

## Christian Ethics' Understanding of Law on Campus

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### ABSTRACT

As educated people, students are obliged to obey the laws and regulations on campus, especially in the environment of Christian Higher Education which is shaded by the Ministry of Religion and based on the God's word. Students should set a good example in conducting law on campus as proof that the student is someone who is educated and at the same time has Christian ethics. In reality, there are some students who violate and are indifferent to the laws and regulations on campus. There are still some students who behave inconsistently with ethical and legal moral standards in the campus area. This study aims to examine the correlation of the level of student understanding regarding Christian ethics to the observance of obedience to law in campus. This research was conducted in the campus environment of the Tarutung State Christian Institute, using a sioner cake filled with students. Based on the results of research and data processing, the correlation coefficient obtained is 0.661 (high correlation). The effect of the Christian ethical understanding variable on obedience to the law was 43.8%. Thus, students' understanding of Christian ethics needs to be further improved through seminars or other events related to it.

**Keywords:** Christian ethics; law; campus; student

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

Law is a collection of regulations consisting of norms and sanctions.<sup>1</sup> Law is everything that is closely related to human life referring to the system that is most important in the exercise of the set of law enforcement powers by the Agency or law enforcement organization because all human life is governed and restricted by law.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> E. G. Singgih, "Dialectic between the Law and the Gospel in the Context of Indonesia," *Jurnal Loka Kada* 1, no. 02 (2021).

<sup>2</sup> Karnawati Priyantoro Widodo, "PASCA: Jurnal Teologi Dan Pendidikan Agama Kristen Moderasi Agama Dan Pemahaman Radikalisme Di Indonesia," *Jurnal Teologi dan Pendidikan Agama Kristen* 15, no. 5 (2019): 9-14.

Ethics is the basis for assessing the truth or goodness of social actions based on traditions owned by individuals and groups.<sup>3</sup> The main element that makes up ethics is moral. Christian ethics is a theological discipline that addresses the issue of what is good and which is modeled by many from a Christian point of view.<sup>4</sup> When viewed from the point of view or lens of the Law and the Gospel, it can be concluded that Christian ethics is everything that is desired by God and that is what is good according to the word of God.<sup>5</sup> On the one hand, Christians must live in obedience to God and must not be overpowered by lust.<sup>6</sup> On the other hand, Christians must also have divine moral standards that can be used as principles in living daily life, namely holy living and being like and in the image of the Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>7</sup>

From this explanation, young Christians (in this case Tarutung State Institute for Christian Studies students) must be able to have a positive influence on their surroundings and appear different from people who do not know God. Students must be persons who reflect the personality of God which is implemented through the ethical and moral standards it has and its adherence to laws and regulations.

The understanding of ethics in a person makes the person able to express values about behavior, and at the same time become a tool of control and become a patron/reference in acting. For students, this ethic can provide benefits to overcome the difficulty of awareness in obeying regulations. In many cases that are rampant, especially in young people, especially students, ethics can be a patron that can be a guide for

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<sup>3</sup> Ernest Van Eck, "Mission, Identity and Ethics in Mark: Jesus, the Patron for Outsiders," *HTS Theologiese Studies/Theological Studies* 69, no. 1 (2019).

<sup>4</sup> Sandy Ariawan, *Etika Guru Pendidikan Agama Kristen* (Jawa Tengah: CV. Pena Persada, 2020).

<sup>5</sup> Sandy Ariawan, "COUNTERING THE NEXT PANDEMIC AFTER COVID-19: An Effort of Christian Education to Stop Phubbing," *Mahabbah* 3, no. 2 (July 31, 2022): 1–12.

<sup>6</sup> M. L. Silalahi et al., "Konsep Pendidikan Moral Dan Etika Dalam Perspektif Kristen," *SOSMANIORA: Jurnal Ilmu Sosial dan Humaniora* 1, no. 3 (2022): 292–297.

<sup>7</sup> Aman, *Moral Dasar Prinsip-Prinsip Pokok Hidup Kristiani* (Yogyakarta: Obor, 2021).

students in carrying out their student activities, ethics can be a guide and guide for students to have morals and be polite, polite, that way people will look at us as a person who can be a blessing and have a positive impact in the surrounding environment.

The relationship between ethics in students and their adherence to the law is very closely related. A correct understanding of Christian ethics is able to control students not to do things that can harm many parties. For example, ethics can be an obstacle when students demonstrate so that they do not commit acts of violence that are contrary to applicable law. In the era of Generation Z now there are very many things that can trigger students and other young people to commit actions that are not in accordance with Christian moral values, norms, and ethics.<sup>8</sup>

Almost throughout the region there have been many major changes, resulting from several situations that cannot be avoided to occur, for example, namely the development of Information and Communication Technology Science, the attitude of westernization that is to imitate outside cultures that are incompatible with the way of life of eastern cultures, and the demands of keeping up with the times, these changes can lead to quality, shifting values and norms, an increasingly hedonic lifestyle that is more concerned with temporary self-indulgence, a culture of luxurious living, so that this can cause a student who is especially a student who has norms and ethics and obeys laws and regulations to be able to survive to have a law-abiding and ethical attitude as it should be. Students and students (in this case, Tarutung State Institute for Christian Studies students) are able to be role models and become carriers of positive impacts in the campus environment and the outside campus environment. With ethics, every student is expected to be able to behave and fight polite and polite towards anyone and whatever it is. As a student who has morals and ethics and obeys the law, students must understand responsibility,

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<sup>8</sup> Eck, "Mission, Identity and Ethics in Mark: Jesus, the Patron for Outsiders."

because many students who when expressing themselves use freedom with freedom that is irresponsible and does not reflect the behavior of students who have ethics, morals and obey the law.

Education is not only limited to adding and developing knowledge, but the understanding is much broader and that understanding is more important is to be able to change or shape a person's character and disposition to be better, more polite at the level of ethics and aesthetics and behavior in everyday life.

Low legal awareness leans towards lawlessness, whereas the higher a person's legal awareness the higher his law observance. However, the phenomenon of lawlessness in the campus environment still often occurs in the form of violations of legal regulations on campus. This will have an impact on students' views that are trivial to a rule, not paying attention to the importance of a rule of law. Legal awareness in the campus environment has an important function that aims to create a prosperous, peaceful, and just campus environment. This goal can be achieved if every campus resident, especially students/I can comply with every law on campus. However, this goal can be hampered by the fact that there are still some people who like to violate legal regulations in the campus environment.

Based on this description, the writing of this journal aims to explain the extent of understanding Christian ethics of Tarutung State Institute for Christian Studies students who should have knowledge of Christian ethics and morals as students from campuses that are in religious auspices so that they can obey the rule of law to be used as standards in an effort to improve the orderly behavior of student law specifically.

## **2. RESEARCH METHODS**

The type of research in this journal is quantitative methods. Quantitative research in this case is carried out by providing several questions and statements related to students' understanding of Christian Ethics towards regulations and laws on campus in the form of questionnaires and given to several Tarutung State Institute for Christian Studies students regarding students' Christian ethical awareness in conducting and complying with the law on campus which is based on Law No. 12 of 2012 concerning Higher Education, nats of Colossians Bible 3:23, 1 Timothy 4:12. This research is located in the Tarutung State Institute for Christian Studies campus environment.

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Table 1.** The results of processing data on the understanding of Christian ethics of Tarutung State Institute for Christian Studies students towards law on campus

<b>Model Summary</b>				
Type	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.661	.438	.432	7.944

Based on the data processed in filling out the questionnaire questionnaire above, it shows an R Square figure of 43.8%. Referring to the findings of research conducted by filling out a questionnaire conducted by the author to several Tarutung State Institute for Christian Studies Students that it turns out that many students have a positive response in understanding the rules and laws on campus. This is because socialization from the campus both in oral form, namely lectures from lecturers and the Tarutung State Institute for Christian Studies Student Code of Ethics book which is distributed to every Tarutung State Institute for Christian Studies student. However, it turns out that the results of the data processing can be inversely proportional to the actual situation in the campus environment. What should be if the understanding of the rules and laws on campus is

good, the awareness to obey the law on campus should also be better. Because understanding and awareness are in line and interrelated.

In enacting a law, of course, the campus has already provided advice and socialization given to students which is carried out at the beginning of entering the new semester. This is in line with the opinion of an expert who said "In addition to knowing the regulations that are imposed," to be able to know the law must be able to recognize the characteristics of the law, namely the existence of orders and prohibitions.

Those orders and prohibitions must be obeyed and obeyed by everyone. Not only knowing and understanding the rules and prohibitions imposed on campus, that rules are made to a) bring prosperity and happiness to society; b) creating social life between members of the community; c) regulate as much happiness as possible in society; d) give guidance in community associations.

In the code of ethics book given by the campus, it has been notified and included the standards of students in behaving, namely the rules and laws that must be obeyed by Tarutung State Institute for Christian Studies students.<sup>9</sup> Some of these regulations are as follows be present on time, or before learning activities begin; lectures begin and end with a short service; dress neatly, decently, and in accordance with applicable norms; do not smoke in the campus environment; respect other students and avoid annoying things; expressing opinions or rebutting opinions politely; not issuing inappropriate or hurtful words; be honest and do not commit acts of administrative manipulation; voiding actions that may pose a danger; dress modestly, neatly and according to the stipulated conditions; maintain good social relations outside and inside the campus; complying, obeying

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<sup>9</sup> Ariawan, *Etika Guru Pendidikan Agama Kristen*.

government laws and regulations; not carrying sharp weapons to the campus area; no carrying and taking drugs is allowed; and maintain campus facilities.<sup>10</sup>

Violations that often occur in the campus environment in general are the delay of students/I in paying a single tuition fee, the presence of several students smoking in campus area stalls, not being on time to attend before learning begins and the presence of students/I who dress not like the provisions set by the campus.

As a student who received an education on a religious campus, he should be able to be an example that has a positive impact in understanding the awareness of obeying law on campus as a form of implications of Christian ethics. But it is undeniable that there are still some students who still do not understand legal ethics on campus. It is not just acting like that on campus and even outside the campus environment that can defame the campus.<sup>11</sup>

Therefore, even more decisiveness is needed in sanctioning violators so that the violations that occur can be reduced and even eliminated. Some violations committed on campus grounds have sanctions for violations.

Application of sanctions to applicable law. Of course, it has an especially important influence on law enforcement on campus. This is because sanctioning violations will have a deterrent effect and it is hoped that students will no longer make the same mistakes and do not make other mistakes. Sanctions for violations of the law on campus that need to be applied and are expected to be able to have a positive influence include:<sup>12</sup>

1) Verbal and written reprimands

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<sup>10</sup> D. P. Rhodes, "Theology as Social Activity: Theological Action Research and Teaching the Knowledge of Christian Ethics and Practical Ministry," *Scottish Journal of Theology* 73, no. 4 (2020): 340–257.

<sup>11</sup> M. Waruwu, Y. A. Arifianto, and A. Suseno, "Peran Pendidikan Etika Kristen Dalam Media Sosial Di Era Disrupsi," *Jurnal Pendidikan Agama Kristen (JUPAK)* 1, no. 1 (2020): 43–56.

<sup>12</sup> G. Junetri and Y. A. Widjaya, "Kepemimpinan Guru Kristen: Sebuah Tinjauan Etika Kristen," *BIA': Jurnal Teologi Dan Pendidikan Kristen Kontekstual* 3, no. 2 (2020): 198–213.

- 2) If you commit a violation with minor sanctions repeatedly three times, it will be given moderate sanctions, namely:
- a) Pay compensation/fines incurred by his actions.
  - b) Suspension can be:
    - Received a warning letter and conveyed to parents.
    - Postpone academic, administrative and activities services decided by the campus.
    - If added facts are then obtained that incriminate violations of ethical norms and campus life procedures, then the suspension period is extended.
    - If you then commit another violation, the campus has the right to dismiss the student concerned.

These things are expected to be able to have a deterrent effect on students who violate the law on campus. Which even though in reality there are still some students who continue to violate the law in the campus area.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

Based on the findings and research discussions that have been explained in the previous discussion, it can be concluded that all Tarutung State Institute for Christian Studies Students understand the importance of awareness in implementing the law on campus. Knowledge of the rules of student discipline at Tarutung State Institute for Christian Studies has actually been good because the knowledge is obtained through direct socialization which is affirmed orally through counseling and giving advice at the beginning of entering the new academic year and writing, namely by providing a code book of ethics and student discipline by the campus to each student/I. However, due to the absence of strict sanctions for lawbreakers and the lack of intensive supervision such

as the concern of lecturers and employees and other academic communities, it causes some students who take the law lightly in the campus area and also causes violations of the rules and prohibitions that apply in the campus environment to still be langar.

In reality, there are still some students who violate the law on campus, especially in terms of payment of Single Tuition Fees and time delays in following the teaching and learning process and there are still some students who do not wear lecture clothes according to the rules and there are even students who smoke in the campus area, this is not in accordance with the rules and standards of student behavior listed in the Tarutung State Institute for Christian Studies Student Code of Ethics book due to the absence of the firmness of the campus in punishing lawbreakers.

For this reason, it is recommended to the academic community to further emphasize the enforcement of sanctions for violators of laws and regulations on campus. The sanctions given can be in the form of verbal warnings, written warning, administrative sanctions from, suspension, and expelled campus.

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