

Enhancing Humanistic and Spiritual Competence of Police Cadets Through Christian Education: A Community Outreach Program at SPN Polda North Sulawesi

Yessy Kenny Jacob

Program Studi Pendidikan Agama Kristen, Universitas Pembangunan Indonesia Manado, Indonesia

e-mail ; yessyjacob@yahoo.co.id

ABSTRACT

This community outreach program aims to strengthen the humanistic and spiritual competence of Police Cadets at SPN Polda North Sulawesi through the integration of Christian Education principles. Police cadets often face emotionally challenging duties requiring empathy, moral integrity, and resilience. Christian values – particularly compassion, service, humility, and love – were applied as an educational framework to support cadets' character development and social cohesion. The program consisted of interactive lectures, group reflections, and character-building sessions involving 200 police cadets from the 2023 DIKTUKBA cohort. Results indicate increased awareness of humanistic values, improved interpersonal communication, and enhanced spiritual readiness among cadets. This initiative demonstrates the relevance of Christian Education in strengthening moral and social capacities within law enforcement training institutions.

Keywords: *cristian education; character builiding;police cadets training*

INTRODUCTION

Police officers hold a central role in maintaining peace, order, and justice. The effectiveness of policing is not only determined by technical and tactical training but also by strong moral foundations, empathy, and spiritual maturity. In regions like North Sulawesi – where Christianity plays a significant cultural role – Christian Education provides a relevant framework to reinforce these competencies. (Pandi et al., 2024) This approach is particularly pertinent given the complex societal challenges police cadets will face, demanding a nuanced blend of professional skill and ethical fortitude.

Christian Education focuses on holistic human formation, emphasizing compassion, humility, integrity, and service to others. These values align with the core professional expectations of police officers. However, existing police training often emphasizes discipline and physical readiness more than spiritual and emotional resilience (Moreno et al., 2024) This creates a critical gap that can impede the development of officers who are not only technically proficient but also deeply committed to ethical service and community welfare (Frade & Walsh, 2026; Hoogesteyn et al., 2025) .

This community outreach program was conducted to fill this gap by integrating Christian pedagogical approaches into the training of Police Cadets at SPN Polda North Sulawesi. The initiative responded to the need for improved social cohesion, character development, and moral responsibility among cadets, especially considering the ethically complex situations they will face as law enforcement officers. Specifically, the program aimed to cultivate civic virtues and religious moderation among cadets, essential for fostering harmony and tolerance in a diverse societ (Prasetyo et al., 2025). The program aims to:

1. Strengthen cadets' understanding of humanistic and spiritual values based on Christian Education. This involves embedding biblical principles to enhance their understanding of their Christian calling and foster transformative learning experiences, which is crucial for integrating Christian values into their future professional conduct (Tung, 2025) .
2. Enhance cadets' empathy, humility, and interpersonal communication skills. This focus on empathy and humility is particularly pertinent given the need for police officers to engage respectfully with diverse communities, mitigating potential conflicts through understanding and compassion (Canales et al., 2025).

3. Build moral resilience and ethical awareness in the context of police duties. Such resilience is critical for navigating the ethical dilemmas inherent in law enforcement, promoting actions guided by integrity and justice rather than personal bias or situational pressures [\(Canales et al., 2025\)](#).
4. Promote social cohesion and unity among DIKTUKBA cadets. This objective underscores the importance of developing an inclusive environment where cadets from various backgrounds can collaborate effectively, reflecting a broader commitment to peace education and respect for cultural diversity. This also helps cadets develop a strong sense of self and purpose, fostering a robust Christian character essential for navigating the challenges of their future roles [\(Pandi et al., 2024\)](#).
5. Encourage cadets to internalize Christian values as guiding principles in their future policing roles. This objective ensures that the education provided transcends mere theoretical knowledge, aiming for a deep personal integration that shapes their professional and personal conduct. This includes preparing them to be agents of national unity and integrity, embodying the principles of Pancasila in their daily duties. These objectives collectively seek to cultivate well-rounded police officers who are not only technically skilled but also ethically grounded and spiritually mature, capable of upholding justice with compassion and integrity in a pluralistic society [\(Legi & Sibarani, 2023; Rahmelia & Apandie, 2023\)](#).

METHODS

Approach

- The community outreach program used a participatory Christian education model, combining:
- a. Interactive lectures on Christian values (love, service, humility). Engaging group discussions exploring ethical dilemmas in policing from a Christian perspective; and practical workshops focused on conflict resolution and compassionate community engagement [\(Santrock & Henton-Easter, 2025\)](#).
 - b. Small-group reflections and discussions. These sessions fostered deeper introspection and allowed cadets to internalize the principles discussed, enhancing their ability to apply Christian teachings to real-world scenarios.
 - c. Experiential learning activities. These activities included community service projects and simulations designed to model ethical decision-making in high-pressure situations, further solidifying their understanding of Christian principles in practical application [\(Auh & Kim, 2024\)](#).
 - d. Case studies related to ethics and responsible policing. Role-playing exercises were also incorporated to simulate real-life situations, enabling cadets to practice ethical decision-making and empathetic responses in a controlled environment This multi-faceted approach aimed to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application, fostering a comprehensive understanding of Christian ethics within the policing profession [\(Miles-Johnson, 2022\)](#).
 - e. e) Role-playing activities to develop empathy and communication. The program emphasized developing skills in active listening and cross-cultural communication, crucial for navigating diverse community environments and managing conflicts effectively These approaches collectively aimed to empower cadets with a robust framework for ethical conduct and community-oriented service, drawing parallels between spiritual formation and professional responsibility [\(Auh & Kim, 2024\)](#). This comprehensive approach aligns with national initiatives to enhance law enforcement training by cultivating superior human resources through proactive recruitment and adherence to principles of transparency, accountability, and humanitarianism, often leveraging technology for native recruitment [\(Simangunsong & Purnomo, 2021\)](#).
 - f. Motivational spiritual sessions encouraging self-awareness and moral responsibility. This comprehensive approach aimed to foster a holistic transformation in the cadets, moving beyond mere adherence to rules towards an intrinsic motivation for ethical conduct rooted in spiritual conviction and a profound sense of duty to their community This pedagogical strategy is consistent with the broader recognition of andragogy in police training, which advocates for adult-learning principles to foster self-direction and practical application of knowledge [\(Cheurprakobkit, 2022\)](#).

Participants

200 Police Cadets at SPN Polda North Sulawesi were selected to participate in the program, representing a diverse cohort undergoing basic police training. Their participation ensured a broad impact across future law enforcement personnel, fostering a foundational understanding of ethical and spiritual principles from the outset of their careers. DIKTUKBA POLRI Batch II, Class of 2023 This specific cohort was chosen to integrate these humanistic and spiritual competencies early in their professional development, aligning with institutional goals to cultivate moral, professional, and modern law enforcement personnel. This strategic selection aimed to instill a robust moral compass and an understanding of Christian values, preparing them for the complex ethical challenges inherent in police work while promoting transformative learning (Naibaho et al., 2024; Tung, 2025).

SPN Polda North Sulawesi, Manado This location provided an optimal environment for the program due to its established infrastructure and direct access to cadets undergoing foundational training. The intentional selection of this particular cohort facilitated the early integration of these critical competencies, aligning with institutional aspirations to cultivate law enforcement personnel characterized by strong moral grounding, professionalism, and contemporary relevance. (Book et al., 2025) The curriculum was meticulously designed to integrate spiritual teachings with practical policing scenarios, ensuring that cadets could apply their learned values directly to their professional responsibilities (Prastyo et al., 2024).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Duration

One-day intensive program combining indoor and interactive sessions.

The immersive nature of this one-day intensive program aimed to maximize engagement and knowledge transfer within a condensed timeframe, employing dynamic pedagogical strategies to facilitate deeper learning and application. Furthermore, the program strategically integrated experiential learning components, such as community service simulations, to bridge theoretical knowledge with practical application in real-world policing contexts. (Kakar, 2025)

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This community outreach program successfully enhanced the humanistic and spiritual competence of Police Cadets at SPN Polda North Sulawesi. Christian Education proved effective in strengthening empathy, communication, integrity, and social cohesion—key qualities needed for ethical policing. This aligns with research emphasizing the critical role of character education in fostering essential human qualities such as honesty, empathy, and self-discipline, which are integral to effective public service and the development of a moral society (Sari et al., 2025)

Future programs are recommended to include multi-day workshops and collaboration with police educators to sustain long-term character development. The implementation of social engineering models based on local wisdom and civic virtue could further strengthen the character education framework within police academies. (Afendi et al., 2025) Such an approach would integrate cultural values and ethical principles into the cadets' professional development, thereby fostering a holistic understanding of their societal role (Anis et al., 2025) This comprehensive strategy ensures that future law enforcement officers are not only technically proficient but also deeply rooted in ethical principles and community-oriented values, reflecting a commitment to ongoing character development and institutional improvement (Munawir et al., 2023; Simangunsong & Purnomo, 2021; Simanjuntak et al., 2024).

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