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Restorative Justice Application on Traffic Accident Cases at the Makassar City Police Resort, Indonesia

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Abstract

In ~~the~~ criminal justice system, restorative justice is a step ~~toward achieving in order to~~ achieve justice, peace, and expediency in the process of law enforcement, ~~including when which includes~~ resolving traffic accidents. This study tried ~~to examine examining and analyze analyzing~~ the application of restorative justice in handling ~~the~~ cases of traffic accidents at the Makassar Police Resort ~~through using~~ a qualitative approach ~~using by conducting~~ in-depth interviews, observations, and documentation. The findings demonstrate that restorative justice cannot be applied in all investigations since some parties prefer to have their cases ~~taken elevated~~ to ~~the~~ court. However, the Traffic Unit of Makassar Police Resort stated that most accident cases were resolved at the investigational stage ~~by using with~~ restorative justice. The absence of massive socialization on restorative justice, which leaves many people unaware of its nature and goals, is a ~~barrier hindrance~~ to its implementation. Moreover, ~~because since~~ it has not been governed by law, the legal framework for restorative justice in Indonesia is still biased among ~~fellow~~ law enforcers. Therefore, this study suggests a revision in the Criminal Procedure Code ~~by including that will include the~~ provisions on restorative justice in a straightforward and detailed manner.

Keywords: Restorative Justice, Criminal Justice System, Traffic Accident

A. Introduction

Restorative justice is a cutting-edge approach in the criminal justice system ~~that which~~ changes the paradigm of ~~"handling criminal cases is complex"~~ to become simpler, faster, and just (Azman and Mohammad, 2012; Ardyan, 201; Daly, 2016). In the resolution of criminal cases, this approach ~~focuses is focused~~ on the direct participation of perpetrators, victims, and ~~the~~ community by making the interests of the victims the main ~~concern concerns~~ (Roche, 2006; Roach, 2000; van Wormer, 2006; Tows and Katounas, 2004; Saleh and Gunawan, 2021). The United Nations (UN), through the set basic principles ~~that have been~~

~~set~~, views that restorative justice can be used in a rational criminal justice system (Syaufi et al., 2021).

Restorative justice-based law enforcement in Indonesia is different from other countries. The primary ~~objectivegoal~~ of retributive justice is retaliation, which ~~then~~ places the state in a dominant position and makes the offender the focus while excluding the victim and the community (Tysta et al., 2020; Suparman, 2010). All criminal matters are handled through a court system ~~thatwhich~~ is supported by criminal legislation, ~~which is that~~ always ended in jail.

Retributive justice is considered ~~incapable of suppressing~~not capable to suppress crime rates and ~~realizing~~realize substantive justice. Thus, it gave rise to demands ~~to use in~~using a restorative-based law enforcement model, namely, placing perpetrators, victims, and the community as law enforcement relations ~~to who will~~ solve problems through mediation ~~thatwhich~~ benefits all parties (Choi et al., 2011; Rea, 2012; Halsey et al., 2015; Hoyle, 2008). The restorative justice approach provides a space for perpetrators ~~to where they can~~ apologize and admit their guilt to the victim and the community, and ~~then~~ the victim has the right to material and psychological losses due to the crime experienced (Armstrong, 2012; Umbreit and Vos, 2000; van Ness et al., 2001). This approach can benefit both victims and perpetrators and may even reduce recidivism rates among young offenders and future delinquents (Braithwaite, 2002; Sherman et al., 2015; Wong et al., 2016; Wilson et al., 2017).

Article 5 of Law No. 11 of 2012 ~~concerning which concerns~~ the ~~j~~uvenile ~~j~~justice ~~s~~ystem, ~~which mandates provides~~ that the juvenile justice system shall prioritize a restorative justice approach, ~~servesserving~~ as a marker for the shift in the direction of law enforcement in Indonesia (Satria, 2018). The application of restorative justice can be launched at the level of investigation, prosecution, and court trial ~~by through~~ seeking diversion so that peace can be made between victims and child offenders. The Head of the Indonesian National Police has also taken a step forward by making Circular No. SE/8/VII/2018 ~~concerning which concerns~~ the ~~a~~Application of ~~r~~Restorative ~~j~~Justice on the settlement of criminal cases, strengthened by the Regulation of the Chief of the Indonesian National Police Number 8 of 2021.

These two statutes are ~~erueial~~critical for ~~the~~ police investigators ~~because since~~ they allow case investigations to end when there is harmony between the victim and the offender. However, the application of restorative justice as regulated in the Circular Letter of The Head of the Indonesian National Police and the Regulation of the Chief of the Indonesian National Police is ~~only applied~~ only in small criminal cases and in cases ~~thatwhich~~ have not ~~not~~ been

assigned to the ~~prosecutor's~~prosecutor's office. Thus, this regulation has not yet covered other criminal cases ~~that are which did~~ not ~~met~~meet these two criteria.

The Makassar City Police Resort is a law enforcement institution ~~that~~which is ~~bound~~ ~~to~~under the police policies at the central level. Thus, their special unit ~~that~~which handles traffic accident cases must seek ~~to resolve~~in resolving them through a restorative justice approach. As a metropolitan city and the capital city of South Sulawesi Province, Makassar faces many problems ~~related~~in relation to traffic accidents ~~that~~which result in serious injuries, deaths, and property damage. Makassar City Police Resort (2022) reports that 1218 traffic incidents occurred between June 2021 and May 2022 in Makassar. This situation ~~demonstrates~~shows that there are a lot of occurrences of traffic accidents, ~~necessitating~~ ~~adequate~~which necessitates appropriate handling by the relevant authorities.

The results of the research conducted by Suzuki and Yuan (2021) ~~show~~provide that restorative justice essentially humanizes and creates a space for interaction between perpetrators and victims of criminal acts. Furthermore, Weitekamp and Parmentier (2016) state that restorative justice is a means ~~of realizing~~to realize justice and recovery because of criminal acts. Ramadan et al. (2022) previously conducted a study on the effectiveness of the function of the police in law enforcement of traffic accidents in South Sulawesi. However, this research only focuses on the application of restorative justice in handling cases of traffic accidents ~~that~~which cause fatalities, injuries, or damage to goods in the jurisdiction of the Makassar City Police Resort.

B. Literature Review

The restorative justice approach began in Canada in the 1970s ~~in Canada~~ and was called as victim-offender mediation in child criminal cases. This was then followed by other countries, such as the United States, Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, and several countries in Europe. The main ~~objective~~goal of this movement is ~~to create~~creating a resolution of conflicts resulting from criminal acts without involving the courts. Perpetrators, victims, and related community groups discuss ~~how to improve~~in improving the effects of the crime ~~that~~which occurred and return it to its original condition (Suzuki and Wood, 2018; Pangandian and Eduardo, 2019; Aryana, 2020; Bartol and Bartol, 2004; Braithwaite, 1999; Garcia, 2019).

The restorative justice approach in the Indonesian criminal justice system began to be ~~known~~called as a diversion after the establishment of Law No. 12 of 2011 ~~related~~in relation to the behavior of minors in conflict with the law. However, the changes brought by the law

have not been significant ~~because they still~~ since it only ~~apply~~ applies to crimes committed by juveniles.

In general, restorative justice is defined as a legal system ~~that~~ which aims ~~to restore~~ in restoring the welfare of victims, perpetrators, and communities ~~damaged~~ affected by crime, and ~~to prevent~~ preventing further violations or criminal acts (Zulfa, 2020; Marian, 2007; Marsh and Maruna, 2008). Tony F. Marshall further stated that restorative justice is a process ~~in which~~ wherein parties with interests in certain violations meet in order to solve problems for the sake of the future (Marian, 2007; Suzuki and Wood, 2018; Paul and Borton, 2013).

Restorative justice includes six principles, namely: (a) prioritizing the support and healing of victims; (b) holding offenders accountable for their actions; (c) facilitating a dialogue between the victim and the perpetrator in order to reach an understanding agreement; (d) ~~there is an attempt~~ attempting to properly place the losses incurred; (e) ensuring that offenders are aware of ~~how to prevent~~ preventing future crimes; (f) ~~the community helps in~~ integrating both victims and perpetrators. ~~In order to~~ with the help of the community. To avoid ~~the necessity for~~ further legal proceedings, the perpetrators of criminal crimes prioritize the rights of victims throughin a compensation mechanism. Achieving this kind of peace will ease mitigate the strain on law enforcement ~~because~~ since they will ~~not~~ no longer have to invest time and resources in resolving cases, and it will also immediately resolve issues in the community.

Enforcement of Regulation of the Chief of the Indonesian National Police No. 8 of 2021 ~~concerning~~ which concerns the Handling of Crimes opens opportunities for the criminal acts which are committed by adults to be resolved with a restorative justice approach. For it to be put into effect, several requirements must be met, including the following: (a) it does not cause public unrest and community rejection; (b) it does not result in social conflict; (c) there is a statement from all parties involved not to object, and will have to waive their right to sue before the law; (d) the crime level of the perpetrator is relatively light; (e) the perpetrator is not a recidivist; (f) the case is still at the investigation level or has been at the investigation level but ~~has~~ was not ~~been~~ submitted to the ~~prosecutor's~~ prosecutor's office. Meanwhile, the formal requirements are as follows: (a) a letter of request for reconciliation ~~by~~ from both of the parties (the reporting party and the reported party); (b) a statement of reconciliation and settlement of disputes between the litigants (the reporting party, and/or the family of the reporting party, the reported party and/or the family of the reported party and representatives of community leaders) and known by the investigators. Although the scope has been widened, this regulation ~~still~~ limits still the application of restorative justice to relatively

minor crimes, such as theft, embezzlement, fraud, and traffic accidents, and not to serious crimes, such as murder, corruption, terrorism, and non-recidivist offenders.

Traffic Accidents and Legal Sanctions

One of the acts which was categorized as a criminal offense is ~~a~~ traffic accident. ~~According to~~ As per Article 93 paragraph (1) Government Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia No. 43 of 1993, a traffic accident is an event ~~that~~ which takes place on the road, ~~which~~ that is generally unintentional, involving a motor vehicle with or without other road users ~~resulting~~ which results in minor or serious injury, death, or property loss. Furthermore, Kansil and Kansil (1995) explain that traffic accidents are unexpected and unintentional events ~~involving~~ that involve vehicles or other road users ~~that can~~ which cause casualties and/or property loss.

Regulations regarding traffic accidents are regulated in Article 310 of the Law of the Republic of Indonesia No. 22 of 2009 concerning Road Traffic and Transportation. The sanctions for traffic offenders include the following: (a) negligence in driving a motor vehicle ~~that~~ which results in a traffic accident but does not cause casualties, either property or illness or injury, is punishable with imprisonment for a maximum of 6 months and/or a fine of a maximum Rp. 1,000,000; (b) negligence in driving a motor vehicle ~~that~~ which results in minor injury and damage to the vehicle and/or goods is punishable by a maximum imprisonment of 1 year and/or a maximum fine of Rp. 2,000,000; (c) negligence in driving a motor vehicle ~~that~~ which results in serious injury is punishable by a maximum imprisonment of 5 years and/or a maximum fine of Rp. 10,000,000; (d) negligence in driving a motor vehicle ~~that~~ which results in death is punishable by a maximum imprisonment of 6 years and/or a maximum fine of Rp. 12,000,000, ~~---~~.

Based on the conditions ~~contained~~ provided in the Regulation of the Chief of the Indonesian National Police No. 8 of 2021, a violation of Article 310 of Law no. 22 of 2009 can be resolved in using a restorative justice approach, except in ~~the case that~~ cases where the perpetrator is a recidivist; or if the case has been submitted to the ~~prosecutor's~~ prosecutor's office. However, ~~a case can be stopped by the prosecutor by using a restorative justice approach~~ according to the Regulation of the Attorney General of the Republic of Indonesia No. 15 of 2020 concerning the Termination of Prosecution Based on Restorative Justice, a case can be stopped by the prosecutor by using the restorative justice approach.

C. Methods

Research design

~~Qualitative~~ A qualitative research with a case study approach was used ~~to describe~~ in describing the implementation of restorative justice in the handling of traffic accident cases at the Makassar City Police Resort. This research was conducted from March 1 to July 29, 2022.

Study Area

This research was conducted at the Makassar City Police Resort, especially in their ~~Traffic u~~ Units, which are legally authorized ~~to investigate~~ in investigating traffic accident cases.

Data Collection

The data collected was divided into two categories, namely: (1) ~~Primary~~ primary data related to the application of restorative justice in handling traffic accident cases at Makassar City Police Resort; and (2) ~~Secondary~~ secondary data obtained through various supporting documents related in relation to the application of restorative justice in handling traffic accident cases.

In-depth Interviews

The in-depth interviews were conducted with the key informants, main informants, and supporting informants. This step was focused on the aspects related in relation to the application of restorative justice in the handling ~~cases of~~ traffic ~~accidents~~ accident cases and the obstacles in its application.

Documents

The documents collected ~~include~~ were the (1) data on the number of traffic accidents handled by Makassar City Police Resort from June 2021 to May 2022; and (2) ~~Data~~ data on traffic accident cases which were resolved through a restorative justice approach.

Research Instruments

The main instrument of this research is the in-depth interviews, both structured and unstructured, with various informants ~~to obtain~~ in obtaining in-depth and comprehensive information about restorative justice.

Research Informants

The informants in this study were divided into three, namely, key informants, main informants, and supporting informants, with a total of 20 respondents ~~of 20~~. The key informants were six investigators who have ~~comprehensive~~extensive information about the application of restorative justice, the main informants were six traffic offenders and six victims of traffic accidents, and the supporting informants were two community leaders who know the benefits of ~~applying~~the application of restorative justice in social life.

Data Analysis

The collected data were then grouped, analyzed, coded, and presented in a tabular form.

D. -Results

Traffic Accidents and the Legal Process

—This study found a total of 1298 ~~eases of~~ traffic accidents cases within a year ~~in~~under the jurisdiction of Makassar City Police Resort, whether committed by drivers of two-wheeled, four-wheeled, and six-wheeled vehicles or more (Table 1). Two-wheeled vehicles were recorded to have the highest number of accidents (663 cases), followed by four-wheeled vehicles (499 cases) and six or more-wheeled vehicles or more (116 cases).

Table 1. Data on Traffic Accident Cases at Makassar City Police Resort

No	Month	Number of accidents	Percentage	Vehicle		
				Two-wheeled	Four-wheeled	Six or more-wheeled
1	June	91	7.01%	48	34	9
2	July	89	6.86%	42	36	11
3	August	111	8.55%	54	48	9
4	September	90	6.93%	45	35	10
5	October	103	7.94%	51	44	8
6	November	114	8.78%	59	48	7
7	December	119	9.17%	58	49	12
8	January	120	9.24%	72	41	7
9	February	98	7.55%	47	39	12
10	March	110	8.47%	63	40	7
11	April	122	9.40%	75	39	8
12	May	131	10.09%	69	46	16
Total		1298	100%	683	499	116

Source: Traffic Unit of Makassar City Police Resort, 2022

According to AR, the informant who is an investigator of the traffic unit, that:

“The number of traffic accidents in Makassar is high, even in fact the highest among all cities and regencies in the province of South Sulawesi. These traffic accidents are dominated by two-wheeled drivers. The reason is that they did not obey traffic rules. For, for example, driving on a crowded road and ignoring traffic signs. Although various preventive and even repressive measures have been applied, traffic accidents still occur.”

The same thing was also conveyed by BO, a resident of Makassar, that:

“In addition to the imbalance of road capacities with the number of vehicles, especially two-wheeled vehicles, the traffic discipline of residents is also still low, as evidenced by the frequent violations of traffic rules that lead to traffic accidents, resulting in property losses due to vehicle damage, injuries, even death.”

The opinions of the two informants are in line with the results of this study, where violations of traffic signs are still common. This is due to the low knowledge and awareness of the public related in relation to traffic laws are still low. For example, motorcyclists that who are in the wrong lane, do not obey traffic lights, and go against the flow of vehicles, which can be fatal for the violators (Figure 1).

A.



B.



Figure 1. A. Congestion due to four-wheeled vehicles on Petta Rani Rd., Makassar, B. Congestion due to imbalance of road volume and number of vehicles on Veteran Rd., Makassar (Traffic Unit of Makassar City Police Resort, 2022)

Case resolution through restorative justice is a new thing for investigators, especially the traffic units. Prior to the issuance of Regulation of the Chief of the Indonesian National Police No. 8 of 2021, investigators handled traffic accident cases ~~to transfer by transferring~~ them to the ~~prosecutor's prosecutor's office, office; which would then be forwarded to the court. this would then be forwarded to the court.~~ However, if an agreement does not materialize between all parties with restorative justice, the investigator is obliged ~~to carry in~~ carrying out the process to be forwarded to the ~~prosecutor's prosecutor's~~ office.

In the application of restorative justice, the investigator serves as a mediator between the victim and the offender in order to ~~make arrive with~~ an agreement. If both parties agree, then the agreement is written down in the peace deed, which contains the willingness of the perpetrator ~~to apologize in apologizing~~ and ~~provide providing~~ compensation in the agreed-upon sum. The peace deed will be the basis for investigators ~~to propose in proposing~~ a letter for termination of the investigation and continue the mechanism for handling cases until the issuance of the termination.

Table 2 shows data on traffic accident cases ~~that which~~ were successfully resolved using a restorative justice approach. Of the 1298 cases, 847 cases were resolved by at the restorative justice approach at the preliminary investigation level, and 357 cases were resolved at the full investigation level. The remaining 89 cases were terminated due ~~to~~ insufficient lack of evidence, and 5 other cases were transferred to the office of prosecutors.

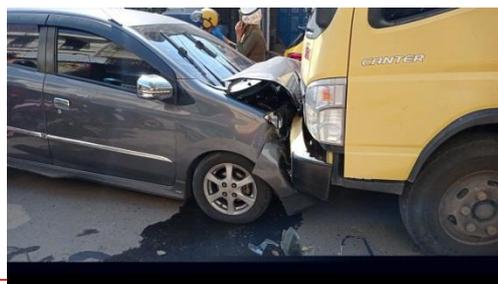
Table 2. Traffic Accident Cases in June 2021—May 2022

No	Month	Cases	Handled with Restorative Justice	Information

			Preliminary Investigation	Full Investigation	Total	Insufficient Evidence	P21	Total
1	June	91	55	29	84	5	2	7
2	July	89	58	26	84	4	1	5
3	August	111	78	21	99	12	-	12
4	September	90	60	24	84	6	-	6
5	October	103	69	28	97	5	1	6
6	November	114	74	32	106	8	-	8
7	December	119	74	34	108	11	-	11
8	January	120	80	31	111	8	1	9
9	February	98	64	24	88	10	-	10
10	March	110	70	36	106	4	-	4
11	April	122	80	33	113	9	-	9
12	May	131	85	39	124	7	-	7
	Jumlah	1298	847	357	1204	89	5	94

— Source: Traffic Unit of Makassar City Police Resort, 2022

A.



B.



Figure 2. Examples of traffic accidents in Makassar. A. A collision between a city car and a truck due to negligence on a narrow road; B. Evacuation of motorcycle drivers who were victims of traffic accidents (Traffic Unit of Makassar City Police Resort, 2022)

The application of restorative justice which was carried out by the Traffic uUnit, which reachedreaching 1204 cases (92.76%), showed a positive light on the law enforcement process becausesince it saved costs, energy, and the number of detainees in its settlement. A traffic violator, LB, who caused the victim to suffer injuries and damage to his vehicle, stated:

“When this case was handled by the traffic unit, I requested that this case be resolved amicably, and I am willing to apologize and compensate for all the losses suffered by the victim. I was advised to make a written request. After that, we met with the victim, and we agreed to make peace. Mediated by the investigators, I apologized to the victim and his family and am willing to compensate the victim for Rp. 7,000,000. This agreement was stated in the peace agreement, which I signed with the victim and witnessed by the investigator.”

The same testimony was deliveredgiven by BM, who is the victim, stating:

“My family and I agreed that this case is handled in a restorative justice approach, to speed up the handling, besides that the perpetrator apologized and was willing to compensate me.”

Furthermore, WS as a community leader explained:

“This is a good thing in the justice system because it has great benefits for the victims, perpetrators, police, and the community. The application of restorative justice will speed up the settlement of cases so that not all cases must proceed to court. As a result, it will reduce the density of residents in detention centers and the accumulation of cases in court. Also, the nature of the restorative justice approach that puts peace first is in line with local wisdom that upholds mutual forgiveness.”

Table 3 provides an overview of the opinions of 20 informants ~~related in relation~~ to the application of restorative justice in ~~eases of~~ traffic accidents ~~cases~~. A total of 8 informants agreed on the application of restorative justice in ~~the handling of~~ cases ~~of~~ traffic accidents, as it will provide a sense of justice and peace to all parties involved with faster resolution. Furthermore, the community leaders support this application ~~in order~~ to realize justice and reduce the number of prisoners in detention, as restorative justice ~~is following follows~~ the values of local wisdom adopted by the people of Makassar. Meanwhile, the investigators expressed ~~that~~ the restorative justice approach should be further regulated in the law.

Table 3. Summary of the opinions from informants on the application of restorative justice in cases of traffic accidents in Makassar

No	Name	Status	Opinion
1	— AR, BM, RO, WH, JN, AS .	Investigators	Realizing justice and harmony for both parties, accelerating the process, and the legal basis for restorative justice needs to be further regulated in the Law
2	— LB, SM, NR, WD, FM, HH	Traffic Offenders	Giving the perpetrator an opportunity to apologize, realizing justice and harmony in society
3	— ME, SP, JF, HM, AM, SG	Victims	Giving justice, the perpetrator apologizes and compensates, fast and reliable case resolution
4	WS, BO	Community Leaders	Realizing justice and harmony, provide faster certainty, in accordance with local wisdom, reducing prisoners

Barriers to the Implementation of Restorative Justice

The requirements for applying restorative justice to all criminal acts have been regulated in the Regulation of the Chief of the Indonesian National Police No. 8 of 2021, including the crime committed is not a serious crime, both parties agree to make peace, and the perpetrator is not a recidivist. However, the application of restorative justice does not escape obstacles. According to an investigator at the Traffic Unit of Makassar City Police Resort (IH):

“Although the restorative justice approach has begun to be implemented for cases of traffic accidents, there are still some obstacles faced by investigators in its implementation. These obstacles include the legal basis for its application, which is still partial among law enforcers because they are still based on their internal rules. If the application of restorative justice has been regulated in criminal procedure law, then all law enforcement officers are bound to implement it. Moreover, the restorative justice approach has not been massively socialized, so there are still many community members who do not understand clearly about restorative justice.”

A similar statement was also conveyed by WS, a community leader in Makassar:

“The obstacles faced in the application of restorative justice are influenced by various factors, including the absence of a definite binding rule for the police because the rules ~~that~~which become the guide are internal ~~rules~~. In addition, many investigators do not properly understand the philosophy of the restorative justice approach in the criminal justice system. They are still influenced by the understanding of restorative justice, which views all violations of the law, including traffic violations, must be prosecuted.”

E. Discussion

Restorative justice incorporates ~~at~~the principle of balance in the criminal justice system ~~because~~since a case can be handled effectively and efficiently, which ultimately ~~benefits~~benefiting the victim, the perpetrator, the investigator, and the community (Weitekamp and Parmentier, 2016; Radekop, 2008; Maruna, 2014; Suzuki and Yuan, 2021; Saleh and Gunawan, 2021). By using a restorative justice approach, the victim will receive compensation and an apology from the perpetrator, and the perpetrator will not be prosecuted. The surrounding community will also get a peaceful environment as there is no further conflict between the perpetrators and the victims. The police also will gain benefits as they will be able to save time, energy, and costs ~~for terminating~~in the termination of the investigation before ~~handing~~elevating it to the court. Thus, the restorative approach can realize justice and harmony in society, and the long-standing assumption that every criminal act must proceed to court can be eliminated (Weitekmp and Parmentier, 2016).

Makassar City is a metropolitan city ~~that-which~~ is also the capital of South Sulawesi Province. The growing number of vehicles in Makassar ~~isdoes~~ not ~~commensurate-with~~ ~~correspond to~~ the ~~provided~~ road facilities ~~provided~~. As a result, there are frequent traffic jams, which are prone to traffic accidents. Vehicles ~~thatwhich~~ pass through the streets of Makassar are dominated by two-wheeled vehicles, followed by four-wheeled vehicles. In 2021, the number of motor vehicles in Makassar reached 1.7 million units (Fajar.com, 21 March 2022).

In carrying out investigations of traffic accidents in the jurisdiction of the Makassar City Police Resort, the investigators of the traffic unit used their authority ~~to-exercisein~~ ~~exercising~~ discretion by not continuing the examination process to the prosecution stage. ~~Investigators~~~~The investigators~~ initiated a meeting between the alleged traffic offenders and the victims and/or their families ~~to-discussin~~ ~~discussing~~ the resolution of the problem peacefully.

This study found that only a small number of cases were transferred to the ~~prosecutor's~~ office ~~of-prosecutors~~ (Table 2). It ~~demonstrates~~~~shows~~ that the restorative justice approach has been implemented by the Makassar City Police Resort ~~t~~~~Traffic~~ ~~u~~~~Unit~~ and has received a positive response from the victims and perpetrators, reflected by their willingness ~~to-makein~~ ~~maintaining~~ peace in order to avoid having their cases pursued further.

The willingness of the victims and perpetrators ~~to-makein~~ ~~making~~ peace cannot be separated from the influence of local wisdom values ~~thatwhich~~ are still strong in the people of Makassar. This local wisdom is cosmic, magical, and religious-based, which has long been recognized and implemented in their everyday life (Syaufi, 2021; Chirayath et al., 2005; Meron, 2005; Cyer, 2006; Fletcher, 2007). The values of local wisdom include *Pangadereng*, which ~~is-prioritizing~~~~prioritizes~~ peace and teaches that forgiveness is a noble act, and anyone who has hurt, or harmed others must apologize for their mistakes (Rasdiyana, 2015; Alimuddin, 2015; Pangandian and Eduardo, 2019). In some instances, the victim did not even demand compensation from the perpetrator after an apology since he considered it ~~as~~ a coincidence, especially since the perpetrator was a poor person.

Currently, the internal legal basis used by each law enforcement officer often results in bias (Hutabarat and Gatra, 2022). ~~By-incorporating~~~~In the incorporation of~~ more detailed regulations of restorative justice into the law, the accumulation of cases at the investigation level and the number of overcrowded detainees can be reduced. In 2020, the number of

prisoners and detainees in Indonesia reached 228,225 ~~people, while, when only~~ the capacity of prisons and detention centers was 132,645 ~~people~~ (Syaufi, 2021). Severe overcrowding was also experienced by the Class 1 State Detention Center of Makassar, which has a capacity of 1000 detainees but accommodated 2058 detainees (Makassar Detention Center, 2021).

F. Conclusion

Most of the cases handled by the Traffic Unit of Makassar City Police Resort were handled with a restorative justice approach and succeeded ~~in creating~~ the ensuring peace between the perpetrator and the victim without ~~submitting~~ elevating the case to the ~~prosecutor's~~ prosecutor's office. ~~The obstacles faced in its application are the~~ The lack of socialization in the community and no further regulations ~~of it in the law,~~ are the obstacles faced in its application. Therefore, it is necessary to improve the use of restorative justice by incorporating it into criminal procedural law so that investigators will have a solid legal ~~foundation~~ basis, and its application will be mandatory if the predetermined conditions are met.

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Dear Ruslan Renggong¹, Mustawa Nur², Baso Madiong³, Dyah Auliah Rachma⁴, Ashar Fahri⁵ Hasnur Alfitra⁶

1. Department of Criminal Law, Faculty of Law, Bosowa University, Makassar, Indonesia
2. Department of Constitutional Law, Faculty of Law, Bosowa University, Makassar, Indonesia,
3. Department of Community and Development Law, Faculty of Law, Bosowa University, Makassar, Indonesia,
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5. Alumni of the Law Study Program, postgraduates of Bosowa University, Makassar, Indonesia
5. Postgraduate Student, Bosowa University, Makassar, Indonesia

I am pleased to inform you that your manuscript entitled **[Restorative Justice Application on Traffic Accident Cases at the Makassar City Police Resort, Indonesia]** has been accepted for publication in the Russian Law Journal.

After a thorough review process, the reviewers and the editorial board have recognized the significant contribution of your work to the field of Law. Your research methodology, analysis, and conclusions were found to be rigorous and insightful, making a valuable addition to the discourse on Journal's Scope.

We appreciate your commitment to producing high-quality research and your contribution to the field of law. We are confident that your work will be of great interest to our readership and will stimulate further research and discussion.

We would like to thank you for your submission and congratulate you on your successful acceptance. We look forward to publishing your work in the upcoming issue of the Russian Law Journal.

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