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The Role of Law in Addressing Overpopulation Problems in Big Cities, A Case Study of Policy and Its Implementation in Bali in 2010-2019: Study Literature Review

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Abstract: The increasing population has caused various problems, such as severe traffic congestion to environmental degradation that threatens Bali's unique biodiversity. These problems have an impact on the quality of life of residents and the attractiveness of Bali as a tourist destination. As a result, strategic actions that focus on sustainable development, and better environmental management, According to BPS data, the population of Bali increased by 15 percent from 2010 to 2019. However, this population increase also raises problems, especially related to infrastructure, public services, and environmental preservation amidst rapid development, but studies on the effectiveness of implementation in the field are still limited. This study aims to fill this gap by analyzing in depth the factors that influence the success or failure of population control policy implementation in Bali, especially from a legal perspective. By understanding the obstacles faced, this study is expected to provide more effective policy recommendations to overcome the problem of overpopulation and achieve sustainable development in Bali.

Keywords: population growth, quality of life, economic center.

INTRODUCTION

The rapid growth of tourism has changed the face of Bali but has also created a serious challenge in the form of overpopulation. The increasing population has triggered various problems, ranging from severe traffic congestion to environmental degradation that threatens Bali's unique biodiversity (Suardana et.al, 2022), (Adnyana, 2022). These problems have an impact on the quality of life of residents and the attractiveness of Bali as a tourist destination (Mahardika, 2021). Therefore, to maintain a balance between growth and environmental sustainability, strategic actions are needed that focus on sustainable development, better environmental management, and cooperation between the government, community, and private sector (Rahman et.al, 2023). BPS data shows that the population of Bali increased by

15% from 2010 to 2019, with most of the growth occurring in tourist areas (Widiawaty, 2019). This development shows the social and economic changes that have occurred in Bali during that time. The increasing population can be influenced by some factors, such as immigration, natural growth, and Bali's popularity as a tourist destination and economic center in the region (Ferlina, 2020), (Watik et.al, 2022). However, this population increase also poses problems, especially related to infrastructure, public services, and environmental preservation amidst rapid development. This condition not only impacts the quality of life of local communities but also threatens the sustainability of the tourism sector as the backbone of Bali's economy. Although the Bali Provincial Government has issued various regional regulations to control population growth, its implementation still faces many obstacles (Maolana, 2022), (Winaya, 2023). Previous studies have focused more on the policy planning aspect, while studies on the effectiveness of implementation in the field are still limited. This study aims to fill this gap by deeply analyzing the factors that influence the success or failure of the implementation of population control policies in Bali, especially from a legal perspective. By understanding the obstacles faced, this study is expected to provide more effective policy recommendations to overcome the problem of overpopulation and achieve sustainable development in Bali, as well as contribute to studies on the management of sustainable tourism areas at the global level.

METHOD

The methods that will be used are as follows:

- a. Legal Ethnography (a) Description: This method examines how law is understood, accepted, or rejected by a particular society in everyday life practices. (b) Technique: Participatory observation, in-depth interviews, or case studies in a particular community.
- b. Phenomenology (a) Description: Understanding the subjective experiences of society in dealing with the law, such as their perceptions of justice and legality. (b) Technique: In-depth interviews to explore individual or group experiences.
- c. Case Study (a) Description: In-depth analysis of the application of law in concrete cases to understand its sociological and philosophical dimensions.
- d. Discourse Analysis (a) Description: Examining legal discourse in society, such as public or media debates on certain legal issues.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The Role of Government in Community Growth in Bali

The role of government in supporting community growth in Bali is very significant and covers various interrelated strategic areas. The government not only acts as a policy maker, but also as a facilitator, supervisor, and protector in various aspects of Balinese community life (Novitasari, 2022). In the tourism sector, the government ensures that the economic growth generated is not only focused on the number of tourists but also the principle of sustainability by maintaining the local environment and culture. This can be seen from the government's efforts to promote Bali as a world tourist destination while still protecting traditions and cultural heritage through policies and cooperation with indigenous communities (Kartiko, 2020)

In addition, in the field of education and community welfare, the government plays an important role in creating programs that support improving the quality of life, such as access to education that is oriented towards local culture, health programs such as JKBM, and entrepreneurship training to support a community-based economy. The government also recognizes the importance of maintaining the environment and natural resources of Bali which are the main attractions for tourists. Therefore, policies such as the ban on single-use

plastic, community-based waste management, and preservation of conservation areas show a real commitment to sustainability (Anugeraj et.al, 2014)

Risks of Overpopulation in Balinese Society

Overpopulation in Bali is a complex problem that can have a major impact on various aspects of life on the island, both in social, economic, cultural, and environmental contexts. Bali, which is famous for its natural beauty, cultural heritage, and international tourist attractions, is now facing major challenges due to its increasing population growth rate. If not managed properly, the risks posed by overpopulation can threaten the sustainability of social and economic life in Bali (Aji et.al, 2023) One of the most obvious impacts of overpopulation is the pressure on limited natural resources. The increasing demand for clean water, while Bali has faced water shortages in recent years, is one example of how overpopulation can worsen environmental conditions. The conversion of agricultural land to housing and tourism facilities also reduces the amount of land available for local food production, which in turn increases Bali's dependence on food imports. Environmental damage such as marine pollution, coral reef damage, and declining air quality are also increasingly felt due to uncontrolled human activities. With a growing population, the exploitation of Bali's nature can damage the island's main attraction, namely its natural beauty, which is a major asset in the tourism sector.

Population Control Policy in Bali

Population control policy in Bali is one of the serious efforts of the Bali Provincial Government in managing population dynamics in its region. Population control that seems to be traditional and local wisdom, such as family planning policies with the regulation of the number of children based on the order of names (Wayan, Made, Nyoman, Ketut) is one of the characteristics of population control policy in Bali. However, this policy has not been fully accepted and understood by the entire community, especially in certain areas such as Banjarangkan District in Klungkung Regency, so further efforts are needed to increase understanding and socialization. One important step taken is the dissemination of population reports carried out by the Bali Provincial BKKBN, which aims to provide education to the community about population dynamics and related issues such as population growth, migration, and reproductive health. This is also part of a series of World Population Day commemorations which aims to disseminate information to the community so that they are more aware of the importance of population management in regional development. The aspects of women's empowerment and child protection are also the focus of the population control policy in Bali. This is reflected in the advocacy policy for women's empowerment and child protection policies carried out by the Population Control, Family Planning, Women's Empowerment, and Child Protection Service of Buleleng Regency. By strengthening the protection of women's and children's rights, Bali seeks to create a safe environment that supports children's growth and development and women's empowerment in various sectors of life.

Legal Ethnography in Bali

The application of legal ethnography in Bali offers a deep understanding of the interaction between customary law and state law, and how both are applied and function in the daily lives of the Balinese people. Bali has a very strong customary law system, which is regulated in Awig-Awig (customary village regulations) and plays an important role in various aspects of life, from dispute resolution to the implementation of traditional and religious ceremonies. Balinese customary law not only functions as a norm that regulates social behavior but also reflects cultural and religious values that are very deep in the lives of

local people. Legal ethnography in Bali helps to explore legal practices that are not always recorded in formal legal texts, but have a major influence on the governance of Balinese society. Through an ethnographic approach, researchers can study how Balinese society uses customary law to resolve various problems, both in social, economic, and family contexts. For example, the resolution of disputes or disagreements between individuals in Balinese society are more often resolved through customary mediation by Prajuru Desa Adat (customary leaders), rather than through formal justice. This shows that Balinese society prioritizes resolving problems through deliberation and considering the shared values held by the customary community, although state law also applies at the national level (Rifai, 2014)

Phenomenology

According to sources from <https://wisestepsconsulting.id/> the exponential growth of the number of tourists to Bali generates substantial revenue for businesses and helps support the growth of various industries and employment opportunities, especially in the hospitality and service sectors. However, this rapid increase has also created significant pressures, as indicated by crowds at popular tourist spots, congestion in areas densely populated by tourists, depletion of natural resources, and the deterioration of the quality of public spaces and services. Unsustainable urban development driven by the demands of the tourism industry, coupled with limited infrastructure capacity, has given rise to gentrification. While luxury hotels, villas, resorts and restaurants continue to emerge, sustainable and affordable housing options for local Balinese are increasingly scarce, widening the gap between the rich and the poor in society. Overtourism has had a domino effect on Bali's environment in several ways. For example, the development of hotels and resorts has directly led to the loss of agricultural land and the degradation of ecosystems. The decline in soil fertility in more fertile areas, exacerbated by excessive water extraction and extensive use of chemical fertilizers, has exacerbated the disintegration of agricultural productivity on the island. Waste management is another major issue facing Bali as a result of over-tourism. The increasing volume of solid waste, including plastic waste generated by tourists, has become an increasingly difficult problem to address on the island. Trash-strewn beaches, polluted rivers, and overflowing landfills are stark reminders of how over-tourism and gentrification are damaging Bali's environment (Wise, 2025).

Discussion

Population growth in Bali is a phenomenon that is greatly influenced by some factors, both internal and external, including migration, tourism sector development, urbanization, and demographic factors such as birth and death rates. Along with this rapid development, Bali has experienced quite significant social, economic, and environmental changes. With a population that continues to grow, especially in urban areas such as Denpasar, the province faces a major challenge in maintaining a balance between economic development and cultural and environmental preservation. Economically, Bali has felt the positive impact of rapid population growth, especially through the tourism sector which makes a major contribution to GDP and creates various jobs. Balinese people, both from outside the region and residents, are faced with the opportunity to improve their standard of living through work in the tourism industry. However, Bali's economic dependence on this sector has a negative impact, especially when the tourism sector declines due to natural disasters, the global economic crisis, or global health problems such as the pandemic (Rahayu, 2013). Overall, the biggest challenge for Bali is finding a middle ground between the need for development and the preservation of cultural and natural values. Bali must adapt to demographic changes, while still maintaining the identity and environmental sustainability that have long been its hallmark. The local government and the entire Balinese community

need to work together to create an inclusive and sustainable development model that can provide maximum benefits for the current generation without destroying the potential and heritage of future generations. So that Bali can continue to develop into an advanced, prosperous island while maintaining the uniqueness and sustainability of its culture and nature.

CONCLUSION

The conclusion of the role of law in overcoming the problem of overpopulation in Bali is that the law has an important role in regulating the management of natural resources, controlling migration, and sustainable development. The law can also support the protection of the environment and local culture, and educate the community in controlling births. Collaboration between stakeholders is essential to create effective solutions. Overall, the law must be an effective tool to maintain the balance between population growth and environmental sustainability in Bali.

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