

# Digital transformation of youth movement for counter radicalism

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# Digital Transformation of Youth Movement for Counter Radicalism

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**Abstract:** Wonosobo and generally the Central Java region as a reflection of tranquil and peaceful society was disturbed over the rampant terrorism that has made the Central Java region as a base for recruiting and regenerating terror. Even in 2006, Nurdin M. Top (JI leader/mastermind of theorists in the country) had been hiding in Wonosobo. History records that the raids were carried out on Noordin M. Top and his accomplices on April 29, 2006 at Binangun Wonosobo. Terror acts always begin with the cultivation of radicalism. For this reason, it is necessary to take preventive measures to counter the spread of these radicalisms. This activity aims to foster a preventive approach in order to counteract the radicalism in the Youth Movement (GP) of Ansor NU Wonosobo Regency towards terrorism and radicalism by fostering a preventive approach in order to counteract radicalism in the people of Wonosobo Regency against terrorism and radicalism, as well as providing input to the government regarding the form of action to take in order to provide legal protection for the people of Wonosobo Regency against terrorism and radicalism. This program is in partnership with the Youth Movement (GP) Anshor PAC, Wonosobo District, Wonosobo Regency, which is one of the Autonomous Organizations of Jamiyyah Nahdlatul Ulama. The activity used the lecture and dialogue method, as well as focused discussion. In addition, it will also use brainstorming method and gathering opinions from the audience, as an effort to extract their initial knowledge regarding Terrorism and Radicalism. From this activity, it is expected that preventive approach will grow to counteract the radicalism entering the society.

**Keywords.** Counteraction, Radicalism, and Legal Protection

## INTRODUCTION

A safe, peaceful, peaceful, orderly and prosperous life has lately begun to be agitated. In fact, no human being wants misery. For this reason, the law is enacted. Law exists to regulate human life, control human interaction. The history of human life that begins with “*homo homini lupus*” is a reflection of savage life. The

more civilized a nation is, the more it puts forward an attitude of mutual respect and reverence in pluralism. Therefore, if there is a person or group of people who cannot accept pluralism, respect the rights of others, impose their own will, it means that he/she is a reflection of brutality and deserves to be criticized for destroying the existing harmony. Destroying the harmony of human life is then called a *crime*.

Recent crimes are not merely in the form of conventional crimes such as theft, murder, robbery, rape, and so forth, but have led to organized crime, white collar crime, top hat crime, cyber-crime, corruption, and even terrorism.[8] The acts of terrorism that have been operating in Indonesia, always begin with the entry of radicalism in the midst of society. Radicalism is a tenet made up by a group of people who want drastic social and political changes or reforms by using violent means (<https://id.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radicalism>). [9]-[10] From a religious point of view, radicalism becomes highly dangerous as it considers to be self-righteous, and other people are clearly mistaken. Radicalism in this point of view is defined as a religious tenet that refers to very basic religious foundation with highly religious fanaticism, so that it is common for the adherents of such ideology/tenet to use violence against people who have different beliefs/tenets in order to actualize the religious beliefs they hold and believe in that they accept it by force.

In its extreme form, radicalism manifests itself in the legalization of acts of terrorism (bomb explosions/arbitrary homicides). The government was muddled up when there was an act of terrorism in Bali on October 12, 2002.[2] It was quite reasonable as Indonesia did not yet have a law regulating the eradication of criminal acts of terrorism at the time. But now – since October 18, 2002 – the Government Regulation in Lieu of Law (Perppu) No. 1/2002 on the Eradication of Criminal Acts of Terrorism has been promulgated (it was confirmed as Law by the Law No. 15 of 2003, and thereafter referred to as the Terrorism Law) and was supplemented by Perppu No. 2 of 2002 on the Eradication of Criminal Acts of Terrorism in the Bali Bombing Incident on October 12, 2002.

Thus far, counter-terrorism has emphasized penal efforts. At least, as long as the National Counter Terrorism Agency (BNPT) was established (13 years old), 840 terrorists were already arrested in Indonesia, of which around 60 people were shot dead, and the rest were arrested and/or surrendered. In the last five years, the data on criminal acts of terrorism in Indonesia is presented as follows (data up to April 2021):

TABLE 1. Data Criminal Acts of Terrorism in Indonesia per April 2021

No	Year	Total
1	2016	170
2	2017	176
3	2018	396
4	2019	275
5	2020	228

Although the repressive efforts (penal) should be appreciated, it is suspected that the roots of terror are still untouched, thus the countermeasures cannot be stated to be accomplished. As it is known that the penal effort clearly has many limitations, as it only relies on repressive efforts (following the occurrence of criminal act) and does not completely overcome the causative factors. Moreover, the nature and characteristics of terrorism are clearly different from conventional criminal acts in general. Therefore, other alternatives (non-penal efforts) are required for countering terrorism. In order to determine appropriate and effective non-penal efforts, it is necessary to look into the causal factors that lead to/encourage these acts of terrorism.[4] [7] In order to provide a boundary in the discussion, dedication is focused on discussing:

1. Counteraction method so that it can be applied as an effort of legal protection for the people of Wonosobo Regency against radicalism.
2. Actions that the government requires to take against the tenets of radicalism as a form of legal protection for the people of Wonosobo Regency.

## METHOD

In this activity, the advocator collaborated with the Youth Movement (GP) Anshor Dieng, Wonosobo Regency. GP Anshor is one of the Autonomous Organizations of Jamiyyah Nahdlotul Ulama that has set a tolerant line, and enforced Islam by following the teachings of *Ahlussunnah Wal Jamaah*. [3][5][6] The activities of legal protection for the people of Dieng in Wonosobo Regency against these tenets of radicalism used the method of lectures and dialogues, as well as focused discussions. In addition, the brainstorming method –

gathering opinions – from the audience will also be used, as an effort to extract their initial knowledge regarding Terrorism and Radicalism. With this method, it is expected that the community is able to gain direct knowledge and understanding and even it can express conclusions from the conducted brainstorming, lectures and dialogues. This method was chosen, in addition to being inexpensive and effective, also based on consideration of the active involvement of the audience, so that they are not considered as objects but are treated as subjects. In order to provide a complete representation of the implementation of the activities program, it can be viewed in the following chart:

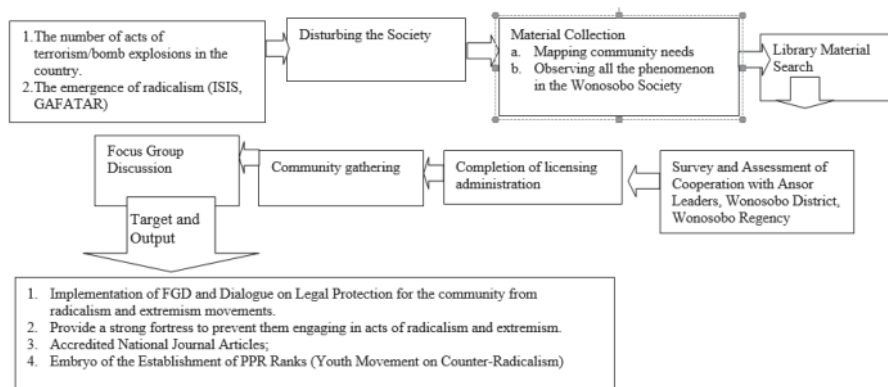


FIGURE 1. Flowchart of method program

## FINDING AND DISCUSSIONS

### The Counteraction Method for The People of Wonosobo Regency Against Radicalism

Central Java as a reflection of a tranquil and peaceful society is also disturbed over the rampant terrorism that makes the Central Java region as a base for recruiting, operating, and targeting terror. With reference to terrorism in the form of bombing at Police Security Posts in several cities in Central Java. Solo (Central Java) is stated to be an enclave of terrorism in Indonesia. The following is a list of acts of terrorism in Central Java:

TABLE 2. Terrorism Action in Central Java Indonesia (Source: Wikipedia and liputan6.com)

YEAR	TOTAL	REMARKS
1985	1	Borobudur Temple Bombing (January 21, 1985)
2011	1	Suicide Bombing at Kepunton Church Solo (September 25, 2011)
2012	3	1. Shooting of the Eid Security Post in Gemblengan Solo (August 17, 2012) 2. Grenade Explosion at Security Post in Gladak Solo (August 18, 2012) 3. Attack on Police Station at Singosaren Solo (Thursday, August 30, 2012)

Terrorism, in addition to its dangerous actions, the method of obtaining their funding (*fa'i*) is also troubling and disturbing the security and peace of the community. For example, the robbery of a number of gold shops, pawnshops, and banks. Wonosobo Regency, which has been known as a staunch holder of the moderate and tolerant religion of Islam as taught by experts in the *Sunnah wal Jama'ah*, also did not escape from the target of recruiting this radicalism. Allegedly, it also became a recruitment of the terrorists, even allowing for training center. It is supported by its geographical location, which is mostly surrounded by forests and mountainous nature, especially the Dieng plains.



From its geographical location, Dieng Village lies 9 km from the Kejajar sub-district, 26 km from the capital city of Wonosobo regency, and 145 km from the provincial capital of Central Java, Semarang City. The area is located at an altitude of 2,090 to 2,150 m above sea level. It is a mountainous topographic area known as the Dieng Plateau, which is surrounded by mountains including Mount Prau, Mount Pangonan, Mount Sipandu, and Mount Pakuwojo.

Based on the data above, a concern about the infiltration of radical groups must be anticipated early on. Therefore, it is necessary to take holistic, simultaneous and targeted/effective countermeasures. In order for the prevention efforts to be holistic, simultaneous and on target/effective, it is necessary to explore the causal factors. It is because the causes and motives of this criminal act are very different from those of conventional criminal acts, such as theft, robbery, or murder. If types of conventional criminal acts are usually motivated by economic urgency, it is not the case for terrorism crimes.

Counteraction efforts become an alternative to shut down the gap for the entry of radicalism in the village community. The teachings of radicalism are generally "impostors" brought in by the people/residents outside Wonosobo/outside the sub-district or also residents of Wonosobo who migrate to interact with radical parties /groups. From the results of these interactions then they bring in and infiltrate the new teachings. The new teachings started with the main family, then the close family, then spread to the surrounding neighbors. In a broader scope, it can be spread through connections or associations.

It is where the community needs to be vigilant against new people/residents returning from traveling to other areas, especially in a relatively long time. This vigilance is embodied in the Counteraction program. This program can be carried out in the form of individuals or in the institutions/organizations. One of the organizations that has been ingrained in the Wonosobo community is Nahdlatul Ulama (NU). One of the appropriate NU Autonomous Organizations in carrying out this Counteraction effort is the Anshor Youth Movement (GP Anshor). Driven by GP Anshor, Counteraction efforts to dissipate radical movements will be more effective. In addition to the organization that is based on a large organization (namely NU), GP Anshor has also been well accepted by the people of Wonosobo. With this initial means, Counteraction efforts became very effective. Practical steps that can be taken in this Counteraction Program are:

- a. Strengthening the understanding of the dangers of radicalism/terrorism;
- b. Establishment of the Youth Movement on Counter-Radicalism;
- c. Campaigns of alertness for vulnerable communities;
- d. Supervision of groups/parties that have the potential to infiltrate radical teachings;
- e. Reporting to the authorities regarding indications of radical teachings.

### Counteraction on Radicalism

The Counteraction Program will not succeed perfectly without the synergy of three parties, which are the Government-Community-Campus. The government as regional stakeholders as well as policy makers must be aware of the issues carefully, so that they are able to take tactical, strategic, and targeted measures. The government's measures will not be efficient and effective without involving the community component as the party as the target of infiltration and propagation of radical teachings. For this reason, the awareness of the community occupies a central and strategic position in the success of the Counteraction Program.[1]

The Counteraction Program is a continuous and sustainable effort, so that it requires further evaluation and study from the campus. Campus, in this case academics, are very much required in mapping and reviewing the offered models and efforts. It should be recognized that the impostors and propagator of the radicalism teachings are generally educated people who have militancy and strong motivation for the success of the intended target. Therefore, they will use various efforts, renew methods and even camouflage so that their radical teachings are able to infiltrate in the midst of society. Their sole hope is to radicalize society in various ways. The Faculty of Law, State University of Semarang is very strategic to be a partner of the Government and Society in countering this radicalism, as it already has many experts in the field of terrorism, and even owns a Center for the Study of Radicalism and Terrorism (PUSARA TEROR) of which programs also scrutinize radicalization and terrorism. Accordingly, the government needs to take the following actions:

- a. Facilitating the establishment of the Youth Movement on Counter-Radicalism;
- b. Collaborating with the campus in formulating a blueprint for countering radicalism;
- c. Intensifying programs to increase public awareness of the targets of radicalism/terrorism.

## CONCLUSION

This study concluded that practical steps to take in this counteraction program include strengthening the understanding of the dangers of radicalism/terrorism, Establishment of the Youth Movement on Counter Radicalism, campaigns of alertness for vulnerable communities, Supervision of groups/parties that have the potential to infiltrate radical teachings and Reporting to the authorities on indications of the existence of radical teachings. Actions that the government need to take so that radicalism can be warded off include facilitation of the establishment of the Youth Movement on Counterradicalism, collaborating with the campus in formulating a blueprint for countering radicalism and intensifying programs to increase public awareness of the targets of radicalism/terrorism.

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