
Plan Overview

A Data Management Plan created using DMPonline

Title: Exploring Police Corruption in Indonesia

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Project abstract:

Lawfully delegated vast discretionary powers with a very little involvement of civilians as an effective social control mechanism, police corruption appears endemic, systemic, and routine in the structural, instrumental, and cultural context, from which the institution is ultimately vulnerable to political intervention or infiltration from organized crime networks at the expense of society. Acting as the sole authority responsible for enforcing the law, maintaining order, and serving the public enables police members facing immense pressures of poor pay and career paths full of collusion and nepotism to have a high frequency of social interaction, forced by circumstances to exploit the authority, either for reasons of the individual or organizational interests or both. Various police anti-corruption reforms imposed by the state are seemingly fruitless and losing momentum due to the reluctance of top leaders to comprehensively eradicate corruption and continuously blame individuals as a root cause of rampant corruption, raising the question of whether the state intentionally tolerates and turn a blind eye to cover up their weaknesses or smooth their hidden agendas by compromising and harming those it is supposed to protect. In this vein, by understanding the phenomenon of police corruption in more depth, the study aims to examine whether police corruption deserves to be labeled as a state crime or merely an individual phenomenon.

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Exploring Police Corruption in Indonesia

Data description

What types of data will be used or created?

The study uses three data types to answer the research questions: *primary*, *secondary*, and *tertiary*. Since the phenomenon being studied is grounded in the subjective experiences of individuals who voluntarily act as free human agents but are also pushed around by the social structures that contradictorily shape their behavior, the primary data in this study uses qualitative data that capture different assumptions of the crime, such as meanings, definitions, and constructions that underlie the individual behavior or action. For this purpose, the participants' representatives from various social groups who can express their present or past experiences with public-sector corruption will be interviewed, whose selection process is tailored to the research questions, theoretical perspectives, and evidence that informs the study.

The researcher also relies on organization-based document sources for secondary and tertiary data as the object of study relates to the government institution. Documents comprise physical and digital evidence that enables the researcher to transpose data across time and space and re-analyze them for the study (Saunders et al., 2019, p. 345). Consequently, they are typically more inclined to a wide range of published summaries such as text media, annual reports, detailed records of public officials, books, journals, newspaper articles, and web pages.

Textual data that begins with words explored and clarified by the participants will be recorded and remain in words throughout the analysis and reporting process. Given that the researcher is interested in how criminal activity is taken for granted and learned by individuals from significant others through social interactions, data collection will likely be conducted in a *natural social setting*. In this case, by selecting the police force setting, the researcher at the interactional level will conduct an in-depth qualitative study, including naturalistic interviews with the police officials as the subject, in particular, to capture the breadth of meanings of the police members attributed to the types of neutralization techniques applied to normalize the corrupt practices and respond to any allegation or public stigma against their organization. Further, at the meso-level, the interviews involving internal and external police oversight stakeholders are predominantly aimed at highlighting their direct and indirect roles in facilitating the criminogenic conditions to the police subordinates to provide a thorough understanding of how the current endeavors of these supervisory elements often result in the police corruption increasingly being tolerated rather than constrained. Lastly, at the macro level, interviews with national policymakers will be analyzed to build the explanatory power of this phenomenon by exploring the hegemonic ideological, political, and economic interests that shield the organization's repudiation of the deviant behavior of its members who normalize and preserve corruption.

How will the data be structured and documented?

By using the voice recorder. The normalized corrupt practices of public officials is a socially sensitive topic deserving serious and ethical emphasis in which the recruitment of random participants into a potentially sensitive study may pose particular difficulties associated with the availability of samples in a deviant population, thus, compromising the use of a non-probability sampling method is necessary to mitigate the concern. Research exploring corruption is no longer taboo, but it may be more challenging to sample informants over a widely dispersed area under investigation.

Since the study brings to light deviant phenomena that are formerly hidden and shielded from the conventional world, people can be reluctant to participate in the study, provide truthful reporting, or disclose their involvement which would be incriminating or stigmatizing in some ways, particularly in the case of public officials who must take full responsibility for their unethical behaviors. Non-probability sampling is an alternative technique of selecting units from a population using non-random criteria such as the participants' availability, the specialized knowledge of the individuals being investigated, or the geographical proximity, which heavily rely on the researcher's subjective judgment.

Bearing that the case selection will be a matter of judgment as to which social entity would be most appropriate to investigate, the researcher employs a critical case sampling strategy to select a single information-rich case that is understandable and relevant to the purpose of the research. In this consideration, the researcher prefers the normalized corrupt practices in the police department as a potential critical case sampling for his case study research on the basis that the chosen case permits the researcher to evaluate the usefulness of neutralization techniques theory with consideration of the hegemonic power standing behind the phenomena to understand how the public sector tolerates corruption.

At the starting point, since the expert judgment of the researcher largely determines the sampling frame, the initial characteristics of participants in the study are selectively delimited based on their typical experience or general knowledge of corruption in the CID as the social unit being studied where they currently or have worked as police officials. As the study progresses, the explanation of why the tolerance for police corruption occurs will surface with more detailed information from the data collected at the early stage. Such an explanation consisting of various categories and their relationships derived from the developing theory is pivotal to guiding the researcher to recruit police and non-police participants with particular knowledge and atypical experiences in the subsequent round of data collection.

The benefit of advancing the purposive sampling technique is that the researcher can have better control over the selection of participants with specific characteristics, limited access to the deviant group, and willingness to shed light on sensitive information, mainly when the problem occurs in unanticipated ways such as a sparsely available target population, wholly blocked access, and

the subject's reluctance to participate. As the common characteristic of participants in this study is police officials, many of those asked to attend an on-off encounter with the researcher would feel worried and threatened by the consequences of the study on them, so they feel insecure about sharing their experiences or thoughts. Under such a condition, any effort to establish trust and rapport with the participants based on reciprocity and personal involvement will impact their willingness to disclose and open up parts they ordinarily keep concealed from the researcher. In doing so, the researcher expects to converse with participants before the data collection process, exchange stories with each other, listen actively, adapt to the participants' communication styles, and offer them to hold an encounter at their convenience.

Data storage and archiving

How will your data be stored and backed up?

I will use the data storage system provided by the University of Birmingham. The data will be stored on the University of Birmingham Office 365 One Drive, which holds data on the cloud and is securely backed up. I will also encrypt data files to ensure the confidentiality and protection of sensitive research data related to my research.

Is any of the data of (ethically or commercially) sensitive nature? If so, how do you ensure the data are protected accordingly?

Given the nature of corruption issues, I take data security and the protection of sensitive data seriously in my research on police corruption. Accordingly, I will comply with all institutional and national data protection policies and control access to data, particularly in collaborative partnerships, according to the University of Birmingham's Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) procedure. This will also be explained to the participants before the interview, considering that some individuals may be reluctant to share their data. Such concerns will be resolved before the discussion occurs by communicating that the researcher will ensure all anonymous transcripts and identification details are removed or pseudonyms in the transcripts.

In addition, I will personally take physical precautions to keep data safe by storing and transferring it directly to one drive, especially when sensitive data is involved, per the guidance from The Data Matrix from BEAR Services.

Where will your data be archived in the long term?

Research data will be transferred to the UoB Research Data Archive (RDA) with data set to read-only to prevent intentional or accidental additions or deletions to data sets. In this case, the researcher ensures that each change will result in a new data set, which will be archived separately. According to the University of Birmingham policy, data will be stored and accessed on a limited basis with permission from the university, and data will be deleted after the 10-year period ends.

Data sharing

Which data will you share, and under which conditions? How will you make the data available to others?

I will provide data to others for academic purposes by complying with the confidentiality and anonymity agreement that has been made. The data will be shared via the University of Birmingham eData repository (<https://edata.bham.ac.uk/>) or journal publications accessed through the available platforms.