

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF  
CHILD DECENT QANUN IN EAST ACEH DISTRICT**

**1st Mukhlis**

1st Faculty of Law, Malikussaleh University

Email. Mukhlis78@unimal.ac.id

**2nd Muammar**

2nd Faculty of Law, Malikussaleh University

Email.muammar.30@unimal.ac.id

**3rd Fitri Maghfirah**

2nd Faculty of Law, Malikussaleh University

**ABSTRACT**

This research focuses on community involvement in the formation of Qanun Anak in East Aceh District, Indonesia. East Aceh has strong religious and cultural values, which require the implementation of Qanun Anak to protect children's rights. Community involvement is considered essential to reflect local values and ensure the protection of children's rights. Community participation is not only limited to the establishment of the Child Qanun, but also includes implementation and supervision. The ongoing education program aims to increase public understanding of children's rights and open dialogue between the community and the government. Regular consultation forums serve as a forum for evaluating the impact of Qanun Anak, sharing success stories, identifying challenges, and finding solutions together. The local child welfare center becomes a dynamic hub that connects the community with resources to support children. The involvement of village governments, the private sector, and NGOs has had a positive impact with financial support and knowledge to overcome challenges. The mass media is a strategic partner in voicing children's rights and raising public awareness. The campaign through the media helped maintain the momentum of awareness of children's rights and the importance of implementing Qanun Anak. This study used qualitative methods with primary data from direct interviews and secondary data from local governments, children's forums, youth institutions, and the people of East Aceh. Community participation in the formation of Qanun Anak reflects the spirit of democracy, involving religious leaders, traditional leaders, child activists, parents, teachers, and children. The public consultation mechanism involves multiple voices in the harmony of discussion, ensuring the Child Qanun reflects the values and needs of the community. Children's participation is recognized and encouraged, creating regulations that strengthen their rights. This process involves technology with online surveys and virtual discussion forums. Education increases public understanding of children's rights and the urgency of Qanun Anak. The Qanun of a child-worthy city is not just a legal text, but rather a moral manifesto and a shared commitment to protecting children's rights. The people of East Aceh play an active role in making unique contributions, overcoming conflicts through collaboration, and creating an environment of support for children. The urgency of Qanun Anak includes the protection of children's rights, child development support, child empowerment in decisions, empowerment of parents and communities, as well as relevance to contemporary challenges. It is hoped that with the sustainability of community commitment and the real implementation of Qanun Anak, every child can grow up in an environment full of support and equal opportunities.

**Keywords:** *Qanun Anak Aceh Timur, Community Participation, Children's Rights and Welfare Child Welfare Center, Inclusive Child Protection Policy*

## A. INTRODUCTION

This research relies on the deep need to examine community involvement in the process of forming a decent child qanun in East Aceh District. East Aceh, as a district in Aceh Province, Indonesia, has special characteristics as an area that involves strong religious and cultural values in the daily lives of its people.

Child Qanun is a local regulation that regulates the rights and obligations of children and provides a legal basis to protect children's rights. Community involvement in the formation of child qanun is essential because it will ensure that local values, local wisdom, and children's needs are directly reflected in the regulation.<sup>1</sup>

Community involvement does not only stop at the formation process, but becomes an integral part of implementation and supervision. Continuous education programs not only aim to increase public understanding of children's rights, but also open a space for dialogue between communities and governments to discuss changes and updates that may be needed over time. [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)<sup>2</sup>

Periodic consultation forums become a forum to measure the real impact of Qanun Anak in the community. Here, success stories can be shared, challenges identified, and shared solutions sought. Children's participation in decision-making and monitoring of their rights becomes an ingrained practice, illustrating the spirit of inclusiveness and equality.<sup>34</sup>

Strong child welfare centres at the local level become dynamic hubs of activity, bridging bridges between communities and the resources needed to support children. The community, with a burning spirit of citizenship, makes this center not only a place to

---

<sup>1</sup> Muammar, "Effectiveness of Caning Implementation for Violations of Islamic Sharia Qanun in Aceh," *Association of Graduate Programs of Higher Education Muhammadiyah 'Asisiyah* 9, No. 32 (2019): 204–9.

<sup>2</sup> Ricky Wirawan, Mardiyono.

<sup>3</sup> Putri Kharisma Utami Student of the Graduate School of IPB et al., "Benefit-Based City Community Participation in Forming Child-Friendly Public Parks," Vol. 8, N.D.

<sup>4</sup> Harla Octarra Contributor, "Situation Analysis of Child and Adolescent Participation and Involvement in Indonesian Society," 2021.

obtain information but also as a space for creativity and development of children's potential.<sup>5</sup>

Socialization of the role of the government and collaboration with the private sector and NGOs have a positive impact in increasing the coverage of child welfare programs. The financial support and knowledge gained from this sector are key drivers to overcome various challenges and achieve the common goal of realizing an effective and sustainable Child Qanun.<sup>6</sup>

The mass media, as strategic partners, continue to play a role in voicing children's rights and providing coverage that strengthens public awareness. Various campaigns and educational programs through the media help maintain the momentum of public awareness of children's rights and the importance of implementing Qanun Anak.

With all these components synergizing with each other, it is hoped that Qanun Anak in East Aceh will not only become a kind of "theoretical space," but a real mirror of the community's sincerity to protect, support, and give every child equal rights in realizing a better future. This marks an era in which policies are not only produced by the government for the community, but become a manifestation of a shared passion for the welfare of children, becoming a solid foundation for building a brighter future.

This research is inspired by the understanding that community involvement is not only a democratic principle, but also a key to successful policy implementation. Involving communities in the process of forming local regulations not only increases legal legitimacy, but also ensures that local people's perspectives and needs are adequately accommodated.

In addition, East Aceh as an area with unique cultural and tradition richness also demands special attention in drafting regional regulations that regulate the rights and obligations of children. This is to ensure that the child qanun not only reflects national legal norms, but also is always in harmony with local values and culture that are the identity of the people of East Aceh.

In this context, this study will investigate the extent to which the people of East Aceh District are involved in the process of forming a child qanun, how community

---

<sup>5</sup> Joko Riskiyono Et Al., "Public Participation In The Formation Of Legislation To Achieve Prosperity," N.D.

<sup>6</sup> Rhuena Wulansari, "Increasing Citizen Participation in Public Services through the Utilization of Online Aspiration and Complaint Service Pages" (Indonesia University of Education, 2019).

participation in the formation of a child-friendly city qanun in East Aceh. Through a deep understanding of community involvement in the process of forming this regional regulation, it is expected to make a positive contribution to the protection of children's rights and the development of local communities in East Aceh District.

## **B. RESEARCH METHODS**

The object of this research is community participation in the establishment of a child-friendly city qanun in East Aceh. The type of data in this study consists of primary data and secondary data. Primary data through direct interviews with informants and secondary data through literature review by researchers.<sup>7</sup>

Data sources in this study consist of the local government of East Aceh Regency, the Children's Forum, Youth Institutions, and the East Aceh community. Data collection techniques in this study are carried out through observation and interviews and data analysis techniques in this study in qualitative analysis by displaying research findings, analyzing them, and finally describing according to the facts found in the field. [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

## **C. DISCUSSION**

Community participation in the establishment of a child-friendly city qanun in East Aceh is a reflection of the spirit of democracy that lives and develops at the local level. Communities, as important role holders in social and cultural structures, are invited to actively participate in drafting regulations directly related to the protection of children's rights and welfare.<sup>8</sup>

Since the beginning of the formation process, community involvement has been realized through various discussion forums, open meetings, and public consultations. Religious leaders, traditional leaders, child activists, parents, teachers, and children themselves were all given the opportunity to speak out, voice their views, and provide valuable input.

The public consultation mechanism becomes a vehicle where diverse voices of the community join in harmonious discussion. This forum is not only a place to listen, but

---

<sup>7</sup> Saifuddin Azwar, *Research Methods* (Yogyakarta: Putaka Siswa, 1999).

<sup>8</sup> Octarra Contributor, "Analysis of the Situation of Child and Adolescent Participation and Involvement in Indonesian Society."

also a space for the exchange of ideas and views that can give birth to common solutions. This approach aims to ensure that the city's child-friendly qanun is not only a regulation, but also a reflection of the values and needs felt by the people of East Aceh.

Children's participation in this process becomes a key element. Through special forums or direct representations, children have an active role in formulating rules that will shape their environment. Their right to have a voice and be involved in the formation of qanun is not only recognized, but also encouraged as a form of empowerment of the next generation.<sup>9</sup>

In addition to face-to-face meetings, community participation has also penetrated into the online realm with the use of technology. Online surveys, virtual discussion forums, and digital communication channels provide alternatives for those who find it difficult to attend in person. This provides wider opportunities for communities, including groups with which access may be limited, to contribute.<sup>10</sup>

Community participation does not only focus on giving opinions, but also involves education. Intensive social campaigns and socialization are carried out to increase public understanding of children's rights, the urgency of child-friendly city qanun, and how their contribution can have a positive impact.

Thus, community participation in the establishment of a child-friendly city qanun is not just a formality, but a joint journey towards policies that are inclusive, reflective of local values, and able to provide optimal protection and welfare for children in East Aceh. Through this participation, the qanun of a child-friendly city is expected to become a solid legal foundation and reflect the spirit of togetherness in realizing a better future for the next generation.

In the journey towards inclusive policies, various aspects of society play an active role in making unique and valuable contributions. Religious leaders, with local wisdom and a deep understanding of spiritual values, provide views that enrich the moral and ethical aspects in the qanun of a child-friendly city. Traditional leaders, as guardians of

---

<sup>9</sup> Yohana Susas Yesbise, *Towards a Child-Worthy Indonesia: Smart Politics Towards the Fulfillment of Children's Rights* (Jakarta: Yayasan Wahana Indonesia, 2018).

<sup>10</sup> Wulansari, "Increasing Citizen Participation in Public Services through the Utilization of Online Aspiration and Complaint Service Pages."

tradition and cultural identity, ensure that the resulting regulations remain closely linked to the cultural roots of the people of East Aceh.<sup>11</sup>

This process is not always smooth, but conflicts and disagreements are seen as opportunities to reach stronger consensus. In open meetings and discussions, communities learn to listen to each other and respect multiple perspectives, creating an environment that supports collaboration.

The Qanun of a child-friendly city, as the end result of this participatory journey, is not only a legal text, but also a moral manifesto and a shared commitment to protect children's rights. This participation process also provides momentum to build collective awareness about the importance of child welfare as an investment in a sustainable future.<sup>12</sup>

Through a reflective approach to local values, the qanun not only creates effective policies but also becomes an instrument capable of bridging the gap between law and social reality. Thus, this regulation is expected to provide concrete solutions to concrete challenges faced by children in East Aceh.

The spirit of togetherness that radiates from community participation continues to resonate in the implementation of the qanun of a child-friendly city. Various education programs and social policies are implemented by involving all levels of society. Schools, local communities, and educational institutions are adopting the principles of the qanun in a concerted effort to create an environment that supports children's optimal development.

With concrete steps taken after the establishment of the qanun, it is hoped that the future of children in East Aceh will be brighter. The Qanun of a child-friendly city is not just a regulation on paper, but a real commitment from the community to protect, support and ensure every child has equal opportunities to grow and develop. The people of East Aceh, through their role in the formation of this qanun, have made an important mark in maintaining justice and happiness for future generations.

The importance of immediately sparking and implementing the qanun of a child-friendly city is the main foundation in safeguarding children's rights and providing

---

<sup>11</sup> Herlina Astri, "Social Conflict Resolution through Strengthening Local Wisdom," *Journal of Aspiration* 2, No. 2 (2011): 151–54, [Http://Id.Shvoong.Com/Social-Sciences/Sociology/2142189-Pengertian-Konflik-Sosial-Macam-](http://Id.Shvoong.Com/Social-Sciences/Sociology/2142189-Pengertian-Konflik-Sosial-Macam-).

<sup>12</sup> Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection of the Republic of Indonesia., "Guidelines for the Development of Child-Friendly Cities" (Jakarta, 2018).

guarantees for a better future. Some important aspects that need to be explained about the urgency of the initiation of this qanun involve:

1. Protection of Children's Rights:

Qanun is a child-friendly city umbrella law that recognizes and protects children's rights in accordance with national and international standards. The promulgation of the qanun provides concrete legal protections for children, including the right to education, health, and protection from all forms of violence.

2. Support for Child Development:

The Qanun provides concrete support for child development through various programs and policies that support quality education, psychosocial well-being, and children's physical growth. Thus, the people of East Aceh are committed to providing every child with equal opportunities to grow and develop optimally.

3. Child empowerment in the results:

Qanun of a child-worthy city not only involves children in the process of its formation, but also provides space for their active participation in decision-making related to their lives. This creates a climate where children are valued as individuals who have the right and ability to voice their opinions.

4. Empowering the role of parents and communities:

The qanun encourages the active participation of parents and communities in creating an environment that supports children's development. The educational and social programs initiated by the community itself reflect a commitment to jointly build a solid foundation for the future of the next generation.

5. Relevance to contemporary challenges:

The city's Qanun reflects a response to contemporary challenges faced by children in the modern era, including the influence of technology, promiscuity, and social change. Thus, the initiation of this qanun is an important step to face the dynamics of the times that continue to develop.

With the continued commitment of the people of East Aceh and the real implementation of the Qanun Decent City for Children, the hope is that every child will grow up in an environment full of love, support, and equal opportunities. This Qanun became the forerunner for the community to continue to maintain justice and happiness

for future generations, making an important mark in efforts to create a brighter and more just future for children in East Aceh.

## REFERENCE

- Harla Octarra Contributor, "Situation Analysis of Child and Adolescent Participation and Involvement in Indonesian Society," 2021.
- Herlina Astri, "Social Conflict Resolution through Strengthening Local Wisdom," *Journal of Aspiration* 2, No. 2 (2011): 151–54, [Http://Id.Shvoong.Com/Social-Sciences/Sociology/2142189-Pengertian-Konflik-Sosial-Macam-](http://Id.Shvoong.Com/Social-Sciences/Sociology/2142189-Pengertian-Konflik-Sosial-Macam-).
- Joko Riskiyono Et Al., "Public Participation In The Formation Of Legislation To Achieve Prosperity," N.D.
- Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection of the Republic of Indonesia., "Guidelines for the Development of Child-Friendly Cities" (Jakarta, 2018).
- Muammar, "Effectiveness of Caning Implementation for Violations of Islamic Sharia Qanun in Aceh," *Association of Graduate Programs of Higher Education Muhammadiyah 'Asisyiyah* 9 , No. 32 (2019): 204–9.
- Octarra Contributor, "Analysis of the Situation of Child and Adolescent Participation and Involvement in Indonesian Society."
- Putri Kharisma Utami Student of the Graduate School of IPB et al., "Benefit-Based City Community Participation in Forming Child-Friendly Public Parks," Vol. 8, N.D.
- Rhuena Wulansari, "Increasing Citizen Participation in Public Services through the Utilization of Online Aspiration and Complaint Service Pages" (Indonesia University of Education, 2019).
- Saifuddin Azwar, *Research Methods* (Yogyakarta: Putaka Siswa, 1999).
- Wulansari, "Increasing Citizen Participation in Public Services through the Utilization of Online Aspiration and Complaint Service Pages."
- Yohana Susas Yesbise, *Towards a Child-Worthy Indonesia: Smart Politics Towards the Fulfillment of Children's Rights* (Jakarta: Yayasan Wahana Indonesia, 2018).