



## LEGAL PROTECTION AGAINST CHILD EXPLOITATION IN THE DIGITAL ERA BASED ON THE PERSPECTIVE OF JUSTICE

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**Abstract:** This article discusses legal protection against child exploitation in the digital era which includes the legal basis, the role of the authorities, the challenges faced, as well as prevention and law enforcement efforts that can be taken. Child protection laws and laws regarding gambling crimes, human trafficking crimes, and human organ trafficking crimes provide the legal basis for child protection in the digital era. This research is normative legal research, using a statutory approach. This normative legal research is based on primary and secondary legal materials, namely research that refers to the norms contained in statutory regulations. library data collection method, or research in which the research object is explored through a variety of library information, including books, encyclopedias, scientific journals, and documents.

in conclusion, protecting children from exploitation in the digital era is a formidable challenge that requires a multifaceted and evolving approach. It is only through the lens of justice—balancing prevention, protection, and prosecution—that we can hope to safeguard the innocence and rights of children in this increasingly digital world.

**Keywords:** Legal Protection, Children Protection, Digital Era.

## INTRODUCTION

Technological developments have a significant impact on the lives of global society. One of them is information technology in the form of the internet. The internet was initially only developed for military, research and educational purposes, but it seems that as it develops the internet is also needed to facilitate things that are still conventional. The massive development of the internet has formed a new culture in social life and given birth to new laws known as cyber law or also often referred to as cyber law. Considering that the scope of cyber is so broad and almost touches all aspects of life, cyber law relies on several legal disciplines, including criminal law, intellectual property rights, civil law, private international law and international law. The conveniences provided by the presence of technology are misused by a handful of people, giving rise to new social pathologies, one of which is the exploitation of children in the digital world.

In the increasingly developing digital era, children often become victims of exploitation in cyberspace. Children who access the internet, social media and other technology too easily are vulnerable to becoming victims of exploitation such as sexual abuse, human trafficking, child pornography and other crimes involving children as victims.

Children are a gift and trust given by God to parents who have the obligation to look after them wholeheartedly, so that children can grow without threats and challenges befalling them so that children grow well. As parents, you need to be well prepared to care for your children. , so that children's growth and

development can be optimal from a physical and psychological perspective. There are several things that need to be prepared, such as financial preparation and the parenting style that will be implemented. Most parents don't prepare things

This can cause serious problems that impact children.

The family should be the first protection for children from various threats. However, there are still many problems in children that occur due to their parents not being prepared before marriage, for example: divorce, economic problems, parents' immaturity and distance from religion. Children need harmony and harmony in the household, because the place where they live is the only area and natural environment that can be used to educate children properly and correctly, whether physical education or spiritual education and will grow in their souls a sense of love and affection.

The second protection is the community, when undesirable things happen to the family, the people take a role by taking preventative action. If it is felt that the community's performance is inadequate then the final protection is the government which has the authority and policies to ensure everyone Children have the right to receive protection and services that are safe for children. Synchronously using Law No. 39 of 1999 on human rights discourse includes article 52 paragraphs 1 and 2 which contains: "(1) every child has the right to protection by parents, family, community and the State. (2) Children's rights are Human Rights (HAM) and it is in their interests that children's rights are recognized and

protected by law even from the time they are in the womb."

The virtual community continues to grow every year, based on results Ministry of Communication and Information observations of active internet users grew 11% in 2021 to 202.6 million users. Growth Internet users make cyberspace one of the easiest places the current practice of child exploitation. Based on a survey of exploitation cases children often occur in the media space, the Indonesian Child Protection Commission (KPAI) found 35 cases of child exploitation during the January-April 2021 period involving 234 victims. Around 60% of cases are sexual exploitation and child labor occurs in cyberspace online. Social media has become a forum for child exploitation present time.

Basically, Indonesia has specifically regulated offenses regarding child victims of sexual exploitation which are regulated in Law Number 35 of 2014, Article 76 I, amendments to Law No. 23 of 2002, regulated in Article 88, namely a maximum prison sentence of 10 years. and a maximum fine of IDR 200,000,000.00. And Indonesia has also established institutions tasked with defending and supervising children's rights, but the problem of crimes against children who are victims of sexual exploitation remains high and according to data is higher than the previous year, in Article 20 of Law Number 35 of 2014 Concerning Child Protection states that every level, both government and society, is obliged and responsible for implementing child protection. Therefore, it is necessary to discuss legal protection based on these problems.

In this digital era, not only adult celebrities, but now children are also involved in the process of promoting a product for children and turning children into figure, several children were involved as service providers. Thus, children have become targets of interest for many groups, including for commercial purposes that are detrimental to the best interests of children. How currently there has been a kind of network that uses children as its objects<sup>5</sup>. Children are used as objects for product promotions, and so on. In the perspective of Indonesian law, it guarantees the right of every child to obtain protection from economic exploitation activities and any work that endangers them, so that it can disrupt their education, physical health, morals, social life and mental and spiritual life. However, in reality on the ground, children's rights have not been fulfilled in a systematic and sustainable manner.

The involvement of children in this service business attracts attention for more in-depth analysis using the lens of criminal law related to fulfilling the elements of economic exploitation of children. Referring to the description of the problem above, the main explanation will be formulated with the title "Legal Protection Against Child Exploitation in the Digital Era" as follows, what is the legal protection against child exploitation in Indonesia?

### **MAIN PROBLEM**

Know how to protect children against crimes of exploitation of minors, especially in the digital era like now based on perspective of justice.

### **METHOD OF RESEARCH**

This research is normative legal research, using a statutory approach.

This normative legal research is based on primary and secondary legal materials, namely research that refers to the norms contained in statutory regulations. A legislative approach is used to find out the rules regarding the criminal liability of parents who exploit children for social media purposes. Primary legal materials are legal materials that are authoritative in nature. Primary legal materials consist of legislation, official records or treatises in making laws and judges' decisions.

1. The primary legal materials used to analyze the problem formulation are:
  - a. Law no. 35 of 2014 Amendment to Law no. 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection;
  - b. Law no. 11 of 2008 concerning Information and Electronic Transactions.
2. Secondary legal materials used to discuss problems are:
  - a. Book
  - b. Scientific journals
  - c. Encyclopedia
  - d. document.

## **RESEARCH RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### **A. Legal protection for child exploitation**

In the current digital era, children are increasingly vulnerable to becoming victims of exploitation, especially via the internet. Various forms of exploitation such as child pornography, child trafficking and online fraud pose serious threats to children. Therefore, adequate legal protection is essential to safeguard the safety and welfare of children. The Indonesian government has issued Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection and has not yet

provided articles regarding the influence of hedonism and the impact of technology from the increasingly widespread influence of globalization, not even in consideration. The new Child Protection Law includes Special Protection articles, Article 59: "The government and other State institutions are obliged and responsible to provide special protection to children in emergency situations, children in conflict with the law, children from minority and isolated groups, children economically/or sexually exploited, children who are trafficked, children who are victims of abuse of narcotics, alcohol, psychotropic substances and other addictive substances (drugs), children who are victims of kidnapping, sales and trafficking, children who are victims of violence, both abuse and neglect."

Effectiveness of Law no. 35 of 2014 regarding children as victims of online prostitution, pimps are punished or charged with Article 88 in conjunction with Article 76 letter i of Law no. 35 of 2014 with the threat of a prison sentence of 10 (ten) years if someone commits violence, or persuades a child to commit obscene acts or participates in economic and/or sexual exploitation of children. In addition to a 10 year prison sentence, the pimp perpetrator was charged under Article 45 Paragraph (1) of Law No. 19 of 2016 with a maximum sentence of 6 years, as well as Article 296 of the Criminal Code with a sentence of 1 year and 4 months and Article 506 of the Criminal Code with a penalty of 1 year 4 months. 3 months in prison.

Even though it is explicitly difficult to prove, if the goal of parents using children as objects of social media content is to earn money from this

activity then referring to the law what the parents do can be categorized as economic exploitation of children. If we underline the phrase 'both economic and sexual exploitation', of course child exploitation is a form of criminal act and parents as perpetrators of exploitation can be subject to criminal liability.

In Law no. 11 of 2008 concerning Information and Electronic Transactions (UU ITE) in Chapter VII Prohibited Acts does not clearly state the prohibition on exploiting children for social media content. ITE Law

only explains criminal provisions relating to morality or sexual exploitation of children, namely in Article 52 paragraph (1). So, to complete and perfect the ITE Law, there needs to be connectivity with the Child Protection Law.

On the other hand, the police and law enforcement also play an important role in providing protection for children from exploitation in the digital era. They must be able to take action against criminals and pursue legal demands firmly. However, legal protection for children in the digital era is still a complex issue. Because technology is becoming increasingly sophisticated and complex, the challenges in monitoring and preventing child exploitation are becoming greater. Therefore, synergy is needed between the government, police, law enforcement and society to ensure that children receive adequate protection in the digital era.

To find out whether the exploitation of children by their parents for social media content can be categorized as a criminal act, you must know the elements of criminal acts mentioned in the relevant law. The elements of the crime of child exploitation are:

a. Each person

People are subjective elements, namely perpetrators who commit criminal acts who are capable of being legally responsible for the criminal acts they commit.

b. Those who economically or sexually exploit children what is meant here is employing or trafficking children in the sexual sector for profit.

c. With the intention of benefiting yourself or others a person who sexually exploits children has the intent and purpose of benefiting himself or others by committing a criminal act of sexual exploitation of children in which a child must be receive protection and be kept away from prostitution activities that are contrary to their dignity.

One form of child exploitation in the digital era is child pornography. Child pornography is the creation, distribution and use of pornographic material involving minors. This can happen through the internet, social media, or chat applications used by sexual offenders. Apart from child pornography, children can also become victims of grooming, which is a process of manipulation carried out by perpetrators of sexual crimes to prepare children as victims of sexual crimes.

Definition of Children According to Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 35

2014 concerning Amendments to the Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number

23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection in Article 1 Number 1, namely a person who are not yet 18 (eighteen) years old, including children who are still in their teens

content. Definitions related to children are mentioned a lot in various ways

legal regulations both internationally and nationally. Other rights attached to children, including parental obligations towards children, are also contained in Law no. 35 of 2014 concerning amendments to law no. 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection Article 4 states that: "Every child has the right to live, grow, develop and participate appropriately in accordance with human dignity, and to receive protection from violence and discrimination." Thus, it is necessary to map the definition of a child within the legal framework as follows:

#### 1. International Conventions

- a. Convention on the Rights of the Child 1999 The most commonly used definition internationally is definition of children based on the Convention on the Rights of the Child. This rights convention has been ratified by the Indonesian Government through Decree of the President of the Republic of Indonesia Number 36 of 1990. In part 1 of article 1 of the children's rights convention, children are mentioned as follows: "For the purposes of this Convention, a child means every human being under the age of 18 years, unless according to the law applicable to the child it is determined that the age of majority is reached earlier."
- b. ILO Convention Number 182 of 1999 concerning the Worst Forms of Labor for Children. This Convention has been ratified by the Indonesian Government through Law Number 1 of 2000. In this convention, the definition of children is stated in article 2 as

follows: "Children are all people in under 18 years of age".

- c. Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime The Palermo Protocol, has been ratified by the Indonesian Government through Law Number 14 of 2009. In article 3(d) of the protocol, children is defined as follows: "Any person under the age of 18."

#### 2. Indonesian Legislation

Indonesian law recognizes several definitions and age limits for children based on certain criteria as follows:

- a. In the Civil Code of the Civil Code in article 330, the term child is not used but rather the term immature. In this article it is stated that "immature people are those who have not yet reached the age of twenty-one years and have previously been married." Law Number 1 of 1974 concerning Marriage does not specifically mention the age of children but provides a minimum age of 16 years as the marriage age limit for women.
- b. Law Number 3 of 1997 concerning Children's Courts, defines a child in Chapter I, article I as follows: "A child is a person who in the case of a Naughty Child has reached the age of 8 (eight) years but has not yet reached the age of 18 (eighteen) years and never married.
- c. Law Number 39 of 1999 concerning Human Rights defines "a child as every human

- being under 18 (eighteen) years of age and unmarried, including children who are still in the womb if this is in their interests."
- d. Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection defines "a child as someone who is not yet 18 (eighteen) years old, including children who are still in the womb."
  - e. Law Number 21 of 2007 concerning the Eradication of the Crime of Human Trafficking, the definition of a child is stated in article 1 paragraph 5 which reads: "A child is someone aged 18 (eighteen) years, including children who are still in the womb."
  - f. Law Number 44 of 2008 concerning Pornography defines a child as someone who is not yet 18 (eighteen) years old.
  - g. Law Number 11 of 2012 concerning the Juvenile Criminal Justice System, in "article 1 paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 it is stated that children in conflict with the law are children who are 12 years old, but not yet 18 years old who are suspected of committing a criminal act; children who are victims of criminal acts are children under 18 years of age who experience physical, mental suffering and/or economic loss caused by criminal acts; A child who is a witness to a criminal act is a child who is not yet 18 years old who can provide the purposes of investigation, prosecution and examination at a court hearing regarding a criminal case that he or she has heard, seen and/or personally experienced."
- Obligations and responsibilities of parents in Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Amendments to Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection, part four of article 26, namely:
- 1). Parents are obliged and responsible for:
    - a. Caring for, nurturing, educating and protecting children.
    - b. Develop children according to their abilities, talents and interests.
    - c. Prevent marriage at the age of children.
    - d. Providing character education and instilling moral values in children.
  - 2). In the event that parents are absent, or their whereabouts are unknown, or for some reason, are unable to carry out their obligations and responsibilities, then the obligations and responsibilities as intended in paragraph (1) can be transferred to the family, which is carried out in accordance with the provisions of the laws and regulations. valid invitation.
- Based on formal juridical provisions (law), determining a person's maturity is based on biological and psychological maturity, whereas according to customary law provisions determining a person's maturity is only based on biological maturity. Legal protection against child exploitation in the digital era is very important to protect children's rights and minimize the risk of such exploitation. The following are several things that need to be considered in protecting children from exploitation in the digital era. Education and

awareness: Parents, teachers and related parties must provide education and awareness to children about the dangers of exploitation in cyberspace, and ways to protect themselves.

Regulations and Laws, the government needs to make clear regulations and laws regarding child protection in the digital era, including firm legal action against perpetrators of child exploitation. Strict law enforcement: The government and law enforcement officials need to strictly enforce the law against perpetrators of child exploitation, so that it can provide a deterrent effect for perpetrators and minimize the occurrence of such acts of exploitation. Collaboration between parties. Relevant parties such as the government, NGOs, society and the media need to work together to protect children from exploitation in the digital era, as well as provide assistance and support to victims of exploitation.

In protecting children from exploitation in the digital era, the role of parents and related parties is very important. Society needs to continue to educate children and protect them from dangers in cyberspace, as well as provide support and protection for victims of exploitation. With cooperation and appropriate action, we can protect children's rights and prevent exploitation in the digital era.

The integrity of law enforcement plays a major role in matters related to justice. Law enforcement factors are greatly influenced by law enforcement officers whose roles differ from one another. With various kinds of law enforcers who have their own positions, they have a professional attitude in carrying out their duties. The roles of law enforcers are contained in their own regulations so

that there is no overlap regarding their respective duties and roles.

In this case, society also plays an important role in preventing child exploitation in the digital era. Parents and educators must equip children with knowledge and awareness about the dangers of exploitation on the internet, as well as ways to protect themselves from these dangers.

### **B. Legal Protection Against Child Exploitation in the Digital Era**

Due to developments in technology and the internet, children are increasingly vulnerable to various forms of exploitation, such as child pornography, kidnapping, bullying and human trafficking. Therefore, legal protection for children is very necessary to provide effective protection for children who are victims of exploitation in the digital era. Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Child Protection states that children must be protected from various forms of violence and exploitation, including exploitation in cyberspace. Apart from that, this law also provides provisions for criminal sanctions for perpetrators of crimes against children in cyberspace, such as the distribution of child pornography and criminal acts of human trafficking.

Through the legal protection law for children that has been created, there is a strong legal basis to provide protection for children from various forms of exploitation in the digital era. The existence of provisions governing criminal sanctions for perpetrators of crimes against children in cyberspace can be a deterrent effect for perpetrators of crimes and provide a sense of security for children. Apart from that, campaigns and outreach



regarding the importance of child protection in the digital era can increase public awareness and make them more careful in using information technology and social media. In this way, it is hoped that it can reduce the risk of child exploitation in this era of digital development.

McLuhan and Quentin Fiore stated that media in every era has become the essence of society. McLuhan stated that the media functions as an extension of human senses in each era, namely as follows:

#### 1. Era of Favor

During the era of preference for the senses of hearing, smell and taste, it was the sense that humans used more often, especially the first. In this period, culture was very oriented towards hearing and people communicated more relying on their ears.

#### 2. Era of Writing

In the era of writing, the emphasis was on the sense of sight, which was marked by the introduction of the alphabet and therefore the eyes became the dominant sense in communicating.

#### 3. Print Era

The invention of the printing press marked the emergence of the printing era in human civilization and the beginning of the industrial revolution. If the era of writing allowed people to depend more on visual functions, then in the print era this dependence was more widespread.

#### 4. Electronic Era

The electronic era has brought humans back to preferred situations that place more emphasis on verbal (oral) communication. Electronic media has characteristics such as oral conversations which are immediate and brief, which means that the

reception of information and reactions given are immediate and brief. According to McLuhan, in the electronic era people speak via television, radio, cassettes, photographs, answering machines, telephones, blogs and e-mail.

#### 5. Digital Era

With technological developments in the field of information technology, it has also triggered major changes in digitalization technology, namely that all media content, both print and electronic, can be combined and distributed. Flew stated that digital media is a form of media content that combines and integrates data, text, sound and various images stored in digital format and distributed via a network such as fiber optic cables, satellites and low wave transmission systems. Meanwhile, in the digital era, humans use media such as the internet.

Technology in today's increasingly sophisticated digital era is causing major changes in the world. Humans have made it easier to access information through various means and can enjoy the facilities of digital technology freely, but negative impacts also appear to be threatening. Crime is easily facilitated, online games can damage the mentality of the younger generation, pornography and copyright violations are easily committed by every human being if they do not use media well in the digital era.

If the exploitation of children for social media content is a criminal act, of course there are legal consequences for parents as perpetrators, namely criminal liability. Article 76I of the Child Protection Law prohibits anyone from placing, allowing, carrying out, ordering to carry out, or participating in

economic and/or sexual exploitation of children. So referring to Article 88 of the Child Protection Law, every person who violates the provisions as intended in Article 76I, will be punished with imprisonment for a maximum of 10 (ten) years and/or a fine of a maximum of IDR 200,000,000.00 (two hundred million rupiah). Apart from that, if the form of exploitation is a violation of morality, the perpetrator can be charged under Article 27 paragraph (1) of the ITE Law. This article prohibits every person from intentionally and without right distributing and/or transmitting and/or making accessible Electronic Information and/or Electronic Documents which contain content that violates decency. If this is done to a child, the child's position here will become a burdensome element. As explained in Article 52 paragraph (1) of the ITE Law: In the case of criminal acts as intended in Article 27 paragraph (1) concerning morality or sexual exploitation of children is subject to one third of the principal penalty.

Regarding economic exploitation of children, Indonesia has several provisions apply. These provisions include Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection (State Gazette of the Republic of Indonesia of 2002 Number 109, Supplement to State Gazette of the Republic of Indonesia Number 4235) Jo. Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 35 of 2014 concerning Amendments to Law Number 23 of 2003 concerning Child Protection (State Gazette of the Republic of Indonesia of 2014 Number 297, Supplement to State Gazette of the Republic of Indonesia Number 5882) hereinafter referred to as the

Child Protection Law, Law Republic of Indonesia Number 21 of 2007 concerning the Eradication of the Crime of Human Trafficking (State Gazette of the Republic of Indonesia of 2007 Number 58, Supplement to the State Gazette of the Republic of Indonesia Number 4720) hereinafter referred to as the Law on the Eradication of the Crime of Trafficking in Persons, Law Number 23 of 2004 concerning the Elimination Domestic Violence (State Gazette of the Republic of Indonesia 2004 Number 95, Supplement

State Gazette of the Republic of Indonesia Number 4419) hereinafter referred to as the Domestic Violence Elimination Act, and

Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 13 of 2003 concerning Employment (State Gazette of the Republic of Indonesia of 2003 Number 39, Supplement to State Gazette of the Republic of Indonesia Number 4279) hereinafter referred to as the Employment Law. In these various provisions, the definition of economic exploitation can be seen. Economic Exploitation according to the explanation of Article 66 of the Child Protection Law is an action with or without the consent of a child who is a victim which includes but is not limited to prostitution, forced labor or services, slavery, or practices similar to slavery, oppression, blackmail, physical, sexual, reproductive organs, or unlawfully moving or transplanting organs and/or body tissue or exploiting the child's energy or abilities by another party to obtain material benefits." According to the Law on the Eradication of Criminal Acts of Trafficking in Persons Article 1 number 7, Exploitation is an action with or without the victim's consent which

includes but is not limited to prostitution, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, oppression, blackmail, physical, sexual or reproductive use of organs, or unlawfully moving or transplanting organs and/or body tissue or exploiting a person's energy or abilities by another party to obtain material or immaterial benefits. Then, related to economic exploitation of children, there is a prohibition against exploiting children in Article 76l of the Child Protection Law which reads "Every person is prohibited from placing, allowing, carrying out, ordering to carry out, or participating in economic and/or sexual exploitation of children. ". Apart from that, the Labor Law also provides a prohibition against exploiting children as regulated in article 68. However, the question is, in the Labor Law there is an exception for children aged 13-18 years who are allowed to work with certain conditions as stated in the article. 69 of the Employment Law. In connection with these two incompatible provisions, it is deemed necessary to have clear parameters for law enforcement to be carried out against parties who carry out economic exploitation of children. Basically, a child's rights are protected based on the provisions of the laws and regulations in force in Indonesia, such as the Child Protection Law. It needs to be realized that a child cannot determine what is best for himself, so this needs to be paid attention to regarding the protection of the rights of a child who is a victim of economic exploitation. In this context, in accordance with article 1 point 1 of the Child Protection Law, A child is someone who is not yet 18 (eighteen) years old, including children

who are still in the womb. Apart from that, in the Law on the Eradication of the Crime of Trafficking in Persons, a child is a child who is not yet 18 (eighteen) years old, including children who are still in the womb.

Children are the future successors of the nation who will later become one of the resources

human power which is the potential and successor to the ideals of the nation's struggle in

the future, which of course has a strategic role and has characteristics and special nature, requiring guidance and protection in order

ensure physical, mental and social growth and development

balanced. In accordance with the provisions of Article 76l of the Child Protection Law, every

People are prohibited from exploiting children economically or financially

sexual. Next, the main focus is eradicating child exploitation

Economics is an effort to legally protect children as victims.

The special protection given to children refers to the provisions in Article 66 of the Child Protection Law which is limited to 3 things, namely:

1. Dissemination and/or socialization of the provisions of laws and regulations relating to the protection of children who are economically and/or sexually exploited.
2. Monitoring, reporting and providing sanctions
3. Involvement of various companies, trade unions, non-governmental organizations and the community in eliminating economic and/or sexual exploitation of children.

The role of technology can also help in protecting children in the digital era. Technology can be used to monitor

children's activities on digital media and provide early warning if there are indications of crime. However, the use of technology must be balanced with protecting children's privacy and freedom of expression. Overall, legal protection against child exploitation in the digital era is very important and requires cooperation from all parties. Protecting children in digital media is not only the responsibility of the authorities, but also the responsibility of parents, society and technology itself. In facing existing challenges, more effective and firm prevention and law enforcement efforts are needed to protect children from crime and exploitation in the digital era.

## **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, legal protection against child exploitation in the digital era is very important to maintain the safety and welfare of children. Laws and conventions on children's rights have provided an adequate legal basis, but increasing challenges require synergy between the government, police, law enforcement and society to provide optimal protection for children. Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 23 of 2022 has explained Child Protection.

The legal protection law is a legal basis created to provide protection for people's basic rights, including the protection of children. In the legal protection law for children, there are various provisions that regulate the rights and protection of children in various aspects of life, such as the right to education, the right to health, and the right to protection from violence and exploitation. Apart from that, the law on the legal protection of children also regulates criminal sanctions for perpetrators of crimes

against children, such as violence and exploitation, including in cyberspace. This aims to provide firm and fair legal protection for children who are victims of these crimes.

Parents and the state both have a very important role in maintaining children's growth, children must have the rights to grow and develop as they should. Therefore, every perpetrator of exploitation of children must be dealt with firmly by the State to provide a deterrent effect so that the perpetrator will never repeat his actions again. The state specifically regulates criminal acts related to crimes against children. Therefore, it is hoped that parents will also look after and protect their children and give them their rights so that they are free from various crimes in today's digital media, especially in cases of child exploitation.

In implementing legal protection laws for children, cooperation is needed between various related institutions and institutions, such as the government, police and the community. Apart from that, education and public awareness are also important to increase understanding of children's rights and protection as well as the importance of maintaining children's safety and welfare. Legal protection against child exploitation in the digital era is very important and must continue to be strengthened. Support from various parties is needed, including parents, government, society and related institutions, to strengthen legal protection for children in the digital world. In this way, children's rights can be protected and the future of the nation's next generation can be well safeguarded.

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