



## Empowering Women Through Women's Organizations in Realizing Family Welfare

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### Info Articles

### Abstract

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This research aims to find women's organizations as a strategy for women's empowerment in realizing family welfare. This study used descriptive methods with a survey approach to get information on women's conditions and women's organizations as a strategy for women's empowerment. Women have a strategic role in improving family welfare. The selected respondents were village heads and Kalongan village women who actively participated in women's activities. Data collection techniques use interviews, observations, and documents. Data validity uses source triangulation techniques and methods—research data analysis using interactive models. The findings of this study are known that the condition of empowerment of Kalongan village women is considered not fully optimal. This is due to the low understanding of women's abilities as an important component of the family so many stereotypes arise in women that their rights and positions are only limited to male servants in the family. This patriarchal culture is a legacy of ancient life is still widely felt by women in Kalongan Village, especially in Bulu and Gondoriyo Hamlets, almost 63% of the community is still thick with religious nuances so many family heads limit the direction of women's movement to contribute to the public. The emergence of this stereotype makes married women depend entirely on their husbands, especially in economic problems that only rely on the husband's income to make women or wives helpless without the presence of a husband figure.

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## INTRODUCTION

Development in a country is an effort to advance the welfare of society. According to Matarrita Cascante and Brennan (Hains et al., 2021) this community concept is also centered on development, where community development as a process of community members working together to achieve common goals and overcome their collective challenges or improve their quality of life by using various resources. Community development is planned for the purpose of improving the standard of living of the community through several programs and it is hoped that the community will play an active role and be able to find opportunities. One form of seeking these opportunities is through empowerment, empowerment is created for an organization to be able to manage and optimize its capabilities and capacities (Nusantoro, 2020). As a form of government implementation, several plans and community development work programs are implemented in the regions. Community development includes cultural development, leadership development and physical and environmental development as an effort to develop society in public services. Make the most of the potential in the community and achieve the implementation of development programs (Hughes & Scheyvens, 2021). As a form of achieving success, a development must involve the community. Community involvement as an increase in participation as a strategy to improve economic, social, and potential cultural transformation (Mulyono, 2020).

As a form of achieving success, a development must involve the community. Community participation plays an important role in development because people know the problems and needs of their area. People who will take advantage of and assess the development in their area in order to build their territory. Awareness and active participation of the entire community is needed to support the successful implementation of development programs. Not only the community but also the government, the wisdom of the government and the community in implementing development programs that play a role in directing and guiding the community. The development implementation process aims to develop optimal relationships from 1) inputs in the form of labor, facilities, finance; 2) activities (processes) and 3) Outputs / outcomes (Irawan and Sunandar 2020). In Ginanjar Kartasmita's book entitled *Development Administration* according to Jamshid Gharajedagi and Rusell L. Ackoff. There are three principles of ideal planning, namely participatory, the community must participate in the development process as a form of society that will benefit from development. Planning for a development must continue to be carried out so that there is continuous progress for welfare. Finally, holistic, by looking at various aspects of the overall development planning and implementation process (Andani, 2020).

Based on the analysis carried out on research on rural areas in China, there are several elements of strengthening and weakening development. It aims to form an independent society, independent to think, act and control what is done (Suryana, 2019). The elements of strengthening development are: (1) Ecological wealth and natural resources; (2) The richness of the long history of civilization of a village or region; and (3) Potential wealth for rural economic development. The elements of the weakening of development are: (1) The slow development of modern agriculture and the change in the lagging economic structure; (2) Rural neighborhoods with less educated populations; and (3) Low income levels of farmers (Liang et al. 2015). There are three models used in analyzing the elements that influence rural development, namely: (1) The exogenous or top-down model explains that the main forces of development come from outside rural areas, such as industrialization or technological change; (2) The endogenous development model explains that the strength of development comes from the realization of the original potential of an area, in the form of natural resources and human resources assets as well as local wisdom; and (3) The neo-endogenous development model explains that development is synthetic. That is, development is based on the availability of natural resources as well as local and environmental participation and is characterized by dynamic interactions between

local areas and the wider environment in promoting local relations with local exodus as a prerequisite for communication between local communities and the outside world (Nordberg, Mariussen, and Virkkala 2020). After the collapse of the Socialist system in Hungary, the rebuilding or restructuring of the demographic, social and economic territories was based on three main activities: (1) Permanent or temporary migration to rural areas; (2) Introduction of new development systems; (3) Changes in agricultural patterns (Csurgó et al., 2018).

Women make important contributions to agriculture and rural economic activities throughout the developing world. The role of women varies widely and influences the rapid changes in economic and social forces that are changing the agricultural sector (Patil & Suresh Babus, 2018). In societies in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), women are increasingly becoming catalysts in economic development by contributing to national socioeconomic development. Women's business activities contribute to job creation and poverty alleviation (Kapinga et al. 2018).

One of the efforts to include the active role of women is to form a women's organization as a women's movement to liberate it from all order and injustice. By building women's organizations in all regions, it is hoped that women from different walks of life can understand or realize the causes of their order and then participate in fighting for their rights (Mursidah 2013). In Indonesia women's organizations began to be formed in the 20th century, to oppose sexual discrimination that arose in the political, social, economic, and personal spheres for women. Julia Cleves Mosse identified the various functions of women's organizations discovered by DWAN (Development, Crises and Alternative Visions), namely: (1) Traditional women's organizations; (2) Organizations affiliated with political parties; (3) Trade-based organizations, trade unions in the formal sector, poor women's entrepreneurial organizations; (4) Organizations arising from project funding, such as credit cooperatives, income generation and initiatives for poor women; (5) Organization of grassroots groups, but still related to special projects, such as health, eradication of illiteracy, violence, law and political issues from a feminist point of view; and (6) Research organizations and resources. As with other organizations, the movement pattern of women's organizations is also increasingly democratic. In the sense that the more democratic states, respect and guarantee individual freedom, the more voluntary associations there are (Astuti, 2021). One of the roles of women's organizations today in participation in public spaces is shown by the movement encouraged by a number of women in Central Java Province Pati who are members of the Persit Kartika Chandra Kirana XXXIX Dim 0718 Koorcab Rem 073 PD IV / Diponegoro organization by campaigning efforts to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic (Erowati et al., 2020). Women have a strategic part in development, as is the case in Kalongan Village. The village has women's organizations such as pkk (Empowerment of Family Welfare) organizations available from the RT level to the village level. The movement of women's organizations has not been optimal in accommodating the role of women to build Kalongan Village into a tourist village. This study aims to determine women's organizations as a strategy for women's empowerment in realizing family welfare.

## **METHODS**

The method used in this study is a qualitative method with a descriptive approach. The type of research method chosen is descriptive analysis (Creswell & David, 2013). Serves to describe or give an idea of the object being studied through data or subjects that have been collected as they are. Without conducting an analysis and drawing conclusions that apply to the general public. The research location is in Kalongan Village, East Ungaran District, Semarang Regency. The validity of the data in this study uses source triangulation and data triangulation. Data analysis techniques in this study cycle and huberment, include data reduction, data presentation, drawing/verifying conclusions. The subjects consisted of the head of Kalongan village, the head of pkk organizations and activists of

women's organizations in Kalongan village. Data collection techniques include observation, interviews, and documentation.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Kalongan Village Women's Profile

Kalongan Village is a village located in the East Ungaran district of Semarang Regency. Residents in Kalongan Village are in the productive age group with a percentage of female sex of 5616 people or equivalent to 50.1%. This number is more when compared to the male population of 5593 people or equivalent to 49.9%. (<https://desakalongan.com/demografi/>). Obtaining data on the level of education from the kalongan village community as follows:

Table 1. Information From Education

Group	Sum	%
Categories Education Level		
1. No/ not yet in school	1.949	15,43%
2. Unfinished Elementary School / Equivalent	1.678	13,29 %
3. End of Elementary School/ Equivalent	2.739	21,69%
4. End Junior High School/Equivalent	2.368	18,75%
5. End high school/equivalent	3.041	24,08%
6. End of PT/Academy	855	6,77%

The majority of kalongan villagers graduated from high school/equivalent as much as 3,041 (24.08%), followed by completing elementary school/equivalent 2,739%, completing junior high school/equivalent as much as 2,368 (18.75%), not yet/not yet in school as much as 1,949 (15.43%), not completing elementary school/equivalent as much as 1,678 (13.29%) and completing Higher Education/Academy as much as 855 (6.77%). Judging from the elements of community education background in Kalongan Village which is still dominated by high schools / equivalent as many as 3,041 (24.08)%, but elementary school graduates / equivalent are also close to 2,739 (21.69%). The data illustrates that there is still a lack of public attention to education and attention to higher education is still low so that community participation is low in development. Based on research (Prananda Putra, 2018) states that there is an influence on the level of education and simulant perceptions on community participation. Litwin stated that the characteristic of the community in participatory development is the level of community knowledge about the participation efforts provided by the community in development. This level of knowledge will be directly proportional to the level of education possessed by society [21]. It can be concluded that the participation rate of educated people is higher than that of uneducated people. Most of its citizens have a livelihood as farmers, this can be seen from the following data:

Table 2. Job Type Information

No.	Group	Sum	Entire	%
Work				
1.	Man	3.947	6.925	74,71%
2.	Woman	2.978		
Not Working				
1.	Man	657	2.344	25,29%
2.	Woman	1.687		
Type of Work				
No.	Type of Work	Sum		%
1.	Farmer	413		5.95%

2.	Fisherman	2	0.03%
3.	Merchant	296	4.26%
4.	State Officials	21	0.30%
5.	PNS/TNI/POLRI	219	3.15%
6.	Employee Private	2.309	33.25%
7.	Self employed	1.290	18.58%
8.	Pensioner	64	0.92%
9.	Freelancers	2.330	33.55%

The number of workers in Kalongan Village is 6,925 people or 74.71% with the number of men as many as 3,947 and women as many as 2,978. The number of unemployed people in Kalongan Village is 2,344 people or 25.29% with 657 men and 1,687 women. The most types of jobs for kalongan villagers are freelancers with 2,330 (33.55%) followed by private employees as many as 2,309 (33.23%), self-employed as many as 1,290 (18.58%), farmers as many as 413 (5.95%), traders as many as 296 (4.26%), civil servants / TNI / POLRI as many as 219 (3.15%), pensioners as many as 64 (0.92%), state officials as many as 21 (0.30%) and fishermen as many as 2 (0.03%).

Based on the data above, the most public works in Kalongan Village are freelancers with 2,330 (33.55%) followed by private employees as many as 2,309 (33.23%) and self-employed as many as 1,290 (18.58%). According to (Erowati et al., 2020) Work will directly affect a person's income level, which will indirectly affect a person's free time in participating, for example in the case of attending meetings. Then according to (Prananda Putra, 2018) a job that tends not to Spend time and more freedom to participate in a program will have a higher participation than someone who has a job that takes up all day. So that if the community works more, it affects its concern for participation in society.

### **Women's Empowerment Through Women's Organizations In Kalongan Village**

Based on the results of observations made on April 15, 2022 with the head of Kalongan village, Mr. Yarmuji found that the condition of women there has a low understanding as an important component of the family so that many stereotypes arise in women that their rights and positions are only limited to male servants in the family. This patriarchal culture is a legacy of ancient life that is still widely felt by women in Kalongan Village, especially in Bulu and Gondoriyo Hamlets, almost 63% of the community is still thick with religious nuances so that many heads of families limit the direction of the women's movement to contribute to society. The emergence of this stereotype makes married women depend entirely on their husbands, especially in economic issues that rely solely on the income of the husband to make the woman or wife helpless if without the presence of the figure of the husband. In an effort to increase the understanding of women, the village apparatus initiated the formation of the PKK Sasi organ to realize the role of women and provide a forum for women to contribute to the development of Kalongan village. This organization provides a place and support for women in showing their potential. Kalongan Village women have a position and are actively involved in village development efforts which is shown by the involvement of women as bumdes chairpersons in 2019. This effort was shown by Kalongan Village by forming several women-oriented organizations, namely: pkk. Empowerment of Family Welfare or PKK is a community organization that empowers women to participate in the development of Indonesia. The PKK in Kalongan Village runs several routine programs including the Family Bureau Training program in the Kb Village activities, UPPKS Activities or Efforts to Increase The Income of Prosperous Families, regular monthly meetings, and supervising six working group children.

The existence of the PKK in Kalongan Village has not gone as expected because some activities have only been carried out in a short time, there are no activities or programs with a clear long-term

plan so that the realization of prosperous unity echoed by the PKK is still biased. This is supported by the statement of the Head of Kalongan YR Village who confirmed

It is true, in Kalongan Village there is a women's organization visited by the PKK. The PKK consists of RT, RW to the village level. The activities carried out are various kinds such as training and so on"

A similar statement was also affirmed by MN's mother as an activist.

"That's right mba, the PKK here is running with diverse activities. Pkk members here were brought from the RT level to the village. The activities carried out are training in building cooking programs, sewing and applying makeup. However, this program has not been running sustainably."

So it can be concluded that a women's organization has been formed in Kalongan village with various training activities as a form of optimizing the role of women to achieve a prosperous family, but the program has not been able to be implemented sustainably.

Efforts to empower women to prosper families in Kalongan village are carried out through various activities organized by the women's organization PKK (Family Welfare Empowerment). The PKK organization has a vision of realizing a family of faith, obeying God Almighty, noble and virtuous, healthy and prosperous born and inwardly. The PKK's mission is: (1) improving the formation of family character through cultivation, Pancasila practices, gender cooperation and equality and justice (2) improving education and the family economy through various skills and cooperative development efforts (3) increasing family resilience through the fulfillment of healthy and livable food, clothing and housing (4) improving the management of the pkk movement including organizing activities and increasing the resources of the PKK Organization in the Village Kalongan initiated the realization of a prosperous family in accordance with the vision and mission, through kalongan village activities including business building training, cooking training, sewing training, in addition to that through family planning socialization activities, posyandu activities. As established by the United Nations, to measure the improvement of women's welfare around the world, the Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG indicators (IAEG-SDGs) sets out six different indicators for SDG5, with several sub-indicators, which are used as the basis for departure in 2015, with the objectives to be achieved by SDG5. 2030. The philosophy is that when these indicators reach their targets, then all forms of discrimination against all women and girls will end (SDG-5.1), both in public and private spaces, including human and sexual trafficking and other sexual and exploitation will be eliminated (SDG-5.2); all harmful practices, such as child violence, early and forced violence, and female genital mutilation will no longer be practiced (SDG-5.3); the world will recognize and reward unpaid care and household chores through public service programs, infrastructure, and social protection policies and pro-shared responsibility movements in households and families as appropriate nationwide (SDG-5.4); the full and effective participation of women and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic, and public life will be guaranteed (SDG-5.5); universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed upon in accordance with the International Conference on Population and Development Program of Action and the Beijing Platform of Action and the documents resulting from their review will be ascertained (SDG-5.6).

## CONCLUSION

Based on the results of this study, it is known that women's organizations in Kalongan village have been formed through the PKK organization as a strategy for empowering women in realizing family welfare. The organization formed consists of RT to Village areas with various activities, such as training activities for cooking, sewing and makeup programs. This activity has not run optimally because the program participants have not been able to run independently and there is still a low

understanding of women's abilities as an important component of the family so that there are many stereotypes in women that their rights and positions are only limited to male servants in the family.

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