

ABSTRACT

The conventional criminal justice system in Indonesia often fails to provide satisfactory solutions for both victims and perpetrators of minor crimes due to its repressive nature and focus on punishment. The background of this research stems from the increasing public demand for a fairer, faster, and more holistic approach to resolving criminal cases, especially general crimes with low social impact. The research problems are: (1) What are the issues in resolving general crimes through the conventional system? (2) What are the efforts to resolve general crimes through the restorative justice approach? This study aims to analyze the problem within the conventional justice system and to explore strategies for resolving general crimes using restorative justice in Indonesia.

This research uses an empirical juridical method with a qualitative approach. Data were collected through literature studies and field research, including interviews with law enforcement officers and community leaders. The results show that the main issue in the conventional system is the lack of space for dialogue and recovery for both victims and perpetrators. Restorative justice emerges as an alternative approach that emphasizes recovery, reconciliation, and voluntary accountability. The discussion reveals that although restorative justice has been successfully implemented in some regions, it still faces challenges related to regulation, public awareness, and institutional capacity.

The conclusion of this study is that restorative justice is an effective approach for resolving general crimes, particularly minor offenses. Recommendations include the formulation of a national regulation, training for law enforcement, and the establishment of local restorative justice forums to achieve a more just and humane legal system.

Keyword: General Crimes, Restorative Justice, Case Resolution, Justice, Social Recovery.