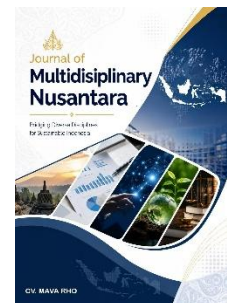


Do not modify the font size or any element of the following template. All manuscripts should be submitted as a Microsoft Word document. Include all sections of the manuscript in the same document to the extent possible. You may upload separate documents for tables, figures, and appendices, if needed.

All text should be in Book Antiqua, 12-point font and 1,15 spaced. Only the titles of page 1 and page 2 will be in 20-point. Do not modify the bold font and the purple color. The acknowledgments should be placed before the footnotes. The footnotes, on the other hand, should be placed at the end of the text, before the references.

Manuscripts should follow the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (7th edition). Please remove all automatic referencing features from the document and ensure that in text citations and references are text. Furthermore, do not copy the text in the source format and adapt it to the template format.

Submissions should be approximately **between 4,000 and 8,000 words** in length, including abstracts, notes, references, and appendices.





Uncontrolled Emotions as a Trigger for Crime of Passion: Analysis Criminology to Criminal Behavior

Sepriandison Saragih¹, Siti Fatimah², Dwi Edi Wibowo³, Ezio Marra⁴, Nada Ratković⁵

¹Universitas HKBP Nommensen Pematangsiantar, Indonesia

² Universitas Veteran Bangun Nusantara, Indonesia

³Universitas Pekalongan, Indonesia

⁴University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy

⁵University of Split, Croatia

Received	Revised	Accepted	Publish
16 July 2026	27 July 2026	30 August 2026	31 August 2026

Abstract

This study aims to analyze the role of emotional instability as a trigger factor in crime acts within the phenomenon of crime of passion from a criminological perspective. The research applies a normative juridical method with conceptual and case approaches. The findings indicate that emotional conditions such as anger, jealousy, and resentment significantly contribute to impulsive aggressive behavior without prior planning. In Indonesian criminal law, such emotional conditions do not eliminate criminal responsibility, and offenders remain subject to legal sanctions. Therefore, strengthening self-control and social support systems is essential in preventing emotion-driven crimes.

Keywords: Emotion, Crime of Passion, Criminology, Criminal Act

To cite this article: Saragih. S., Fatimah. S., Wibowo. D.E., Marra. E., & Ratkovic. N. (2026). Uncontrolled Emotions as a Trigger for Crime of Passion: Analysis Criminology to Criminal Behavior. *Journal of Multidisciplinary Nusantara*, Vol. (1), pp. 15-26 <http://dx.doi.org/10.17583/JMN.1XXXX>



Corresponding author: Sepriandison Saragih

Contact address: sepriandisaragih@gmail.com

Introduction

Emotions are a psychological aspect that plays a role in influencing an individual's thought patterns and behavior. Under certain conditions, emotions are adaptive, but when uncontrolled, it can lead to impulsive actions that have the potential to be deviant. The individual's inability to manage emotional stress often leads to aggressive actions carried out without rational consideration (Bertholomeus & al, 2024).

In criminology studies, there is the term *crime of Passion*, which is a crime triggered by intense emotional impulses such as jealousy, anger, or hurt. These crimes usually occur spontaneously without planning, so the perpetrator often acts beyond rational control (Hayward & Ilan, 2018).

This phenomenon shows that psychological factors play a significant role in the formation of criminal behavior (Hermanto & Riyadi, 2020). Unresolved emotional tension can disrupt ability think clear And increase potential committing deviant acts (Frauley, 2021). Thus, a comprehensive analysis is needed to understand the relationship between emotions and criminal acts, especially from a criminological perspective (Fileborn & Loney-Howes, 2020).

Review Library and Framework Theory

Draft Basics of Criminology

Criminology is a science that studies crime as a phenomenon. social which includes causes, actors, and reactions society towards crime (Brunke, 2024). In criminology, crime is not only seen as a violation of the law, but also as the result of the interaction of various social and psychological factors (Gusti et al., 2021).

Through the study of criminology, a crime can be analyzed in greater depth by considering the many underlying aspects. Therefore, criminology plays an important role in providing an understanding of the reason someone commits a crime (Khrebtan-Hörhager, 2024). Thus, criminology not only explains crime as a violation of law, but also as the result of a complex interaction between individual factors and the social environment (Bambang Hermanto & Slamet Riyadi, 2022).

Draft Action Criminal

Criminal acts are a crucial component of criminal law, as they form the basis for determining whether an act is punishable or not. In its study, criminal acts are not only understood as unlawful acts but must also meet certain elements established by statute (Howe, 2023).

According to Isaac, action criminal (strafbaar (feit) is actions Which contrary to the law which is done intentionally and can be punished by law for those who violate it. This statement emphasizes that an act can only be categorized as a crime if it has been clearly regulated in the applicable law (Arimuladi, 2024).

In criminal law, a actions No can necessarily it is said as a criminal offense if it does not fulfill the elements Which has determined. These elements of a crime are an important basis for assessing the actions that done to be held criminally responsible.

In general, criminal law doctrine states that the elements of a crime include the act, the unlawful nature, the error, and the ability to take responsibility. In addition, Sudrajat Bassar stated that an action can be categorized as a criminal act if the act contains elements that are against the law, causes harm to society, and the perpetrator is threatened with criminal sanctions (Kabiri et al., 2018).

Draft Crime of Passion

Crime of Passion is a term used to describe crimes committed due to strong emotional impulses such as anger, jealousy, or hurt feelings. This action generally occurs when the perpetrator acts impulsively and fails to consider rational aspects in making decisions (Stannard, 2022).

In criminology, emotionally driven crime is understood as a form of behavior influenced by an individual's psychological state. Uncontrolled emotions can impair a person's ability to make rational decisions, increasing the potential for aggressive behavior. which leads to criminal acts (Cook et al., 2019).

Some criminology literature explains that emotion-based crimes often occur in relationships that have personal closeness, such as partner or family relationships. Matter This due to factor emotional own dominant role in encouraging the occurrence of *crime phenomena of passion*.

In addition, *crime of passion* also related to a person's condition known as *heat of Passion*, which is a condition where someone commits an act of violence in a situation of sudden, intense emotion without any prior planning. In criminal law, this condition is often associated with *voluntary action. manslaughter*, namely murder committed in a state of anger suddenly (*heat of anger*) and without any planning elements.

Furthermore, actions in these conditions generally occur in response to provocation that triggers a spontaneous emotional reaction, so that the perpetrator does not have enough time to calm self. ¹⁰ By Because That, Wrong one of the main characteristics of *crime of passion* is without planning (*lack of planning*) of *premeditation*), which indicates that the action is a spontaneous reaction to emotional stress experienced by the perpetrator (Liu et al., 2020).

Thus, *crime of passion* can be understood as a form of action crimes that arise as a result of an individual's failure to control spontaneous and intense emotions.

Emotion in Perspective Criminology

In a criminological perspective, emotions are part of the psychological aspect of humans. Which play a role in influence method think And act somebody Unstable emotions can drive someone to commit deviant acts. ¹¹

In the context of criminology, particularly *strain theory* as put forward by Robert K. Merton, social and psychological pressure experienced by individuals can cause tension emotional Which strong. Mismatch between hope with reality can give rise to negative emotions which then drive individuals to commit crimes as a form of outlet (Triatmanto & Bawono, 2023).

Additionally, in some situations, crime can also occur as a spontaneous reaction to emotional stress. Individuals who experience prolonged stress, social isolation, or mental health disorders mental tend own emotion Which No stable. Emotions such as

anger, shame, And separated hope even can become trigger main when No there is a place to express it (Pakendek, 2022).

Therefore, from a criminological perspective, understanding the dynamics of emotions is very important. For explain motif crime at a time formulate better prevention strategies.

Factor Reason Crime Based Emotion

Emotion-based crimes are influenced by internal and external factors. Internally, low self-control or emotional impulsivity can increase the likelihood of committing criminal acts. Externally, stressful situations, interpersonal conflict, or social pressure can increase the intensity of negative emotions that drive deviant behavior. This understanding is essential for analyzing criminal behavior from a criminological and psychological perspective (Brunson & Wade, 2019).

Theories Which Used

Theory Psychology Criminal

Criminal psychology theory views that criminal acts are inseparable from the individual's mental condition. Factors such as personality, psychological condition... mental, The ability to control emotions, as well as life experiences, play a role in shaping a person's behavior. ¹⁴ Individuals who experience certain psychological disorders or emotional stress tend to be more prone to deviant behavior (Hutahaeen & Indarti, 2020).

In this view, criminals can be understood as having psychological disorders, weak self-control, or experiencing trauma that affects their way of thinking. And act. Approach This emphasize that crime can happen Nonot only because of environmental factors, but also because of a person's mental condition, so that they are unable to resist negative urges that arise from within themselves ¹⁵.

Theory Frustration – Aggression

This study explains that aggressive behavior arises as a response to failure to achieve goals. In the context of criminology, economic and social pressures can trigger frustration. As a result, individuals may commit criminal acts as a form of outlet or to address their current situation (Nugroho, 2021).

Theory Self-Control

Self-control theory explains that individuals with low levels of self-control are more likely to engage in deviant behavior. In the context of crime, of passion, weak self-control causes individuals to be unable to restrain emotional impulses that arise suddenly, thus leading to aggressive actions. ¹⁷

Theory Control Social

This approach emphasizes the importance of social relationships in preventing crime. According to Hirschi, there are four main elements in social control, namely attachment, commitment, involvement, and belief in norms (belief). If these elements are weakened, the possibility of criminal behavior will increase.

Theory Anomie

This theory explains that crime can occur due to an imbalance between the life goals expected by society and the means available to achieve it¹⁹. When individuals do not have adequate access to achieve these goals, then the urge to do so arises. Deviation (Omelchuk et al., 2022).

Merton expanded on this concept by stating that social pressure can drive individuals to seek a way out, including through criminal acts. Thus, crime is understood as a form of adaptation to unbalanced social conditions.

Criticism Theory

Although these theories are able to explain the relationship between emotions and crime, each has limitations. For example, the frustration- aggression theory does not fully explain why not all individuals who experience frustration commit crimes. criminal acts. This shows that other factors such as the value of Morals and social environment also play an important role.

Framework Thinking

The framework of thought in this research was built to analyze the relationship between uncontrolled emotions and the occurrence of criminal acts in the *crime phenomenon of in this study*, *emotion* is positioned as the main factor that plays a role in driving criminal behavior.

Conceptually, uncontrolled emotions such as anger, jealousy, and hurt feelings can affect ability individual in rational thinking. The inability to control emotions can lead individuals to act impulsively. In this regard, criminal psychology theory explains that weak self-control and an individual's mental state are important factors in the emergence of deviant behavior (Sherman et al., 2016).

Furthermore, these emotional states can be exacerbated by the stress or frustration experienced by the individual. According to the frustration -aggression theory, failure to achieve goals or interpersonal conflict can lead to frustration, which then develops into aggressive behavior. In some situations, this aggression can be can take the form of violent acts which fall into *the crime category of passion*.

Furthermore, weak social control is also a factor that increases the likelihood of crime. Individuals who lack strong ties to their social environment tend to lack control over their behavior. This aligns with social control theory, which states that low social connectedness increases the risk of deviance.

On the other hand, social pressure due to the mismatch between expectations and reality can also worsen an individual's emotional condition. Theory anomie explain that these conditions can cause tension that encourages individuals to commit deviant acts as a form of release.

Based on this description, it can be concluded that *the crime occurred of passion* is the result of the interaction between:

1. Factor internal: emotion No under control and control self weak
2. External factors: frustration, social pressure, and weak social control Interaction second factor the cause individual lost ability

think rationally, so that they commit criminal acts without spontaneous planning. Thus, the framework for thinking in study This put emotions as the main variable that influences the occurrence of criminal acts, Which influenced by various psychological and social factors.

Method

This research uses a normative juridical method with a conceptual approach and case studies. Data were obtained through literature review in the form of books, scientific journals, and laws and regulations (Akbar et al., 2022). The analysis was conducted qualitatively by connecting criminological theory with empirical phenomena (Crime, 2020).

Result and Discussion

Phenomenon Crime of Passion

Crime of Passion is a form of crime that occurs spontaneously due to an emotional outburst. In criminology, this crime is understood as a form of behavior influenced by an individual's psychological state (Howe, 2023). This phenomenon often occurs in personal relationships, such as romantic relationships, where emotions are highly intense. This situation causes individuals to act without rational considerations (Mazzon, 2020).

Factor Emotion As Trigger Action Criminal

- a. Factor Internal
 - Weakness control self
 - Condition psychological No stable
 - Impulsivity tall
- b. Factor External
 - Conflict interpersonal
 - Pressure social
 - Jealousy or betrayal

According to theory psychology criminal, imbalance between psychological can disrupt self-control so that individuals more easily commit aggressive acts ²².

Analysis Criminology

Crime of passion is the result of a complex interaction between psychological conditions and social factors. Uncontrolled emotions become trigger main, but not stand Alone. Occurrence crime of passion show the presence of inability individuals in managing emotional impulses. This indicates that the perpetrator experiences disturbances in the rational decision-making process (Sinambela, 2026).

Meanwhile, the frustration -aggression theory explains that emotional pressure that is not channeled can turn into aggressive behavior as a form of release

Furthermore, weak social control also increases the likelihood of crime. Individuals who lack strong social ties tend to lack boundaries around their actions, making it easier to commit deviant acts.

Analysis Studies Case Crime Of Passion

Case Wadison Pasaribu (2025)

Wadison Pasaribu Case is Wrong One example action criminal Which Triggered by emotional conflict in a personal relationship, this incident was driven by deep jealousy and hurt, leading the perpetrator to commit violence against the victim (McInerney, 2023).

When analyzed using the frustration -aggression theory, the perpetrator's actions can be understood as a form of venting frustration experienced due to relationship conflict. Unresolved feelings of jealousy develop. become aggression Which lead to criminal acts. Furthermore, from a social control theory perspective, weak social support and environmental oversight likely contributed to the incident. The perpetrator lacked adequate social control mechanisms to restrain aggressive behavior (Tănăsescu, 2025).

If linked to criminal law, this action can fulfill the elements of Article 338 of the Criminal Code because it involves the act of taking another person's life without planning (Stassi et al., 2024).

Case Murder Consequence Conflict Love (Palembang, 2025)

The murder case in Palembang which was triggered by a romantic conflict also shows the characteristics of *a crime. of passion*, namely actions carried out spontaneously due to strong emotional impulses (Fredrickson, 2024).

In case This, emotion in the form of anger and a sense of betrayal are the main factors Which push perpetrator do action violence (FarrHenderson et al., 2025). Based on anomie theory from Robert K. Merton, emotional stress resulting from interpersonal conflict can create condition tension Which push individual do deviation. In addition That, weakness control self as well as inability in manage conflict in a way rational cause perpetrator act in a way impulsive. Matter This show

that factor internal And external each other interact in triggering criminal acts (Hanan, 2023).

Analysis Comparative Case

Based on these two cases, it can be concluded that there is a pattern the same, namely:

1. action done in a way spontaneous
2. triggered by emotion Which strong
3. happen in connection personal

This reinforces that *crime of passion* is a crime that is greatly influenced by the individual's uncontrolled emotional condition, as well as strengthened by environmental and social factors.

Implications Criminologist

Crime handling of passion No Enough through approach law just, but also requires psychological and social approaches such as control education emotions and strengthening social control. Thus, handling emotion-based crimes requires a multidisciplinary approach that combines legal, psychological and social aspects (TIJJANI, 2020).

Conclusion

Based on results study, can concluded that phenomenon *crime of passion* is action criminal Which triggered by failure individual in controlling emotion, Which reinforced by social pressure and weak self-control, so that produce action criminal Which nature impulsive And without planning. Emotion-based crimes cannot be understood from just one factor, but rather are a results interaction between factor internal And external. Factor internal and external interact in creating condition impulsive Which end on criminal acts.²⁷ Although triggered by emotion, perpetrator still must responsible answer in a way law.

Therefore, preventive efforts are needed that do not only focus on law enforcement, but also on improving emotional control skills and strengthening the social environment.

Recommendation

Based on these conclusions, the author provides several recommendations as follows: Society needs to increase awareness regarding the importance of controlling emotions in everyday life and is expected to be able to manage conflicts rationally so that they do not develop into violent acts.

1. Families and social environments need to strengthen good social control. A supportive environment can help individuals control their behavior. emotions and prevent deviant behavior.

2. Law enforcers need to consider the psychological aspects of the perpetrator as a consideration in imposing sanctions.
3. This research is still limited to a normative approach, so it is hoped that further research can use an empirical approach involving field data to obtain more comprehensive result.

References

- Akbar, M., Said Karim, M., & Ilyas, A. (2022). Juridical Review Of Obstacles To The Implementation Of Restorative Justice In The Crime Of Theft. *Daengku: Journal Of Humanities And Social Sciences Innovation*, 2(5), 710–717. <https://doi.org/10.35877/454ri.Daengku1083>
- Arimuladi, S. U. (2024). Enhancing Legal Certainty Through Restorative Justice: A Focus On The Role Of Indonesia's Attorney General's Office. *Pakistan Journal Of Criminology*, 16(16.2), 903–912. <https://doi.org/10.62271/Pjc.16.2.903.912>
- Bambang Hermanto, A., & Slamet Riyadi, B. (2022). Constitutional Law On The Discretionary Of Prosecutor's Power Against Abuse Of Power Implications Of Corruption Culture In The Prosecutor's Office Republic Of Indonesia. *International Journal Of Criminology And Sociology*, 9, 763–772. <https://doi.org/10.6000/1929-4409.2020.09.71>
- Bertholomeus, G. C., & Al, Et. (2024). *Criminology Law*. Cv Gita Lentera.
- Brunke, L. I. (2024). Murder, Gender And The Law: From Crime Of Passion To Femicide: Li Brunke. *Crime, Law And Social Change*, 82(5), 1313–1334.
- Brunson, R. K., & Wade, B. A. (2019). "Oh Hell No, We Don't Talk To Police" Insights On The Lack Of Cooperation In Police Investigations Of Urban Gun Violence. *Criminology & Public Policy*, 18(3), 623–648. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1003056>
- Cook, P. J., Braga, A. A., Turchan, B. S., & Barao, L. M. (2019). Why Do Gun Murders Have A Higher Clearance Rate Than Gunshot Assaults? *Criminology & Public Policy*, 18(3), 525–551. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1745-9133.12451>
- Crime, U. N. O. On D. And. (2020). *United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime And The Protocols Thereto*. https://www.unodc.org/documents/middleeastandnorthafrica/organised-crime/United_Nations_Convention_Against_Transnational_Organized_Crime_And_The_Protocols_Thereto.pdf
- Farrhenderson, M., Di Marco, M. H., & Evans, D. P. (2025). Perceptions Of Social Capital Before And After The Perpetration Of Femicide, Homicide, And Other Serious Crimes: Evidence From Argentina. *Journal Of Interpersonal Violence*, 40(7–8), 1772–1799.

- Fileborn, B., & Loney-Howes, R. (2020). Using Social Media To Resist Gender Violence – A Global Perspective. In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia Of Criminology And Criminal Justice*. Oxford University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190264079.013.613>
- Frauley, J. (2021). The Poverty Of The Comparative Orthodoxy: Cultural Criminology, Perspectival Realism And Conceptual Variation. *International Journal Of Law, Crime And Justice*, 66, 100480. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijlcj.2021.100480>
- Fredrickson, J. (2024). *Crimes Of Passion And The Making Of Modern Intimate Life In Twentieth-Century Britain*. University Of Birmingham.
- Gusti, D. P., Supriyono, B., Wardhono, H., Rozikin, M., & Riyadi, B. S. (2021). Public Policy: Inconsistency Of Online And Conventional Land Transportation Regulations In Indonesia On Social Conflict Implications. *International Journal Of Criminology And Sociology*, 10.
- Hanan, M. E. (2023). Terror And Tenderness In Criminal Law. *Cardozo L. Rev.*, 45, 581.
- Hayward, K., & Ilan, J. (2018). Cultural Criminology. In *The Routledge Companion To Criminological Theory And Concepts* (Pp. 262–266). Routledge.
- Hermanto, A. B., & Riyadi, B. S. (2020). Constitutional Law On The Discretionary Of Prosecutor's Power Against Abuse Of Power Implications Of Corruption Culture In The Prosecutor's Office Republic Of Indonesia. *International Journal Of Criminology And Sociology*, 9, 763–772.
- Howe, A. (2023). *Crimes Of Passion Since Shakespeare: Red Mist Rage Unmasked*. Taylor & Francis.
- Hutahaean, A., & Indarti, E. (2020). Implementation Of Investigation By The Indonesian National Police In Eradicating Corruption Crime. *Journal Of Money Laundering Control*, 23(1), 136–154. <https://doi.org/10.1108/jmlc-12-2018-0075>
- Kabiri, S., Cochran, J. K., Stewart, B. J., Sharepour, M., Rahmati, M. M., & Shadmanfaat, S. M. (2018). Doping Among Professional Athletes In Iran: A Test Of Akers's Social Learning Theory. *International Journal Of Offender Therapy And Comparative Criminology*, 62(5), 1384–1410. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0306624x16680043>
- Khrebtan-Hörhager, J. (2024). Femicide In Italy: A Modern Phenomenon Deeply Rooted In Country's Cultural Past. *The Conversation*.
- Liu, L., Chui, W. H., & Hu, Y. (2020). Make Sense Of Self In Prison Work: Stigma, Agency, And Temporality In A Chinese Women's Prison. *Asian Journal Of Criminology*, 15(2), 123–139. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11417-019-09298-9>
- Mazzon, N. (2020). *Framing Femicide: From " Crime Of Passion " To Patriarchy*. Mapping

The Discursive Turning Point In The Media Coverage Of Giulia Cecchetti.

- McInerney, K. (2023). Coding 'Carnal knowledge' into carceral systems. *Feminist Aesthetics*, 101.
- Nugroho, K. L. S. (2021). Criminal Law Policy Of Justice Collaborator In Corruption Crime Case. *Law Reform*, 17(1), 24–35. <https://doi.org/10.14710/Lr.V17i1.37550>
- Omelchuk, O. M., Haiur, I. Y., Kozytska, O. G., Prysiashna, A. V., & Khmelevska, N. V. (2022). Analysis Of The Activities Of Law Enforcement Authorities In The Field Of Combating Crime And Corruption Offences. *Journal Of Money Laundering Control*, 25(3), 700–716. <https://doi.org/10.1108/Jmlc-07-2021-0073>
- Pakendek, A. (2022). Recent Understanding Of The Causes , Impacts And Deterrent Of Corruption In Indonesia. *British Journal Of Criminology, Law & Justice*, 01(03), 206–218.
- Sherman, L., Neyroud, P. W., & Neyroud, E. (2016). The Cambridge Crime Harm Index: Measuring Total Harm From Crime Based On Sentencing Guidelines. *Policing: A Journal Of Policy And Practice*, 10(3), 171–183.
- Sinambela, S. B. (2026). Criminology Study Of Crime Causes Of Crime Study Of Domestic Violence (Kdrt). *Palar | Pakuan Law Review*, 12(3), 117–133.
- Stannard, J. E. (2022). 'Crimes Of Passion': Emotion, Fault, And The Criminal Law. In *Fault In Criminal Law* (Pp. 149–166). Routledge.
- Stassi, C., La Mantia, M., Lo Re, G. F., Martines, V., Zerbo, S., Albano, G. D., Malta, G., & Argo, A. (2024). Femicide Circumstances And Harmfulness: Case Report And Focusing Review. *Diagnostics*, 14(13), 1360.
- Tănăsescu, G. (2025). Moral Personality, Prereflexive Inhibition And The Importance Of The Process Of Internalizing Moral Values. *Scientia Moralitas-International Journal Of Multidisciplinary Research*, 10(2), 412–423.
- Tijjani, H. (2020). Criminological Appraisal Of Terrorism As Crime Of Passion. *Emerging Trends In Conflict Resolution, Peace And Strategic Studies*, 43.
- Triatmanto, B., & Bawono, S. (2023). The Interplay Of Corruption, Human Capital, And Unemployment In Indonesia: Implications For Economic Development. *Journal Of Economic Criminology*, 2(February), 100031. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.Jeconc.2023.100031>