# Implementation of Ex Officio Rights of Judges of the Kediri District Religious Court: An Analysis of Non-Cumulation of Divorce and Child Custody Rights

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#### Abstract

This research highlights the phenomenon that occurred in the Kediri Regency Religious Court regarding the cumulation of lawsuits, it was found that there were still many parties who filed a pure lawsuit without filing a lawsuit in cumulation. The parties often only focus on the divorce lawsuit without including aspects regarding child custody, which can be cumulated according to Article 86 paragraph (1) of Law No.7 of 1989 concerning Religious Courts. The focus of this research is to find out why the parties do not cumulate the divorce lawsuit with child custody and the implementation of the ex officio rights of the judge of the Kediri Regency Religious Court. The research method used is juridical-empirical with a sociological juridical approach. Primary and secondary data were obtained through interviews and documentation. The results of the study concluded that some of the reasons the parties did not cumulate the lawsuit with child custody included ignorance of the parties regarding the cumulation of the lawsuit, the role of legal counsel, the existence of a prior agreement, focus on divorce priorities. Judges of the Kediri Regency Religious Court have applied the applicability of ex officio rights as a privilege owned by judges to impose decisions aimed at providing benefits, namely the fulfillment of the rights of those concerned. Judges can use ex officio rights in divorce cases to give the wife and children their rights such as iddah, mut'ah, madhiyah, and child maintenance. Judges cannot exercise ex officio rights in a contested divorce and cannot impose a decision that is not in the argument of the lawsuit such as a case regarding child custody because of *Ultra Petitum Partium*.

Keywords: Ex Officio; Kediri District Religious Court; Lawsuit Cumulation



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# INTRODUCTION

Orientation in the files when one of the parties filed a lawsuit/application in the Religious Court, they only focus on divorce cases, wanting to separate as soon as possible if the termination of the relationship between husband and wife can end the problem. Another problem that arises is also the ignorance of the parties regarding the applicable legal provisions regarding the permissibility of cumulating lawsuits or combining several lawsuits into one lawsuit so that there are still many parties who file cases not cumulating lawsuits in the Religious Court. (Sunarsi et al., 2018) Relations arising from marriage are not only divorce but other cases follow such as joint property, child custody, and maintenance that need to get a decision through the Religious Court. These are unresolved cases that drag on without clarity

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and become problems in the future if they are not resubmitted with a new lawsuit to the Court. Cases in which there is no certainty or binding decision between the two parties will result in several problems that are quite complex because there is no resolution of cases arising from marriage, one of which is disputes over child custody and child neglect. (Mareta & Achmad, 2022)

Marriage itself is a form of agreement, when the agreement ends, various legal consequences arise following it, such as the division of joint property, maintenance of wife and children, and childcare (hadhanah) which need to be resolved so that there are no disputes that occur in the future.(Rufaida, 2021) There is a convenience in litigating in the Religious Court that can be done by the parties, namely the Lawsuit Cumulation. The provisions regarding the cumulation of lawsuits are explicitly stated in Law No. 7 of 1989 which contains provisions regarding the possibility of cumulating lawsuits for divorce cases with other cases. Related to this matter is explained in Article 86 paragraph (1) of Law No. 7 of 1989 concerning Religious Courts which states: "A lawsuit about child control, child maintenance, wife maintenance, and joint property of husband and wife can be filed together with a divorce lawsuit or after the divorce verdict has obtained permanent legal force." (Republik Indonesia, 1989) With this provision, there is a possibility for parties who want to resolve divorce cases by combining other cases such as child control, child maintenance, wife maintenance, and joint property which can be made into one claim in a lawsuit. The process of cumulating lawsuits is also a form of implementing the principles of simple, fast, and low-cost justice. (Ali, 2017)

The Kediri Regency Religious Court is a Class 1 A Religious Court that has the duty and authority to examine, decide, and resolve cases at the first level between people of the Muslim religion, one of which is a divorce and child control case. This research explores the cases that were entered and decided in the Kediri Regency Religious Court from 2021-2023. This research is important because it highlights the practice of litigating in the Religious Court, especially since there are still many parties who do not know about the cumulation of lawsuits, even though the Law and the Court Institution allow the cumulation of lawsuits as a form of realization of the principles of simple, fast, and low-cost justice so that this research becomes a legal understanding for the public to be able to accumulate lawsuits when filing a lawsuit/application in the Religious Court. This research also looks at the role of judges as court products in responding to cases that are not cumulated divorce and child custody cases, especially judges have the authority of ex officio rights to impose decisions without demands as a form of justice, legal certainty, and expediency to ensure the fulfillment of the rights that should be obtained by the parties.

Previous research that has relevance to the author's research related to the cumulation of lawsuits, such as research conducted by Kasyifatul Himah, entitled Settlement of the Lawsuit Cumulation Case between Divorce and Hadhanah Rights (Case Study at the Depok Religious Court in 2017-2021).(Himah, 2022) Previous research discussed the settlement of the lawsuit cumulation case with the judges' decisions in 2017-2021 relating to the cumulation of divorce and hadhanah lawsuits. Meanwhile, the author's research focuses on the factors of the parties not accumulating claims in one case filing. The research equation is the same research variable, namely the cumulation of divorce and hadhanah lawsuits. Najih Sabila Wahda, entitled "The

Application of Samenvoeging Van Vordering in Review of the Principles of Simple, Fast, and Low-Cost Justice (Study at the Kediri Regency Religious Court)."(Wahda, 2023) Previous research discussed the study of judges' decisions regarding the cumulation of lawsuits by the principles of simple, fast, and low cost, while the author's research focuses on the parties who do not file a cumulation of divorce and hadhanah lawsuits, and how the role of judges responds to cases that do not cumulate lawsuits. The research equation is a discussion of the cumulation of lawsuits filed at the same research location, namely the Kediri Regency Religious Court. Risna Maulida, entitled "The authority of judges in deciding the cumulation of divorce lawsuits with child custody (Study at the Pekalongan Religious Court)". (Risna Maulida, 2019) The result of the research is the authority of a judge in deciding the cumulation of divorce lawsuits, child custody, and property gono gini which are accumulated in one lawsuit at the Pekalongan Religious Court. Previous research discusses divorce lawsuits, while the author's research examines the related divorce and divorce. The research equation lies in the topic of discussion regarding the cumulation of lawsuits with child custody.

The novelty of the Ex Officio Rights of Religious Court Judges in the case of Non-Cumulation of Divorce and Child Custody refers to divorce cases, both divorce and contested divorce, which are filed non-cumulation in the Kediri Regency Religious Court associated with child custody (hadhanah) inherent in the marital relationship and joint parental responsibility. This research also focuses on the role of judges in responding further to cases that do not cumulate divorce lawsuits with child custody through their authority to use ex officio rights and the judge's view of the factors that cause litigants who do not cumulate lawsuits in the Kediri Regency Religious Court. The purpose of the study discussed in this study is that there are several discussions including 1) Why do the parties not cumulate the divorce lawsuit with child custody rights? 2) How is the Implementation of the Ex Officio Rights of the Judge of the Kediri Regency Religious Court in the case of the Divorce Lawsuit?

# RESEARCH METHODS

This type of research is included in empirical juridical (non doctrinal) because its ornamentation focuses on legal provisions and phenomena that can occur in a society. This research approach uses a Juridical Sociological Approach that introduces and views the law as a norm that functions in real social life. (Soekanto, 1986) This research is located at the Kediri Regency Religious Court, which is located on Jl. Sekartaji No.12, Sumber, Doko, Kec. Ngasem, Kediri Regency, East Java 64182. Sources of data in the study used several data sources, namely (1) Primary data sources obtained directly through interviews, and interviews with judges. (2) Secondary data sources were obtained from official state documents or court decisions relevant to the research topic. (3) Tertiary data sources are collected through the internet, journals, and provide additional explanations regarding primary and secondary data. (Leni Anggaraini, Afrizal, 2023) The data collection methods used in this research are interviews, documentation, and observation with data processing methods of classification, analysis, and conclusions. (Sugiyono, 2015)

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

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# Cumulation of Divorce Lawsuits with Child Custody Rights at the Kediri Regency Religious Court

The results of field research and research conducted by the author found several data that support this research, namely data regarding cases that accumulate divorce with child custody and divorce cases that are not cumulated with other cases. In this context, the data found by the author regarding the cumulation of lawsuits was taken from 2021 to 2023.

Table 1. Cumulative Data of Divorce Lawsuits with Child Custody Rights

Years	Plaintiff's	Divorce	Hadhanah	Cumulation of		Cumulation of
	divorce	Cases	case after	Plaintiff's Divorce with Hadhanah		Divorce with
	case (Kediri,	(Kediri, 2021-	divorce			Hadhanah
	2021-2023)	2023)	(Kediri, 2021-	(Mahkamah Agung		(Mahkamah
			2023)	Republik		Agung Republik
				Indonesia, 2021-		Indonesia, 2021-
				2023)		2023)
2021	3020	991	12	46	Cases	11 Cases
	Cases	Cases	Cases			
2022	2876	836	4	42	Cases	16 Cases
	Cases	Cases	Cases			
2023	1727	848	6	39	Cases	10 Cases
	Cases	Cases	Cases			

Based on this data, it can be concluded that in 2021, only 46 cases (Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia, 2021) out of 3020 cases of contested divorce were accumulated with child custody, while the number of cases of divorce cumulated with child custody was 11 cases out of 991 cases decided by the court. Child custody cases decided by the court were 12 cases so it can be accumulated that 2974 cases of contested divorce were not accumulated with child custody and 980 cases of divorce that were not cumulated with child custody.(Kediri District Religious Court, 2021) Then in a different year in 2022, data was obtained on cases that cumulated divorce suits with child custody as many as 42 cumulation cases (Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia, 2022) out of 2876 cases decided by the court, while in divorce cases that cumulated with child custody as many as 16 cases out of 836 cases decided by the court. Child custody cases that were decided were 4 cases, so it can be concluded that cases that do not cumulate between divorce cases and child custody are 2834 cases, and divorce cases that do not cumulate with child custody are 820 cases. (Kediri District Religious Court, 2022).

Data in 2023 the author took data from January-September 2023, and obtained that the cases of contested divorce that cumulated with child custody were 39 cases (Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia, 2023) and the cases of contested divorce decided by the court were 1727 cases, while the cases of divorce that cumulated with child custody were 10 cases out of 848 cases decided by the court. Child custody cases that were decided were 6 cases, so it can be concluded that cases that did not cumulate between divorce cases and child custody were 1688 cases of divorce cases that did not cumulate with child custody were 838 cases. (Kediri District Religious Court, 2023)

From this data, it can be concluded that there are still many parties who when filing a lawsuit with the Court do not include other legal claims that can be accumulated with divorce

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cases, one of which is the case of child custody. Children are one of the accessories in the marital relationship that remains attached between the two parents even though it ends in divorce. The position of children should be very important and should be the main concern for both parents and parties involved in the divorce process. An agreement is needed between the two parents regarding their respective positions, roles, and obligations to remain parents who provide love, care, and educate children until they are adults or 21 years old. (Mandey et al., 2021)

# **Reasons for not Cumulating Divorce and Custody Claims**

# 1. Ignorance of the Parties regarding the Claims Cumulation

Lack of understanding of the legal process and procedures of litigating in court is one of the reasons why parties do not know the procedures and requirements in the cumulation of lawsuits. Litigants in court should understand their rights and obligations so that the trial process can run well as well as the flow of filing a lawsuit and trial procedures, but there are still many parties who do not know about their rights and obligations during litigation. Ignorance of the law is very detrimental to the parties litigating in court, some of the things that can harm the parties include; losing their rights that they should get in the trial process, violating obligations, and experiencing adverse consequences of decisions such as verstek decisions, the trial process can be hampered and take longer. (Witanto, 2013) Ignorance of the parties in the cumulation of claims is also one of the reasons the parties do not cumulate divorce claims with other claims. This was explained by Mr. Munasik as follows.

[Actually, they want to accumulate, but they don't know how because they don't understand, it turns out that custody rights can be accumulated with divorce]. (Munasik, 2023)

The same thing was conveyed by Mr. Toif regarding the parties' ignorance regarding the cumulation of lawsuits, as follows; [Not understanding, if he understood he would have filed a cumulation]. (Toif, 2023)

To overcome and minimize the ignorance of the parties regarding the process and procedure of filing cases in terms of the cumulation of lawsuits, it is necessary to disclose information to the public through socialization. Socialization is an important process that allows legal institutions to interact, communicate, and share information with the public. To provide education to the public clearly and transparently about the rights and obligations of the parties, the flow of filing a lawsuit and trial procedures, the merger of lawsuits, and services to support the ease of litigation in the Kediri District Religious Court.

# 2. Role of Legal Counsel

The role of advocates in this case is very important to assist the process of resolving cases in court until completion. The involvement and role of legal counsel are needed by clients to help litigate in court, by providing understanding, and legal assistance, exercising the power that has been given, representing, accompanying, defending cases, and taking other legal actions for the legal interests of clients. (Maimuna, 2023) Although legal counsel has an important role in providing legal understanding to clients, not all advocates provide an understanding of this. This can occur due to several factors, such as the advocate's lack of understanding of the cumulation of lawsuits, lack of time to provide detailed explanations to

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clients so that clients can file a lawsuit again using the advocate's services, and the advocate's objectivity in assisting clients to litigate in court. (Jeklic, 2023)

This is one of the reasons why parties do not accumulate their lawsuits with other cases. As explained by the judge regarding the position of a legal representative on the reasons why parties do not accumulate lawsuits. He believes that there are two types of lawyers, namely black lawyers, and white lawyers. It can be understood that what is meant by a black lawyer is when he as a lawyer does not provide understanding, knowledge, and legal considerations that will be of consequence to his client, while a white lawyer is a lawyer who prioritizes the interests of the client and provides quality legal services. (Munasik, 2023)

# 3. Occurrence of Prior Agreement

During the court case process undertaken by the plaintiff and the defendant, no agreement or peace was reached before entering the trial, so before entering the trial, the mediation process is sought first to reach agreements that can be discussed by finding solutions that are mutually beneficial and satisfying for both parties. Mediation is an alternative to dispute resolution that is faster, more efficient, and simpler than settlement through the civil procedural law process. (Astarini, 2013) Efforts to achieve peace are not only at the initial stage but are also pursued at every stage carried out by the Mediator. Judges also play a role in offering peace and agreement in every trial process because non-litigation legal settlements are far better than litigation. (Karmawan, 2020)

Mediation can be a good alternative for husbands and wives who have reached a prior agreement to resolve their disputes peacefully and effectively. (Sumardi, 2021) The agreement that occurred during the mediation, became one of the reasons for the parties not to accumulate lawsuits because there had been efforts to resolve the case through mediation so that the agreements that had occurred so that the agreed cases did not need to be discussed by the panel of judges during the trial process. As explained by Mr. Muridi as follows.

[...If it can be deliberated, it is better, even if it becomes a dispute, the first step is the mediation process between the two parties, mediation provides solutions that can be resolved by deliberation, and many have also succeeded in obtaining an agreement from the mediation process so that it does not continue in court but can be resolved in mediation]."(Muridi, 2023)

# 4. Focus on Divorce Priorities

Parties in the Religious Courts naturally have different interests and priorities depending on the case at hand. This can occur in a variety of contexts, particularly when the parties involved have several different legal issues that need to be addressed separately or wish to resolve the underlying case first. This interest is very much exercised by parties who want to end their marital relationship with their husband as soon as possible because they cannot stand the attitude, behavior, and actions taken by their husband toward them. So, in this case the main priority is to resolve the case first, namely divorce, and then re-file with a different case.

It is undeniable that the more claims filed in a lawsuit, the longer the trial will take, because it requires the examination by the panel of judges of evidence, witness testimony, and other documents. So, if there are many claims in the case, the judge will examine the evidence and listen to witness testimony for each claim filed. So, this is a consideration for the parties to

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resolve the main case first, namely divorce by the interests and priorities of each party, then submit another case to the Religious Court. (Muridi, 2023)

# Implementation of Ex Officio Judge Rights in Divorce Lawsuit Cases

The judge when examining a civil case is passive, the passivity of the judge does not only mean that the judge is waiting or not looking for the case or the scope of the parties' dispute, but passivity here indicates that the judge does not play a role in determining the scope or material of the dispute he is facing, and the judge is not allowed to increase or decrease the scope and material of the dispute.(Afriana et al., 2022) Civil cases are initiated based on the initiative of the party suing, not on the initiative of the judge. The initiative to start a civil legal process is entirely in the hands of the parties involved in the dispute, and there is no intervention from the judge in starting the process. (Poesoko, 2015)

On the one hand, judges are expected to fulfill their role passively. However, on the other hand, Law No. 48 of 2009 on Judicial Power, in Article 4 paragraph (2), mandates judges to assist justice seekers and try to overcome all obstacles and obstacles to achieve a simple, fast, and low-cost trial.(Republik Indonesia, 2009) Therefore, as the leader of the trial, the judge must take active measures in overseeing the proceedings to ensure a smooth and accelerated judicial process. One of the ways that judges can take is to provide advice on legal remedies to the parties involved in the case, by the provisions of Article 132 HIR which reads:

[If the chairman deems it necessary for the good and orderly conduct of the proceedings, he shall, at the time of examining the case, have the right to advise both parties and to indicate the legal remedies and information which they may use]. (Republik Indonesia, 1962)

Therefore, it is necessary to reconsider the passive attitude of judges that has been adopted by judges in the process of examining civil cases. Judges should be more active in producing fair and correct decisions. (Junaidi & Merta, 2020) The principle of an active judge is based on Article 130 Herziene Indonesich Reglement (HIR). Article 132 HIR / Article 156 RBg requires judges to also play an active role in providing information to both parties and explaining the parties' rights to file counterclaims justified by law and the right to submit evidence in court. (Musawwamah, 2020)

Regarding this matter, the judge at the Kediri District Religious Court also offered to the parties during the trial by asking again regarding the lawsuit that had been filed by the defendant, "whether there are additions or changes to the lawsuit".(Munasik, 2023) This is done to ensure that the lawsuit filed by the plaintiff is by the will of the plaintiff. The judges also reminded that additions or changes to the lawsuit can also be made if they do not depart from the material of the main lawsuit filed. Usually, the plaintiff will answer yes or no in court. So that the judge has played an active role in reminding the defendant to add or change the lawsuit and the decision to change or add to the subject matter of the lawsuit depends on the parties in this case the plaintiff.

In addition, the role of judges in cases that do not cumulate divorce lawsuits with child custody can be seen from the judge's final decision by exercising ex officio rights. Ex officio is the right possessed by a judge to decide a case without having to be demanded in the contents of the lawsuit.(Tjitrosoedibio, 1979) The application of the judge's ex officio rights in the

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context of Law Number 1 of 1974 concerning Marriage, especially its application in cases of divorce. (Republik Indonesia, 1974) Judges can use ex officio rights as long as the case is related to the rights of the wife and children that arise as a result of divorce, even though it is not requested or demanded by the parties involved, either in the answer or in the counterclaim, the judge can use this right to ensure justice in it.

In divorce cases that are not cumulated with other cases, with this ex officio decision, the respondent or wife still gets her rights in divorce. This is by Mr. Munasik's explanation as follows:

[If the divorce is final and the wife does not file a counterclaim, the judge can immediately ex officio determine the wife's rights about her husband's obligations without being requested by the litigant]. (Munasik, 2023)

With Mr. Munasik's explanation, it can be understood that if the respondent or wife does not claim her rights to the applicant or there is no counterclaim, the judge can impose ex officio, namely determining the rights of the wife that should be given and fulfilled by the husband when he wants to file for divorce to his wife. This ex officio right is intended to defend the rights that are often not obtained by the former husband, as an effort to ensure and protect the rights that should be owned by the wife.

Judges also follow and implement the Regulation of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia or Perma Number 3 of 2017 concerning Guidelines for Adjudicating Women Against the Law, which is a guide for judges when resolving cases related to women, especially in divorce cases, so that the rights of children and wives are fulfilled in the divorce process, especially in the fulfillment of their rights after divorce. (Supreme Court, 2017) Thus, the rights of divorced wives are protected by requiring former husbands to provide living expenses or establish certain obligations before divorce or pronouncing divorce.

This ex officio right is applied especially in cases of divorce, especially related to maintenance such as mut'ah, iddah, and madhiyah which are often not requested by the wife. (Thariq, 2019) In contrast to a contested divorce, the inapplicability of the judge's ex officio in deciding without a lawsuit does not apply to contested divorce cases, and ex officio is not commonly given in contested divorce cases because in classical fiqh when the wife has filed for a contested divorce it can be said to be nusyuz. (Munasik, 2023) In this case, judges can also decide or impose ex officio rights in child maintenance cases, this provision is contained in SEMA No. 4 of 2016 concerning the Implementation of the Formulation of the Results of the 2016 Supreme Court Chamber Plenary Meeting as Guidelines for the Implementation of Tasks for the Court in letter C of the Legal Formulation of the Religious Chamber point 5 which stipulates that:

[The Religious Court ex officio can determine the child's maintenance to the father if the child is in the care of the mother, as regulated in Article 156 letter (f) KHI]. (Supreme Court, 2016)

The burden of child maintenance in this case becomes the focus or concentration of the judge in making decisions to prevent the fulfillment of children's rights after divorce so that the father is obliged to provide maintenance for his child if the child previously lived with his mother. If during the trial process, the parties involved do not make claims regarding child

maintenance, then the judge can consider that child maintenance is a right that should be given to children. Therefore, if there is no claim regarding child maintenance, the panel of judges can include and impose a decision regarding child maintenance in the court decision as part of the judge's authority called ex officio rights.(Fuadi & Eka Saputra, 2020) This is a form of protection for children with dependents imposed on their father to meet education costs, living expenses, health costs, and the right to receive care in the form of affection.(Kasim et al., 2022)

In contrast to child custody cases, judges cannot use ex officio rights to decide child custody cases, because there is no argument in the lawsuit or lawsuit regarding child control demanded or requested by the parties, so the court in this case cannot determine the child custody holder ex officio. Indeed, if the parties wish to obtain child custody (hadhanah), then they must include demands in the lawsuit or petition. However, if the lawsuit does not include a legal claim in it, then the judge is not allowed to use this right in determining the party entitled to child custody or determining the party who will be the child custody holder, without a request from one of the parties regarding the hadhanah.

The determination of hadhanah without any demands in the lawsuit is ultra petita: Ultra Petitum Partium means exceeding the request. (Kusumo, 2006) In other words, it makes a prohibition for judges to impose decisions that are not demanded or said to exceed what is submitted by the plaintiff. As regards the prohibition of judges imposing decisions that are not in the arguments of the lawsuit regarding hadhanah cases, it is stated in SEMA Number 03 of 2015 letter C number 10 which explains that if the request to determine hadhanah rights is not contained in the lawsuit, the judge does not have the authority to ex officio determine who will be the caregiver of the child. (Supreme Court, 2015)

From the findings data obtained by researchers regarding cases of cumulation of divorce lawsuits with child custody, it can be concluded that judges have applied the applicability of ex officio rights as a privilege owned by judges to impose decisions aimed at providing benefits, namely the fulfillment of rights that should be given to the parties to the dispute that he did not claim, including the fulfillment of rights related to divorce and child custody. Some indicators of judges imposing ex officio rights are looking at the type of filing whether a lawsuit or a petition, if the case is filed as a petition, the judge will look at the position of the wife and children in obtaining their rights after the divorce. So that the decision issued by the judge provides a fair decision and provides benefits for both parties.

# **CONCLUSION**

The factors of the parties not cumulating the lawsuit of divorce cases with child custody in the Kediri Regency Religious Court are due to several things: ignorance of the parties regarding the cumulation of lawsuits, the role of legal counsel, the existence of previous agreements, focus on divorce priorities. The role of judges in cases that do not cumulate divorce lawsuits with child custody can be seen in the trial and decision products. In the trial, the judge can ask again regarding the lawsuit that has been filed by the defendant with the wording, "Are there any additions or changes to the lawsuit". In addition, in the decision product, the judge plays a role by exercising ex officio rights on cases that are not listed in the lawsuit, namely divorce cases related to the obligations that must be fulfilled by the husband before the divorce. However, judges cannot use ex officio rights in contested divorce and cannot impose decisions

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that are not in the arguments of the lawsuit such as cases regarding child custody because judges cannot determine child custody holders if no claims are filed by Supreme Court Circular Letter Number 03 of 2015. Judges of the Kediri Regency Religious Court have applied ex officio rights in several cases that require the role of ex officio rights as a form of fulfilling the rights of wives and children after divorce to prevent decisions that emphasize women and children becoming victims of post-divorce violence.

This research is expected to have a contribution value and become reading material for parties who want to file a case in the Religious Court by taking favorable action through the cumulation of lawsuits by completing cases in one submission. The Kediri District Religious Court also as an advocacy or socialization step by providing legal understanding to parties who are still unfamiliar with the law and litigating in the Religious Court.

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