

## Evaluation of Violent Behavior Prisoners by Correctional Officers at Correctional Institutions

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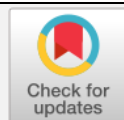
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### ARTICLE INFO

**Publication Info:**  
Research Article



#### How to cite:

Yuska, S., Equatora, M. A. Subroto, M., & Hamzah, I. (2022). Evaluation of Violent Behavior Prisoners by Correctional Officers at Correctional Institutions. *Society*, 10(1), 13-24.

DOI: [10.33019/society.v10i1.284](https://doi.org/10.33019/society.v10i1.284)

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### ABSTRACT

*There have been several violent incidents in the Correctional Unit. One of them in West Sumatra, where the Legal Aid Institute in Padang recorded three cases during the current year in 2019, occurred in Pariaman Class II-B of Correctional Institution. Similar incidents occurred in 2018 in which children in correctional institutions were recorded as experiencing physical, psychic, and sexual violence. The Indonesian Commission for the Protection of Children found that 26.8 percent of children in Special Children's Prison were victims of violence in 2018. There has been widespread media coverage of officers' violence and complex correctional problems in the last three years. Based on the literature study and unstructured interviews with correctional officers, several factors cause officers' violence to prisoners. The following factors are the punitive attitude of correctional officers to prisoners and the lack of human rights knowledge, Standard Minimum Rules (SMR), and correctional officers' correctional technicalities. In this study, the method used was descriptive qualitative research. Descriptive qualitative research is a form of research that includes a case study of an event. This study uses a qualitative method with a case study approach. Case studies are intended to test research questions and problems in which there is no separation of phenomena and context in the spectacle. This study explores the factors that trigger officers to commit violence against correctional inmates. Many things cause violent behavior, such as stress, psychic problems, and*

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**Received:** January 11, 2021;  
**Accepted:** December 14, 2021;  
**Published:** June 24, 2022;

soon.

**Keywords:** Correctional; Evaluation; Prisoners; Violence

## 1. Introduction

In the last three years, there has been widespread media coverage of violence by officers and complex correctional problems. This position's correctional institutions vulnerable to security stability and coaching efforts are also considered empty jargon of institutional sweeteners (Direktorat Jenderal Pemasyarakatan, 2018). There have been several violent incidents in the Correctional Institution. One is in West Sumatra, where the Legal Aid Institute in Padang recorded three cases in 2019. One occurred in Pariaman Class II B of Correctional Institution (Covesia.com, 2019). Reports from clients say they were subjected to bruising and torture from officers due to other inmate fights, and some abuses resulted in the inmate's health. Similar incidents occurred in 2018 in which children in correctional institutions were recorded as experiencing physical, psychic, and sexual violence. The Indonesian Commission for the Protection of Children found that 26.8 percent of children in The Special Child Prison experienced violence in 2018 (Tirto.id, 2019).

Another example is the accident at the Banceuy Class II-A of Narcotics Correctional in Bandung. This event happened because of the emotions of some inmates who did not accept the death of one of the inmates named Undang Kosim, who was found hanging himself in the isolation cell Gandapurnama (Detikcom, 2016).

One recent piece of evidence mirrors this assertion: videos of alleged acts of violence by narcotics inmates have been in the spotlight and public discussion lately. Videos circulating in various media showed several inmates being dragged, lifted, and subjected to other violence by correctional officers. According to the Directorate General of Corrections (Directorate General of PAS of the Ministry of Law and Human Rights), the incident that occurred during the transfer of inmates to Nusakambangan Island, Cilacap, in Central Java is an incident that violates the SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) that has existed. According to data on the Forum Pemerhati Pemasyarakatan (FPP) on May 5, 2019, this video of Nusakambangan inmate violence has been shared by over 35,000 Facebook users with 15,000 comments. This phenomenon is also essential to study material for Politeknik Ilmu Pemasyarakatan (Poltekip) as an educational institution producing correctional cadres throughout Indonesia for decades. As academic and moral accountability Poltekip needs to review and take further action so that correctional no longer violate Standard Minimum Rules (SMR) and Law No 12 of 1995 to realize better correctional institutions (Republik Indonesia, 1995). Based on the literature study and unstructured interviews with correctional officers, several factors cause violence committed by officers against inmates. The following factors are the punitive attitude of correctional officers to inmates and insufficient knowledge of human rights, SMR, and correctional technicalities of correctional officers.

This study explores the factors that trigger officers to commit violence against correctional inmates. Many things cause violent behavior, such as stress, psychic problems, and soon. Prison, as an institution, has the complexity of problems and becomes a phenomenon of its own that can indicate different situations in terms of work and responsibility. The violent behavior

that occurs indeed has a supporting factor and inhibition to be carried out or not implemented. Inmates are supposed to get legally mandated services and not violate their rights of inmates. These are the research objectives to explore more what factors and causes of deviant behavior have occurred.

## 2. Literature Review

The intention is a motivating factor that influences behavior. According to Fishbein & Ajzen, as cited in Ajzen (1985), the intention is the position of a person in the dimension of subjective probability involving a relationship between himself and several actions. Intention can indicate how much a person will attempt to perform a particular behavior. The intention is still a disposition to behave until the moment there is the right opportunity. Intention consists of four elements, namely:

- a. Specific behavior
- b. The behavior directs the target object
- c. The situation is carried out by
- d. When the behavior is carried out

Warshaw & Davis, as cited in Landry (2003), explained that intention is the degree to which a person formulates a plan to show a specific future goal or not, and it's all done consciously. They both also added that the intention involves establishing a behavioral commitment to show an action or not, where there is an expectation that a person expects to show an action even when the commitment has not been made.

Fishbein & Ajzen, as cited in Ajzen (1985) suggest that based on reasoned action theory, intention reflects the individual's desire to try to establish behavior, consisting of three determinants, namely:

- a. Attitudes Towards Behavior

Attitudes towards behavior are influenced by the belief that such behavior will lead to desired or unwanted results. Individuals with a positive belief in behavior tend to perform such actions. Or in other words, attitudes that lead to behavior are determined by the consequences caused by behavior, called the term belief in behavior.

- b. Subjective Norms

Beliefs about what behaviors are normative (which others expect) and the motivation to act following normative expectations form subjective norms in the individual. Beliefs underlying subjective norms that individuals have been referred to as normative beliefs. The individual believes that a particular individual or group will accept or not accept their actions. If individuals believe in the group's norm, they will adhere to and form behaviors that suit the group. It can be concluded that this group's norms form subjective norms within the individual, which will eventually shape his behavior.

- c. Conscious Behavior Control

Behavioral control is a belief about whether or not there are factors that facilitate and hinder the performance of individual behavior. This belief is based on previous experiences of such behavior, which are influenced by information from others, for example, from the experiences of known people or friends. It is also influenced by other factors that increase or reduce the perceived difficulty of performing such actions or behaviors. Behavioral control is determined by experience and individual estimates of how difficult or easy it is to

perform the behavior in question. This behavior control is very important when a person's confidence is in a weak state.

Violent or aggressive behavior is a form of behavior that aims to harm a person physically and psychologically (Dermawan & Rusdi, 2013). This behavior, according to Fitria (2010), is characterized by:

- 1) Physical: Eyes looking sharp, hands clenched, jaws closed, tense and rigid posture
- 2) Verbal: Threatening, swearing with dirty words speaking in a loud, rude, and or curt tone
- 3) Behavior: Attacking others and hurting others
- 4) Intellectual: Dominating, rude, arguing, disparaging, and not infrequently issuing sarcasm-tinged words.

When violence and aggressive behavior within an institution occurs, it will usually attract attention from the media. In this case, a rule and expectation of behavior are contrary to what happened. When this situation occurs, there will be many questions about how an institution's ability to maintain the rules goes well. One of the significant things in changing a person's identity from wearing a uniform, for example, to a correctional officer will be able to explain how an individual can exhibit their aggressive behavior. Even in some ways, the officers did not show their identities on one side to protect themselves and make them quite free to act.

Moreover, Bernard (1990) argues that aggressive institutional actions are one factor in the level of stress experienced by officers, for example, in the correctional technical implementation unit. The inability to cope with this is the cause of the increasing level of aggressiveness of officers in the field who are faced with conditions that may be able to ignite their emotions. The stress level can also be caused by a relationship with a coworker who feels he is not treated properly and then transmitted to another colleague. So the negative relationships that occur between each other increase the frustration and anger that impacts the scope of work.

### 3. Research Methodology

This research used a qualitative method with a case study approach which helped researchers explore more from the factual information that will be analyzed. Case studies are intended to test research questions and problems in which there is no separation of phenomena and context in the phenomenon that occurs (Prihatsanti et al., 2018). This research focuses on one key object that studies it as a case in the case study data obtained from all parties involved in the research topics. In other words, the study collects from various sources (Nawawi, 2003). Researchers themselves are preparing qualitative research instruments. Researchers must be able to record data in the form of the data source's behavior or appearance because currents are recorded in writing without including their interpretation.

Researchers are the main instrument because only researchers can act as an existing tool and respond to reality. Qualitative research instruments are prepared with other devices, namely structured interview guidelines and observations. After all, it isn't straightforward (Equatora, 2018).

This study uses an approach with a triangulation model in validity testing, which means the data is interpreted from various sources in various ways and multiple times. There is source triangulation, data collection triangulation, and time triangulation.

#### 1) Triangulation of Source

Triangulation is needed to review the validation of the data by checking the information received from the informants.

2) Triangulate Technique

This technique checks the same data source by using different methods. For example, interview data will be checked by observation and documentation.

3) Triangulate time

Time also often affects the credibility of the data. In doing an interview, the informants were interviewed in the morning to provide more valid answers because the informant’s conditions are still fresh.

In descriptive qualitative research using data analysis, the study’s investigation takes place in conjunction with the data collection process. Among them are data reduction, data presentation, and verification. However, all three stages take place simultaneously. This data analysis is described as follows:

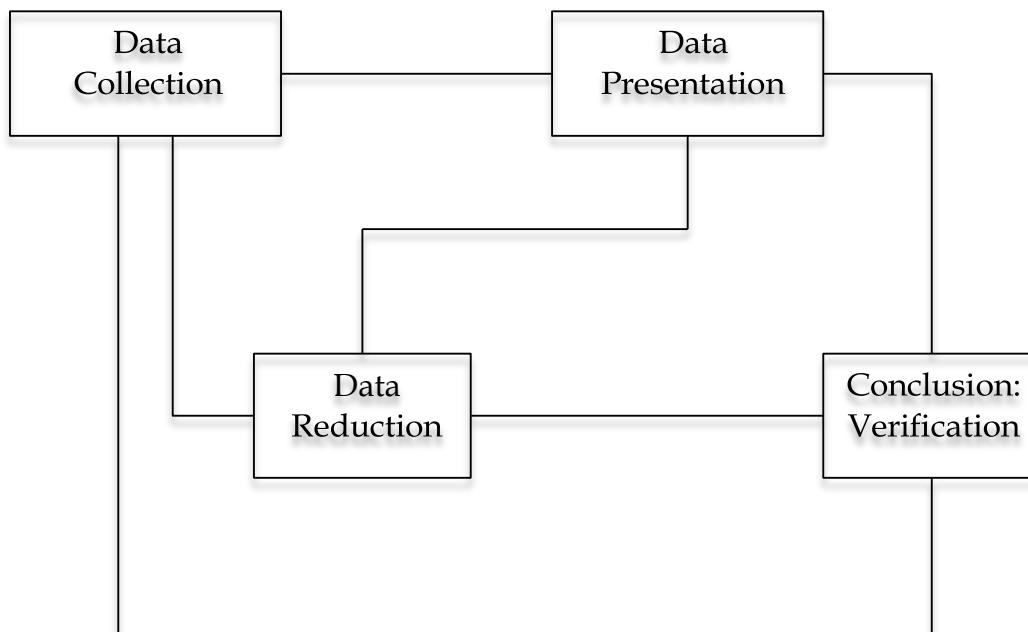


Figure 1. Data Analysis Process

4. Results and Discussion

4.1. Results

4.1.1. Officers’ Attitudes About Violence against Inmates

According to interviews with three prison officers, many inmates transferred/ mutated to Nusakambangan are problematic inmates in the previous dungeon. One of the sources said that correctional officers who escorted the transferred inmates provided information that the inmate had been on the move and had often made trouble in prison before.

The officers consider that “shock therapy” is a solution to make the inmate comply with the rules, fear, and maintain his behavior during the criminal term. Illustrated in the interview excerpt as follows:

*“yes, it was intentional sometimes. In the file there was act against the officer. There was the act of making trouble, and so forth. The goal is to weaken. This should not happen here because in the file there is a history of making trouble in previous prisons*

*and actions against officers and so on. Here there must be an introduction to prison introduction to prevent it from happening again” (Interview with K.L.L.N).*

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#### **4.1.2. Officers Want to Restore Culture Nusakambangan**

Known as a prison island since the Dutch East Indies colonial government, Nusakambangan is feared by criminals and inmates. This impression is considered by officers to have faded. They seem to call to return the culture of Nusakambangan to be feared by the inmates and give them a deterrent effect. Illustrated in the interview excerpt as follows:

*“In fact, Nusakambangan is a stage of revitalization. Nusakambangan has a culture, so the culture in Nusakambangan must exist and apply that culture again. For example, if new prisoners enter here, they must be deterred and must give up on their actions. As a result, those who have been here feel deterred and give up and do not want to come back here again. In fact, there should be such a culture in Nusakambangan” (Interview with P.L.L.N).*

*“We don’t want the name Nusakambangan that has been damaged and because they came this place is even more damaged. Because in Nusakambangan itself there have been many victims, especially related to drug trafficking, many officers are also involved” (Interview with A.L.L.B).*

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#### **4.1.3. Officers are Furious when the Inmate’s Case History is Contrary to Values - Subjective Value**

Officers will be furious when the case history of inmates transferred to Nusakambangan goes against the officer’s subjective value. For example, in a case of rape of a minor, when an officer feels that a member of his family was treated as a victim (family is an essential value held by the officer), they will be furious when finding inmates who commit rape child abuse. The illustrated in the interview excerpt is as follows:

*“Yes, I think that’s the case when it comes to cases against children, the officers get annoyed. The issue of child protection. For example, there is a pensioner who abuses a 7 year old child. This is a woman’s domain when it comes to child protection. I was called, and I studied the case first. I immediately called him grandpa. Grandpa, that’s the age of your grandson, don’t you think? He said he made a mistake. I felt annoyed and wanted to hit him but I didn’t because I wanted to follow in my father’s footsteps. I don’t want to get my hands dirty” (Interview with W.L.L.B).*

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#### **4.1.4. Violent Behavior**

Violent behavior on Nusakambangan is also due to the negative influence of senior employees on new employees to commit violence. Senior correctional officers will influence new officers (be they employees with higher education backgrounds or equivalent education) by asking them to commit violent behavior toward inmates. Those who do not follow the invitation of seniors will get adverse treatment. For example, insulted and demeaned. The illustrated in the interview excerpt is as follows:

*"In my opinion, what is passed down from generation to generation is the same as tradition.... There are various kinds. Some say that sissies have to wear skirts and they're not gentle, not men, just move away" (Interview with K.L.L.N).*

## 4.2. Discussions

### 4.2.1. Officer's Attitude to Violence Against Inmates

An officer's attitude towards an inmate affects how he behaves or responds to an inmate's behavior (Maynard-Moody & Musheno, 2000; Liebling, 2008; Maynard-Moody & Portillo, 2000). Whether it is punitive or rehabilitative. Punitive attitudes are a person's tendency to impose retributive justice on an offender or inmate rather than a reconciliation or compensation settlement (Hosser et al., 2007). The punitive attitude makes the officers cynical, authoritarian, and pessimistic towards the inmates. At the same time, a rehabilitative attitude is the opposite, where one tends to view an inmate as a human being who can still be rehabilitated.

The interviews with informants show that some attitudes go into the punitive category. The informants see inmates need to be given shock therapy since many of the inmates transferred/mutated to Nusakambangan are troubled inmates in the previous prison. Fears of a recurrence of unlawful behavior in prisons make officers behave in a way inmates perceive. Another source said He felt uncomfortable and worried and did not want the inmate to re-commit the offense, especially with the low number of officers. On the other hand, they face inmates who are punished for a long time and are at high risks, such as terrorism cases, drug dealers, sadistic killings, and other severe cases.

Those more afraid of a criminal act will see punishment as the fastest way to control criminal behavior (Costelloe et al., 2009).

The informants consider that criminals and inmates no longer fear Nusakambangan. They assume that there is information that the increase in inmates in Correctional Technical Implementation Unit activities is increasing. This phenomenon caused the officers to feel the corps' spirit, so violent attitudes arose when accepting troubled transfer inmates from the previous prison. The increasing trend of misdeeds by inmates has also led to officers' punitive mindset towards inmates (Hogan et al., 2005; Pfeiffer et al., 2005; Roberts & Indermaur, 2007; Spiranovic et al., 2012). The punitive attitude also was influenced by the informants' desire to return to the culture of Nusakambangan to be feared by the perpetrators and inmates.

In addition to these two factors, anger increases when the inmate's case contradicts the officer's subjective values. According to Hartnagel & Templeton (2012), this anger is one predictor of one's punitive attitude. Furthermore, outrage over criminal acts/subjective values also has a more significant effect on punitive attitudes than the fear factor of an act of crime.

### 4.2.2. Officer's Close-Knit Behavior with Violence

The informant said violent behavior had become a tradition on Nusakambangan. The rule of violence is a legacy from generation to generation. According to the start, the habit of power is transmitted from senior officers to junior officers through pressure to commit violent behavior toward inmates. It is psychologically referred to as peer pressure or pressure from peers or closest friends directly influencing a person to make decisions. This pressure can be ridicule, bullying, and demeaning words to encourage the individual to adjust his behavior to obtain recognition, status, and prestige from the group members (Sijtsema et al., 2009). Besides,

senior authorities' pressure impacts the compliance of new officers with violent conduct (Milgram, 1963).

**4.2.3. Behavior Control Perception**

The source pointed out that the SOP acceptance of inmates from the Wijayapura port to the correctional institution destination does not exist. He said that there had been no clear SOP related to this process. To date, there has been no SOP reception from the Wijayapura port to the destination prison. During this time, the source claimed to have not known the SOP acceptance of inmates socialized with him. Negative emotions in inmate admission situations are challenging to control without clear rules and supervision. Besides, officers' skills for managing angry emotions when facing inmates need to train to act more rationally.

**4.2.4. Supporting and Inhibiting Factors**

Based on the findings above, the supporting factors and inhibiting factors for the source to commit acts of violence are the factors that are the supportive factors. The Punitive attitudes include giving shock therapy to troubled inmates in previous correctional institutions, wanting to restore the culture of Nusakambangan feared by criminals and inmates, and a furious perspective over inmates' case history contrary to the value of things he considers valuable. Also, in terms of social factors, there is social pressure from colleagues and superiors to make new officers infected commit violence against inmates. So this behavior became sustainable in Nusakambangan.

**Table 1. Supporting and Inhibiting Factors of Violent Behavior**

Supporting Factors	Inhibiting Factors
a. Officer's Punitive Attitude towards Inmates (Shock Therapy)	a. Mutation/rotation of officers internally in one region and between regions
b. Social pressure from coworkers and seniors	b. Human rights training/SMR and other relevant pieces of training
c. No SOP reception from Wijayapura to Correctional Institution destination	c. Making SOP acceptance from Wijayapura to Correctional Institution destination
d. Want to restore the culture of Nusakambangan	d. Finding and training officers alternative ways of dealing with inmates other than violence
e. Officers do not yet know alternative ways of dealing with inmates other than acts of violence	
f. Spirit of the corps appears when receiving inmates' problematic displacement from the previous prison	a. Spirit of the corps to remind each other not to commit violence

However, some factors hinder violent behavior on Nusakambangan. Based on interviews with the informants, several factors inhibit violent behavior on Nusakambangan. The first is the mutation of security officers to learn to view inmates more rehabilitatively than ever before. This mutation was implemented because the enforcement and escort of SOP acceptance so that





newly mutated officers to the security department do not contract violent behavior. Besides, educational factors also affect the reduced attitude toward punitive.

#### 4.2.5. Dynamics of Violent Behavior Factors in Inmates

Ajzen’s Theory of Intention links attitudes, norms, wills (intent), barriers, and support to a behavior (Jogiyanto, 2007). Ajzen (1991) says that attitudes can influence behavior through a thorough and reasoned decision-making process, which is limited to these below:

- a. A specific attitude towards something determines action.
- b. Subjective norms or beliefs influence behavior about what others want us to do.
- c. Attitudes towards behavior and norms and barriers and support certainly form the intention to behave.

Jogiyanto (2007) argues that intent is a function of two determining factors: the individual’s attitude towards behavior (personal aspect) and the individual’s perception of social pressure to conduct the action. Perceived behavioral control is other factors beyond self-perception and social anxiety to control individual behavior (Hsu & Chiu, 2002). Jogiyanto (2007) argues that behavior depends not only on motivation but also rule on the action.

So when referring to this theory, officers’ attitude about violence and the social norms that exist among officers becomes the officers’ motivation to conduct violent behavior and affects the intent or how much the will to commit violence. Unintercentralize SOP and the expertise to “tame” inmates beyond the power to contribute to this behavior.

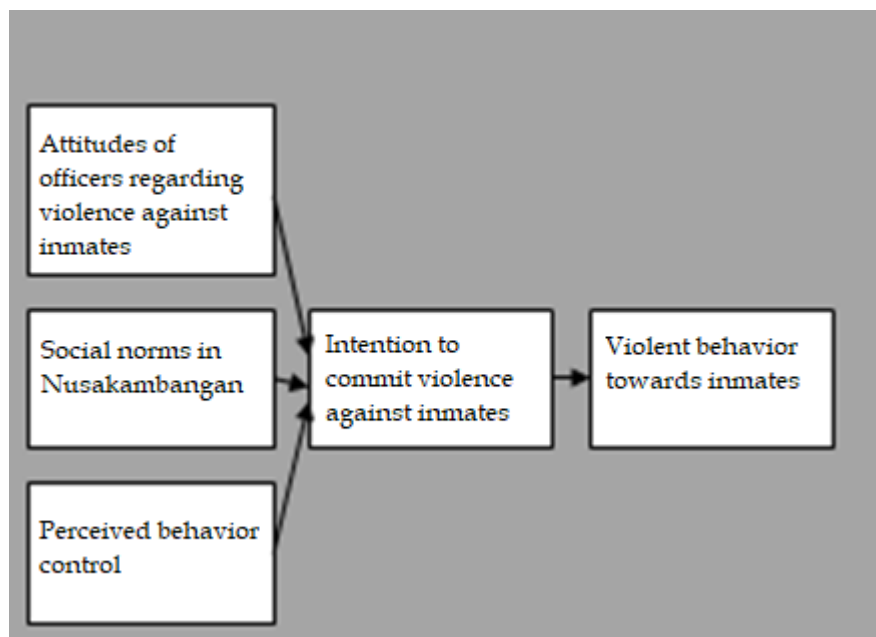


Figure 2. Officer’s Pattern of Violent Behavior refers to Theory of Planned Behavior (Ajzen, 1985)

## 5. Conclusion

This research was conducted to explore and identify factors that trigger violence by officers against inmates at Nusakambangan Correctional Institution. The intent of power determines three determinants: attitudes towards behavior, subjective norms, and behavioral control that will later give rise to violent behavior. Based on the analysis process and discussion that has been conducted, it can conclude that factors that influence violence include: the attitude of

officers about violence in inmates, the growing culture among correctional officers on Nusakambangan and perceived behavioral control (Perceived behavioral control). This study finds several supporting factors for the violence from the investigation, including the officer's Punitive attitude toward inmates (Shock Therapy) and social pressure from colleagues and seniors. Criminals and prisoners fear the culture of Nusakambangan, and officers do not yet know alternative ways to deal with inmates other than acts of violence. There has been no SOP reception from Wijayapura to the Correctional Institution destination. Spirit of the corps appears when accepting troubled transfer inmates from previous prisons.

The study obtained several factors inhibiting violent behavior, including mutation /rotation of officers internally in one region and between regions, human rights training, SMR and other relevant training, making SOP acceptance from Wijayapura to the Correctional Institution destination, finding and training officers alternative ways in dealing with inmates other than violence and spirit of the corps to remind each other not to commit violence.

## 6. Acknowledgment

The authors are grateful to express gratitude to those who have had the pleasure of cooperating during this research.

## 7. Declaration of Conflicting Interests

The authors have declared no potential conflicts of interest concerning this article's research, authorship, and/or publication.

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