

JURIDICAL ANALYSIS OF NON-NATURAL PREGNANCY EFFORTS THROUGH ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION

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ABSTRACT

The development of assisted reproductive technology, such as artificial insemination, has provided solutions for couples experiencing infertility issues. In Indonesia, artificial insemination is regulated under Law Number 36 of 2009 on Health, which stipulates that this procedure can only be performed between legally married couples using sperm and ovum from the couple themselves. However, this legal framework faces several challenges, including limited public understanding, legal gaps concerning the legal status of children, and inadequacies in addressing advancements in modern reproductive technology. This study aims to analyze the legal framework governing artificial insemination in Indonesia, identify emerging legal, moral, and ethical issues, and evaluate the regulatory capacity to address challenges posed by future reproductive technologies. Using a normative approach, this research finds that while the existing regulations provide a legal foundation, gaps in technical and administrative provisions create legal uncertainties. Furthermore, moral and ethical issues, such as the use of donors and commercialization of reproductive technology, require specific attention. This study recommends strengthening regulations to be more adaptive and detailed, ensuring the equitable implementation of artificial insemination in alignment with societal moral and ethical values.

Keywords: artificial insemination, health law, reproductive technology, moral and ethics, legal status of children.

INTRODUCTION

The advancement of health technology, particularly in the field of reproductive technology, has provided solutions for couples experiencing infertility. One increasingly popular method is artificial insemination, a procedure involving the non-natural insertion of sperm into a woman's reproductive organs (Siregar, 1989). This method offers hope to many couples, especially those who face challenges with conventional methods. However, despite its potential benefits, artificial insemination practices also bring forth complex legal, moral, and ethical issues.

In Indonesia, artificial insemination is explicitly regulated through various legal frameworks, one of which is Article 127 of Law Number 36 of 2009 on Health. This provision strictly stipulates that artificial insemination can only be conducted on legally married couples using sperm and ova from the couple themselves. The regulation aims to safeguard Indonesia's religious, moral, and cultural values. The prohibition of third-party sperm or ova donors, as well as surrogate motherhood, reflects the state's commitment to ensuring that assisted reproductive technologies (ART) align with prevailing social and legal norms (Triwibowo, 2014). However, despite the clear regulatory framework, several challenges hinder the implementation and supervision of artificial insemination practices.

One of the primary issues is the limited public awareness regarding artificial insemination procedures, including their legal and ethical boundaries. Many couples rely on artificial insemination as a solution to infertility but often lack understanding of its legal implications, particularly the prohibition of donor sperm or ova. This lack of awareness frequently leads to unintentional violations of existing laws. Such cases underscore the significant information gap between authorities and the public, which ultimately renders current regulations less effective in providing adequate legal protection.

Another challenge arises from the rapid development of reproductive technologies, which often outpace the ability of legal frameworks to adapt. Innovations such as genetic editing and advanced reproductive tools remain inadequately addressed within the existing regulations. These gaps create legal uncertainties that can lead to disputes, particularly regarding the legal status of children, inheritance rights, and parental responsibilities. The inability of the legal system to keep pace with such advancements highlights the need for more adaptive and forward-looking regulatory measures.

Moral and ethical dilemmas also play a crucial role in complicating the implementation of artificial insemination practices in Indonesia. Differences in religious and cultural perspectives often result in societal debates, particularly concerning the legitimacy of assisted reproductive technologies. While artificial insemination is legally recognized, certain groups view it as potentially conflicting with specific moral principles. This disparity in perspectives reveals that existing laws have yet to unify the diverse societal views into an inclusive regulatory framework.

Weak supervision and monitoring mechanisms further exacerbate the challenges. The absence of clear and systematic measures to oversee artificial insemination practices enables violations such as the illegal use of donor sperm or ova. Such breaches not only contravene legal provisions but also lead to more significant issues, including disputes over the legal status of children born through these procedures. Furthermore, insufficient supervision opens opportunities for the commercial misuse of reproductive technologies, which runs counter to the moral values upheld by society.

The legal status of children born through artificial insemination represents another significant issue. These children often face uncertainties regarding their fundamental

rights, such as inheritance and legitimate legal recognition, particularly in cases involving prohibited donor sperm or ova. This challenge underscores the inadequacy of current laws in providing comprehensive protection for all parties involved in artificial insemination practices.

The lack of standardized reporting mechanisms further complicates the situation. Poorly defined administrative procedures make it difficult for authorities to identify and address violations, especially those occurring in unregistered clinics or health institutions. This limitation hinders the ability of existing regulations to ensure compliance and safeguard the rights of all stakeholders.

Social stigma associated with children born through artificial insemination also poses a significant challenge. Despite the legal recognition of artificial insemination, societal skepticism often affects families opting for this technology and the children resulting from it. This stigma highlights the need for legal approaches that not only regulate but also educate the public on the legitimacy of these advancements as part of healthcare progress.

Inconsistent interpretations and applications of legal provisions across different regions in Indonesia create additional challenges. While some regions impose stricter interpretations of the law, others adopt more lenient approaches. Such inconsistencies hinder equitable access to legitimate and reliable reproductive health services and create legal uncertainties for couples seeking artificial insemination.

This study aims to analyze the legal framework governing artificial insemination practices in Indonesia, focusing on its capacity to adapt to technological advancements and societal needs. By employing a normative approach, this research evaluates the effectiveness of current regulations in addressing challenges related to artificial insemination. The study also identifies legal, moral, and ethical issues arising from these practices, such as disputes over the legal status of children, the use of donor sperm or ova, and the potential misuse of assisted reproductive technologies.

Through this analysis, the study seeks to provide recommendations for strengthening Indonesia's legal framework on artificial insemination. Addressing legal gaps and aligning regulations with technological advancements and societal values will be crucial in developing a more adaptive and comprehensive legal system. Such measures are expected to enhance public awareness, improve regulatory clarity, and ensure equitable access to safe and ethical reproductive health services.

METHODS

This study employs a normative legal research method, focusing on the analysis of legal documents and literature. The approaches utilized are the statutory approach and the conceptual approach. The statutory approach is applied to analyze the provisions of Law Number 36 of 2009 on Health, particularly those related to artificial insemination, as well as other relevant implementing regulations. Meanwhile, the conceptual approach is used

to understand the underlying legal concepts of artificial insemination, including the legal status of children, the rights and obligations of parents, and ethical responsibilities in its implementation. The data for this research are derived from primary legal materials, such as laws and government regulations, as well as secondary legal materials, including books, journal articles, and related research findings. These data are collected through a literature review conducted via physical and digital libraries, encompassing national and international legal journals.

The analysis is conducted using a descriptive-analytical approach, which involves reviewing, interpreting, and evaluating existing legal provisions. The purpose of this analysis is to assess the adequacy of current regulations, identify legal gaps, and propose recommendations for regulatory improvements in the future. This study does not involve interviews or field data collection; instead, it focuses entirely on the examination of legal documents and relevant literature. This method was chosen because it provides a comprehensive understanding of how Indonesian law regulates artificial insemination, including its social, ethical, and legal implications, while reflecting the evolution of reproductive technology within a legal context.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Legal Regulation of Artificial Insemination in Indonesia

The legal framework governing artificial insemination in Indonesia is based on Law Number 36 of 2009 on Health and Law Number 1 of 1974 on Marriage. Article 127 of the Health Law explicitly states that artificial insemination may only be conducted on legally married couples. This provision aims to uphold the dignity and integrity of families in accordance with the prevailing legal, religious, and cultural norms in Indonesia (Isnawan, 2019). Consequently, Indonesian positive law mandates that artificial insemination procedures require the consent of both parties within a legally recognized marriage, ensuring the process adheres to the moral and social values embraced by society.

This regulation also seeks to prevent practices that contradict medical ethical principles, such as the use of third-party sperm or ova donors and surrogate motherhood. These practices are considered to potentially disrupt traditional family structures and create legal issues concerning the status of children and inheritance rights. The prohibition enshrined in Article 127 of the Health Law reflects the government's efforts to balance advancements in healthcare technology with the prevailing social values.

Despite the clarity of the legal framework, its implementation continues to face significant challenges. Haniyah and Santoso (2022) highlight that the existing regulations lack detailed provisions on the procedural aspects of artificial insemination, including reporting and supervision mechanisms. As a result, legal violations, such as the illegal use of donor sperm or ova, are difficult to detect and address. This gap in the law undermines the effectiveness of legal protection for all parties involved.

This regulatory inconsistency also increases the risk of legal disputes, particularly regarding the legitimacy of children born through artificial insemination. These children often face legal uncertainties concerning their civil rights, such as inheritance and legal recognition. Such uncertainties not only affect the children but also have broader implications for families, potentially jeopardizing family unity and stability.

Moreover, the rapid development of assisted reproductive technologies, such as genetic editing and innovations in artificial insemination techniques, frequently outpaces the existing legal framework. This creates additional challenges for policymakers in drafting regulations that can anticipate the implications of these technologies. The current unpreparedness indicates that the legal system has not fully adapted to the dynamics and complexities of society's evolving needs.

In addition to the lack of specificity in the existing regulations, inadequate supervision of artificial insemination practices remains a significant issue. The absence of integrated monitoring mechanisms makes it challenging for authorities to ensure that procedures are conducted in compliance with legal provisions. This opens opportunities for the misuse of assisted reproductive technologies for commercial or unethical purposes, which clearly contradicts Indonesia's legal and social values.

Another issue is the limited public understanding of the legal regulations governing artificial insemination. Many couples undergoing the procedure are unaware of the legal restrictions, such as the prohibition on the use of donor sperm or ova. This lack of awareness underscores the need for better education and socialization regarding the existing laws, ensuring that the public is fully informed about the legal consequences of their actions.

Overall, while Law Number 36 of 2009 provides a clear legal foundation, challenges in implementation and supervision indicate the need for revisions and updates to the regulation. A more detailed and adaptive legal approach is required to accommodate developments in assisted reproductive technology while ensuring better legal protection for all stakeholders. Strengthening the regulatory framework would enable Indonesia to better balance technological advancements with the social values upheld by its society.

Legal, Moral, and Ethical Issues in the Implementation of Artificial Insemination

The implementation of artificial insemination in Indonesia raises complex issues encompassing legal, moral, and ethical aspects. One of the most significant legal concerns is the uncertainty surrounding the legal status of children born through this procedure. These children often face difficulties in obtaining legal recognition for their inheritance rights and civil status, particularly when third-party donors are involved. Haniyah and Santoso (2022) highlight that in this context, Law Number 36 of 2009 on Health does not provide clear guidelines to safeguard the legal rights of such children, leaving legal gaps that could harm the affected parties.

In addition to the legal status of children, regulatory ambiguities create the potential for legal disputes among the parties involved in these procedures. For instance, the use of third-party sperm or ovum donors without adequate legal regulation could lead to conflicts over parental responsibility, legal recognition, and the legitimacy of familial relationships. This lack of clarity demonstrates that existing regulations are insufficient to ensure justice and legal protection for all stakeholders.

From a moral and ethical perspective, artificial insemination often presents profound dilemmas, particularly regarding practices such as surrogate motherhood. Sanjaya (2016) notes that such practices are frequently seen as violating principles of justice and family integrity. In a society that upholds traditional values, the use of surrogate mothers or third-party donors is often considered inconsistent with prevailing norms, leading to significant controversy.

Furthermore, the use of assisted reproductive technology for commercial purposes is a prominent moral issue. Situmeang (2017) explains that without strict legal regulation, such practices risk devolving into commercial exploitation that contradicts medical and social ethical principles. The absence of specific rules governing surrogacy contracts exacerbates the potential for legal conflicts among the parties involved, including surrogate mothers, the commissioning couples, and the children born from such arrangements.

From a social standpoint, the stigma surrounding children born through artificial insemination remains a major challenge. Arikhman (2021) observes that society often assigns negative labels to these children, reflecting a disconnect between technological advancements and social acceptance. This stigma can have adverse psychological effects on the children and impose significant social pressures on their families.

The mismatch between legal regulations and social norms further adds to the complexity of this issue. In a heterogeneous society like Indonesia, religious and cultural perspectives play a crucial role in determining the acceptance of new technologies such as artificial insemination. Consequently, the absence of legal frameworks that account for this diversity of values may lead to broader societal conflicts.

The issue of oversight in the implementation of artificial insemination is also a critical concern. The lack of effective monitoring mechanisms creates opportunities for misuse of this technology in both medical and commercial contexts. For example, the absence of regulations governing the use of advanced technologies such as genetic editing in assisted reproductive procedures could result in serious ethical violations.

Overall, the implementation of artificial insemination in Indonesia necessitates more comprehensive legal regulations to address the emerging legal, moral, and ethical challenges. The lack of specific and robust regulatory frameworks not only creates legal loopholes but also risks perpetuating injustices for the parties involved. Given the complexity of these issues, efforts to improve the legal framework governing artificial

insemination are urgently needed. Such reforms would ensure that the legal system adequately balances the demands of technological progress with the preservation of societal values.

Regulatory Capacity in Addressing the Development of Reproductive Technology

The advancement of assisted reproductive technology has introduced new legal challenges, particularly in regulating its use. Innovations such as genetic editing using CRISPR and in-vitro fertilization (IVF) involving foreign donors exemplify technological breakthroughs that require an adaptive legal framework. However, as noted by Syakhrani *et al.* (2023), existing regulations in Indonesia are currently unable to anticipate the implications of these advanced technologies. The absence of specific provisions governing the application of CRISPR technology in reproductive procedures highlights a lack of legal responsiveness to the rapid pace of technological development.

This regulatory inadequacy is also evident in cases involving surrogate motherhood for foreign couples and the commercialization of reproductive technology. Sulistio (2020) observed that existing laws primarily focus on fundamental regulations, such as requiring consent from legally married couples, without addressing global challenges arising from cross-border involvement. In this context, the absence of legally binding agreements between Indonesia and the countries of origin creates complex international legal disputes, including issues related to the legal status of children and potential human rights violations.

The lack of specific regulations further opens the door to the misuse of assisted reproductive technologies for purposes that conflict with ethical and moral principles. For instance, these technologies could be exploited for uncontrolled commercialization, treating IVF-born children as "commodities" in cross-border transactions. This not only violates social values but also risks creating injustices for the parties involved, particularly the children born through these procedures.

Furthermore, current regulations fail to adequately protect the legal status of children born through assisted reproductive technologies. Abhimantara (2018) emphasized that without detailed provisions addressing the legal status of children, technical procedures, and oversight, the use of these technologies could lead to serious legal disputes in the future. For example, when reproductive technologies are applied without clear procedural guidelines, the civil status of the child, including inheritance rights and familial relationships, remains uncertain.

In a globalized context, assisted reproductive technologies frequently involve interactions between different legal jurisdictions. Sulistio (2020) revealed that regulatory inconsistencies across countries create legal loopholes that can be exploited to evade legal responsibilities. For example, foreign couples who use surrogacy services in Indonesia without adhering to legal requirements may generate complex legal issues, affecting both the child born and the surrogate mother involved.

The use of technologies such as genetic editing also presents risks that are not yet fully understood. Syakhrani *et al.* (2023) highlighted that without proper regulation, technologies like these may infringe on human rights and raise serious ethical concerns, such as genetic discrimination or genetic manipulation for personal gain. This underscores the need for more specific regulations to protect societal interests and ensure responsible use of these technologies.

Abhimantara (2018) proposed that the government should develop new, more specific guidelines that are responsive to the advancement of assisted reproductive technologies. These guidelines should encompass provisions on technical procedures, oversight mechanisms, and legal protections for all parties involved. Additionally, a more adaptive regulatory approach could help Indonesia address global challenges while preserving the social and cultural values underpinning its society.

Given the challenges posed by the development of assisted reproductive technologies, existing regulations must be reformed to provide better legal protection. Without revisions and updates, the use of these technologies risks creating more legal, moral, and ethical issues in the future. This highlights the urgent need for proactive measures by the government to ensure that current regulations comprehensively address societal needs and technological developments.

CONCLUSION

The discussion results reveal that the legal regulation of artificial insemination in Indonesia remains limited and requires reinforcement and adjustment to address advancements in assisted reproductive technologies. The existing legal framework, as outlined in Law Number 36 of 2009 on Health, establishes a fundamental basis that artificial insemination is permissible for legally married couples. However, technical details and procedural implementation are not explicitly regulated, leaving legal gaps that may lead to issues, particularly concerning the use of donors.

Artificial insemination practices give rise to various legal, moral, and ethical challenges. Issues such as the legal status of children, inheritance rights, and the misuse of technology for commercial purposes present significant obstacles that must be addressed. Clearer regulations are essential to ensure justice and protect the moral and ethical values of society. Furthermore, advancements in assisted reproductive technologies, such as surrogate motherhood and genetic editing, necessitate revisions and the development of new regulations. The government must anticipate global challenges and the implications of modern technology by providing an adaptive legal framework that meets current and future needs.

Based on the conclusions drawn, several recommendations are proposed to improve the legal framework governing artificial insemination in Indonesia. First, more detailed regulations should be developed to address the technical, administrative, and legal aspects of artificial insemination. These regulations must encompass provisions for the

use of donors, the legal status of children, and supervision procedures by relevant authorities. The government, through associated institutions, should enhance public education and awareness about artificial insemination to reduce social stigma and strengthen understanding of its regulations and procedures.

Additionally, the government should collaborate with medical institutions, academics, and community leaders to formulate policies aligned with technological advancements, social values, and ethical considerations. Supervision of assisted reproductive technology use must be strengthened to prevent misuse, particularly regarding commercial exploitation and ethical violations.

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