

# Academic Manuscript: Draft Regional Government Regulation of Bengkalis Regency Regarding the Implementation of Child-Friendly Regency in Bengkalis

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**Abstract.** As an implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), it is important to develop a normative reference that can serve as a guide in integrating all government and community resources, so that the realization of a Child-Friendly City (CFC) can be achieved promptly. The preparation of the academic manuscript is based on philosophical, sociological, and juridical foundations, and data collection was conducted at several relevant regional government agencies, including the Department of Health, Department of Social Affairs, Department of Civil Registration, and Department of Women Empowerment and Child Protection. There are five program clusters that will be interconnected based on Ministerial Regulation of Women Empowerment and Child Protection No. 12 of 2022, i.e. institutional, civil rights and freedoms, family environment and child upbringing, basic health and welfare, and education, leisure, cultural activities, and special protection.

**Keywords:** Academic Manuscript, Regional Government Regulation, CFC

## 1 Introduction

Children are part of the younger generation and are considered one of the human resources with potential and the future successors of the nation's aspirations. The preamble of The 1945 State Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia guarantees the protection and welfare of all Indonesian people. Furthermore, Article 28B, paragraph 2, stipulates that "every child has the right to survival, growth, and development, as well as the right to protection from violence and discrimination". This constitutional mandate indicates the significant attention given by the Indonesian government and state to the protection and welfare of Indonesian citizens, including children.

The guarantee of protection and fulfillment of children's rights is strengthened through the ratification of the International Convention on children's Rights, namely the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). The CRC is a binding agreement among various countries that addresses matters related to children. The objective of the CRC is to establish the principles of recognition of inherent dignity and equal rights for all human beings, especially children, as a foundation for freedom, justice, and peace.

Indonesia has also participated in signing the World Fit For Children (WFFC) Declaration, which aims to create a world that is suitable for children. Therefore, it is necessary to develop an action plan to establish Child-Friendly Regencies/Cities as a form of implementing the WFFC. In order to expedite the fulfillment of children's rights and lay the foundation for

developing Child-Friendly Regencies/Cities, the Child-Friendly Regency/City (KLA) policy has been formulated.

In line with what the Regent of Bengkalis conveyed in 2022, the implementation of Child-Friendly Regency in Bengkalis Regency was actually declared since 2016, and there has even been a local action plan for the years 2017-2022. Since 2016, Bengkalis Regency has already achieved the first ranking; however, there has been no improvement so far. This poses a challenge for the Bengkalis Regency Government to accelerate the ranking of Bengkalis Regency as a Child-Friendly Regency by making efforts to enhance policies and activities that truly meet the needs and best interests of children.

With the process of requesting a recommendation from the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection regarding the Development of a Child-Friendly City (CFC), it is necessary to promptly prepare an Academic Manuscript and Draft Regional government Regulation, which will serve as the basis for discussing the legislative process of the Regional Government Regulation together with the Regional People's Representative Council (Indonesian: Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat, DPRD) of Bengkalis Regency. In response to the above conditions, the preparation of the academic manuscript, carried out by a competent team, and the formulation of the Draft Regional Government Regulation regarding the Implementation of a Child-Friendly Regency are required in accordance with the provisions of the applicable legislation.

## **2 Research Methods**

### **2.1 Data Collection Methods**

The data used in this research consists of primary data and secondary data. Primary data will be collected through in-depth interviews and the opinions of the parties involved in Policy Implementation, specifically related to the Regional Government Regulation in the Regency/City. Secondary data will be collected by visiting relevant departments such as the Department of Health, Department of Social Affairs, Department of Civil Registration, and Department of Women Empowerment and Child Protection.

### **2.2 Data Processing and Analysis**

The preparation of the Academic Manuscript also takes into account legal principles, institutional norms, and community participation.

#### **a. The Philosophical Foundation**

The philosophical foundation is a consideration or rationale which describes that the regulations formed take into account the worldview, consciousness, and legal ideals that encompass the spiritual atmosphere and the philosophy of the Indonesian nation, which is derived from Pancasila and the Preamble of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia.

#### **b. The Sociological Foundation**

The sociological foundation is a consideration or rationale which describes that the regulations formed to fulfill the needs of society in various aspects, including the formulation of the Draft Regional Government Regulation (Indonesian: *Rancangan Peraturan Daerah, Ranperda*) regarding the implementation of a Child-Friendly Regency. The establishment of this *Ranperda* serves as an effective reinforcement and binding force for all stakeholders, including the Regional Government, parents, families, communities, and the business sector, to jointly ensure the fulfillment of children's rights.

Thus, the sociological foundation becomes a strong basis for accommodating community participation and legitimizing their role.

c. The Juridical Foundation

The juridical foundation is a consideration or rationale which describes that the regulations formed to address legal issues or fill legal gaps by taking into account existing rules. The juridical foundation relates to legal issues concerning the substance or material being regulated, thus necessitating the formation of new legislation. The juridical foundation in the formulation of this Draft Regional Government Regulation ensures legal certainty for the government and society in the implementation of a Child-Friendly Regency in Bengkalis, referring to the Constitution, ministerial regulations, and local regulations.

### **2.3 Research Type**

The preparation of this academic manuscript needs to be conducted using the Empirical Juridical research method, also known as socio-legal research, which is carried out through literature and reference studies.

### **2.4 Time and Location**

This study will be conducted for approximately 7 (seven) months, starting from the approval of this proposal. Data collection will be carried out at several locations, i.e. the relevant Regional Government Agencies (Indonesian: *Satuan Kerja Perangkat Daerah*, SKPD) involved in this study, including the Department of Health, Department of Social Affairs, Department of Civil Registration, and Department of Women Empowerment and Child Protection.

### **2.5 Measurement and Observation Parameters**

In this study, the main parameters that are measured or observed are the clusters involved in the formulation of the academic manuscript for the Regional Government Regulation on Child-Friendly Cities in Bengkalis Regency.

## **3 Results and Discussion**

### **3.1 The formulation of the academic manuscript regarding terms or phrases**

The region is the city of Bengkalis Regency, regional Government, the Regional Government consists of the Regent and the regional apparatus of Bengkalis Regency, who serve as the elements responsible for the administration of the regional government, leading the implementation of governance affairs within the scope of regional autonomy, The regency is Bengkalis Regency, the Regional Apparatus Organization (Indonesian: Organisasi Perangkat Daerah), hereinafter referred to as OPD, is the Assistant Element to the Regent in the Implementation of Regional Government Affairs, Children are defined as an individuals who have not yet reached the age of 18 (eighteen) years, including unborn children, and who resides in Bengkalis Regency with civil registration and population administration records maintained by the Regional Government, Children's rights are part of the inherent rights of every human being that must be guaranteed, protected, and fulfilled by parents, families, communities, the State, the government, and the regional government, Child-friendly environment refers to the physical condition of an area where there are infrastructures and facilities managed in such a way that they meet the minimum requirements for the healthy and proper development of children, without containing elements that could harm them, Child-Friendly Regency,

hereinafter referred to as CFC, is a city that has a child rights-based development system through the comprehensive and sustainable integration of commitments and resources from the government, community, and business sector. This integration is carried out in policies, programs, and activities to ensure the fulfillment of children's rights;. Evaluation is an activity to determine whether the efforts made by the region to realize a child-friendly city are in line with the established indicators, Indicators are variables that assist in measuring and assessing the performance of the regional government in striving for the fulfillment of children's rights to achieve a child-friendly regency/city, CFC indicators are variables that serve as measures and values of the annual performance in fulfilling children's rights that must be achieved by the City Government through policies, programs, activities, and budgeting to realize CFC, The implementation of CFC is a series of development activities and public services for the fulfillment of children's rights that must be provided by the Regional Government in an integrated manner.

This includes planning, budgeting, implementing, and evaluating each policy, program, and activity to achieve CFC indicators, Society consists of individuals, families, groups, and social organizations and/or community-based organizations, Family is the smallest unit in society, consisting of a husband and wife, or a husband, wife, and their children, or a father and his children, or a mother and her children, or blood-related family members in the direct line of ascent or descent up to the third degree, Parents are biological father and/or mother, or stepfather and/or stepmother, or adoptive father and/or adoptive mother, Child-Friendly Village/Urban Community is a development initiative at the village/urban community level that unites the commitment and resources of the government to respect, guarantee, and fulfill children's rights. It aims to protect children from violence, exploitation, abuse, discrimination, and ensures their participation by consciously, comprehensively, and sustainably planning for their well-being, The CFC Task Force is a coordinating body at the city level that coordinates policy efforts, programs, and activities to realize a child-friendly city, The Business World is microenterprises, small businesses, medium-sized enterprises, and/or large businesses engaged in economic activities, Mass media refers to the means of delivering messages that directly relate to the general public, such as radio, television, and newspapers.

### **3.2 The Main Subjects to be Regulated**

- a. The Objective of Establishing a Child-Friendly City  
The objective of implementing a Child-Friendly City is to ensure the fulfillment of children's rights in Bengkalis Regency.
- b. The Principles of Child-Friendly City Implementation
  1. Principle of good governance
  2. transparency, accountability, participation, information disclosure, and rule of law.
  3. best interests of the child
  4. fulfilling the rights to life, growth, and development of children.
  5. non-discrimination
  6. respecting the views of children
- c. The strategy for implementing policies in the form of Regional Government Regulations in the Regency/City should include provisions regarding:
  1. Institutional development
  2. Achieving cross-departmental coordination for the establishment of the Child-Friendly City Task Force and the development of a five-year Child-Friendly City Regional Action Plan (CFC RAP)

3. Drafting the regional government regulation on Child-Friendly Regency in collaboration with relevant agencies
4. Facilitating the establishment of children's forums
5. Conducting public awareness campaigns on CFC RAP to enhance community knowledge about Child-Friendly City initiatives\
6. Formulating and approving budgets aligned with policy implementation
7. Conducting regular monitoring and evaluation of the overall policy implementation.

d. Civil Right and Freedom

- 1) All children in Bengkalis regency must be registered and obtain a Birth Certificate Extract. Furthermore, the process of obtaining birth certificates should be made easier and faster, taking no more than 30 days from the application date, as regulated by the legislation.
- 2) Birth certificates serve as a form of protection and recognition by the state regarding the child's legal status, including their identity, name, place and date of birth, parentage, and citizenship.
- 3) This can be achieved through the exemption of fees for obtaining birth certificate extracts for children aged 0 (Zero) to 18 (Eighteen) years old, as well as providing birth registration services at government hospitals, private hospitals, community health centers, clinics, or maternity homes.
- 4) The existence of child-friendly information services. Child-friendly information refers to information that is appropriate for the child's intelligence level and age, information that protects the child, does not contain pornographic content, violence, or sadism, does not exploit children, has a positive tone, and provides benefits for the child's growth and development. Examples of child-friendly information services include:
  - a. Libraries with a child-friendly service approach should provide children's books, children's magazines, and printed materials that are age-appropriate;
  - b. Children's world information center or children's digital information corner, where children can be introduced to healthy information technology (integrated with the library and children's reading park);\
  - c. Developing and expanding the collection of mobile libraries to reach areas that are far from the main library;
  - d. Children's reading parks, which are dedicated libraries or reading spaces specifically designed for children. They contain age-appropriate children's books, educational games, and an environment that reflects children's characteristics;
  - e. Child counseling centers, also serving as a place for learning and developing children's creativity, interests, and talents; and
  - f. Schools' bulletin board, serving as a means for children to develop their creativity and potential.
- 5) The establishment of a Children's Forum, where currently in Bengkalis regency there is already a Children's Forum that needs to be further developed, enhanced in capacity, and implemented up to the village level. This is intended to enable children to participate in development planning.

- e. Family Environment and Child Care
  - 1) The Family Environment is the primary environment and the main caregiver of children. Therefore, it is necessary to encourage the establishment of consultation institutions for parents/families regarding child care and upbringing.
  - 2) Providing guidance or socialization to both families and children to prevent early marriage, involvement in risky behaviors, permissive culture, and to protect them from drug abuse (narcotics, psychotropic substances, and other addictive substances) and the dangers of pornography.
  - 3) Advocating for and promoting socialization related to adolescent reproductive health.
  - 4) Providing welfare support, including financial assistance, educational support for children, or training programs for less privileged families.
  - 5) Ensuring the rights to the growth and development of children and protecting children in vulnerable situations, including children facing social welfare issues
  - 6) Providing child-friendly public infrastructure facilities. Examples: The availability of waiting and/or play areas for children at healthcare facilities, the availability of facilities and infrastructure for people with disabilities (special parking, ramps, and accessible toilets)
  - 7) Providing and promoting the Parenting Skill Institutions.
  
- f. Basic Health and Well-Being
  - 1) Policy to reduce infant mortality rates by providing childbirth assurance for low-income families under the Social Security Administering Body and raising awareness among pregnant women.
  - 2) Policy to reduce the prevalence of malnutrition in toddlers by providing guidance and socialization regarding nutritious food preparation in the neighbourhoods. This can be integrated with the activities of the Family Welfare Empowerment Program (PKK) at the district and village levels, as well as providing supplementary food through regular Integrated Health Posts activities.
  - 3) Promoting exclusive breastfeeding by providing training for breastfeeding counselors.
  - 4) Improving lactation facilities in the workplace and public facilities.
  - 5) Availability of lactation rooms and diaper-changing facilities in public facilities such as offices and other public spaces.
  - 6) Improving child-friendly services in healthcare facilities by providing:
    - a. Counselling rooms for children.
    - b. Educational materials on child health.
    - c. Waiting rooms or play areas for children separate from patient waiting areas.
    - d. No-smoking signs or smoke-free zones
    - e. Lactation rooms and implementation of early breastfeeding initiation.
    - f. Sanitation of healthcare facility environment that meets standards.
    - g. Facilities and infrastructure for children with disabilities.
  - 7) Increasing participation in complete basic immunization through approaches and establishing support institutions.
  - 8) Strengthening the role of Integrated Health Service Posts (Posyandu).
  - 9) Providing opportunities for children to participate in their health needs, such as establishing the School Health Units (UKS).

- 10) Establishing forums or institutions that provide services and guidance on reproductive and mental health.
  - 11) Policies and programs for poverty alleviation in the region through job training, social assistance, and other forms of support.
  - 12) Increasing the percentage of households with access to clean water and adequate sanitation facilities.
  - 13) Regulating and establishing smoke-free areas, including restrictions on cigarette advertising, promotions, and sponsorship.
- g. Education, leisure time, and cultural activities.
- 1) Socialization to increase the participation of early childhood education
  - 2) Holistic Integrated Services for Early Childhood Education
  - 3) Socialization to Increase Participation in 12-year Compulsory Education: The Government of Bengkulu regency has waived school fees up to the level of Senior High School to ensure that children can access basic education.
  - 4) Providing inclusive schools where children with special needs can learn together with other children, accompanied by a special education teacher during teaching and learning activities.
  - 5) Adding and upgrading school facilities and infrastructure such as additional classrooms, expanding the school library book collection, school laboratories, and others.
  - 6) Providing scholarships for students from low-income families.
  - 7) Providing facilities for out-of-school students in Open Schools or Community Learning Centers.
  - 8) Implementing a policy for educational institutions to refrain from expelling students, except in cases where they are involved in criminal activities or when the educational institution is unable to provide further guidance and support.
  - 9) Providing alternative care institutions for children with disabilities.
  - 10) Providing child-friendly facilities for creative and recreational activities outside of school, accessible to all children.
  - 11) Providing city parks, playgrounds, educational parks, art buildings, and sports arenas as venues to hone and develop children's talents, interests, and creativity in the fields of arts, culture, and sports.
  - 12) Availability of safe travel facilities such as Safe School Zones, School Zebra Crossings, School Vehicles, and School Security Officers.
  - 13) Including the cultural and artistic education in school subjects.
  - 14) Providing child-friendly facilities for creative and recreational activities outside of school, accessible to all children; and
  - 15) Establishing child-friendly schools, including:
    7. Having a school policy that is anti-violence, anti-oppression, and anti-bullying, applying to students, educators, and other school staff;
    8. Implementing a School Health Program (Indonesian: Unit Kesehatan Sekolah, UKS);
    9. Maintaining a clean and healthy school environment;
    10. Promoting Healthy and Clean Living Behaviors;
    11. Providing a healthy Honest Canteen;
    12. Involving students and parents in the decision-making process of the school;

13. Ensuring that teachers/educators and school staff are trained on Children's Rights Convention;
14. Caring for the school's cultural and environmental heritage.

h. Special Protections

The provision of services and mental and psychological guidance to children with deviant social behaviour, Development of programs to prevent children from being involved in economic and sexual exploitation, becoming victims of violence in the family, school, or community, becoming victims of substance abuse, HIV and AIDS, becoming victims of kidnapping, becoming victims of child trafficking, becoming victims of trafficking of toddlers, and becoming victims of abandonment, Access to public services and social security for children with disabilities, minority groups, and isolated children, Availability of complaint handling facilities for child social services, Child Welfare Institutions, and shelters, Provision of facilities or institutions for support for children in need of special protection and/or children in conflict with the law (CCL), Policies for resolving cases involving children in conflict with the law using a restorative justice approach, regulations related to the protection of child victims of terrorist networks, availability of institutions providing mental and psychological guidance to children who are victims of violence, establishment of rules regarding the exemption of children from the worst forms of child labor and hazardous forms of child labor. Provision of disaster and conflict management services that prioritize the interests of children, Construction of juvenile correctional facilities or the addition of dedicated buildings for juvenile cases, Provision of lawyers or advocates for children involved in legal cases, from the investigation stage by the police, prosecution, and throughout the trial process.

## 4 Conclusion

As an implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), it is important to develop normative guidelines that can serve as a reference for integrating all government and community resources, so that the realization of a Child-Friendly City can be achieved promptly. Normative, empirical, and theoretical studies indicate that ultimately there are four main concepts in this research, namely policy, protection, environment, and planning for children. These four concepts also seem to be accommodated in various policy products in Indonesia, one of which is in the form of regional regulations.

The concept of planning for children needs to be further examined to be integrated into existing policies either exclusively or operationalized as part of the concept of regional government policies. With active involvement from various stakeholders, it is hoped that the realization of Child-Friendly Cities (CFC) can be accelerated and, more importantly, shared ownership can be created so that CFC can be institutionalized.

Prepare the Regent Regulation regarding the establishment, duties, functions, and working mechanisms of the CFC Task Force to implement the Regional Regulation. Ensure that a public consultation process is conducted to allow the community to provide input in the drafting of the Draft Regional Regulation of Bengkalis Regency regarding Child-Friendly City in accordance with the principles of transparency and community participation provisions.

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