educational institutions.
- 3) Innovative Prevention Programmes: Developing more innovative prevention programmes that reach all levels of society, including the use of technology.
- 4) Strengthening Regulations: Promoting the strengthening of regulations or policies that are more responsive to cases of sexual violence against children.
- 5) Holistic Approach: Taking a more comprehensive approach to care, emphasising the full recovery of victims in addition to legal action.
- 6) Encouraging Child Participation: Involving children in the process of formulating policies and programmes to prevent violence.²⁵

²⁴ "Melangkah Bersama DP3A: Mewujudkan Masyarakat Yang Peduli Dan Responsif Terhadap Isu Perempuan Dan Anak," accessed August 7, 2025, <https://www.acehportal.com/news/melangkah-bersama-dp3a-mewujudkan-masyarakat-yang-peduli-dan-responsif-terhadap-isu-perempuan-dan-anak/index.html>.

²⁵ "Pemko Banda Aceh Prioritaskan Perlindungan Anak," accessed August 7, 2025, <https://prokopim.bandaacehkota.go.id/berita/39904/pemko-banda-aceh-prioritaskan-perlindungan-anak.html>.

DP3A Message to the Community

DP3A invites the community to play an active role in preventing sexual violence against children, with the following message: The community as a whole is responsible for protecting children. Therefore, we ask everyone to report any cases of sexual violence against minors that they witness or suspect. One report can be an important step in saving a child's future. We invite the entire community to increase their awareness, sensitivity, and courage in speaking up and taking concrete steps regarding the issue of sexual violence. Creating a safe and supportive environment for children is a shared responsibility, whether at home, at school, or in the wider community. Additionally, it is important to educate children about their bodies and their right to refuse inappropriate treatment. Through synergy and shared commitment, we can achieve an Indonesia free from sexual violence against children.²⁶

Conclusion

Sexual violence against children is a serious problem that affects victims not only physically, but also psychologically and socially, according to the results of research that has been conducted. From an Islamic legal perspective, sexual violence is a serious offence because it violates human dignity and violates Sharia law, which protects the sanctity and honour of children as a trust from Allah SWT. Islamic law strongly emphasises the importance of protecting children from all forms of abuse, especially sexual violence. The handling of cases of sexual violence against children in Banda Aceh, particularly by the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Agency (DP3A), demonstrates a commitment to protecting children's rights. The DP3A has made various efforts, from receiving reports and conducting verifications to providing psychological, legal, and social assistance to victims. However, there are still a number of obstacles in its implementation, such as a lack of

²⁶ Nofita Yulandari, Special Child Protection Division, Banda Aceh DP3A, Interviewed by the author in Banda Aceh, 17 June 2025

reports from the community, limited resources, stigma against victims, and coordination barriers between institutions.

Bibliography

Ahsinin Adzkar. *Mencegah dan Menangani Kekerasan Seksual terhadap Perempuan dan Anak di Lingkungan Pendidikan*. Jakarta: Pusat Kajian Wanita UI, 2014.

Aneta, Fitria. "Tindak Pidana Kekerasan Seksual Yang Dilakukan Oleh Ayah Kepada Anak kandungnya Menurut Undang- Undang Perlindungan Anak Dan Undang-Undang Tindak Pidana Kekerasan Seksual." *Sumbang 12 Journal* 3, no. 3 (Januari 2025): <https://jurnal.umsb.ac.id/index.php/smb12lj/article/download/6383/4190>.

Apriliza Hasibuan, Rahma, Syarifah Balqis, dan Suryadi. "Upaya Pencegahan Kekerasan Terhadap Anak." *Konsensus* 1, no. 3 (Juni 2024): <https://journal.appisi.or.id/index.php/konsensus/article/view/22>

"DP3A Aceh Ajak Masyarakat Cari Solusi Menekan Kekerasan Anak Dan Perempuan Di Aceh | Waspada Aceh." Accessed August 7, 2025. <https://waspadaaceh.com/dp3a-aceh-ajak-masyarakat-cari-solusi-menekan-kekerasan-anak-dan-perempuan-di-aceh/>.

"DP3AP2KB Kota Banda Aceh." Accessed August 7, 2025. <https://dp3ap2kb.bandaacehkota.go.id/>.

Dania, Ira Aini. "Kekerasan Seksual pada Anak." *Jurnal Kedokteran dan Kesehatan-Fakultas Kedokteran Universitas Islam Sumatera Utara* 19, no. 1 (2020): <http://bit.ly/OJSIbnuSina>.

<https://mh.uma.ac.id/jerat-pidana-pasal-pelecehan-seksual/>., diakses pada 04 Juni 2025

Halidasari, Silvy. "Peran Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan Dan Perlindungan Anak (Dp3a) Aceh Dalam Pencegahan Dan Penanganan Kekerasan Terhadap Perempuan Dan Anak." UIN AR-RANIRY Banda Aceh, 2024.

<https://www.kba.one/news/peran-dp3a-aceh-dalam-meminimalisir-kasus-kekerasan-seksual-pada-anak/index.html>., diakses pada 26 Juni 2025

Iman, Kukuh Nur. "Peran Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan Dan Perlindungan Anak (Dp3a) Dalam Melakukan Penanganan Kasus Kekerasan Anak Di Kabupaten Bekasi." Skripsi, UIN Syarif Hidayatullah, 2022

"Keberhasilan Program DP3A: Perlindungan Anak Dan Pemberdayaan Perempuan Jadi Prioritas." Accessed August 7, 2025.

<https://www.acehportal.com/news/keberhasilan-program-dp3a-perlindungan-anak-dan-pemberdayaan-perempuan-jadi-prioritas/index.html>.

“Melangkah Bersama DP3A: Mewujudkan Masyarakat Yang Peduli Dan Responsif Terhadap Isu Perempuan Dan Anak.” Accessed August 7, 2025. <https://www.acehportal.com/news/melangkah-bersama-dp3a-mewujudkan-masyarakat-yang-peduli-dan-responsif-terhadap-isu-perempuan-dan-anak/index.html>.

Muin, Haspiani. “Peran Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan Dan Perlindungan Anak Dalam Penanganan Kekerasan Terhadap Anak Di Kota Makassar.” Skripsi, Universitas Muhammadiyah, 2023.

Natanegari, Farah Dibba. “Perlindungan Terhadap Anak Korban Kekerasan Seksual Prespektif Hukum Islam (Studi Kasus Di Woman Crisis Centre Srikandi Kabupaten Banjarnegara).” Skripsi, UIN Prof. K. H. Saifuddin Zuhri, 2021.

Nofita Yulandari, Bidang Perlindungan Khusus Anak, DP3A Banda Aceh, Wawancara oleh penulis di Banda Aceh, 17 Juni 2025

Novriansyah. “Upaya Dp3a Dalam Pencegahan Kekerasan Terhadap Anak Dalam Keluarga (Studi Kasus Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan dan Perlindungan Anak di Provinsi Aceh).” Skripsi, UIN Ar-Raniry, 2022.

Octaviani, Fachria, dan Nunung Nurwati. “Analisis Faktor Dan Dampak Kekerasan Seksual Pada Anak.” *Jurnal Ilmu Kesejahteraan Sosial “Humanitas” Fisip Unpas* 3, no. 2 (September 2021): <https://journal.unpas.ac.id/index.php/humanitas/article/download/4118/1920/18571>.

“Pemko Banda Aceh Prioritaskan Perlindungan Anak.” Accessed August 7, 2025. <https://prokopim.bandaacehkota.go.id/berita/39904/pemko-banda-aceh-prioritaskan-perlindungan-anak.html>.

Utami, Adella, Nunung Nurwati, Reevany Bustami, and Hery Wibowo. “Gender Dan Pembangunan: Peran DPPP Dalam Penanganan Kekerasan Pada Perempuan Di Provinsi Aceh.” *Community: Pengawas Dinamika Sosial* 10, no. 2 (2024): 273-87.

Rahmi, Nuzulul, Nofriandi, dan Saddam Rasanjani. “Strategi Penanggulangan Kekerasan Seksual Terhadap Anak Oleh Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan Perlindungan Anak Pengendalian Penduduk Dan Keluarga Berencana Di Kota Banda Aceh.” *Jurnal Ilmiah Mahasiswa FISIP USK* 1, no. 1 (Februari 2023): <https://www.jim.unsyiah.ac.id/Fisip>.

Riyan, Muhammad. "Perlindungan Anak dari Kekerasan Seksual dalam Hukum Positif dan Islam." *Journal Of Social Science Research* 4, no. 4 (2024): <https://j-innovative.org/index.php/Innovative>.

Simatupang, Nursaini. "Kekerasan Seksual Terhadap Anak Dan Pencegahannya." *Sanksi* 1, no. 1 (2022): <http://jurnal.umsu.ac.id/index.php/sanksi/issue/view/1356/showToc>.

Suwarni, Mis. "Peran Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan Dan Perlindungan Anak (Dp3a) Aceh Dalam Penanggulangan Kekerasan Terhadap Anak." Skripsi, UIN Ar-Raniry, 2023.

Yanti, Devi. "'Pencegahan Pelecehan Seksual Pada Anak', <https://rsj.acehprov.go.id/berita/kategori/artikel/pencegahan-pelecehan-seksual-pada-anak>., diakses pada 27 Juni 2025