

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE AND FULFILLMENT OF VICTIMS' RIGHTS IN HANDLING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES

(Study at the Deli Serdang District Attorney's Office)

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ABSTRACT

Domestic violence cases present a complex legal challenge where rigid retributive punishment often exacerbates the economic vulnerability of victims. This study aims to evaluate the implementation of restorative justice at the Deli Serdang District Attorney's Office and its effectiveness in ensuring the fulfillment of victims' rights. Employing an empirical juridical method through interviews and case analysis, this research assesses the application of Prosecutor's Regulation Number 15 of 2020. The results demonstrate that the prosecutor's office successfully utilizes mediation to secure immediate economic restitution and preserve family unity, offering a superior pragmatic alternative to incarceration. However, the analysis reveals a critical deficiency: the current practice prioritizes material compensation and administrative efficiency, frequently overlooking long-term psychological recovery and safety guarantees due to the absence of mandatory professional risk assessments. The study concludes that while beneficial for economic stability, the current mechanism requires refinement. Consequently, it suggests an ideal model integrating psychosocial evaluations and strict post-agreement monitoring to ensure substantive justice and genuine protection.

Keywords: Restorative Justice, Victims' Rights, Domestic Violence, Deli Serdang District Attorney's Office.

INTRODUCTION

Domestic violence, legally referred to as Kekerasan dalam Rumah Tangga, constitutes a significant violation of human rights that transcends geographical and cultural barriers, representing a severe infringement upon the sanctity of the family unit. In the past, the private sphere was seen as a place where the government couldn't get involved. However, the global acknowledgment of women's and children's rights changed this. Now, the law needs to be strong enough to stop abuse that happens behind closed doors. This change recognizes that keeping families together can't come at the cost of their physical and mental health.¹

Law Number 23 of 2004 in Indonesia, which aimed to end domestic violence, was a major step forward in the law. It made acts of domestic abuse public offenses instead of private complaints. The law was meant to punish offenders and help victims heal and stay safe. It took

¹ Mahfud Mahfud and Rizanizarli Rizanizarli, "Domestic Violence against Women in Indonesia: The Recent Domestic Violence Elimination Law Analysis," *Fiat Justisia: Jurnal Ilmu Hukum* 15, no. 4 (2021): 385–398.

into account the peculiar power dynamics that exist in domestic relationships.² But when criminal penalties are applied too strictly, they often put the family's breadwinner in jail, which is a strange way of hurting the dependents both financially and socially, producing a complicated circle of pain.

The old criminal justice system, which is based on retributive justice, is mostly about finding out who is guilty and punishing them. This meets the state's need for order, but it often doesn't deal with the root causes of the conflict or the victim's overall needs.³ In Deli Serdang, where people are very close to each other, the formal adversarial procedure can make family problems worse, leaving victims with a court decision but no real emotional or social restitution.⁴

Restorative justice has become a powerful new way of thinking about crime and punishment. It focuses on fixing the damage done by the crime instead of just punishing the person who did it. It sees crime as a breach of people and relationships, and it says that justice is served when the perpetrator, victim, and community all work together to settle the dispute. This method is in line with the Indonesian cultural idea of *musyawarah mufakat* (deliberation for consensus), but it is quite controversial when used in cases of domestic violence since it could lead to forced settlements in situations where one person has more power than the other.⁵

The Republic of Indonesia's Prosecutor's Office made this idea official with Prosecutor's Regulation Number 15 of 2020, which is about ending prosecution based on restorative justice. This rule gives prosecutors the option to drop charges if certain conditions are met, like the parties coming to an agreement and the situation returning to how it was before. This rule is now in effect in the Deli Serdang District Attorney's Office. They are trying to find the right balance between keeping the peace and executing the law.⁶

The application of restorative justice in domestic violence situations raises significant concerns regarding the protection of victims' rights. Domestic violence is different from property crimes since it causes significant psychological harm and might happen again. Some people are worried that restorative justice could be used to "decriminalize" domestic abuse in the name of

² Agus Irawan Yustisianto, Sri Endah Wahyuningsih, and Anis Mashdurohatun, "Reconstruction of Legal Protection Regulations against Victims of Crime of Household Violence Based on Justice Value," *Scholars International Journal of Law, Crime and Justice* 5, no. 12 (2022): 513–519.

³ R Kennedy, "Penal Mediation Policy According to Indonesian Criminal Laws to the Protection of Criminal Victims Domestic Violence," *International Journal of Multicultural and Multireligious Understanding* 6, no. 3 (2019): 1079–1092.

⁴ Chandra Prayuda, Taufik Siregar, and Wenggedes Frensh, "Implementation of Law Number 23 of 2004 in Handling Domestic Violence Cases by the Deli Serdang City Police Resort," *Journal of Public Representative and Society Provision* 5, no. 3 (2025): 765–773.

⁵ Ganiviantara Pratama, "Constructing of Restorative Justice Law Enforcement by the Prosecutor: Development Law Theory Perspective," *Pancasila and Law Review* 3, no. 2 (2022): 89–98.

⁶ Yuris Oktaviyani Citizen, "Termination of Prosecutions Based on Restorative Justice in The Settlements of Criminal Cases In The Area Of The Hight Prosecutors Of Lampung," *Pancasila And Law Review* 3, no. 2 (2022): 111–120.

family harmony, which could put pressure on victims to accept apologies without enough protection or compensation.⁷

The research at the Deli Serdang District Attorney's Office is particularly important because it takes place in a culture that is not homogeneous and where customary norms often come into conflict with positive legislation. Learning how prosecutors in this area understand and use Perja No. 15 of 2020 can help us understand the difference between what the law says it wants to do and what actually happens. It shows if stopping the prosecution is really in the victim's best interest or only helps the court system catch up.

Theoretically, this research is based on the idea of legal expediency and victimology. It examines whether the "expediency" of dismissing charges to preserve a marriage undermines the "certainty" of legal protection for the vulnerable. It also looks at the steps that need to be taken to make sure that the victim's agreement to the restorative process is free, informed, and not coerced by threats or money.⁸

The problem formulation in this study examines the application of restorative justice in addressing KDRT cases at the Deli Serdang District Attorney's Office, the fulfillment of KDRT victims' rights through this mechanism, and the identification of an optimal model of restorative justice to ensure equitable victim rights. These inquiries constitute the narrative foundation of our research, aiming to transcend mere regulatory compliance towards substantive justice.

The objective of this research is to assess the effectiveness of the existing restorative justice framework in Deli Serdang and to suggest an improved model that emphasizes victim safety and rehabilitation. The findings aim to offer recommendations for the Attorney General's Office, particularly the Deli Serdang District Attorney's Office, to manage future domestic violence cases with enhanced sensitivity to victimology.⁹

Theoretical research conducted to far have primarily concentrated on the legality of restorative justice and its advantages in addressing prison overpopulation. However, there is a lack of research that looks at the link between prosecutorial discretion in restorative justice and the actual fulfillment of victims' rights, such as restitution and psychological recovery, in cases of domestic abuse in North Sumatra. This study endeavors to address that deficiency by examining the convergence of prosecutorial authority and the safeguarding of human rights.

METHOD

⁷ Adwi Mulyana Hadi, Anik Ifitah, and Syahrul Alamsyah, "Restorative Justice through Strengthening Community Legal Culture in Indonesia: Challenges and Opportunity," *Mulawarman Law Review* 8, no. 1 (2023): 32–44.

⁸ Hamidah Abdurrachman, "A Culture of Neglect: A Study in Indonesian Court Judgements Regarding Victims of Domestic Violence," *International Annals of Criminology* 55, no. 1 (2017): 26–39.

⁹ Suwito Suwito et al., "Restorative Justice: An Alternative Approach to Addressing Domestic Violence in Indonesia," *Innovative: Journal Of Social Science Research* 5, no. 1 (2025): 5066–5077.

This study employs an empirical juridical approach, integrating normative legal analysis with field research to comprehend the functioning of law within society. This approach involves examining the implementation of positive legal provisions and factual contracts,¹⁰ often characterized by research into legal identification and effectiveness, using primary data, and direct field observation.¹¹ Normative legal research focuses on library materials and secondary data, while field research seeks to understand the law's operation in daily life and gather insights into the perspectives of research subjects.¹² The main sources of data are semi-structured interviews with prosecutors at the Deli Serdang District Attorney's Office, victims of domestic violence who are taking part in restorative justice processes, and legal aid partners. The secondary data comprises case files (P-21 and SKP2), Law No. 23 of 2004, and Perja No. 15 of 2020. Law No. 23 of 2004 is a key legal framework in Indonesia for the elimination of domestic violence.¹³ Perja No. 15 of 2020 is the Attorney General's Regulation concerning the termination of prosecution based on restorative justice.¹⁴ The process of collecting data includes documentation studies and in-depth interviews, aligning with common practices in legal research.¹⁵ The analysis of the data is done qualitatively with a descriptive-analytical approach to figure out how the law is applied in real cases and to make conclusions about how well the restorative justice model works.

DISCUSSION

Implementation of Restorative Justice in Domestic Violence Cases at the Deli Serdang District Attorney's Office

The implementation of restorative justice at the Deli Serdang District Attorney's Office begins at the stage of handing over the suspect and evidence, where the Public Prosecutor does not immediately submit the case to court but instead conducts an in-depth study to determine the

¹⁰ Agus Widodo and Mohammad Belayet Hossain, "The Reconstructing Legal Policies of The Management and Control of Environmental Impacts for Industrial Areas in Urban of Central Java," *International Journal of Law Reconstruction* 6, no. 2 (2022): 241–256.

¹¹ Satya Eka Syahputra Thayeb and Bambang Tri Bawono, "Juridical Overview of the Oral Land Sale and Purchase Agreement in the Conception of Legal Certainty," *Sultan Agung Notary Law Review* 4, no. 2 (2022): 294–305.

¹² Rina Rohayu Harun, Mualimin Mochammad Sahid, and Bahri Yamin, "Problems of Criminal Applications Law in the Life of Indonesian Communities and Cultures," *Jurnal IUS Kajian Hukum Dan Keadilan* 11, no. 1 (2023): 140–155.

¹³ Haidan Angga Kusumah Kusumah, R Eriska Ginalita Dwi Putri, and Ike Rachmawati, "The Role of Legal Aid And Consultation Agencies Faculty of Law University of Muhammadiyah Sukabumi to Prevent Domestic Violence," *Ius Poenale* 4, no. 2 (2023): 113–126.

¹⁴ Laksamana Bagas Dewandaru, Jawade Hafidz, and Latifah Hanim, "The Policy of the Prosecutor's Authority in Termination of Prosecutions Based on Restorative Justice in Criminal Justice System In Indonesia," *Law Development Journal* 4, no. 3 (2022): 403–415.

¹⁵ Harun, Sahid, and Yamin, "Problems of Criminal Applications Law in the Life of Indonesian Communities and Cultures."

suitability of the case for an out-of-court settlement.¹⁶ Strictly referring to Indonesian Prosecutor's Office Regulation Number 15 of 2020, the JPU first verifies formal and material requirements, ensuring that the suspect is a first-time offender and that the criminal penalty under the article charged generally Article 44 paragraph or Article 45 of the Domestic Violence Law is no more than five years. At this stage, the prosecutor's discretion, acting as *dominus litis*, is used to assess whether detention and prosecution will benefit or increase the burden of suffering for the victim and their family structure. After the case is deemed to have met the administrative requirements, the Deli Serdang District Attorney's Office appoints a Facilitator Prosecutor, tasked with facilitating communication between the victim and the suspect.¹⁷ This process requires a shift in the prosecutor's role from an adversarial (prosecutor) role to a neutral mediator.

The Facilitator Prosecutor actively contacts the victim to inquire about their willingness to reconcile without pressure, a crucial step given the wife's vulnerable bargaining position in domestic violence cases.¹⁸ If the victim demonstrates positive signals, the Facilitator Prosecutor then invites both parties, the immediate family, and local community or religious leaders to attend the mediation meeting. The involvement of community leaders in Deli Serdang is a strategic element of local wisdom that lends social legitimacy to the peace process. The mediation process, or peace efforts, is conducted in a special Restorative Justice room at the Deli Serdang District Attorney's office, which is designed to create a non-intimidating atmosphere, aligning with the concept of "Restorative Justice houses" promoted across Indonesia.¹⁹ In this forum, suspects are encouraged to openly admit their guilt and apologize to the victim in front of witnesses. The focus of the dialogue is no longer on proving the elements of the criminal law, but rather on restoring the "original state" (*restitutio in integrum*). The prosecutor facilitates negotiations regarding the obligations the suspect must fulfill, such as reimbursement of medical expenses, a written promise not to repeat the offense, and an agreement regarding family support if the marriage remains intact. This dynamic demonstrates a shift from retributive punishment to the perpetrator's moral accountability to the victim.²⁰

¹⁶ I Kurniawan, Nyoman Triarta, and I Made Wiryana Darma, "„Terobosan Hukum Pidana Melalui Penghentian Penuntutan Perkara Tindak Pidana Umum Berdasarkan Keadilan Restoratif“,” *Jurnal Ilmiah Ilmu Agama Dan Ilmu Hukum* 18 (2023): 50–59.

¹⁷ Dewandaru, Hafidz, and Hanim, "The Policy of the Prosecutor's Authority in Termination of Prosecutions Based on Restorative Justice in Criminal Justice System In Indonesia."

¹⁸ Balawyn Jones and Amira Aftab, "Inside Indonesia's Religious Courts: An Argument for Domestic and Family Violence Screening and Exemption from Compulsory Mediation," *Oxford Journal of Law and Religion* 12, no. 2 (2023): 217–231.

¹⁹ Muhammad Husaini, "The Role of the Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Indonesia in Optimizing Restorative Justice Policy in Indonesia.," *KnE Social Sciences* (2024).

²⁰ Tuti Susilawati, Edi Setiadi, and Yoyon Darusman, "Restorative Justice in Domestic Violence Cases: Law Implementation and Challenges in Indonesia," *Sinergi International Journal of Law* 3, no. 3 (2025): 172–184.

This implementation is often influenced by economic considerations and the future of the children.²¹ Findings indicate that many victims of domestic violence agree to a settlement because the suspect is the breadwinner of the family. The Deli Serdang District Attorney, in this case, acts carefully to ensure that the victim's agreement is based purely on unconditional forgiveness and rational considerations for the integrity of the household, rather than threats or coercion. Therefore, the minutes of the settlement not only contain a clause prohibiting prosecution but also a commitment by the suspect to restore the victim's rights, which, if violated, could constitute grounds for revocation of a future termination of prosecution.

The final stage of this implementation is a hierarchical case presentation process to the North Sumatra High Prosecutor's Office and the Deputy Attorney General for General Crimes for approval. This serves as a form of quality control and institutional accountability to prevent abuse (transactional) of restorative justice. Following approval, the Head of the Deli Serdang District Attorney's Office issues a Decree Terminating Prosecution based on Restorative Justice.²² With the issuance of the SKP2, the suspect's status is legally terminated, and he is immediately released from detention, marking a swift, simple, and cost-effective resolution of the case, while simultaneously restoring social harmony disrupted by the violence.

The Fulfillment of Victims' Rights Through Restorative Mechanisms

The efficacy of restorative justice is ultimately measured by its ability to fulfill the rights of the victim, which in KDRT cases encompasses protection, medical assistance, and restitution. Restorative justice is presented as a more humane and inclusive approach that can potentially improve the management of domestic violence, aiming for solutions that restore the situation and provide compensation to victims.²³ It focuses on finding solutions for all parties involved to resolve disputes and restore social relations.

At the Deli Serdang District Attorney's Office, the fulfillment of these rights is integrated into the "Peace Agreement" which is a prerequisite for the termination of prosecution. This process is governed by Prosecutor's Regulation Number 15 of 2020. The peace agreement is made in writing before the public prosecutor. The procedures for implementing restorative justice in domestic violence cases often involve a statement of peace and mutual agreement, aiming for victim recovery.²⁴ The core principle is to find the best solution and justice through deliberation,

²¹ Handar Subhandi Bakhtiar, Amriyanto Amriyanto, and Samsu Alam Maddussila, "Solutions To Differences In Sentences For Parallel Integration Of Restorative Justice In Indonesian Courts," *Jurnal Hukum dan Peradilan* 12, no. 2 (2023): 409–440.

²² Irabiah Irabiah, Beni Suswanto, and Muhammad Ali Alala Mafing, "Penerapan Restorative Justice Pada Tingkat Penuntutan (Studi Kasus Di Kejaksaan Negeri Kotamobagu)," *Perspektif* 27, no. 2 (2022): 131–138.

²³ Desy Maryani et al., "A Model of Implementing Restorative Justice Perspective of Trong Yowari Traditional Jurisdiction, Jayapura Regency," *NUSANTARA: Journal Of Law Studies* 2, no. 1 (2023): 40–51.

²⁴ Amriyanto Amriyanto et al., "Breaking the Cycle: Reforming Indonesia's Justice System to Prioritize Victim-Centered Solutions," *Jurnal Dinamika Hukum* 24, no. 3 (2024): 414–445.

mediation, peace, and other agreements, where the victim is involved in seeking justice and determining compensation.

Unlike a court verdict which may only impose imprisonment on the offender, the RJ mechanism allows for negotiated terms that directly benefit the victim. For instance, agreements often include the payment of medical bills, specific financial compensation (restitution), and a formal, witnessed apology.

However, the research reveals a complex reality regarding the "fairness" of these settlements. While immediate material losses are often covered, the long-term psychological rights such as counseling and trauma recovery are frequently less emphasized than the immediate cessation of legal hostilities. While the withdrawal of a complaint might help alleviate psychological trauma in the short term, comprehensive long-term recovery for victims is often unlikely without more extensive support. Studies suggest that psychological reconciliation for domestic violence victims, including counseling, requires a long period of time and extensive research. Restorative justice practices have shown positive psychological impacts on victims, often forgotten in conventional justice, and some of these impacts persist over time.²⁵

There is a palpable tension between the "right to justice" (prosecuting the offender) and the "right to welfare" (economic survival of the family). Many victims, especially wives who are economically dependent on their husbands and lack employment, may choose amicable settlements for the sake of their children's future, rather than pursuing criminal charges that could lead to economic hardship. This highlights a societal issue where legal implementation can be hindered by social perceptions and existing power imbalances.

In many observed cases in Deli Serdang, victims perceive the fulfillment of their rights not through the imprisonment of their husbands, which would lead to economic hardship, but through the binding commitment of the husband to cease violence and provide better support. Amicable settlements are seen as a better alternative to protect the wife and children from further harm. This approach focuses on the perpetrator taking responsibility to fix the relationship and fulfill obligations, rather than solely on punitive measures.²⁶

Table 1. Comparison of Rights Fulfillment in Conventional vs. Restorative Paths

Aspect of Rights	Conventional Judicial Path (Retributive)	Restorative Justice Path (Deli Serdang Practice)
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²⁵ Ana M Nascimento, Joana Andrade, and Andreia de Castro Rodrigues, "The Psychological Impact of Restorative Justice Practices on Victims of Crimes—a Systematic Review," *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse* 24, no. 3 (2023): 1929–1947.

²⁶ Maryani et al., *loc.cit.*

Legal Certainty	High (Verdict is final and binding)	High (SKP2 is issued, but conditional) ²⁷
Compensation	Dependent on specific restitution claims (rarely granted)	Direct negotiation (Cost of medical/suffering paid immediately)
Psychological Recovery	Often ignored; adversarial process causes trauma	Acknowledgment of harm by offender can aid closure
Economic Impact	Negative (Breadwinner imprisoned)	Positive (Breadwinner remains employed)
Safety Guarantee	Dependent on police/restraining orders	Dependent on family/community monitoring post-agreement

The comparison table above illustrates the fundamental dichotomy between conventional retributive justice and the restorative justice approach applied in Deli Serdang in the context of including victims' rights. Significantly, the restorative justice approach offers pragmatic advantages over the conventional approach; while formal justice provides absolute legal certainty through prison sentences, the process often neglects the victim's psychological recovery (trauma) and negatively impacts the family's economy due to the imprisonment of the breadwinner. Conversely, practice in Deli Serdang demonstrates that restorative justice is more effective in ensuring direct material settlement through negotiation and supporting family economic stability because the perpetrator is not detained, as well as providing space for psychological recovery through confession of the perpetrator's sins, although the guarantee of safety shifts from formal police supervision to conditional community- and family-based supervision.

The Ideal Restorative Justice Model for Guaranteeing Fair Victim Rights

The ideal model for implementing restorative justice in cases of domestic violence must go beyond mere administrative procedural compliance and prioritize substantive justice, prioritizing the victim's safety (victim-oriented).²⁸ In the context of the Deli Serdang District Attorney's Office, the ideal model should not equate handling DV with other common crimes, given the unequal power relations between husband and wife. Therefore, the ideal framework must begin with a redefinition of voluntariness, where the victim's consent to reconcile should not be assumed valid solely based on a stamped statement. A multi-layered verification mechanism is needed to ensure that the decision is free from structural intimidation, economic pressure, or cultural coercion that often silence women in patriarchal societies, as subtle behaviors by perpetrators can manipulate or

²⁷ Rise Karmilia, "Penerapan Prinsip Restorative Justice Di Tinjau Dari Perspektif Asas Kepastian Hukum," *Journal Of Juridische Analyse* 1, no. 2 (2022): 1–9.

²⁸ Julia K Campbell et al., "The Uptake and Measurement of Alternative Approaches to Domestic Violence Intervention Programs: A Scoping Review," *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse* 25, no. 4 (2024): 3269–3284.

coerce victims without being easily detected. The victim's request to engage in such processes must be made freely and clearly.²⁹

As a preventative measure against "false peace," this ideal model requires a pre-mediation phase involving a psychosocial risk assessment by an independent party, such as a professional social worker or clinical psychologist.³⁰ Before the Facilitating Prosecutor brings the victim and perpetrator together, the results of this assessment must be a critical condition for determining whether the victim has the mental capacity and free will to negotiate. If the assessment indicates acute trauma syndrome or a recurring (habitual) cycle of violence, restorative mechanisms must be rejected for the sake of the victim's safety, and the case proceeds to trial, as certain cases are deemed too risky for restorative justice even if participants wish to proceed.³¹ This aligns with practices to exclude offenders who may jeopardize victim safety.³² The involvement of non-legal experts, such as multidisciplinary teams with social and psychological support, is crucial to complement the prosecutor's positivistic legal perspective.

The ideal model requires expanding the scope of "restoration" in the settlement agreement. The agreement should not be limited to a termination of prosecution and a verbal apology, but should include a comprehensive restitution clause, including reimbursement of medical expenses, psychological counseling, and guarantees of family support during the recovery period. Furthermore, this model proposes requiring the perpetrator to participate in a batterer intervention program or anger management counseling as part of the terms of the settlement. This aims to fundamentally transform the perpetrator's behavior, so that restorative justice does not become a loophole for impunity that simply releases the perpetrator from prison without improving his character.

A crucial aspect often missing from current practice and essential in an ideal model is a post-agreement monitoring mechanism. The Letter of Decision to Terminate Prosecution should not be absolutely final, but rather conditional, with a probationary period, for example, one to two years.³³ The Deli Serdang District Attorney's Office should establish a special monitoring unit that collaborates with relevant agencies, such as Correctional Centers and local community leaders, to monitor the perpetrator's compliance with the terms of the settlement agreement. If, during the probationary period, the perpetrator re-commits physical or psychological violence, the suspension

²⁹ Paulo Vieira-Pinto et al., "Suspension of Criminal Proceedings for Perpetrators of Intimate Partner Violence against Women: Impact on Re-Entries," *Frontiers in psychology* 12 (2021): 725081.

³⁰ Charlie Bremer et al., "Professional Insights into Sexual Violence Restorative Justice Risk Assessment, Recommendations for Practice," *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment & Trauma* (2025): 1–20.

³¹ Joanna Shapland et al., "Creating a People-Centred View of Risk and Restorative Justice," *Criminology & Criminal Justice* 24, no. 5 (2024): 1047–1068.

³² Olwyn Conway, "Grasping the Third Rail: Restorative Justice and Violent Crime," *Wash. & Lee L. Rev.* 81 (2024): 1379.

³³ Olha Bondarenko, Maryna Utkina, and Nadiia Shcherbak, "Restrictive Measures as a Way of Preventing Domestic Violence: The Experience of Ukraine," *Baltic Journal of Law & Politics* 16, no. 2 (2024): 131–150.

of prosecution should be legally revoked, and both the old and new cases should be immediately transferred to the court with increased charges.

This ideal model should be integrated into an integrated criminal justice system involving interdisciplinary collaboration between the Prosecutor's Office and other relevant institutions, such as the Regional Technical Implementation Unit for the Protection of Women and Children and the Witness and Victim Protection Agency.³⁴ This synergy is necessary to ensure that after the gavel of restorative justice is struck at the prosecutor's office, victims are not left in the lurch. The state must remain present through ongoing psychosocial support services to heal victims' trauma. Thus, the implementation of restorative justice in Deli Serdang can transform from a mere tool for efficient case management into an instrument of social recovery that guarantees victims' human rights.

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis conducted, it can be concluded that the implementation of restorative justice in cases of Domestic Violence (KDRT) at the Deli Serdang District Attorney's Office has been implemented in accordance with Prosecutor's Regulation Number 15 of 2020, in which prosecutors play an active role as facilitators to reach a peace agreement involving community leaders to maintain family integrity.

From the perspective of fulfilling victims' rights, there is a significant but complex causal relationship; restorative mechanisms have proven superior in guaranteeing economic restitution and certainty of social status compared to rigid retributive pathways, but still leave gaps in psychological protection and long-term security guarantees due to the absence of mandatory professional risk assessments.

Therefore, to ensure the fulfillment of victims' rights fairly and substantively, the ideal model for implementing restorative justice must transform by integrating the involvement of psychosocial experts at the pre-mediation stage and implementing a strict post-agreement monitoring mechanism, so that the termination of prosecution is not merely a solution for efficient case administration, but rather a restorative instrument that ensures the dignity and safety of victims from recurring cycles of violence.

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³⁴ Olha Baidarova, Julia Udovenko, and Olena Chuiko, "Introduction of Interagency Collaboration in Combating Domestic Violence against Children in Ukraine," *Ljetopis socijalnog rada* 29, no. 1 (2022): 75–98.

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