



### TV DOCUMENTARY PRODUCTION "THE EXISTENCE OF FAKE NUMBER PLATES"

**Tuty Mutiah<sup>1</sup>, Andi Setyawan<sup>2</sup>, Fajar Muharam<sup>3</sup>, Adityo Fajar<sup>4</sup>, Ken Norton Hutasoit<sup>5</sup>,  
Bonardo Marulitua A<sup>6</sup>, A Rafiq<sup>7</sup>**

#### Abstract

This research was conducted to find out more about how behind the making of fake plates and why people prefer to use fake number plate making services instead of making them from official institutions (samsat). This documentary film uses the field research method. Field Research is research conducted directly into the field in order to obtain complete and valid data. This research aims to find out the activities of buying and selling fake plates of motorised vehicle numbers in terms of Law Number 22 Year 2009 and Indonesian law in Tangerang City. In addition, it is also to find out the process of buying and selling vehicle number plates because the problem is that the object (Fake Motor Vehicle Number Plates) being traded can be detrimental to the buyer because there is article 68 in the Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 22 of 2009 concerning road traffic and transportation which prohibits the use of these goods. Based on the results of documentary production, it is found that the reason people use the service of making paslu number plates is because the original plate is damaged, avoiding the police to get a ticket, and also the reason for avoiding bureaucracy related to Foreign Citizens (WNA).

Keywords: Number Plate, TNKB, Crime

#### Abstrak

*Penelitian ini dilakukan untuk mengetahui lebih jauh bagaimana di balik pembuatan plat nomor palsu dan mengapa masyarakat lebih memilih menggunakan jasa pembuatan plat nomor palsu*

---

<sup>1</sup> Universitas Bina Sarana Informatika, email: [tuty.ttt@bsi.ac.id](mailto:tuty.ttt@bsi.ac.id)

<sup>2</sup> Universitas Bina Sarana Informatika, email: [andi.aet@bsi.ac.id](mailto:andi.aet@bsi.ac.id)

<sup>3</sup> Universitas Bina Sarana Informatika, email: [fajar.fhm@bsi.ac.id](mailto:fajar.fhm@bsi.ac.id)

<sup>4</sup> Universitas Bina Sarana Informatika, email: [adityo9589@gmail.com](mailto:adityo9589@gmail.com)

<sup>5</sup> Universitas Bina Sarana Informatika, email: [kennortonhs@gmail.com](mailto:kennortonhs@gmail.com)

<sup>6</sup> Universitas Bina Sarana Informatika, email: [bonardoarios10@gmail.com](mailto:bonardoarios10@gmail.com)

<sup>7</sup> Universitas Bina Sarana Informatika, email: [arafiq.afq@bsi.ac.id](mailto:arafiq.afq@bsi.ac.id)

*dibandingkan dengan membuat plat nomor di lembaga resmi (samsat). Film dokumenter ini menggunakan metode field research. Field Research adalah penelitian yang dilakukan secara langsung ke lapangan guna mendapatkan data yang lengkap dan valid. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui kegiatan jual beli plat nomor kendaraan bermotor palsu ditinjau dari Undang-Undang Nomor 22 Tahun 2009 dan hukum Indonesia di Kota Tangerang. Selain itu juga untuk mengetahui proses jual beli pelat nomor kendaraan bermotor karena permasalahannya adalah objek (Pelat Nomor Kendaraan Bermotor Palsu) yang diperjualbelikan dapat merugikan pihak pembeli karena terdapat pasal 68 dalam Undang-Undang Republik Indonesia Nomor 22 Tahun 2009 tentang lalu lintas dan angkutan jalan yang melarang penggunaan barang tersebut. Berdasarkan hasil produksi dokumenter, ditemukan bahwa alasan masyarakat menggunakan jasa pembuatan plat nomor palsu adalah karena plat asli rusak, menghindari polisi agar tidak kena tilang, dan juga alasan menghindari birokrasi terkait Warga Negara Asing (WNA).*

**Kata kunci:** Pelat Nomor, TNKB, Kejahatan

## INTRODUCTION

A number plate is a motor vehicle identification mark. In general, vehicle number plates consist of a combination of letters and numbers. Each has a specific meaning that indicates the region or city of origin of the vehicle. Every motorised vehicle on the road must have a number plate or TNKB (Motor Vehicle Number Sign) on the front and back (Abidin, 2018). The rapid development of technology and people's needs for means of transport make more people choose to use private vehicles than public vehicles. Even though the central and local governments have tried to provide mass transportation modes to facilitate people's mobilisation needs. The legal ownership of a private vehicle requires the existence of a vehicle number certificate or STNK which contains complete data of the vehicle owned and is marked with a motor vehicle number mark that is attached to the vehicle in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations (Law no 22 Year 2009). Everyone who wants to drive must have complete driving licences and vehicle ownership papers and other aspects required for motorists. If this is not applied there will be legal sanctions for violators, ranging from fines to imprisonment, and probation.

In Indonesia, the vehicle number itself is called the police number (nopol) and relates to the information of a particular vehicle that has been registered, for example, the serial number of the vehicle, the colour of the vehicle, the year of manufacture of the vehicle and the name and address of the owner of the vehicle that has been listed on the vehicle registration certificate (STNK). This rule is made so that the plate number is uniform and the same used by motorists in each region. Even though there is an official regulation, there are still people who use unofficial number plates for various reasons, usually these unofficial number plate users argue to avoid even odd regulations or also because the vehicle they own is an unofficial or unregistered vehicle (bodong) (Afita, 2021). Some people still ignore these rules in driving, which results in cat-and-mouse activities with law enforcement. Even though if we want to examine further, the existence

## Nivedana: Journal of Communication and Language

Sekolah Tinggi Agama Buddha Negeri Raden Wijaya Wonogiri  
Volume 5, Number 2, July 2024 / [nivedana@radenwijaya.ac.id](mailto:nivedana@radenwijaya.ac.id)

of this traffic regulation is precisely to protect the driver himself from all kinds of threats and dangers that can occur at any time on the road.

These fake number plates are provided by unauthorised number plate manufacturing service providers who are easily found on every public road in every corner of the capital city, and they even open their illegal service businesses openly. This activity has even existed long before the rise of new car brands entering Indonesia such as those from Korea and China. Vehicle number plate forgery can take many forms, including falsifying the vehicle registration number, region code, validity period, and size of the vehicle number plate. In fact, falsification related to vehicle number plates is mostly done in the validity period section, this is because owners do not pay vehicle taxes for various reasons including economic factors or are reluctant to take care of the bureaucracy of vehicle tax payments which are considered ineffective and efficient. In addition, a widespread offence of making fake number plates is changing the size of vehicle number plates from those regulated in the law (Imelda, 2016). This change in size standards is largely due to aesthetic factors, related to modifying motorised vehicles to suit the wishes of the vehicle owner.

Based on the background of the problem mentioned above, this research aims to find out the Practice of Buying and Selling Fake Plates of Motor Vehicle Numbers in Review of Law Number 22 of 2009 and Indonesian law in Tangerang City. As well as to find out the process of buying and selling vehicle number plates because the problem is that the object (Fake Motor Vehicle Number Plates) being traded can be detrimental to buyers related to article 68 in the Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 22 of 2009 concerning road traffic and transportation which prohibits the use of these goods (Jupri, et al, 2020). Therefore, the documentation of the practice of making fake number plates will be a recommendation for policy makers to be more strict in monitoring the use of fake plates on motorised vehicles. In order to raise awareness in the community, complying with traffic regulations is basically for the security and safety of the drivers themselves.

## **METHOD**

The research method used in the TV documentary "Behind the Fake Number Plate" is field research. Field research is an intensive study of the background of the current situation, and the interaction of a social, individual, group, institution, and society. Field research is also considered a broad approach in qualitative research. The important idea of this type of research is that researchers go to the field to make direct observations about a phenomenon that occurs. Field Research is research conducted directly into the field in order to obtain complete and valid data (Usman, 2006).

The approach In conducting this empirical type of research, researchers use a qualitative approach with descriptive characteristics. Bogdan and Biklen argue that one of the characteristics of qualitative research is descriptive data. Because if traced, qualitative research is a form of research that requires a reduction process that comes from interviews, observations or a number of documents. The data will later be summarised and selected so that they can be included in the appropriate category. In the end, the end of all qualitative data analysis activities lies in the description or narration related to the problem under study. This description or narrative is what

## **Nivedana: Journal of Communication and Language**

Sekolah Tinggi Agama Buddha Negeri Raden Wijaya Wonogiri  
Volume 5, Number 2, July 2024 / [nivedana@radenwijaya.ac.id](mailto:nivedana@radenwijaya.ac.id)

is called descriptive (Emzir, 2010). The data collection techniques in this research are interviews and documentation. Interview is a data collection technique carried out through face-to-face and direct question and answer between data collectors and researchers to sources or data sources. Interviews were conducted with the owner of the number plate making service business, and documentation was carried out by recording and videoing all information obtained from interviews with informants. Data collection in this study was carried out by observing the place where fake number plates are sold around the Ciledug, Cipondoh and Joglo areas. After obtaining permission from the informants concerned, we then used interview and documentation techniques to carry out the research.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

The fake number plate trading business named "Panjang Makmur Sepesialis Pelat Nomer" is located on Jl. Joglo Raya Kec. Kembangan West Jakarta. The owner of the business named Mr Sugiman has been running this service business for 8 years. The reason for choosing to run a business is because he does not want to be far from his family and already has 2 branches with 3 employees. During the 8 years of business, the demand for the manufacture of vehicle number plates basically varies greatly. However, the most common reason is to avoid legal sanctions. There are still many motorised vehicle users who are not orderly in the rules of driving on the road, and use this plate making service as a means to solve the problems they face briefly and cheaply.

Before building this business he initially learnt from his brother for one year in the Serpong area, his operating hours start from 7am and close at 12pm. The days that usually have a lot of orders are Friday - Sunday from morning to evening. Usually the services that are more ordered by consumers are making number plates to house numbers. The most requested number plate models by consumers are double plates, bending plates or planting bolts, there are also standard models. As for the price, it depends on the model and size. Here is the price list:

- a. Motorbike double plate model (pair) for Rp 100,000
- b. Standard motorbike model (one pair) for Rp 60,000
- c. Car plate (one pair) for Rp 140,000
- d. Car plates with lights for Rp 900,000 - Rp 1,500,00.

This business place accepts orders according to consumer demand. The material for making number plates usually uses aluminium and the process of making these number plates is: Measure the length and width of the plate to be made, after which the plate is burned because in order to form the letter of the plate after the combustion process put the letters and numbers according to consumer orders and then printed by knocking so as to form the letters and numbers below after printing the plate is ground to smooth the edges of the plate and then sanded, then spray painted and dried after drying the new sticker is affixed.

There is a difference between number plates made by the police samsat and those made by the roadside, for the manufacture of the samsat, the plate material is thicker because it is not made of pure aluminium, there could be a mixture of iron or something like that, making it difficult to form letters and numbers. For the installation of the police stamp on the plate number,

## **Nivedana: Journal of Communication and Language**

Sekolah Tinggi Agama Buddha Negeri Raden Wijaya Wonogiri  
Volume 5, Number 2, July 2024 / [nivedana@radenwijaya.ac.id](mailto:nivedana@radenwijaya.ac.id)

the maker stated that it was not provided because it was considered something that violated copyright, so the maker did not dare to make it. Although in the field there are many consumers who insist or dare to pay anything to make plates with the police stamp.

Talking about the contradiction in terms of law, the maker emphasises that his production can help consumers in special conditions such as helping motorists whose number plates are lost or damaged, making it easier for customers to make duplicate number plates. In fact, what happens in the field is that often the police come to the place of business to provide education so as not to make number plates with fake stamps, because in addition to being subject to criminal sanctions, it will make many people take shortcuts to make fake plates in this place for reasons of convenience and affordable costs. In addition, avoiding the manufacture of fake number plates will also minimise the occurrence of other accompanying crimes, such as theft and fraud of motor vehicles that are clearly not legal or against the law.

Another production that is also popular with motorists is the manufacture of car plates with lights. This model is quite difficult to make because it takes a lot of steps that must be passed through the process includes: first the edge of the plate is sprayed black, then stickers are attached to it, after the stickers are attached, white paint is sprayed again, wait until it dries and then sprayed white again many times. After drying, the sticker is removed, and a new sticker is affixed. The price of this plate is quite expensive at Rp 1,500,000.

Opinions from customers who prefer to make fake number plates instead of making them from the samsat vary, but on average it is because they got a ticket for driving. The beginning of using services for making fake plates is estimated to be around 2018, especially when e-tickets began to be enforced, after that looking for a repairman or service that makes fake plates for his motorbike, the reason for using this fake plate is because when getting e-tickets and paying taxes are not subject to charges or additional fees. In addition, the results of making plates made by those on the side of the road are good and neat, and can be customised according to the customer's wishes so that they are different from the others.

Basically, customers are already aware of the consequences of using illegal plates, for a reason to avoid the police since the implementation of e-tickets. Since the conventional ticket has been eliminated, customers have started to use fake plates to avoid the electronic ticket. According to him, there is no difference between making plates on the roadside and those in the samsat, but if you make plates on the roadside if there is an error from the paint that is not too neat, you can immediately ask to be corrected rather than making plates received from the samsat so you cannot ask for changes. Drivers who use fake number plates can be charged with criminal offences. It is not uncommon to find motorists using fake number plates in traffic, including foreign nationals. For foreign nationals, making fake number plates is more due to the complicated bureaucracy for foreign vehicle owners. On the other hand, there are restrictions for foreigners in vehicle ownership and driving licences. Therefore, making fake number plates for foreigners is a practical solution to still be able to drive on the roads in Jakarta and surrounding areas.





Picture 1: The owner explains the motorbike number plate model



Picture 2: Printing process of plate letters and numbers



Picture 3: Painting on the plate



Picture 4: Affixing stickers of plate letters and numbers



Figure 5: The process of measuring the aluminium plate material to be made

Picture 6: Car number plate model

### Vehicle Number Plate Requirements

In traffic practice, it is not uncommon to find various traffic violations. Not only Indonesian citizens, traffic offences are also committed by foreigners. One of the violations that is often found is using fake number plates or better known as fake number plates. As recently went viral, a number of photos were captured showing foreigners using fake number plates.

The provisions regarding vehicle number plates in the LLAJ Law are better known as Motor Vehicle Number Signs. Every motorised vehicle operated on the road must be equipped with a Motor Vehicle Number Certificate. The Motor Vehicle Number Sign contains the region code, registration number, and validity period and must meet the requirements of shape, size, colour material, and installation method. Further provisions regarding the Motor Vehicle Number Mark are regulated by Perpolri 7/2021. According to Article 1 point 11 of the Regulation of the National Police 7/2021, the Motor Vehicle Number Mark (TNKB) is a registration and identification mark for motorised vehicles that serves as proof of the legitimacy of the operation

### Nivedana: Journal of Communication and Language

Sekolah Tinggi Agama Buddha Negeri Raden Wijaya Wonogiri  
Volume 5, Number 2, July 2024 / [nivedana@radenwijaya.ac.id](mailto:nivedana@radenwijaya.ac.id)

of motorised vehicles in the form of plates or other materials with certain specifications issued by the National Police (Mita, et al, 2021).

For information, white and black plates are now in effect. The TNKB is currently basic in colour (Wijaya, 2021):

- a. White, black writing for individual motorised vehicles, legal entities, Foreign State Representatives (PNA) and International bodies
- b. Yellow, black lettering for public motorised vehicles
- c. Red, white lettering for government agency motorised vehicles and
- d. Green, black lettering for motor vehicles in free trade zones that receive import duty exemption facilities and based on the provisions of laws and regulations.

#### Sanctions for Using Fake Number Plates

Using fake number plates will clearly be subject to sanctions according to applicable regulations. This is stated in Article 280 of the LLAJ Law which reads as follows. Every person who drives a Motorised Vehicle on the Road that is not fitted with a Motorised Vehicle Number Mark stipulated by the Indonesian National Police as referred to in Article 68 paragraph (1) shall be punished with a maximum imprisonment of 2 (two) months or a maximum fine of Rp 500,000.00 (five hundred thousand rupiah). Then is the fake number plate subject to a ticket? Regarding this matter, it is necessary to refer to the provisions regarding the inspection of motorised vehicles on the road, one of which is the inspection of TNKB, which in Article 4 paragraph (3) of PP 80/2012 includes (Pratiwi, 2018):

- a. Technical specifications of vehicle number signs
- b. Period of validity and
- c. Authenticity

Related to the authenticity (validity) of a number plate, a motor vehicle operated on the road without being equipped with a valid vehicle number plate in accordance with the relevant Vehicle Number Certificate (STNK) or fake number plate is a criminal offence that can be dealt with by issuing a ticket.

#### Motorbike Number Plate Rules

Some motorbike users still install number plates in the wrong position. Reporting from the Instagram account @polantasindonesia, there are two points that must be considered by every motorbike user regarding the installation of number plates (Hairi, 2018).

- a. Number plates on the front are prohibited from being installed on the windshield
- b. The number plate at the rear must be installed on the sepakbor.

The rule is made to make it easier for security personnel and other motorists to see and check the vehicle number. Modifications to the vehicle number on the outside will make it difficult to identify the vehicle number in the event of important matters that require immediate

#### Nivedana: Journal of Communication and Language

Sekolah Tinggi Agama Buddha Negeri Raden Wijaya Wonogiri  
Volume 5, Number 2, July 2024 / [nivedana@radenwijaya.ac.id](mailto:nivedana@radenwijaya.ac.id)

action. Therefore, motorists should install number plates in a reasonable manner without any modifications that change the shape of the plate from its original condition.

#### Characteristics of Fake Number Plates

There are several characteristics of fake vehicle number plates including:

##### a. Plate Material

The police have complete data on the specifications of genuine TNKB. Therefore, any police personnel in the field can easily tell how fake and genuine plates are. Generally, the original vehicle number plates use aluminium alloy material, while the fake versions use iron or ordinary metal. Usually, this can be seen with the naked eye.

##### b. White Line

Genuine vehicle number plates usually have a white line near the plate. Not only that, the writing on this plate is also clearly visible. In contrast to the fake version, the writing on the plate is slightly faded. In addition, the typeface on the original vehicle number plate uses a special font and is unknown to the public to prevent the circulation of counterfeits.

##### c. Paint Material

Genuine TNKB are known to have special paint materials that are not sold freely in the market. So no matter how skilled people are at forging number plates, it won't be easy to replicate exactly.

##### d. Uneven Mould Pattern

The printing pattern is not neat, on the original plate issued by the police there is a white line near the vehicle number plate. Furthermore, the original plate printing pattern has embossed writing or embossing on numbers and letters. The police have detailed rules for the specification of embossed prints, both from the distance, character, to the thickness.

##### e. Odd Number Combinations

The police have a record of this number and letter combination formula. It is a code to indicate that a vehicle belongs to a certain category. However, fake plates generally have an odd combination of numbers that are easily recognised by the police on duty in the field. Of course, the act of counterfeiting number plates has the potential to be penalised with a fine.

#### Vehicle Number Plate Colour Regulation

Currently, there is a regulation on vehicle number plates that have white writing and black background colour so that they have black writing and white background. Based on Police Regulation No. 7 of 2021, or more precisely in article 45 paragraph 1a. It is explained that TNKB for vehicles belonging to individuals, legal entities, representatives of foreign countries, and international bodies will have a white background colour with black writing. The purpose of changing the colour of the vehicle number plate to white with black writing is to support the performance of ETLE (Electronic Traffic Law Enforcement) cameras which are currently spread in several regions in Indonesia. In addition, there are other colour rules for vehicle number plates.

- a. Yellow background colour with black writing for public vehicles.

#### **Nivedana: Journal of Communication and Language**

Sekolah Tinggi Agama Buddha Negeri Raden Wijaya Wonogiri  
Volume 5, Number 2, July 2024 / [nivedana@radenwijaya.ac.id](mailto:nivedana@radenwijaya.ac.id)



- b. Red background colour with white writing for government agency vehicles.
- c. Green background colour with black lettering for vehicles in free trade areas with duty-free facilities.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that for vehicle users who use fake plates there are regulations that have been set by the Police. The regulation explains Further provisions regarding Motor Vehicle Number Signs are regulated by Police Regulation 7/2021. with Perpolri 7/2021. According to Article 1 point 11 of PR 7/2021, the Motor Vehicle Number Mark (TNKB) is a registration and identification mark for motorised vehicles that functions as proof of the legitimacy of the operation of motorised vehicles in the form of plates or other materials with certain specifications issued by the National Police.

While the sanctions that will be imposed for vehicle users using fake plates will be subject to criminal articles and snares. Every person who drives a Motorised Vehicle on a Road that is not fitted with a Motorised Vehicle Number Mark stipulated by the Indonesian National Police as referred to in Article 68 paragraph (1) shall be punished with a maximum imprisonment of 2 (two) months or a maximum fine of Rp 500,000.00 (five hundred thousand rupiah).

Although the business of making fake plates is illegal, there are still many people who are helped by the existence of fake plate making services for various reasons including, because the original plate is damaged, avoiding the police to get a ticket, and also reasons to avoid bureaucracy related to Foreign Citizens (WNA).

## REFERENCE

- Abidin, T. F., AzZuhri, A. A., & Arnia, F. 2018. Pengenalan Karakter Pelat Nomor Kendaraan Bermotor Menggunakan Zoning dan Fitur Freeman Chain Code. *Jurnal Rekayasa Elektrika*, 14(1).
- Afita, Chindi Oeliga Yensi. 2021. Penegakan Hukum Terhadap Tindak Pidana Pemalsuan Tanda Nomor Kendaraan Bermotor (TNKB). *DATIN LAW JURNAL* 2, no. 1. <http://dx.doi.org/10.36355/dlj.v2i1.565>.
- Emzir. 2010. *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif Analisis Data*, (Jakarta: PT RajaGrafindo Persada.
- Hairi, Ridhotul. 2018. Tinjauan Yuridis Terhadap Penggunaan Plat Nomor Kendaraan Bermotor Yang Dimodifikasi Di Indonesia. *Jurnal Online Mahasiswa Fakultas Hukum Universitas Pakuan*, Vol.5, No. 2.
- Husaini Usman dkk. 2006. *Metodologi Penelitian Sosial*. Jakarta, PT. Bumi Aksara.
- Imelda. 2016. Penegakan Hukum Pidana Terhadap Pemalsuan Pelat Nomor Polisi Pada Pemeriksaan Kendaraan Lalu Lintas Di Jalan Raya Oleh Satuan Lalu Lintas Polisi Resor Kota Pekanbaru Berdasarkan Undang-Undang Nomor 22 Tahun 2009 Tentang Lalu Lintas Dan Angkutan Jalan, *Jurnal Online Mahasiswa Fakultas Hukum Universitas Pakuan* Vol.3, No. 2 .

- Jupri, Jupri, Yoslan Koni dan Roy Marten Moonti. 2020. Penyelesaian Perkara Lalu Lintas Berbasis Elektronik dalam Upaya Mengurangi Penumpukan Perkara Dan Pungutan Liar. *AlIshlah Jurnal Ilmiah Hukum* 23, no. 2 . <https://doi.org/10.33096/aijih.v23i2.52>
- P. R. 2009. Indonesia, Undang-undang Republik Indonesia nomor 22 tahun 2009 tentang lalu lintas dan angkutan jalan.
- Pratiwi, R. 2018. “Jual Beli Plat Kendaraan Bermotor dalam Konteks Sosiologis Perspektif Hukum Ekonomi Syariah”, Doctoral dissertation, IAIN Metro.
- Mita Fitrianti, SHE, Faruk, A, Triana, Neni. 2021. Praktik Jual Beli Pelat Palsu Nomor Kendaraan Bermotor Ditinjau Dari Undang-Undang Nomor 22 Tahun 2009 Dan Hukum Islam (Studi Kasus Kecamatan Muara Bulian Kabupaten Batanghari Provinsi Jambi). Jambi: Universitas Islam Negeri Sulthan Thaha Saifuddin.
- Wijaya , Putu Dedi Ananta Putra .2021. Pengaturan Penggunaan Tanda Nnokor Kendaraan Bermotor Tidak Resmi Dalam Prespektif Undang-Undang Lalu Lintas. Vol 10, No 12. *Jurnal Ilmu Hukum Kertha Wicara*. Bali: Universitas Udayana.