

**EMPATHY AND TRAIT CYNICISM AS PREDICTOR VARIABLES  
TOWARD MORAL DISENGAGEMENT IN SEXUAL CRIME  
INMATES AT KARAWANG PENITENTIARY CLASS IIA**

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**ABSTRACT**

*Sexual crime is a serious topic and the number continues to increase every year. The increasing number of victims illustrates that the sexual crimes that occur do not stop and are increasingly difficult to contain. According to data obtained from Correctional Institution Klas IIA Karawang, until August 2021, there were 89 sexual crimes inmates. One of the internal factors of individuals committing sexual crimes is not being able to regulate themselves not to engage in sexual behaviour that is deviant, harmful, coercive, and even hurting others. Inactive moral regulation is called moral disengagement. Bandura (1999) states that several factors influence moral disengagement, including empathy and trait cynicism. This research was conducted to see how the role of empathy and trait cynicism on moral disengagement. The method used in this study is quantitative. The technique used is a saturated sample by making the entire population as a sample, namely 89 prisoners. Data were collected using three Likert scales, the empathy scale, trait cynicism scale and the moral disengagement scale. The data analysis of this research used multiple regression analysis. Based on the result of data analysis, shows that empathy has a negative role in moral disengagement. It means that the higher empathy, the less active moral disengagement. The trait cynicism variable shows no influence of trait cynicism as a variable predictor on moral disengagement. The result of this study indicated that empathy and trait cynicism together influence moral disengagement in sexual offenders in the Karawang Class IIA Correctional Institution, with a significance value of 0.020 smaller than 0.05 or  $p < 0.05$ .*

*Keywords: Sexual Crimes, Empathy, Trait Cynicism, Moral Disengagement*