

## The Dual Role of Women in Increasing Family Income (Study in Indrapuri District, Aceh Besar Regency)

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### Abstract

*The involvement of women in the economic sector, especially in the agricultural sector, aims to improve the welfare of their family members. With the active role of women in economic activities in Indrapuri District, Aceh Besar Regency has implications for increasing family income. The aim of this research is to find out and describe the role of women and supporting factors in increasing family income in Indrapuri District, Aceh Besar Regency. This study uses a qualitative approach method. The conclusion of the study shows that with the role of women in Indrapuri District, Aceh Besar Regency in increasing family income both in the economic and agricultural sectors has been running well and smoothly and the benefits have been felt by families, however the role of women has not been able to change the poverty rate, because the income obtained is only enough to be used for consumption alone. Meanwhile, related to supporting factors for the role of women in increasing family income in Indrapuri District, Aceh Besar Regency consists of one's own will and permission from the husband in carrying out one's role.*

### Keywords

Role of Women, Family Income



## I. Introduction

Economic issues in a family are something that absolutely must be met in order to improve the standard of living and to improve the welfare of family members. In general, men or husbands are the ones who are fully responsible for finding and supporting family members so that they can meet various needs, both primary needs and other secondary needs. From the research conducted by the researcher, it turns out that many men in Indrapuri District, Aceh Besar Regency, especially who are already married but still have limited ability to earn a living, so that the income they earn, let alone to meet secondary needs, to meet basic needs, is limited and difficult. This is because most heads of families in that place do not have a fixed income because they work as farmers and ranchers alone.

Therefore, in order to meet the needs of families which vary greatly in both type and quality, women... Indrapuri District, Aceh Besar Regency actively accompanies her husband in every economic activity, namely earning a living. In the social life of society, there is an assumption that men are the main breadwinners in the family, this also applies to the research location, but when the husband's ability is limited, the presence of women as companions to work is an alternative solution so that family needs can be met.

The women at the research location felt responsible and played an active role together with their husbands to increase family income, so that... Many women participate in economic activities, especially in agriculture, to increase family income. Women play a major role in productive economic activities including cake making businesses and also in the agricultural sector. Women's involvement in economic activities in Indrapuri District, Aceh Besar Regency is already a tradition, so that men who live in the place do not

need to worry about limited income. To increase family income, women in the research location are accustomed to these various roles. On the one hand, women play the role of wife or husband's companion, housewife, child caretaker or identical to a homebody. Then on the other hand, they also play a public role including the role of women as workers who are actively involved in earning a living.

In general, women have many roles that are carried out at the same time. Thus, the presence of women is very helpful in increasing family income. Therefore, it is not surprising that there is a debate about whether or not it is appropriate for women to be involved in economic activities, it all happens because the domestic and public areas are seen as two separate sides, whereas if they are seen as two connected points, there will be no dichotomy. With the concept of the role of women in increasing income, women are not only homemakers but can also be involved in economic activities.

## **II. Review of Literatures**

### **2.1 Role Theory**

In the Indonesian dictionary, there are two terms that appear, namely role and role. Role is a set of levels expected to be possessed by those who have a position in society. Role is part of the main task that must be carried out. Role theory analyzes the tasks carried out by people or institutions that have formal or informal positions. Selly in Salim (2014) defines role as "The function or position that subject or expected to have in an organization, in society or in relationship". From this definition, role is constructed as a function or position of the subject in the organization and in its relationship with society. Function is equated with the position or work done or the usefulness of something.

In this context the rolen can be interpreted as the behavior shown by individuals in the social structure of society, so that the role is the expected behavior of someone who has a number of statuses and is expected to fill it according to the status. Mukti in Salim (2014) role theory examines "Society will behave according to status and role, in this case the role is something that is inherent in the individual. Community behavior is a response or reaction that is manifested in movement (attitude), but also body movement or speech in society ". So the concept of role examines and analyzes the role of institutions and society in solving, resolving and ending problems that arise in community, national and state life.

From the definition above, the role as a function or position of the subject in relation to society. Function is equated with the position or work done or the usefulness of something. Mukti in Salim (2014) role theory is "a theory that examines that society will behave according to status and role". So the concept of role examines and analyzes the role of institutions and society in solving, resolving and ending problems that arise in the life of society, nation and state. Role theory as stated by Robert in Salim (2014) is "Social interaction in the terminology of actors who play according to what is determined by culture". In accordance with this theory, role expectations are a shared understanding that guides behavior in everyday life.

Nowadays, women are increasingly involved in various activities. The role of women is no longer something foreign. Muhammad in Sukei (2007) stated that "women are no longer just playing the role of housewives who carry out reproductive functions, take care of children and husbands or domestic work, but have actively played a role in various fields of life, both social, economic, and political". According to Mies in Sukei (2007) "based on the concept of maternalism, women's independence cannot be separated from their roles as mothers and wives, women are considered as complete social and

cultural beings if they have played both roles well". In this case, the main role of women as housewives who must provide their energy and attention without expecting compensation, prestige and power. In fact, it is not uncommon for women to have a more adequate level of income to meet family needs than their husbands. With the income obtained, it can be said that women are trying to escape poverty even though all family needs are not met.

Household economic strategies in dealing with poverty include efforts to allocate resources, especially labor in the production sector. In the production sector, rural households in Indonesia implement a dual livelihood pattern as part of their economic strategy. In this pattern, a number of working-age household members are involved in earning a living from various sources, both in the agricultural and non-agricultural sectors, in their own business activities or as laborers. For poor households, the meaning of the dual livelihood pattern is a survival strategy, where the non-agricultural sector is an important source of income to cover the shortfall in the agricultural sector.

The shift in roles (division of labor) between men and women in the family and household, occurs when a mother has a very important role in society and the country. Where the role of women is not only to be led but also to lead. This must be fought for to gain positive and definite recognition. With so many roles that women must do, it indicates that women have experienced a double burden in their lives. The double burden causes the assumption that women naturally have the nature of nurturing, caring, nurturing and being diligent, resulting in all domestic household work being the responsibility of women. Therefore, for women who work outside the home, in addition to working in the public sphere, they also still have to do domestic work.

According to Abdullah in Sukesi (2007) women's involvement in the home industry is influenced by several factors. First, economic pressure. Second, a family environment that is very supportive in working, for example: they are used to helping people around them who run home industries. Third, there are no other job opportunities that match their skills. Poverty conditions encourage women to take over economic responsibilities. The success of a family in forming a household and prospering cannot be separated from the enormous role of a mother. Both in guiding and educating children, accompanying her husband, helping her husband's work and even as the backbone of the family in earning a living. However, most people still place a father as a subject, as head of the family and breadwinner. While the mother is more placed as an object that is second to the obligation to take care of children at home.

In the era of globalization, women play a major role in development through productive economic activities including in the agricultural sector. This aims to ensure that their household life can survive and facilitate the household economy. Women's involvement in economic activities is inseparable from the success of development in all fields that provide opportunities for women to get education and career opportunities that are increasingly open. The main motivation for women to work is generally due to the demands of the family economy/increasing family income. Women have a significant contribution to household income. Women's income contribution is the income contribution given by women to family income.

According to Sukesi (2007) "the average contribution of women's income in rural areas is around 48.22%. Even for women who are widows, their income contribution can reach 100%, because they have to meet their own needs and those of their families". This means that women's income cannot be said to be only additional income but also as the main source of family income. In order to realize overall welfare, there needs to be involvement or a role from women in economic activities.

## 2.2 Income Theory

Many definitions are given by various parties related to income. According to the Indonesian dictionary (2009) income is defined as "Results of business work and so on". While Marbun (2007) defines income as "Money received by individuals, companies or other organizations in the form of wages, salaries, rent, interest, commissions, costs and profits. Meanwhile, according to Reksoprayitno (2008) Income is "The amount of income assessed in currency units that can be generated by a person or business entity in a certain period or the total income received in a certain period".

Soeratno (2006) explains that the income measure used for the level of family welfare is "Household income earned from work. Every working-age family member in the household will be encouraged to work for the welfare of his family". Several studies have shown that family members such as wives and children are contributors to various activities both in housework and earning a living. Next WaHyu Adji (2004) income is "Money received by a person from a company in the form of salary, wages, rent, interest and profit including various benefits, such as health and retirement".

Meanwhile, according to Yuliana (2007), income is "All of a person's receipts as compensation for their services in the production process. The compensation can be in the form of wages, interest, rent, or profit depending on the production factors involved in the production process". Meanwhile, Suyanto (2010) defines income as follows as "a sum of funds obtained from the use of owned production factors". The sources of income include:

- 1) Rent assets that are used by other people, for example renting out a house or land.
- 2) Wages or salary for working for other people or as a civil servant.
- 3) Interest from investing capital in banks or companies, for example depositing money in the bank and buying shares.
- 4) Results from entrepreneurial endeavors, for example trading, raising livestock, establishing a company, or farming."

Based on several opinions related to the income above, it can be concluded that income is money received during a certain period from compensation from the company which can be in the form of salary, wages, benefits, such as health and pension or a sum of money received from any other business. While household income According to Afrida (2013) household income is "Income from all family members used to meet joint or individual needs in the household". Meanwhile, according to Junandar (2014), household income is "Income or earnings received by the household concerned, whether from the income of the head of the household or the income of the household members".

Based on the definition above, it can be concluded that household income is income obtained from all members of a family household, whether from the head of the family or all family members. Community income is included in non-fixed income and the amount is not certain in the future. Household income has a very large influence on the level of consumption, usually the higher the income level, the higher the level of consumption. Because the income level increases, the household's ability to buy various consumption needs becomes greater. Or maybe the lifestyle is increasingly consumptive, at least increasingly demanding good quality.

The consumption expenditure of the community is also influenced by the amount of durable consumer goods (consumers durables). Its influence on the level of consumption is usually positive (increasing) and negative (reducing). Durable goods are usually expensive, which requires time to save to obtain them. If you buy it in cash, you must save a lot before buying. The most influential non-economic factors on the amount of consumption are socio-cultural factors of society. For example, changes in eating habits, changes in ethics in value systems because they want to imitate other groups of people who are considered

superior. It is not surprising that there are households that spend hundreds of millions, even billions of rupiah, just to buy their dream home. In the real world, it is difficult to sort out which factors influence what, thus causing changes/increases in consumption.

### **2.3 Family Welfare**

Welfare is everyone's dream in life, so to obtain welfare, humans make various efforts and attempts. According to Midgley (2005) social welfare as a condition that must meet three main requirements, namely:

- 1) When social problems can be managed well;
- 2) When needs are met;
- 3) When social opportunities are maximally open.

Social welfare is also mandated in Law Number 11 of 2009 which states that social welfare is "The condition of fulfilling the material, spiritual, and social needs of citizens so that they can live properly and are able to develop themselves, so that they can carry out their social functions". While family welfare includes various actions taken by humans to achieve a better standard of living. According to Arthur in Korten (2006) family welfare can be defined as "Organized activities with the aim of improving social welfare by providing assistance to people to meet needs in several areas". While Harold in Korten (2006) defines family welfare as a system to help individuals and groups achieve a satisfactory standard of living.

Meanwhile, Walter in Korten (2006) provides a definition Family welfare is as "Individual and social relationships that enable them to develop towards well-being". Family welfare as an organized function is a collection of activities that are intended to enable individuals, groups to cope with social problems caused by changing situations and conditions. In a broader sense, family welfare can play an important role in contributing effectively to exploring and mobilizing human resources and material resources in a country in order to successfully address social needs.

## **III. Research Methods**

In research studies, the use of methods is a step that must be taken in order to answer problems objectively and comprehensively with the aim of finding, proving and developing knowledge, so that it can be used to understand, solve, and anticipate various problems. Given that a method is a procedure or way to find out something by using systematic steps, every study must use a research method. In accordance with the research objectives that have been set, the method used in this study is a descriptive qualitative method. Through qualitative methods, researchers want to gain an in-depth understanding and thinking about the dual role of women in increasing family income.

In line with the above intent, according to Creswell (2018) qualitative research is "A method for exploring and understanding the meaning that a number of individuals or groups of people consider to come from social or humanitarian problems". Meanwhile, Moleong (2016) stated that "Qualitative research is based on efforts to build detailed views of those being studied, formed with words, holistic and complex images". According to Richie in Meleong (2016) qualitative research is "An effort to present the social world, and its perspective in the world, in terms of concepts, behavior, perceptions and problems about the humans being studied".

The data sources in this study consist of primary and secondary data. Primary data is data obtained from original sources at the research location through sources who are used as informants. The methods used to obtain primary data are through observation,

interviews and documentation. According to Indriantoro in Faisal (2017) "Primary data is a source of research data obtained directly from original sources (not through intermediaries)". While secondary data. Secondary data is data that is already available in advance through various existing references. According to Indriantoro in Sugiyono (2017) secondary data is "A source of research data obtained indirectly, but through intermediary media or obtained and recorded by other parties". In this study, secondary data was obtained from books related to the research theme.

Data analysis in qualitative research is carried out before entering the field, while in the field, and after being in the field. However, in this research, data analysis was focused more during the process in the field along with data collection. According to Margono (2016: 36) explains that "In qualitative research, more attention is focused on forming substantive theories based on concepts that arise from and are empirical. In qualitative research, the researcher feels that he does not know what he knows, so that the research design developed is always open to the possibility of various necessary changes and is flexible to the conditions found in the field of observation.

According to Sugiyono (2017), the data analysis is as follows:

#### 1. Data Reduction

Reducing data means summarizing, selecting the main points. Focusing on the important things, looking for themes and patterns and discarding the unnecessary.

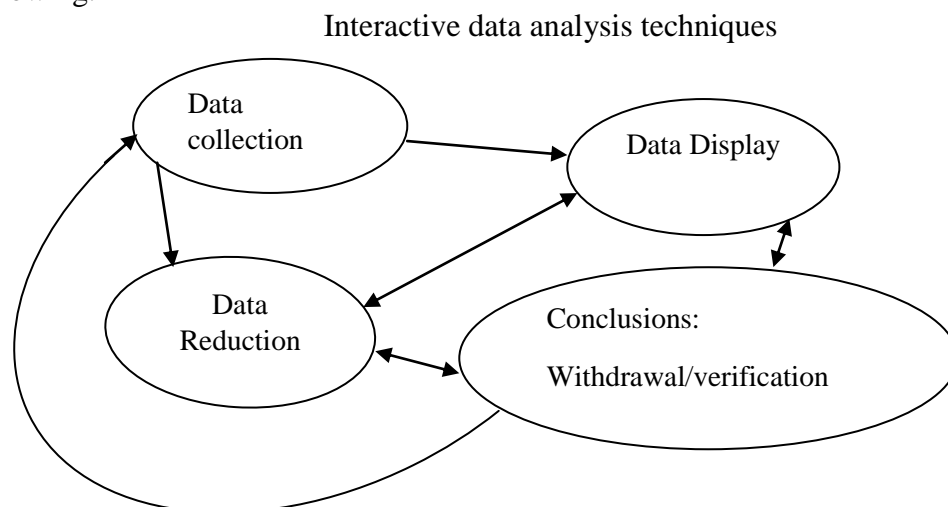
#### 2. Data Display

After the data is reduced, the next step is to display the data. Data display can be done in the form of tables and also in narrative form so that it is arranged in a pattern so that it will be easier to understand.

#### 3. Verification

After the data is reduced and displayed, the third step in qualitative data analysis is drawing conclusions and verification. The initial conclusions put forward are still temporary, and will change if no strong evidence is found to support them in the next data collection stage. However, if the conclusions put forward in the initial stage are supported by valid and consistent evidence when the researcher returns to the field to collect data, then the conclusions put forward are credible conclusions.

Based on the description above, the data analysis technique in this study is an interactive model as stated by Miles and Huberman in Sugiyono (2017) as seen in Figure 1 the following.



Source: Miles and Hubermanin in Sugiyono (2017)



## IV. Results and Discussion

This research was conducted in Indrapuri District, Aceh Besar Regency, Indrapuri is one of the twenty-three districts in Aceh Besar Regency which has a very strategic geographical position, especially in the agricultural, plantation and livestock sectors. The distance between Indrapuri District and the center of Aceh Province is around 27 KM with a travel time of 20 minutes. In general, the livelihoods of the Indrapuri community are very varied, but most of them are farmers, so their income is lacking. In carrying out agricultural activities, men are assisted by women, in this case their wives.

Indrapuri District has three settlements and fifty-two villages (gampong) where all women in the area are willing and able to carry out dual roles. Dual roles are carried out mainly by women who are married but their husbands' income is still limited, so that Indrapuri women are known as tough women, without prestige and ready to help their husbands in earning a living so that kitchen activities do not stop. The results of the study also show the persistence and readiness of women in carrying out multiple roles at the same time as long as their husbands allow it.

Based on the results of the study, it shows that the dual role of women means that there are two or more roles carried out by a woman who is already married at the same time, be it a traditional or domestic role as a housewife or a transitional or public role in family economic activities. Traditional or domestic roles include the role of women as wives or husband's companions, mothers, child caretakers and household managers or identical to homemakers. This role can be carried out well by women at the research location without any coercion and without any complaints, because this role is inherent in every woman. Women in Indrapuri District, Aceh Besar Regency are able to carry out roles from the kitchen, well to the bed perfectly and with sincerity and are considered as the inherent nature of women.

While the transitional role or public role includes the role of women as workers, community members and development humans. Thus, women in Indrapuri District, Aceh Besar Regency have a large role in improving family welfare through their dual roles, so that both traditional roles and transitional roles have been running well. In carrying out the roles that should be carried out by men, there are women who accompany them to shoulder the burden together so that even though they are unable to achieve minimal wealth, they can meet the primary needs of their children sufficiently.

The dual role of women in terms of earning a living generally involves helping their husbands in the agricultural sector by planting rice. Women are more dominant in working because men also carry out other activities to earn an income. The role of women as wives or husband's companions, mothers, child caretakers and household managers or identical to homemakers has been attached to women in the research location, they also play a role as workers, community members and development people. Thus, women in Indrapuri District have a major role in improving family welfare through their dual roles, so that both traditional roles and transitional roles have been running well.

Then related to various supporting role factors women in improving family welfare in Indrapuri District, Aceh Besar Regency, which is the focus of this study, consists of the will of women themselves due to economic demands. Related to their own will, it is an alternative and a choice in overcoming economic difficulties according to the abilities of women in playing their roles. Each role played aims to meet economic needs in order to achieve welfare for their families. The sincerity and sincerity of women in playing their dual roles can ease the burden of their husbands as heads of families. This is due to the low

human resource capabilities of husbands so that they do not have a type of work that can earn a large income.

## V. Conclusion

Women have played dual roles ranging from traditional roles to transitional roles to increase family income. Women in increasing family income both in the economic and agricultural sectors in Indrapuri District, Aceh Besar Regency has been running well and smoothly and its benefits have been felt in family life, however, the role of women has not been able to reduce poverty rates, because the income obtained is only sufficient for consumption.

Supporting factors of the role of women in increasing family income in Indrapuri District, Aceh Besar Regency consists of their own willingness to work and permission from their husbands. Related to their own willingness is a choice in overcoming economic pressures due to the limited abilities of men and the roles carried out in accordance with the abilities of women. Every role that is carried out gets the blessing or permission of the husband so that it becomes an additional spirit for women in working, and women's persistence in working shows an attitude of independence and proves a sense of shared responsibility in building a household.

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