

LEGAL CULTURE OF MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVERS TOWARDS TRAFFIC SAFETY

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ABSTRACT; *Traffic safety is a basic human need related to the right to live and feel safe. However, the high number of traffic accidents in Indonesia shows that the legal culture of drivers is still low. This study aims to analyze the portrait of the legal culture of motor vehicle drivers in Indonesia and the factors that influence it on traffic safety. The research method used is a sociological legal approach and utilizes Lawrence M. Friedman's Legal System Theory. The results of the study indicate that the legal culture of drivers in Indonesia is still low, characterized by a lack of knowledge and understanding of traffic law, attitudes that ignore safety, and behavior that tends to violate the rules. Factors that influence the legal culture of drivers include internal factors (age, gender, education level, religious understanding, and driving experience) and external factors (social environment, law enforcement, road infrastructure conditions, and access to information and traffic education). Efforts to improve the legal culture of drivers need to be carried out comprehensively and sustainably through increasing the effectiveness of law enforcement, optimizing education and socialization programs, strengthening community participation, utilizing technology, and cooperation between stakeholders.*

Keywords: *Legal Culture; Drivers; Traffic Safety*

INTRODUCTION

Traffic safety is a basic need for every individual that is inseparable from the nature of humans as dynamic social beings. Safe and smooth mobility allows individuals to carry out various activities, fulfill their life needs, and develop their potential. The right to safety is in line with the mandate of the constitution, namely the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, which guarantees the right of every citizen to live and feel safe.

Article 28A of the 1945 Constitution explicitly states, "Everyone has the right to live and the right to defend his life and existence." In the context of traffic, this right is translated as the right to receive safety and security guarantees when using the highway. Unfortunately, the reality on the ground shows that traffic safety in Indonesia is still far from ideal. The high number of traffic accidents is clear evidence that there are still serious problems in the legal culture of road users, especially motor vehicle drivers.

Data from the Traffic Corps of the Indonesian National Police (Korlantas Polri) noted that the level of traffic accidents in Indonesia experienced a significant increase throughout 2024. Based on data from the Integrated Road Safety Management System (IRSMS) of the Korlantas Polri, there were 79,220 traffic accidents recorded up to August 5, 2024.

This figure shows an alarming spike compared to the same period in the previous year. April recorded the highest number of accidents, reaching 11,924 incidents, while June and July showed a slight decrease. This fluctuating trend reflects traffic dynamics influenced by various factors, including increased vehicle volume and traffic violations. The most traffic accidents involved motorcycles, with 76.42% of the total vehicles involved, or around 552,155 units.

In addition, a total of 722,470 vehicles were involved in various incidents throughout the year. The number of accident victims is also not small. Of the 117,962 victims, 7.21% died, 8.26% suffered serious injuries, and 84.51% suffered minor injuries. This highlights the urgency of improving road safety amidst the high fatality rate of accidents. The increase in the number of accidents is a major highlight for the National Police and the National Police Traffic Corps by continuing to educate about security, safety and smoothness in driving on the road.

According to the Director of Law Enforcement of the National Police Traffic Corps, Brigadier General Pol Raden Slamet Santoso, traffic accidents often start from violations. The public is expected to improve discipline and awareness in traffic, so that Indonesia can prove to the world that traffic in this country is increasingly orderly and safe.

In Operation Zebra which will be held on October 14-27, 2024, the National Police Traffic Corps will also focus on raiding underage drivers, using cellphones while driving, going against the flow and exceeding the speed limit which is mostly done by

a number of motorcyclists on the road.¹

One of the crucial factors contributing to the high number of accidents is the low legal culture among drivers. Legal culture, in this context, can be defined as the awareness, attitude, and behavior of individuals in obeying and respecting the laws and norms that apply in traffic. Drivers with a good legal culture will always obey traffic regulations, prioritize the safety of themselves and others, and prioritize ethics and manners in driving. Conversely, drivers with a low legal culture tend to ignore regulations, be selfish, and behave recklessly, thus increasing the risk of accidents.²

The low legal culture of drivers in Indonesia can be seen from various phenomena that occur on the highway. Traffic violations such as running red lights, speeding, using mobile phones while driving, not wearing helmets, and driving under the influence of alcohol still occur frequently. This phenomenon shows that awareness of the importance of safety and compliance with the law is still low. Individualistic and selfish attitudes also play a role in creating a disorderly traffic culture.

Many drivers prioritize personal interests over common interests, thus neglecting the safety of themselves and others. A good legal culture is the main foundation in creating safety, order, and smooth traffic. When every road user, especially drivers, has a high awareness and commitment to obeying regulations and prioritizing safety, the risk of accidents can be minimized. Conversely, without a good legal culture, even complete and sophisticated traffic regulations will not be effective in creating safety on the highway. Therefore, improving the legal culture of drivers is a non-negotiable necessity.

Efforts to improve the legal culture of drivers must be carried out comprehensively and sustainably. Educational, preventive, and repressive approaches must be implemented in an integrated and synergistic manner. Traffic education must start early, both through formal and non-formal channels.³ Socialization of traffic regulations and driving safety campaigns need to be intensified through various media and platforms.

Strict and consistent law enforcement is also needed to provide a deterrent effect for traffic violators. In addition, efforts need to be made to foster awareness and empathy among drivers, so that they prioritize common safety over personal interests. By improving the legal culture of drivers, it is hoped that the number of traffic accidents in Indonesia can be reduced significantly.⁴ This will have a positive impact not only on increasing the safety of road users, but also on increasing the productivity and quality of life of the community as a whole.

¹ Korlantas Polri, (Oktober 2024), "Kecelakaan Lalu Lintas di Indonesia Didominasi Oleh Kendaraan Roda dua", tersedia di <https://korlantas.polri.go.id/index.php/2024/10/10/kecelakaan-lalulintas-di-indonesia-didominasi-oleh-kendaraan-roda-dua/> diakses pada 29 Oktober 2024

² Rukitingsih, R. (2017). Analisis Tingkat Keselamatan Lalu Lintas Kota Semarang. *G-SMART*, 1(1), 1-9.

³ Kurniati, N. L. W. R., Setiawan, I., & Sihombing, S. (2017). Keselamatan Berjalan Lintas di Kota Bogor. *Jurnal Manajemen Transportasi & Logistik (JMTRANSLOG)*, 4(1), 75-88.

⁴ Suhadi, I., & Rangkuti, N. M. (2019). Analisa Tingkat Keselamatan Lalu Lintas Pada Persimpangan Dengan Metode Traffic Conflict Technique (TCT). *Journal Of Civil Engineering Building and Transportation*, 3(2), 62-70.

Traffic safety is not just the responsibility of the government or law enforcement officers, but the shared responsibility of all elements of society. Traffic safety is a vital aspect of community life. Highways, as the lifeblood of transportation, connect various activities and individual mobility. However, behind the convenience and efficiency offered, highways also have quite high potential for danger.

The high number of traffic accidents in Indonesia is one indicator that traffic safety is still a serious problem that requires comprehensive attention and handling. Behind this high number of accidents, there are various contributing factors, ranging from human factors, vehicles, to the environment. However, the human factor, especially the legal culture of road users, is the most dominant crucial factor. A low legal culture reflects a lack of awareness, attitude, and behavior of individuals in complying with and respecting the laws and norms that apply in traffic.

Drivers with a low legal culture tend to ignore regulations, be selfish, and behave recklessly, thus increasing the risk of accidents. One manifestation of the low legal culture of drivers is the rampant traffic violations. Running red lights, driving at high speeds, using mobile phones while driving, not wearing helmets, driving under the influence of alcohol, and various other violations are still common sights on the highway. These violations are not only a form of ignoring laws and regulations, but also reflect an attitude of indifference to the safety of oneself and others.⁵

In addition to traffic violations, the low legal culture is also evident from the selfish and undisciplined attitudes shown by some drivers. They tend to prioritize personal interests over common interests, often ignoring the rights of other road users. Impatience, being easily provoked, and being intolerant are also causes of conflicts and feuds between road users that lead to accidents. The low legal culture of drivers is inseparable from various influencing factors. Lack of socialization and education about traffic, weak law enforcement, and social and cultural factors in society also contribute to this problem.

Lack of understanding of traffic regulations and the consequences of violations committed causes many drivers to be unaware of the importance of complying with these regulations. Weak law enforcement also causes traffic violators to not be deterred and tend to repeat their mistakes. Social and cultural factors, such as individualistic attitudes, a "just get there quickly" mentality, and a lack of responsibility, also influence driver behavior on the highway.⁶

To overcome this problem, comprehensive and sustainable efforts are needed that involve all stakeholders. Increased socialization and traffic education needs to be carried out massively and reach all levels of society. Strict, consistent, and transparent law enforcement must also be carried out to provide a deterrent effect for traffic violators.

In addition, efforts need to be made to change the mindset and behavior of the community by instilling the values of discipline, awareness, and responsibility in traffic. Improving the legal culture of drivers is a long-term investment that will

⁵ Departemen Perhubungan, (Juni 2024), "Kemenhub Bersama Korlantas POLRI Periksa Bus Tidak Laik Jalan", tersedia di <https://dephub.go.id/post/read/kemenhub-bersama-korlantas-polri-periksa-bus-tidak-laik-jalan> diakses pada 29 Oktober 2024.

⁶ Daiyah, C. F. (2022). Beberapa Faktor Penyebab Kecelakaan di Indonesia. *Jurnal Ilmu Teknik*, 2(2).

provide great benefits to society. By increasing awareness and compliance with traffic regulations, it is hoped that the number of accidents can be reduced and traffic safety can be realized.

This will have a positive impact not only on improving the quality of life of the community, but also on increasing productivity and national economic growth. Traffic safety issues in Indonesia have become an urgent issue and demand serious attention from various parties. The high number of traffic accidents not only causes significant material losses, but also has a profound social impact. One of the crucial factors contributing to this problem is the low legal culture among motor vehicle drivers. Therefore, in-depth research on the legal culture of drivers is very urgent to be carried out.⁷

This study has a high urgency in order to analyze more deeply the legal culture of drivers in Indonesia. Through this study, it is expected to obtain a comprehensive picture of the level of awareness, attitude, and behavior of drivers in obeying and respecting the laws and norms that apply in traffic.

This in-depth analysis will reveal various dimensions of the legal culture of drivers, starting from aspects of knowledge, understanding, to implementation in daily driving practices. In addition to analyzing the existing conditions of the legal culture of drivers, this study is also very important to identify the factors that influence this legal culture. Various factors, both internal and external, are thought to have a significant influence on the formation and development of the legal culture of drivers.

Internal factors can be in the form of education level, age, gender, driving experience, and individual attitudes and personalities. Meanwhile, external factors can include the family environment, social environment, law enforcement, and the condition of road infrastructure and transportation facilities. By identifying the factors that influence the legal culture of drivers, it is hoped that targeted strategies and interventions can be formulated in an effort to improve this legal culture.

In-depth knowledge of these factors will facilitate policy makers and related stakeholders in designing effective programs and activities to improve driver awareness, attitudes, and behavior in traffic. Another urgency of this research is to provide comprehensive and sustainable solution recommendations in improving legal culture and traffic safety.

The solution recommendations can be in the form of improving regulations, increasing law enforcement, optimizing education and socialization programs, developing a safe transportation system, and strengthening collaboration between stakeholders. The recommendations produced are expected to be a reference for the government, related agencies, and the community in efforts to realize better traffic safety.

This research is also expected to provide scientific contributions in the development of science in the field of law and traffic safety. The results of this study can be a reference for further research that is more in-depth and specific. In addition, this research can also be a discussion material and consideration for academics, practitioners, and policy makers in formulating more effective policies and strategies

⁷ Sadono, S. (2015). Budaya tertib berlalu-lintas: kajian fenomenologis atas masyarakat pengendara sepeda motor di kota Bandung. *LONTAR: Jurnal Ilmu Komunikasi*, 3(3).

in improving traffic safety.

Overall, research on the legal culture of motor vehicle drivers towards traffic safety has a very high urgency. This research is expected to provide significant contributions in efforts to reduce the number of traffic accidents and realize better traffic safety in Indonesia. With the increasing legal culture of drivers, it is hoped that the community can enjoy safe, smooth, and comfortable mobility in carrying out daily activities.

Several previous studies have touched on the theme of legal culture and traffic safety, but this study offers a different perspective and focus. For example, the study conducted by Desril et al. (2018)⁸ entitled "Traffic Safety Legal Counseling: Strategy to Realize Traffic Law Compliance Culture" emphasizes more on legal counseling strategies as an effort to increase compliance with traffic regulations.

Meanwhile, the study by Sunaryo et al. (2020) entitled "Increasing Public Legal Awareness of Law Number 22 of 2009 as an Effort to Realize Orderly Traffic on Highways" focuses more on efforts to increase public legal awareness of Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Traffic and Road Transportation.⁹

This study has several fundamental differences from previous studies. First, the focus of this study is more specific to the legal culture of motorized vehicle drivers, while previous studies tend to be more general in discussing traffic safety or public legal awareness in general.

Second, this study uses a juridical-sociological approach that combines normative analysis with empirical observations in the field, while previous studies have predominantly used a juridical-normative approach. The juridical-sociological approach allows this study to reveal the phenomenon of driver legal culture in more depth and comprehensively, including the factors that influence and their impact on traffic safety.

The novel aspect offered in this study is an in-depth analysis of the correlation between driver legal culture and the level of traffic accidents. This study will specifically examine how driver legal culture, as measured by certain indicators, affects the frequency and severity of traffic accidents. In addition, this study will also provide recommendations for more concrete and applicable solutions based on the results of data analysis and findings in the field. Thus, this study is expected to provide a more significant contribution in efforts to improve driver legal culture and realize traffic safety in Indonesia.

Based on the description of the urgency and differences with previous studies, this study will specifically focus the discussion on three main problems. First, what is the actual portrait of the legal culture of motor vehicle drivers in Indonesia?

This question will be answered by analyzing various indicators of legal culture, such as the level of knowledge and understanding of drivers towards traffic regulations, their attitudes and perceptions towards the importance of driving safety, and their

⁸ Desril, R., Elviandri, E., Aksar, A., Raihana, R., Sommaliagustina, D., & Lestari, T. W. (2018). Penyuluhan hukum keselamatan lalu lintas: Strategi mewujudkan budaya patuh hukum lalu lintas. *Jurnal Pengabdian UntukMu NegeRI*, 2(2), 93-103.

⁹ Sunaryo, S., Fakhri, M., Syamsiar, R., & Kasmawati, K. (2020). Peningkatan Kesadaran Hukum Masyarakat Terhadap Undang-Undang Nomor 22 Tahun 2009 Sebagai Upaya Mewujudkan Terciptanya Tertib Lalu Lintas Di Jalan Raya. *Jurnal Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat Sakai Sambayan*, 4(2), 155-164.

actual behavior on the highway. This analysis will use data and information obtained through literature studies, document studies.

Second, what factors influence the legal culture of motor vehicle drivers towards traffic safety? To answer this question, this study will identify and analyze various factors that have the potential to influence the legal culture of drivers, both internal and external factors. Internal factors include aspects of individual drivers, such as age, gender, education level, religious understanding, and driving experience. While external factors include the social environment, law enforcement, road infrastructure conditions, and access to traffic information and education and will also discuss efforts to improve the legal culture of motor vehicle drivers towards traffic safety. Based on this, the author will examine the above through the title "Legal Culture of Motor Vehicle Drivers Regarding Traffic Safety"

PROBLEM

How Portrait of The Legal Culture of Motor Vehicle Drivers in Indonesia?

How Improving the Legal Culture of Motor Vehicle Drivers Towards Traffic Safety?

RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a sociological legal method that focuses on the study of legal rules and doctrines that are relevant to the legal culture of drivers and traffic safety. This method was chosen because this study aims to analyze and interpret applicable legal norms, as well as identify the gap between *das sollen* and *das sein* in their implementation.

The primary data in this study are in the form of primary legal materials, namely laws and regulations relating to traffic and road transportation, such as Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Traffic and Road Transportation and its implementing regulations. In addition to primary legal materials, this study will also utilize secondary legal materials, such as textbooks, scientific journals, articles, and other relevant official documents. Data analysis was carried out using a qualitative approach through legal interpretation and argumentation techniques.

Legal interpretation is carried out to understand the meaning and intent of applicable legal norms, while legal argumentation is used to connect legal rules with the phenomenon of legal culture of drivers and traffic safety in Indonesia. This study will also utilize Lawrence M. Friedman's Legal System Theory to provide a more comprehensive analytical framework. Friedman argues that the legal system consists of three main elements, namely legal structure, legal substance, and legal culture.

In the context of this study, Friedman's theory will be used to analyze how these three elements interact and influence the legal culture of drivers and traffic safety. The analysis of the legal structure will include institutions that play a role in enforcing traffic laws, such as the police, courts, and the Ministry of Transportation.

The analysis of the legal substance will focus on the legal rules governing traffic and road transportation, as well as the sanctions given to violators. Meanwhile, the analysis of legal culture will include the attitudes, values, and beliefs of the

community towards the law and the traffic legal system.

DISCUSSION

Portrait of The Legal Culture of Motor Vehicle Drivers in Indonesia

One important indicator in measuring the legal culture of drivers is their level of knowledge and understanding of traffic laws. This aspect includes knowledge of applicable laws and regulations, understanding of traffic signs, and knowledge of road markings. Drivers who have good knowledge and understanding of traffic laws tend to be more obedient and responsible in driving. Conversely, lack of knowledge and understanding can cause drivers to commit violations and threaten the safety of themselves and others.¹⁰

Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Traffic and Road Transportation (UULLAJ) is the main legal basis that regulates all aspects of traffic in Indonesia. UULLAJ contains various provisions regarding the rights and obligations of road users, technical requirements for vehicles, traffic signs, road markings, and sanctions for violators. Drivers who understand the provisions in UULLAJ well will be better able to drive safely and responsibly. Unfortunately, the reality in the field shows that there are still many drivers who have low knowledge and understanding of traffic laws.

This is reflected in the high number of traffic violations that occur, such as running red lights (Article 106 paragraph (4) letter c UULLAJ), driving over the speed limit (Article 287 paragraph (5) UULLAJ), using a mobile phone while driving (Article 106 paragraph (1) UULLAJ), and not wearing a seat belt (Article 106 paragraph (6) UULLAJ). These violations show a gap between knowledge and behavior on the highway.

Based on field observations, one concrete example is the lack of understanding of drivers regarding the meaning of road markings. Road markings are signs made on the road surface with paint or other materials that function to regulate and direct traffic flow (Article 1 number 2 UULLAJ). Many drivers do not understand the meaning of various types of road markings, such as dotted lines, continuous lines, zebra crossings, and so on. This lack of understanding can cause drivers to make dangerous maneuvers and cause accidents.¹¹

Based on Field Observations Another example is the lack of driver knowledge regarding the speed limit on toll roads. UULLAJ regulates that the speed limit on toll roads is a minimum of 60 km/hour and a maximum of 100 km/hour (Article 23 paragraph (4) UULLAJ). However, there are still many drivers who drive at speeds above the maximum limit or below the minimum limit. Driving at high speeds can

¹⁰ Nurfauziah, R., & Krisnani, H. (2021). Perilaku pelanggaran lalu lintas oleh remaja ditinjau dari perspektif konstruksi sosial. *Jurnal Kolaborasi Resolusi Konflik*, 3(1), 75-85.

¹¹ Observasi Penulis dalam Pengamatan Fenomena Budaya Lalu Lintas dari Januari 2024 – Oktober 2024.

increase the risk of accidents, while driving at too low a speed can disrupt the smooth flow of traffic.¹²

This gap between knowledge and behavior shows that efforts to improve the legal culture of drivers are not enough by simply providing information and education about traffic laws. More comprehensive efforts are needed to instill awareness and foster an attitude of obedience and responsibility in traffic. Firm and consistent law enforcement is also needed to provide a deterrent effect for traffic violators.

By increasing drivers' knowledge and understanding of traffic laws, it is hoped that they can be more responsible in driving and prioritize the safety of themselves and others. This will contribute to the creation of a better traffic culture and reduce the number of traffic accidents in Indonesia. In addition to knowledge and understanding of traffic laws, another aspect that is no less important in reflecting the legal culture of drivers is their attitudes and perceptions towards driving safety.

Attitude shows a person's predisposition or tendency to act or react to something, while perception shows how a person interprets and interprets the information they receive. In the context of traffic, drivers' attitudes and perceptions will influence how they assess the importance of their own and others' safety, as well as how they view the risks and consequences of traffic violations. Drivers with a positive attitude towards driving safety will always prioritize their own safety and the safety of others in all their actions.

They will obey traffic regulations, use safety equipment properly, drive carefully, and avoid risky behavior that can threaten safety. On the other hand, drivers with negative attitudes tend to ignore safety aspects and prioritize personal interests, such as wanting to get to their destination quickly or showing off their driving skills. Drivers' perceptions of the risks and consequences of traffic violations also influence their behavior on the highway. Drivers who have an accurate perception of the risk of accidents will be more careful and avoid behavior that can increase the risk.

They realize that traffic violations can not only result in legal sanctions, but can also cause accidents that result in material losses, injuries, and even death. On the other hand, drivers who underestimate the risk of accidents tend to be more likely to commit violations and behave recklessly. A real example of a driver's attitude and perception can be seen from the use of helmets. Helmets are mandatory safety equipment for motorcyclists (Article 106 paragraph (8) UULLAJ). Correct use of helmets can reduce the risk of fatal head injuries during accidents.

Drivers who have a positive attitude towards safety and understand the risks of riding without a helmet will always wear a helmet correctly every time they ride. In contrast, drivers who ignore safety or underestimate the risk of accidents tend not to wear a helmet or wear it incorrectly.¹³ Another example is the attitude of drivers towards pedestrian safety. Pedestrians are vulnerable road users and have priority rights at zebra crossings (Article 106 paragraph (2) of the UULLAJ).

Drivers who care about pedestrian safety will give them priority to cross the road and drive carefully around zebra crossings. Conversely, selfish and uncaring drivers tend to ignore pedestrian rights and even threaten their safety. The real behavior of drivers on

¹² Observasi Penulis dalam Pengamatan Fenomena Budaya Lalu Lintas dari Januari 2024 – Oktober 2024.

¹³ Observasi Penulis dalam Pengamatan Fenomena Budaya Lalu Lintas dari Januari 2024 – Oktober 2024.

the highway is a reflection of the legal culture they have. This behavior includes various aspects, from compliance with traffic regulations, driving ethics, to interactions with other road users.

Drivers with a good legal culture will demonstrate disciplined, responsible behavior and prioritize mutual safety. Conversely, drivers with a low legal culture tend to behave recklessly, selfishly, and ignore the safety of themselves and others. Compliance with traffic regulations is an important indicator in assessing the legal culture of drivers. Obedient drivers will obey traffic signs, road markings, speed limits, and other rules.

They realize that the rules are made to maintain order and traffic safety. On the other hand, drivers who do not obey the rules tend to ignore the rules and commit violations, such as running red lights, driving at high speeds, or driving in the wrong lane. Driving ethics also reflect the legal culture of drivers. Ethical drivers will demonstrate politeness, respect other road users, and avoid behavior that can harm or endanger others. They will give priority to pedestrians, turn on their turn signals when turning, not honk excessively, and not perform dangerous maneuvers.

On the other hand, unethical drivers tend to be arrogant, selfish, and indifferent to other road users.¹⁴ Interactions with other road users also show the legal culture of drivers. Drivers who have a good legal culture will interact with other road users politely and prioritize mutual safety. They will give way to priority vehicles, not engage in illegal racing, and not be easily provoked when conflicts occur on the highway.

On the other hand, drivers with a low legal culture tend to be aggressive, easily provoked, and even commit violence against other road users. An example of real behavior that is often encountered is a red light violation. A red light is a traffic sign that requires drivers to stop (Article 106 paragraph (4) letter c UULLAJ). Breaking through a red light is a very dangerous violation because it can cause a fatal accident. Drivers who break red lights show an undisciplined, selfish attitude, and ignore the safety of themselves and others.

Another example is the behavior of drivers in giving priority to pedestrians. Pedestrians have the right of priority to cross the road at a zebra crossing. Drivers who have a good legal culture will respect this right and give pedestrians the opportunity to cross safely. On the other hand, drivers who are indifferent and selfish tend to ignore pedestrians and even force them to avoid them.

The real behavior of drivers on the highway is a real reflection of the legal culture they have. Disciplined, responsible behavior that prioritizes shared safety reflects a good legal culture. On the other hand, reckless, selfish behavior that ignores safety reflects a low legal culture. Therefore, improving the legal culture of drivers is very important to realize better traffic safety.¹⁵

Legal Culture Factors Of Motorcyclists Towards Traffic Safety

Driver legal culture is not formed suddenly, but is influenced by various factors originating from within the individual himself. These internal factors are inherent and attached to each driver, shaping their mindset, attitude, and behavior in traffic. Understanding these internal factors is very important to analyze in depth why there are variations in legal culture among drivers, as well as to formulate targeted strategies

¹⁴ Gunawan, H. (2022). Analisa etika dan keterampilan terhadap tingkat pelanggaran lalu lintas (roda dua) di Indonesia. *Jurnal sosial dan sains*, 2(8), 823-830.

¹⁵ Arista, A., Fauzi, R., & Elisa, E. (2023). Pembinaan Siswa/I Smk Widya Batam Terhadap Program Keselamatan Berlalu Lintas Dalam Etika Berkendara. *Puan Indonesia*, 4(2), 249-254

in efforts to improve traffic safety.

Age is one of the internal factors that has a significant influence on driver legal culture. Young drivers, especially teenagers, tend to be more easily influenced by emotional factors and the social environment. They often exhibit risky behavior, such as driving at high speeds or performing dangerous maneuvers, to seek sensation or recognition from peers. On the other hand, older drivers tend to be more experienced and wise in driving. They prioritize safety and obey traffic regulations because they are aware of the risks and consequences of violations.¹⁶

Gender also colors the driver legal culture. In general, male drivers tend to be more aggressive and competitive on the highway. They more often commit traffic violations, such as running red lights or driving over the speed limit. Meanwhile, female drivers tend to be more careful and obedient to the rules. However, this difference does not always apply absolutely because other factors, such as age, education, and social environment, also play a role.

Education level has a positive correlation with awareness of traffic laws. Drivers with higher education tend to have better knowledge and understanding of traffic laws. They are also better able to analyze the risks and consequences of violations, so they are more obedient and responsible in driving. On the other hand, drivers with low levels of education tend to have limited knowledge of traffic laws and are more easily influenced by other factors, such as social environment or bad habits.

Religious understanding also plays an important role in shaping driving behavior. Religious values, such as respecting the rights of others, protecting the safety of life, and avoiding detrimental actions, can motivate drivers to drive in a disciplined and responsible manner. Drivers who have a good understanding of religion tend to prioritize mutual safety and avoid risky behavior that can endanger themselves or others.

Driving experience also influences compliance with traffic regulations. Drivers who have been driving for a long time and have sufficient experience tend to be more mature and wise in dealing with various situations on the highway. They have learned from experience and are better able to anticipate potential dangers and make the right decisions to avoid accidents.

However, driving experience alone is not enough if it is not balanced with good knowledge, attitude, and awareness. By understanding the internal factors that influence the legal culture of drivers, it is hoped that more effective strategies can be formulated to improve traffic safety. Efforts to increase awareness and understanding of traffic law need to be adjusted to the characteristics and needs of each group of drivers. Different approaches are needed to reach young drivers, female drivers, drivers with low levels of education, and so on.¹⁷

In addition to internal factors originating from within the driver, the legal culture of driving is also shaped by various external factors originating from the surrounding environment. These factors are dynamic and can change along with the times and social conditions of society.

¹⁶ Kusnaedi, U., Asmana, Y., & Zainuddin, Z. (2023). Manajemen Lalu Lintas Alam Keselamatan Berkendara dengan Etika Perilaku dalam Berkendara Demi Keselamatan Berkendara. *Jurnal Hukum Bisnis*, 12(03), 145-151.

¹⁷ Sahara, S., & Syuhada, F. (2023). Analisis Karakteristik Perilaku Pengendara Generasi Z Terhadap Keselamatan Lalu Lintas di Universitas Negeri Jakarta. *Advances In Social Humanities Research*, 1(10), 2012-2020.

Understanding the influence of these external factors is crucial in formulating comprehensive policies and strategies to improve the legal culture of drivers and realize better traffic safety.¹⁸

The social environment has a strong influence on a person's driving behavior. Family and peers are the first socialization agents to introduce values, norms, and behavioral patterns related to traffic. If someone grows up in a family environment that prioritizes driving safety and obeys traffic regulations, then he or she tends to imitate these behavioral patterns. Conversely, if the family or peer environment tends to ignore traffic rules and exhibit risky behavior, then a person also has the potential to adopt these behavioral patterns.¹⁹

Strict and consistent law enforcement is a very important external factor in increasing compliance with traffic regulations. Laws that are enforced fairly and consistently will create a deterrent effect for violators and encourage the public to be more disciplined in traffic. On the other hand, weak and inconsistent law enforcement will cause people to underestimate the rules and tend to commit violations.

Therefore, optimizing law enforcement, either through direct action or the application of technology such as electronic ticketing, is very crucial in building a good driving law culture. The condition of road infrastructure also affects traffic safety. Good roads, complete with clear road signs and markings, will make it easier for drivers to drive safely and smoothly. On the other hand, damaged road conditions, minimal lighting, and incomplete safety facilities can increase the risk of accidents.

Therefore, the government needs to pay serious attention to the development and maintenance of road infrastructure to support the creation of a safe and comfortable traffic environment. Access to traffic information and education is also an important external factor in improving the driver's legal culture. Easy access to information about traffic regulations, safe driving tips, and various other educational materials will help drivers to increase their knowledge and awareness of traffic safety.

In today's digital era, the use of information and communication technology is very effective in disseminating traffic information and education to the wider community.²⁰ By paying attention to and addressing these external factors, it is hoped that a conducive environment can be created for the development of a good driving law culture. Synergy between the government, society, and various related parties is very necessary to realize optimal traffic safety and reduce the number of accidents in Indonesia.

Improving the Legal Culture of Motor Vehicle Drivers Towards Traffic Safety

Effective law enforcement is one of the main pillars in realizing traffic safety and improving the legal culture of drivers. Within the framework of Lawrence M. Friedman's Legal System Theory, law enforcement is part of the legal structure that functions to ensure the validity of legal substances and influence the legal culture of society. Firm, consistent, and fair law enforcement will create a deterrent effect for

¹⁸ Mubalus, S. F. E. (2023). Analisis Faktor-Faktor Penyebab Kecelakaan Lalu Lintas Di Kabupaten Sorong Dan Penanggulangannya. *Sosied*, 6(1), 182-197.

¹⁹ Ryanto, A. Y. (2019). Analisis Faktor Penyebab Kecelakaan Lalu Lintas di Kota Bogor (Studi Kasus: Ruas Jalan Raya Tajur). *Jurnal Online Mahasiswa (JOM) Bidang Teknik Sipil*, 1(1).

²⁰ Riska, V. P. E., Yermadona, H., & Putra, Y. (2022). Identifikasi Faktor-faktor Penyebab Kecelakaan Lalu Lintas Jalan Raya Bukittinggi-Medan Km 8 Agam. *Ensiklopedia Research and Community Service Review*, 2(1), 311-318.

violators, encourage compliance with regulations, and ultimately form a good legal culture among road users.

To improve the effectiveness of traffic law enforcement, comprehensive and sustainable efforts are needed that cover various aspects. First, improve the quality and quantity of traffic police officers. Police officers are the spearhead of law enforcement on the highway. Therefore, it is necessary to increase the capacity and competence of officers through continuous training and education. In addition, the number of traffic police officers also needs to be increased so that they can reach all areas and optimally supervise the implementation of traffic regulations.

Second, implement electronic ticketing technology (e-ticketing) more widely. E-ticketing is a law enforcement system that utilizes information technology to detect and prosecute traffic violations electronically. The implementation of e-ticketing can increase the effectiveness of law enforcement because it is more efficient, accurate, and transparent. In addition, e-ticketing can also minimize direct interaction between officers and violators, thereby preventing corruption and extortion.

Third, increase transparency and accountability in the law enforcement process. Transparency and accountability are important principles in fair law enforcement. The public has the right to know the law enforcement process carried out by officers, including the enforcement mechanism, the amount of fines, and payment procedures. By increasing transparency and accountability, it is hoped that it can foster public trust in the legal system and encourage compliance with traffic regulations.²¹ Increasing the effectiveness of law enforcement is in line with Friedman's Legal System Theory which emphasizes the importance of legal structure in influencing legal culture.²²

By improving the quality of law enforcement, it is hoped that a more effective traffic law system can be created in controlling public behavior and realizing traffic safety. Strict and consistent law enforcement will send a clear message that traffic violations will not be tolerated and will be subject to strict sanctions. This will encourage the public to be more disciplined and responsible in traffic, so that in the end a good legal culture will be formed. However, it is important to remember that law enforcement is only one instrument in forming a legal culture.

Friedman himself emphasized that legal culture is a complex factor and is influenced by various factors, including social values, economic conditions, and political systems. Therefore, increasing the effectiveness of law enforcement needs to be balanced with other efforts that target changes in community values and attitudes towards traffic law.²³ Education, socialization, and community involvement are very important to create collective awareness of the importance of traffic safety and foster an attitude of obedience and responsibility on the highway. By integrating effective law enforcement with efforts to form a comprehensive legal culture, it is hoped that a better traffic system can be created in Indonesia. The public will be more disciplined and responsible in traffic, the number of accidents can be reduced, and ultimately optimal traffic safety will be realized for all road users.

²¹ Utomo, P. P. (2020). *Penerapan Undang-Undang Nomor 22 Tahun 2009 Sebagai Upaya Penanggulangan Kecelakaan Lalu Lintas Di Wilayah Hukum Polres Blora* (Doctoral dissertation, Universitas Islam Sultan Agung Semarang).

²² Friedman, L. M., & Ladinsky, J. (2021). Social change and the law of industrial accidents. In *Governing Risks* (pp. 127-159). Routledge.

²³ Friedman, L. M., Khozim, M., & Mangunsong, N. (2021). *Asal-Usul Hukum dan Perundangan: Seri Sistem Hukum Perspektif Ilmu Sosial*. Nusamedia. Hlm. 94.

CONCLUSION

In general, the portrait of the legal culture of drivers in Indonesia is still concerning. This can be seen from the still low level of knowledge and understanding of traffic law, attitudes and perceptions that still ignore safety aspects, and real behavior on the highway that tends to violate rules and norms. This condition shows the urgency to improve the legal culture of drivers through various comprehensive efforts involving all stakeholders. The legal culture of drivers is influenced by various internal and external factors. Internal factors include age, gender, level of education, religious understanding, and driving experience. While external factors include the social environment, law enforcement, road infrastructure conditions, and access to information and traffic education. A comprehensive understanding of these factors is very important in formulating an effective strategy to improve the legal culture of drivers. Efforts to improve the legal culture of drivers must be carried out comprehensively and sustainably by increasing the effectiveness of law enforcement, optimizing education and socialization programs, strengthening community participation, utilizing technology, and cooperation between stakeholders. Synergy between all parties is needed to realize optimal traffic safety and reduce the number of accidents in Indonesia.

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