

Women in the Grip of Illegal Online Loans: A Study on Victims

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Abstract: Illegal online loans have significant impacts on victims, especially women. In practice, illegal online loans employ criminal acts as repressive measures against their victims in the debt collection process. Illegal online loans tend to target women who are biologically and financially vulnerable, such as housewives, workers, micro, small, and medium-sized enterprise (MSME) owners, teenagers, and others. Women are the most disadvantaged targets in these cases. Illegal online loans exploit economic inequalities with slogans offering ease and speed of fund disbursement as their attraction. Therefore, this research aims to understand how women become victims of illegal online loans. The research method used is qualitative research. The results of this study conclude that women, burdened with financial and domestic responsibilities, tend to choose illegal online loans, which actually offer financially detrimental solutions. The reasons for borrowing vary greatly for each woman. Illegal online loans have disproportionate and highly detrimental impacts and responses for women. Women experience deep losses as victims of illegal online loans. Additionally, the presence of negative stigma on victims emphasizes the importance of financial literacy to empower and protect women from the exploitation of illegal online loans.

Keywords: Illegal Online Loans; Women; Victims; Losses

• Introduction

The influence of globalization brings significant developments in technology. Technological advancements in this era have a great impact on humanity, especially the rapidly evolving information technology. The development of technology brings convenience and benefits to the wider community in carrying out activities and performing their work. One of the technological advancements that significantly impacts the ease of life for the community is the development in the financial sector.

In Indonesia, financial technology has experienced significant growth in recent years. Considering the increasing needs of the community for financial transactions, technology development in the financial sector is being driven forward. Recognizing the difficulties faced by the community in conducting non-cash financial transactions, several financial service providers offer new products as appropriate solutions to address this issue.

The emergence of financial technology (Fintech) adds another alternative in non-cash transaction solutions and introduces new innovations in the financial sector. Fintech makes it easier for users to conduct transactions. These financial products have become familiar to the public, such as debit cards, ATM cards, mobile banking, or other financial services. The dependency of society on smartphones is the reason why non-cash transactions are highly needed. This also leads to the emergence of various applications or websites in the financial sector that can only be accessed through smartphones. One financial technology product that has attracted public attention in the last five years is online loan applications or credit applications.

The use of online loan applications has drastically increased in Indonesia. Many people are interested in using online loans due to the ease of access and procedures offered. Furthermore, many individuals state that the availability of online loan services greatly facilitates them because they do not have to deal with the complicated and lengthy administrative processes of bank loans.

Since then, various online loan applications have started to emerge, and various online loan company names have spread and developed in Indonesia because it has become a promising business considering the large number of users who use online loans. Online loans provide banking solutions and offer attractive deals to attract consumers to use their online loan services. Due to Indonesia's reputation for its large number of smartphone users and high internet access, the growth of online loans presents a promising opportunity.

The increasing use of online loans indicates a high demand and trust from the public towards financial service providers or online loans. However, the presence of online loans has created opportunities for crime. This is due to the emergence of practices and illegal online loan companies (illegal online lending platforms) operating without proper licensing from official institutions. With its rapid development, the presence of illegal online loans has brought adverse effects on the Indonesian society

and government. The growth of illegal online loans accelerated during the Covid-19 pandemic. Consumer behavior, economic difficulties during that time, and regulatory issues are reasons why many people fall into illegal online loans.

Since 2018 until now, the Investment Alert Task Force and the Financial Services Authority have blocked and shut down thousands of unlicensed illegal online loan companies. These companies are considered illegal because they do not comply with Financial Services Authority Regulation No. 77/POJK.01/2016 regarding Information Technology-Based Lending and Borrowing Services. This regulation stipulates that online loan companies must obtain authorization from relevant authorities to operate in the financial sector.

Many people are trapped in these illegal online loans. The losses caused by illegal online loans are substantial, including financial losses, mental distress, and losses borne by institutions experiencing a decline in public trust due to this issue. Illegal online loans aggressively advertise through advertisements, SMS, the internet, and broadcasts. Typically, these illegal online loans advertise their companies by offering easily accessible loans, quick disbursement, simple requirements, and short repayment periods.

They make offers in their advertisements by comparing the advantages of illegal online loan companies with loans available in banks. This certainly influences consumers' thinking patterns, as they will likely choose alternative routes to get quick and immediate solutions without considering the long-term consequences that may affect them in the future. Such offers become the attraction of illegal online loans themselves, leading many people to be enticed by these offers and eventually trapped in the detrimental grip of illegal online loans.

The advantages of online loans are exploited by certain individuals to establish illegal online loan businesses. Legal issues arising from borrowing from illegal online loans include misuse of personal data, unauthorized consumer access, accessing data on consumer smartphones, engaging in debt collection containing elements of violence such as verbal abuse, spreading photos or consumers' shame, intimidating consumers, engaging in poor debt collection practices, sexual harassment, and so forth.

These actions are carried out by illegal online loan practices to compel consumers to pay their bills or debts. When consumers are late in paying their debts to illegal online loans, the illegal online loan providers will resort to these violations to pressure

consumers to pay their debts as quickly as possible. If consumers fail to pay these illegal online loan bills, they will bear the consequences of personal data exposure and other actions that will make them fearful, embarrassed, and incur losses.

The community caught in the practice of illegal online loans consists of individuals who see online loans as an alternative when facing urgent needs, but online loans are vulnerable to predatory lending practices, especially in the case of illegal online loans. When consumers fall into the trap of illegal online loans, they will continuously receive offers from illegal online loan providers, leading many consumers to borrow continuously to meet their needs or cover previous debts.

There are differences between legal online loans and illegal online loans. In licensed online loans, the percentage of interest rates is regulated through official institutions. Meanwhile, illegal online loans do not follow existing regulations and impose high and inconsistent interest rates. These interest rates vary among different illegal online loan companies. The high interest rates make it difficult for individuals borrowing from illegal online loans to repay their debts because the amount they have to repay is much larger compared to the amount they borrowed from illegal online loans. From phenomena of high interest rates, terror in debt collection, to customer data theft. The worst impact arising from these illegal online loans is the debt collection methods that use terror and threats through debt collectors.

The issue of illegal online loans brings various impacts, ranging from the dissemination of victims' personal data, threats and terror affecting the victims' mental health, to leading to suicides due to depression caused by these debts. Victims of illegal online loans come from various backgrounds and genders, considering the wide target market of illegal online loans. Both men and women fall victim to illegal online loans. From teenagers, students, parents, MSME entrepreneurs, the unemployed, workers, and even housewives become victims of these illegal online loans. The characteristics of victims of illegal online loans are so diverse that this issue becomes very complex and requires serious handling.

From 2017 to January 31, 2024, the Investment Alert Task Force (SWI) has blocked and closed a total of 8,640 illegal financial companies, consisting of 1,218 illegal investments, 6,991 illegal online loans, and 251 illegal pledges. The number of illegal online loans blocked by the Financial Services Authority (OJK) and the Investment Alert

Task Force shows that this is a serious issue. Violations committed by illegal online loans range from minor infractions to severe violations that cause significant harm.

Various elements of society initially fall into illegal online loans because they are trapped in complex financial situations. The financial constraints and the convenience offered by these illegal online loans make victims resort to them as a quick and practical solution. Victims certainly consider borrowing from traditional banks, but borrowing from banks is notoriously difficult due to administrative requirements and disbursement processes. This is different from illegal online loans, which only require a selfie photo, Identity Card (KTP), and filling out a few personal data forms. Illegal online loans are easily accessible anywhere via smartphones with internet quota, unlike borrowing from banks that require people to travel to the bank.

The disbursement process at banks takes a long time compared to illegal online loans, which only take a few days, or even less than a few hours after applying for the loan. This is the underlying reason for the proliferation of illegal online loan practices in Indonesia because the supply and demand continue to increase. Thus, even though authorities such as the Financial Services Authority (OJK) block and shut down these illegal online loans, they continue to proliferate because the demand and interest from the public are very high.

Based on loan data available in Indonesia, it is found that women tend to use online loans more than men. The Financial Services Authority in 2021 released data showing that the highest percentage of online loan users are women, around 54.95 percent compared to men at approximately 45.05 percent.

Figure 1.1 Percentage of Violations of Illegal Online Loans

Sumber: Website Resmi OJK 2021

Based on the data, it can be seen that in 2021, illegal online loans resulted in various types of violations. This presentation was obtained from complaints made by victims to the Financial Services Authority. Minor violations accounted for 47% with a total of 9,270 cases, while major violations accounted for 53% with 10,441 complaint cases.

Despite the issues, illegal online loan cases are highly detrimental to women who are caught in these practices. There are many factors underlying why women borrow

from illegal online loans. These range from lifestyle needs, economic needs, financial problems, the need for business capital, the need to support their families where women are the backbone of the household, and more. Women who borrow from illegal online loans are not only single women but also housewives who may need additional funds for their families due to limited income sources from their husbands. The practice of illegal online loans exploits women's vulnerabilities as a weakness and a tool to extort victims.

Table 1.1 Some Cases of Women Trapped in Illegal Online Loans in Indonesia

No	Title	Source
1	Women Are the Most Affected by Illegal Online Loans	https://www.kompas.id/baca/humaniora/2023/02/03/rendah-literasi-keuangan-digital-perempuan-terus-jadi-korban
2	Tragic: Woman Trapped in Debt from 23 Illegal Online Loan Platforms Commits Suicide	https://news.detik.com/berita-jawa-tengah/d-5776778/tragis-wanita-terjerat-utang-23-pinjol-ilegal-hingga-bunuh-diri
3	Trapped in Illegal Online Loans, Woman from Boyolali Loses Hundreds of Millions of Rupiah	https://soloraya.solopos.com/terjebak-pinjol-harta-perempuan-boyolali-ludes-ratusan-juta-rupiah-1165429
4	Marriage Falls Apart Due to Wife Being Trapped in Online Loan	https://radarbromo.jawapos.com/love-life-story/1001741557/pernikahan-buyar-gara-gara-istri-terjerat-pinjaman-online
5	Due to Being Trapped in Online Loans Worth Rp. 300	https://www.tribunnews.com/regional/2021/10/29/gara-gara-terlilit-pinjol-rp-300-juta-kehidupan-seorang-ibu-di-tasik-hancur-cerai-dengan-suami

Million, a Mother's Life in Tasik Ends in Divorce from Husband	
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Source: Author's modification 2024

Based on the reported cases, it is evident that the impact of illegal online loans is very serious for women. From asset losses, divorce, to suicide caused by illegal online loan debts.

In addition to the losses incurred by illegal online loan companies, there is a negative stigma that women receive when they borrow money or engage in actions that are rarely done by a woman. Many speculations arise when women are trapped in debt, which in this context is illegal online loans, such as women being considered unable to manage finances properly, women who have debts have tarnished their own image, women in debt are associated with negative stigma, deemed unreliable, and so on. In this case, women suffer more losses compared to men. As a result, it is not uncommon for women who borrow or lend from illegal online loans to receive negative stigma, and in some cases, the issue of illegal online loans affects women's relationships with their partners.

Previous research conducted by Martinus Ahmad, Ahmad Abdul Goni, and Sri Wahyuni on "The Impact of Illegal Fintech and Law Enforcement in Indonesia" asserts that illegal online loans have negative impacts on the economy, are vulnerable to exploitation and fraud, and often target people who do not have adequate access to formal financial services. In previous research conducted by Ralang Hartati and Syafrida titled "Legal Protection for Consumer Customers of Illegal Online Loans (Illegal Online Loans)," focuses on the discussion of the objective and subjective requirements of an agreement. In their research, Ralang and Syafrida stated that issues arise when victims are unable to repay the debt and high interest rates. Illegal online loan companies engage in unlawful debt collection practices by using intimidation, sending pornographic images, threats, and data dissemination. The legal violations of illegal online loans include violations of civil law contrary to Article 1320 of the Civil Code regarding the requirements for a valid agreement. Illegal online loans do not meet the objective qualifications of an agreement because they are not registered with the Financial Services Authority (OJK).

Previous research conducted by Muhammad Guntur Fauzi, Adrielita Manalu, and Yolanda Theresia entitled "Legal Protection for the Community Engaging in Illegal Online Loans" also discusses the factors causing people to borrow from illegal online loans. These factors are due to the easier and more flexible terms and conditions compared to traditional banks, difficult economic conditions due to Covid-19, and consumer behavior that makes illegal online loans the best solution without considering its future consequences.

Based on the description of previous research, it has explained the impacts, factors, and agreements in illegal online loans. However, it does not specifically discuss the conditions and losses experienced by women in the issue of illegal online loans. Based on the outlined description, the researcher is interested in discussing illegal online loans from the perspective of women. Because women are often disadvantaged in criminal cases. The researcher wants to examine how illegal online loans significantly impact women. This research discusses how women are victims in the grip of illegal online loans, focusing on the losses they experience while dealing with illegal online loans.

- **Legal Materials and Method**

The legal basis used in this research is the Financial Services Authority Regulation Number 77/POJK.01/2016 Regarding Information Technology-Based Lending and Borrowing Services (LPMBTI), which will be analyzed and linked to the discussion. The research method used in this study is qualitative method. The research was conducted by interviewing research informants. Qualitative research is research carried out within a specific time frame with the aim of understanding and investigating the phenomena that occur, aiming to gain a deep understanding of the issues. Qualitative research uses observation, interviews, and documentation techniques in collecting field data. The research location is in Kuantan Singingi Regency, Teluk Kuantan, Riau Province, in 2023. The data obtained are then analyzed using data triangulation.

- **Result and Discussion**

Result

Online loans or Financial Technology (Fintech Lending) are innovations in the financial sector that use technology to provide loans online and allow consumers to

engage in lending transactions without meeting face-to-face. Technology-based lending and borrowing services are regulated under the Financial Services Authority Regulation (OJK) No. 77/POJK.01/2016 regarding information technology-based lending and borrowing services, which regulate legal entities, capital, maximum loan limits, forms of agreements, and regulate borrowers and lenders. Unlike illegal online loans, which are technology-based lending and borrowing services accessible via smartphones without the need for face-to-face meetings and without operating permits from the Financial Services Authority (OJK) or other specific institutions. The presence of online loans should ideally bring convenience to the public. However, the presence of illegal online loans actually worsens the situation for borrowers. The presence of illegal online loans actually triggers criminal activity in this sector. Illegal online loans refer to behavior or activities that violate the law conducted by a company in the fintech sector without complying with applicable regulations.

Illegal online loans often target people who have difficulty accessing legal fintech services or official financial services. Illegal online loan companies attract consumers by using persuasive marketing and offering various highly attractive incentives to potential customers, thus making them interested and eventually borrowing from illegal online loans. Illegal online loans exploit consumer income issues by advertising quick and easy disbursement processes, and even for these illegal online loans, disbursement can be processed in just a few hours without burdensome conditions for consumers.

Generally, the requirements requested by illegal online loans are quite easy and practical. Illegal online loans typically request consumers' personal identities, selfies, emergency contacts, and other documents. Behind the ease of requirements and quick disbursement, there are high interest rates and significant service fees. Although in some illegal online loans, when a consumer borrows, they are given terms and conditions related to borrowing from that illegal company, the interest rates can change at any time. This does not represent Financial Services Authority Regulation 77/POJK.01/2016 in Article 29 regarding the obligation of providers to apply the basic principles of user protection, including (a) transparency; (b) fair treatment; (c) reliability; (d) confidentiality and data security; and (e) simple user dispute resolution.

Transparency regarding loan interest is what ultimately makes it difficult for consumers when repaying their debts. Consumers struggle to repay their debts, which are much higher than the amount of money they borrowed previously. Difficulty in

debt repayment leads to threats, dissemination of personal data, harassment in debt collection, spreading slander about the victim to the victim's close associates, and so on. This is also followed by data transmission, leading to the spread of sensitive victim data.

Another issue is the debt that remains unpaid. Many victims of illegal online loans struggle to repay their debts due to high interest rates, causing them to tend to borrow again from legal or illegal online lending institutions to cover their previous debts. This cycle continues repeatedly until victims are trapped in the vicious circle of illegal online loans and find it difficult to escape. This is what leads to numerous reports in mass media and social media about suicide cases due to illegal online loans.

The identities of illegal online loan companies are constantly changing. This is due to efforts to block them by the authorities. Even though these illegal online loans have been blocked, they will reappear with new identities and trap new victims. The existence of illegal online loans remains the primary choice for people to borrow, which is an important note for law enforcement to make policies. The standardized agreement system in these illegal online loans is unilaterally made to benefit the operators of these illegal online loan businesses.

Online loans minimize difficulties for women to borrow quickly without access limitations. Women's contributions significantly increase the number of fund recipients. However, crime always enters and spreads across various sectors of life, causing serious issues such as illegal online loan cases. Crime rates are currently increasing due to technology and the absence of international boundaries.

Victims of illegal online loans ensnare women from various backgrounds, ranging from teenagers, school students, teachers, university students, to housewives. In 2022, the number of online loan cases increased by 225% (13 cases) compared to 2021, which had 4 cases. Women are often the primary target of illegal online loan companies due to their vulnerability.

Generally, women are vulnerable to financial pressure and have limited access to formal financial sources, especially those who are married and rely solely on their husband's income. Illegal online loans exploit the low financial literacy of women as well as a gap to offer attractive and tempting deals to women. Illegal online loans offer easy access and quick solutions. For married women, this certainly helps them to address financial shortcomings in managing household expenses.

Based on research conducted by MicroSave Consulting at the Department of Criminology, University of Indonesia, the main reasons women use online loan services are to meet family needs, personal needs, and business needs. The economic downturn caused by Covid-19 is a common reason underlying why women borrow from both legal and illegal online loans. Massive advertising of illegal online loans on various platforms such as YouTube, Instagram, Google Chrome, Facebook, WhatsApp, and SMS, which are persuasive and coax women into getting trapped.

Generally, online loan advertisements offer ease, quick processes, and low loan interest rates. In essence, the content of legal and illegal online loan ads is the same, but in implementation, illegal online loans are not transparent and contrary to what they advertise. Illegal online loans actually impose high interest rates on victims and shorten the repayment time, making it difficult for victims.

The results of the research on two female victims interviewed by the author showed different outcomes. Victim A, who is a housewife (IRT), borrowed from illegal online loans due to financial constraints and received information from her coworker. Victim A admitted that the amount she applied for differed from what she received, and she was charged with high interest rates. Victim A found it difficult to pay off her debt due to the short repayment time and the large amount of money paid to the illegal online loan.

As a result, Victim A received various threats when she was late in paying off her debt, such as debt collection using verbal violence, spreading shame, relatives and coworkers being harassed, and threats to spread personal data. The victim's relationship with her husband also experienced miscommunication because the victim did not inform or seek permission from her husband to borrow from the illegal online loan. The victim reported her losses via email. As a result, Victim A, aware of the risks she would face, borrowed again from the illegal online loan.

Unlike victim B, who is also a woman, victim B is a single woman who owns a micro, small, and medium-sized enterprise (MSME). Victim B got trapped in illegal online loans due to the need to fulfill her lifestyle and business needs. She borrowed money due to being attracted by the ads that appeared and because of her needs. Victim B admits to receiving messages containing vulgar language. The debt collectors threatened to come to victim B's house, but this was only to intimidate her into quickly repaying her debt. The debt collectors spread slander about victim B, indicating that she had absconded with the company's money, and this slander was spread to several of

victim B's relatives. Victim B often receives victim-blaming from the community because of her carelessness with her personal data, resulting in her being labeled as a woman without dignity.

Based on the experiences of these two victims, it can be seen that the involvement of women in borrowing from illegal online loans is not without reason. This is due to their limitations in the financial sector of conventional institutions, so the presence of online loans brings a breath of fresh air for women to access services.

Typically, women borrow to meet their living expenses, business needs, and household needs. Women who are trapped in illegal online loans actually experience layered losses. In the context of women as housewives, they have a very high financial burden because they have to manage finances with all the household needs. Often, the husband's livelihood is insufficient to meet the household needs, or the husband does not want to be involved and wants to know about household needs, so this burden falls entirely on the wife.

Analysis of Women's Position in Demonizing Violence & Criminal Function Relationship

The problem of illegal online loans seems endless. Stephen Schafer proposed 7 victim typologies in victimology called the criminal function theory. The criminal function relationship theory can explain the position of women as suitable targets for illegal online lenders. This theory examines the functional responsibility between victims and perpetrators. It discusses the involvement of victims in the commission of crimes. The 7 victim typologies are:

- Unrelated victims, are victims who have no relationship with the perpetrator and become victims because of their potential. The responsibility lies with the victim.
- Provocative victims, are victims whose role triggers the crime. Responsibility lies with both the victim and the perpetrator.
- Participating victims, are victims whose actions unintentionally encourage the perpetrator to commit the crime. Responsibility lies with the perpetrator.
- Biologically weak victims, are crimes caused by the physical condition of the victim such as women, children, and the elderly who are potential victims. Responsibility lies with society or the local government.

- Socially weak victims, are victims who are overlooked by the community and have a weak social position. Responsibility lies with both the perpetrator and the community.
- Self-victimizing victims, are victims of crimes they commit themselves (pseudo-victims) or crimes without victims. Responsibility lies with the victim as they are also the perpetrator of the crime.
- Political weak victims, are victims because of their political opponents. These victims cannot be held accountable unless there is a change in the political constellation.

In the case of illegal online loans experienced by women, in the criminal function relationship, they fall into the category of biologically weak victims, namely victims who have certain physical and mental characteristics that can make them vulnerable to crime. Women are known for their physical vulnerability. This weakness becomes an opportunity for perpetrators to target women. The vulnerability of women can be exploited by criminals.

Women are more susceptible to financial pressure compared to men due to differences in economic structure and domestic burdens. Financial responsibility or management within the family is often imposed on women. Women are vulnerable to anxiety and stress due to debt. The impact of these illegal online loans is greater on the mental and physical condition of women. Considering physical differences, there is a gap for women with physical limitations. Thus, women are more vulnerable to threats and violence from illegal online loans. These vulnerabilities and weaknesses of women become opportunities for criminals to carry out their actions.

Women who are in a financially weak condition become easy targets. Some women still have financial dependence. Several women do not have adequate access to formal financial institutions due to factors such as inequality in financial service access or financial identity, making them vulnerable to illegal online loans as a simple and easily accessible alternative. In terms of accountability, women as victims of illegal online loans are the responsibility of society or local government because they cannot provide protection to biologically weak victims.

Analyzing it using the Demonizing Violent Girls explains how women who commit crimes are constructed and portrayed by society and mass media. The role of society and mass media constructs women in the context of being perpetrators or

victims of crime. The construction of women in society is related to gentle attitudes, good behavior, and being far from violations and deviations. When women commit crimes or violations, such as in the case of illegal online loans, women are considered to deviate from their nature. This then leads to many stigmas or negative responses associating women's nature with the cases they experience. Women's participation in cases of illegal online loans is considered deviant. Many women are then considered incompetent in managing finances, considered to lack financial literacy, and so on. In cases of illegal online loans, there are different responses when the victim is a woman. Women trapped in illegal online loans are considered to have deviated from the construct of women and are assumed to deserve punishment and significant losses. Women who become victims of illegal online loans must face many negative responses not only because of the illegal online loans themselves but also because they are women. Because the victims are women, they actually suffer many losses.

The response of some parts of society to women who become victims of illegal online loans does not always reflect support or empathy. Women are instead blamed or given negative stigma for their mistakes and carelessness in managing their finances without considering the detrimental impact on them. They are labeled as lacking good literacy. Women are constructed as someone who should be adept at managing finances and far from borrowing behavior. However, research shows that women tend to be less capable of controlling financial problems compared to men. This understanding is what makes the public's view different when women are trapped as victims of illegal online loans.

However, there are many factors why women resort to illegal online loans not always just to meet their lifestyle needs, as in the case of victim A who has domestic burdens to meet household needs, daily necessities, and even survival. In this context, it is not uncommon for husbands to be unaware that their wives have borrowed from both legal and illegal online loans. This can lead to conflicts between spouses due to a lack of financial transparency. Women, as wives who use illegal online loans, often end up causing new problems. Like in the research conducted by Adelia Hidayatul Rahmi and Suryaningsi on "Perpetrators of Human Rights Violations in Cases of Domestic Violence in Samarinda City," domestic violence can occur due to a lack of financial openness between partners. Thus, one of the triggers for conflict in such cases is when husbands find out that their wives have borrowed large sums from online loans, leading to domestic violence. Pressure on women with low economic status requires

them to play a role in increasing income to meet their needs. Various challenges require women to strive for various survival strategies that can be a source of opportunities for them.

Women who become victims of illegal online loans are at risk of suffering greater losses than men. Women are vulnerable to repeated victimization. In this case, women are vulnerable to cases of Gender-Based Online Violence (GBOV) due to the ease with which the private data accessed by illegal online loan providers. Just like in previous cases where victims received slander and the dissemination of personal data, Gender-Based Online Violence (GBOV) can occur at any time for women who fall victim to illegal online loans. If reviewed from Financial Services Authority Regulation Number 77/POJK.01/2016 Article 26 which states "every provider of illegal online loans is obliged to maintain the confidentiality, integrity, personal data, transaction data, and financial data managed." However, in illegal online loans, these rules apply inversely.

The difference in treatment received by women in the debt collection process conducted by debt collectors is very different. Because women are classified as biologically weak victims, this weakness is used as a tool to terrorize them. In cases of illegal online loans, there are different threats between men and women. Women tend to be threatened with sexual violence such as pornography, harassment, inappropriate photo editing, and so on. These actions are designed to harm women and subsequently tarnish the victim's image.

Women in the clutches of illegal online loans suffer layered losses. In the study "An Evil Monster and A Poor Thing: Female Violence in the media" by Eileen Berrington and Paivi Honkatukia, women who commit violence are seen as extraordinary, abnormal, and deviant. They not only violate the law but also violate expectations related to their feminine behavior. The deviation committed by women has its own allure, and the rarity of such behavior is highly valued in the media. When the victim is a woman, it becomes even more intriguing.

During debt collection, they often face verbal abuse, sexual violence, lack of consent, and privacy over their personal data. Ironically, many victims do not report these cases. For example, victim B's experience of reluctance to report due to realizing her contribution to her own loss. Meanwhile, victim A only reported through the email complaint service provided by the government as an effort to accommodate victims' aspirations.

Generally, victims also face obstacles in reporting issues related to illegal online loans, especially women. Women face barriers to reporting due to fear of potential costs, apprehension of judgment from law enforcement, uncertainty about case resolution, or even fear of being blamed for borrowing from illegal online loans. Some victims do not report due to a lack of understanding of the reporting procedures, and when the report has been submitted to the authorities, it is found that the outcome is not successful. This contributes to the large dark number of illegal online loan cases. Further examination at the location where the researcher conducted the study on victims A and B revealed that the authorities stated they did not receive any complaints or reports related to illegal online loan cases. However, the absence of reports is not without cause; there are many factors contributing to it. When faced with such conditions, victims who experience intimidation or violence are reluctant to report to the authorities out of fear and shame.

The government has taken action for prevention and law enforcement efforts. The government has provided authorized agencies and collaborated to prevent cases of illegal online loans, particularly those that disproportionately harm women. Entities such as the police, the Investment Alert Task Force, the Financial Services Authority, the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, and others collaborate to prevent the spread and emergence of new victims. When linked to existing regulations, Regulation No. 77/2016 has limitations, namely, the regulation does not address the application of sanctions for violations committed by illegal online loans that do not have authorization from the Financial Services Authority. This is because illegal online loans are not licensed. Loan agreements between victims and illegal online loans are considered invalid due to requirements that do not meet the competency in agreements. It is known that determining the validity of agreements must comply with the Civil Code (KUH Perdata) Article 1320, which determines the requirements for subjects and objects.

Nevertheless, illegal online loans continue to ensnare new victims who are ready to become the next target. Therefore, it is important for authorities to provide digital literacy to women in financial matters. This is necessary to equip women in managing finances and educate them about the legality and illegality of financial institutions. Financial literacy is expected to empower women and prevent them from the exploitation of illegal online loans, which have the potential to cause revictimization,

gender-based online violence (GBVO), and other significant losses that severely disadvantage women.

CONCLUSSION

The high supply and demand for illegal online loans that continue to persist apparently sustain the existence of illegal online loans. Women who are trapped in illegal online loans are greatly disadvantaged and experience revictimization in debt collection. Ironically, women are blamed for the cases that befall them. Instead of receiving help and solutions to their problems, women are considered deviant because they are seen as doing something different from what society constructs. Women borrow not only to fulfill their lifestyle but also to meet domestic needs, as capital for businesses, children's needs, and others. The impact experienced by women as victims of illegal online loans even leads to conflicts between husband and wife, causing stress, negative stigma, feelings of shame due to information dissemination, divorce, and the most fatal of all, suicide, as in some reported cases.

Women need to obtain financial literacy, which can be acquired through programs or publications from authorized institutions, in line with the authority of those institutions to educate the public. It is hoped that the authorities can resolve each case reported by victims and create a non-judgmental atmosphere. It is hoped that the position of women as victims receives more attention, especially regarding highly sensitive privacy data.