



Analysis of Corruption Crimes in Government Institutions

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<p>Article History Received: 2025-09-03 Revised: 2025-09-20 Published: 2025-09-30</p> <p>Keywords: <i>Corruption Crime;</i> <i>Government Institutions;</i> <i>Eradication</i></p>	<p>Corruption in government institutions is no longer a new problem in Indonesia, in fact it can be said that corruption has become a deviant culture to gain wealth and personal gain using public or state funds illegally by abusing power or authority. The purpose of this paper is to analyze criminal acts of corruption in government institutions, determine the impact of criminal acts of corruption in government institutions, and efforts to minimize criminal acts of corruption in government institutions. The writing method used is normative legal research, descriptive, library research or literature review by reviewing published literature relevant to the problem studied. The results of this study indicate that criminal acts of corruption are a very significant problem because they can hinder economic growth and national development, therefore serious action is needed to overcome or minimize them. Efforts that can be made to eradicate criminal acts of corruption in government institutions are increasing transparency related to budget management in government institutions and increasing prison sentences for corruptors, which are expected to reduce criminal acts of corruption.</p>

I. INTRODUCTION

Corruption is a serious and extraordinary crime that cannot be classified as a common petty crime. Corruption occurs when government officials within a government institution abuse their authority for personal gain, for the benefit of others, or for their own group. Our country has been plagued by corruption for years, damaging the economy and finances and violating the economic and social rights of its citizens, hindering the country's progress toward a just and prosperous society. Corruption can foster a culture where principles such as integrity, honor, honesty, and responsibility are disregarded. This undermines public morality and fosters skepticism toward government institutions and the justice system.

According to the Indonesian Central Bureau of Statistics, Indonesia's Anti-Corruption Behavior Index (IPAK) in 2024 reached 3.85 on a scale of 0–5, lower than the 2023 achievement of 3.92. A higher index value indicates that the community has a more anti-corruption character, and a lower value indicates that the community behaves more tolerant of corruption. IPAK consists of two dimensions: the Perception Dimension and the Experience Dimension. The 2024 Perception Index value of 3.76 decreased by 0.06 points compared to the 2023 Perception

Index of 3.82, and the 2024 Experience Index value of 3.98 decreased by 0.07 points compared to the 2023 Experience Index of 3.96. The IPAK of urban communities in 2024 was higher at 3.86 compared to the IPAK of rural communities at 3.83. People tend to be more anti-corruption if they receive higher education. In 2024, the IPAK for those with a high school education below was 3.81, for those with a high school education below 3.87, and for those with a high school education above 3.97. The Indonesian Corruption Watch (ICW) reported that in 2022, 319 members of the House of Representatives (DPR) were indicted for corruption. In 2024, the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) handled 93 corruption cases with 100 suspects. As a result of DPR members' corruption, according to a survey by the Indonesian Political Indicators (IKPI) conducted in June 2022, public trust in the DPR declined. This data indicates that corruption continues to persist in the country. Consequently, corruption prevention and eradication policies implemented during each government period can be considered ineffective. This is because since 2012, Indonesia has received a score of 4 on the corruption eradication indicator, indicating that Indonesia continues to be on the wrong track in terms of corruption.

Corruption has almost infiltrated the economic, political, and law enforcement systems. Despite the growing anti-corruption campaign, corruption cases involving officials, from regional officials to ministers, are on the rise. Corruption unwittingly stems from habits considered normal by society, such as giving gifts to officials, civil servants, or their family members in return for services rendered. As part of Eastern culture, this habit is considered normal. Eventually, these corrupt practices will develop into actual corruption. Because it is difficult for law enforcement in Indonesia to thoroughly uncover corruption cases, corruption can spread rapidly. Many parties are involved in corruption because corruption is an organized crime.

According to Loebby Luqman's theory, if more than one person is involved in a crime, everyone involved in the crime must be held accountable (Loqman, 1995). Therefore, an appropriate strategy is needed to expose corruption as a comprehensive organizational violation. Likewise, corruption has taken over government institutions, resulting in an increase in plutocratic practices or political dynasties, which indicate that the political system is controlled by capital owners, an effect that imperceptibly shows the destruction of people's sovereignty, thus public confidence in democracy.

Corruption in the modern era is considered increasingly common, influenced by the needs of society that continue to increase every year, financial needs often have a significant impact on people's lives. Therefore, corruption is always chosen by some pragmatic communities as a way out. Modernization can have both good and bad impacts. Therefore, the law must exist to provide justice in its enforcement practices, to reduce economic disparities in social life. So that perpetrators of corruption feel deterred by their actions, the law must be able to judge fairly. In his book, Andi Hamzah states: "Corruption is a problem that is currently felt to be growing rapidly along with the increasing progress of a nation's development, so the need and encouragement to commit corruption also increases" (Hamzah, 2005).

The process of positive legislation in Indonesia to address corruption has been in place for a long time, and laws and regulations have changed over time. In fact, in the book, there is a clause in the Criminal Code (KUHP) that threatens criminal penalties against those

who commit corruption crimes, especially violations committed by officials who have authority in government institutions. The provisions of corruption crimes in the Criminal Code are recognized as ineffective in anticipating or addressing the problem of corruption. Therefore, laws were created to free corruption in the hope of resolving and addressing the shortcomings of the Criminal Code. In his book, Adami Chazawi states, "The crime of corruption stands alone and is contained in the articles of Law Number 31 of 1999 as amended by Law Number 20 of 2001 concerning the Eradication of Criminal Acts of Corruption" (Chazawi, 2016). This formulation has certain elements and is threatened as a crime with a special method of punishment. Corruption can be caused by various factors. because during his service, his main concern is how to recoup the political costs incurred during training, campaigning, and paying successful teams, paying polling station witnesses, and additional political accommodations, paying the media to promote his reputation, paying survey institutions to gather public opinion, and when then common methods of capital recovery during contests can include selling positions, purchasing facilities, and accepting bribes for permits that should be free. Until a flawed or weak democracy emerges, such societal phenomena will repeat like a vicious cycle. When political corruption emerges, it is comparable to the threatening effects of politics on society, such as the inability or inability to control how the government exercises power, the practice of political power itself that is detrimental and deviates from ethics and law (Atmoko, 2022).

II. RESEARCH METHODS

To analyze the crime of corruption in government institutions, the author uses a normative research method (library). Soerjono Soekanto argues that: Normative legal research is conducted by examining library materials or secondary data, such as regulations and literature related to the problem being studied (Soekanto, 2001). Where this method uses secondary data, legal theory and expert opinions. This method is theoretical, so its basic reference is regarding theoretical matters by combining legal literature, especially regarding the crime of corruption in government institutions. The author also uses a descriptive analysis method,

namely the method of collecting data, analyzing data and presenting the results of the data analysis in the form of clear and detailed descriptions.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

World civilization seems to be increasingly moving towards modernization. Every aspect of social life is constantly evolving, and so is the crime that occurs in society. Societal development is inseparable from the development of crime, which also develops within society. Corruption is one crime that continues to grow in society (Dimas, 2018). Crime is a term derived from the word "kriminal," which can be interpreted as "crime," "criminal act," or "criminal act." A person who commits negative actions that often harm many parties is called a criminal (Dahwir, 2020). Crime is defined as unlawful behavior carried out by all individuals or a portion of a social group. Crime is an activity or action aimed at harming others or disrupting social order. Crime usually violates daily norms or even violates societal norms. According to The Lexicon Webster Dictionary, the word corruption comes from the Latin word *corruptio* or *corruptus*, which literally means dirty, dishonest, bribeable, immoral, or deviant from purity, and words that insult or slander. Many European languages use this word from Latin, such as English (*corruptio*, *corrupto*); French (*corruptio*, *corrupto*); and Dutch (*corruptie*, *corruptie*) (Soesilo, 2008). When defined by Robert Klitgaard, "corruption is the abuse of government authority for personal gain." Corruption also means using authority to achieve illegitimate goals or taking money for services that should have been provided. According to Law Number 31 of 1999, which was later amended by Law Number 20 of 2001 concerning the Eradication of Criminal Acts of Corruption, corruption is defined as an unlawful act committed by public officials who use their position to enrich themselves or others illegally. These unlawful acts include: using their position of office for personal or group gain, Bribery, also known as "bribery", is the giving of money or goods with the aim of influencing the decisions or actions of officials. Gratuities, gifts, or money related to work, even if not intended as bribes. Embezzlement in state financial management. Extortion occurs when someone is forced to give money or goods through threats or the use of their power. Corruption is a very dangerous

crime because it not only harms the state financially but also undermines morality, integrity, and public trust in state institutions (Steven, 2024).

The author argues that currently in Indonesia there are many cases of corruption crimes committed within government institutions, meaning that it is the lackeys within the government institutions themselves who commit these crimes and abuse their authority for personal gain and greed. According to R. Wiyono, "Misusing authority, opportunities, or means given to him because of his position or rank" means using the authority, opportunities, or means given to the perpetrator of corruption for purposes other than those intended. The Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia stated that the authority must originate from the position because there are positions that provide most of the authority used does not fulfill the purpose. This is what is referred to in criminal law as abuse of authority. In this context, abuse of authority must be interpreted as the abuse of authority related to attribution, namely the authority stated in the legislation and the authority granted by the position. Abusing authority is when someone uses the authority given to them because of their position or rank and therefore does not correspond to the original intention for granting it (Wiyono, 2012).

Nyoman Serikat Putra Jaya stated that corruption damages the lives of society, the nation and the state, and endangers the existence of the state because it is carried out by the administrators of government institutions themselves and by other parties, such as families, cronies and businessmen (Nyoman, 2005).

Corruption can occur in various Indonesian government institutions, such as the House of Representatives (DPR), which has an impact on the wider community. Some cases of corruption in Indonesian government institutions are as follows: the 300 trillion rupiah tin case, the 138.4 trillion rupiah BLBI case, the 78 trillion rupiah Surya Darmadi case, the 37.8 trillion rupiah illegal condensate case, and the 22.78 trillion rupiah Asabri case. The government is given power and authority because they are trusted by the public and the state to carry out their work well and responsibly. Unfortunately, the fact is that many government officials are irresponsible in carrying out their duties and engage in corruption. These officials instead take money or funds that should be used to help the community.

However, their salaries should be sufficient to meet the needs of themselves and their families. Nevertheless, a constant sense of insufficiency arises along with a selfish desire for personal gain, which causes them to continue to commit corruption throughout 2023. The Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) received thousands of reports of corruption. In fact, most of these reports have been verified. The Acting Chairman of the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK), Nawawi Pamolongo, said in a press conference on the 2023 KPK Performance and 2024 Policy Direction at the KPK's Red and White Building, Jakarta, Tuesday (1/16/2024), "During 2023, the KPK received 5,079 reports, of which 690 could not be followed up and were archived and 4,389 were verified." (kpk.go.id, 2023). In addition to the impossibility, Indonesia's weak and unfair laws are another factor that causes corruption (Esiska, 2018). It is as if the law favors those in power and does not favor those who are weak. Sometimes, the large number of corruption cases in this country causes people to consider corruption as commonplace, which reduces people's desire to commit criminal acts of corruption. From data released by the Indonesia Corruption Watch (ICW), the Indonesian state suffered a loss of Rp. 56 trillion in 2023 due solely to corruption handled by the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK), excluding losses from other institutions or other unresolved corruption cases. Kurnia stated that the Surya Darmadi forest conversion case, which resulted in state losses of Rp 41 trillion, was the largest corruption case in 2023 (Haryanti, 2023).

Given the number of officials involved in corruption related to their professions or positions, it's hard to imagine the amount of money that ends up in the pockets of government officials who are supposed to be helping the people. Instead, many people in poor countries are still struggling. This development still needs improvement, and many children still lack additional education, and many other things that require more funding are listed. It's sad that all that money is instead being spent on personal pleasures. Indonesia's CPI appears to have declined over the past five years. It reached 40 in 2019, but by 2022, it had plummeted to 34. Transparency International Indonesia (TII) Secretary General Danang Widoyoko said, "Indonesia's democracy is rapidly regressing. This decline is accompanied by low levels of

corruption eradication and human rights protection in the country. Without effective enforcement of corruption laws, true human rights protection will not be achieved." Since its founding in 1995, Indonesia has been one of the countries that regularly monitors its corruption levels. The 2023 CPI, released today, shows that Indonesia still faces many challenges in combating corruption. Wawan Suyatmiko, Deputy Secretary General of Transparency International Indonesia, stated, "Indonesia's 2023 CPI score is 34/100, ranking 115th out of 180 countries surveyed. This score of 34/100 is the same as the 2022 CPI." The 2023 CPI results from eight composite indicators include: One data source, the PRS, experienced a 3-point decline compared to the previous year's results. In the past two years, this decline reached 16 points. Four data sources, the Economist Intelligence Unit, Global Insight, the World Justice Project—Rule of Law Index, and the PERC Asia Risk Guide, stagnated. Three data sources, the Bertelsmann Transformation Index (+3), the IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook (+1), and the Varieties of Democracy Project (VDem) (+1), experienced an increase. The declining CPI score in 2023 indicates that the response to corruption may remain slow and may continue to worsen due to a lack of support from stakeholders. Since the weakening of the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK), changes to the Constitutional Court Law, and the emergence of regulations that disregard the principle of integrity and ignore conflicts of interest, the tendency to neglect corruption eradication has become increasingly clear and evident. Therefore, corruption crimes are still rampant, due to several factors or causes that continue to soar. The GONE theory is known to briefly explain the components of corruption causes, although the reasons for corruption can be diverse. Jack Bologna proposed the GONE theory, which stands for Greedy, Opportunity, Need, and Need Exposure.

According to the GONE theory, corrupt individuals are inherently greedy and insatiable. Cruel corruptors never have enough. When greed is combined with opportunity, it leads to corruption. When someone is greedy and has opportunity, they are at risk of corruption if their lifestyle is excessive and exposure or prosecution of the perpetrators fails to have a deterrent effect.

According to Robert Kliggaard (1988), when Ibn Khaldun, a Tunisian Muslim historian and

thinker, wrote about corruption around the 14th century, he stated that the lust for life was the primary source of corruption. He said that those in power desire a luxurious lifestyle. Those in power engage in corruption to meet these luxurious needs and desires.

In the Fraud Triangle theory, Donald R. Cressey explains the causes of corruption. This theory sees the possibility of fraud can occur anywhere and at any time, including in the surrounding environment. According to Cressey, there are three reasons why someone can commit corruption: pressure, namely committing corruption due to pressure, often due to economic motives, but sometimes simply the perpetrator feels pressured and tempted by the illusion of incentives. Opportunity, namely the existence of a weak supervisory system that creates opportunities or loopholes, so there is a possibility that someone will be tempted to commit corruption. Rationalization, namely corruption is never without reason. This rational consideration can apparently reduce the perpetrator's guilt and the belief that he or she has not received justice. One example is, "I am corrupt because I am not paid properly." Corruption occurs when there is an opportunity to do so, according to Cressey. It is not surprising that many people are involved in such fraudulent acts.

The factors that cause corruption consist of two components: internal and external. Internal factors can be understood as those that arise from within, while external factors are those that arise from without. Internal causal factors include:

1. Human nature is selfish, greedy, or rapacious. This means they desire more than they have. If someone is greedy, they become overly fond of possessions. This occurs even if they already have a lot of wealth or a high position. Greed causes someone to ignore the laws of halal and haram when seeking sustenance. Thus, corruption is an act committed by professionals, those in high positions, and those enjoying a prosperous life.
2. A consumerist lifestyle, such as following glamorous urban trends or purchasing luxury and expensive goods, is an example of a consumerist lifestyle. A consumerist lifestyle without a commensurate income can lead to corruption.

3. Weak morals, meaning someone with poor morals is easily tempted to engage in corruption. This can be caused by weak moral elements, such as a lack of faith, honesty, or shame about committing corruption. If someone has poor morals, the temptation to commit corruption will be difficult to overcome. Corruption can come from superiors, colleagues at the same level, subordinates, or other parties who provide the opportunity to commit it.

For external causal factors, namely: economic aspects, social aspects, legal aspects, political aspects, organizational aspects.

1. Economic Aspects: Corruption is often linked to economic factors. Among these are insufficient income or salaries to meet needs. Facts also show that corruption is not perpetrated by those receiving low salaries. Rather, it is wealthy and highly educated individuals who engage in significant amounts of corruption. Many regional leaders or members of the House of Representatives have been arrested for corruption. It is not a lack of wealth that drives them to commit corruption; rather, it is their greedy and immoral tendencies that are the cause. In countries with monopolistic economic systems, power structures are structured in such a way that government officials have economic opportunities to advance their own interests and those of their allies. Economic policies are made in a manner that is non-transparent, non-participatory, and non-accountable.
2. Social Aspects: Corruption, especially within the family, is influenced by a person's social life. Families often support corrupt individuals to satisfy their greed, rather than admonishing or punishing them. Societal values and cultures that support corruption are also social components. For example, a person may be valued solely for their wealth or may be accustomed to giving gifts to officials. According to the means-ends theory developed by Robert Merton, corruption is defined as human behavior driven by social pressures that lead to norm violations, which in turn lead to high levels of corruption. Social conditions in a region not only place undue pressure on economic success but also limit opportunities to achieve it. Edward Banfield developed particularism, a theory

linking corruption to stress caused by family members.

3. **Legal Aspects:** As a cause of corruption, the law has two sides. One is the strength of the law, and the other is the weakness of law enforcement. Corruptors will seek loopholes within the law to carry out their actions. Furthermore, corruption will continue to occur due to ineffective law enforcement.
4. **Political Aspect:** Believes that corruption is caused by politics for the purpose of gaining large profits. Ultimately, money politics stems from the political goal of self-enrichment. In money politics, someone can win a contest by buying or bribing the votes of members or voters of their political party. Political officials who rely on wealth only want to gain wealth, forgetting their primary responsibility, which is to serve the people. Leaders who are the result of financial politics do not care about the fate of the people who elected them; what matters to them is how their political costs can be repaid and multiplied. Officials who receive political support, such as vote buying or political party support, are also more prone to corruption. Political tributes ultimately arise as a result of party support requiring compensation.
5. **Organizational Aspects:** An additional external factor contributing to corruption is the organization in which the corruptor works. These organizations typically foster corruption by creating opportunities. For example, there may be a lack of integrity among leaders, a lack of a positive culture, an inadequate accountability system, or a weak management control system. According to Eko Handoyo's book, "Anti-Corruption Education," organizations can benefit from the corruption of members who become bureaucrats and exploit regulatory loopholes. For example, political parties use this method to fund their organizations. Nominating regional officials also serves as a way for political parties to raise funds to run their organizations. Ultimately, money politics and corruption recur.

Due to these factors causing corruption, several significant impacts emerge that can be detrimental to the state and its citizens. The following are the impacts of corruption, as cited by the author, from various sectors:

1. **Declining Productivity:** Corruption will cause production and productivity to decline across all industries. Companies will be hampered and unable to grow further. This can result in a decline in the number of employees or layoffs, which in turn leads to high unemployment, which in turn leads to increased poverty.
2. **Declining State Revenue from Taxes:** The taxes that are most heavily levied on the State Budget are Income Tax (PPh) and Value Added Tax (VAT). contribution to state revenue. This decline in revenue is due to the fact that a large number of tax officials are taking advantage of this bad opportunity to enrich themselves. This results in distrust in the community towards tax officials, and will certainly hinder and disrupt the development of society.
3. **Increasing National Debt:** Corruption will inevitably worsen state finances. This is because the country already has debts with other countries, and corruption will only increase those debts (Elizawarda, 2022).

Crime Prevention Efforts (Corruption) with Criminal Law
According to G. Peter Hoefnagels, crime prevention policies consist of: 1. criminal law application policies; 2. prevention without punishment policies; and 3. policies that influence public views on criminal punishment (Nawawi, 2016).

Establishing an independent institution specifically to handle corruption is one way to eradicate corruption. For example, certain countries have established an institution known as the Ombudsman. This institution was first established by the Swedish Parliament under the name Ombudsman Justitie in 1809. The duties of the ombudsman, which have since developed in other countries, include providing the public with a means to complain about what is done by government institutions and their employees. In addition, this institution offers training to the government and the community and develops rules of conduct and codes of conduct for actions carried out by government institutions and legal

institutions as needed. One of the Ombudsman is responsible for developing public awareness and understanding of their rights to good, honest, and productive treatment from state employees. Strengthening the performance of judicial institutions, both at the police, prosecutors, and court levels.

Courts are the primary law enforcement institutions, and they must be fair, honest, and impartial. Many corruption cases are not included in the legal register due to the judiciary's egregious capacity to act. Audit institutions such as the Inspectorate General must be strengthened at the departmental level. Currently, this institution appears to be completely "toothless" in dealing with corruption involving high-ranking officials. Strengthening and monitoring government performance is also crucial to reducing the potential for corruption. Regional governments. Before the Regional Autonomy Regulation was enacted, all policies were generally made by the Central Government, resulting in corruption most often occurring in the nation's capital, perhaps Jakarta. With the autonomy available to regional governments, corruption is not limited to the nation's capital but has flourished in various locations. Therefore, regional government performance also needs to be improved and monitored (Asri, 2020).

Ultimately, eradicating corruption requires government action to improve the legal system, and anti-corruption agencies to investigate, prosecute, and prevent acts of corruption. Civil society, empowered to report corruption cases, conduct public oversight of the government sector. The media, empowered to disseminate information related to corruption, must also be involved. The private sector must establish high standards of corporate ethics, implement good governance, and reject corrupt practices within companies. Educational institutions must also aim to teach anti-corruption to the general public, particularly Indonesian students from elementary school through

college. Collaboration across institutions and sectors is needed to create a comprehensive corruption prevention strategy. Synergy between government and institutions, the media, the private sector, education, and the legal system will support efforts to combat corruption.

IV. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

A. Conclusion

From the results of this study, the author draws a conclusion related to the problems discussed, namely that the crime of corruption in government institutions is an extraordinary crime concerning the misuse of personal authority interests. And corruption in government institutions is increasingly rampant and growing rapidly due to negligent supervision by the government or institutions.

B. Suggestions

To reduce and eradicate corruption crimes within government institutions, a comprehensive and sustained effort from various stakeholders is essential. The government must strengthen internal oversight systems and transparency mechanisms to minimize the potential for abuse of power. Additionally, firm and consistent law enforcement is crucial to deter corrupt actors. Anti-corruption education should be intensified from an early stage to build a culture of integrity and ethical behavior within the bureaucracy. Active public participation through social monitoring and reporting of corruption cases can serve as a strategic step in enhancing government accountability. With strong regulations, effective law enforcement, and collective awareness working in synergy, it is hoped that corruption levels in government institutions will significantly decrease, resulting in a clean and reputable administration

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