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# Communication Strategies in Overcoming OGBV Through Gender Equality-Based Digital Literacy: A Case Study in Tangerang City

**Korry Elyana[1*], Ilham Ramdana[2], Khikmawanto[3]**
[1]Universitas Muhammadiyah Tangerang, Banten, Indonesia, korry.elyan008@gmail.com
[2]Universitas Muhammadiyah Tangerang, Banten, Indonesia,
[3]Universitas Yuppentek Indonesia, Banten, Indonesia,

[*]Corresponding Author: korry.elyan008@gmail.com[1]

**Abstract:** (Online Gender-Based Violence (OGBV) in Tangerang City has become a serious threat to women and vulnerable groups, with three dominant forms: grooming, sexual extortion, and the dissemination of non-consensual personal content. This research uses a descriptive qualitative approach through interviews with DP3AP2KB, Diskominfo, and social practitioners, as well as social media content analysis. The results showed that the main factors causing OGDV include low digital literacy, gender inequality, and weak reporting systems. The Tangerang City Government has implemented digital literacy programs and campaigns through the Digital Festival, but challenges such as low early detection, social stigma, and inter-agency coordination still hinder the effectiveness of the treatment. This study recommends prevention strategies based on gender equality, strengthening integrated reporting systems, and multi-stakeholder collaboration to create a safer digital space.

**Keywords:** online gender-based violence (OGDV), digital literacy, gender equality, Tangerang City, public policy.

## INTRODUCTION

This study examines in depth the crucial communication strategies in tackling Online Gender-Based Violence through the mainstreaming of gender equality-based digital literacy movements in the Tangerang City area. The urgency of this research is based on a significant increase in KBGO cases which is in line with the rapid digital transformation, as well as alignment with the Asta Cita 4 Program which prioritizes human resource development and gender equality (Amelia, R. et al., 2021). Therefore, this research is relevant to develop an understanding of the implementation of digital literacy with a gender perspective as a preventive and curative effort for KBGO in urban environments.

Although the government through the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology has initiated a national digital literacy program, its implementation has not

specifically discussed the problem of KBGO in depth, so its effectiveness in tackling this issue still needs to be evaluated (Nawir et al., 2025). This research will identify gaps in existing digital literacy programs and formulate more adaptive communication strategies to overcome the complexity of KBGO. This review will also highlight how existing digital literacy programs can be integrated with a gender equality perspective to shape a safer and more inclusive digital society(Juwita et al., 2024).

This is crucial considering that although the majority of internet users in Indonesia are women, they often have limited access to knowledge and ability to utilize digital technology (Juwita et al., 2024). These limitations are exacerbated by a lack of understanding of cybersecurity and personal data protection, which directly contributes to their vulnerability to various forms of online violence (Nurhopipah & Arsi, 2024). This phenomenon shows that there is a digital gap that is not only infrastructure, but also competence and gender awareness, so a comprehensive approach is needed to improve gender-responsive digital literacy (Juwita et al., 2024). Thus, this research not only focuses on improving technical understanding, but also on the formation of ethics and social responsibility in interacting in the digital space (Amelia, R. et al., 2021).

In addition, this study will analyze how the active participation of the community and local stakeholders can strengthen the effectiveness of digital literacy programs based on the principles of gender equality in preventing and handling cases of OGBV. The formulation of the problems that will be discussed in this study includes: How effective communication strategies can be applied in tackling Online Gender-Based Violence through the mainstreaming of digital literacy based on gender equality in Tangerang City, as well as what policy recommendations can be proposed to stakeholders to support efforts to prevent and overcome OGBV in Tangerang City.

Further discussion will include how existing digital literacy programs, such as those initiated by Kominfo, can be adapted and strengthened with specific modules on the prevention of child labor and the holistic inculcation of gender equality values (Amelia, R. et al., 2021; Gunawan & Dyatmika, 2022). This approach will integrate the Digital Citizenship Intelligence framework to prevent cybercrime, while paying attention to women's political rights and their digital security (Abdillah et al., 2021; Setiyaningsih et al., 2023). This research will identify gaps in existing digital literacy programs and formulate more adaptive communication strategies to overcome the complexity of OGBV. This approach will integrate the Digital Citizenship Intelligence framework to prevent cybercrime, while paying attention to women's political rights and their digital security (Nurhopipah & Arsi, 2024).

Based on the background of the problem and the urgency of the research that has been described, the formulation of the main problems in this study is as follows: How can effective communication strategies be formulated and implemented to overcome Online Gender-Based Violence through the mainstreaming of the gender equality-based digital literacy movement in Tangerang City? How can applicable policy recommendations be formulated for stakeholders to support efforts to prevent and control OGBV in Tangerang City? In addition, this study will also evaluate the qualitative impact of gender-specific digital literacy programs on increasing awareness and changing people's behavior in dealing with OGBV (Juwita et al., 2024).

This study aims to analyze and identify the most effective communication strategies in integrating digital literacy with a gender equality perspective to prevent and overcome OGBV. Specifically, the purpose of this research also includes the formulation of contextual and implementable policy recommendations for local governments and related organizations in

order to strengthen a safe and inclusive digital ecosystem in Tangerang City. This research also seeks to make a theoretical contribution by developing a strategic communication model that is adaptive to the issue of OGBV, as well as providing practical recommendations for more inclusive and gender-responsive digital literacy programs. This study will also explore the effectiveness of a collaborative approach between stakeholders in optimizing the delivery of digital literacy messages and mitigating the risks of OGBV (Amelia, R. et al., 2021).

This research is expected to make a substantial contribution to the development of a public policy framework that is more responsive to the dynamics of OGBV, especially in the context of the implementation of digital literacy programs. This contribution includes the provision of empirical data and in-depth analysis that can be the basis for more targeted regulatory formulation and prevention initiatives. In addition, this research is also expected to be an important reference for academics and communication practitioners in developing innovative and relevant communication models to overcome socio-digital challenges in the contemporary era. This research also has the potential to inspire the development of digital literacy programs that are more adaptive and contextual, especially in addressing the digital literacy gap in the cybersecurity pillar (Nurhopipah & Arsi, 2024). In particular, the findings of this study are expected to enrich the discourse on the importance of digital literacy that focuses not only on technical skills, but also on understanding digital ethics and culture, as well as its implications for social behavior and online safety (Amelia, R. et al., 2021; Shari & Azizah, 2021).

## Literature Review

This literature review will outline key concepts relevant to this research, including communication strategies, online gender-based violence, digital literacy, and gender equality, as well as their relevance in the context of prevention and countermeasures of child sexual violence in the digital environment (Linata & Vanel, 2023) (Rani et al., 2025; Ruslinia et al., 2023). The discussion will begin by defining communication strategy as a systematic effort to achieve specific communication goals, in this case tackling OGBV, which involves planning, implementing, and evaluating targeted messages (Nisa et al., 2024).

Next, it will be comprehensively discussed about online gender-based violence as a complex and multidimensional social phenomenon, encompassing various forms of digital harassment that harm individuals based on their gender. This review will elaborate on how digital literacy, as a set of abilities in using, understanding, and creating information through digital technology, is crucial in empowering individuals to effectively recognize, avoid, and respond to OGBV threats (Amelia, R. et al., 2021; Ariefana, 2021; Nurhopipah & Arsi, 2024). The importance of digital literacy is also emphasized by national and regional efforts in developing frameworks and strategic plans to improve people's digital literacy (Nurhopipah & Arsi, 2024). In Indonesia, various community organizations, such as the Family Welfare Empowerment Driving Team, play an active role in efforts to increase digital literacy in the community, especially among mothers who are the spearhead of the family (Aini & Puspikawati, 2020; Hanis & Marzaman, 2020; Mulyati & Suhaety, 2021). The government through the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology has initiated national digital literacy programs such as Siberkreasi, which focuses on social activism and digital content training, although the implementation has not specifically addressed the issue of OGBV (Hakim & Azizah, 2024; Kurnia, 2021; Sebayang et al., 2021).

**Gender Communication Theory**

Gender Communication Theory provides a fundamental analytical framework for understanding how gender influences communication processes, including message construction, interpretation, and power dynamics in online interactions relevant to KBGO. This theory explains how gender differences in communication patterns can trigger or exacerbate the incidence of OGBV, as well as identify gender-responsive communication strategies to mitigate them (Harahap & Adeni, 2021). This approach also emphasizes the importance of analyzing the language, symbols, and narratives used in digital contexts to expose gender bias and promote inclusive and equitable communication. This is essential to design communication interventions that are sensitive to gender dynamics in cyberspace, given the psychological and social impact of OGBV that often differs between male and female victims. Furthermore, this theory also helps in identifying how gender stereotypes are reproduced or challenged through online interactions, which then influences public perception and responses to OGBV incidents. In addition, Gender Communication Theory also highlights how social norms that apply in the real world are often replicated or even strengthened in the digital environment, thus creating an environment conducive to the occurrence of OGBV (Ana et al., 2023).

Therefore, a deep understanding of this theory is crucial in formulating communication strategies that not only address the symptoms, but also the root of the OGBV problem related to gender social construction. This analysis will integrate a feminist perspective to examine the power relations manifested in OGBV practices, as well as their impact on the marginalization of certain groups in the digital ecosystem. The application of this theory allows the identification of areas where communication interventions can be most effective in changing behaviors and perceptions that support OGBV, as well as facilitating the development of alternative narratives that empower victims and promote gender equality in the online realm. Understanding this theory is also crucial to developing effective communication messages in digital literacy campaigns, ensuring that they are relevant and acceptable to audiences of diverse gender backgrounds (Ratnasari et al., 2020). In addition, this theory also provides a basis for understanding the role of digital media in reconstructing gender identity and how this reconstruction affects individual vulnerability to OGBV. It is important to remember that communication is a fundamental instrument in social interaction, allowing individuals to convey information and influence behavior (Permatasari, 2020). Therefore, an effective communication strategy is the key to preventing and countering OGBV, especially through the development of digital literacy with a gender perspective (Griffin et al., 2019). Thus, an in-depth analysis of Gender Communication Theory will be the foundation for designing digital literacy programs that not only increase technical awareness, but also foster a critical understanding of gender issues in the digital context (Hasanah & Husnan, 2022).

**Critical Digital Literacy**

Critical Digital Literacy goes beyond the technical capabilities of using digital devices, focusing on developing the capacity of individuals to analyze, evaluate, and understand the social, political, and economic implications of digital information and technology (Nawir et al., 2025). This concept emphasizes the importance of an individual's ability to not only access and manage information, but also interpret and create digital content ethically and responsibly (Nurhopipah & Arsi, 2024). This approach is particularly relevant in the context of countering OGBV, as it encourages users to critically question dominant narratives, identify biases, and counter disinformation or hate speech that contributes to online gender-based violence

(Lismini, 2023). This is in line with the digital literacy competency framework which includes digital media proficiency, digital culture, digital ethics, and digital security, all of which are fundamental in forming digital citizens who are resilient to cyber threats (Ririen & Daryanes, 2022; Sari, 2025). Specifically, critical digital literacy equips individuals with the ability to assess the validity of online information, recognize manipulations or hoaxes, and understand the privacy and security implications of personal data in digital interactions, which is a crucial aspect in mitigating OGBV risks (Andiyansari & Juwono, 2024; Napeladiar & Rosalia, 2025). It also includes the ability to understand how algorithms affect online experiences and how personal information is collected and used by digital platforms, which are directly related to cybersecurity and data protection issues (Nurhopipah & Arsi, 2024). This ability is very important in dealing with new modes of KBGO which often take advantage of digital security and social engineering gaps (Amelia, R. et al., 2021). Through the lens of critical digital literacy, individuals are expected to be able to develop cyber resilience and take proactive measures to protect themselves from various forms of online exploitation and manipulation, including those with a gender dimension (Hassoun et al., 2025; Tinmaz et al., 2022). Furthermore, critical digital literacy empowers individuals to become active agents of change, able to initiate and participate in online campaigns that promote gender equality and oppose all forms of gender-based violence (Buchholz et al., 2020). These skills also include an understanding of the psychological and social impact of inappropriate or harmful digital content, as well as strategies for effectively reporting and addressing such incidents (Nurhopipah & Arsi, 2024). Therefore, strengthening critical digital literacy is an absolute prerequisite in building a safe and inclusive digital ecosystem, especially in the context of preventing and countering OGBV in Tangerang City.

## METHODS

This research will adopt a qualitative approach with a phenomenological design, aiming to deeply understand the subjective experiences of informants related to communication strategies in tackling OGBV and the implementation of digital literacy based on gender equality in Tangerang City. The phenomenological approach allows researchers to explore the meanings given by individuals to their experiences, so that they can capture the complexity and nuances of the OGBV phenomenon and digital literacy efforts (Nurhopipah & Arsi, 2024).

This method is particularly relevant to explore the perspectives of various stakeholders directly involved in this issue, such as victims of OGBV, gender activists, as well as representatives of the government and related institutions (Khasri, 2020). This approach also facilitates narrative analysis and in-depth interpretation of the data collected, providing rich insights into how individuals build their understanding of these phenomena. Data collection will utilize in-depth interviews and Focus Group Discussions with purposively selected key informants, including representatives from the Tangerang City Government (especially the Women's Empowerment, Child Protection, Population Control and Family Planning Office/DP3A and the Communication and Information Service/Diskominfo), women's protection institutions, related stakeholders, activists, social media activists, and the general public who have experience directly or involvement with OGBV and digital literacy issues.

In-depth interviews will allow for the extraction of rich information from an individual's perspective, while FGDs will facilitate interactive discussions and exploration of collective views on effective strategies. The data collected from interviews and FGDs will then be strengthened through data triangulation with social media content analysis and local policy documents, to ensure the validity and reliability of the findings (Amelia, R. et al., 2021). This

multi-method approach also allows researchers to combine multiple data collection techniques to gradually complete the data and adapt it to findings and realities in the field (Moleong, 2010). Social media content analysis will involve tracking online conversations, digital literacy campaigns, and OGBV case reports circulating on digital platforms, to identify patterns, dominant narratives, and public responses to these issues (Anshori & Shaleh, 2020).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

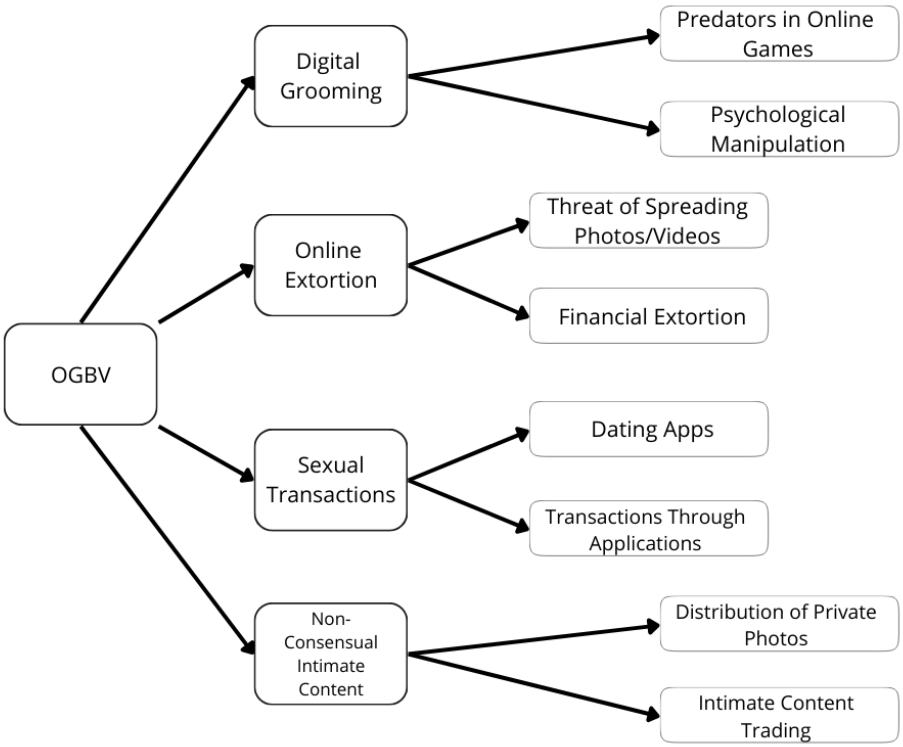
### Forms of Online Gender-Based Violence (OGBV) in Tangerang City

Based on interviews with DP3AP2KB and other social practitioners, the most common forms of online gender-based violence (KBGO) in Tangerang City include grooming, sexual extortion, and the dissemination of personal content carried out by perpetrators against victims, who are generally women and children. In this case, grooming is the first step taken by the perpetrator to build an emotional relationship with the victim. The perpetrator initiates the interaction by giving excessive attention, such as contacting the victim constantly through social media and dating apps. The goal is to create a relationship that seems safe and affectionate. However, over time, this relationship develops into emotional manipulation that then makes the victim more vulnerable to blackmail. The perpetrator, after obtaining the victim's intimate content, will begin to threaten to distribute the private photos or videos if the victim does not meet his demands, such as giving money or having sexual intercourse. This reflects how perpetrators use social and psychological power to control victims without visible physical violence. As Mr. Tito explained, many victims initially feel safe in these digital relationships, but end up trapped in a destructive cycle of extortion. They feel depressed and fear that their personal content will be spread, which can damage their reputation among friends, family, and society.

Feminism Theory provides an in-depth understanding of this phenomenon. Within the framework of Feminism, gender-based violence, both in the real world and cyber, is the result of gender inequality that is already deep in social structures. Women and gender minority groups are often at risk, which makes it easier for them to become objects of exploitation. In the digital world, this inequality is increasingly visible because women and children are often not given adequate protection in digital relationships. Perpetrators understand these weaknesses and take advantage of existing inequalities to exploit victims, who often feel that they must obey the perpetrator in order to gain attention or affection, which ultimately leads to sexual blackmail or the dissemination of their personal content. As explained by Harding, (2004), Violence against women, including in cyberspace, is a manifestation of patriarchal power structures that continue to be maintained in various areas of life, including in digital interactions.

As explained by Butler, (1990), In her theory of gender performativity, women's position in social structures is often maintained by reducing their authority in public and private spaces, including in cyberspace. In this context, perpetrators use gender inequality to dominate women, not only in the physical world but also in digital relationships, leading to sexual exploitation and extortion. This suggests that existing inequalities in society are easier to manipulate in the digital space, where control over personal information is easier for perpetrators to exercise. Online gender-based violence is not only limited to sexual exploitation, but also includes extortion that stems from grooming. Once the perpetrator has established a strong emotional connection with the victim, he or she will begin threatening to disseminate the victim's personal content if they refuse to comply with further requests. Mr. Tito explained that many victims

who were trapped in this situation felt depressed and had no choice but to meet the perpetrators' demands because of the threat of spreading their personal photos or videos.




source: processed by researchers from field results

**Figure 1. Forms of KBGO in Tangerang City**

In Foucault's Theory of Power, power often operates through hidden social control, which is not directly visible but still has a very strong effect. Foucault explained that this power does not necessarily come from formal structures such as law or visible authority, but can come from the control of narratives or information. In the case of OGBV, the perpetrator uses control over the victim's personal information as a tool to suppress and control them. Threats to disseminate personal content are a very powerful form of symbolic power, allowing the perpetrator to control the victim without resorting to direct physical violence. The dissemination of personal content or often known as cyber sextortion is another form of KBGO that occurs in Tangerang City. In many cases, the perpetrator uses intimate content that has been sent by the victim to blackmail them, with threats to disseminate the photo or video to the public. Mr. Tito revealed that this phenomenon is increasingly frequent, where perpetrators threaten to leak victims' personal content that could damage their reputation at school, work, or their social environment.

Going back to Foucault's Power Theory, the dissemination of personal content is a clear example of how hidden power operates in cyberspace. Perpetrators use the threat of disseminating personal information to control the victim, which in turn makes the victim feel depressed and afraid of losing control of their lives. In the digital world, perpetrators can easily disseminate damaging information without direct supervision, thereby exacerbating the victim's vulnerability to further manipulation and exploitation. Foucault's theory provides an important perspective on how digitalization plays a role in exacerbating gender-based violence. Cyberspace, once considered a boundless free space, is now a space of power where individuals can be influenced, controlled, or even destroyed simply by controlling personal information.

The perpetrator in the KBGO case uses digital platforms to control the victim, either through the threat of disseminating personal content or emotional manipulation that takes place in digital relationships.

By linking Foucault's Theory of Power, we can see how power operates in cyberspace to manipulate victims. In this case, the digital space is not only a place to share information or communicate, but also a tool for perpetrators to exploit existing inequalities, exacerbating their dominance over women and children. Therefore, cyberspace, once expected to be an open and equal space, now serves as a medium of domination that exacerbates the patriarchal power that already exists in our social structures.

**Perpetrator Behavior Patterns and Victim Characteristics**

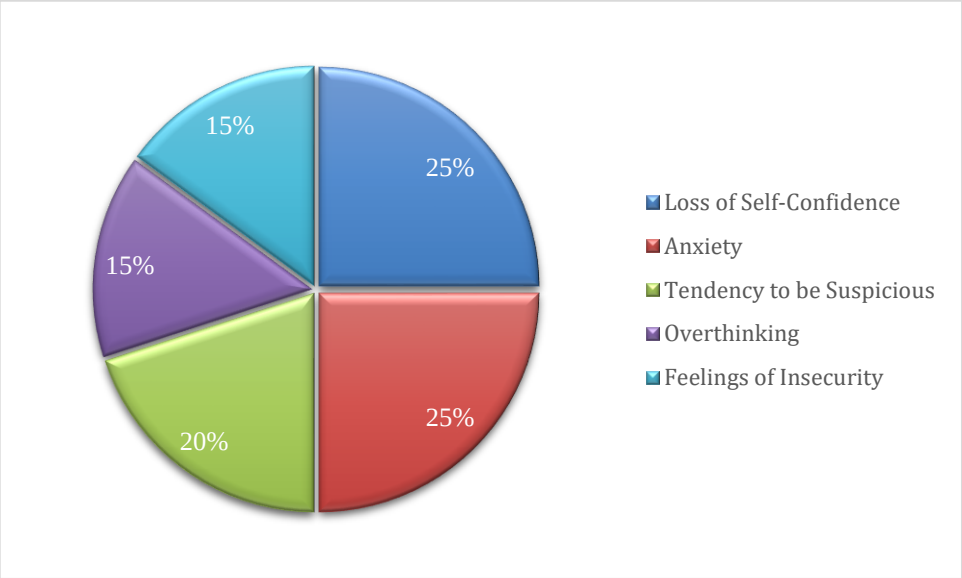
In an interview with Mr. Tito from DP3AP2KB, it was revealed that the behavior pattern of the perpetrators in the KBGO case is highly dependent on the grooming process they carry out, which aims to build trust and emotional relationships with the victim. Perpetrators often initiate interactions by giving excessive attention, such as frequently contacting victims, giving compliments, or offering gifts through social media platforms or dating apps. Over time, this attention becomes emotional manipulation, which ultimately encourages victims to send personal photos or sexual content that the perpetrator can exploit. Once victims get caught up in this relationship, the perpetrator begins blackmailing them with threats of spreading personal content if the victim does not meet their demands.

Foucault's Power Theory provides an in-depth understanding of how the perpetrator in the case of KBGO uses hidden power to manipulate and control the victim. Power here does not operate through physical violence or direct threats, but through control over personal information and psychological manipulation. Perpetrators use digital technology to control narratives in cyberspace, with the threat of spreading personal content that can damage the victim's reputation socially. In other words, the perpetrator controls the victim's digital life, which ultimately gives them enormous power to regulate the victim's behavior. This manipulative pattern suggests that the perpetrator not only targets the victim physically, but they also use emotional relationships to manipulate and exploit the victim. As mentioned by Foucault, (1979), Power in modern society often operates in ways that are not directly visible but very effective, which can change the way people think and act without them realizing that they are under control. In this case, the perpetrator leverages the power that comes from the social influence hidden in digital relationships to influence the victim's decisions in the absence of obvious physical violence.

In addition, the characteristics of the victims in the OGBV case in Tangerang City show that many of the victims are teenagers or children who are just beginning to get to know emotional and sexual relationships. They often don't have an adequate understanding of the boundaries in digital relationships, which makes them vulnerable to manipulation. Based on interviews with psychologists, victims often come from families with permissive parenting, where children are not given enough education about personal boundaries and online safety. Many of them feel isolated or lonely, which makes them more susceptible to manipulation by the perpetrators who give them the attention they want.

Feminism theory explains that gender inequality in society plays a big role in creating this situation. Existing patriarchal social norms often shape the mindset of victims, especially women, that they must meet the demands of men in social relationships to gain attention or affection. Feminism underscores that women, both in the real world and cyber, are often seen

as sexual objects that can be manipulated in interpersonal relationships. In the context of OGBV, women, especially adolescents, are often forced to accept the perpetrator's wishes without realizing that they have the right to refuse, which exacerbates their vulnerability to online gender-based violence.




Sources: processed by researchers from field results

**Figure 2. The Psychological Impact of OGBV**

On the other hand, perpetrators in OGBV cases often choose victims who are easy to manipulate. They tend to look for victims who lack experience in social relationships or lack supervision from parents and the surrounding environment. In many cases, victims who engage in online gender-based violence are those who feel lonely, seek attention, or lack emotional support from family or friends. This is in line with the findings Iroaganachi et al., (2025), which highlights the importance of digital literacy in preventing sextortion among students. The research shows that awareness and understanding of online risks is essential to protect oneself from digital exploitation, along with the inability of some individuals to understand the limitations in digital relationships.

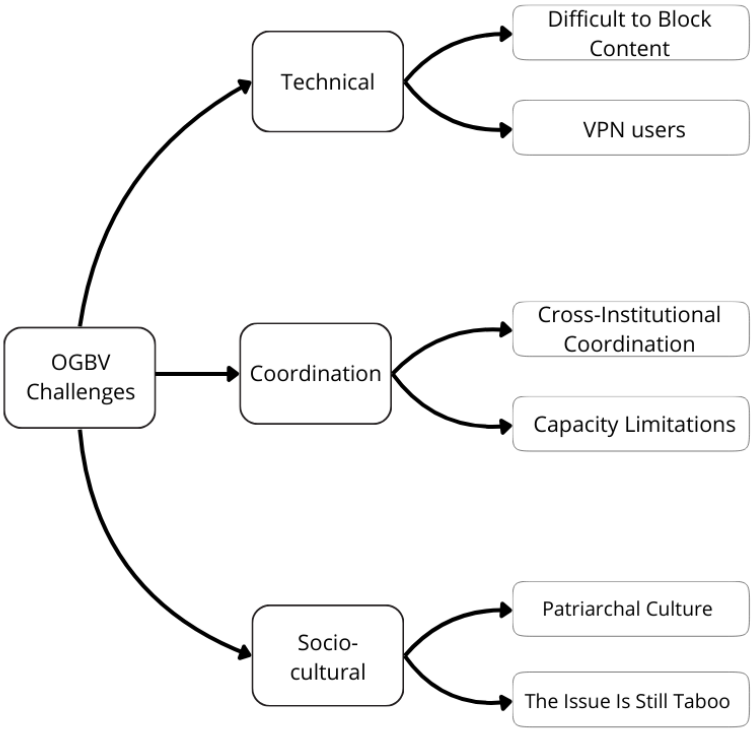
In many cases of OGBV, perpetrators take advantage of the victim's lack of understanding of the wise use of technology and personal security in cyberspace. As Mr. Tito explained, many victims consider that their relationship with the perpetrator is a normal and safe one, so they easily send personal content that is then exploited. This reflects the importance of gender equality-based digital literacy education that can help victims understand their rights in cyberspace and empower them to respond to potential threats that exist in the digital world. The behavior patterns of the perpetrators show that they use technology to manipulate and control the victim. They not only take advantage of the emotional relationships built with victims, but also use social media and digital platforms as tools to manipulate personal content. As explained in the interview, perpetrators take advantage of victims' ignorance of how to protect their personal safety in cyberspace, which makes victims more vulnerable to sexual and psychological exploitation.

In this context, Foucault's Theory of Power shows that the social influence exerted by the perpetrator through the threat of the dissemination of personal content is a form of control that is invisible, but very effective in controlling the victim's behavior. This confirms that the

perpetrator's power in cyberspace is a form of information control that gives them complete control over the victim's digital life, often without supervision or protection from outsiders

**The Role of the Government and Inter-Institutional Collaboration in Countering OGBV**

The Tangerang City Government through the Communication and Information Service (Diskominfo) and the Women and Children Protection Office (DP3AP2KB) have made various efforts to address the problem of OGBV with the aim of preventing and mitigating the impact of online gender-based violence. As revealed by Mr. Tito in an interview, one of the steps taken was to develop a digital literacy program, which aims to increase public awareness about the dangers of gender-based violence in cyberspace. This program includes information campaigns disseminated through social media, as well as Digital Festival activities organized annually by Diskominfo, where people can learn about gender equality and digital security. At the event, in addition to inviting national artists to attract attention, a talk show was also held that educated the public about the protection of women's rights in the digital world



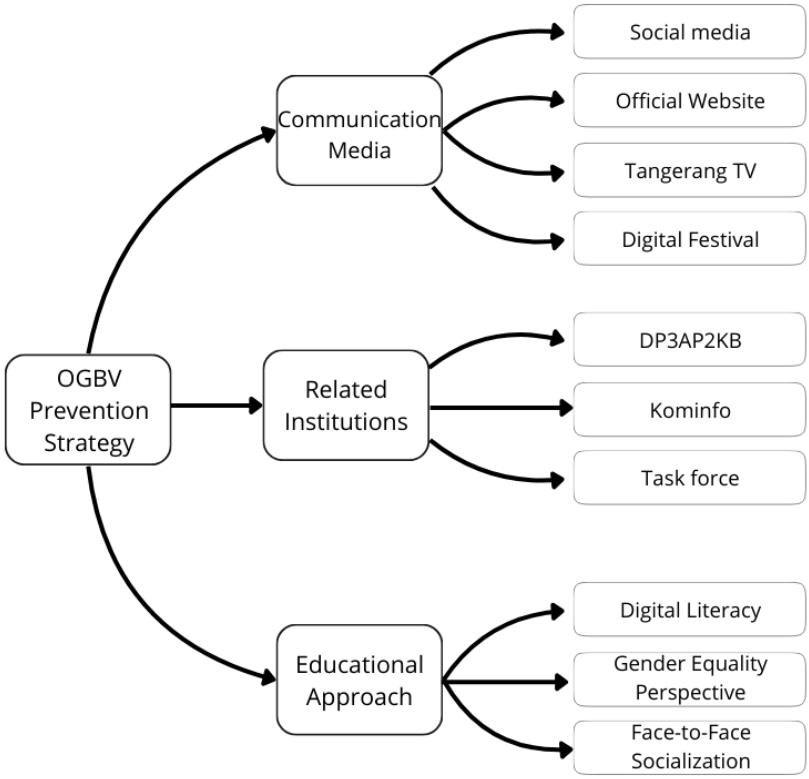

Sources: Communication and Information Service (Diskominfo) and the Women and Children Protection Service (DP3AP2KB)

**Figure 3. Challenges of Handling OGBV**

However, while these measures are quite good, the biggest challenge faced is the lack of early detection of cases of gender-based violence online. As explained by Mr. Tito, many victims are reluctant to report because they feel social stigma or fear that the legal process will make it difficult for them. The public's lack of understanding of their rights in cyberspace as well as the lack of protection in terms of digital privacy make things worse. This is the main challenge in dealing with OGBV in Tangerang City, because many cases go undetected for a long time, before finally victims experience more severe psychological and social impacts. Through Foucault's Theory of Power, we can analyze that power in cyberspace operates not

only within legal structures or systems of government, but also through the more subtle social controls that take place in digital spaces. OGBV perpetrators use symbolic power to control victims with the threat of spreading personal content. Therefore, while the government has good policies, stricter surveillance and a more transparent reporting system are needed to counter the hidden power that perpetrators have. If the government cannot improve the reporting system or make it more accessible and safe for victims, then the perpetrators will still have control of the digital space and can continue to exploit the victim.

In addition, collaboration between institutions is also an important aspect in overcoming KBGO. DP3AP2KB which focuses on the protection of women and children, collaborates with Diskominfo in terms of education and information dissemination, including in the Digital Festival program. In addition, coordination with the police and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) is also very important to support prevention and countermeasures efforts. However, despite coordination efforts, Mr. Tito also revealed that the biggest challenge is the difference in understanding between agencies about handling KBGO cases and the lack of understanding of digital law among law enforcement officials.




Sources: Communication and Information Service (Diskominfo) and the Women and Children Protection Service (DP3AP2KB)

**Figure 4. OGBV Prevention Strategy**

Feminism Theory provides a very relevant perspective in this regard. Feminism emphasizes that in order to achieve gender equality, there must be a broader structural approach, where women are empowered to access legal protection and equal opportunities in the digital space. Without structural changes in the way we understand women's rights and the protection of their privacy in cyberspace, existing policies may not be enough to effectively address the issue of child marriage. Gender awareness must be introduced to all institutions

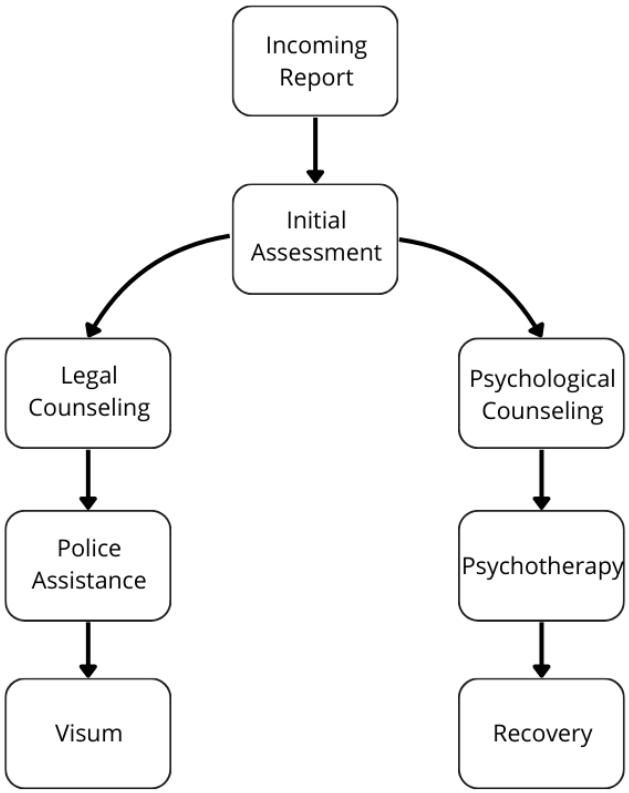
involved, from law enforcement to community counseling in order to create a safer and more equal environment for women in cyberspace.

Despite coordination efforts between government agencies, social practitioners, and NGOs, the lack of coordination between agencies remains one of the main obstacles. OGBV perpetrators often take advantage of loopholes in the legal system and policies to exploit victims. As revealed in the interview, early detection of these cases is often late, due to limited resources and a lack of understanding of online gender-based violence in some institutions. In addition, people who are afraid to report and feel that no one can help them also worsen the situation. Therefore, a holistic approach is needed that involves all parties involved in tackling OGBV, including the government, communities, and the private sector. From the perspective of Foucault's Power Theory, this challenge can be seen as a result of the fragmented power between government agencies and the parties involved in countering OGBV. Without clear structural coordination, perpetrators can leverage hidden power in cyberspace to evade detection and continue to exploit victims. Foucault argues that this dispersed power can be exacerbated when there is no clear system of oversight between the various institutions, which can hinder effective countermeasures of violence.

Based on these findings, it is important for the Tangerang City government to strengthen collaboration between institutions by holding joint training on women's digital rights and privacy protection. In addition, the development of a reporting system that is safer and more accessible to victims is also very necessary. By educating the public about their rights in cyberspace, and developing closer cooperation between law enforcement, civil society organizations, and local governments, we can begin to create a safer ecosystem for women and children in cyberspace. Gender equality-based digital literacy programs should also be expanded to reduce inequalities in access to information and protection of digital rights.

**Digital Literacy and Gender Equality in the Prevention of Child Poverty**

In an interview conducted with Mr. Tito from DP3AP2KB and social practitioners, it is clear that digital literacy plays a very important role in preventing gender-based violence online. Programs run by the Tangerang City government, such as the Digital Festival, aim to provide education on how to use technology wisely and safely, as well as educate the public about gender equality in cyberspace. The Digital Festival invited various speakers who provided insight to the public on how to protect personal privacy, as well as recognize potential threats in cyberspace, including grooming, sexual extortion, and the dissemination of personal content.




Sources: Communication and Information Service (Diskominfo) and the Women and Children Protection Service (DP3AP2KB

**Figure 5. OGBV Handling Flow by DP3AP2KB**

However, despite these programs, a major challenge is that digital literacy is still limited, especially among adolescents and women's groups who do not have full access or a deep understanding of how to protect themselves online. Many victims of GBV are teenagers who are new to technology, who tend to be less aware of their digital risks and rights. This is exacerbated by inequalities in access to information and education, which makes them more vulnerable to online violence. For example, women and children often do not know how to report abuse or extortion they experience, or they feel ignored by the existing legal system. Feminism Theory provides a very relevant perspective in this regard. Feminism emphasizes that women should have the same right to access technology and information, as well as control their lives in the digital world without fear of the threat of violence or exploitation. In this regard, gender equality-based digital literacy should include education that emphasizes women's empowerment, teaches them to identify and respond to potential threats, and provides an understanding of their rights in cyberspace. As explained by (Harding, 2004), Gender equality in cyberspace is essential to free women from existing social controls, and digital literacy is an effective tool to achieve this goal. Without equality in access to technology, women will remain in a position to be more vulnerable to exploitation in the digital world.

Furthermore, Foucault's Theory of Power also provides an important understanding of how hidden power operates in cyberspace. In the context of KBGO, perpetrators often take advantage of victims' lack of understanding of their digital rights and gender equality to exploit them. (Foucault, 1979), reveals that power can operate through knowledge and control over information, which is particularly relevant to the practices of grooming and sexual extortion

that often occur in the digital space. Therefore, to reduce the power possessed by perpetrators, it is important for the public to understand that equal access to information and understanding of digital rights are forms of empowerment that can change the dynamics of power in cyberspace. With gender equality-based digital literacy, women can take control of their digital spaces and protect themselves from online violence.

It is important to note that education about gender equality in digital literacy not only teaches about how to protect oneself in cyberspace, but also about social norms that must change. For example, many girls still assume that they have to comply with the demands of men in digital relationships, even if it means sending private photos or sexual content. In this context, gender equality should be emphasized in digital literacy as a way to help women understand that they have the same rights as men to control their privacy and reject exploitation of any kind. As explained by (Connell & Messerschmidt, 2005), In his theory of gender, gender inequality in cyberspace must be addressed by changing existing social structures, including in the application of technology. In this case, gender equality-based digital literacy plays an important role in changing people's mindsets that normalize inequality between men and women, both in the real world and in cyberspace.

As part of the prevention strategy for KBGO, there needs to be increased public awareness about the dangers of online gender-based violence and the importance of gender equality education in digital literacy. Educational programs should be designed not only to teach self-protection techniques, but also to build social awareness about women's rights in cyberspace. Digital Festivals and similar programs need to be expanded to reach more people, especially the most vulnerable groups, such as adolescents and women from socio-economically disadvantaged groups. Gender equality-based digital literacy can be a very effective tool in changing behaviors and mindsets about how women and children should be treated in cyberspace.

In addition, strengthening digital literacy must involve not only adolescents and children, but also parents and educators to ensure that this gender equality education is widespread and understood by all levels of society. Feminism theory underlines that education is one of the keys to changing social norms that put women in a lower position. By providing equal knowledge about digital rights, we can create a more empowered and knowledgeable society in protecting themselves from gender-based violence in cyberspace.

This study found three main factors causing KBGO in Tangerang City: low digital literacy, gender inequality, and weak case reporting system. These findings are reinforced by studies (Powel et al., 2021), which states that KBGO victims often choose to remain silent because the legal system is not friendly to victims.

**Tabel 1. Factors Causing KBGO in Tangerang City**

| Key Factors | Explanation | Reference |
|---|---|---|
| Low Digital Literacy | Lack of Understanding of Online Privacy and Security | (Andiyansari & Juwono, 2024) |
| Gender Inequality | Patriarchal Norms Weaken Women's Position | (Connell & Messerschmidt, 2005; Harding, 2004) |
| Weak Reporting System | Victims are reluctant to report due to stigma and lack of legal support | (Parkinson, 2010; Powers, 2022) |

Sources: : processed by researchers from field results

## CONCLUSION

This study shows that online gender-based violence (OGBV) in Tangerang City has three dominant forms, namely *grooming*, sexual extortion (*cyber sextortion*), and the dissemination

of personal content without permission. These forms show that the digital space reproduces entrenched gender inequalities in society, while expanding the reach of violence through social media and online communication platforms. The main factors causing OGBV in Tangerang City include low digital literacy, gender inequality rooted in patriarchal norms, and weak reporting and victim protection systems. This condition makes many survivors choose to remain silent or not report their cases due to social stigma and lack of legal support. In terms of policy, the Tangerang City Government has made various efforts, such as digital literacy programs through *Digital Festivals* and socialization of digital rights protection. However, policy implementation still faces challenges in the form of limited early detection of cases, lack of coordination between institutions, and low awareness among officials and the public regarding the issue of OGBV. Theoretically, these findings reinforce feminist analysis that OGBV is a manifestation of patriarchal dominance that transforms in the digital space. Foucault's power perspective asserts that perpetrators utilize control over personal information to suppress victims, while media theory suggests that the characteristics of digital media prolong the victim's trauma and exposure. Based on these results, this study emphasizes that the strategy to counter OGBV must be based on digital literacy with a gender equality perspective, the development of a secure reporting system, and multi-stakeholder collaboration between the government, law enforcement officials, NGOs, academics, and the community. Without comprehensive interventions, the digital space will remain a breeding ground for gender inequality and threats to women and vulnerable groups.

**Suggestion**

1. For Local Governments
    a. Build a safe, accessible, and victim-friendly KBGO reporting system, including an anonymous mechanism to reduce social stigma.
    b. Strengthening coordination between institutions (Diskominfo, DP3AP2KB, police, and NGOs) through routine forums and joint protocols in handling KBGO cases.
    c. Provide free psychological counselling and legal aid services to survivors, as part of ongoing social protection.
2. For the World of Education and Society
    a. Organizing gender equality-based digital literacy education from an early age, both in schools and communities, with a focus on digital rights, privacy security, and rejection of the normalization of online violence.
    b. Involving parents, teachers, and community leaders in the anti-KBGO campaign to create an ecosystem that supports the protection of children and women in the digital space.
3. For Law Enforcement Officers
    a. Increase the capacity of the authorities to understand digital laws and gender-based violence, so that survivors receive fair protection and do not experience re-victimization.
    b. Integrating the handling of KBGO in routine training programs so that officials are able to respond quickly and gender-sensitive.
4. For further research
    a. It is recommended to examine the long-term psychological impact of KBGO on survivors, so that it can be the basis for a more comprehensive protection policy.
    b. Develop quantitative studies to map the scale of KBGO cases more broadly, as well as complement the results of this qualitative research.

Exploring the role of AI-based technologies in the early detection of malicious content as part of a preventive strategy

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