

Società e diritti - rivista elettronica 2020 anno V n.10.

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2020 ANNO V NUMERO 10

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## THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE FOR AUTISM IN INDONESIA CASE STUDY

### di Nurianto Rachmad Soepadmo

Abstract: This study aims to find out how law enforcement for crimes committed by autistic people in Indonesia. This research is a qualitative research with a normative juridical approach. The method used in this research is the study of literature, with descriptive data analysis. The protection of persons with disabilities has been regulated in Indonesian law listed in the Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 8 of 2016 concerning Persons with Disabilities. The law refers to international conventions (The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities). Persons with disabilities as referred to in this law include autism as intellectual disabilities. Although it has been regulated in legislation that persons with autism get the same rights and obligations in law as other citizens, in reality it is not uncommon for cases to end in injustice for them. Some criminal cases involving autistic persons often experience difficulties in their resolution, due to lack of understanding of law enforcement officers. The study states that to provide the fairest possible action for persons with autism, law enforcement must be able to ascertain their physical and psychological condition. This is done through a special approach and assistance from experts and people who are able to create comfort for autistic people is very influential, so that the information received is accurate. An assembly in giving the fairest decision, must be able to consider the opinions of experts, especially those who understand autism.

Keywords: Autism, Disabilities, Criminal Justice, Indonesia's Legal

Title: Giustizia penale ed autismo, il caso di studio dell'Indonesia

Riassunto: Questo studio mira a scoprire in che modo l'applicazione della legge per i crimini commessi da persone autistiche in Indonesia. Questa ricerca è una ricerca qualitativa con un approccio giuridico normativo. Il metodo utilizzato in questa ricerca è lo studio della letteratura, con analisi descrittiva dei dati. La tutela delle persone con disabilità è stata regolamentata dalla legge indonesiana elencata nella legge della Repubblica di Indonesia n. 8 del 2016 relativa alle persone con disabilità. La legge fa riferimento alle convenzioni internazionali (Convenzione delle Nazioni Unite sui diritti delle persone con disabilità). Le persone con disabilità, come indicato in questa legge, includono l'autismo come disabilità intellettuale. Anche se è stato regolamentato nella legislazione che le persone con autismo ottengono gli stessi diritti e gli stessi obblighi di legge degli altri cittadini, in realtà non è raro che

i casi si concludano con un'ingiustizia per loro. Alcuni casi penali che coinvolgono persone autistiche spesso incontrano difficoltà nella loro risoluzione, a causa della mancanza di comprensione delle forze dell'ordine. Lo studio afferma che per fornire l'azione più equa possibile alle persone con autismo, le forze dell'ordine devono essere in grado di accertare le loro condizioni fisiche e psicologiche. Questo viene fatto attraverso un approccio speciale e l'assistenza di esperti e di persone che sono in grado di creare conforto per le persone autistiche è molto influente, in modo che le informazioni ricevute siano accurate. Un'assemblea nel dare la decisione più giusta, deve essere in grado di considerare le opinioni degli esperti, soprattutto di coloro che comprendono l'autismo.

Parole chiave: Autismo, disabilità, giustizia penale, sistema legale indonesiano

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Articolo soggetto a revisione tra pari a doppio cieco

Articolo ricevuto il 29 ottobre 2020 approvato il 4 novembre 2020

#### 1. Introduction

UNESCO (2011) estimates that there are 35 million Autistic people in the world. Although in Indonesia there is no official data that states the exact number of children with autism, some research in other countries shows an increase in the number of sufferers. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), one in fifty-nine children (1 in 37 boys and 1 in 151 girls) in the United States have autism spectrum disorder ("ASD"). Based on a study conducted in 2010, the global estimate of the number of autism spectrum disorder cases reached 52 million or reached a prevalence of 7.6 per 1000 inhabitants. This figure is not much different from a similar estimate in 1990 which showed a prevalence of ASD of 7.5 cases per 1000. Although this figure is an estimate of the global prevalence of ASD, the majority of data used to build these assumptions come from developed countries, while estimates of ASD in regions such as South America, Central America and Eastern Europe are unknown. 4 times higher than the global prevalence of ASD in women (8.2 vs 2.0 per 1000 inhabitants) "(Baxter et al., 2015).

Another study conducted in the UK in 2012, stated that as much as 1.1 percent of the population over 18 years in the UK are autistic. In South Korea even mentions the ratio of 1:48 autistic children with male sufferers four times more than women. In Indonesia itself, referring to research conducted by the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (PPPA) with Rudy Sutadi's Smart Applied Behavior Analysis Consultant, shows that the number of Autistic people in Indonesia continues to increase. Referring to the incidence and prevalence of autism around 35 million, that means an average of 6 in 1000 people in the world with autism. Based on the count of autism prevalence of 1.68 per 1000 children under 15 years, with the number of children aged 5-19 years in Indonesia totaling around 66 million (Central Statistics Agency, 2010), the assumption of Autistic people is 112 thousand.

The phenomenon of increasing the number of Autistic people is not accompanied by an understanding of the protection of autism spectrum disorder sufferers. Some cases show the existence of violations of law committed by Autistic people or violations of the law committed against Autistic people (Rahadi, 2017; Amelia, 2018). In their study, Alley and Copper (2017) stated that no association was found

between crime and autism. This is evident from at least cases involving someone with autism as a criminal. But in reality, not a few autism sufferers who are exposed to legal problems and ultimately must be in prison. So this is where the importance of understanding the protection of autism spectrum disorder sufferers.

Indonesia is a country that is based on law by adopting a constitutional system. This is clearly stated in the 1945 Constitution "The Indonesian state is based on law, not based on mere authority". Referring to this, of course every Indonesian citizen has the same rights and obligations for recognition, guarantees, protection, and fair legal certainty, as well as equal treatment before the law or the principle of equality before the law. The principle of equality before the law guarantees the justice of all people regardless of background, one of which is to the disabled. This has been fully regulated in Law No. 8 of 2016 in the 2016 State Gazette Number 69, concerning Persons with Disabilities (Ramadhan, 2018; Setiawan et al., 2018). Of course, these laws become the legal basis in efforts to protect Autistic people, especially in law enforcement efforts. This article aims to discuss aspects of law enforcement for crimes committed by Autistic people..

#### 2. Method

This article was made with a normative juridical approach using the statute aproach approach based on the main legal material through a study of theories, concepts, principles of law and legislation relating to this research (Amelia, 2019). This approach is also known as the literature approach, namely by studying books, legislation and other documents related to this research. This concept views the law as identical with written norms created and promulgated by authorized institutions or officials. This conception views law as a normative system that is independent, closed and independent of real community life (Soemitro, 1988). The legislative approach is used to find out the entire legal regulations, especially criminal law in Indonesia. An empirical juridical approach is done by studying law and reality or based on facts that can be objectively in the field, both in the form of opinions, attitudes, and legal behavior based on legal identification and legal effectiveness (Amelia, 2019).

#### **3.** Scope of Autism

Autism comes from the Greek word from autos which means everything that leads to oneself (Cohen et al., 2014). In the Complete Dictionary of Psychology, autism is defined as: (1) ways of thinking that are controlled by personal needs or by oneself, (2) responding to the world based on vision, self-expectation, and rejecting reality (3) extreme preoccupation with one's own thoughts and fantasies. Autistic disorder is a developmental disorder or abnormality in social interaction and communication and is characterized by limited activity and interest. The appearance of this disorder is very dependent on the stage of development and chronological age of the individual. Autism itself is a disorder that covers cognitive, emotional, behavioral, social areas, as well as the inability to interact with people around him. Children who are autistic will grow and develop in different ways compared to other normal children. This is caused by a gradual decline in cognitive ability (Desiningrum, 2016).

Desininggrum (2016) stated that autistic behavior is classified into two types, namely excessive behavior (excessive) and deficit behavior (less). Excessive behavior includes hyperactivity and tantrums (raging) in the form of screaming, biting, scratching, hitting, and pushing. Here also often happens

children self-injury (self-abuse). Deficit behavior is characterized by speech disturbances, social behavior is less appropriate, sensory deficits are deemed to be deaf, improper play and improper emotions, such as laughing without cause, crying without cause, and daydreaming. The World Health Organization's International Classification of Diseases (WHO ICD-10) defines autism (in this case specifically childhood autism) as abnormalities and / or developmental disorders that appear before the age of three with three types of non-normal characteristic types: social interaction, communication, and behavior that is repeated. Furthermore, the World Health Organization also classifies autism as a developmental disorder that occurs in the system of human central nervous.

Autism itself is a spectrum of developmental disorders, where the condition of the person has different variations. There are autistic individuals in the 'upper' spectrum, who have quite good communication skills but still have difficulties in social interactions or other problems, such as emotional disturbance or sensory problems. On the other hand, there are also autistic individuals who have a disruption to communicate with language or speak (speak little or nothing) so that it is categorized as non-verbal. Someone with autism has limitations in controlling his emotions. They can express their emotions spontaneously without thinking about the impact it has on their actions. Sometimes the response of autistic sufferers tends to be excessive, so that it can endanger others. In general, children with autism exhibit uncontrolled, aggressive and destructive emotional behavior, and even some do self-injury and have no empathy for others (Marhabang, 2018).

However, not many people understand it. Autistic people will physically look normal like most people, on the other hand they have limitations in social interaction. The World Health Organization (WHO) has formulated a diagnosis of autism called the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10) (Della Fina & Cera, 2015). Other diagnostic formulations as guidelines for diagnosing autism are also formulated by American psychiatric groups and have been used throughout the world, the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM-IV). Formula ICD-10 and DSM-IV are basically the same. In the DSM-IV criteria for autism in childhood there are six symptoms with at least three main symptoms fulfilled. First, disruption in social interactions, where sufferers really cannot interact socially, cannot play, do not have empathy, lack of sensitivity to the environment and also the response to the other person. Second, interference in communication. Autistic people in this condition have the ability to speak late or not develop at all, even if the language used is not understood or uses repeated sentences. Another thing that can be seen also in this condition is that Autistic people use language rather than to communicate, when interacting (playing) is less varied, imaginative and has less ability to imitate. Third, repetition of behavior, where autistic people will tend to have excessive interest in an object, even doing strange and distinctive and repetitive movements. In principle, Autistic people are not the same as people with mental disorders. Lack of understanding of the concepts and criteria for Autistic people, often placing Autistic people with mental disorders. Although some cases of autism sufferers have a low IQ level and tend to be mentally retarded, this condition cannot be generalized to Autistic people.

#### 4. Government Regulations for Autism

The state has guaranteed that every citizen has the same rights and obligations in law. This is as stated in the Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, which clearly states that the state respects and upholds human dignity and dignity. Human Rights (HAM) are basic rights that are inherently inherent in human beings are universal, need to be protected, respected, and maintained. Protection of human rights is not limited to healthy people, but also Autistic people. Based on the

perspective of international human rights, the Declaration on the Rights of Persons with Mental Disabilities was formed on the basis of the belief that people who have mental retardation also have the same rights as other human beings, this declaration states several principles that people with mental disabilities are entitled to medical treatment education and education that is able to develop their abilities potentially, the right to economic security, to do productive work and decent living standards, families who live together with people with disabilities are entitled to assistance, the right to get protection for various exploitative, degrading treatment and abuse of authority (Pawestri, 2017). It was further mentioned, related to the inability of persons with mental disabilities to exercise these rights, the procedure indicated as a limitation must contain legal provisions that could protect it from all forms of abuse. Then this procedure is also based on an evaluation of its social capabilities by qualified experts and must be a periodic review aspect and contains the right to appeal.

Protection of the rights of persons with disabilities (rights of persons with disabilities) is a constitutional right as referred to Article 28H paragraph (2) of the 1945 Constitution, which is also confirmed by the ratification of the convention on the rights of persons with disabilities (Ridlwan, 2013). This is also affirmed in Law Number 39 of 1999 concerning Human Rights, so that the community has a responsibility to respect the rights of people with disabilities. People with disabilities so far have experienced a lot of discrimination which results in not fulfilling the exercise of the rights of persons with disabilities. In the context of providing legal protection for the position and rights, obligations and roles of persons with disabilities, the Government of which is obliged to protect and provide accessibility rights. Accessibility for people with disabilities is very important to be realized, it is a form of convenience provided for people with disabilities in order to realize equal opportunities in aspects of life and livelihood (Basuki, 2012). Guaranteed accessibility for disabilities in general is regulated in Articles 41, 42 and 54 of Law No. 39 of 1999 concerning Human Rights (Basuki, 2012).

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD) in Article 12, emphasizes that persons with disabilities have the right to be recognized wherever they are as human beings before the law, so that States parties must recognize that persons with disabilities have legal capacity over basic similarity with others in all aspects of life. Another obligation is to take appropriate steps to provide persons with disabilities access to the assistance they may need in carrying out their legal capacity. Furthermore, Article 13 of the UNCRPD also emphasizes access to justice for persons with disabilities. In that article, it is stated that States Parties shall ensure effective access of persons with disabilities to justice based on equality with others, including through accommodating arrangements relating to procedures and age suitability, in order to facilitate the effective role of persons with disabilities as direct or indirect participants. Directly, including as a Witness, in all trials, including investigations and other initial stages. In order to help ensure effective access to justice for persons with disabilities, States Parties shall increase appropriate training for those working in the field of law enforcement, including police and prison guards. Referring to these two articles, it is clear that the world guarantees the position of persons with disabilities as legal subjects on par with others in all aspects of life.

Indonesia adopted the provisions of the convention into Indonesia's national legislation. Indonesia formulates the rights and obligations of persons with disabilities in 2 (two) laws. First, Law No. 19 / 2011 concerning ratification of the rights of persons with disabilities. This law shows the commitment and seriousness of the Government to respect, protect and fulfill the rights of people with disabilities, with the aim of improving the welfare of people with disabilities. The existence of this law is to protect

persons with disabilities from torture or cruel, inhumane treatment, degrading human dignity, free from exploitation, violence and abuse. The law also states that each person with a disability has the right to receive respect for his mental and physical integrity based on equality with others, including the right to protection and social services in the context of independence, and in an emergency. Therefore, the Government is obliged to realize the rights contained in the convention, through adjusting the laws and regulations, including ensuring the fulfillment of the rights of people with disabilities in all aspects of life such as education, health, employment, politics and government, culture and tourism, and the use of technology, information, and communication.

Secondly, Law Number 8 of 2016 concerning Persons with Disabilities. The background under consideration of this law is the guarantee of the state for the survival of every citizen, including persons with disabilities, who have legal standing and have the same human rights as Indonesian citizens and as an inseparable part of Indonesian citizens and citizens. is the mandate and gift of God Almighty, to live forward and develop in a just and dignified manner. On the other hand, the existence of persons with disabilities in Indonesia mostly lives in vulnerable, underdeveloped, and / or poor conditions due to the existence of restrictions, obstacles, difficulties, and reduction or deprivation of the rights of persons with disabilities. This is where the role of the state is needed for equal rights and opportunities for persons with disabilities leading to a prosperous, independent, and non-discriminatory life that requires legislation that can guarantee their implementation. This law is a substitute for Law Number 4 of 1997 concerning Disabled People who are no longer in accordance with the paradigm of the needs of persons with disabilities.

Protection of persons with disabilities in their rights and obligations, in this case is not only the responsibility of the central government, but also all components of the community through including local government actively. Some local governments in Indonesia even pour it into local regulations (Perda), such as East Java Province Regulation No. 3 of 2013 concerning Protection and Services for Persons with Disabilities, Bali Province Regulation No. 9 of 2015 concerning Protection and Fulfillment of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Bantul District Regulation No. 11 of 2015 concerning Fulfillment of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and West Sumatra Province Regulations No. 2 of 2015 concerning Protection and Fulfillment of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Pawestri, 2017).

#### **5.** Law Enforcement for Autism

In 2003, a murder case of 23 people at Virginia Tech with the perpetrators of a South Korean student, seized public attention. Actors for years living alone and not much known to people, in an instant became the 'star' of the world. Perpetrators have been previously diagnosed as autistic. The condition of the offender who has a disruption in communication results in him being a victim of bullying and violence, and this triggers the offender to commit acts of violence. Actors' actions are inspired by real killers and violent films, as shown by the similarity between Cho's behavior and some scenes in the 2003 South Korean film titled 'Oldboy' which is full of violence and blood. Other cases of violence have also been carried out by autistic children to cashiers of a restaurant (Rahadi, 2017). There are even cases of murder of a mother by her child who has autism (Rahadi, 2017). These are just a few cases where the perpetrators are autistic.

Persons with mental and intellectual disabilities are very vulnerable to being used as criminals (for example as eye sets, couriers, selling merchandise stolen by others) or even directed to commit crimes by other offenders. This happens because both persons with mental or intellectual disabilities are unable to understand and distinguish between good or bad deeds, and tend to have a desire to be accepted in a social environment (Petersilia J, 2000). This condition encourages people with mental and intellectual disabilities often to agree to do an action in order to get friends. In addition, intellectual disabilities also have minimal special handling (education, therapy, assistance) related to law violations or behavior that is vulnerable to breaking the law. This has an impact on the repetition of the behavior of persons with disabilities without understanding that the behavior violates the law (Hayes S, 2018). Not limited to being a perpetrator, some cases also place autistic sufferers having to deal with the law, both autistic sufferers as victims, witnesses or parties. In some cases, such as cases of sexual violence, persons with mental and intellectual disabilities who are victims are more likely to not understand if they are victims. There are even conditions where the possibility of victims feeling addicted to the perpetrators' actions to occur repeatedly or make people with disabilities depend on the perpetrators (Ramadhan, et al, 2015).

In law, every criminal act certainly gets a legal sanction as stipulated in the legislation. However, again in the case carried out by people with autism certainly needs different attention and understanding. Autistic people are not the same as normal and healthy people, even though physically, autistic people appear healthy. Provisions in Article 9 point b of Law No. 8 of 2016 concerning Persons with Disabilities, where persons with disabilities are recognized as legal subjects on a par with others in taking legal action, making it clear that autistic sufferers also have an obligation to account for crimes committed. According to the law, responsibility is a result of the consequences of a person's freedom of conduct related to ethics or morals in carrying out an action. In criminal law, the basis of a person's responsibility is seen from three elements, namely; the ability to take responsibility, the existence of errors (in the sense of intent (dolus) or negligence (culpa)), and the absence of justification or forgiveness.

Talking about the ability to be responsible in criminal law, this can be seen from two aspects. First, one's ability to distinguish between good and bad deeds; acts that are in accordance with the law and that are against the law. Second, the ability to understand and determine the good and bad desires of himself. Of course, these conditions can not necessarily be imposed on people with autism. According to the American Psychiatric Association which published the fifth standard Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5) in May 2013, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) or Autism is a spectrum of developmental disorders in which each person has different conditions and nothing in common. Disorders are classified based on clinical characteristics of certain behavioral patterns rather than on the theoretical mechanisms underlying them, ranging from mild autism, moderate autism to severe autism. Mild autism is a person with autistic mental disability who has quite good verbal communication skills but has difficulty in social interactions and repetitive behavior. Then, moderate autism is a person with autistic mental disability who has limited verbal communication skills and has the same difficulties as autism mild, plus emotional disturbance and sensory problems. The last is severe autism, where people with autistic mental disabilities have nonverbal communication skills and various complex problems. Sometimes people with mild autistic mental disabilities also experience emotional disturbances due to lack of social communication skills and social interaction. For example, uncontrollable anger until hitting others until they are injured here, the role of law enforcement officers must be able to ensure the physical and psychological condition of the perpetrators.

In handling criminal cases in Indonesia, it has been regulated in the Criminal Code (KUHP), although it does not specifically mention Criminal Liability for Persons with Mental Disabilities including Autism. Criminal Liability for persons with Mental Disabilities including Autism refers to Article 44 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code which stipulates that "anyone who commits an act that cannot be accounted for because his soul is handicapped in growth or disturbed due to illness, is not convicted" (Soesilo, R, 1976). So if Article 44 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code is applied to Persons with Autism Mental Disabilities, there is no distinction between Persons with Autistic Mental Disabilities whether mild, moderate or severe, in the sense that all the same origin can be proven to have met the criteria of Article 44 paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code. However, communication constraints are the main obstacles in the legal process, including in the making of Minutes of Examination (Ardianingtyas & Hersinta, 2018). Some cases even show that law enforcers do not trust disability people as victims, because they show expressions that are the opposite of victims of violence in general. Changing information, language that is not understood, and persons with disabilities who do not provide information are the reasons for law enforcement officials to have difficulty in reconstructing cases and evidence. On the other hand, there is an assumption that if a person with a disability is a victim, then he is considered unable to provide information as a Witness, so that the judicial process is stopped or the perpetrator receives a light sentence or is free in a court decision (Syafi'ie, et.al, 2014). This is discrimination against persons with disabilities and is not in accordance with the CRPD and Law No. 8 of 2016 as well as other new rules that are more progressive.

In terminating the indictment, the judge has the authority to decide whether or not the defendant is responsible for his actions by referring to the statements of the experts (Pramesti, 2013). In cases where the offender is an autistic person, there is a possibility that the offender does not show empathy towards the victim, and this condition can harm the offender who is autistic (Allely & Cooper, 2017). Of course, law enforcement officials must obtain accurate information related to physical and psychological conditions both autistic persons acting as perpetrators, victims, and witnesses. Even health checks carried out before the investigation or investigation process. In addition, an atmosphere that is able to provide comfort and friendship and the presence of a companion, whether parents or family or translators and / experts to accompany people with autism. Law enforcement officials, especially judges, must obtain complete information related to a person's mental, mental and intellectual condition. This has been regulated in Article 71 of Law No. 18 of 2014 concerning Mental Health, which states that a person suspected of having a mental disorder (ODGJ) must obtain a mental health examination before being examined by law enforcement officials, where the complete procedure for inspection is regulated in the Regulation Minister of Health of the Republic of Indonesia No 77 of 2015 concerning Guidelines for the Examination of Mental Health in the Interest of Law Enforcement. The purpose of a mental health examination for a disability is to determine a person's ability to account for a criminal offense that has been carried out as well as one's mental ability to undergo a criminal justice process. The results of the mental examination will be compiled by a specialist in psychiatry who will be outlined in the form of Visum et Repertum Psychiatricum (VeRP).

In a case, where an autistic person is found to be unable to account for his actions, the judge may order the defendant to receive therapy and counseling under the supervision of the closest person and law enforcement involved. This is done as an effort to prevent the possibility of similar actions that endanger themselves (autistic people) or other people. Every case involving defendants with autism must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis (Allely & Cooper, 2017). This will allow an assessment of the

behavior and specific disturbances of the defendants and will ultimately be linked between mental capacities and their mistakes (Allely & Cooper, 2017).

#### 6. Conclusion

Autism is a spectrum of developmental disorders, where the conditions of the person with different variations. There are autistic individuals in the 'upper' spectrum, who have quite good communication skills but still have difficulties in social interactions or other problems, such as emotional disturbance or sensory problems. On the other hand, there are also autistic individuals who have a disruption to communicate with language or speak (speak little or nothing) so that it is categorized as non-verbal. Someone with autism has limitations in controlling his emotions. They can express their emotions spontaneously without thinking about the impact caused by his actions. Sometimes the response produced by someone with autism is so excessive that it can harm others. But not everyone understands that. People with autistic disabilities will physically look normal like most people. It's just that they are limited in terms of social interaction.

Law Number 8 of 2016 concerning Persons with Disabilities which refers to the world convention, UNCRPD, is a legal reference (legal framework) for the fulfillment of the rights of persons with disabilities, to provide equal opportunities and to combat segregation, institutionalization and exclusion for persons with disabilities as a typical form of disability discrimination. In fact, people with autism are different from people with mental disabilities and in understanding the concepts and criteria for the ability to act for people with disabilities, autism will be very difficult to understand. If there are cases involving someone with autism as a criminal, then the police officer must take a special approach, in order to obtain accurate information. In the investigation process, investigators and other law enforcement officials must obtain accurate information related to the physical and psychological condition of the victim, perpetrator, and witness. The final decision whether the perpetrators are convicted or not is the judge who determines. If the judge is of the opinion that the person is not responsible for his actions, then the person is acquitted of all criminal charges.

Awareness about autism must indeed be increased either in the community or among law enforcement. Someone with autism can seem like a normal person. If undesirable actions occur by those with autism, try not to act vigilantly. Approaching is very important to get information and give understanding to the perpetrators. Legally if according to the judge's decision states that the person is not capable, then the legal ruling does not apply or in other words freed from the snare of the law. But even so someone with autism must establish therapy and supervision so as not to do things that can harm others.

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