

## Challenges Faced by the Police in Resolving Theft Offenses Committed by Minors

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### **Abstract:**

*This study discusses the role of the police in handling criminal acts of theft committed by minors, with a focus on the implementation of diversion as an alternative dispute resolution in accordance with the mandate of Law No. 11 of 2012 on the Juvenile Criminal Justice System. The research employs a juridical-empirical method with a qualitative descriptive approach, using literature study, interviews with law enforcement officers, and field data analysis. The findings of the study reveal several key points: first, the police play a strategic role as the initial gatekeepers in determining the course of cases; however, they are still constrained by a lack of competent juvenile investigators, specialized detention facilities, and limited support from psychologists or social workers. Second, the implementation of diversion in juvenile theft cases has not been optimal, due to resistance from victims or their families who perceive justice can only be achieved through formal criminal prosecution. Third, the legal culture that remains retributive, the lack of understanding among law enforcement officers and the public regarding restorative justice, and the weak coordination between institutions (police, prosecutors, judges, and social institutions) lead to many juvenile cases continuing to court, even though they meet the criteria for diversion. Nevertheless, the research also finds that successful diversion can have a significant positive impact: children are spared from criminal stigma, victims receive recovery, and social order is restored to harmony. Therefore, comprehensive reform is needed through capacity building for law enforcement, strengthening supporting facilities, and public education, so that the implementation of diversion truly becomes an instrument of justice that protects the future of children.*

**Keywords:** Police; Diversion; Juvenile Justice

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## Introduction

Law is one of the most fundamental instruments in regulating human life. In all forms of society, law functions as the rules of the game that set boundaries,

regulate, and protect individual rights. Its existence is not limited to the written text of legal codes, but also reflected in the everyday practices of social institutions, government, and law enforcement agencies. Law serves as a guide that enables the creation of a peaceful society where everyone understands their position, rights, and obligations (Aidy 2019). If the law does not function, the result is chaos, social conflict, and the collapse of the principle of justice. For this reason, the law must be upheld, preserved, and continuously developed according to the needs of society. According to the philosophical view expressed by Fence M. Wantu, justice is essentially placing things in their proper place and giving everyone what is rightfully theirs. The law demands that all individuals be treated equally before the rules, without discrimination, including vulnerable groups such as children who are involved in legal matters (Wantu 2012).

In the context of Indonesia, the Indonesian National Police (Polri) is the state institution with the primary responsibility for law enforcement. Based on the provisions of the 1945 Constitution and Law No. 2 of 2002, the police carry out the function of maintaining public order and security, enforcing the law, and providing protection, guidance, and service to the public. As part of the executive power, the police are directly accountable to the President. The tasks carried out by the police are certainly not simple, given the complexity of the social issues present in society. One major challenge is handling criminal cases committed not only by adults but also by minors. The issue of minors committing criminal acts creates its own dilemma, because while they are considered perpetrators of crime, they are also individuals still in a developmental stage, who essentially need protection and rehabilitation (Ariani et al. 2019).

The crime of theft is one of the most common crimes encountered in society. Theft is an unlawful act that harms others by taking something that does not belong to them. However, the phenomenon becomes increasingly concerning because this crime is not only committed by adults but also by minors. In various regions in Indonesia, this issue often becomes a public conversation, including in the Kaidipang area, which in recent years has recorded a considerable number of cases of theft committed by minors. According to data, in 2023 there were 28 cases of theft involving minors, while in 2024 there were still 6 cases. These figures cannot be seen as

coincidental or incidental. They indicate a systemic pattern in which part of the younger generation is involved in criminal acts, and serve as a sign that there are underlying social or structural issues (Balla 2022).

The situation becomes even more tragic when we examine real cases. For instance, there are children who claim to have committed theft because they were "hypnotized" or influenced by the invitation of strangers, even though initially they had no intention of committing a crime. In other words, children often become objects of manipulation by certain parties who exploit them to commit unlawful acts. This situation highlights the position of children as both perpetrators and victims. On one hand, their actions violate the law and cause harm to others. On the other hand, they are fragile individuals, legally and psychologically immature, and easily influenced to do something without understanding the consequences.

The factors that lead children to become involved in theft are complex. The family environment is often the starting point. A dysfunctional family, parental neglect, economic pressures, or even an inability to provide adequate education can drive children to seek compensation outside the home through wrongful means. In addition to the family, a poor social environment also has a significant influence. Incorrect peer relationships, peer pressure to seek identity, and a lack of adult supervision can lead children into deviant behavior. Another critical factor is the influence of education. Children who do not receive proper formal education often lose direction, lack productive activities, and eventually become vulnerable to criminal behavior (Damaiyanti et al. 2023).

In criminology, this phenomenon is recognized as juvenile delinquency, which refers to deviant or criminal behavior committed by children or adolescents. Juvenile delinquency is a problem faced by almost all countries around the world, including Indonesia. Children in the transition phase to adulthood often exhibit behaviors reflecting a desire for independence, resistance to authority, and identity search. When this psychological instability is not supported by positive guidance from family and society, children are prone to deviance. Behind every case of a child committing theft, we often find fundamental factors such as a simple desire to be recognized, unmet material needs, or merely a desire to try something forbidden.

In the context of law enforcement, the police are faced with a great dilemma. On one hand, the criminal acts committed by minors are still crimes that must be addressed firmly to protect society and ensure justice for the victims. On the other hand, minors are not adults. They have special rights protected by law, including the right to be treated humanely, the right to protection, and the right to be given an opportunity to rehabilitate. Therefore, the approach to handling cases involving minors cannot be equated with the handling of adult offenders. In this regard, the role of Law No. 11 of 2012 on the Juvenile Criminal Justice System is crucial. This law stipulates that every case involving a child must be handled with the best interests of the child as the priority, including through the mechanism of diversion.

Diversion is a legal policy that allows cases involving minors to be diverted from formal criminal justice procedures to alternative resolutions that focus on rehabilitation. Through diversion, minors are not required to undergo lengthy and stigmatizing legal processes, but instead, they are given the opportunity to improve themselves through more educational and humane mechanisms. Diversion also allows victims to receive compensation or restoration, creating a more balanced form of justice. The diversion provisions apply to minors who commit crimes with a punishment threat of less than seven years and who are not repeat offenders. Therefore, most theft cases committed by minors, especially those of small scale, should be resolved through diversion (Hambali 2019).

However, the implementation of diversion in the field faces many obstacles. Law enforcement officers, who are on the front lines of handling cases, often have to face public pressure. Some members of the public demand that perpetrators be heavily punished. On the other hand, the law emphasizes that children must be treated differently. In this case, the police must act as a bridge to explain to the public the importance of a restorative approach. The police are also required to have specialized competencies, including an understanding of child psychology and child-friendly, non-intimidating interrogation techniques. Child investigators are needed to handle these cases, with the understanding that detention or punishment should be considered as a last resort, not the first (Kadir et al. 2020).

The problem becomes more complex when we discuss the limitations of resources. Not all regions have child investigators with adequate competence. The

lack of special detention facilities for minors, insufficient psychologists or social workers, and the scarcity of supporting facilities often result in the handling of child cases being suboptimal. The police are caught in a dilemma because, on one hand, they must enforce the law, but on the other hand, the facilities to protect children's interests are not fully available. As a result, it is not uncommon for children's cases to be handled the same as adult offenders, even though this clearly contradicts the spirit of the Juvenile Criminal Justice System Law.

On the other hand, the ideal legal system also demands the involvement of judges in making decisions that balance the interests of the victim, society, and the minor perpetrator. Judges are expected to be creative in issuing decisions that are educational in nature, such as rehabilitation, counseling, or community service, rather than just imprisonment. However, obstacles in the field often make it difficult to implement such decisions. Therefore, research on how the police face the challenges of handling theft cases committed by minors becomes highly relevant, not only to understand legal issues but also to find more humane alternative solutions (Nasution 2024).

Children are part of the nation's future. They have great potential as the next generation, but they are also very vulnerable if they do not receive adequate protection. When children are involved in criminal acts, what is needed is not just punishment, but serious efforts to guide, educate, and bring them back on track. The police, as the spearhead of law enforcement, bear the heavy responsibility not only to uphold the rules but also to ensure that children's rights are maximally protected. The complexity of the challenges they face is not only related to legal dimensions but also to social, economic, and psychological aspects.

Thus, this research is born out of the need to understand and analyze in greater depth the obstacles faced by the police in handling juvenile theft cases. This study is important for formulating more effective and humane strategies that not only prioritize legal certainty but also instill the principles of restorative justice for the future of Indonesia's children. Ultimately, the success of a legal system does not only lie in how firmly it punishes but also in how far it can restore social life and provide hope for future generations.

## Method

This study uses a juridical-empirical method with a qualitative descriptive approach. The juridical-empirical method is chosen because the research not only focuses on the study of regulations governing the juvenile criminal justice system but also examines the practical implementation in the field, particularly the role of the police in handling theft cases committed by minors. Data is collected from two sources: primary and secondary data. Primary data is obtained through direct interviews with police officers, victims, and juvenile offenders to understand how cases are resolved and the obstacles faced. Secondary data is obtained from literature studies, including regulations, books, scientific articles, and relevant court decisions. Data analysis is conducted qualitatively by interpreting the collected data and then describing it descriptively to provide a comprehensive picture of the effectiveness of law enforcement and the relevance of diversion in protecting children's rights. (Ali 2021).

## The Role and Challenges of the Police in Handling Juvenile Theft Offenders

The police occupy a strategic position within the juvenile criminal justice system in Indonesia. As the first point of contact in the legal process, the police not only function as law enforcers but also as the frontline guardians who determine the future of a child. When a child is arrested for committing theft, the decisions and actions taken by the police in the initial hours are crucial in determining whether the child will enter the formal criminal justice system or receive an opportunity through a more humane alternative route. In this context, the role of the police becomes highly complex as they must balance various often conflicting interests: the enforcement of the law, the protection of the public, justice for the victim, and, equally important, the protection of the child's rights as an individual still in the developmental stage (Ramadhan 2021).

Normatively, Law No. 11 of 2012 on the Juvenile Criminal Justice System provides a clear legal framework regarding how children facing the law should be treated. The principle of the best interest of the child is the main foundation that

must be considered in every decision-making process. This principle implies that the best interests of the child must take precedence over everything else, including societal demands for harsh punishment. The police, as the first authorities to interact with juvenile offenders, have the responsibility to ensure that every action taken does not harm the child's future. This includes non-traumatic arrests, child-friendly interrogation techniques, ensuring access to legal counsel and parents, and making every effort to avoid detention unless absolutely necessary (Saputra and Miswarik 2021).

However, the reality on the ground often differs from the ideal normative provisions in the law. The police face pressures from various directions. The public, especially victims and their families, often demand that perpetrators, even if they are minors, be given punishment commensurate with their actions. They argue that without strict punishment, other children may disregard the law and be emboldened to commit similar acts. Additionally, the media plays a significant role in shaping public opinion by sensationalizing cases of juvenile theft, which then creates public expectations for the police to take harsh action. In such situations, the police are in a difficult position. They must explain to the public that a child is not a miniature adult and that a different approach is needed when handling cases involving minors (Tampubolon and Jamba 2020).

This dilemma becomes more complicated when considering the psychological aspects of the child committing theft. Unlike adults, who are assumed to have full capacity to understand the consequences of their actions, children often commit acts without fully realizing the consequences they will bring. They may steal due to momentary impulses, peer pressure, or economic hardship. In the aforementioned case, a child confessed to stealing because they felt "hypnotized" by the invitation of a stranger. This situation illustrates how vulnerable children are to manipulation and external influence. The police handling such cases are required to have sensitivity and the ability to distinguish between a child who truly intends to commit a crime and one who is manipulated by others.

To perform this role effectively, the police require specialized competencies that are not always possessed by every police officer. Handling cases involving

children requires an understanding of developmental psychology, effective communication techniques with children, and in-depth knowledge of the juvenile criminal justice system. Unfortunately, not all regions in Indonesia have child investigators specifically trained to handle cases involving minors. As a result, many juvenile cases are handled by general investigators using the same approach applied to adult offenders. This clearly contradicts the spirit of the Juvenile Criminal Justice System Law, which calls for special treatment for children (Chandra et al. 2020).

The limitations of resources also pose a serious obstacle to the police's efforts to provide optimal service to children facing the law. Specialized detention facilities for minors, which should be separate from adult detention, are not available in all regions. This forces the police to detain minors alongside adult detainees, which clearly contradicts the principle of child protection. Additionally, the availability of child psychologists and social workers who can assist in the interrogation process is very limited. Their presence is crucial to ensure that the interrogation is conducted in a way that is not traumatic for the child (Denadin et al. 2021).

Another challenge the police face is coordinating with various parties involved in the juvenile criminal justice system. Handling juvenile cases cannot be done in isolation and requires close cooperation between the police, prosecutors, judges, public defenders, social workers, and child rehabilitation institutions. This coordination is often hindered by differences in understanding and approach between these various institutions. For example, while the police may attempt diversion, the prosecutor may believe that the case should be taken to court. These differing views can prolong the legal process and ultimately harm the best interests of the child.

The diversion process, which is a key instrument in the juvenile criminal justice system, also faces various challenges in its implementation. Although the law mandates diversion for cases with a punishment threat of less than seven years, in practice, diversion is not always successfully carried out. One of the main obstacles is the refusal of the victim or their family, who feel that justice has not been achieved if the perpetrator is not punished. The police must act as mediators to explain to the victim that diversion does not mean the perpetrator is free from responsibility but is

a resolution method that can provide greater benefits for all parties, including the victim (Fikri 2020).

The diversion process also requires significant time. The police must organize meetings between the perpetrator, the victim, the families of both parties, and other relevant parties. They must facilitate discussions to reach an agreement that is acceptable to everyone involved. In a high workload environment and under pressure to resolve cases quickly, not all police officers have the time and energy to carry out the diversion process effectively. As a result, many cases that could be resolved through diversion are eventually sent to court.

When a juvenile case must be sent to court, the police face challenges in preparing case files that not only meet formal legal aspects but also reflect the best interests of the child. The case file must include a social investigation report that provides a complete picture of the child's social and economic background, family conditions, and recommendations for the most appropriate handling. Preparing this report requires significant time and effort, as well as coordination with various parties such as social workers and psychologists (Hasjim 2021).

The impact of these limitations and challenges faced by the police is significant for the overall effectiveness of the juvenile criminal justice system. When the police are unable to perform their role optimally, children who should be protected end up becoming victims of a system that is supposed to safeguard them. Children may experience trauma due to non-child-friendly interrogation processes, stigmatization due to detention alongside adults, or even fall into the criminal cycle due to lack of proper rehabilitation.

Furthermore, the ineffectiveness of the juvenile criminal justice system can lead to public distrust in the state's ability to uphold the law and protect children's rights. The public may become skeptical of restorative approaches and demand harsher punishments, which may ultimately harm other children in the future (Krisnalita 2019).

In a broader context, the challenges the police face in handling juvenile theft offenders also reflect systemic problems within Indonesia's criminal justice system.

Budget constraints, lack of political commitment to child protection, and suboptimal coordination between institutions are factors that affect police performance in the field. Therefore, efforts to improve the effectiveness of the police's role cannot be done in isolation but must be part of a more comprehensive reform of the juvenile criminal justice system (Luberta 2024).

Despite facing various challenges, the police still play a vital role in protecting Indonesian children from the negative impacts of the criminal justice system. With adequate support from the government, society, and other stakeholders, the police can be at the forefront of creating a juvenile criminal justice system that truly prioritizes the best interests of the child. This requires serious investment in personnel training, providing adequate facilities, and strengthening inter-institutional coordination to ensure that every child who faces the law receives fair and humane treatment.

### **The Implementation of Diversion as an Alternative Resolution for Juvenile Cases**

Diversion is a pivotal aspect of the reform of the juvenile criminal justice system in Indonesia. Its introduction marks a fundamental shift in how society and law enforcement treat children in conflict with the law. For decades, the legal system was more oriented towards retributive justice, focusing on delivering punishments that fit the offense without considering the broader impacts. However, with the enactment of Law No. 11 of 2012 on the Juvenile Criminal Justice System, the paradigm shifted toward restorative justice. This new paradigm demands that the handling of children be focused not on punishment but on guidance, protection, and the restoration of social relationships. Diversion has become the primary legal tool to ensure that children who commit crimes are treated humanely, given the opportunity to rehabilitate, and do not have their futures damaged by the stigma of being labeled as "criminals." (Ningtias et al. 2020)

The main objective of diversion is to protect children from the harsh and potentially traumatic process of formal criminal justice. Formal legal processes are typically associated with tense atmospheres, intimidating interrogations, and the social stigma attached to the perpetrators. For children, this is particularly

dangerous. Childhood is a period of identity formation, during which children are exploring their sense of self and are easily influenced by their environment. If during this critical period they are exposed to the criminal justice system—meeting prosecutors, judges, and possibly being detained with adult criminals—their future is at risk. Rather than deterring them, they may grow more rebellious, hardened, and entrenched in a criminal world. Diversion exists to prevent this by offering a more educational and restorative resolution (Setyorini et al. 2020).

Normatively, diversion has a very strong legal basis. The Juvenile Criminal Justice System Law mandates that cases involving crimes with a potential sentence of under seven years and not involving recidivists must be considered for diversion. This provision applies at every stage of the judicial process, from police investigation, prosecution, to the court hearings. This regulation clearly demonstrates the state's commitment to ensuring that children are not easily trapped in the formal judicial system, except in serious cases, such as violent crimes or repeat offenses. Therefore, in theft cases involving children, especially those with low-value objects, diversion should be the primary route to pursue, not merely an option (Suratman and Shanty 2022).

However, when we look at the implementation of diversion in practice, various issues immediately surface. It cannot be denied that the implementation of diversion is still far from the ideal. One of the main challenges is the lack of understanding among law enforcement officials. Despite the law clearly mandating diversion, many police officers, prosecutors, and even judges still operate under the old mindset: that every legal violation must be met with punishment. This retributive paradigm has been deeply ingrained in our legal culture for decades, and shifting to a restorative paradigm requires a long process. Many law enforcement officers view diversion as a way to "weaken the law" or "let the perpetrator go free." In reality, diversion is a form of law enforcement that is more just because it considers the impact on all parties involved not just the victim, but also the child perpetrator (Witasari and Arif 2019).

In addition to law enforcement, the public often lacks a similar understanding of the importance of diversion. In many cases, the victim or their family rejects diversion, arguing that justice has not been fully served. They believe that if the perpetrator is not punished in court, their sense of hurt has not been healed.

Furthermore, there is concern that diversion will create a lower deterrent effect, allowing the child to repeat the crime. This concern is understandable, especially in a society that tends to view the law through a retributive lens. However, such views also highlight the need for more serious efforts to educate the public about the law. Diversion does not mean the perpetrator is absolved of responsibility; rather, it demands that they be held accountable in front of the victim, their family, and society through a restorative process (Amanda 2024).

Another challenge involves the coordination between the institutions involved in the diversion process. Ideally, diversion should be a collaborative effort involving the police, prosecutors, judges, legal advisors, social workers, child psychologists, and the child's parents. However, in practice, coordination is often difficult to achieve. There are times when the police push for diversion, but the prosecutor insists on continuing the case in court. Or, the judge may want to grant diversion, but the victim refuses. This coordination issue between legal institutions is often influenced by differences in understanding, time constraints, and high workloads (Amanda 2024).

Additionally, resource limitations exacerbate the situation. In many regions, especially those far from urban centers, facilities to support diversion are minimal. Child investigators with proper training are still very limited, meaning many juvenile cases are handled by general investigators. Diversion facilitators, who should guide meetings between the perpetrator, victim, and relevant parties, are also rarely available. Similarly, the number of social workers and child psychologists is insufficient. These limitations often result in diversion processes being half-hearted or even failing entirely. As a result, cases that could have been resolved through diversion are eventually sent to court, despite the fact that, normatively, they should not have been.

In fact, the success of diversion can offer many benefits. For the child offender, diversion provides an opportunity to learn that their actions were wrong without having to enter the formal criminal justice system, which is filled with stigma. The child can fulfill various obligations, such as directly apologizing to the victim, compensating the losses, or performing community service. These forms of resolution not only provide a deterrent effect but also build the child's moral awareness. For the victim, diversion provides a space for direct recovery. The victim can voice their hurt

feelings, accept the perpetrator's apology, and even receive material compensation. This process allows the victim to become an active subject in resolving the case, rather than a passive observer as in formal legal proceedings (Anzward 2020).

Other benefits are also felt by society. Diversion helps restore social harmony that has been disrupted by criminal acts. When the perpetrator and victim can reconcile under the facilitation of law enforcement, society can feel more at ease. Furthermore, diversion reduces the burden on the judiciary and correctional facilities. The more children who are kept out of prison, the less likely there will be overcrowding in detention facilities, which has long been a chronic problem in Indonesia.

The application of diversion also has strong philosophical and sociological foundations. Philosophically, diversion is rooted in the thinking that children do not have the same mental and emotional maturity as adults and, therefore, must be treated differently. They still have great potential for self-improvement and can grow into better individuals. Imprisoning a child could destroy this potential and turn them into hardened criminals in the future. Sociologically, diversion reflects values that are deeply embedded in Indonesian society, such as deliberation and family-based resolution. The tradition of mutual cooperation and social mediation in local culture is actually very much in line with the principles of diversion (Budoyo and Sari 2019).

However, these ideals will not succeed if there is no strong commitment from all parties. Implementing diversion requires collective awareness that children are the nation's future generations who must be protected. The police must have the technical skills and sensitivity to facilitate diversion from the investigation stage. Prosecutors must be open to alternative resolutions and not be fixated on the logic of punishment. Judges must be able to act as both facilitators and wise adjudicators. Meanwhile, the public and victims must also understand that justice does not just mean that the perpetrator is punished, but also that social integrity is restored and the child's future is not sacrificed (Danawiharja 2020).

To achieve all of this, several steps must be taken. First, enhancing the capacity of law enforcement officers is essential. Training child investigators,

diversion facilitators, and providing education on child psychology must be continuously developed. Second, financial support and facilities need to be strengthened. The government must provide more rehabilitation centers, child psychologists, and social workers to ensure that diversion can be adequately implemented. Third, public education and legal campaigns on the importance of diversion as a form of restorative justice must be intensified. Society must be encouraged to understand that diversion is not a weakness of the law, but rather the strength of a modern legal system that is more humane and just (Makkaraeng et al. 2025).

Fourth, there needs to be a strengthening of clear technical regulations to promote consistency between institutions. For example, rules that require officials to provide written justification if diversion is not implemented, or mechanisms to ensure there is a coordination forum between the police, prosecutors, judges, and social workers in every juvenile case. With clear mechanisms in place, potential differences of opinion between institutions can be minimized.

Diversion must also be well-monitored. Once a diversion agreement is reached, there needs to be a monitoring mechanism to ensure that the perpetrator fulfills the agreed-upon obligations, such as paying compensation or performing community service. Without monitoring, diversion can be viewed merely as a formality without meaning. Therefore, the role of social workers and rehabilitation institutions is crucial in overseeing the implementation of diversion (Nainggolan and Saragih 2023).

Ultimately, the success of diversion will depend heavily on the seriousness of all parties in changing their perspectives on children who are in conflict with the law. Children are not small criminals who need to be harshly punished; they are individuals still searching for their identity and deserving of a second chance. Diversion is the bridge that allows these children to return to the right path without losing their future (Nurcahyanto 2024).

Thus, the implementation of diversion is not just a formal obligation under the Juvenile Criminal Justice System Law, but also a tangible expression of the state's and society's commitment to protecting future generations. When diversion is

successfully and consistently implemented, we not only uphold the law but also instill hope, restore justice, and build a more peaceful and harmonious society for the future.

## Conclusion

The handling of theft offenses committed by minors places the police in a highly strategic yet dilemmas-filled position. As the frontline of the juvenile criminal justice system, the police not only have the duty to enforce the law but also to guard the future of children facing legal issues. This research shows that the police face a complex challenge: the dilemma between the public's demand for strict law enforcement and the obligation to protect the best interests of the child as mandated by the law. Resource limitations, including the availability of trained juvenile investigators, special detention facilities, and support from psychologists and social workers, present real barriers to providing optimal services. Diversion, as the main instrument of restorative justice, holds significant potential to resolve cases involving minors without damaging their future. However, its implementation is still hindered by a lack of understanding among law enforcement officers and the public, victim resistance, and weak coordination between institutions. The success of handling juvenile cases requires systemic reform, including enhancing the capacity of law enforcement officers, strengthening supporting facilities, and shifting the public's paradigm from retributive to restorative justice. Only with a collective commitment from all stakeholders can the juvenile criminal justice system truly realize justice that protects the future of the nation's next generation.

## Recommendations

Based on the analysis of the challenges faced by the police in handling theft offenses committed by minors, several strategic recommendations need to be implemented comprehensively. First, the government must prioritize the enhancement of human resources by providing specialized training for juvenile investigators, diversion facilitators, and related personnel on child psychology, child-friendly communication techniques, and a deep understanding of restorative justice. Second, strengthening supporting infrastructure is an urgent need, including the construction of special detention facilities for minors, provision of adequate psychologists and social workers, and rehabilitation centers that can optimally support the diversion process. Third, there is a

need to establish a stronger coordination mechanism between institutions through regular forums involving the police, prosecutors, courts, and rehabilitation institutions to ensure consistent implementation of diversion. Fourth, intensive legal education campaigns should be conducted to shift the public's paradigm from retributive to restorative justice, so that both victims and society can accept diversion as a more meaningful form of justice. Fifth, strengthening technical regulations is necessary to require documentation of reasons for diversion rejection and the establishment of a monitoring system to ensure that minors fulfill their post-diversion obligations, so that the effectiveness of restorative justice can be realized sustainably.

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