

Legal Education on Online Gambling Prevention and Reporting in Sragen Regency

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Abstract

Online gambling creates legal, economic, and social problems, while public understanding of its legal consequences and official reporting channels remains limited. This community service activity aimed to strengthen legal literacy on online gambling prevention and expand public access to initial legal information and consultation. The activity was conducted on 16 March 2025 during the Sragen Regency Car Free Day, in front of the Sragen District Court, through collaboration among students of the Faculty of Law, Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta, Sukowati Law Office, and LBH Muhammadiyah Sragen. The method consisted of needs identification, literature review, preparation of educational materials and flyers, face-to-face legal education, free legal consultation, and reflective evaluation. Thirteen students participated: six approached visitors and distributed flyers, while seven served at the consultation booth under lawyer supervision. The activity revealed questions raised during the activity concerned legal consequences, financial losses, consultation confidentiality, and procedures for reporting gambling websites or accounts. The main challenges were visitors' reluctance to discuss sensitive matters and confusion in distinguishing the legal positions of reporters, players, and victims. The team used proactive engagement, plain-language legal communication, and referrals to lawyers for complex matters. However, because no pre-test and post-test were administered, changes in public understanding cannot yet be stated quantitatively.

Keywords

Legal Education, Online Gambling, Legal Consultation, Digital Reporting

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Abstrak

Judi online menimbulkan persoalan hukum, ekonomi, dan sosial, sementara pemahaman masyarakat mengenai konsekuensi hukum dan kanal pelaporan resmi masih terbatas. Kegiatan pengabdian kepada masyarakat ini bertujuan memperkuat literasi hukum mengenai pencegahan judi online serta memperluas akses masyarakat terhadap informasi dan konsultasi hukum awal. Kegiatan dilaksanakan pada 16 Maret 2025 dalam agenda Car Free Day Kabupaten Sragen, di depan Pengadilan Negeri Sragen, melalui kolaborasi mahasiswa Fakultas Hukum Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta, Sukowati Law Office, dan LBH Muhammadiyah Sragen. Metode kegiatan meliputi identifikasi kebutuhan, studi pustaka, penyusunan materi dan flyer, edukasi tatap muka, konsultasi hukum gratis, serta evaluasi reflektif. Sebanyak 13 mahasiswa terlibat, dengan pembagian enam mahasiswa melakukan pendekatan dan penyebaran flyer, sedangkan tujuh mahasiswa memberikan layanan di stand di bawah supervisi advokat. Hasil kegiatan menunjukkan adanya pertanyaan yang muncul selama kegiatan berkaitan dengan konsekuensi hukum, kerugian finansial, kerahasiaan konsultasi, serta prosedur pelaporan situs atau akun perjudian. Kendala utama berupa keengganan pengunjung untuk menyampaikan masalah yang sensitif dan adanya kekeliruan dalam membedakan pelapor, pemain, dan korban. Penjelasan menggunakan bahasa hukum yang sederhana serta rujukan persoalan kompleks kepada advokat menjadi bagian dari pelaksanaan layanan. Namun, karena tidak digunakan pre-test dan post-test, perubahan tingkat pemahaman masyarakat belum dapat dinyatakan secara kuantitatif.

Kata Kunci

Edukasi Hukum, Judi Online, Konsultasi Hukum, Pelaporan Digital

Introduction

Digital technology has broadened public access to many services, but it has also facilitated the spread of gambling through websites, applications, social media, and instant-messaging services.¹ Online gambling is not merely a legal violation; it may also result in loss of assets, debt, family conflict, damaged social relationships, and addictive behavioral tendencies.² This complexity shows that prevention cannot rely only on access restriction and law enforcement. It also requires legal education that is understandable and accessible in everyday community spaces.³

¹ A S Sitanggang, R Sabta, and F Y Hasiolan, "Perkembangan Judi Online Dan Dampaknya Terhadap Masyarakat: Tinjauan Multidisipliner," *Triwikrama: Jurnal Ilmu Sosial* 1, no. 6 (2023): 70–80.

² I T Jadidah et al., "Analisis Maraknya Judi Online Di Masyarakat," *Jurnal Ilmu Sosial Dan Budaya Indonesia* 1, no. 1 (2023): 20–27.

³ W Addiyansyah, "Kecanduan Judi Online Di Kalangan Remaja Desa Cilebut Barat Kecamatan Sukaraja Kabupaten Bogor," *Manifesto Jurnal Gagasan Komunikasi, Politik, Dan Budaya* 1, no. 1 (2023): 13–22.

Legal literacy plays an important role in helping communities identify unlawful conduct, understand its legal consequences, and determine appropriate courses of action when facing legal problems.⁴ In the context of online gambling, an understanding of reporting procedures and digital evidence preservation is necessary to enable communities to take appropriate initial action and use the relevant complaint channels.⁵ Furthermore, social stigma and concerns about being judged by others may discourage individuals experiencing gambling-related problems from seeking assistance.⁶ Therefore, community-based legal education and accessible initial legal consultations can serve as means of broadening access to legal information while encouraging community participation in efforts to prevent online gambling.⁷

The scale of online gambling in Indonesia is substantial.⁸ The Indonesian Financial Transaction Reports and Analysis Center recorded Rp359.81 trillion in transaction value associated with online gambling in 2024.⁹ From 20 October 2024 to 8 March 2025, the Ministry of Communication and Digital Affairs handled more than 1.1 million items of online gambling content and emphasized the importance of public participation through official reporting channels.¹⁰ These figures demonstrate that the public needs to understand not only the risks of gambling, but also how to

⁴ Tedy Subrata et al., "Sosialisasi Hukum Pidana Sebagai Upaya Pemberdayaan Masyarakat Menuju Lingkungan Yang Tertib Hukum," *Panggung Kebaikan: Jurnal Pengabdian Sosial* 3, no. 2 (2026), <https://doi.org/10.62951/panggungkebaikan.v3i2.2098>.

⁵ Daniel Hasianto Hendarto and Riska Sri Handayani, "Pencegahan Kejahatan Siber Terkait Distribusi Perjudian Online Di Indonesia Dalam Rangka Mewujudkan Keamanan Dan Ketertiban Masyarakat," *Jurnal Syntax Admiration* 5, no. 5 (2024): 1542–58, <https://doi.org/10.46799/jsa.v5i5.1136>.

⁶ Nadya Putri Cahyani Bahar, "The Presence of Gambling in Family History: A Scoping Literature Review" (UIN Raden Intan Lampung, 2025).

⁷ Irham Rahman et al., "Penyuluhan Hukum Pinjaman Dan Judi Online Untuk Peningkatan Literasi Hukum Serta Mekanisme Pengaduan Di Desa Kwadungan," *Alamtana: Jurnal Pengabdian Masyarakat UNW Mataram* 7, no. 1 (2026): 65–73, <https://doi.org/10.51673/jaltn.v7i1.2765>.

⁸ A S Meswari and M Ritonga, "Dampak Judi Online Terhadap Masa Depan Pemuda Desa Air Buluh Kecamatan Ipuh Kabupaten Mukomuko Provinsi Bengkulu," *Jurnal Cakrawala Ilmiah* 2, no. 5 (2023): 2097–2102.

⁹ Indonesian Financial Transaction Reports and Analysis Center, "PPATK Annual Report 2024" (Jakarta: PPATK, 2025).

¹⁰ Ministry of Communication and Digital Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, "Public Reports Appreciated: Komdigi Handled 1.3 Million Items of Pornographic and Online Gambling Content," *Press Release*, 2025.

preserve digital evidence, report unlawful content, and obtain appropriate legal assistance.¹¹

At the time of the community service activity, general gambling offences were still governed by Articles 303 and 303 bis of the former Indonesian Criminal Code.¹² The distribution, transmission, or provision of access to electronic information containing gambling content was governed by Article 27(2) in conjunction with Article 45(3) of Law Number 1 of 2024, carrying a maximum penalty of ten years' imprisonment and/or a fine of up to Rp10 billion.¹³ Since 2 January 2026, general gambling offences under the national Criminal Code are regulated by Articles 426 and 427 of Law Number 1 of 2023, subject to the criminal-law adjustments introduced by Law Number 1 of 2026.¹⁴ This transition must be explained so that legal education does not rely on outdated provisions.¹⁵

Based on preliminary review, discussions with the partner institutions, and field interviews with police officers, the community faced three principal issues. First, some people assumed that suffering financial loss automatically made an online gambling player a victim who was free from legal risk. Second, people did not clearly distinguish between reporting gambling content and reporting a suspected criminal offence together with a financial loss. Third, shame, stigma, and fear of legal consequences discouraged open consultation. These issues are consistent with studies linking legal awareness and self-control to community involvement in online gambling.¹⁶

Accordingly, this community service activity aimed to: (1) explain the legal and social consequences of online gambling; (2) clarify official content-reporting channels and the initial steps to take when there is a suspected offence or financial loss; and (3) provide accessible initial legal consultation during the Sragen Regency Car Free Day.

¹¹ N Aprilia, H Pratikto, and A R Aristawati, "Kecenderungan Adiksi Judi Online Pada Penjudi Online: Bagaimana Peran Self-Control?" *INNER: Journal of Psychological Research* 2, no. 4 (2023): 888–95.

¹² Republic of Indonesia, "Law Number 1 of 1946 Concerning Criminal Law Regulations, as Amended by Law Number 7 of 1974 Concerning Gambling Control" (1946).

¹³ Republic of Indonesia, "Law Number 1 of 2024 Concerning the Second Amendment to Law Number 11 of 2008 on Electronic Information and Transactions" (2024).

¹⁴ Republic of Indonesia, "Law Number 1 of 2023 Concerning the Criminal Code" (2023).

¹⁵ Republic of Indonesia, "Law Number 1 of 2026 Concerning Criminal Adjustments" (2026).

¹⁶ M A Putra, "Analisis Kesadaran Hukum Warga Negara Dalam Pasal 27 Ayat (2) UU ITE Terhadap Tindak Pidana Perjudian," *Untirta Civic Education Journal* 9, no. 1 (2024): 13–24.

Method

Activity Design and Approach

The activity adopted a participatory legal-education approach combining brief counselling, distribution of informational material, direct dialogue, and initial legal consultation. The Car Free Day setting enabled the team to reach people from varied backgrounds without a complicated registration process. Legal concepts were delivered in plain language, while questions requiring in-depth analysis were referred to the supervising lawyers.

Time, Place, and Implementing Team

The activity was conducted on Sunday, 16 March 2025, from 6:00 to 9:00 a.m. Western Indonesian Time at the Sragen Regency Car Free Day area, in front of the Sragen District Court, Street Sukowati No. 253, Sragen. The team consisted of 13 Faculty of Law students from Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta who were undertaking an internship, supervised by Sukowati Law Office and supported by LBH Muhammadiyah Sragen.

Stages of Implementation

The activity comprised four stages. First, needs were identified through issue mapping, field interviews, and a literature review on the effects and legal regulation of online gambling. Second, the team prepared legal materials, flyers, task assignments, and the consultation facilities. Third, legal education and free consultation were delivered. Six students approached visitors and distributed flyers, while seven students served at the booth. Fourth, the team conducted reflective evaluation by recording the themes of questions, communication barriers, and follow-up needs.

Evaluation and Service Ethics

Evaluation was qualitative and relied on field notes, types of questions, visitor responses, and team reflection with the supervisors. No names or personally identifying details of visitors are reported in this article. Student consultations were limited to initial legal information; complex matters, issues involving possible conflicts of interest, or cases requiring formal representation were referred to lawyers. The activity did not use pre-tests or post-tests, and therefore was not designed to measure statistical changes in knowledge.

Results and Discussion

Delivery of Legal Education and Consultation

The consultation booth was placed in a location that was visible to Car Free Day visitors. Flyers served as conversation starters and contained brief explanations of online gambling, its socio-economic effects, legal risks, basic steps for preserving digital evidence, and available assistance channels. Students circulating through the area invited visitors to read the material and visit the booth, while the booth team delivered individual or small-group explanations.

The absence of a single formal speaker made the activity more dialogical. Students responded to questions in rotation under supervision from Sukowati Law Office. This model helped them practice translating legal rules into plain language. Nevertheless, the students' role remained limited to initial legal information and did not replace a lawyer's formal legal opinion.

Issues Raised During Consultation

Questions mainly concerned financial loss, the possibility of reporting gambling websites, the legal status of players, and consultation confidentiality. One visitor, whose identity is not disclosed, described a family member who had become involved in online gambling and sold a vehicle. The visitor asked whether the loss could be reported to the police. The team explained that gambling websites, accounts, numbers, or content may be reported through official channels by providing links, screenshots, and reasons for the report. Where fraud, threats, extortion, or another offence is suspected, transaction records and communications should be preserved for consultation with a lawyer or reporting to law-enforcement authorities.

The team also emphasized that a person who has participated in online gambling does not automatically receive legal immunity merely because that person has suffered a loss. Legal status depends on the conduct, evidence, and circumstances of the case. A visitor who was personally involved was therefore advised to obtain individual legal advice before disclosing detailed information. This explanation corrected the oversimplified narrative that every losing player must always be treated as a victim.

Reporting Channels and Follow-Up

Online gambling content may be reported through Aduankonten.id by submitting a link or screenshot and stating the reason for the report. The submission is verified and processed by the Ministry of Communication and Digital Affairs. For

suspicious accounts or transactions, the public should preserve transfer records, account details, message histories, and other relevant documents. Suspected criminal offences and concrete losses may be discussed with lawyers or reported to the police according to the nature of the matter. This distinction is important because content blocking does not automatically resolve criminal liability, civil claims, or financial recovery.

Community Response and Implementation Barriers

Visitors demonstrated interest through questions and conversations at the booth and during flyer distribution. However, some stopped to read the banner but did not feel comfortable seeking consultation. This hesitation was associated with the sensitive nature of the issue, shame, and fear that consultation might reveal personal or family involvement in gambling. The students responded by approaching visitors politely, explaining the limited and confidential nature of the initial consultation, and avoiding questions that pressured visitors to reveal their identity.

These observations show that merely providing a booth is insufficient. Legal education on online gambling should be persuasive, non-judgmental, and clear about the distinction between support for affected persons and legal accountability for participation in gambling. Such an approach also prevents the overly broad use of the term “victim” without an adequate legal assessment (Table 1).

Table 1. Summary of issues, interventions, and implications

Field issue	Intervention	Implication
Limited understanding of legal rules and risks.	Flyers and plain-language explanations.	Visitors received initial guidance on legal and social consequences.
Visitors were reluctant to discuss sensitive matters.	Proactive, non-judgmental engagement and explanation of confidentiality.	Consultation became more accessible, although stigma remained a barrier.
Some matters exceeded student competence.	Supervision and referral to lawyers.	Service boundaries were maintained and students did not provide formal legal opinions.
No impact-measurement instrument was used.	Reflective evaluation based on field notes.	Outcomes can only be reported qualitatively; pre-tests and post-tests are needed.

Source: *Implementing team's reflective evaluation, 2025.*

Outcomes and Limitations

The principal outcome was the availability of direct access to initial legal information, an explanation of reporting procedures, and a consultation space located close to the community. For the students, the activity provided experience in identifying problems, communicating legal rules in plain language, maintaining

professional boundaries, and referring matters to professionals. These outcomes are descriptive and based on observations during the activity.

The main limitations were the absence of data on the number and characteristics of visitors, pre-test and post-test results, and follow-up after consultation. Consequently, this article does not claim that the activity produced a measurable increase in legal awareness. Future activities should use anonymous attendance records, short pre- and post-activity questionnaires, indicators of reporting-channel knowledge, and confidential follow-up evaluation.

Conclusion

Legal education and free consultation during the Sragen Regency Car Free Day broadened public access to information about the effects, legal consequences, and reporting channels associated with online gambling. Direct engagement, flyers, plain-language explanations, and lawyer supervision helped visitors raise questions that were otherwise considered sensitive. The activity also revealed confusion in distinguishing reporters, players, and victims. Educational material must therefore avoid generalizations and explain that legal status is determined by the conduct and evidence in each case.

Qualitatively, the activity demonstrated a substantial need for accessible legal education and consultation. However, an increase in public knowledge could not be established quantitatively because no pre- and post-activity evaluation instrument was used. Future programs should include measurable evaluation, documentation of beneficiary numbers, updated digital-reporting material, and a structured referral and follow-up mechanism involving lawyers and legal-aid institutions.

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