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# Representation Of Empowerment For Very Poor Household Women Through The Social Aid

The Study Of Social Aid Of The Hope Family Program In Banyumas Regency

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Abstract:

The purpose of this study was to find out the representation of empowerment of very poor household women through the social aid of the Program Keluarga Harapan (PKH) in Banyumas Regency. The method used in this study was qualitative with a phenomenological approach, collecting in-depth interview data and FGD and analysis methods using interactive analysis and Longwe's gender analysis. This study concludes that there are several phases of empowerment participation in the PKH program, namely the formation of women's groups, the running of group meetings, the formation of Joint Business Groups (Kube), the utilization of the results of group activities and evaluation of group activities. Based on Longwe's analysis in this study, the empowerment activities of the PKH women's receivers were seen to increase welfare, increase access and increase participation. However, the representation of empowerment has not yet arrived at critical awareness activities and women's power or control over the resources that exist in society. The implication of this research is for the government and the determinants of poverty reduction policies should make a follow-up program for PKH beneficiary women who have started empowering through capital, training and increasing access so that the social assistance and insurance programs can run effectively.

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

Still relatively low, the socio-economic conditions of the people in Banyumas Regency can be understood considering that Banyumas Regency has a relatively high poverty rate of 17.23 percent, while in Central Java it is only 13.27 percent. This means that the percentage of poor people in Banyumas Regency is above the average percentage of poor people in Central Java (BPS, 2015).

The problems of poverty and gender still occur in Banyumas Regency. Based on the Human Development Index (HDI), the Gender Development Index (IPG) and the Gender Empowerment Index (IDG) of Banyumas Regency are below the Central Java and national levels. The low GPA of Banyumas Regency is contributed by a component of high gender per capita expenditure gap between men and women. This indicates that Banyumas District has not been fully successful in gender-based human

development. The low IDG of Banyumas Regency was contributed by all IDG components, namely women sitting in the legislature (18 percent), women who were managers (45.90 percent), and contributions to household income (31.29 percent) (PMBG, 2016).

Low women's participation in development indicates that Banyumas District needs development that is gender-oriented. This means that increasing women's participation can be achieved if women are fully involved in a development process. On the other hand, according to Hubeis (2010) when women are asked to participate in development but the work that is considered patriarchal society as a natural woman is still required to be carried out alone, so that double bourden continues to befall women.

PKH has been implemented to reduce poverty in Banyumas Regency since 2013. PKH is a familybased poverty reduction program. Women as



program targets are women who come from Very Poor Households (RTSM). PKH as a program can be maximized through the commitment of the Regional Government to improve the performance of gender responsive development, especially regarding income inequalities and women's economic-political involvement.

PKH activities must be carried out by female RTSM program recipients. Women's activities in PKH are in the form of assistance fund assistance, Joint Business Groups (Kube), electronic warung (e Warong), and Family Development System (FDS). The various PKH empowerment activities took a lot of time and energy from the family administrators, namely RTSM women.

The regulation of the distribution of husband and wife work in the home has become an important implementation of women's issue for the empowerment. According to Usman (1998) in the division of work between husband and wife, there is a growing social interaction over the value of work and it is not surprising that the value can be something that forces in the sense that people must submit to it. This means that the sexual part is still dominated by men in the public domain.PKH social assistance is essentially providing space for RTSM women to no longer depend entirely on men. According to Ritzer (2010) in terms of the phenomenology of women's existence and the opportunity for women to be conceptualized as "other" creatures than men. On the other hand the feminist movement is mainly fighting for women to be able to explore their potential and increase the capacity of self-actualization and liberation from men.

Women in essence have the same resources as men to meet education and health needs. With this additional income, the bargaining power of women should increase because of the power to manage financial resources and the responsibility of ensuring children's education and health is guaranteed.

This study was conducted aimed at finding out the representation of empowerment of very poor household women through social assistance carried out by the Family Hope Program (PKH) in Banyumas Regency..

#### 2 THEORETICAL

Moghadam (2005) emphasized that poverty is taking on a female face. ? Answered in Sseveral aspects of feminization of the following women:

- a. Women's access to work. Women have lower labor market access and equality than men. This can be seen based on Banyumas data in BPS figures (2017) that the number of registered job seekers who have not absorbed 7,978 women is far greater than the 5,935 male job seekers.
- b. Women's access to equal wages. Wages discrimination against women continues to occur today. Wage discrimination is solely because of gender factors even though they are the same in working hours, capacity and ability.
- c. Access to women's education is lower. Percentage of school participation in the 7-24 year age group, women who do not go to school again at 14.07 percent while men are 13.77 percent (
- d. Women's workload. According to Hubeis (2010) the initial basis of the division of labor based on gender is related to differences in the roles of men and women in reproductive functions. The duties of men and women are considered as a differentiating role and maintaining family sustainability in the sense of avoiding conflict.

The feminization of poverty is fundamentally inseparable from the issue of gender injustice. Poverty that is "considered" with a female face is the starting point of this gender injustice perspective. Through the Family Hope Program (PKH) that provides benefits to women from very poor households (RTSM), they can only answer to eliminate the feminization of poverty or even extend the face of poverty.

### 3 METHOD

The method used in this study was qualitative with a phenomenological approach, collecting in-depth interview data and FGD and analysis methods using interactive analysis and Longwe's gender analysis. This study concludes that there are several phases of empowerment participation in the PKH program, namely the formation of women's groups, the running of group meetings, the formation of Joint Business Groups (Kube), the utilization of the results of group activities and evaluation of group activities...

#### 4 RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The PKH program is a conditional social assistance program for families and / or someone who is poor and vulnerable who are registered in integrated data on the poor handling program, processed by the Social Welfare Data and Information Center and



designated as PKH beneficiary families. The PKH program has short-term goals and objectives long-term. PKH's short-term goal is to reduce the burden of Very Poor Households (RTSM). The long-term goal of PKH is to break the chain of structural or intergenerational poverty, the next generation can be separated from the poverty chain.

PKH social assistance is given to Very Poor Households (RTSM). Data on families who can become PKH participants are obtained from the Integrated Data Base (BDT) and meet at least one component and criteria for the following program participation.

Table 1: PKH Banyumas Beneficiaries 2019.

No	Helping	Criteria	Sum receiver
1	Healthy	Expectan	1.432
		mother	
		Toddler	27.041
2	Educatiom	SD/MI	55. 849
		SMP/MTS	23.456
		SMA/MA	18.214
3	Social aid	Older	43. 563
		Disability	585
	Sum		170.140

Source: PPKH Banyumas Regency

Proof of PKH membership in the form of a Prosperous Family Card (KKS) that functions as an ATM card. The amount of assistance can be taken by the Family Management at the nearest Post Office / Bank by bringing KKS and cannot be represented. KPM was given socialization to be able to collect funds at the ATMs of Government Banks), according to PKH's goal of introducing the benefits of formal financial products and services. In the end, PKH aims to increase investment in the field of human resources (HR) for future generations.

Tarjana (2011) sees that the potential of women can be seen from how the large composition of the population of women must also be driven by great ability. Thus, empowering RTSM must consider their potential. Participatory aspects involving RTSM women in a development process cannot be separated from how they interpret social assistance.

As said by one of the RTSM women named SR

"Disbursing the disbursement of social assistance, we always counted for this need, especially for children of school age and depending on the number of groups that were allocated for activities"

Based on the results of the study, there were several phases of participation in empowering RTSM women in the PKH program in Banyumas Regency, namely:

#### a. Establishment of RTSM Women's Group

Effendi (1995) emphasized that the optimization of empowerment was not on improving welfare but on increasing the ability to prosper. In PKH the increase was passed through the PKH assistance program with the formation of women's groups. The formation of groups was the initial phase of RTSM women's participation in the PKH program.

The formation of groups has the principle of togetherness and has the same spirit and purpose. Formation of groups is usually based on the RW (Rukun Warga) area of each participant. The aim is to facilitate meeting activities both in terms of distance and group meeting time.

Formation of group management (chairman, secretary and treasurer) for effectiveness of meeting activities. The group administrators are selected based on mutual consultation. In the next stage, the management and group members meet regularly at least once a month. Sometimes group formation experiences obstacles, among others: there is no agreement in choosing a group leader.

As stated by KW women beneficiaries

"After getting help, it makes a group, it is also difficult to make a group, on complaint when the meeting is held twice a month, the election of the chairman is just the same as it is difficult..

They together discuss and try to overcome the problems faced by groups or members. The problem of rising from poverty through increasing behavior is one of the issues that continues to be developed by the RTSM women's group. Farid (2018) explained that subjects must base their conscious acts on the subject's awareness. In this study, RTSM women beneficiaries of PKH have discovered that group formation is a way to overcome their life problems.

#### b. The Run of Group Meetings (Mentoring)

The on going assistance takes place in the process of dialogue between facilitators and women RTSM requires a sense of trust between the two parties. This dialogue can be established through intensive communication that is built by companions and women. This can be done by always attending each group meeting and providing special training such as P2K2 (Family Capacity Building Meeting) and entrepreneurship training by business people. Group meetings are PKH compulsory social assistance activities every month (PKH General Guidelines, 2018).



The meaning of mentoring according to RTSM women in this study is not to be a student teacher or dominant and mastered, but both learn. PKH participants who are female RTSM are considered to be friends so that they are unfeeling one higher and one lower. The accompanying task in this process is to grow the sense of belonging of the beneficiaries to the entire set of PKH mentoring activities.

#### c. Utilizing the Results of Group Activities

Women's groups are a solution to the involvement of women in the business of the collective realm that carries productive creative economic activities and upholds local wisdom (Sayogjo, 2010). Group empowerment activities through businesses and activities developed based on the potential of the group itself. As a form of empowerment, group results should come from beneficiaries, by beneficiaries and for beneficiaries. Companions in this case are those who encourage and convince beneficiaries to be able to rise in empowerment through groups.

As said by SH beneficiary women

"Kelompoke kulo saged plesur teng Baturraden through the Waste Bank" Sri Rejeki "sing until it was collected in 2013, helping to help members need funds, the garbage bank sing a few ping pindo ngumpulaken"

The world of their experience can be seen in the course of the activities of the groups that have just been produced if they have been around for a long time. The results of activities in the form of material such as money, food or clothing can also be non-material, such as organizational experience, managing finances and learning to discuss. According to Adian (2010) the world of experience is based on consciousness in "as far as experienced". In this study they have indeed experienced and long-term processes and in the long run so they are quick to tell about the activities of RTSM women in managing their businesses and groups.

#### d. Evaluation of Group Activities

The evaluation phase is an important step to find out the extent to which empowerment activities can run in a sustainable manner. In essence, in evaluating participation programs, women are directed to improve themselves in developing and maturing various potentials and opportunities that exist in women that enable them to take advantage of equal rights and opportunities with men towards development resources.

According to the female beneficiary of PKH RD,

"I came out from PKH this year and shared a lot of experiences, and I still want to join the group even though I can't get help"

Increasing women's independence in the economic field will also increase the income and welfare of their families. Independence will be able to influence other women so that they want to take part in improving their skills and knowledge. So that they are finally able to improve people's welfare. It is feared that being poor again after leaving PKH can be minimized by providing knowledge and skills.

Handayani (2008) states that the five dimensions of women's empowerment are dynamic, synergistic, mutually reinforcing and hierarchical methods. Five aspects of women's empowerment proposed by Sara Longwe, when associated with empowering PKH RTSM Banyumas women still tend to be welfare-enhancing, increased access and increased participation. PKH empowerment activities have not yet arrived at critical awareness activities and women's power or control over resources in the community.

The PKH program policies in Banyumas Regency that implement women as beneficiaries of the program are still considered as program objects. Empowerment activities are still limited to mobilizing and mobilizing existing resources. This is because RTSM women interpret social assistance not as a form of empowerment but only limited to assistance for poverty such as previous programs. According to Handayani (2008) the higher the level of equality (up to the level of mastery), the higher the level of empowerment will be automatic. This gender analysis is not only about material welfare but lies in the process of women's ability.

Emphasis on efforts to build critical awareness of women in Banyumas Regency is still not maximized. This means that the gender gap at this level is due to the lower socio-economic position of women and the traditional gender division of labor is still found. While emphasized according to Ritzer (2010) feminists concentrate on efforts to combat gender inequality that occurs in the structure of society. Some of the obstacles encountered in this related study included a lack of support from the husband, low female education and a lack of accompanying initiatives in building critical awareness of women.

The welfare or welfare dimension seen in PKH social assistance is able to help the welfare of RTSM women. The income they get through social assistance is really used for the needs of the aid component they have. The increase in income



obtained by women makes their bargaining position increase.

Increasing the dimensions of women's access is a goal of activities related to providing encouragement and knowledge about the availability of resources. According to Handayani (2008), the dimensions of access in women's empowerment have not been realized if the root causes of systemic discrimination still exist, even though their potential resources are many. In the results of this study the opportunity resources they have through PKH Banyumas Regency can be improved.

## 5. CONCLUSION

Representation of empowerment of RTSM women can be seen in the phase of empowerment participation in the PKH program, namely the formation of women's groups, the running of group meetings, the formation of Joint Business Groups (Kube), the utilization of the results of group activities and evaluation of group activities. Based on Longwe's analysis in this study, empowerment activities of PKH beneficiary women were seen to increase welfare, increase access and increase participation. However, the representation of empowerment has not yet reached critical awareness activities and women's power or control over the resources that exist in society. Even on the other hand the reliance on social assistance will lead to the polarization of the economic groups of poor women which increasingly legitimize that women's faces of poverty.

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