



## SOCIALIZATION OF THE NEWEST CRIMINAL CODE FOR THE BATU MERAH COMMUNITY

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**Abstract:** Public legal awareness is an important aspect in supporting the creation of a safe, orderly, and just social life. However, many citizens still do not fully understand the new regulations in the 2023 Criminal Code (KUHP). This study aims to describe the implementation of community service activities in the form of legal counseling using a participatory education approach in Batu Merah Village, Batu Ampar District, Batam City. The methods used in this activity include preparation, implementation, and evaluation involving students, village officials, and community leaders. The results show an increase in residents' understanding of crucial legal issues, such as domestic violence, drug abuse, adultery, hate speech, and the spread of hoaxes. This activity proves that participatory legal education can be an effective medium in building public legal awareness.

**Keyword:** Socialization of the Newest Criminal Code for the Batu Merah Community

### INTRODUCTION

The development of a nation is not only determined by economic and infrastructure aspects, but also by the level of public legal awareness. The 2023 Criminal Code is a significant update to the Dutch colonial Criminal Code, accommodating contemporary issues such as cybercrime, adultery, domestic violence, and the spread of fake news. However, the reality on the ground shows that awareness of this regulation is not yet widespread, especially among the general public.

The community service carried out by students of the Riau Islands University (UNRIKA) aims to bridge this gap in understanding through a participatory educational approach. This activity not only provides knowledge transfer, but also encourages active community involvement in legal discussions relevant to everyday life.

### METHODOLOGY

This methodology is designed to ensure that community service activities run effectively and efficiently. The main focus is to provide a comprehensive understanding of the 2023 Criminal Code to the community of Batu Merah, Batam.



This activity takes the form of interactive legal counseling, which is not merely a one-way presentation of material, but also involves active participation from the community. The aim is to create an open forum for discussion where the community can ask questions and share their views on relevant legal issues.

1. Community service students use a participatory education approach. Complex legal material is simplified using everyday language, supported by real-life examples that often occur in the community.
2. The presentation is delivered orally.
3. After the presentation, a question and answer session is held to allow the community to ask questions directly. The community service team will facilitate this discussion to ensure that all questions are answered properly.

This activity will be held for one full day on September 17, 2025, at the Batu Merah Village Meeting Hall. The duration of the activity is 3 hours, starting from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

All community service members played an active role in each stage. Gilang Ramadhan, as team leader, was responsible for coordination and moderation, while other members served as presenters for the pledge, documentation for Nur Hasanah, and refreshments for Ummi Qulsum.

#### Supporters

This activity is fully supported by the Batu Merah Village Administration, which provides the location and assists in promoting the event to the community. The involvement of community leaders and neighborhood association heads is also important to attract interest and ensure community participation.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The legal counseling session was attended by 15 residents from diverse backgrounds, including community leaders, PKK mothers, and youth. The atmosphere of the activity was interactive, with high enthusiasm from the participants.

The results achieved include:

1. Increased understanding of the law: residents understand the types of relevant criminal offenses, including domestic violence, drugs, and cybercrime.
2. Preventive awareness: participants demonstrate an understanding of the legal consequences of violations, so they are more careful in their actions.



3. Active participation: residents actively participated in question and answer sessions and shared their experiences, indicating the success of the participatory educational approach.
4. Institutional synergy: the success of the activity was inseparable from the collaboration between students, the sub-district office, and the local neighborhood association (RT/RW) leaders.

Activity Description:

1. Socialization & Outreach (50%) → The main activity is to deliver materials, information, and education to the community so that they can better understand the topics discussed.
2. Training & Mentoring (35%) → Providing skills training and hands-on mentoring so that the community can master new skills.
3. Evaluation & Documentation (15%) → This includes preparing reports, collecting activity documentation, and conducting reflections to assess the program's successes and shortcomings

Tabel.1 Activity Results

No	Types of Activities	Percentage
1	Socialization & Outreach	50%
2	Training & Mentoring	35%
3	Evaluation & Documentation	15%
	Total	100%

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Overall, the community service activity in the form of legal counseling on the 2023 Criminal Code in Batu Merah Village, Batam, has achieved its objectives very well. This program is not just an academic formality, but a concrete initiative that has successfully bridged the gap between the general public and an understanding of the law, which is often considered complicated and rigid

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