



Optimizing traffic violation law enforcement to reduce accident rates in Aceh province

Sufyan, M Iqbal, Dedy Yuliansyah

Faculty of Law, Universitas Syiah Kuala, Banda Aceh, Indonesia

Abstract

The aim of this research is to analyze the effectiveness of law enforcement for traffic violations based on real conditions in the field, evaluate police strategies in reducing the number of accidents and identify concrete steps to optimize law enforcement for traffic violations. This is important, because like many other developing countries, Indonesia faces serious challenges, one of which is related to the high number of traffic accidents. The growth of motorized vehicles, high mobility, and lack of compliance with traffic rules are the main triggers for accidents. In this context, law enforcement for traffic violations plays a crucial role in creating a safe and orderly driving environment. Traffic violations are the main cause of road accidents. Practices such as overspeeding, violating traffic signs, and using cell phones while driving still frequently occur in various regions of Indonesia. High levels of violations create dangerous conditions for all road users and are a major factor behind high accident rates.

Keywords: Optimization of traffic violations, accident rates, aceh province

Introduction

Traffic violations are the main cause of road accidents. Practices such as overspeeding, violating traffic signs, and using cell phones while driving still frequently occur in various regions of Indonesia. High levels of violations create dangerous conditions for all road users and are a major factor behind high accident rates. (Traffic Directorate of Polda Metro Jaya, 2022)

Aceh Province, with its unique cultural and geographical characteristics, also faces similar challenges. Even though the population density is not as high as on the island of Java, Aceh has traffic characteristics that can contribute to the number of accidents. Diverse road infrastructure, uneven topographic conditions, and varying levels of driving education are factors that influence traffic safety in this region. (Aceh Transportation Service, 2022)

The social and economic impact of traffic accidents cannot be ignored. Apart from claiming lives and causing serious injuries, accidents contribute to the financial burden on the state and society. The costs of medical care, infrastructure improvements, and reduced economic productivity are shared burdens that can be overcome by optimizing traffic violation law enforcement. Law enforcement of traffic violations in Indonesia and Aceh, although regulated by law, is still faced with a number of challenges. A lack of adequate human resources and technological equipment, as well as a legal process that is often slow, reduces the effectiveness of law enforcement. Innovation and improvements are needed in the enforcement system to create a deterrent effect and increase awareness of traffic rules in society. (Simamora, B, 2018)^[13].

The different accident patterns between central and peripheral areas in Aceh indicate the need for different approaches. In central areas, such as Banda Aceh, high traffic density and mobility create a higher risk of accidents. Meanwhile, in peripheral areas, such as West Aceh, the condition of road infrastructure which is more closed and the lack of enforcement of regulations creates its own challenges. (Aceh Regional Police Traffic Directorate, 2021) As a result of traffic accidents, apart from causing

loss of life and property, they also cause financial and material losses. This is very worrying if strategic steps are not taken to reduce the rate of accidents and improve public legal order, it will add to the long list of fatalities and financial and material losses. (www.kompasiana.com/Source Police Office of the Republic of Indonesia)

This shows that the application of the law as mandated in Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Road Traffic and Transportation (hereinafter referred to as the LLAJ Law) has not been implemented properly, such as the application of the criminal threat articles Article 273 to Article 317 and articles regulating driver education as stated in Article 78 to Article 79 in conjunction with Article 87 to Article 89 of the LLAJ Law. (Kunarto, 2007: 45)^[8].

Apart from that, the judge's decision on traffic violation perpetrators is still related to the ticket table and does not pay attention to the LLAJ Law with relatively small fines. The ticketing system and judicial process for traffic violations have not been implemented properly so that the sanctions imposed do not provide a deterrent effect for convicted violators. In summary, it can be concluded that the government's attention to road safety issues to reduce accidents and improve public order is still considered very low because it has been proven that the government is unable to do so. However, what is important is that other incidents that result in victims, such as victims in conflict zones, drug addiction, and disaster victims (terrorists, floods, earthquakes, dengue fever, etc.) receive a lot of attention from the government.

Efforts to optimize law enforcement for traffic violations in Indonesia, especially in Aceh Province, need to consider the local cultural context. Educating the people of Aceh about traffic violations and the importance of safe driving can be the first step in creating sustainable behavior change. (Yanuarti, Y., & Djufri, D, 2020)^[14, 16]

By understanding the background of this problem, it is hoped that optimizing law enforcement for traffic violations can be part of a holistic solution in reducing the number of accidents in Indonesia as a whole, especially in Aceh Province. Innovative and collaborative steps between the

government, police, society and the private sector need to be taken to achieve the goal of better driving safety and creating more orderly traffic. (Traffic Management Center Indonesia, 2021)^[15]

Based on the description above, researchers consider it necessary to conduct research on optimizing law enforcement against traffic violations in order to prevent the high number of accidents.

Research Method

The type of research used by the author is empirical legal research. Empirical legal research is legal research that analyzes the actual application of law to individuals, groups, communities, legal institutions in society with an emphasis on the behavior of individuals or communities, organizations or legal institutions in relation to implementation. or the enactment of the law. Empirical legal research is a legal research method that functions to see law in real terms and examine how law works in society (Muhaimin, 2020)^[9].

The approach used in this research is a qualitative approach. The location for this research was carried out in the jurisdiction of the Aceh Police, namely by taking 4 (four) locations, namely Lhokseumawe Police, Central Aceh Police, South Aceh Police and Banda Aceh Police. The determination of this data is based on representatives of the East Aceh region, the West region and the central region of Aceh with varying accident rates.

Sampling in this research was carried out using purposive sampling which is estimated to represent the entire population, consisting of respondents and informants. The respondents consisted of investigators at the Police Traffic Unit (Satlantas) (4 people) and PPNS at the Regency/City Transportation Service (4 people). Meanwhile, the informants were the Head of the Traffic Unit, the Head of the Gakkum Sub-Directorate, Traffic Directorate of the Aceh Police and the Head of the Aceh Transportation Service.

The instruments used in this research are making observations, reviewing library materials, conducting interviews with respondents and informants. The data analysis used is descriptive and uses qualitative data analysis.

Results and Discussion

1. Real Conditions of Law Enforcement for Traffic Violations

Law enforcement in traffic violations is an important aspect in maintaining security and order on the highway. The real conditions of law enforcement in this context can vary depending on many factors, including local regulations, resources, and community culture.

Overall, the effectiveness of traffic law enforcement often depends on a combination of good regulations, consistent implementation, technological support, and public awareness and participation. One factor is also related to the driver's age. Age can influence traffic behavior and can influence the level of traffic violations. The effect may vary depending on age group and various other factors. The age groups in question are:

a. Young drivers

Young drivers, especially those between 17 and 25 years old, often have a higher propensity to commit traffic violations. They may be more likely to engage in

risky behavior such as excessive speed, drunk driving, or ignoring traffic rules. Limited driving experience may impact their ability to properly assess risks and make safe decisions on the road.

b. Mature drivers

Older drivers often have more experience and better understand the importance of obeying traffic rules. They tend to be more careful in driving and more aware of the consequences of violations. However, adult drivers can also experience fatigue or stress due to being busy which can affect their concentration and driving ability.

c. Elderly drivers

Older drivers (elderly) often experience declines in physical and cognitive abilities, such as decreased vision, slower reaction times, and decreased coordination abilities. This can affect their ability to drive safely and follow traffic rules. Although they may be involved in traffic violations less frequently, older drivers tend to be at greater risk of serious accidents when they are involved in incidents. Overall, age can influence traffic behavior, here is data on traffic violators at the Lhokseumawe Police:

Table 1: Violation Data in Terms of Age in January 2023 Lhokseumawe Resort Police

Month	Number of Violations	Category of Violator					Inf.
		>17 (Under Age)	17-25	26-45	46-65	> 65 (Elderly)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
January	0	0	0	0	0	0	
February	0	0	0	0	0	0	
March	0	0	0	0	0	0	
April	0	0	0	0	0	0	
May	0	0	0	0	0	0	
June	306	15	189	67	27	8	
July	138	7	76	34	18	3	
August	169	10	87	39	29	4	
September	127	8	69	32	13	5	
October	159	7	79	49	17	7	
November	271	11	156	75	25	4	
December	188	13	99	48	23	5	
Total	1.358	71	755	344	152	36	

From the data above, it can be seen that the age category influences the number of traffic violations that occur, maturity and caution factors are things that can cause traffic violations.

Traffic law enforcement is the process of ensuring that violations are handled appropriately to maintain safety and order on the road. This process involves various steps and strategies to ensure compliance with traffic rules and reduce accidents and violations. Some important aspects of traffic law enforcement are:

a. Regulations

Traffic regulations include various rules such as speed limits, parking rules, use of seat belts, and prohibition of drunk driving. Regulations must be updated regularly to keep up with technological developments and changes in societal needs.

b. Enforcement by Law

Enforcement Traffic police play a major role in law enforcement, including patrolling, issuing tickets, and dealing with violations directly in the field. Use of traffic

cameras to monitor violations such as excessive speed and red-light violations.

c. Sanctions and punishments

Traffic violators are usually subject to fines or tickets designed to provide a deterrent effect and encourage compliance. For more serious offenses, such as drunk driving or fatal accidents, there can be additional penalties such as imprisonment, driver's license revocation, or rehabilitation.

d. Education and awareness

Campaign to raise awareness about the importance of obeying traffic rules, such as the use of seat belts and the risks of drunk driving. Educational programs for new and experienced drivers, including training on traffic rules and safe driving techniques.

e. Technology and innovation

Technologies such as speed radar, surveillance cameras, and electronic reporting systems help in monitoring and law enforcement. Use of data to analyze violation and accident patterns to identify high-risk areas and design more effective enforcement strategies.

f. Enforcement and consistency

It is important to ensure that law enforcement is carried out fairly and consistently to avoid public dissatisfaction and ensure confidence in the system. Periodic evaluation of the effectiveness of law enforcement policies and methods, as well as adjustments based on the results of these evaluations.

g. Inter-Agency coordination

Cooperation between various government agencies, including the police, transportation services, and other legal entities, to ensure effective and harmonious law enforcement.

h. Social and cultural influences

Society's culture and habits regarding driving can influence the level of compliance with traffic regulations. Education and campaigns targeting cultural change can increase compliance.

Effective traffic law enforcement requires a combination of clear regulations, consistent enforcement, supportive technology, and public education and awareness efforts. A balance between preventive measures and strict law enforcement is essential to achieve safety and order on the roads.

2. Police Strategy in reducing accident rates

Nowadays, transportation has become a necessity for almost all human activities. This means that transportation is a vital need for human life and livelihood. The high use of transportation gives rise to problems related to transportation. Problems that exist in transportation include the increasing number of vehicles resulting in frequent traffic jams, the rate of accidents on the highway which is still quite high, road conditions that are often damaged, and the level of security disturbances. which still happens frequently. To overcome these various problems, the government has taken various improvement steps, both

regarding traffic and road transportation facilities and infrastructure.

One of the problems that is still difficult to overcome today is reducing the number of traffic accidents. Traffic accidents are the second leading cause of death. Therefore, various efforts must be implemented to reduce the accident rate.

One preventive effort is carried out by making regulations to prevent or reduce the occurrence of accidents which can minimize the rate of accidents or reduce fatal consequences for victims. Traffic Law No.22 of 2009 concerning Road Traffic and Transportation as the government's effort to handle traffic accidents. In this law there is an obligation to wear Indonesian National Standard (SNI) helmets for two-wheeled motorized vehicle drivers, a requirement to wear safety belts for four-wheeled motorized vehicle drivers and even a requirement to turn on headlights during the day for two-wheeled motorized vehicles, all of this is done as an effort to reduce the level of traffic accidents.

These provisions are part of preventive efforts to reduce the level of traffic accidents or minimize the consequences of traffic accidents affecting victims. For example, by wearing an Indonesian National Standard (SNI) helmet, if a collision occurs the head will be protected so that it does not have fatal consequences, causing death or brain damage.

A traffic accident is an incident where a motor vehicle collides with another object and causes damage. Sometimes these accidents can result in injuries and even death to humans or animals. Traffic accidents take a huge toll of lives, around 1.35 million people die every year throughout the world according to WHO. This means that every 24 seconds, one person loses their life on the road throughout the world. In general, the number of traffic accidents continues to increase over time. Aceh Police Traffic Directorate Commissioner M Iqbal Alqudusy said, if you look at the comparison of the number of traffic accidents from January to April 2024 with January to April 2023, the trend is an increase of 12 cases or around one percent.

The increasing number of accidents is a problem that continues to look for a solution because the traffic problem is a complex problem. Traffic problems are not only problems that must be resolved by the police, but are also related to other agencies, for example the transportation service. Therefore, joint efforts (across agencies) need to be made to overcome this problem.

However, there are efforts by the police to reduce traffic accidents, especially those carried out by the regional police. Several steps are taken as follows:

a. Carrying out operational activities on highways

Operation activities on the highway must be carried out regularly, with operations on the highway it will make motor vehicle drivers more careful. By holding this operation, it is hoped that drivers will complete their vehicle equipment including vehicle documents as well as physical vehicle equipment such as safety belts, mirrors, standard helmets and so on. In general, Indonesian people have low awareness of obeying regulations, especially traffic regulations. People who use motor vehicles are more afraid of traffic police officers. The existence of operational activities on the road will encourage people to obey traffic regulations, even if only because they are afraid of police officers.

b. Carrying out coaching in schools

The high mobility of traffic cannot be separated from the condition of many children who have not yet received a driving license (SIM), and even do not have a driving license, driving motorized vehicles, especially motorized vehicles, both two-wheeled and four-wheeled. This kind of reality is difficult to avoid, because modern life needs to be effective and efficient. Therefore, the National Police is collaborating with secondary schools, both junior secondary schools and senior secondary schools, to provide education to students about matters related to road traffic. This information related to traffic will really help them, especially those who can drive motorized vehicles, to be able to drive well.

c. Holding Safety Riding

Striving to reduce the level of traffic accidents is an effort that must be continuously carried out by various parties, especially officers who are directly related to this problem, such as police officers. One of the efforts made by the police is to hold Safety Riding. Safety Riding is the same as the term Safety Driving for users of four-wheeled vehicles or more. The term Safety Riding refers to driving behavior which should ideally have a sufficient level of safety for oneself and others. In Safety Riding training, it is presented in theory and practice. Generally, the theory explains driving safety, the importance of warming up the body when driving, vehicle readiness, ideal driving position, etc.

3. Optimizing Traffic Violation Law Enforcement

Law enforcement of traffic violations in Indonesia is carried out by the government and the police, especially the traffic police. This law enforcement aims to improve traffic security, smoothness and order. However, there are still obstacles in its enforcement that cause traffic law enforcement to not run optimally. For this reason, in optimizing law enforcement for traffic violations, law enforcers, namely the traffic police, can adopt policies that pivot on optimizing traffic law enforcement, such as:

a. Penal law enforcement efforts

Penal policy, namely a policy that uses the criminal justice system to tackle crimes/violations. Penal policies can use criminal law through the Criminal Code (KUHP) or laws outside the Criminal Code. Enforcement of criminal law by taking action against perpetrators of violations of criminal law, in this case against perpetrators of violations due to negligence resulting in death and injury to people as regulated in Article 359 and Article 360 of the Criminal Code and Article 301 paragraph (3) and paragraph (4) of the Law. Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Road Traffic and Transportation is carried out and investigated for further processing in court.

Action against traffic law violations can be divided into two, namely educational legal action and juridical legal action. Educative legal action such as giving verbal and written warnings or warnings to traffic violators. Meanwhile, juridical legal action, such as legal action against traffic violations, includes using ticket forms.

The policy of determining criminal fines in Law Number 22 of 2009 concerning Road Traffic and Transportation on the one hand is one of the government's efforts to protect its citizens. On the other hand, in reality the number of traffic violations that cause accidents continues to increase every year, especially for motorcyclists. This shows that the

application of sanctions alone is not enough to reduce traffic violations, there are other things that need to be considered in order to reduce the number of accidents, namely taking preventive measures.

b. Non-penal law enforcement efforts

Non-penal policies are policies that emphasize preventive actions to prevent criminal acts from occurring. This policy is carried out by looking at the root of the crime problem and does not use penal means. policies outside of criminal law that aim to reduce the number of traffic accidents include sympathetic warnings, coaching and counseling to the community. Efforts made by the police to reduce traffic violations should be by:

1. PKS (School Security Patrol), is a coaching and learning program for school students to practice and learn to find the roots of social problems in the school environment and efforts to deal with them. In this period, children are also taught to care and be sensitive to social problems and play an active role in supporting teaching and learning activities at school.
2. Guidance and counseling as well as socialization of Law no. 22 of 2009 to middle school, high school students and MOS such as traffic safety campaigns, public debates, visits, seminars and discussions.
3. Implementing the "Traffic Discipline Movement" activities such as police going to campus and traffic parks.
4. Special police operations are activities to handle various traffic problems of a special nature and are an improvement on routine activities.
5. Law enforcement is a police action for education, enlightenment, protection and protection of other road users whose activities or productivity are disrupted as a result of violations of the law and to create legal certainty.

Based on the results of the author's interview with AKP Ridho Rizky Ananda, S.T.K., Head of the Lhokseumawe Police Traffic Unit, information was obtained that perpetrators of traffic violations in the jurisdiction of the Lhokseumawe Police are still relatively high because the level of public awareness regarding traffic order is still low, public compliance with traffic signs and regulations traffic is still influenced by the presence of traffic police.

Program efforts that have been provided to the community include outreach to people who want to get a driving license, distributing brochures about traffic compliance and the consequences of traffic violations as well as information about Law No. 22 of 2009 to the target community and students. The Traffic Police play a role in serving the community in ensuring the smooth flow of traffic on the highway and providing assistance if a traffic accident occurs on the highway and it is best to introduce traffic discipline education to children from an early age.

Conclusion

Traffic law enforcement is the process of ensuring violations are handled appropriately to maintain safety and order on the roads. This law enforcement process involves various steps and strategies to ensure compliance with traffic regulations and reduce accidents and violations. Effective traffic law enforcement requires a combination of clear regulations, consistent enforcement, enabling technology, and public education and awareness efforts. A

balance between preventive measures and strict law enforcement is essential to achieve safety and order on the roads.

The increasing number of accidents is a complex problem. Traffic problems are not only problems that must be resolved by the police, but are also related to other agencies. Joint efforts (across institutions) need to be made to overcome this problem. The National Police's efforts to reduce traffic accidents, especially those carried out by regional police, include carrying out operations on highways, coaching in schools and providing safety riding. Optimizing law enforcement against traffic violations can be carried out through penal and non-penal efforts. These two efforts are carried out simultaneously in order to optimize law enforcement against traffic violations by increasing public awareness of traffic and hopefully reducing traffic violations.

Suggestion

To enforce traffic laws effectively, the police need to apply regulations firmly and consistently and use supporting technology such as optimizing the use of E-Tickets and Electronic Traffic Law Enforcement.

To reduce the number of accidents, the National Police needs to build relationships with cross-agency agencies to find more effective and efficient strategies.

In order to optimize traffic law enforcement, the police must continue to make efforts to enforce both criminal and non-criminal laws and take advantage of technological developments. Apart from that, improving traffic law optimization programs such as Traffic Boards, Children's Friendly Police, and Safety Riding Training. The traffic board is a forum for finding the root of the problem and dealing with various traffic problems, the Children's Friend Police can be used as an activity to instill traffic awareness and order from an early age, and Safety Riding Training as an educational tool. and motor vehicle driving skills training for driving safety.

References

1. Badan Pusat Statistik. Statistik Lalu Lintas Angkutan Jalan 2021, 2022.
2. Dinas Perhubungan Aceh. Profil Dinas Perhubungan Provinsi Aceh, 2022.
3. Direktorat Lalu Lintas Polda Aceh. Rencana Aksi Keselamatan Lalu Lintas Aceh, 2021.
4. Direktorat Lalu Lintas Polda Metro Jaya. Analisis Kecelakaan Lalu Lintas Tahun 2021, 2022.
5. Fajrul Falaakh. Strategi Menuju Clean Government dan good Governance, Inspektorat Jendral Departemen Agama RI, Jakarta, 2007.
6. <https://www.acehprov.go.id/berita/kategori/umum/eval-uasi-operasi-seulawah-2023-kecelakaan-lalu-lintas-didominasi-pengendara-16-30-tahun>
7. Kementerian Perhubungan Republik Indonesia. Data Statistik Perhubungan 2021, 2022.
8. Kunarto. Merenungi Kritik Terhadap Polri (Masalah Lalu Lintas), Cipta Manunggal, Jakarta, 2007.
9. Muhaimin. Metode Penelitian Hukum, Mataram University Press, Mataram. Putranto, L.S., 2008, 2020. Rekayasa Lalu Lintas. Cetakan Pertama, PT Mancanan Jaya Cemerlang: Jakarta.
10. Putranto LS. Rekayasa Lalu Lintas. Cetakan Pertama, PT Mancanan Jaya Cemerlang: Jakarta, hal 116, 2008.

11. Rukin. Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif, Sulawesi Selatan: Yayasan Ahmar Cendekia Indonesia, 2019.
12. Sadjijono. Seri Hukum Kepolisian Polri dan Good Governance, Penerbit Laksbang Mediatama, Jakarta, 2008.
13. Simamora B. Kendala Penegakan Hukum Pelanggaran Lalu Lintas di Indonesia, 2018.
14. Yanuarti Y, Djufri D. Faktor-Faktor yang Mempengaruhi Tingkat Kesadaran Masyarakat tentang Keselamatan Berkendara di Aceh, 2020.
15. Traffic Management Center Indonesia. Road Safety Strategy Indonesia 2021-2030, 2021.
16. Yanuarti Y, Djufri D. Faktor-Faktor yang Mempengaruhi Tingkat Kesadaran Masyarakat tentang Keselamatan Berkendara di Aceh, 2020.