

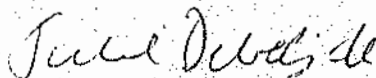
15-4

**EMPOWERING STUDY CENTRE AND DOCUMENTATION
OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN FACULTY OF LAW
DIPONEGORO UNIVERSITY
SEMARANG**

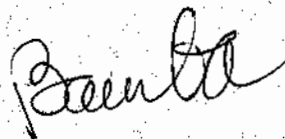
By
Rahayu
**Faculty of Law – Diponegoro University
SEMARANG**

**Presented on Wednesday 15th December 2004
In Castan Centre for Human Rights Law
Monash University
Melbourne
Australia**

Supervised by :



Dr. Julie Debeljak
Team Leader, IASTP III



H. Bambang Subagyo, SH, MA
Mentor, IASTP III

**EMPOWERING STUDY CENTRE AND DOCUMENTATION
OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN FACULTY OF LAW
DIPONEGORO UNIVERSITY - SEMARANG
CENTRAL JAVA - INDONESIA^{*)}**

BY : RAHAYU, SH, M. HUM^{)}**

A. BACKGROUND

Every person has inherent dignity and value. Human rights help us to recognize and respect that fundamental worth in ourselves and in each other. Human rights are the same for all people every where – male and female, young and old, rich and poor, regardless of our background, where we live, what we think or what we believe. This is what makes human rights *'universal'*.

Human rights are important. They recognize our freedom to make choice about our life and develop our potential as human beings. They ensure that we can life free from fear, harassment or discrimination. Respect for human rights helps build strong communities, based on equality and tolerance, in which every person has an opportunity to contribute. Of course, having others respect our human rights comes with the responsibility that we respect the rights of others.

Integral to learning about one's human rights is learning about the responsibilities that accompany all rights. Just as human rights belong to both individuals and society as a whole, the responsibility to respect, defend and promote human rights is individual and collective. The

^{*)} Presented in Human Rights Course at Castan Centre for Human Rights Law - Monash University Melbourne Australia on Wednesday 15th December 2004.

^{**)} Lecturer at Faculty of Law - Diponegoro University, Semarang, Central Java, Indonesia.

Preamble of the '*Universal Declaration on Human Rights*' (UDHR), for example, calls not only on government to promote human rights, but also on '*...every individual and every organ of society...*'. This matter can do with education.

The Plan of Action of the United Nation Decade for Human Rights Education (1995-2004) has defined Human Rights education (in paragraph 2) as "*...training, dissemination, and information efforts aimed at the building of a universal culture of human rights through the imparting of knowledge and skills and the molding of attitudes which are directed to :*

- a. *The strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.*
- b. *The full development of the human personality and the sense of its dignity.*
- c. *The promotion of understanding, respect, gender equality , and friendship among all nations, indigenous peoples and racial, national, ethnic, religious and linguistic groups.*
- d. *The enabling of all person to participate effectively in a free society.*
- e. *The furtherance of the activities of the United Nations for the Maintenance of Peace.*

Human rights education teaches both about human rights and for human rights. Its goal to help people understand human rights, value of human rights and take responsibility for respecting, defending and promoting human rights.

An important outcome of human rights education is empowerment, a process through which people and communities increase their control of their own lives and the decisions that affect them. The ultimate goal of human rights education is people working together to bring about human rights, justice and dignity for all. Education about human rights can do :

- a. Provides people with **information** about human rights.
- b. Helps people feel the importance of human rights, internalise human rights values, and integrate them into the way they live. These **human rights values** and **attitudes**.
- c. Gives people a sense of responsibility for respecting and defending human rights and empowers them through skills to take appropriate action → **skills for action**.

Human rights education for people very important as calls and directed in :

- Preamble of UDHR :

'.....every individual and every organ of society.... to strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedom.....'

- Article 26 UDHR :

'..... Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.....'

- Article 7 CERD :

'State Parties undertake to adopt immediate and effective measures, particularly in the field of teaching, education, culture and information, with a view to combating prejudices which lead to racial discrimination and to promoting understanding, tolerance and friendship among nations and racial or ethical groups.....'

- ICCPR declares that a government '.... may not stand in the way of people learning about their rights....'
- Article 13 (1) ICESCR :
'....They agree that education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and the sense of its dignity, and shall strengthen the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.....'

Beside that, human rights education also directed in article 29 Convention on the Right of Children (CROC) and in article 5 UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education. Indonesia has ratified for all Convention except ICCPR and ICESCR, that's mean Indonesia has international obligation to provide human rights education for all people, formally or informally.

University as a part important institutions has obligation to provide and give education for society, include education about human rights. Diponegoro University as one's of big University in Indonesia has role to promote and to educate people about human rights. This matter can do with provides people with special program to study about human rights. Beside that, the institution can do to provides information about human rights . The one's of institution who has this obligation in Diponegoro University is "**Study Centre and Documentation of Human Rights**".

'**Study Centre and Documentation of Human Rights**' exist in Faculty of Law, Diponegoro University at Semarang, established in 1996 supported by Government of Canada. The purposes of the established this

institution is become to centre of developing, studies and information about human rights. The activities of this institution are :

- Discussion, seminar and workshop about human rights issues.
- Research by itself or cooperation with another institutions (government or non-government institutions)
- Provide reading materials about human rights issues (books and journals → national and international).

Relation with activity to provide of reading materials about human rights issues, like as books and journals, the fact is show that since established in 1996 until now, the institution does not develop. This matter shows from the number of visitors of Study Centre are going down, and we can see from the number of books and journals do not increase. At the moment, the institution has 937 books and journals with 837 subjects (titles). At the beginning, the institution receives journals from Komnas HAM, SUAR, Refugee and UNHCR, but since three years ago, we didn't subscribe to the journals.

Related to established Presidential Decree Number : 40 / 2004 concerning ***"Indonesian National Human Rights Action Plan"*** in particular the purpose point A number 4 about ***"Establishment and Strengthening Institutional of Human Rights in Region"*** in program ***"To Motivate Establishment and Strengthening Study Centre of Human Rights in University in Indonesia"***, and point D about ***"Dissemination and Education of Human Rights"*** purpose number 2 : ***"Strengthening Education of Human Rights in University and Human***

Rights Institutions" in program **"Increasing collection of Human Rights Books in University"**, therefore important to improve the function of **'Study Centre and Documentation of Human Rights'**.

Empowering Study Centre and Documentation of Human Rights in Faculty of Law – Diponegoro University is very important to support the **'Postgraduate Program in Human Rights'** can be operates in Faculty of Law at 2005.