



# THE INFLUENCE OF PUBLIC OPINION ON CRIMINAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

<sup>1</sup> Agus Budianto, <sup>2</sup> Claessa Samantha, <sup>3</sup>Paul Salim, <sup>4</sup>Nur Akbar Karim

<sup>1</sup>Pelita Harapan University, Law Department

<sup>1</sup>Pelita Harapan University, Law Department, Tangerang, Indonesia

*Abstract:* This study examines the influence of public opinion on criminal law enforcement in Indonesia, with a focus on the significant case of Vina Dewi Arsita and her boyfriend Muhammad Rizky Rudiana, who were found dead under mysterious circumstances in 2016. Public opinion, manifested through social media discussions, mass media coverage, and demonstrations, plays a crucial role in law enforcement by either supporting or pressuring legal authorities. The concept of deponering, where a criminal case is set aside for public interest, illustrates how societal pressure can lead to the termination of investigations. The resurgence of the Vina murder case, due to public demand and the film "Vina: Sebelum 7 Hari," highlights Society 5.0's role in leveraging technology for social movements, termed as Soft People Power. This paper aims to identify forms of public opinion, analyze influencing factors, and study the impact of public opinion on law enforcement, particularly through criminological and sociological lenses such as Strain and Conflict theories. By understanding these dynamics, this research seeks to propose strategies to maximize positive impacts and minimize negative consequences of public opinion on law enforcement.

**KEY WORDS:** Public Opinion, Law, Criminal, Law Theory, People Power

## I. INTRODUCTION

Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778) argued that the people are the source of sovereignty and have the right to determine their own destiny through the general will[1]. To run a good government, a country must have integrity towards law enforcement in accordance with written law. Indonesia as a country of law based on written rules or written law (*jus scriptum*) in this case is referred to as statutory regulations. To realize the upholding of law and justice (justice), peace (peaceful) and legal certainty (legal certainty) cooperation is needed from various parties both from the state and from society, because the law is made for society.

Law enforcement is one of the important pillars in building a just and prosperous country. In its implementation, law enforcement cannot be separated from the role of society. Society has the right and obligation to participate in supervising and supporting the law enforcement process.

One form of community participation in law enforcement is through public opinion. Public opinion is the view or opinion of society towards something, including law enforcement. Public opinion can be realized in various ways, such as mass media coverage, discussions on social media, or demonstrations.

Public opinion or society that is divided into soft people power in opinion on social media or people power that can also occur in the form of demonstrations, in Indonesia itself there has been a termination of investigation due to public pressure (demonstration). Termination of investigation like this, in criminal law is called Deponering, which is the setting aside of a case for the sake of the public interest.

The legal basis for the regulation of deponering itself is regulated in Article 35 letter c of Law Number 16 of 2004 concerning the Attorney General's Office of the Republic of Indonesia[2]. Where this Article states that

the Attorney General has the authority to set aside a criminal case that is being handled for the sake of the public interest.

An example of deponering that has occurred in Indonesia is in the case of Abraham Samad and Bambang Widjojanto[3]. In 2016, Attorney General HM Prasetyo decided to conduct deponering of two cases involving the former chairman and deputy chairman of the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK), namely Abraham Samad and Bambang Widjojanto. This decision was taken by considering the reaction from the public, and input from other law enforcement parties.

From this case, public opinion has a significant influence on law enforcement. On the one hand, public opinion can encourage law enforcers to work professionally and accountability. Critical and constructive public opinion can be a control for law enforcers so that they do not commit deviations or abuse of authority.

In criminology studies, cases within the scope of criminology attract public attention. However, public opinion can also negatively impact law enforcement. Public opinion that is not based on facts and is colored by emotion can hinder the law enforcement process. Politicized public opinion can also be used to attack or destroy the credibility of law enforcers.

Public opinion can be channeled in several ways, such as criticism, books, scientific articles, mass media and others. Good public opinion is public opinion that is based on theory, science and facts. Not one that leads or anarchically. Good public opinion must be built for the progress of good law enforcement.

Public opinion itself can be people power; people power itself shows the strength of society. Public opinion is a non-anarchic power of society (soft people power). In the digital era 5.0 itself, people power moves very quickly and has an influence through technology. Therefore, this study will discuss the existence of society 5.0 (Society 5.0) as a weapon of society to influence diplomacy in the form of Soft People Power / Soft People Movement and the Sociological Criminological View of Soft People Power / Soft People Movement in Criminal Law enforcement.

Understanding the influence of public opinion on law enforcement is important in building a fair and transparent justice system. By understanding this influence, various related parties can take the right steps to maximize the positive impact of public opinion and minimize its negative impacts.

To further explore our research, we will also present an analysis of the Vina murder case to find out whether there is and how public opinion influences law enforcement in the case.

## **II. ANALYSIS RELATED TO THE VINA MURDER CASE**

On August 26, 2016, Vina said goodbye to go to the Cirebon City square but until morning approaching night, Vina had not returned home or given any news to her family[4]. The next day on August 27, 2016, Cirebon residents were shocked by the discovery of the bodies of a couple lying on the road, with the clear location being on the bridge near Jalan Kalitanjung and Jalan Cakra Buana which connects Cirebon city and Cirebon district, West Java, the reference point for this bridge is also right above the Palikanci KM 202 toll road. A couple was found who were suspected to be named Vina Dewi Arsita (17) and her lover Muhammad Rizky Rudiana alias Eky (18), residents found them lying in a fairly dire condition. Then the residents took them to the hospital and after that reported them to the police. Then the police identified, and there were no findings strong enough, so they determined this case as a single accident.

After reporting to the police, the victim's parents were contacted to be informed that the accident that had just happened was actually their biological child. Then the victim's parents came to the Talun Police and saw the condition of the motorbike. However, because the condition of the motorbike ridden by Vina and Eky was still in good condition or intact, the victim's parents then had another belief. The victim's parents believed that what Vina and Eky experienced was not a traffic accident. Therefore, the parents concerned traced the scene where the victim was found, heading 500 meters towards Talun and heading 500 meters towards Jalan Perjuangan[5].

Upon arriving at Jalan Perjuangan, the victim's parents then met two people with the initials D (Dede) and A (Aep). From these two people, the victim's parents then dug up information related to the incident that befell their child. asked by showing the victim's motorbike. 'Have you ever seen this motorbike being chased?' Dede and Aep stated that they had seen it. The victim's parents then gave their cellphone numbers to Dede and Aep to inform them if they saw the person chasing the motorbike shown.

Some time later, Dede and Aep contacted the victim's parents. Both of them provided information regarding the presence of people who were gathering and were considered involved in the incident that befell Vina and Eky. From there, the family contacted the police and managed to arrest eight young men in the area of State Junior High School 11 Cirebon, on August 31, 2016 while hanging out. They were Rivaldi Aditya Wardana, Eko Ramadhani, Hadi Saputra, Jaya, Eka Sandi, Sudirman, Supriyanto and Saka Tatal.

A few days later, something unexpected happened to Linda (17) as Vina's close friend who was possessed by the figure of the deceased by explaining all the events in detail, starting from what happened, what time the incident happened and who the perpetrators were involved. All the deceased told the story very clearly. After the confession from Vina's figure through Linda, the family also recorded the incident, and the recording was submitted to the police to help the investigation process of the case.

In the process of investigating the Vina case, 8 suspects were arrested based on Dede and Aep's confession, reinforced with a video of Linda's possession by explaining all the events in detail, starting from what happened, what time the incident happened and who the perpetrators were involved. The police also tried to match all the details and succeeded in finding all the evidence that stated that these 8 suspects had indeed committed a crime.

The murder case of Vina and her lover, Eky in Cirebon, West Java, in 2016 has again become the public spotlight. This happened after the film "Vina: Sebelum 7 Hari" was shown in theaters. The film takes the real incident of the murder of Vina and Eky as its storyline. Even though it happened eight years ago, and eight of the eleven perpetrators have been caught and found guilty, it is still considered odd. The public considers this case to have not been completely resolved and there are many oddities in it, therefore the police are under pressure from the public to investigate this case again. In addition, there are still 3 perpetrators who are fugitives, and there are claims from the defendant who claims to be a victim of mistaken arrest by the police. As a result, the West Java Regional Police (Polda) has finally reopened the case. Until Tuesday, May 21, 2024, Pegi alias Perong, one of the DPOs and the main mastermind in the Vina Cirebon murder case, was successfully secured for further processing. Then on Monday, July 8, 2024, the Bandung District Court finally decided that Pegi Setiawan was free from the charges of being a suspect in the alleged murder of Eki and Vina Cirebon[6]. The basis for the release of Pegi Setiawan, who was accused of being the mastermind behind Vina's murder, was because the police were too hasty in making him a suspect and the evidence provided by the police did not show sufficient evidence. So with this, the judge considered that Pegi Setiawan was freed from all charges.

On July 23, 2024, the Vina Cirebon case was shocked by Dede Riswanto's confession, admitting to having given false testimony to the police regarding the case eight years ago[7]. In his confession, Dede said that he pretended to see the murder because he was asked by other key witnesses, Aep and the victim's father Eky, Iptu Rudiana. As a result of this false testimony, Dede sentenced seven convicts in the Vina murder case to life imprisonment and one convict to eight years in prison. One convict, Saka Tatal, was sentenced to eight years in prison. However, after serving a sentence of 3 years and 8 months, he was released on parole in 2020. In July 2024, he was completely free.

In 2016, Dede stated that Aep asked him to be a witness in the Vina murder case. He had to provide information according to Iptu Rudiana's request. Dede, who was afraid of Iptu Rudiana, then accepted the order. Dede admitted that Rudiana told him what to say in his testimony. The names of the perpetrators who were convicted in this case were also said to have come from Rudiana. Until now, Dede stated that he did not know the eight perpetrators of the murder. He also did not recognize their faces.

Dede admitted his guilt in issuing false statements that caused the perpetrators to languish in prison. As a result of his testimony, seven people received life sentences, namely Jaya, Supriyanto, Eka Sandi, Hadi Saputra, Eko Ramadhani, Sudirman, and Rivaldi Aditya Wardana. One perpetrator, Saka Tatal, was sentenced to eight years in prison because he was still a minor when he committed the crime. "I feel guilty, for eight years I wanted to reveal this. I'm just confused about who to reveal it to. I don't even have a companion," said Dede.

Dede felt increasingly guilty because he was living comfortably and could still live a happy life with his family. He stated that he finally dared to provide information by contacting the former Purwakarta Regent and Gerindra Party politician, Dedi Mulyadi. "The point is that I came out not because Mr. Dedi sought me out, no one from outside told me to, this was my own initiative because I felt guilty, and there was encouragement from my family," he explained. Because he felt guilty, Dede also wanted the seven convicts in the Vina case to be freed from prison. He also stated that he was ready to be imprisoned to replace the perpetrators who are currently still serving their sentences. "What is important is that I want the seven convicts to come out, free like my life before, because I feel guilty,

Based on the explanation above, the Vina Murder Case occurred in 2016 and the case was brought up again because of the emergence of the film and pressure from the public, where this pressure is proof of the existence of society 5.0. Society 5.0 here can be interpreted that humans can make a demand or realize what is considered less than right into right through sophisticated and digital technology with the aim of humanizing humans. The action of society 5.0 in urging the police to reopen the investigation into Vina's case can also be called people power, where people power is a social movement by the majority of society in a non-violent manner. People's power or people's power is manifested in the form of mass demonstrations or other forms of civil action that aim to show public dissatisfaction with the government or the existing system.

In looking at Vina's case, the community feels that they have not received justice and satisfaction during the ongoing investigation process which until now has not been resolved.

Furthermore, on June 1, 2024, hundreds of people took part in the People Power action on the Talun Bridge by scattering flowers as an action to demand justice for the Vina Cirebon case[8]. People from various circles and regions mingled together on the Talun Bridge, where the location was a silent witness to Vina and Eki being found or dumped as an effort to engineer a traffic accident. The large number of people who attended caused the flow of vehicles to be congested from Cirebon to Sumber and vice versa. Especially for the route to Sumber, the community even closed one lane, so that police officers stepped in to regulate traffic. After the speeches by community representatives, they also scattered flowers at the point where Vina and Eki were lying. At that point during the pre-reconstruction, paint was also sprayed to depict the position of the victim's body lying in red and white.

As the Community Coordinator, Andre emphasized that: their presence was to uphold justice without discrimination. According to Andre, the People Power action he carried out was a reminder of the 5th principle of Pancasila which reads "Social justice for all Indonesian people" where justice must be felt by all people, not only by those who have power. Andre also highlighted the performance of Law Enforcers, which until now have not shown satisfactory results.

## **2.1 Law Enforcement Related To Vina's Murder Case**

With the Decision of the Panel of Judges of the Cirebon District Court on May 19, 2017 and strengthened in the Supreme Court's Cassation Decision which was final and binding on October 24, 2017: Declaring that the Defendant has been proven legally and convincingly guilty of committing a crime, participating in premeditated murder and participating in violence by forcing a child to have sexual intercourse with him and imposing a Life Sentence except for the Child Defendant Saka Tatal for 8 years[9].

And the Decision of the Panel of Judges at the Cirebon District Court level case number: 3/Pid.B/2017/PN Cbn namely: Defendant I RIFALDY ADITYA WARDHANA alias UCIL Bin ASEP KUSNADI and Defendant II EKO RAMADHANI alias KOPLAK Bin Kosim above, were proven legally and convincingly guilty of committing the crime of Participating in Premeditated Murder and Participating in violence forcing a child to have intercourse with him; 2. Sentencing the Defendants therefore each with a LIFE imprisonment

sentence; 3. Determining Defendant II EKO RAMADHANI alias KOPLAK Bin KOSIM to remain detained; 4. Determining evidence in the form of :

1. 1 (one) unit red Yamaha Vixion motorbike with license plate number E-4208-BL.
2. 1 (one) black Samsung brand cellphone
3. 1 (one) round bamboo stick measuring 70 cm.
4. 1 (one) unit black Suzuki Satria Fu motorbike without a license plate.
5. 3 (three) medium sized stones.
6. 1 (one) Nokia brand cellphone, gray-blue.
7. 1 (one) black Samsung brand cellphone.
8. 1 (one) unit of Honda Beat brand motorbike, black with orange stripes
9. 2 (two) empty Aqua bottles (used Ciu liquor), 2 (two) empty clear plastic bags (used palm wine), 1 (one) empty bottle of the Sprite brand, 1 (one) empty small bottle of Big Cola.
10. 1 (one) white Samsung brand cellphone.
11. 1 (one) Nokia brand cellphone, black and grey
12. 1 (one) Yamaha Mio motorbike, white, number plate E-2848-BJ (previously the red color was changed to white by suspect EKA SANDY).
13. 1 (one) KYT brand helmet in red and white.
14. 1 (one) navy blue sweater.
15. (one) Yamaha Xeon motorbike unit, green and yellow in color, ridden by the victim MUHAMAD RIZKY RUDIANA.
16. 1 (one) unit Samsung Galaxy V brand cellphone, model: SM-G313HZ, white color.
17. 1 (satu) potong Kaos warna hitam merk Warmaple Revolutionary 99.
18. 1 (one) pair of brown shorts with a checkered pattern, Prapatan Rebel Strom of Metal brand.
19. 1 (one) pair of light blue Rock Anthem brand jeans.
20. 1 (one) pair of blue, red, white Nike Air shoes.
21. 1 (one) pair of black socks.
22. 1 (one) sharp sword type weapon.
23. 1 (one) pair of blue Wrangler brand jeans.
24. Additional evidence in the form of a CD recording of the interrogation of witness JAYA alias KLIWON at the Cirebon Police was returned to the Public Prosecutor.

to be used in the case of HADI SAPUTRA alias BOLANG bin KASANA and friends; 5. Charge the court costs to the State; Thus decided in the deliberation session of the Panel of Judges of the Cirebon District Court, on FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2017, by SUHARNO, S.H., M.H., as Chief Judge, LIS SUSILOWATI, S.H., M.H. and RIA HELPINA, S.H., each as Member Judges, which was pronounced in an open session for the public on FRIDAY, MAY 26, 2017 by the Chief Judge accompanied by the Member Judges, assisted by MULYANTO, S.H., Substitute Clerk at the Cirebon District Court, and attended by ROHMAN, S.H., Public Prosecutor and the Defendants accompanied by their Legal Counsel.

## **2.2 The Existence of Society 5.0 As a Society Weapon in Influenced Diplomacy in The Form of Soft People Power**

Society 5.0 was first proposed by former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the Centrum der Büroautomation und Informationstechnologie und Telekommunikation (CeBIT) technology exhibition in Hannover, Germany, March 2017[10]. The digital era began with progress in the economic, social, and cultural fields that were inseparable from human intervention and changed its form in the transfer of technology functions.

In the era of society 5.0, which was first proposed as a concept with potential value, to degrade the role of humans. The purpose of realizing the era of society 5.0 is to realize the life of society where people can enjoy life to the maximum and more efficiently because of technological developments[11].

In the era of society 5.0, it is hoped that society can solve various challenges and social problems by utilizing various innovations that are born such as the Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence, Big Data, and

robots to improve the quality of human life. Society 5.0 will have an impact on all aspects of life ranging from education, urban planning, transportation, health and so on[12].

Society 5.0 can be interpreted as a society that lives where all the needs for products and services can be provided when needed to create humane conditions. In Society 5.0, technology is used to increase efficiency and productivity in all sectors, such as agriculture, industry, health and education and technology is also used to improve the quality of life of the community through better public services[13]. Through Society 5.0, the community is easier to access all information through the Internet of Things (IoT), both news circulating in the form of hoaxes and factual, even searching for everything on the Internet can be easily done in today's era. With this development, society seems to hold a weapon in its grasp to be able to get what it needs.

Talking about society 5.0, it is necessary to remember when Indonesia was not yet independent. We were still under the Dutch colonial rule, at that time access to the Internet of Things (IoT) had not been obtained so that the heroes had to fight to free our country Indonesia through diplomacy by means of negotiation and in the end we succeeded in declaring our country's independence. Then, starting from Indonesia's independence, we slowly began to feel access to the Internet of Things (IoT) in our daily lives, as it is today.

Currently, society has entered the era of 5.0 or can also be called society 5.0 where all needs for products and services can be provided when needed to create humane conditions. As an illustration, the existence of society 5.0 can be seen if we examine the case of Vina Cirebon, whether society 5.0 here can influence diplomacy on the case. First of all, the Vina Cirebon case occurred in 2016 where Vina and Eky, a couple, were found dead on the road, with the clear location being on the bridge near Jalan Kalitanjung and Jalan Cakra Buana which connects the city of Cirebon and Cirebon district, West Java, the reference point for this bridge is also right above the Palikanci KM 202 toll road. There are 11 suspects, 8 suspects have been arrested and sentenced but 3 people are still fugitives until now. Second, answering the question above whether society 5.0 can influence diplomacy in Vina's case, the answer is yes, starting with the emergence of the film "Vina: Before 7 Days" the public who initially did not know much about Vina's case became aware of the real reality, and felt unhappy about what Vina and her lover went through and what is more ironic is that until now Vina's case has not been resolved completely and still leaves 3 perpetrators roaming around alias fugitives. So the public urged the police to reopen the investigation into Vina's case, this public pressure was carried out through the society 5.0 movement, where access to the Internet was used as well as retelling to the public through social media accounts, such as Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and the YouTube platform that what Vina experienced was very terrible and needed support from the public to show a bright spot in Vina's case. From this action, the public who accessed the internet social media, were open to this information and they created a mass movement or called people power in urging the police to reopen her case.

### 2.3 Soft People Power

Soft Power popularized by Joseph Nye (2004, 256) is based on "cultural, attraction, ideology, and international institutions" and is assumed as "the ability of a state to get other countries to want what it wants" and "the ability to get what you want through attraction rather than coercion or payments." This diplomatic method does not require sticks or carrots to move someone to follow our directions[14].

People power is a political term that refers to a social movement by the majority of the public in a non-violent manner. People power is manifested in the form of mass demonstrations or other forms of civil action that aim to show public dissatisfaction with the government or existing system. People power is also defined as a mass movement (people) to urge political change or a change of power in a country.

Generally, the term people power is used to overthrow a ruling regime that violates the constitution, is considered dictatorial, corrupt, has been in power for too long, is arbitrary, and causes misery to the people[15]. In other words, people power is a form of protest or resistance from the community against a government or regime because it is considered to have committed deviations or violations of the constitution.

This movement emphasizes the participation of civil society in fighting for justice and the changes desired by the community itself. However, the people power movement is not easily realized. Conditions must be met to trigger this movement. Gun Gun Heryanto in his book entitled *Realitas Komunikasi Politik Indonesia Kontemporer* (2020) states that people power must have a common enemy.

Soft Power has a form and character that is "uncontrollable" and "unpredictable". Predicting and targeting the results of soft power diplomacy is not easy because of its intangible nature and involves the wider community. Interestingly, although the difficulties are clear, the current trend shows that countries in the world are trying to develop Soft Power more intensively.

The United States (US) is currently encouraging efforts to increase soft power diplomacy. US hegemony in the world is predicted to collapse if the US does not implement soft power significantly. The recognition of China as one of the world's economic powers and considered a close competitor to the US cannot be separated from the success of this country in managing its soft power diplomacy. China's diplomatic strategy, known as the "charm offensive," is considered more successful in approaching target countries than, for example, the US, which carries out conventional diplomacy. The Chinese government is skilled at selling China's "attractiveness" through culture, history, and work ethic values, while simultaneously developing external resources expansively in the fields of education and research.

One of the countries in Asia that is currently considered "The Rising Middle Power", India, is also convinced of the efficacy of the soft power strategy related to values and culture in its foreign policy. Indian PM Manmohan Singh stated that in the past India had become a "global superpower" due to the strength of the values and ideas of culture and religion possessed by this country. This was not done through bloody conquest. India expressed its determination to revitalize its soft power in order to improve its position in the world. For countries with relatively weak hard power elements, the focus on using soft power becomes a rational thing if they want to succeed in defending their national interests in diplomacy. Especially for Indonesia, the choice of strengthening diplomacy that does not rely on material is actually wiser. Indonesia is believed to have a national strength that has a strong hard power dimension but is not supported by quality. In 2014, the population of Indonesia was 240 million people and was the fourth largest population in the world. This country also has the largest archipelago in the world with an area of 1.9 million square kilometers with 17,000 islands, and extends 7.9 million square kilometers of EEZ. Added to the geostrategic position and extraordinary natural potential contained in the earth of Indonesia. This geographical condition can be interpreted that Indonesia actually has the potential to have the status of a regional or global leader as indicated by "has hitherto been determined by its large population, geographical position and its economy".

However, unfortunately this physical condition cannot be relied on to become a hard power strength. Indonesia's Human Index Development (HID) in 2014 was still categorized as medium ranking 108 among 187 countries in the world. Although Indonesia has extraordinary archipelago and marine potential, the marine potential that should be Indonesia's mainstay on the world map is neglected. One solution to overcome this weakness is that Indonesia must be able to popularize "attractiveness" or factors that make Indonesia attractive in the eyes of other countries. The focus for carrying out soft power diplomacy today is in accordance with the character and capabilities of the Republic of Indonesia which is recognized as having strong cultural capital, a democratic political system, moderate Islam and a country with an active free political orientation. The purpose of soft power diplomacy is to increase national development, and more specifically when associated with education means increasing competitiveness. This includes gaining sympathy and influence over other countries.

### III. SOCIOLOGICAL CRIMINOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE ON SOFT PEOPLE POWER

To analyze the murder case of Vina and her boyfriend, Eky, in Cirebon in 2016 from a sociological criminology perspective, Strain Theory and Conflict Theory are particularly appropriate. Here's why these theories are relevant in the context of this case :

#### 3.1 Strain Theory

Strain Theory, developed by Robert K. Merton, posits that social pressure and dissatisfaction with certain conditions can drive individuals to commit criminal acts as a way to achieve goals that cannot be attained through conventional means. Merton, an American sociologist, introduced this theory in his work titled *Social Structure and Anomie*, published in 1938. In his theory, Merton outlines how the inability to achieve desired goals through socially accepted means can lead individuals to experience strain, which, in turn, may push them towards engaging in criminal behavior.

Strain Theory posits that social pressure and dissatisfaction with certain conditions can drive individuals to commit criminal acts as a way to achieve goals that cannot be attained through conventional means. In the case of the murder of Vina and Eky, the social pressures or dissatisfaction experienced by the perpetrator could be a motivating factor. Analyzing the perpetrator's background, economic conditions, and potential pressures they faced can provide insight into how these strains influenced the criminal act[16].

### 3.2 Conflict Theory

Conflict Theory was primarily developed by Karl Marx, a 19th-century philosopher, economist, and sociologist. Marx's ideas on conflict theory are foundational in understanding the struggles between different social classes and groups. He emphasized how societal conflicts arise from economic disparities and power imbalances, leading to tensions and struggles between the dominant and subordinate groups.

Conflict Theory focuses on the struggles between groups with different interests and how less powerful groups often become either victims or perpetrators of criminal acts as a form of resistance against the domination of more powerful groups. In this case, the conflict between the perpetrator and the victim, or between the perpetrator and the existing social structure, could be a factor that led to the crime. This theory can help explain the dynamics of power, injustice, and social conflict that played a role in the murders[17].

### Additional Theories

- **Symbolic Interactionism:** This theory can be used to understand how interactions between the perpetrator and the victims, and the meanings they created together, might have contributed to the criminal act.
- **Social Control Theory:** This theory can be applied to examine how social bonds or the lack of social control played a role in the perpetrator's criminal behavior.
- **Legitimacy Theory:** This theory can analyze the perpetrator's perception of the legitimacy of existing authorities or institutions and how this perception influenced their actions.

Combining these theories in further research and analysis can provide a comprehensive understanding of the social factors involved in the murder case of Vina and Eky. However, Strain Theory and Conflict Theory remain the two main theories that are particularly relevant in the context of a sociological criminology perspective[18].

## IV. CONCLUSION

The murder case of Vina and her lover Eky in Cirebon, 2016, which gained renewed attention with the film *Vina: Sebelum 7 Hari*, underscores significant issues within law enforcement and justice systems. Despite eight of the eleven perpetrators being arrested and convicted, the ongoing pursuit of three fugitives and unresolved irregularities have fueled public dissatisfaction and calls for a reinvestigation. The West Java Regional Police reopened the case and successfully captured one of the main fugitives, Pegi alias Perong. On June 1, 2024, the "People Power" action at Talun Bridge, involving hundreds of participants, demonstrated the public's demand for justice, symbolized by the scattering of flowers at the crime scene. This event highlighted the need for fair and effective law enforcement and adherence to the principles of Pancasila.

From a sociological criminology perspective, Strain Theory and Conflict Theory are particularly relevant for understanding this case. Strain Theory suggests that social pressures and dissatisfaction with certain conditions can push individuals towards criminal behavior as a means to achieve unattainable goals. In the context of Vina and Eky's murder, the perpetrators' social and economic pressures may have contributed to their criminal actions. Conflict Theory, on the other hand, examines how conflicts between different groups—where the less powerful may act out as a form of resistance against more dominant groups—shed light on the power dynamics and social injustices at play. Additionally, incorporating Symbolic Interactionism Theory, Social Control Theory, and Legitimacy Theory provides a comprehensive view of how social interactions, bonds, and perceptions of authority influence criminal behavior, emphasizing the complexity of the factors influencing this case and the importance of addressing social justice and effective law enforcement.

## V. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We as the Authors of this Journal would like to express our deepest gratitude to our lecturer Prof. Dr. Agus Budianto, S.H., M.Hum. so that we can increase our knowledge and insight related to the material on the Influence of Public Opinion on Criminal Law Enforcement.

## REFERENCES

1. Faaizah, N. *Teori Kedaulatan Rakyat: Pengertian dan Tokohnya*. 2023 [cited 2024 25]; Available from: <https://www.detik.com/edu/detikpedia/d-7028339/teori-kedaulatan-rakyat-pengertian-dan-tokohnya>.
2. Desi Ratnasari, S.L., Elly Sudarti, *Kedudukan Hukum Deponeering dalam Sistem Peradilan Pidana*. PAMPAS: Journal Of Criminal, 2021. **Volume 2** (No.1).
3. Movanita, A.N.K. *Jaksa Agung Nyatakan Kasus Abraham dan Bambang Widjojanto Dideponir*. 2016; Available from: <https://nasional.kompas.com/read/2016/03/03/16495631/Jaksa.Agung.Nyatakan.Kasus.Abraham.dan.Bambang.Widjojanto.Dideponir>.
4. Nazar Nur, D.E., Trisianto, F., Marsya Nugraha, T. F., & Sulistiasih, *PERAN PSIKOLOGI SOSIAL DALAM BIDANG HUKUM PADA KASUS PEMBUNUHAN VINA CIREBON*. Journal of Law and Nation (JOLN), 2024. **Vol. 3**(No. 3): p. 504-509.
5. Syahroni, O. *Pengacara 8 Terpidana Ungkit Kejanggalan di Kasus Vina-Eky Cirebon*. 2024 [cited 2024 Mei]; Available from: <https://www.detik.com/jabar/hukum-dan-kriminal/d-7347124/pengacara-8-terpidana-ungkit-kejanggalan-di-kasus-vina-eky-cirebon>.
6. Prayitno, P. *Pegi Setiawan Bebas, Kuasa Hukum Vina: Memang Terbukti Ada Kecerobohan Polisi*. 2024; Available from: <https://www.liputan6.com/regional/read/5637128/pegi-setiawan-bebas-kuasa-hukum-vina-memang-terbukti-ada-kecerobohan-polisi?page=2>.
7. Erwina Rachmi Puspapertiwi, R.S.N. *Sosok Dede Riswanto, Saksi Kunci Kasus Pembunuhan Vina Cirebon*. 2024 [cited 2024 July]; Available from: <https://www.kompas.com/tren/read/2024/07/23/203000465/sosok-dede-riswanto-saksi-kunci-kasus-pembunuhan-vina-cirebon?page=all>.
8. Yulianto, E. *Ratusan Orang Lakukan Tabur Bunga di Jembatan Talun, Tuntut Keadilan untuk Kasus Vina Cirebon* 2024 [cited 2024 25 July]; Available from: [https://jabar.tribunnews.com/2024/06/01/ratusan-orang-lakukan-tabur-bunga-di-jembatan-talun-tuntut-keadilan-untuk-kasus-vina-cirebon#google\\_vignette](https://jabar.tribunnews.com/2024/06/01/ratusan-orang-lakukan-tabur-bunga-di-jembatan-talun-tuntut-keadilan-untuk-kasus-vina-cirebon#google_vignette).
9. Candra, F.A., *OPTIMALISASI PEMBUKTIAN TINDAK PIDANA PEMBUNUHAN BERENCANA PADA KASUS VINA CIREBON*. Journal Das Sollen, 2024. **Vol 1**(No.1).
10. Sawitri, D., *Internet Of Things Memasuki Era Society 5.0*. Jounal Komputer, Informasi Teknologi, dan Elektro, 2023. **Vol 8**(No.1): p. 31-35.
11. Mufarizuddin M, S.H., Setiawan M, , *Analysis of university's role in society 5.0: A case study of Universitas Indonesia*. Journal of Physics: Conference Series, 2020. **Vol.1567**(No.4).
12. Sari R, H.A., Kurniawan, *The implementation of IoT for smart campus environment in Society 5.0*. Journal of Physics: Conference Series, 2020. **Vol.1460**(No.1).
13. Kamarudin S, A.M., Aziz A, Abidin I, *Industry 4.0 and Society 5.0: A review of the concept, technology and its impact*. Journal of Physics: Conference Series, 2020. **Vol 1529**(No.1).

14. Soesilowati, S., *Diplomasi Soft Power Indonesia melalui Atase Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan*. Departemen Hubungan Internasional Universitas Airlangga.
15. Indonesia, C. *Apa Itu People Power? Ini Pengertian dan Sejarahnya*. [cited 2024 25 July]; Available from: <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/edukasi/20230706094359-569-970069/apa-itu-people-power-ini-pengertian-dan-sejarahnya>.
16. Agnew, R., *Foundation for a General Strain Theory of Crime and Delinquency*. *Journal Criminology*, 1992: p. 47-87.
17. Hagan, J., *Who Are the Criminals?: The Politics of Crime Policy from the Age of Roosevelt to the Age of Reagan*. 2010: Princeton University Press.
18. iv Stryker, S., *Symbolic Interactionism: A Social Structural Version*. 1980: Benjamin/Cummings. .

