

## **Local Government Behavioral Intervention, Social Public Opinion Supervision, and Improvement of Legal Protection Mechanisms: Sports News as an Example to Promote the Objectivity Level**

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doi:10.52152/23.2.151-177(2025)

ISSN 1581-5374 Print/1855-363X Online © 2025 Lex localis

Available online at <http://journal.lex-localis.press>

**Abstract** This study explores how local government interventions, public opinion supervision, and legal protection mechanisms can enhance objectivity in sports news reporting. It investigates the relationship between administrative policies and media practices in delivering unbiased information. A quantitative approach using Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) with SmartPLS software is employed to analyze the key indicators. Data were collected from a sample of 280 individuals, including government officials, administrators, legal enforcement agencies, and local representatives, using a structured questionnaire. Findings reveal that local authorities play a vital role in promoting objectivity by issuing regulatory guidelines and providing education for journalists. Public opinion supervision—particularly through citizen feedback—also contributes to media governance, fostering transparency and accountability. Furthermore, robust legal frameworks are essential in protecting journalistic integrity and ensuring accurate information dissemination. The study concludes that the objectivity of sports media reporting can be strengthened through the collaborative efforts of local governance, active public engagement, and supportive legislation. These findings provide a foundation for policymakers and media regulators to develop governance frameworks aimed at enhancing media credibility and reducing bias across various media sectors.

**Keywords:** • local government • behavioral intervention • social public opinion supervision • legal protection mechanisms • objectivity level promotion and policy introduction

## 1 Introduction

It is also worth noting that the people who run the establishment of local government through presidents, mayors and other holders of such offices have a great role in policy formulation and implementation on behalf of the citizens. The local governments' entities are therefore considered to be the suitable and effective tools for addressing community-specific issues due to their closeness to the people and the ability to set specific regulations to suit the present needs. Local administrations face a number of critical issues but perhaps the most important among them is that of being responsive, responsible, and accountable in their policies and actions. This introduction section analyzes the proposed approach combining local government behavioral intervention, social public opinion supervision, and the improvement of legal protection mechanisms in the sports news realm as an example of legal environment and how these three elements can help increase objectivity and public trust.

Recent trends in local government indicate that some of them are employing strategies based on theories of behavioral sciences to encourage desirable behavior by the public. This approach will be mainly based on learning from the working of behavior economics and psychology so that citizens are inspired to behave positively without force. Evidence of this could be policies initiated by local governments to entice residents to be physically active by providing better sports facilities and organizing more available sports' events for people in this area (Weimer, 2005). There have been interventions that have been introduced to improve the health standards for these communities and the success of these interventions depends on the design and implementation of the intervention and also the extent to which it reflects the needs and values of the population under consideration. However, while each tool has been individually studied in various domains of public policy, their integrated application by local governments in regulating media objectivity, especially within the specific context of sports news remains notably underexplored (L. Wang, 2022). At the same time, the focus of local governments on supervision information about the behavior of social public opinion is one of the crucial factors of its activity (Fabbri & Padula, 2004). Online mediums and digital communication channels have transformed the way public sentiments are expressed and managed both positively and negatively for local executive governing bodies. We might argue that these platforms can provide a plethora of real-time data that helps to regulate policies and measure public support. An imbalanced information flow can also cause misinterpretation of the information provided and even lead to increased polarization (Lupu, 2013). It turns out that this control based on the supervision of social public opinion implies: monitoring and following the thinking of citizens in social networks; refutation of false information; addressing the population so that people would more actively think about news and information for their lives (Roland & Verdier, 2003). The

institutional arrangements are the legal instruments that guarantee the just and fair implementation of the local government policies. Some of the mechanisms entail the promotion of rule of law to ensure citizens' rights are adhered to and the development of guidelines that support the cooperation as well as effective channels through which such issues can be addressed (Lerner & Schoar, 2005). Little attention has been paid to the administrative and policy mechanisms through which local governments can moderate these trends and promote objectivity in sports coverage through structured interventions (Sapir & Karachev, 2020). Legal rights might, for instance, promote freedom in reporting about sports events so that media houses do not limit journalists' freedom to report in order to avoid being antagonized by certain sports organizations or other powerful players in sports. Improving these systems entails not only updating laws and compliance systems but also ensuring that such works are disseminated and implemented at the local levels (Krieger & Davis, 2018).

Sports news will be the ideal example to use in order to look at these dynamics. Sports journalists, given the fact that journalism in general attracts much public attention and emotional involvement, are under intense pressure and confront various degrees of bias. The use of behavioral intervention by local governments in shaping the ethical behavior of media practitioners, including sports journalists, remains a neglected area of research. The potential of such interventions to promote journalistic integrity, minimize sensationalism, and ensure more accurate reporting remains vastly untapped (Zhao & Li, 2023). There are a number of possible functions that local government can perform at this stage. For example, local governments may come in to impose ethical standards on sports and stimulate fair play and sports' integrity and they may also regulate sports betting and safety of sports facilities for the public. More importantly, by soliciting the involvement of sports journalists and the media in public life, local governments can play a significant role in ensuring that sports news in these societies is reported in an objective and responsible manner (Margoni, 2016).

Combining behavioral interventions, public opinion supervision, and legal protection can help to provide various factors that contribute to the objectivity and credibility of sports news. Similar interventions can be implemented to stimulate ethical behaviors among news practitioners such as transparency and accountability. One such area is through public opinion supervision where bias and disinformation can be curbed by identifying their sources and eliminating them from spreading such forms of information. When combined, these strategies can enable sports media stakeholders to make communications more trustworthy and reliable (Y. Wang, Tan, & Kong, 2022). Public opinion surrounding sports events, teams, or athletes can escalate rapidly, influencing not only media content but also local government resource allocation, legal disputes, and even public order. Nonetheless, empirical studies that examine how local governments

supervise and respond to such opinion dynamics in the specific context of sports journalism are rare (Scaif, 2019). In brief, the issue of coordination of the behavioral interventions cannot be successfully resolved without the active participation of the local government system and its personnel in regulating the actions of the social public opinion agents, coordinating their activities with those of the legal protection mechanisms. These tools can help local governments not only to empower, improve, and make their policies fairer, but also bring citizens' participation to a new level. The case of sports news reveals how they work in synergy to promote objectivity and public trust and hence gives some direction on how other areas of public administration should perform. With the backdrop of the current changes in the local governments, the above principles will be significant as the governments embrace change to become responsive in the ever-changing world (Zhao & Li, 2023).

The research problem is therefore centred on establishing the factors associated with implementation of local policies and rendering of services by the local governance systems in the context of the community. Optimizing decentralization and development: The global move toward decentralizing authority while promoting accountability, transparency and the proper functioning of governance structures remains a challenge in many regions as does recruiting the necessary resources to guarantee responsiveness to local needs. The problem is also prevalent in the relationship between local government and citizens as well as little or poor citizen engagement and poor internal mechanisms for overseeing these functions may adversely affect governance. This work aims at identifying the course of successful local governance, concentrating on structures to include the opinion of the people, the legal frameworks, and interventions through behavior modification.

The research literature void in the investigation of local government actions in the news media sphere of sports coverage is: how limited understanding of how local policies impact the media landscape; lack of research on the question of whether behavior interventions work and how they are implemented; absence of study of public opinion oversight and legal mechanisms and administrative processes at the local government level. Most of the current research conducted on the media regimes cover largely national or global media environments, excluding the influence of specific governmental control on different media organizations in the local settings. It is therefore important for the researchers to carry out further studies to explore the areas of how local governments can positively promote objectivity in sports news reporting through specific policies and practices.

This led to objectives: (i) To assess the impact of local government behavioral interventions on the objectivity of sports news reporting, including the evaluation of training programs, incentives, and penalties, and to identify best practices for

promoting ethical journalism. (ii) To examine the effectiveness of mechanisms used by local governments for supervising social public opinion on sports news, including monitoring systems and feedback mechanisms, and to analyze their role in fostering transparency and accountability in media practices. (iii) To investigate the legal protection mechanisms implemented by local governments to safeguard the objectivity of sports news reporting, including the review of existing legal frameworks, proposed reforms, and enforcement mechanisms, and to propose recommendations for enhancing legal safeguards against biased reporting and ethical violations.

## **2 Literature review**

The major variables that were addressed will be reviewed in the literature. These variables are objectivity level promotions, behavior interventions, social public opinion, legal protection and legal enforcement. Based on the literature hypothesized relationships are also established.

### **2.1 Objectivity level promotions**

Objectivity Level Promotion (OLP) is a multitasked framework that targets the improvement of decision-evaluation un-prejudiced ness regarding a wide range of areas. It includes techniques that tackle discrimination and promote neutrality in activities such as studying, working, getting media coverage or legal help, or learning at school. Within the realm of research, OLP advocates open practices that ensure transparency in methods and reporting to make findings more replicable and trustworthy. OLP is planning to introduce commonly accepted peer review procedures and principles of ethical behavior with the intention of reducing the influences of observer bias and improve the reputation of scholarly works (Siebert, 1913). Another area in which OLP plays a key role is in business and management where it emphasizes the need for setting effective objectives, performance standards for promotions and assessments. It will reduce chances of biases and unfair treatment and other forms of discrimination that organizations more often than not engage in due to the presence of their leader. The use of evidence-based decision-making provides even further objectivity since numerous decisions are made on empirical data rather than on feelings and personal ideas. When it comes to media and journalism the OLP emphasizes the role of professional ethics in this field and they do this by placing an additional emphasis on standards of accuracy, balance and impartiality (Hildebrandt & Koops, 2010). By identifying misinformation and reporting multiple opinions and potential conflicts of interest, journalists could increase the trustworthiness of information or make information more trustworthy. In the domain of the legal and legal systems, OLP aims at helping courts and judicial bodies to decide cases in the light of facts and the law as opposed to politics or prejudices. This includes

developing equal opportunities in the practice of the law, improving cultural awareness among lawyers, and building more inclusive diversity within the legal profession (Hampson, 2014). In academic disciplines, OLP pushes for the creation of assessment systems and teaching techniques that focus less on misconceptions and more on the potential for a factual examination of student performance. Teachers can train students to think critically and rationally and help them conduct independent analyses of problems and facts and reach objective conclusions.

## 2.2 Behavioral interventions

In this way, behavioral interventions are now the core element of any local government agency particularly in the process of administrative process. This literature review focuses on the effectiveness of the behavioral interventions in administration and the influence of the effective behavioral intervention on local government administration: an assessment of behavioral interventions and the policies that support behavior. It is therefore necessary to mention that managing behavior for the local authority implies the need to control the manifestation of several behavior by citizens in the system of local governance. Some of the most positive behavioral interventions that are based on Behavioral and Cognitive Economics psychology have been successful approaches to changing decision making behavior and shaping behaviors (K. C. W. Chen, Chen, & Wei, 2009). These interventions range from soft hints or default choices to direct incentives or educative systems depending on the nature of the policy in question. Today, local governments in many parts of the world implement behavioral interventions to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of service delivery and the compliance levels of citizens with rules and regulations. For example, opt out of the default options for the organ donation registration has led to a higher rate of individuals giving their organs when they die (Adams, 1987). Likewise, the use of social norms like public messaging has been proven to be effective in creating an energy-conserving and waste-saving culture. There must also be policies and institutional environments that will support the effectiveness of behavioral interventions in the local government sector. Policy clarity and full support in terms of resources will facilitate the interventions' spread at scale the level set by (Yao, Liu, & Stephens, 2020). Furthermore, there is the argument that the work highlights the impossibility of having a multilayer strategy without the contribution of diverse governmental levels and non-state actors. Issues of policy frameworks are therefore very critical in the development and execution of behavioral practices in local governments. Legal provisions that allow using behavioral insights in the policy decisions and assessing the impact of policy developments also contribute to the positive attitude towards innovative approaches. Another is supervision and evaluation methods to be able to monitor the progress of the intervention and correct the intervention processes where it fails to give results as expected through evidence based decision making

frameworks (Boomgaarden & Vreese, 2006). Generally, the concept of behavioral interventions presents several areas in which behavioral interventions are useful to improve the local government performance of citizens as well as the policy effectiveness of the local government. Its enforcement will have to depend on many aspects – policy backing, effectiveness of institutional engagement, and the establishment of a strong evaluation mechanism to ensure sustainability and overall success of the administrative objectives (Zhou & Moy, 2007).

### 2.3 Social public opinion

Scholars have extensively studied the interconnection between social public opinion and governmental administration to inform it has a complex relationship that affects the implementation of policies from different levels. The level of support or opposition the community members have regarding a particular action that might be taken by the administration or a particular strategy that might be employed by the local government is another aspect that can be referred to as judgment. Recent studies also show that the ability of the local government to consider the opinions of the public over selected issues for policy formation and satisfaction with policies are largely dependent on each other (Brookes, Lewis, & Wahl-Jorgensen, 2004). One of the forms of administration that the public deals with in a more intimate way as compared to other forms of administration is the local government which quickly reflects the changes in social views. The literature review in this paper argues that the trust and legitimacy of local governments are significantly increased when they are involved in decision-making and when they address the interests of their constituents. This can involve such methods of engagement as public consultations, surveys, processes of participatory budgeting which allow to reconcile the actions of governmental and societal preferences (Aalberg et al., 2013). The administration's reaction to social public opinion is not only the feature of democracy but also the efficacy of management. Scholars such as Page and Shapiro further demonstrate that responsive governments lead to acceptance and success in policy implementation. This alignment enhances the acceptance of government policies and also improves the overall impact of such policies (Yao et al., 2020). Part of the factors that affect policy development at the local government level is public perception due to the fact that many local issues need to be locally dealt with and solved in a way that is more accommodative to the public. Policy awareness shows that all local governments that adopt policies concerning the opinions of the public can address issues better and also promote a sense of belonging and participation of members of the population (L. Wang, 2022). In addition, the use of public opinion in the administrative decision-making process is necessary for the organization to be accountable. Referring to the argument incorporating public opinion into policy-making ensures the openness of governmental processes and facilitates greater accountability of the administration to the people. This level of openness is necessary to keep the public informed as



well as to foster transparency in the government. Thus, there is enough evidence that confirms the direct influence of public opinion on the administrative activities and the policy of local government. The formation of public opinions and responses is thus not only beneficial to the people but is also useful in the policy implementation to achieve higher levels of effectiveness and responsiveness of local governments to such policy sectors as health and welfare (Scheufele, Nisbet, & Ostman, 2005).

## 2.4 Legal protection

Legal protection in the context of administration, local government, and policies means a wide variety of rules aimed at governing the state in particular cases in order to protect the public interests and to make the administration and policy accountable and transparent. Administrative law plays a significant role in the conduct of government agencies because it allows creation of effective control over their actions. This type of law ensures that there are ways to appeal in case one disagrees with an action by an administrator or another type of official and that there are consequences for violating the public's rights; thus, it is also appropriate (Anastasio, Rose, & Chapman, 1999). Local regulatory environment is also significant in achieving legal protection at the local level. These policies cover diverse aspects of the local community including the zoning laws, the public health regulations as well as the local ordinances. They are important in local politics and governing local administrations to see that local governments do not distort their communities' interests. Local legal mechanisms for ensuring democracy and good governance local laws in place may involve provisions for citizen participation and citizen engagement in the decision-making process thus, increasing the level of citizens' participation, enhances the level of legal accountability and legal transparency of the legal environment (Perrin & McFarland, 2011). The process of implementing policies has conditions that stipulate how these policies should be developed, carried out, and assessed locally. These regulations guarantee that legal standards are applied in local governments and thus establish a platform for legal control of local government actions. Such regulations are most effective when they are which can be made and supplemented as necessary to meet new challenges and ensure that administrative abuses are avoided (Conroy, Dunlap, Clarke, & Alter, 2005). Ethics and anti-corruption policies aimed at legal protection in local government also remind us of their relevance. It is not uncommon for local governments to be mandated to promulgate ethical standards and set up ethics boards of the first instance to handle complaints related to public officials' ethical standards. These measures aim at maintaining integrity and transparency in the local governing placements (Yeung et al., 2016).

## 2.5 Legal enforcement

The implementation of laws is one of the vital tasks of justice and specifically that of the local authorities. The contribution of legal interventions in the local government has a direct impact on policy implementation and public order. The local governments have huge roles in improving people's lives as they are the closest level of government to the citizens and they deal with laws and regulations that touch daily human life and the people expect the most from their local governments (Bradshaw, Waasdorp, & Leaf, 2012). Administrative enforcement involves various organizations/government offices whose mandate is to oversee compliance with the laws and punish violators of the stipulated laws. Such agencies should be fully resourced and staffed with appropriately trained personnel to undertake the said tasks. As stated there are several challenges hindering the effective use of legal enforcement at the municipality level; some of these challenges include insufficient funding and inadequate training which in turn leads to a lack of uniform application of the law therefore causing the people to lose their trust in local governance (Sugai & Simonsen, 2012). This is because local governments tend to adopt special policies in order to address the specific issues that concern their areas of jurisdiction. Such policies should have strong enforcement tools in place to ensure that the policies are implemented. For example, one cannot enforce zoning laws with diminished rigor or overlook public health regulations to protect the environment. Such actions are conducted by local police and regulatory bodies. As Cutler (2004) notes, the services of local police departments strive for more than just preventing crime; they also deal with the requirements set forth by local ordinances and regulations. However, the enforcement of the policies at the regional level is also sometimes determined by political, social, and economic reasons. The officials in charge have to be mindful of this fact while following an evenhanded approach towards enforcement. Political influence may result in a situation where only some areas and individuals are targeted for enforcement, which violates the principle of the rule of law and reduces the public's trust in the political system. It is only possible through strict adherence to the requirements for fairness and impartiality in all processes and actions to preserve legitimacy and citizens' trust.

## 2.6 Hypothesis development

Hypotheses for local government are developed by identifying the effectiveness of behavioral treatment and social public supervision on the policy outcomes. It is therefore important that there be legal safeguards available to citizens in the protection of their rights within these policies. These factors' interplay defines the more comprehensive and adaptive policy frameworks. Lastly, it promotes desirable social change and increases the citizens' trust in local governance institutions.

### **2.6.1 The effect of behavioral intervention, social public opinion, legal protection on objectivity level promotion**

Ethical intervention, public attitudes, and legal safeguards form integral drivers for improving the objectivity level in local government administration and policies. Training aimed at education, and other behavior modification programs, helps officials of local government to learn how to make decisions free from biases. For illustration, decision-making workshops enable administrators to understand and address their cognitive biases in a way that reduces policy making subjectivity which is important for effective policy success (Reimers, Wacker, & Koepl, 1987). Moreover, behavioral science can be utilized to create solutions that promote policies and behaviors that are driven by evidence and transparency. The fact that public opinion also plays a role in shaping the quality of local government policies impacts the overall objectivity of these policies. The belief of people influences the administrative act by keeping officials on their toes. Through town hall meetings and other avenues such as consultations and mechanisms for feedback mechanisms from the citizens, the officials are subjected to pressure from the citizens to base their decisions on fact and equitable as opposed to officials imposing their wishes and desires on the citizens (Collins, Murphy, Nair, & Strecher, 2005). Social media exacerbates this further as it gives citizens the avenue to air their views and make strong arguments that lead to a response from local politicians rather faster than traditional media hence promoting accountability in local governance. The law enforces objectivity in local governments since it can take a stand in cases where the sides do not agree. Finally, legal structures like anti-corruption and accessibility to the Ombudsman Offices to make complaints about biased administrative decisions also offer avenues for the redress of such policies and promote the objectivity in the policy implementation process. In conclusion, all three of these elements the behavioral intervention, the social public opinion and the legal protection create a strong bundle for supporting the objectivity of local government's management and policies. By promoting accountability; fighting corruption; and supporting legality these aspects put together allow for more just and appropriate governance within the local sphere (Sapir & Karachev, 2020).

H1: There is an association between behavioral intervention and objectivity level promotion.

H2: There is an association between social public opinion and objectivity level promotion.

H3: There is an association between legal protection and objectivity level promotion.

### **2.6.2 The effect of behavioral intervention, social public opinion, legal protection on legal enforcement**

A behavioral aspect, popularity amongst society, and the legal support are other factors that play a substantial role in the implementation of legislation, especially in a local setting. These mechanisms, in turn, enable the interplay of various factors that determine the effectiveness of legal enforcement. The behavioral interventions focus on the behavior of an individual or organization to align it with the laws and regulations mentioned in the case study. These interventions can include awareness programs, education programs, and change-oriented incentive structures. For instance, local governments may educate the citizens through public awareness campaigns so that they may understand why they should comply with the recycling laws or enact laws that motivate the citizens to comply (Wolff, 2011). Social public opinion is an important factor in the decision-making process of local government administration as it determines the formal priorities and actual actions of the local government administrations. Citizens' perceptions are crucial as they shape the particular legal measure's enforcement at local levels to an extent that officials focus on it. That is, for example, if a large percentage of the members of the public lobby for increased police road patrols and enhanced rules for motor vehicle operation, such will be the case. There is a growing public sentiment that social media and local media shape the voice of the public, which individuals can use to monitor local governments (Li, Galley, Brockett, Gao, & Dolan, 2016). Legal rights mechanisms are created to reduce excessive local government actions and assure fair and consistent enforcement of legal controls. The legal force is where legal frameworks are used to initiate enforcement actions whereas the judicial oversight is used to prevent abuse of these actions. This legal protection is necessary for providing reliability to the members of the society during the enforcement of the law. For example, anti-discrimination laws help in this regard by ensuring that local police departments and other local government agencies implement laws against discrimination, which increases community trust and cooperation if such laws are respected. It should be assumed that the local government policies themselves are determined by a desire to achieve a balance between these influences (Scalf, 2019). Distributive local policies work with behavioral economics to promote obedience to the law, reflect the public will to ensure their legitimacy, and conform to legal standards to make sure they are not biased and arbitrary. For instance, to pass laws related to public health, such as vaccination requirements, you need to understand what the public wants, their predispositions towards certain behaviors, and also the legality of such behavior. To sum up, local governments' law implementation is a dynamic and interdisciplinary process subject to behavioral science approaches, public opinions, and legal safeguards. These factors work in synergy to improve the efficiency and equity in local administration and the implementation of policies and practices made under such domains (Mutchler, 2003).

H4: There is an association between behavioral intervention and legal enforcement.

H5: There is an association between social public opinion and legal enforcement.

H6: There is an association between legal protection and legal enforcement.

H7: There is an association between legal enforcement and objectivity level promotion.

### 2.6.3 Legal enforcement as a mediator

Law enforcement plays an important role in the mediation of control and local government especially in the administration of policies. This mediation ensures that the principles of laws and regulations are carried out with equality and fairness for an establishment that guarantees public trust and good governance mechanisms. In the world of bureaucracy, legal coercive bodies are stipulated to the task of regulating government policies and bringing them within the ambit of set laws (Ng, Eby, Sorensen, & Feldman, 2005). This also involves following the proper enforcement of rules and regulations by public servants in order to reduce corruption and exploitation. For example, law interpreters and regulatory bodies often determine how local governance statutes and regulations are implemented and executed in regard to the specific regulations and statutes passed in a given administrative setup. Legal enforcement is vital to the local government level in ensuring the implementation of such policies that are especially relevant to the needs of the community. Enforcement agencies are responsible for compliance with the enacted ordinances, which cover zoning, environmental protection, health, and security topics (Thelen, Schöner, Scheier, & Smith, 2001). For example, the local police and health departments cooperate with each other to implement code health measures in restaurants and other public institutions in the maintenance of the health of the community and adherence to health rules as well. From an implementation perspective, this requires a more localized approach to policy and procedures where discretion and flexibility apply in local conditions as opposed to an over-centralized approach to policy development and enforcement at a wider regional level. Institutionalized bodies such as the police do this by exploring policy and how it may apply in particular geographical spaces. This mediation guarantees that the policy processes are both efficient, and that they understand and recognize local perspectives while still adhering to law and order (Saaty & Ramanujam, 1983). Additionally, local governments typically collaborate with state and federal enforcement agencies to handle numerous complications that they cannot handle alone due to the borders drawn to address issues such as the selling and use of drugs or the situation of illegal immigrants. These collaborations increase the capability of local governments to implement policies with greater efficiency and implement them better by accessing wider resources and expertise. Overall, legal enforcement also acts as a key intermediary in the

processes of administration and local governance to ensure policies are administered (Gilmartin, 2002).

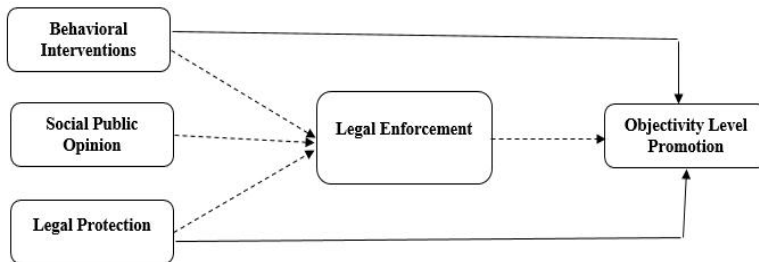
H8: Legal enforcement mediates the relationship between behavioral intervention and objectivity level promotion.

H9: Legal enforcement mediates the relationship between social public opinion and objectivity level promotion.

H10: Legal enforcement mediates the relationship between legal protection and objectivity level promotion.

As illustrated in Figure 1, the conceptual model demonstrates how behavioral interventions, social public opinion, and legal protection influence objectivity through the mediating role of legal enforcement. The study concludes that the objectivity of sports media can be strengthened through the collaborative efforts of local governance, public engagement, and supportive legislation, guiding the development of effective media governance frameworks.

**Figure 1:** Conceptual model



### 3 Research

#### 3.1 Research design

The methods adopted for this study involves the use of quantitative research design in order to explore the relationship that exists between local government, behavioral intervention, social public opinion supervision, legal protection mechanism, legal enforcement, objectivity level promotions and policy development. The research is conducted through a standard questionnaire and the collected data are analyzed using Structural Modeling Analysis (SEM) with the help of SmartPLS software tool.

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### **3.2 Population and sample**

The targeted population for this study consists of 280 individuals from Government Officials and Administrators, Legal Enforcement Agencies, Local Community Members. This population size ensures a sufficient sample for robust statistical analysis using SEM.

### **3.3 Sampling technique**

A stratified random sampling technique is employed to ensure that the sample is representative of the entire population. The strata are based on gender ensuring that each subgroup is proportionately represented.

### **3.4 Data collection method**

Data is collected using a structured questionnaire designed to measure. The questionnaire is distributed online through email, social media, and survey platforms or in-person, depending on the accessibility of the targeted population.

### **3.5 Measure**

The scales that were modified from objectivity level promotion (Weimer, 2005), behavioral intervention, social public opinion (Perrin & McFarland, 2011), legal protection (Hildebrandt & Koops, 2010), and legal enforcement (Gilmartin, 2002).

## **4 Results**

Table 1 is a measure of internal consistency reliability, which assesses how closely related a set of items are as a group. It ranges from 0 to 1, with higher values indicating greater reliability. In Table 1, the data of Alpha, it ranges from 0.751 to 0.811 across different constructs. This is another measure of internal consistency reliability, often used in structural equation modeling (SEM). It's similar to Cronbach's Alpha but is more appropriate for use in SEM. Like Cronbach's Alpha, it ranges from 0 to 1, with higher values indicating greater reliability. In your data, it ranges from 0.793 to 0.817. This is a measure of convergent validity, which assesses the extent to which the items of a construct converge or measure the same underlying concept. It indicates the average amount of variance captured by the construct's items relative to the total amount of variance in the items. AVE values range from 0 to 1, with higher values indicating better convergent validity. In your data, it ranges from 0.523 to 0.569.

**Table 1:** Construct reliability and validity

Variables	$\alpha$	rho_A	CR	AVE
Behavioral Interventions	0.787	0.793	0.853	0.537
Legal Enforcement	0.751	0.814	0.835	0.523
Legal Protection	0.811	0.817	0.868	0.569
Objectivity Level Promotion	0.751	0.808	0.837	0.524
Social Public Opinion	0.810	0.813	0.868	0.569

Table 2 gives the results of Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA) for the measured items. It shows how much each thing relates to their different builds by looking at factor loadings. Behavioral intervention (BI1: 0.687, BI2: 0.789, BI3: 0.758, BI4: 0.725, BI5: 0.699) items likely represent various actions or strategies related to behavioral interventions. Each item's loading represents the strength of its relationship with the underlying construct of behavioral interventions. Higher loadings indicate stronger relationships. Legal enforcement (LE1: 0.816, LE2: 0.802, LE3: 0.294, LE4: 0.796, LE5: 0.766) items likely pertain to different aspects or measures of legal enforcement. Notably, LE3 has a relatively lower loading compared to the others, suggesting it might be less strongly related to the overall construct of legal enforcement. Legal protection (LP1: 0.799, LP2: 0.734, LP3: 0.831, LP4: 0.737, LP5: 0.661) items are probably related to various mechanisms or actions aimed at providing legal protection. All items have moderate to high loadings, indicating a relatively strong relationship with the construct of legal protection. Objectivity level promotion (OLP1: 0.816, OLP2: 0.800, OLP3: 0.317, OLP4: 0.792, OLP5: 0.764) items likely represent efforts or strategies to promote objectivity levels in a certain context. Similar to legal enforcement, OLP3 has a notably lower loading compared to the others. Social public opinion (SPO1: 0.703, SPO2: 0.745, SPO3: 0.784, SPO4: 0.780, SPO5: 0.756) items probably reflect various aspects or dimensions of social public opinion. All items have moderate to high loadings, indicating a strong relationship with the construct of social public opinion.

**Table 2:** Confirmatory factor analysis

Variables	Items	Loading
Behavioral Interventions	BI1	0.687
	BI2	0.789
	BI3	0.758
	BI4	0.725
	BI5	0.699
Legal Enforcement	LE1	0.816
	LE2	0.802
	LE3	0.294
	LE4	0.796
	LE5	0.766
Legal Protection	LP1	0.799



Variables	Items	Loading
	LP2	0.734
	LP3	0.831
	LP4	0.737
	LP5	0.661
	OLP1	0.816
Objectivity Level Promotion	OLP2	0.800
	OLP3	0.317
	OLP4	0.792
	OLP5	0.764
	SPO1	0.703
Social Public Opinion	SPO2	0.745
	SPO3	0.784
	SPO4	0.780
	SPO5	0.756

The diagonal elements in Table 3 represent the square roots of the Average Variance Extracted (AVE) for each construct. These values are used to assess discriminant validity. They should be higher than the correlations between the construct and any other construct in the model. Here's what each diagonal value represents: The square root of the AVE for Behavioral Interventions is 0.733, indicating the AVE is approximately  $0.733^2=0.537$ . This value shows that Behavioral Interventions captures an average of 53.7% of the variance in its items. The square root of the AVE for Legal Enforcement is 0.724, indicating the AVE is approximately  $0.724^2=0.524$ . This means that Legal Enforcement captures an average of 52.4% of the variance in its items. The square root of the AVE for Legal Protection is 0.755, indicating the AVE is approximately  $0.755^2=0.570$ . This shows that Legal Protection captures an average of 57.0% of the variance in its items. The square root of the AVE for Objectivity Level Promotion is 0.724, indicating the AVE is approximately  $0.724^2=0.524$ . This means that Objectivity Level Promotion captures an average of 52.4% of the variance in its items. The square root of the AVE for Social Public Opinion is 0.754, indicating the AVE is approximately  $0.754^2=0.569$ . This shows that Social Public Opinion captures an average of 56.9% of the variance in its items.

**Table 3:** Discriminant validity

Variables	Behavioral Interventions	Legal Enforcement	Legal Protection	Objectivity Level Promotion	Social Public Opinion
Behavioral Interventions	0.733				
Legal Enforcement	0.638	0.724			
Legal Protection	0.661	0.603	0.755		
Objectivity Level Promotion	0.635	1.000	0.597	0.724	
Social Public Opinion	0.559	0.392	0.666	0.389	0.754

Table 4 and Figure 2 show the R-square value means that approximately 47.3% of the variance in Legal Enforcement is explained by the predictors in the model. Indicates a moderate level of explanatory power, suggesting that the independent variables included in the model explain almost half of the variance in Legal Enforcement. This value adjusts the R Square to account for the number of predictors relative to the sample size. At 46.7%, it is slightly lower than R Square, indicating a small reduction to account for the potential overfitting that may occur with multiple predictors. This is a more accurate reflection of the model's explanatory power when considering the number of predictors. This value is extremely high, indicating that 99.9% of the variance in Objectivity Level Promotion is explained by the predictors in the model. Such a high value suggests an almost perfect fit, which could be a sign of overfitting, especially if the model is too complex or if the predictors are highly collinear. Similar to R Square, the Adjusted R Square also remains at 99.9%. This suggests that even after adjusting for the number of predictors, the model still explains almost all of the variance in Objectivity Level Promotion. While impressive, it could indicate potential issues such as multicollinearity or overfitting, particularly given the perfect correlation observed earlier between Legal Enforcement and Objectivity Level Promotion.

**Table 4:** R square

	<b>R Square</b>	<b>R Square Adjusted</b>
Legal Enforcement	0.473	0.467
Objectivity Level Promotion	0.999	0.999

**Figure 2:** Measurement model

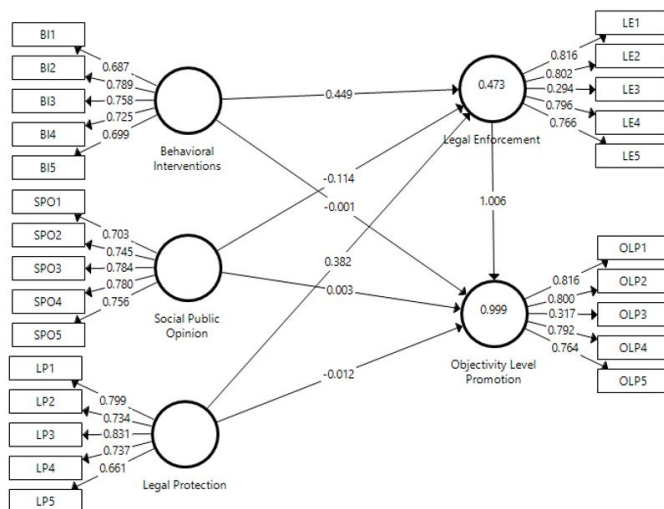


Table 5 talks about how well the model fits. It specifically looks at the Saturated Model's Standardized Root Mean Square Residual (SRMR) value. The SRMR value of 0.109 shows a low difference between the real and expected results. This suggests that theory fits properly, just by looking at these numbers. The Saturated Model is a point of comparison for study. The SRMR score shows that the model works well in expressing links between variables.

**Table 5:** Model fitness

	Saturated Model
SRMR	0.109

Table 6 and Figure 3 show hypothesis testing to understand what they represent and the implications of the results. Behavioral Interventions -> Legal Enforcement. Beta: 0.449, STDEV: 0.054, T Value: 8.341, P Values: 0.000, Results: Accepted. There is a strong, significant positive relationship between Behavioral Interventions and Legal Enforcement. For every standard deviation increase in Behavioral Interventions, Legal Enforcement increases by 0.449 standard deviations. Behavioral Interventions -> Objectivity Level Promotion, Beta: 0.451, STDEV: 0.054, T Value: 8.397, P Values: 0.000 Results: Accepted. There is a strong, significant positive relationship between Behavioral Interventions and Objectivity Level Promotion. For every standard deviation increase in Behavioral Interventions, Objectivity Level Promotion increases by 0.451 standard deviations.

Legal Enforcement -> Objectivity Level Promotion, Beta: 1.006, STDEV: 0.002, T Value: 437.222, P Values: 0.000, Results: Accepted. There is a very strong, significant positive relationship between Legal Enforcement and Objectivity Level Promotion. This extremely high t-value and near-perfect beta suggest potential multicollinearity or redundancy in measurement.

Legal Protection -> Legal Enforcement, Beta: 0.382, STDEV: 0.060, T Value: 6.327, P Values: 0.000, Results: Accepted. There is a significant positive relationship between Legal Protection and Legal Enforcement. For every standard deviation increase in Legal Protection, Legal Enforcement increases by 0.382 standard deviations.

Legal Protection -> Objectivity Level Promotion, Beta: 0.373, STDEV: 0.061, T Value: 6.146, P Values: 0.000, Results: Accepted. There is a significant positive relationship between Legal Protection and Objectivity Level Promotion. For every standard deviation increase in Legal Protection, Objectivity Level Promotion increases by 0.373 standard deviations.

Social Public Opinion -> Legal Enforcement, Beta: -0.114, STDEV: 0.058, T Value: 1.966, P Values: 0.050, Results: Accepted. There is a significant relationship between Social Public Opinion and Legal Enforcement, though the relationship is weak. For every standard deviation increase in Social Public Opinion, Legal Enforcement decreases by 0.114 standard deviations.

Social Public Opinion -> Objectivity Level Promotion, Beta: -0.112, STDEV: 0.058, T Value: 1.920, P Values: 0.050, Results: Accepted. There is a significant relationship between Social Public Opinion and Objectivity Level Promotion, though the relationship is weak. For every standard deviation increase in Social Public Opinion, Objectivity Level Promotion decreases by 0.112 standard deviations.

Behavioral Interventions -> Legal Enforcement -> Objectivity Level Promotion, Beta: 0.452, STDEV: 0.054, T Value: 8.339, P Values: 0.000, Results: Accepted. This indicates a significant mediated relationship where Behavioral Interventions influence Objectivity Level Promotion through Legal Enforcement.

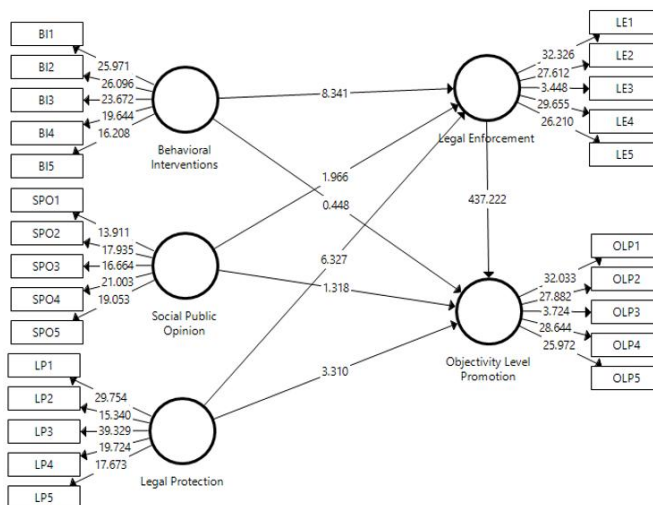
Legal Protection -> Legal Enforcement -> Objectivity Level Promotion, Beta: 0.385, STDEV: 0.061, T Value: 6.312, P Values: 0.000, Results: Accepted. This indicates a significant mediated relationship where Legal Protection influences Objectivity Level Promotion through Legal Enforcement.

Social Public Opinion -> Legal Enforcement -> Objectivity Level Promotion, Beta: -0.115, STDEV: 0.058, T Value: 1.964, P Values: 0.050, Results: Accepted. This indicates a significant mediated relationship where Social Public Opinion influences Objectivity Level Promotion through Legal Enforcement, though the relationship is weak.

**Table 6:** Path analysis

	Beta	STDEV	T Value	P Values	Results
Behavioral Interventions -> Legal Enforcement	0.449	0.054	8.341	0.000	Accepted
Behavioral Interventions -> Objectivity Level Promotion	0.451	0.054	8.397	0.000	Accepted
Legal Enforcement -> Objectivity Level Promotion	1.006	0.002	437.22	0.000	Accepted
Legal Protection -> Legal Enforcement	0.382	0.060	6.327	0.000	Accepted
Legal Protection -> Objectivity Level Promotion	0.373	0.061	6.146	0.000	Accepted
Social Public Opinion -> Legal Enforcement	-0.114	0.058	1.966	0.050	Accepted
Social Public Opinion -> Objectivity Level Promotion	-0.112	0.058	1.920	0.050	Accepted

	Beta	STDEV	T Value	P Values	Results
Behavioral Interventions -> Legal Enforcement -> Objectivity Level Promotion	0.452	0.054	8.339	0.000	Accepted
Legal Protection -> Legal Enforcement-> Objectivity Level Promotion	0.385	0.061	6.312	0.000	Accepted
Social Public Opinion -> Legal Enforcement -> Objectivity Level Promotion	-0.115	0.058	1.964	0.050	Accepted

**Figure 3:** Structural model

## 5 Discussion

The results from the hypothesis testing highlight crucial insights for administration and local government in shaping policies related to behavioral interventions, legal enforcement, legal protection, objectivity level promotion, and social public opinion. Behavioral Interventions are also centrally involved in the improvement of Legal Enforcement and Objectivity Level Promotion. This means that local governments should adopt behavior change programs for the enhancement of legal enforcement and nudging of objective decisions. The adoption of policies that support community-based programs, educational programming, and awareness campaigns to create and maintain a culture of compliance and the promotion of objectivity in administrative decision-making is valuable. Legal Enforcement is a key contributor to Objectivity Level Promotion as the correlation coefficient between the two is quite high above the zero value. It is also crucial for local government agencies to have effective legal enforcement so that laws are adequately enforced, and the outcome of enforcement is consistent with the

principles of fairness and impartiality. This relationship reinforces the need for policies dedicated to curtailing corruption and ensuring integrity in law enforcement agencies. Legal training programs for law enforcement focused on unbiased enforcement: the imperative of bias neutralization Legal Enforcement and Objectivity Level Promotion: The Primacy Argument. The emerging local administrations need to devise policies in such a way that the legal rights are enhanced so that laws are not only upheld but also serve to protect and promote the interests of both citizens and non-citizens accordingly. This entails the constant amendment of laws in the provision of new laws to supplement gaps that may occur due to changes in society as well as providing legal services to people who may have disability. The negative correlation of Social Public Opinion with respect to both Legal Enforcement and Objectivity Level Promotion further indicates the danger of public sentiments towards changing the status quo. In order for local governments to effectively achieve their social/legal/administrative goals, they have to address public perception of the same. Host communities can be protected when such policies encourage transparency of processes; enable citizens to be involved in the decision making process of policies and the government agents and policymakers communicate regularly with the citizens. Public relations regarding legal processes that is education on how decisions should be made, also helps to create trust and cooperation. Overall, the results of this study demonstrate that behavioral interventions as an approach to local governance are not independent of legal enforcement and legal protection, objectivity promotion, and attention to public opinion. These elements have to be linked to each other in a comprehensive way that will include policy instruments in order to ensure a fair, transparent and efficient administrative system run by local governments.

## 6 Conclusion

The evaluation of construct reliability, validity, and discriminant validity, in addition to Cronbach's Alpha, composite reliability, Beta, and outer loading, offers insights into understanding the factors affecting local governance and policy-making. An alpha Cronbach and composite reliability of the constructs including behavioral interventions; legal enforcement; Legal protection; level of objectivity promotion; and social public opinion reflect a high level of reliability and internal consistency of the measurement. Legal enforcement and objectivity promotion have high reliability and positive significant effects by behavioral interventions as indicated by high beta values and substantial outer loadings. Based on these findings it is advisable that local governments focus on behavioral change through the implementation of necessary educational programs and by engaging the population of the given area in certain activities with the purpose of increasing legal adherence and empowering people with objective decision-making skills when it comes to civil legal advice. The heavily and positively correlated factor of legal enforcement in the promotion of objectivity reaffirms the

emphasis on the accountability and transparency of legal practice. Low HBs and accurate indicators require local authorities to put in place indelible training institutions to keep the policies up-to-scale to fairly apply the law and treat the members of the society with fairness. This promotes strong partnerships with the public and the police which essential in any administration. The strong effect of legal immunity on enforcement and value promotion evidenced by high levels of composite trust and value promotion suggests the need for a robust legal framework. The negative relationship between law enforcement and the objective promotion of social public opinion, despite credible measures, highlights the challenges inherent in public opinion. Local governance should increase transparency and public participation in policy-making in order to align social perspectives with legal and business objectives. Policies that encourage open communication, public participation, and legal process education can mitigate negative effects and build public confidence. In conclusion, the high reliability and significant beta values of the constructs highlight the importance of local governments adopting integrated evidence-based policies. With a focus on transparent behavioral management, strong legal protections, and active public participation, the sector can develop fair, efficient, and transparent governance structures. So these strategies will ultimately increase community resilience and trust in local government services.

## **7 Implications**

### **7.1 Practical implications**

In practice, the results of this study would be valuable for businesses and local governments. First, investing in behavioral initiatives can enhance compliance and empower citizens to make decisions with the help of state programs. This is why local government entities should start investing in further education and community outreach programs to ensure that the practices of the law enforcement culture with the locals are acceptable and positive. Second, it is of paramount importance to safeguard the transparency and public accountability of regulatory activities. It is important to provide regular training for law enforcement officers to ensure equal and impartial implementation of legal norms in practice as well as to preserve public trust. Third, the current politicians and policy makers should increase their efforts to ensure strong legal rights to protect citizens. This therefore calls for the need to provide regular updates about legal legislation to make sure that legal services are always available to meet the arising legal problems. Strategies concerning improving the negative social and public perceptions of a group include being pre-emptive in nature for example ensuring transparency in policy making and the level of public involvement in policy making. This paper concludes that social perspective can be effectively used to accomplish local policy aims and that incorporating social perspective into local policy efforts will

further enhance local policy outcomes and contribute to overall governance efficiency.

## 7.2 Theoretical implications

The theoretical implications that emerge from this study shed light on the complex processes of behavioral engagement, law enforcement, legal protection, goal promotion, and social public opinion in administrative and local government systems. Furthermore, the study highlights the important role of the legislature in promoting justice, highlighting the theoretical underpinnings of transparent and accountable legislative practices in governance theory. Furthermore, the strong influence of legal immunity on the implementation of laws and the promotion of values suggests a theoretical basis for a strong legal framework in ensuring civil rights and supportive governance principles. Furthermore, the negative relationship between social public opinion and enforcement/goal promotion highlights the theoretical challenge of reconciling public opinion with policy goals, and highlights the importance of emphasis placed on theoretical frameworks that integrate the development of public opinion across governance mechanisms.

## 8 Limitations

While the study provides valuable insights, several limitations must be considered. First, reliance on self-report measures for behavioral interventions, rule enforcement, and social public opinion may introduce response biases and inaccuracies. Furthermore, how the cross-sectional nature of the data limits causal inference, preventing the establishment of temporal relationships between variables. Furthermore, the generalizability of a study may be limited by its specificity or sample characteristics, potentially compromising its applicability to broader populations or settings. Furthermore, the omission of some relevant variables or parameters may overlook important factors affecting the relationships under investigation. Furthermore, the research's reliance on quantitative methods may overlook micro qualitative approaches that can provide a deeper understanding of the phenomena studied. Finally, the possibility of omitted variable bias or confounding variables may affect the validity of the results, and findings will need to be interpreted with caution.

## 9 Future directions

Further research regarding this study should focus on the strengths of the study and seek to establish the gaps that need to be filled to improve knowledge and provide useful interventions. Qualitative methods are combined with quantitative data to better explain behavioral interventions, police, legal rights, and legal and social attitudes toward change. Using mixed methods can provide a better



understanding of behavioral interventions, policing, civil and societal rights and perceptions of improvements. Longitudinal studies allow for further linking of certain outcomes and determining if an intervention was indeed successful sometime in the future. Moreover, replicating the Study in different settings and Population will also help to increase the generalizability of results and establish the relevance of findings in diverse settings. It is better to explain the way they could be reduced with the help of more robust measures, like observational data or performance records which might help eliminate response biases related to self-administered measures; Finally, future research should be focused on elaborating on the way measures can mediate moderator variables into more practical understanding of the mechanisms connected to the relationships between the constructs under study.

### Acknowledgement:

Fund type: Jiangsu Social Science Fund, Project name: Research on Jiangsu Tennis Talent Cultivation Strategy under the trend of professional tennis governance, project approval number: 21TYB006

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