

# Analysis of Factors Causing the Increase of Prostitution (Practice) in Cianjur Regency

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**Abstract.** Construction of villas in Puncak Cipanas area of Cianjur Regency turned out to cause problems of increasing the practice of prostitution which attracts many prostitutes to come, not only from outside Cianjur District, but even from abroad. The purpose of this article is to analyze factors that lead to the increase of prostitution practice in Cianjur Regency. This research uses qualitative approach. Data collection technique used is interview to 50 Commercial Sex Workers (CSWs) with analytical techniques developed by Strauss and Corbin. This study concluded that poverty, unemployment, education level, consumerism and the construction of villas, hotels, and the like are factors that cause the increase of prostitution in Cianjur District. The efforts made by Cianjur Regency Government to eradicate the practice of prostitution are still not effective. Efforts to prevent and eliminate the practice of prostitution cannot only carried out by implementing policy, legal, and moral approach, but should also through social, economic, cultural, and human rights protection approaches.

Keywords: Prostitution, CSWs, Construction of Villas

## Introduction

The crime of prostitution is one of the crimes against humanity because clearly, this problem violates human rights. The examples of human rights violated in such crime are right to life, right not to be tortured (no one shall be subjected to torture), right to liberty and security of the person, and right to equality before the law/court (Budiardjo, 2000: 126).

Vulnerable victims of prostitution are women and children. Children are persons under 18, immature, and can not make their own decision yet. Regarding the importance of children protection, Eglantyne Jebb drafted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child containing 10 items of statements about the rights of children. In 1924, the Declaration of the Rights of the Child was adopted by the League of Nations (LBB) (Rasyid, 2016). After the end of World War II on December 10, 1948, the UN General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), for example, article 25 paragraphs 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that mothers and children are entitled to special care and assistance (Lapian, 2006: 15). While in Indonesia, there are Law No. 23

of 2002 concerning Child Protection, Law No. 21 of 2007 concerning Eradication of Crime in Trafficking in Persons, and etc. (Muflichah and Bintoro, 2009).

Problem of prostitution is a latent issue that should get the attention of all parties. The government must be serious and work hard to eliminate the practice of prostitution (Reza, 2017). However, it raises new problem when on the one hand, the government is serious about dealing with the prostitution problem by making policies to prevent and handle victims of prostitution; but on the other hand, the government has also sent migrant workers abroad, where this has become an opportunity or one of the factors causing the practice of prostitution (Munti, 2005).

There are approximately 10 legislations made from regional to national levels as political will from the government to prevent and deal with the problem. Unfortunately, this government's political will has not brought significant changes yet (Afifah and Yuningsih, 2016).

One of the regencies in West Java Province which has the biggest prostitution problem is Cianjur Regency. This is quite interesting because Cianjur is known as an

**Received:** Agustus 01, 2018, **Revision:** September 28, 2018, **Accepted:** December 27, 2018

**Print ISSN:** 0215-8175; **Online ISSN:** 2303-2499. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.29313/mimbar.v34i2.4010.489-496>

Accredited B based on the decree No.040/P/2014, valid on February, 18, 2014 until February, 18, 2019.  
Indexed by DOAJ, Sinta, IPI

area with prominent religious philosophy of life.

It is a regency in West Java province which has a philosophy of *Ngaos*, *Mamaos*, and *Maenpo*, which reminds us of 3 (three) aspects of life tourism. The meaning of the philosophy can be impregnated; in essence, it is a symbol of a sense of diversity, culture, and hard work. With diversity, the goal to be achieved is to strengthen the faith and devotion of the community through noble moral development. With culture, people of Cianjur want to maintain their existence as a civilized society and having a manner of life in the community. With hard work, as the implementation of *Maenpo* philosophy, Cianjur people always show a high spirit of empowerment in improving their quality of life. *Liliwatan* (as part of *Maenpo*) is not merely a martial art in *pencak silat*. It is also interpreted as an attitude to avoid being immoral or to do moral goodness, whereas *peupeuhan* or punch is interpreted as a force in facing various challenges in life (Bappeda of Cianjur District, 2017).

Cipanas subdistrict is an area of vegetables located in the northern part of Cianjur Regency, West Java, Indonesia. It is placed on Gunung Gede valley, 86 kilometers southeast of the Indonesian capital, Jakarta.

When you drive passing the top lane on the way to Bandung, Bogor, or Jakarta, you can see that the trees along the way have been decreased in number compared to the previous years. Now each side of the road is mostly filled with villas or bungalows and houses, even though the area is a water catchment area. That building development impacted the amount of clean water in the district, which is getting smaller because of the reduced water quality and quantity in the area.

The policy of building villas or settlements in such area has been issued by the local government or the central government. It's just that the violation occurred have not been handled more quickly. The act of giving a warning or dismissing the construction of a villa or a settlement has not been done by officials. One of villas aforementioned is the city flower villa and several others in Puncak which are strongly suspected for being places for prostitution.

One thing that is very unfortunate is that the number of foreign investors is increasing compared to investors from the

regency, districts, or other cities of Indonesia (Indonesian citizens). These foreigner investors raise up the economy in Cianjur, even though Cianjur has a major potential of tourism area to advance its economic life. Before regional government curbing the Bogor side on Puncak Cianjur road, there were many food stalls called warung which sell various things needed by middle east people (investors) who live in Cianjur, even the Arabic writing was written in each shop.

The natural condition in Puncak tourism area, Cipanas, and Pacet is cold (cool air), making it suitable places to rest, and this is also what makes prostitution practices flourish. The existence of Commercial Sex Workers (CSWs) is assisted through intermediaries of pimps with technological tools that can spread prostitution business practices via short message service (SMS) or by traveling cars. This method turned out to be very effective to attract large amount of money into the circulation of prostitution practices.

The long-standing practice of prostitution in Puncak Cipanas still operates until today, even though Cianjur District Government has prohibited such inappropriate practices by issuing Regional Regulation Number 21 of 2000 concerning Prohibition of Prostitution. Prostitutes continue to create and do various ways to keep on doing what they do, such as getting customers by phone/calls and finding targets by traveling around using vehicles. Hence, regional government decided to do health test to pimps and prostitutes they find .

Cianjur Regency Government issued policies as political will to combat trafficking in persons. One of them is Regional Regulation No. 21 of 2000 concerning Prostitution Prohibition. In addition, the Head of Women's Family Planning and Empowerment Agency (BKBPP) of Cianjur said that the handling of prostitution cases was carried out by forming a task force consisting of P2TP2A, Police, and OPD (Regional Working Unit) related to Cianjur Regency Government Environment. The District Government together with P2TP2A of Cianjur Regency is also aggressively socializing the prevention of prostitution to all community groups, including to each OPD. This was done to equalize perceptions in order to suppress the practice of prostitution in Cianjur.

Unfortunately, the effort seems to get unoptimal results because the implementation

of Regional Regulation No. 21 of 2000 concerning the prohibition of prostitution in Cianjur Regency has not been able to resolve this problem yet. Even over time, the form of prostitution crime has increasingly developed.

The previous study on this topic is conducted by Mulyanto (2004) in his research entitled *Prostitution for Life: The Phenomenon of Trafficking in Girls in Palembang*. The result found a tendency that victims of trafficking girls came from poor or underprivileged families with low levels of education and their parents on average have fairly low jobs. Other research is conducted by Muflichah and Bintoro (2009), discussing forms of trafficking in women occurred in Banyumas region. It discovered factors which influence women to become victims of human trafficking and revealed their socio-economic life. The research by Rismayanti (2013) reveals that the networks involved in prostituted children trafficking are indeed varied, including a quite shocking fact that kinship system is encouraging children to be involved in children trafficking. Furthermore, research by Fathonah (2015) states that factors causing prostitution are family, economic, educational, environmental, mental, psychological factors, and children trafficking. The last one is a research conducted by Irwansyah (2016), which reveals that poverty is a very complex problem in human life and is a major factor causing the increase of prostitution.

Accordingly, there should be a study on factors that led to the increase of prostitution practice and what steps taken by Cianjur District Government in reducing and eliminating prostitution practice in Cianjur.

## Research methods

This research is a field research with qualitative method. The approach used in this study is phenomenological, started by paying attention to and examining the focus of phenomenon to be examined by looking at various subjective aspects of objects' behaviors. Then, the researchers conducted data exploration through in-depth interviews with objects or informants of the research.

The data used in this study is primary and secondary data. The primary data is taken from interviews (Sunggono, 2011). Qualitative primary data is generally in the form of perception variations of respondents or customers. Direct interviews were conducted with 50 sex workers as the objects of this

research. Secondary data is obtained from the Office of Social Affairs and Regional Regulations relating to Prostitution in Cianjur Regency and used to strengthen primary data.

Data collection techniques used in this research are literature study, field study, interview and documentation. Literature study is collecting data sourced from books, literature, and legislation related to the topic. Second, field study is collecting and selecting data from research location. Third, interview is the process of obtaining information for research purposes through questions and answer. It is done face to face between interviewers and informants with or without guidelines, where interviewers and informants are involved in relatively long social life (Bungin, 2007: 108). Through interviews, researchers hope to find out more about the problem. Interviewing a small number of respondents is performed in the unstructured form of and can be done face to face or by telephone (Sugiono, 2007: 138-140). Fourth, the documentation is the retrieval of data obtained from certain documents. Documents can be in the written form, such as diaries, life history, stories, biographies, regulations, and policies which are appropriate and related to this research.

Another important thing in qualitative research is the informant/respondents. Through informants, we can explore and question a research problem. Selecting research informants should be done carefully and not just refer to one person who 'considered' understand the problem. The researcher needs to open his eyes and ears to determine the right subjects who knows best about the variable under study. According to Moleong (1996), the determination of other informants must be purposive, in accordance with objectives and nature of qualitative research, know a lot about the desired problem, and can be trusted by researchers. In this study, the informants were Pimps and Commercial Sex Workers (CSWs).

Qualitative data analysis uses analytical technique developed by Straruss and Corbin (2007) with three major steps of (1) Open Coding, (2) Axial Coding, (3) Selective Coding.

## Factors That Increase the Prostitution Practices in Puncak Cipanas, Cianjur Region

One of the problems occurred from the impact of development in Cianjur Regency

is the rise of prostitution. Prostitution is an old phenomenon and always discussed all the time. The word prostitution in foreign language is known as the *content* of prostitution and defined as behavior that openly surrenders itself to adultery (KBBI, 2007: 899). Prostitution according to Soedjono (1977: 16) is a physical surrender of a woman to the satisfaction of men who are prepared to pay for it.

One common problem that accompanies the development of a city is the existence of prostituted women or often called commercial sex workers (CSWs), or people who are trafficked for sexual purposes. CSWs are always identified with women who want (or forced) to be traded sexually to anyone who pays them. Sexual exploitation actually does not only occur in women, but also in men who want to be paid for sexually satisfying women (and they usually called gigolo) (KBBI, 2007). However, all this time, women are the one who always being blamed for the cause of prostitution. They ignore the fact that prostitution arises because there are requests and needs, not only from women but also from and for men as prostitutes and users.

Prostitution problems are very complex and multidimensional, and not only about morality. Prostitution is rife because of poverty, unemployment, low education, consumerism, or a failed state economy. Therefore, the prevention and elimination of trafficking in women cannot only be done from a legal and moral approach, but also through a social, economic, cultural and human rights (Yuliani, 2014).

Prostitution practices occur because there are many factors that support and enable them to continue to grow. Some of the factors aforementioned are the lack of

choice due to the complicated and widespread of poverty and unemployment, the weak position of women due to patriarchal culture and structure in Indonesian society, the weak commitment and policy of the state to preventing and overcoming problem of prostitution, and the many practices of collusion between networks of prostitutes (Sudirman, 2011).

Nitibaskara (2011), said that the supply-side driving factors of prostitution include economic conditions, bearing on the family economy, urbanization, gender imbalances, fading family values, rifts in the household, low education, and lack of skills. Whereas, the factors of demand are criminal networks that organized sex industry, corrupt officials who were in charge of prostitution, increased sex tourism, and several other factors.

There are two factors that cause the occurrence of prostitution: factor of will and being forced by another party. First factor of willingness come about because of economic pressure, or those who sell themselves to get money for drugs or because they are addicted to illegal drugs, or purely because of sexual factors. The second factor is because someone or other party is being forced by family or friends to sell herself/themselves, or forced by organized syndicates such as pimps. Meanwhile, from the demand side, the increase of female trade is influenced by the rise of the world of adult entertainment and income prosperity. If these two things are added, the sex industry will highly increase and the prostitution will flourish.

The same thing happened in Cianjur Regency. Based on interviews with 50 CSWs spread in Puncak Civanas area of Cianjur, it was found that economic factor was the

**Table 1**  
**Reasons to Become a Prostitute in Cianjur Regency**

Group	Reasons to Become Prostitutes	Total
Economic reasons	To make money fast	20
	Do not have other work skills/expertise	15
Psychological reasons	Pain from a broken heart	3
	To get revenge on men	2
	Desperate because husband left to marry someone else	3
		2
	Feeling lonely	
Ignorance	Do not know that they are taken into a brothel	5
<b>Total</b>		<b>50</b>

Source: the results of interviews with prostitutes and pimps in Cianjur District on 8 January 2018 until 12 August 2018. The author's data has been processed.

biggest reason why CSWs employed in the prostitution area with number of respondents reaching 35. Whereas, there was only 10 CSWs used psychological factor as an excuse to enter the world of prostitution. Meanwhile, only 5 CSWs stated that their ignorance was the reason for prostitution; such things usually happened as the result of job scam offer for domestic helpers in big cities.

In table 1, it can be seen that the main reason women become Commercial Sex Workers is the economic reason with the most rapid indicators of making money (20 people) and not having other skills or other work as many as 15 people. Meanwhile psychological reasons occupy the second reason with broken heart indicators (3 people), revenge (2 people), despair (3 people), and loneliness (2 people). And ignorance is number three reason why women become Sex Commercial Workers with an indicator that they don't know that they are taken to prostitution for 5 people.

Prostitution is a social phenomenon which has become a supporting factor for the rise of entertainment and pleasure in Puncak Cipanas, Cianjur Regency. Implicitly stated by pleasure hunters that villas in Puncak Cipanas have become places of sex tourism considering prostitution seems to be receding in many parts of the country. Driving factors of the emergence of prostitution are economic, sociological, and psychological. Economic factors in question are economic crash and luxurious lifestyle.

Table 2 shows that the purpose and reason of becoming prostitutes for 40 CSWs is to get money or make it as a source of income. 2 CSWs do prostitution for money and love; 2 CSWs for money and sexual satisfaction; 2 CSWs for money, love and sexual satisfaction; 3 CSWs do that to get love while looking for money; and the last 1 answers that she did not know.

**Table 2**  
**The Purpose of Being a Prostitute in**  
**Cianjur Regency**

Purpose	Total
Making money	40
Looking for money and love	2
Looking for money and sexual satisfaction	2
Looking for money, love, and sexual satisfaction	2
Looking for love while making money	3
Do not know	1

<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>
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Source: the results of interviews with prostitutes and pimps in Cianjur District on 8 January 2018 until 12 August 2018. The author's data has been processed

The aforementioned factors are reinforced by the results of a study conducted by Yahman (1999) on Surakarta Silir resocialization complex. It was stated that out of 12 CSWs observed and interviewed, nearly 100 percent of them became prostitutes due to economic pressure despite their clear and good understanding of moral and ethical values .

Whereas, the research conducted by Purnomo & Siregar (in Yahman, 1999) in Dolly Surabaya prostitution complex found that out of 48 respondents interviewed, 6 percent chose to be sex workers for economic reasons. Of this, 19 respondents said the work can make money quickly and easily, and the remaining 13 claimed to have no other work skills so that they were forced to become sex workers. 12.5 percent of respondents became prostitutes for psychological reasons such as heartbreak, revenge, forced to marry someone she/he dislikes, etc. The remaining 20.83 percent did not know if they are thrown into the world of prostitution.

**Impact of the Increase of Prostitution Practices in Puncak Cipanas Region, Cianjur Regency**

The practices of prostitution bring several impacts. First, from economic aspect, prostitution practices in Puncak Cianjur Regency encourage the economic development of people in the village. People of Cipanas mostly work as laborers, traders or farmers with mediocre income. They, especially those who don't have jobs, take advantage of the existence of prostitution to increase their income by selling rice/foods and drinks, laundry service, boarding houses, etc. Even though, not all people do the same thing. Those who obey religious rules argue that these activities are dirty and defame the village. Albeit, they remain nice to each other.

Second, the change in social and cultural aspects in society can occur due to the influence and process of what happens, in which it brings positive and negative impact or deliver progress or decline. Puncak Cipanas community live in the era of globalization,

but still upholding traditional values in living with fellow groups or interacting with people from outside the group. Although several factors have formed the village into a place of prostitution activities, the villagers still maintain and respect each other. The existence of such despicable activity does not affect certain social and cultural life of the community in Cipanas, and prove the strong religious norms, customs, and ethics that bind and regulate people's lives in the village. The negative impact is coming from people outside the community who only see bad things in Puncak Cipanas. Third, in terms of health, there are bad effects of transmission or rapid onset of several sexually transmitted diseases, such as gonorrhea, syphilis (*lucs, rajasinga*), and other deadly diseases such as Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). Fourth, in terms of security, the existence of such place is actually very criminal because we all clearly know the level and impact of crime of prostitution activities has brought into. Moreover, the majority of the community who live near the place is farmers. They usually take a rest (sleep) at 10 o'clock at night, but the prostitution makes such a loud and noisy music with the sound of motorbikes pacing up and down disturbing and making it uncomfortable for the people there.

### **Efforts to Overcome Prostitution Practices in Puncak Cipanas Region, Cianjur Regency**

The process of law enforcement carried out against prostitutes today can only be applied juridically through the Criminal Code to those who provide sexual intercourse advice (Article 296 of the Criminal Code) which stated: "Any person deliberately causes or facilitates any obscene acts by others with third parties, and makes it an occupation or habit, shall be subjected to a maximum of one year and four months imprisonment or a maximum fine of fifteen thousand rupiahs." and to those who find violations of prostitution (Article 506 of the Criminal Code).

Prohibition of prostitution in Cianjur Regency is also regulated in Regulations Number 21 of 2000 concerning the prohibition of Prostitution and Regional Regulation Number 13 of 2013 concerning Control and Enforcement of Community Diseases in Cianjur Region. Penalties can ensnare the perpetrators (prostitutes) through fines and/

or rehabilitation. However, the punishment set out in regional regulations are still very weak, causing prostitution to develop and able to get away by performing various *modus operandi*, such as booking through southerners, online media or internet, and street prostitute activities.

Prostitution activities prohibited by Indonesian penal law are prostitution providers and prostitutes, but those who are prostitutes and connoisseurs of prostitution cannot be touched by the law of reasoning and are distinguished from prostitutes who are forced to prostitute through trading activities, and people or children who are sexually exploited, where the state has provided its protection through law number 21 of 2007 concerning the Eradication of Crimes against Trafficking in Persons and Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Child Protection.

Prostitution is politically and regulatively prohibited by laws and regulations except for the perpetrators (female and male sex workers) and users of their services, so that commercial sex workers will continue to bloom. In line with the priority in managing urban problems, social problems are one of the priorities to be handled by the government. In accordance with problems' characters of multi-dimensional, cross-sector, and space, the handling of CSWs at the concept and operational level must be carried out proportionally and comprehensively across sectors (Suyanto, 2012: 48).

Policies that can be applied in Indonesia to prevent and overcome prostitution are abolition policy. Abolition is a policy of abolishing prostitution by implementing laws and regulations consistently (Pisani, 2008: 39). This effort is carried out through a comprehensive step with law enforcement and reporting in mass media or online. These efforts aimed at eradicating the practice of prostitution on the streets, brothels, hotels, and apartments whose transactions are carried out directly or indirectly. The court will impose penalties for the perpetrators in the form of social work, fine, and imprisonment for a maximum of one year. Meanwhile, for the victims (prostitutes), they will be given education, training, rehabilitation, and empowerment to be able to return to the community (Calvin and Tawang, 2018).

The policy of handling prostitution like the one in Sweden seems to be worth a try in Indonesia. Efforts are made by making a national master rule law on the prohibition

of the practice of prostitution that can be followed by vertical and horizontal technical rules. A political will is needed to implement this policy. Values in the law related to prostitution in Sweden contain aspects of deterrence as an objective to prevent and eradicate prostitution (Nasrulloh, 2013).

By making laws that criminalize sex service buyers in the prostitution business, the court will be able to give a sentence to the perpetrator. The form of punishment can be social work, fine, and imprisonment for a maximum of one year. For victims (prostitutes), the government should provide education, training, empowerment to be able to return to the community, and rehabilitation. One way to reduce prostitution activities can be done by severely punishing people who want the prostitution. If the demand is given severe punishment, the supply would be reduced automatically.

Another factor is that the Cianjur District Government has not succeeded in overcoming the practice of prostitution both in quantity and quality due to the weakness of implementers in implementing the policy. There are several things that can be done by local governments to achieve their objectives. First, the qualified government resources should provide equitable understanding to all levels of policy implementers in overcoming prostitution. They need to understand the rights, obligations, duties, and functions possessed by policy implementers which can be conveyed through, for example, regular meetings and supervision in each performance of the implementation. By doing so, it is expected that the policy implementers will have more knowledge of what to do to overcome the practice of prostitution in Cianjur Regency. Second is the necessity of evaluation. Evaluation is not just a routine report regarding the number of CSWs, but has the substance of making each relevant agency to communicate the weaknesses or strengths of their performance and other agencies' performance. Third, improvements in programs' formulation where the government should think logically in measuring the success of a program. Comparison of a number of programs and activities must be directly proportional to the objectives. Fourth, the selection of socialization media. Socialization has not been carried out massively, so that the government can use print or electronic media to assist the socialization of prostitution prohibition to the public.

## Conclusion

Factors that increase the prostitution in Cianjur are the construction of villas, bungalows, hotels and the like; factors of poverty, unemployment, low education, and consumerism. Impact of the increase of prostitution practices in Cianjur Regency seen from economic aspect is encouraging economic development in the village. From social and cultural aspects, changes occur due to the influence and process of what happens which bring positive and negative impact or progress or decline. In terms of health, there is a bad impact on the contagion of several sex-related diseases which spread very quickly, such as gonorrhea, syphilis (*Lucs, rajasinga*), Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). In terms of security, crime is prone and it often occurs. Efforts to prevent and eliminate the practice of prostitution should come from legal, moral, social, economic, cultural, and human rights protection approaches.

Central government or regional government of Cianjur must do several things: criminalization, punishment for service recipients with severe penalties, making legal reforms in legislation, execution and judicial policies, decriminalization, abolition to indiscriminately eradicate the root of prostitution, and the existence of adequate budget funds to overcome prostitution.

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