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Analysis of Judges' Decision Consideration in the Crime of Theft with Aggravation Committed by a Child

Article	Abstract
<u>Authors</u> Gusti Wira Tenggani', Dudi Djaja Sidarta ² , & Noenik Soekorini ³ ¹²⁹ Faculty of Law, University of Dr. Soetomo, Indonesia	This study aims to determine the judge's consideration in handing down a verdict on the theft crime with aggravation by minors by formal criminal law and material law. This research is included in field research using a qualitative approach. The subject of this research is the judge who decided the case of theft with aggravation committed by minors. The object of this research is the Directory of decisions based on cases of aggravated theft. The data collection techniques used are literature studies, interviews, and
Coresponding Author: Tenggani, Email: gustiwira1799@gmail.com Data: Received: Sept 05, 2024; Accepted: Nov 15, 2024; Published: Dec 08, 2024. DOI: DOI 10.25139/lex.v8i1	documentation. The instruments of this research are interviews and documentation tools. Data validity is source triangulation and extended observation. The data analysis technique is data reduction, document study, and conclusion drawing. The research results show that: Legal provisions for the crime of theft with aggravation committed by children are regulated in Law Number 11 of 2012 concerning the Child Criminal Justice System and Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Child Protection. In its application, criminal sanctions for theft committed by minors must pay attention to the rights of children who commit criminal acts. The judge considers the valid evidence submitted by the public prosecutor and provides confidence for the judge in deciding that the juvenile offender is guilty of committing the crime of theft with aggravation The cause of the criminal disparity in the judge's decision related to the crime of theft by a child with aggravation is because the judge has the freedom to determine the severity of the punishment by the law.
	Keywords: Juridical Review, Crime, Theft with Aggravation Research distributed under the term of the Creative Commons Attribution

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INTRODUCTION

The nation's morals are declining along with the advancement of time and technology. Social values are broken and damaged. This can be caused by many things, such as promiscuity and lack of religious education that includes moral and moral education.¹ Economic problems or the

¹ Nurhayati et al, "Seeking Substantive Justice: The Progressive Spirit of Law on Sexual Violence Crimes" (2023) 23:3 J Din Huk 556–572.

necessities of life have also greatly influenced the increase in crime, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, when many companies decided to hire their employees to work for them.² Due to unstable economic conditions, people tend to do anything to fulfill their needs, including theft.

One of the most common crimes in society is theft. There are many factors that can lead to theft. Because it involves taking someone else's property without permission and often results in harm to the victim, stealing is considered criminal behavior. Economic factors are the main cause of theft, The objective factors of theft include taking goods, perceiving the goods as objects, and the existence of conditions attached to the goods, either in whole or in part, which are owned by another person.⁸ On the other hand, the subjective elements of theft include intent to illegally possess the goods.

Theft is when a person takes property that belongs to another in whole or in part with the intention of illegal possession. This is regulated in Article 362, which states that "whoever takes property, wholly or partially belonging to another, with intent to possess it illegally, shall, being guilty of theft, be punished by a maximum imprisonment of five years or a maximum fine of nine years".⁴ Theft with aggravation is committed through the threat of aggravation, such as tying up the victim or holding them at gunpoint to prevent them from moving. Looking at the current state of society, someone can look for shortcuts to commit theft, even more so by using aggravation like this. Mass media and electronic media show that the economy influences frequent aggravated thefts, so society as a whole, including law enforcement officials, is responsible for fighting the crime of aggravated theft wholeheartedly.⁵

Aggravated theft, this crime is not always committed by adults but can also be committed by children. Children often look for shortcuts to get an item, one of which is by stealing and then getting money from the sale of the goods. The crime of theft is increasingly being committed by children and is not infrequently accompanied by aggravating circumstances to facilitate the action. Children as one of the legal subjects in this country must also submit and comply with the applicable laws, but of course, there are differences in treatment between adults and children in terms of conflicting with the law. This is intended as an effort to protect children as part of the younger generation. Protection is aimed at various kinds of actions that endanger balance, welfare, security, and social order.

According to Law No. 11/2012 Article 1 paragraph (2) on the Juvenile Criminal Justice System emphasizes that children in conflict with the law are children in conflict with the law, children who are victims of criminal acts, and children who are witnesses to criminal acts. Article 1 paragraph (3) of Law Number 11/2012 on the Juvenile Criminal Justice System also confirms that children in conflict with the law, hereinafter referred to as children, are children who have reached the age of 12 (twelve) years, but not yet 18 (eighteen) years old who are suspected of committing a criminal offense. Children in conflict with the law can be sentenced or sanctioned in the form of action or punishment if proven to have violated criminal law legislation. Based on this description, the researcher is interested in conducting legal writing with the title "Analysis of Judges' Decision Consideration in the Case of Criminal Theft with Aggravation Committed by Children".

² Rusdianto et al, "Diskursus Hukum: Analisis Tanggung Jawab Negara dalam Menanggulangi Peningkatan Kasus Covid-19 melalui Penerapan Karantina Wilayah/Lockdown" (2022) 3:1 Indones Berdaya 53-60.

³ Laila Mamluchah, "Peningkatan Angka Kejahatan Pencurian pada Masa Pandemi dalam Tinjauan Kriminologi dan Hukum Pidana Islam" (2020) 6:1 Al-Jinayah J Huk Pidana Islam 1–26.

⁴ Ayunadia Hidayah Nabilla, *Tindak Pidana Pencurian Dalam Pasal 362 Kitab Undang-Undang Hukum Pidana Perspektif Hukum Pidana Islam* UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung, 2023) [unpublished].

⁵ Toto Hartono, Mhd Ansori Lubis & Syawal Amry Siregar, "Penegakan Hukum Terhadap Tindak Pidana Pencurian Dengan Kekerasan (Studi Pada Kepolisian Resor Kota Besar Medan)" (2021) 3:1 J Retentum.

RESEARCH METHODS

This research is included in field research using a qualitative approach. The subject of this research is a judge who decides cases of aggravated theft committed by minors. The object of this research is the Directory of decisions based on cases of aggravated theft. The data collection techniques used are literature studies, interviews, and documentation. The instruments of this research are interviews and documentation tools. Data validity is source triangulation and extended observation. The data analysis technique is data reduction, document study, and conclusion drawing.

ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Aggravated theft committed by a minor is a serious criminal offense. The criteria for these cases usually involve the age of the child, the degree of involvement in the act, and the contributing factors of the behavior. Although minors are minors, they can still be subjected to legal sanctions by applicable regulations. However, in handling such cases, the legal system usually considers factors such as the psychological development of the child, the environment in which the child is raised, as well as whether other factors encourage the child to commit such acts. Therefore, handling cases of aggravated theft committed by minors requires a sensitive and holistic approach to ensure justice and proper rehabilitation for the child.

According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary, "tendency" means willingness, desire (preference). So if a minor has the desire or liking to commit the crime of theft, then what needs to be known and analyzed is the causal factor. To find out the causes of minors committing the crime of theft, it is necessary to pay attention to several trends or factors that are interrelated, namely factors from within, environmental factors, and socio-economic factors.⁶ Family or parents are the most important factor in influencing a child's life. Since the fetus, the mother's emotional attitude has a great influence on the development of the womb. According to Drs. Abdulsyair, the internal factors that cause crime are:

- a. Special traits from within the individual.
- b. General traits within the individual.

Children's social environment also affects the development of the soul and personality, because it is an instinct, for humans to gather, play, and hang out with their friends. With the existence of association, it has a good and bad influence on children. The habit of bad children is good at persuading their friends so that they will participate in doing what is planned. According to B. Simajuntak and Soedjono D, the process of a person acting or acting based on behavior is learned negatively, it is said that criminal behavior is inherited so that on that basis no one becomes evil mechanically. Criminal behavior is learned in relationships or communication. The communication relationship can be done verbally or with gestures that contain certain attitudes. The main part of criminal behavior is learned in intimate social groups. From this explanation, a child becomes evil not mechanically but in the environment that gives lessons. The environment is quite influential in providing direction, namely mass media, magazines, newspapers, television, radio, internet, and others. Mass media plays a positive role in increasing public knowledge, because with these tools all events inside and outside the country can be known. Especially with the internet or internet cafes scattered everywhere, causing children to easily accept bad influences, that are not by their age, mental, and personality levels. This is because the level of acceptance of children and adults is not the same, children only imitate what is good according to them, for example, martial arts, boxing, sadism, and even pornography. Thus environmental factors also play an important role in influencing or encouraging children to behave or commit crimes.

⁶ Devi Handayani, "Faktor-Faktor Penyebab Anak Melakukan Pencurian di Wilayah Hukum Kabupaten Pontianak Ditinjau dari Sudut Kriminologi" (2014) 2:3 J Huk Prodi Ilmu Huk Fak Huk Untan (Jurnal Mhs S1 Fak Hukum).

The psychology of aggravated theft committed by minors emphasizes the importance of understanding the background and factors that drive the child to commit such acts. Psychologists tend to see that the criminal actions of minors are often influenced by family environment, socialization, and psychological issues. They may consider that the child may have been influenced by a less conducive environment or lack of parental supervision. Therefore, the approach in dealing with aggravated theft cases involving minors needs to pay attention to psychological aspects and rehabilitation efforts that are appropriate to the age and psychological condition of the child.

The penalties for theft committed by children and adults have significant differences. In cases of violation of the law by children, the provision of punishment or sanctions and the legal process that takes place are different from cases of violation of the law by adults. The rationale for giving punishment by the state is that every citizen is a responsible being and can take responsibility for all his actions. The case of theft with aggravation, regulated in Article 363 of the Criminal Code the prosecution of people who commit theft based on several conditions described in paragraph 1 items 1 to 5, and paragraph 2. From the perspective of the juvenile court, juvenile judges examine and try children's cases with a different approach, including detention that considers the interests of the child and society and a place of detention separated from adults.

The legal system overcomes theft committed by minors by taking into account the provisions in Law Number 11 of 2012 concerning the Child Criminal Justice System and Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Child Protection. In its application, criminal sanctions for theft committed by minors must pay attention to the rights of children who commit criminal acts. The application of restorative justice in the settlement of theft crimes committed by minors is carried out through consensus deliberation between the victim, perpetrator, and community leaders, where the parties are asked to compromise. This approach is in line with the juvenile justice system which prioritizes the Restorative Justice approach. One of the approaches used in dealing with children in conflict with the law is restorative justice, which aims to protect children in conflict with the law, including in cases of theft. In terms of arrest, detention, or imprisonment of children, this is only done as a last resort and must be by applicable law, as stipulated in Article 16 paragraph (3) of the Child Protection Law.

The law has a special approach to cases of theft committed by children. In handling these cases, the legal system pays attention to the rights of children who commit criminal offenses. The approach used in handling children in conflict with the law, including theft cases, is restorative justice. This approach aims to protect children in conflict with the law, taking into account the interests of the child and society and ensuring special protection of the child's physical and mental interests. In addition, in law enforcement against theft by children, the application of restorative justice is carried out through consensus deliberation between the victim, perpetrator, and community leaders, where the parties are asked to compromise. This is in line with the juvenile justice system which prioritizes the Restorative Justice approach.⁷

In dealing with theft involving children, the law has a special approach that takes into account the rights of children who commit criminal acts. The application of criminal sanctions for theft committed by minors must pay attention to the legal basis relating to the crime so that the application of these sanctions is not separated from the rights of children who commit criminal acts. The concept of deliberation has proven to be effective in resolving disputes in society amid the failure of the role of the state and the courts in providing justice. With the application of restorative justice, the case may stop at the investigation stage or not be forwarded to court. In some cases, restorative justice efforts can obtain an agreement by each party, so that the case does not proceed to the prosecution level. In addition, one of the rights of children who commit theft crimes

⁷ Nurul Putri Awaliah Nasution, Jubair & Abdul Wahid, "The Concept of Restorative Justice in Handling Crimes in the Criminal Justice System" (2022) 1:5 Eur J Law Polit Sci 32-41.

remains protected, and the arrest, detention, or imprisonment of children is only carried out as a last resort and must be by applicable law. Thus, the handling of theft cases involving children is carried out by taking into account the rights of children and using a restorative justice approach.

Social rehabilitation programs for children who commit crimes, including theft, are carried out through various approaches. One of the approaches used is restorative justice, where consensus between the victim, perpetrator, and community leaders can be reached to reach an agreement in resolving the case. In addition, there are social institutions that provide rehabilitation for children involved in criminal acts, such as theft cases. In these social institutions, children receive mental, physical, social, and skills development, as well as approaches through motivation, group counseling, psychological therapy, and religious approaches. This rehabilitation program aims to help children involved in criminal acts, including theft, to return to society with better behavior. There are various rehabilitation programs aimed specifically at juvenile offenders.

The discussion of whether a judge's decision is flawed must be reviewed from the principles of the decision that must be applied in deciding a case. In essence, these principles are contained in Article 50 of Law No. 48 of 2009 concerning Judicial Power, which contains clear and detailed reasons. Judges must conduct in-depth considerations before making a decision. Decisions that do not meet these requirements are categorized as decisions that are insufficiently considered or insufficiently motivated. Reasons may be derived from specific sections of legislation, customary law, jurisprudence, or legal doctrine.

Article 50 of Law No. 48 on Judicial Power confirms that court decisions must not only contain the reasons and basis for the decision but must also contain sections of relevant legislation or unwritten sources of law used as a basis for the court. Article 5 of the Judicial Power Act states that the judge must suffice for any legal reason not raised by the litigant to fulfill the values of the obligation, according to Article 178 paragraph 1 HIR. Article 10 of the Criminal Code states that punishment consists of principal punishment and additional punishment. Where the main punishment contains the death penalty, imprisonment (can be life imprisonment or temporary imprisonment), confinement, and fine. Meanwhile, additional punishment is in the form of revocation of certain rights, confiscation of goods, and announcement of the judge's decision. The Law on Juvenile Criminal Justice System does not follow Article 10 of the Criminal Code, where this Law sets its sanctions. The criminalization of children in this Law is contained in Article 71 to Article 81. In the Law on Juvenile Justice, the punishment is divided into 2 (two), Principal Punishment and Additional Punishment. Basic Criminal Punishment for Children consists of: Warning Criminal; Criminal with Conditions (Development outside the institution; Community service; Supervision); Job Training; Development in the institution; and Imprisonment. Meanwhile, Additional Punishment is divided by provisions: If the material law imposes cumulative punishment in the form of imprisonment and fine, the fine shall be replaced with vocational training; The punishment imposed on the child is prohibited to violate the dignity of the child.

Article 6 paragraph 2 of the Judicial Power Act states that "no one shall be sentenced to punishment unless the court, using valid evidence under the law, is convinced that a person who is considered liable, has been guilty of the offense charged against him." The provisions of Article 183 of the Criminal Procedure Code state that the judge may not impose a sentence on a person unless at least two valid means of evidence, he is convinced that a criminal offense has occurred and that the defendant is the one guilty of committing it. This provision aims to ensure the establishment of truth, justice, and legal certainty for a person. Based on the explanation above, it is associated with some of the facts in the trial that exist in the decision Number Study Number 18/Pid.Sus-Child/2021/PN Bangkinang, the research results show that:

a. Prosecutor's Indictment

The public prosecutor has charged the children with a sentence of 3 (three) months. Meanwhile, the request of the child's legal counsel was conveyed orally at the trial so that the child could be decided with a verdict returned to his parents, and at the trial the child requested to be sentenced as lightly as possible; Considering, that the parents/guardians at the trial have testified, each of them said that the parents asked the Judge examining the case a quo to be able to provide an opportunity to correct his mistakes and return the children to the parents.

The child's parents promise to supervise and pay attention to the child so that the act will not be repeated and the children still want to continue their education, while this case is being processed the children do not go to school. Considering, that based on these considerations considering the Criminal Charges of the Public Prosecutor, the recommendation of the Community Counselor (PK) from the Community Center (BAPAS) Klas II Pekanbaru, and the defense of the legal counsel of the Children and also the request of the child's parents, the Juvenile Judge will consider a proper and fair punishment by the actions committed by the Child to provide a deterrent effect on the child and after serving the sentence the child can return to being a law-abiding citizen.

Considering, that because the child is capable of taking responsibility, he/she must be found guilty and sentenced; Considering, that in this case against Child 1 and Child 2 legal detention has been imposed, therefore the period of detention must be deducted in full from the sentence imposed. Meanwhile, Child 3 has never been detained in this case because he was detained in another case. Considering, that because Child 1 and Child 2 are detained and the detention of the child is based on sufficient reasons, it is necessary to order the child to remain in detention; Considering, that Child 3 is not detained and in the opinion of the Judge there are sufficient reasons for detention, it is necessary to order Child 3 to be detained.

b. Judge's Decision

The judge in handing down the decision has considered that to impose a sentence on the child, it is necessary to first consider the aggravating and mitigating circumstances of the child:

- 1) The child's actions have harmed Darusalam Mushalla.
- 2) The child's actions have disturbed the community.
- 3) Matters that alleviate:
 - a) The children were polite in court;
 - b) The children have never been convicted;
 - c) The children are young and can still improve themselves;
 - d) The children regretted their actions and promised not to repeat their actions;
 - e) There has been peace between the parents of the Children and the management of Mushalla Darussalam.

Considering that because the Children are sentenced and the legal counsel and the Children at the trial have never asked for a waiver of court costs, the court costs arising in this case shall be borne by the Children; Noting Article 363 Paragraph (1) 4th of the Criminal Code Jo Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 11 of 2012 concerning the Juvenile Justice System, and Criminal Procedure Law and other relevant laws and regulations; Judge:

- a) To declare that Child 1, Child 2, and Child 3 are legally and convincingly proven guilty of committing the crime of "Theft Under Aggravating Circumstances" as stated in the Second alternative charge of the public prosecutor;
- b) To punish Child 1, Child 2, and Child 3 with imprisonment of 2 (two) months each to be served in LPKA Pekanbaru;

- c) Determining that the period of detention served by Child 1, Child 2 shall be fully deducted from the punishment imposed;
- d) Stipulate that Child 1, and Child 2 shall remain in detention.

c. Researcher Analysis

Based on the explanation above, the author considers that the legal facts, witness testimony, and the elements contained in Article 363 paragraph 2 charged by the public prosecutor to the juvenile defendant have been fulfilled and Article 6 paragraph 2 of Law Number 48 of 2009 concerning Judicial Power which states that "no one shall be sentenced to punishment unless the court, using valid evidence under the law, is convinced that a person who is deemed to be liable, has been guilty of the act charged against him". " then the author considers that the child is legally and convincingly proven to have committed the crime of theft with aggravation. The author considers that the charges made by the public prosecutor against the juvenile defendant and the final decision given by the judge using Article 363 paragraph 2 of the Criminal Code are by what the juvenile has done.

The charges given by the public prosecutor and the final decision given by the judge are binding that the punishment and punishment for children must be ½ of the maximum threat for adults, this regulation is contained in Article 81 paragraph 2 of Law Number 11 of 2012 concerning the Juvenile Criminal Justice System. Then in this case the public prosecutor charged the juvenile defendant with 3 months imprisonment, then the judge sentenced the juvenile defendant to 2 months imprisonment. The author considers that the judge's decision is following the provisions of the applicable law.

In line with the results of Abdullah et.al.'s research, regarding Case Study of Decision Number: 2/Pid.Sus-Child/2022/PN.Brb, the legal considerations of the judge in imposing a criminal verdict against the child perpetrator of the crime of theft in aggravating circumstances against the Defendant / Child I and Child II, with the decision sentencing the Defendant / Child I and Child II, with the decision sentencing the Defendant / Child I and Child II, with the decision sentencing the Defendant / Child I and Child II to 4 (four) months, based on case verdict Number 2/Pid.Sus-Child/2022/PN.Brb.⁸ Whereas based on the facts revealed during the trial, it is known that the Defendant / Child I and Child II have repeatedly committed similar crimes and in Article 363 paragraph (2) of the Criminal Code the maximum penalty is 9 (nine) years. So it is felt that the application of the criminal decision is still very light and not optimal. The suggestion put forward is that it should be able to provide maximum sanctions specifically against children who have repeatedly committed similar crimes as long as they are by applicable legal provisions.

Decision Number 2/Pid.Sus-Anak/2019/PN Dps can be used as a comparison with the criminal decision handed down in Decision Number 2/Pid.Sus-Anak/2022/PN Brb, which is a verdict on the crime of theft in aggravating circumstances committed by a child, with the same object of theft, a motorcycle. As with the decision of the child criminal case that the author reviewed, Decision Number 2/Pid.Sus-Anak/2019/PN Dps stated that the Defendant / Child was legally and convincingly proven guilty of committing the crime of theft in aggravating circumstances.

Decision Number 2/Pid.Sus-Anak/2019/PN Dps stated that the Defendant/Child was legally and convincingly proven guilty of committing the crime of theft under aggravating circumstances. For the witnesses imposed on the Defendant or Child, they received a prison sentence of 7 (seven) months. This is longer than the prison sentence given by the author, which is 4 (four) months. However, the decision of the community supervisor of the Correctional

⁸ Muhammad Zen Abdullah, Bunyamin Alamsyah & Dhania Alifia, "Analisis Yuridis Putusan Hakim terhadap Tindak Pidana Pencurian dengan Pemberatan yang Dilakukan oleh Anak (Studi Kasus Putusan Nomor: 2/Pid. Sus-Anak/2022/PN. Brb)" (2023) 15:2 Leg J Huk 325-331.

Center Number 2/Pid.SusAnak/2019/PN Dps shows that the defendant or child has not repeatedly committed similar crimes before. This shows that, based on Decision Number 2/Pid.Sus-Anak/2022/PN Brb, the criminal sanctions given to Defendant/Child I and Child II are quite lenient. However, based on the theory of the purpose of punishment, it is explained that it is carried out to provide the purpose and objective of punishment, namely to correct the dissatisfaction of the community caused by the criminal act. With lenient criminal sanctions, the public is concerned about law enforcement and even distrusts the law itself.

The basis for the judge's consideration in imposing the severity of criminal sanctions on children who commit theft with aggravation is if the perpetrator commits an act by what has been mentioned as a criminal offense with aggravation in article 363 of the Criminal Code. Article 5 paragraph 1 of Law number 48 of 2009 concerning Judicial Power states that "Judges and constitutional justices are obliged to explore, follow and understand the legal values and sense of justice that exist in society." There are 4 categories of judge's consideration in deciding a case that specifically contains punishment, namely the judge's consideration which is juridical, philosophical, sociological, and non-juridical.

Juridical considerations are those that refer to the articles charged by the Public Prosecutor in the indictment, namely drawing on the legal facts revealed in the trial which arise as a conclusion from the statements of the witnesses who have been presented, the statements of the Defendant and the evidence presented and examined at the court hearing. Philosophical considerations are considerations or elements that focus on the value of justice for the defendant and victim. Meanwhile, according to Bagir, Marun reflects philosophical values or values contained in legal ideals. Necessary as a means of ensuring justice. Justice is generally defined as fair actions or actors, while fairness means being impartial, not taking sides with what is right. Sociological considerations, namely a decision that meets sociological considerations, namely a decision that does not conflict with the laws that exist in society, reflects the demands or needs of society in a solution that is needed as a means of ensuring benefits.

Non-juridical considerations include consideration of aggravating or mitigating factors for the defendant. A judge in making a decision must consider whether the defendant committed the act of which he is accused. The judge must also consider aggravating and mitigating factors for the defendant. In terms of sentencing, judges are influenced by many things that can be used as considerations to determine the severity of the sentence, both within and outside the law, lest the judge's determination of the sentence will hurt people's lives in general and the law itself. In particular.

CONCLUSION

Legal provisions for criminal acts of theft with aggravation committed by children are regulated in Law Number 11 of 2012 concerning the Juvenile Criminal Justice System and Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Child Protection. In its application, criminal sanctions for theft committed by minors must take into account the rights of children who commit criminal acts. The judge considers the valid evidence presented by the public prosecutor and gives the judge confidence in finding the child perpetrator guilty of committing the crime of theft with aggravation. The reason for the criminal disparity in judges' decisions regarding the crime of theft by children with aggravation is that the judge has the freedom to determine the severity. Criminal penalties as determined by law. Based on the study of decision number 18/Pid.Sus-Anak/2021/PN Bangkinang, shows that the judge has carefully considered various relevant factors in handing down a decision related to the crime of theft with aggravation committed by a child.

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