

Populasi

JURNAL KEPENDUDUKAN DAN KEBIJAKAN

FERTILITY DECLINE IN MALAWI: A DECOMPOSITION ANALYSIS

Martin Enock Palamuleni

THE EFFECT OF PER CAPITA EXPENDITURE ON THE WORKING STATUS OF THE ELDERLY IN INDONESIA

Atina Asyfa Amania and Hardius Usman

THE CHILD MARRIAGE TRENDS IN 3T REGIONS OF SUMATRA: THE IMPACT OF LAW NO. 16/2019 AND THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON POOR COMMUNITIES

Budi Wahyuni, Ratih Hidayah Nur, and Sri Purwatiningsih

TRANSFORMATION OF DISTRICT/CITY RESPONSE PATTERNS FOR CHILD PROTECTION DURING POST COVID-19, CASE STUDY OF CENTRAL JAVA PROVINCE, INDONESIA

M. Indra Hadi Wijaya, Farid Agushybana, Sutopo Patria Jati, Nofa Martina Ariani, Cahya Tri Purnami, Salma, Naintina Lisnawati, Amni Zarkasyi Rahman, and Satria Aji Imawan

YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE PATRIOT DESA PROGRAM OF WEST JAVA

Asraar Kamal Azmi, Hakimul Ikhwan, and Umi Listyaningsih



PREFACE

The current issue of *Populasi Journal*, Volume 32, Number 2, December 2024, features five articles. One is contributed by an African researcher, while the remaining four are from Indonesian scholars. The articles delve into various demographic issues, including fertility rates, aging populations, early marriage, child protection, and youth leadership.

Martin Enock Palamuleni's opening article examines the decreasing fertility rates in Malawi through a decomposition analysis. According to researcher, fertility is declining in Malawi and the fall is clustered among women younger than 30 years of age. The contribution of marital fertility to the decline of Total Fertility Rate was 65.0% during the period 1992–2000, 89.5% during 2000–2004, 2.6% during 2004–2010, and 4.3% during 2010–2015, respectively. Over the same period, the respective contribution of the proportion married was 29.4%, 10.8%, 77.9%, and 92.6%. These percentages suggest that marital fertility followed by the proportion of married were important factors before 2005. After 2005, fertility levels and patterns in Malawi are largely influenced by nuptiality. However, there is need for further studies to explain the marriage and fertility nexus in the Malawian context.

Following this, the subsequent article authored by Atina Asyfa Amania and Hardius Usman delves into the topic of 'The Effect of Per Capita Expenditure on the Working Status of the Elderly in Indonesia'. The increasing number of elderly people indicates that Indonesia has begun to enter the second demographic bonus. This stage can be beneficial if the elderly remain productive and contribute to development. The results of this study explain that per capita expenditure has a significant effect on the working status of the elderly, but the effect is different in terms of place of residence, age, gender, head of household status, marital status, education level, health complaint status, and ownership of health insurance.

In addition, the third article by Budi Wahyuni and team discusses the rising trend of early marriage among poor people in Sumatra. The authors analyze this issue by looking at Law No. 16 of 2019 and the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. The results of their research explain an increasing trend in child-age marriage practices. This is typically caused by, among other things, a lack of understanding of Law No. 16 of 2019 and a low level of education about sexual and reproductive health rights, which led to unwanted pregnancies, school dropouts, and poverty.

On the other hand, the fourth article, authored by M. Indra Hadi Wijaya and colleagues, highlights the issue of 'Transformation of District/City Response Patterns for Child Protection during Post Covid-19, Case Study of Central Java Province, Indonesia'. Covid-19 for three years has become an inseparable part of the lives of urban and rural communities. The impact occurs, such as the impact of Covid-19 on children. Children are a vulnerable part of society during a pandemic, about the conditions for their health, education, and protection. Their findings explain that not all city/district areas have a response to child protection during the Covid-19 pandemic, urban areas are more responsive to this condition. Increasing the role of protection for children during a pandemic is an important part of the process of returning to the new normal.

Finally, the fifth article by Asraar Kamal Azmi and the team focuses on 'Youth Leadership Development through the Patriot Desa Program of West Java'. One of the provinces with a lower percentage change in The National Youth Development Index (YDI) than expected is

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West Java, which is at the bottom of the list. This is ironic considering that 20% of Indonesia's total youth reside in West Java. However, according to the authors, in particular, the village patriots who served in the research locations were highly dedicated with a self-sacrificing attitude and always collaborated with various parties, so that they could bring about changes in the village in social, economic, and environmental aspects. However, these things are also inseparable from the influence of pre-deployment orientation and the role of the regional coordinator who is very supportive as a mentor. Youth involvement in community empowerment programs can be a means of developing youth leadership. Therefore, the government needs to involve more youth in other programs so that there is an increase in the domain value of youth participation and leadership.

In conclusion, the five articles featured in this December 2024 issue of the *Populasi Journal* offer valuable insights and expand the readers' knowledge and understanding. We hope you enjoy reading them.

December 2024

Editor in Chief,
Muhadjir Darwin

Fertility Decline in Malawi: A Decomposition Analysis

Martin Enock Palamuleni

Population Studies and Demography & Population and Health, North-West University, Mafikeng Campus,
Private Bag X2046, Mmabatho 2735, South Africa

Corresponding Author: Martin E. Palamuleni (email: mpalamuleni@gmail.com)

Abstract

Fertility in Malawi has been declining since the late 1980s. Total Fertility Rate is reported to have declined by 1.1 children per woman from 5.7 in 2010 to 4.6 in 2015. This reduction indicates a continuing rapid decline in fertility in the country. In view of the foregoing, this study aims to examine the influence of the age structure of the population, nuptiality, and marital fertility on fertility in Malawi. This study used the Malawi Demographic and Health Survey data from 1992, 2000, 2004, 2010, and 2015–2016. Standardization and decomposition methods were used to re-examine fertility trends in Malawi. The results confirm that fertility is declining in Malawi and the fall is clustered among women younger than 30 years of age. The contribution of marital fertility to the decline of Total Fertility Rate was 65.0% during the period 1992–2000, 89.5% during 2000–2004, 2.6% during 2004–2010, and 4.3% during 2010–2015, respectively. Over the same period, the respective contribution of the proportion married was 29.4%, 10.8%, 77.9%, and 92.6%. These percentages suggest that marital fertility followed by proportion of married were important factors before 2005. After 2005, fertility levels and patterns in Malawi are largely influenced by nuptiality. However, there is need for further studies to explain the marriage and fertility nexus in the Malawian context.

Keywords: crude birth rate; decomposition; fertility; marital fertility; nuptiality

Introduction

Malawi is one of the countries considered to be on the rise with regard to increased uptake of family planning methods (Solo, Jacobstein, and Malema 2005). Contraceptive use has increased from 13.0% in 1992 to 24.6% in 2000, 25.5% in 2004, 45.8% in 2010 and 58.8% in 2015 (NSO and Macro 1994, 2002, 2006, 2011, 2017). Until recently, the increase in contraceptive use did not translate into noticeable fertility decline (Chintsanya 2013; Palamuleni 2013). Available statistics indicate that Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of 6.7 children per woman in 1992 declined to 6.4 children per woman in 2000, 6.0 children per

woman in 2004, 5.7 children per woman in 2010 and 4.6 children per woman in 2015 (NSO and Macro, 1994, 2002, 2006, 2011, 2017).

Malawi is located in Africa, a continent known for its high fertility rates and a delayed start to the demographic transition (Cohen, 1998; Kirk and Pillet, 1998; UN, 2015; Casterline, 2017; Garenne, 2018). Numerous studies have demonstrated that fertility transition is in progress in Africa (Garenne, 2018; Caldwell and Caldwell, 1995; Caldwell, Orubuloye, and Caldwell, 1992; Machiyama, 2010; Machiyama, et.al., 2010). However, the speed, timing, pattern, determinants, and consequences of the observed fertility transition remain to be

established (Garenne and Joseph, 2002; Garenne, 2013). The commencement of fertility transition in Africa is not only welcomed but has also given rise to discussions on the nature and patterns of transition, as well as the causes and consequences for such a decline (Diamond and Rutenberg, 1995). There are researchers who questioned whether decrease in fertility in Africa was real and sustainable (Blacker, 1994; Machiyama, 2010; Machiyama, et.al., 2010).

The decline of fertility in Africa is a subject that has attracted attention among social scientists (Schoumaker, 2017; John and Adjiwanou, 2022; May and Rotenberg, 2020; Caldwell, Orubuloye, and Caldwell, 1992; Casterline, 2017; Garenne, 2018). Among the factors stated as causing the decline in fertility in sub-Saharan Africa, the rise in female employment is included (Van den Broeck and Maertens, 2015), as well as family planning programmes (Caldwell, Orubuloye, and Caldwell, 1992; Caldwell and Caldwell, 2002); urbanisation (Garenne and Joseph, 2002), female education (Behrman, 2015; Shapiro, 2012), changes in the nuptiality patterns (Gaisie, 2000; Gaisie, 2013; Shapiro and Gebreselassie, 2014), abortion (du Lou, et.al., 2000; Singh, Bankole, and Darroch, 2017). However, there are limited studies that have been conducted to understand the causes and consequences of fertility transition in Malawi.

One consequence of decline in fertility that appears to dominate most of the discussions in recent decades is the issue of demographic dividend. It is believed that as fertility declines, the age-sex structure will change in such a way that there will be a time when the people in the working age groups 15–64 years will outnumber the younger age group (population younger than 15 years of age) and the older age group (population older than 65 years of age). When this happens, with the right policies in place for good governance and no corruption, economic development is expected to hasten as savings and investment

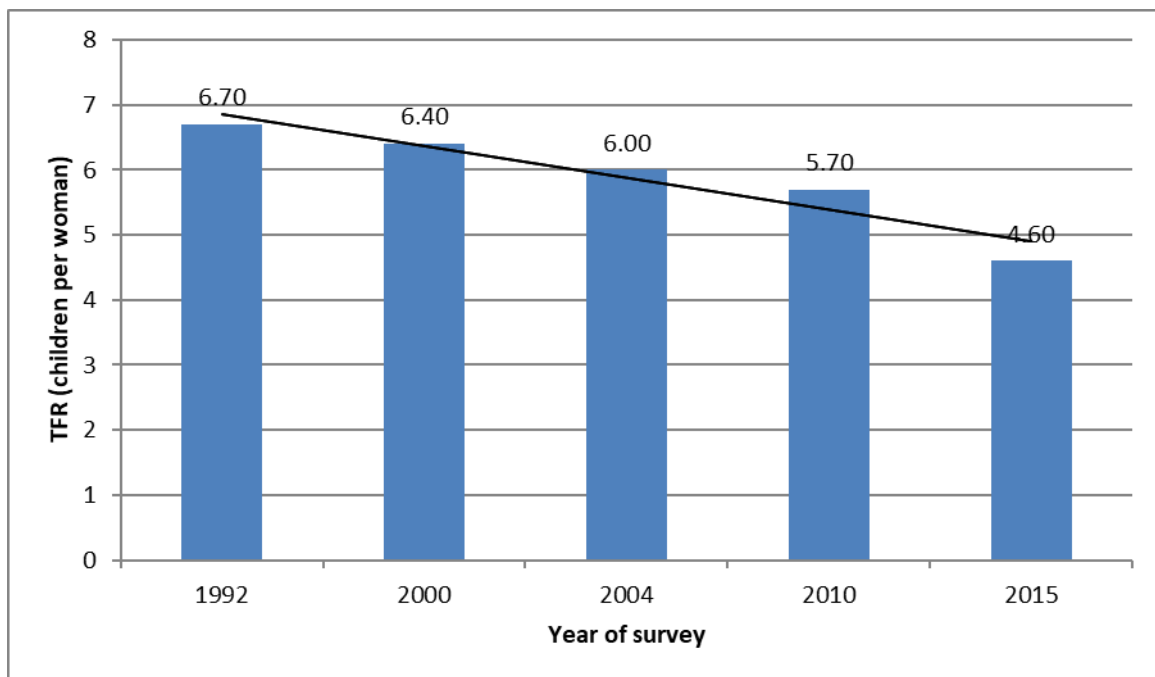
opportunities increase. This observation has given rise to an increasing number of social scientists taking an interest in the decline of fertility.

This study re-examines the Malawian fertility transition using decomposition techniques to provide additional insights into other dimensions of the decline.

Studies on Fertility in Malawi

Since a complete Vital Registration System (VRS) is not available, fertility studies in Malawi have mostly relied on data collected from population censuses and demographic surveys. To date, six national population censuses (1996, 1977, 1987, 1998, 2008, 2018) and several nationally representative demographic surveys such as 1970–1972 Malawi Population Change Survey, 1982 Malawi Demographic Survey, and 1984 Family Formation Survey have been conducted. Malawi has also conducted Demographic and Health Surveys (MDHS) in 1992, 2000, 2004, 2010 and 2015. Furthermore, Malawi has carried out Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys in 2006, 2013–2014 and 2019–2020.

The first post-colonial census in 1966 did not include questions on fertility, but researchers used indirect techniques to estimate a TFR of 6.5 for the mid-1960s (Palamuleni, 1993; Hill, 1986). Application of the Brass P/F Brass ratio technique and the Gompertz relational model to data from the 1970–1972, 1982, and 1984 surveys and 1977 census revealed that TFR remained more or less constant at 7.7 children per woman (MG 1984, 1987a, 1987b). The analysis of 1987 suggested a slight decline in TFR to 7.4 children per woman (MG 1994a). TFR was estimated to be 6.5 children per woman in 1998 and declined further to 6.0 children per woman in 2008 (MG 2013). The decline of TFR estimates, based on available MDHSs, are reflected in Figure 1.



Source: Created by the author using data from MDHSS

Figure 1. Total Fertility Rates for Malawi from 1992–2015

Although the national child spacing programme was adopted in 1982, the emphasis was on the improvement of maternal and child health. The late 1980's marked the beginning of a gradual, but significant, shift in Malawi's official approach towards birth/population control and family planning programme. The establishment of the Demographic Training Unit at the University of Malawi, with financial and technical assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), had the sole mandate to train population scientists to integrate population variables into development planning. Later, the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development created the Population and Human Resource Development Unit (PHRDU) whose mandate was to coordinate all population activities in Malawi. In addition, the National Family Welfare Council of Malawi (later renamed National Family Planning Council of Malawi) was established and granted the mandate to coordinate family planning and other reproductive health services in Malawi. Furthermore, the

emergence of multiparty democracy saw the mushrooming of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Community Based Organisations (CBOs) working on population issues. The changing institutional landscape led to increasing ascendancy of health concerns of the high population growth rate.

Furthermore, 1994 marked another milestone in the national family planning programme in Malawi. Three events stand out during that year. First, Dr. Banda, Malawi's first president who served from 1964 to 1994 and was previously thought to view family planning as a foreign idea, approved the country's first national population policy, which included support for family planning. Second, the shift toward multiparty democracy led to a new government under Dr. Muluzi, who was president from 1994 to 2004. This era saw the establishment of various NGOs and community-based organizations focused on reproductive health. Third, Malawi took part in the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in

Cairo in 1994. Following the conference, which emphasized reproductive health, the Malawian government, like many others, pledged to support and safeguard the sexual and reproductive rights of all women. Consequently, the Ministry of Health was renamed the Ministry of Health and Population (MHoP), and the Population and Health Research Development Unit (PHRDU) was moved from the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development to MHoP.

The 1990s saw development of several policies in population and reproductive health. Chief among these were the National Population Policy (MG 1994b), and the Family Planning Policy and Contraceptives Guidelines (MG 1996). The Family Planning Policy and Contraceptives Guidelines advocated that these services are available to all men and women and improved access to family planning services by removing age and marital status barriers.

The National Reproductive Health Policy adopted in 2003 detailed strategies related to the health sector reforms consistent with the ICPD, the 1995 Beijing Conference on Women, and the Millennium Development Goals.

Data and Methods

Data

The study utilized data derived from five Malawi Demographic and Health Surveys conducted in 1992, 2000, 2004, 2010, and 2015–2016 (NSO and Macro 1994, 2002, 2006, 2011, 2017). These surveys are cross-

sectional, nationally representative, and have collected data of good quality that have produced reliable demographic estimates. The surveys collected information on women's socio-demographic characteristics, birth history, reproductive health, contraceptive methods, and HIV/AIDS.

Methods

Fertility levels, trends, and patterns are examined by using estimates obtained from the survey data from 1992–2015. Standardization is used to control the differences in the reported population age structure. Three decomposition methods were used to decompose Crude Birth Rate (CBR), Age Specific Fertility Rates (ASFR), and TFR into marital fertility, marital or nuptiality structure, and age composition (Arriaga, Johnson, and Jamison, 1994; Sibanda, et.al., 2003; Kouaouci, 1993; Chaurasia, 2011). These methods have been extensively used and have produced plausible results (Gubhaju, Jongstra, and Raikoti, 2014; Palamuleni, 2011; Kouaouci, 1993; Chaurasia, 2011). Moreover, there is a growing interest in fertility studies in using decomposition procedures (Gubhaju, Jongstra, and Raikoti, 2014; Palamuleni, 2011; Sibanda, et.al., 2003; Jiang et al. 2019; Yip, Chen, and Chan 2015; Sayi 2014). Some of the recent studies that have employed decomposition analyses were conducted in countries such as South Africa (Palamuleni, 2011); Nepal, Fiji (Gubhaju, Jongstra, and Raikoti, 2014), Hong Kong (Yip, Chen, and Chan, 2015), India (Chaurasia, 2011) and North Africa (Mohammed, 2024).

Decomposing CBR

The first approach used in this study is based on decomposing CBR into three components representing the marital fertility, age structure and proportion married.

$$CBR = \frac{B}{P} 1000 \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

where B is the number of live births in a year and P is the population at risk. This equation can be rewritten as follows.

$$CBR = P_{f15-49} / P \times MW_{15-49} / P_{f15-49} \times B / MW_{15-49} 1000 \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

where P_{f15-49} is the female population in the reproductive age groups (15–49 years), MW_{15-49} is married women aged 15–49 years, and B and P are the same as defined previously. Equation (2) indicates that CBR consists of three components: the proportion of women aged 15–49 years in the total population; the proportion of married women in the age group 15–49 years and the fertility rate among married women. These three

components represent the age structure, nuptiality and marital fertility, respectively.

Assuming that <S> represents the structure, <N> represents nuptiality, and <F> represents marital fertility, then the difference between two crude birth rates (CBRs) (denoted CBR_1 and CBR_2) can be presented as $CBR_1 - CBR_2$. Using logarithms rule this can be written as follows.

$$\log CBR_1 - CBR_2 = \log CBR_1 / CBR_2 \dots\dots\dots (3)$$

$$\log (CBR_1 / CBR_2) = \log (<S_1> / <S_2>) + \log (<N_1> / <N_2>) + \log (<F_1> / <F_2>) \dots\dots\dots (4)$$

Dividing both sides of the equation (4) by $\log (CBR_1 / CBR_2)$, the following equations are obtained.

$$\frac{\log (CBR_1 / CBR_2)}{\log (CBR_1 / CBR_2)} = \frac{\log (<S_1> / <S_2>)}{\log (CBR_1 / CBR_2)} + \frac{\log (<N_1> / <N_2>)}{\log (CBR_1 / CBR_2)} + \frac{\log (<F_1> / <F_2>)}{\log (CBR_1 / CBR_2)} \dots\dots\dots (5)$$

Considering the right hand of equation (5), the first part represents the impact of the contribution of the age structure, the second part is the impact of nuptiality and the third part is contribution of marital fertility.

Decomposing ASFR

The second decomposition method is based on the United States Bureau of Census (Arriaga, Johnson, and Jamison 1994). The formula for decomposing fertility is presented as follows.

$${}_5f_x = \frac{{}_5B_x}{{}_5FP_x} = \frac{{}_5B_x}{{}_5W_x} \cdot \frac{{}_5W_x}{{}_5FP_x} = {}_5wf_x \cdot {}_5Pw_x \dots\dots\dots (6)$$

where ${}_5f_x$ is the ASFR pertaining to women aged x to x+4 years; ${}_5B_x$ is the number of births to mothers age x to x+4 years; ${}_5FP_x$ is

the total number of women age x to x+4 years; ${}_5W_x$ is the number of women who are mothers at age x to x+4 years; ${}_5wf_x$ is the fertility rate of all mothers in the population

at age x to $x+4$ years; and ${}_5Pw_x$ is the proportion of mothers age x to $x+4$ years. Hence, the TFR can be expressed in terms

of maternal fertility and proportion of mothers, as follows.

$$TFR = 5 \sum f_x = 5 \sum w f_x \cdot {}_5Pw_x \dots\dots\dots(7)$$

where the definition of the symbols is the same as given previously.

Decomposing TFR

The third decomposition method used in this study is based on the methodology proposed by Lindstrom and Woubalem (Lindstrom and Woubalem, 2003) who demonstrated that

the TFR is the weighted sums of the marital (Fxm) and nonmarital (Fxn) age-specific fertility rates where the weights are the age-specific proportions of women married (kxm) and not married (kxn).

$$TFR = 5 \sum_x (k_{xm} F_{xm} + k_{kn} F_{xn}) \dots\dots\dots(8)$$

The difference between two TFRs can be decomposed into change in (i) the proportion married, (ii) marital fertility rates, and (iii)

non-marital fertility rates. Mathematical the decomposition can be presented as follows.

$$\Delta TFR = 5 \sum_x \frac{1}{2} (F_{xm}^{(t_2)} + F_{xm}^{(t_1)}) (k_{xm}^{(t_2)} - k_{xm}^{(t_1)}) \dots\dots\dots(9)$$

$$+ 5 \sum_x \frac{1}{2} (F_{xn}^{(t_2)} + F_{xn}^{(t_1)}) (k_{xn}^{(t_2)} - k_{xn}^{(t_1)}) \dots\dots\dots(10)$$

$$+ 5 \sum_x \frac{1}{2} (k_{xn}^{(t_2)} + k_{xn}^{(t_1)}) (F_{xn}^{(t_2)} - F_{xn}^{(t_1)}) \dots\dots\dots(11)$$

Results and Discussion

Table 1 presents various measures of fertility for Malawi from 1992 to 2015-2016. The values of CBR and General Fertility Rate (GFR) indicate an increase in fertility between 1992 and 2000 and a declining trend thereafter, whereas TFR reveals a fertility decline during the period under review although the decline was rather modest in the 1990s, early 2000s, and much more rapid between 2010 and 2015.

influencing CBR to increase rather than decrease. For the period 2000–2004, CBR fell by 6.8% from 45.5 to 42.4. During this period, changes in the age structures contributed nearly two-thirds of the decline, whereas the remaining one-third was due to genuine decline in age-specific fertility. The same can be said for the period 2004–2010. During the period 2010–2015, CBR fell by 18% from 39.2 to 32.2 with almost all the decline ascribed to variations in the age structure.

For the period 1992–2000, when the CBR increased by 6% from 42.9 to 45.5, the standardized CBR declined by 3.6% from 57.6 to 55.5. This suggests that even though fertility was declining the age-structure was

The standardized CBRs suggest that fertility declined by 3.6%, 4.6%, 5.9%, and 23.5% between 1992–2000, 2000–2004, 2004–2010 and 2010–2015 respectively. These percentages further suggested that

the tempo of fertility decline has increased over time.

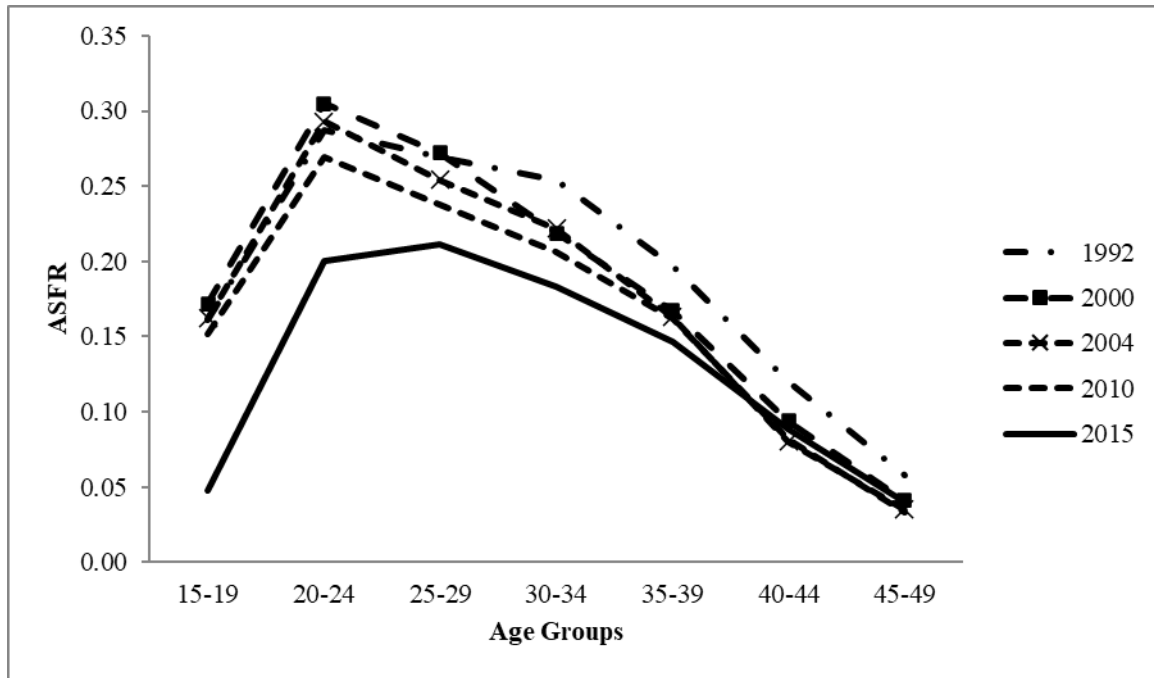
Figure 2 indicates the age pattern of fertility in Malawi. The age-specific fertility rates (ASFRs) rise as the age of the mother increases reaching a peak in the age group 20–24 years and then decline reaching a minimal value in age group 45–49 years. All

datasets show the same pattern. The observed age pattern of decline in fertility indicates that during the period 1992–2004 most of the decline occurred among women older than 35 years of age, whereas during the period 2004–2015 women younger than 35 years of age show the greatest decline in fertility.

Table 1. Selected Measures of Fertility for Malawi (1992–2015)

Age groups (years)	Year					Percentage change			
	1992	2000	2004	2010	2015	1992-2000	2000-2004	2004-2010	2010-2015
15–19	0.161	0.172	0.162	0.152	0.047	6.8	-5.8	-6.2	-68.9
20–24	0.287	0.305	0.293	0.269	0.200	6.3	-3.9	-8.2	-25.5
25–29	0.269	0.272	0.254	0.238	0.211	1.1	-6.6	-6.3	-11.1
30–34	0.254	0.219	0.222	0.206	0.183	-13.8	1.4	-7.2	-11.2
35–39	0.197	0.167	0.163	0.162	0.147	-15.2	-2.4	-0.6	-9.5
40–44	0.120	0.094	0.080	0.082	0.088	-21.7	-14.9	2.5	7.7
45–49	0.058	0.041	0.035	0.033	0.040	-29.3	-14.6	-5.7	20.0
TFR	6.7	6.4	6.0	5.7	4.6	-5.6	-4.8	-5.5	-19.7
CBR	42.9	45.5	42.4	39.2	32.2	6.1	-6.8	-7.5	-17.9
GFR	207.8	209.3	211.1	187.0	140.8	0.7	0.9	-11.4	-24.7
Standardized Rates (direct)									
CBR	57.6	55.5	53.0	49.8	38.3	-3.6	-4.6	-5.9	-23.2
GFR	204.1	196.9	187.7	176.7	135.7	-3.6	-4.6	-5.9	-23.2
Standardized Rates (indirect)									
CBR	57.5	55.9	53.7	49.5	37.7	-2.8	-3.9	-7.8	-23.8
GFR	203.6	197.8	190.0	175.2	133.6	-2.8	-3.9	-7.8	-23.8

Source: Calculated by author using data from MDHSs



Source: Created by the author using data from MDHSs

Figure 2. Age-Specific Fertility Rates (ASFR) for Malawi, 1992–2015

Decomposing Crude Birth Rate

Table 2 shows the data required for and the results of decomposing CBR into three components of age structure, nuptiality, and marital fertility. During the period 1992–2015, the proportion of married women in the population declined from 84.3% in 1992 to 83.0% in 2000 remaining at the same level in 2004 before declining to 80.3% in 2010 and 64.9% in 2015. Marital fertility increased from 0.246 in 1992 to 0.252 in 2000 and increased slightly to 0.253 in 2004 before declining to 0.233 in 2010 and 0.217 in 2015. The proportion of married women in the study population declined from 0.843 in 1992 to 0.830 in 2000 and increased to 0.835 before declining to 0.803 in 2010 and 0.649 in 2015. The proportion of women in the study population increased from 0.206 in 1992 to 0.217 in 2000 and declined to 0.201 and increased to 0.210 in 2010 and 0.229 in 2015.

The results indicate that during the period 1992–2000, the age structure and

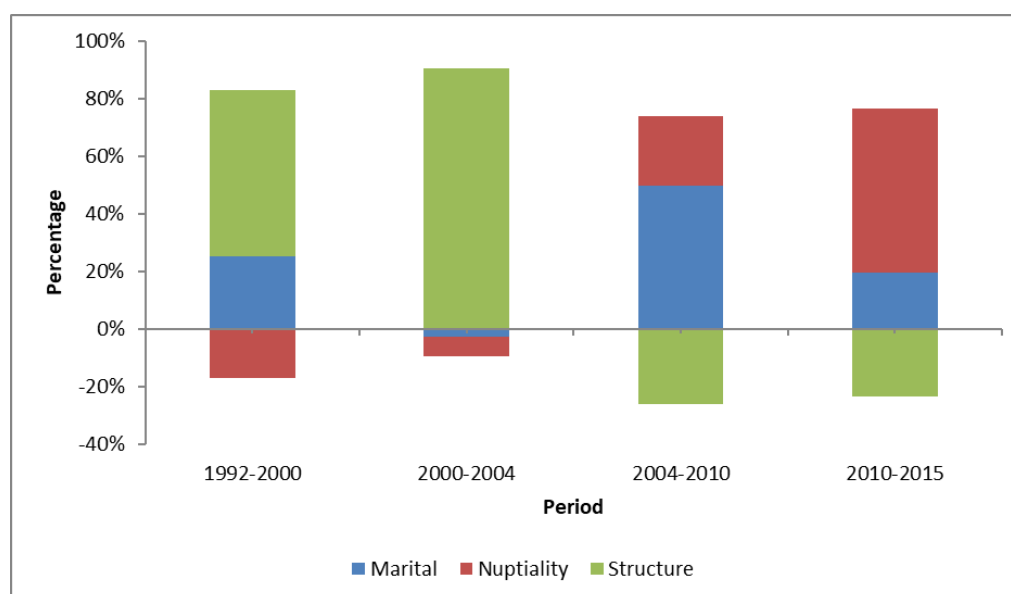
marital structure had positive impact to the rise in fertility, whilst marital fertility had the negative influence on the change in CBR. During 2000–2004 the influence of the age structure was associated with an increase in fertility, whereas both nuptiality and marital fertility were associated with reduced fertility. In other words, the decline in CBR was due to upward pressure of changes in the age structure (112%) combined with the downward pressure of marital fertility (-3.5%) and nuptiality (-8.5%).

The decline in CBR between 2004 and 2010 was largely explained by changes in marital fertility (103.6%) and nuptiality (50.9%) combined with an upward pressure exerted by the age structure (54.5%). The period 2010–2015 was marked by a further decline in CBR. The decline was attributed to changes in nuptiality (107.7%) and marital fertility (36.7%), which was compensated by the upward pressure of the age structure (44.4%).

Table 2. Decomposition of Crude Birth Rate (CBR) for Malawi (1992–2015)

Components	1992	2000	2004	2010	2015
Women	4849	13219	12698	23020	24562
Births	1008	2767	2680	4305	3457
Married	4088	10978	10609	18480	15952
Population	23488	60809	63219	109811	107366
CBR	42.9	45.5	42.4	39.2	32.2
<i>Indicators of components</i>					
CBR/1000	0.043	0.046	0.042	0.039	0.032
birth/married	0.246	0.252	0.253	0.233	0.217
married/population	0.843	0.830	0.835	0.803	0.649
women/population	0.206	0.217	0.201	0.210	0.229
		1992–2000	2000–2004	2004–2010	2000–2015
<i>Absolute Change</i>					
Marital fertility		0.010	0.001	-0.035	-0.031
Nuptiality		-0.007	0.003	-0.017	-0.092
Age structure		0.022	-0.034	0.019	0.038
Overall		0.026	-0.031	-0.034	-0.085
<i>Percentage Change</i>					
Marital fertility		38.0	-3.5	103.6	36.7
Nuptiality		-25.8	-8.5	50.9	107.7
Age structure		87.8	112.1	-54.5	-44.4
Overall		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: Created by the author using data from MDHSs



Source: Created by the author using data from MDHSs

Figure 3. Contribution of Marital Fertility, Nuptiality, and Age Structure to Differences in Crude Birth Rates (CBR) for Malawi (1992–2015)

Decomposing ASFR

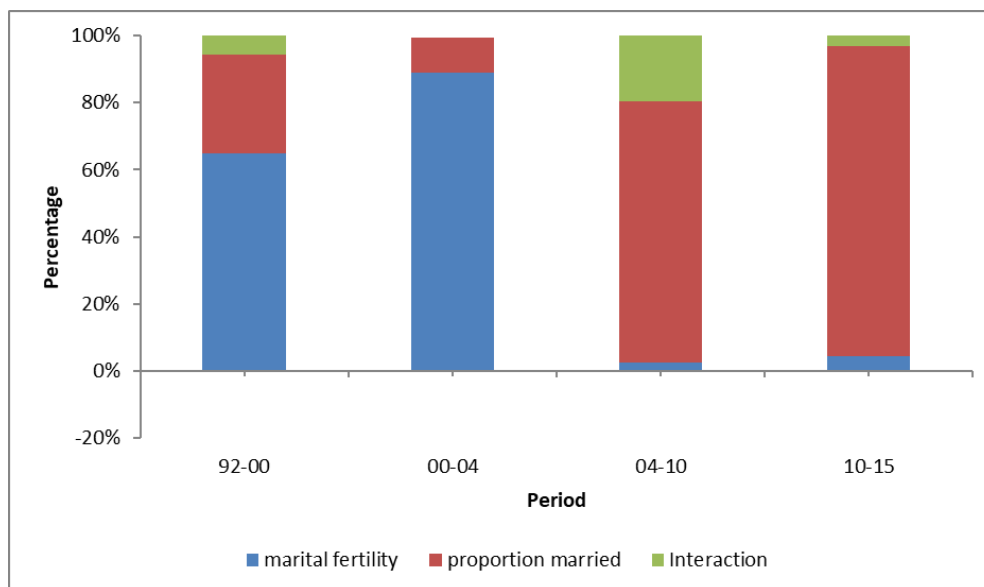
Table 3 and Figure 4 presents the outcomes of the US Census Bureau decomposition method using MDHS data. Table 3 indicates that the change in TFR between 1992 and 2000 consists of variations in marital fertility (65.01%), proportion married (29.4%), and interaction (5.5%). During the period 2000–2004, 89.9% was due to marital fertility, 10.8% because of proportion married and the interaction factor increased fertility by 0.5%. After 2004, the changes in nuptiality

were the main issue contributing to the fall in fertility. This was followed by marital fertility. In this respect, between 2004 and 2010, the proportion married contributed 77.85%, whereas marital fertility contributed 2.62%. Similar percentages for the period 2010–2015 were 92.6% and 4.3%. These findings suggest that marital fertility was an important determinant of fertility during 1992–2004, whereas the proportion of married became an important determinant during 2004–2015.

Table 3. Components of Change in Total Fertility Rate (TFR) in Malawi during 1992–2015

Period	Marital Fertility	Proportion Married	Interaction
1992–2000	65.01	29.42	5.57
2000–2004	89.78	10.75	-0.53
2004–2010	2.62	77.85	19.53
2010–2015	4.25	92.58	3.17

Source: Created by the author using data from MDHSs



Source: Created by the author using data from MDHSs

Figure 4. Decomposition of Total Fertility Rate (TFR) using the United States Bureau of Census Method

Decomposition of TFR

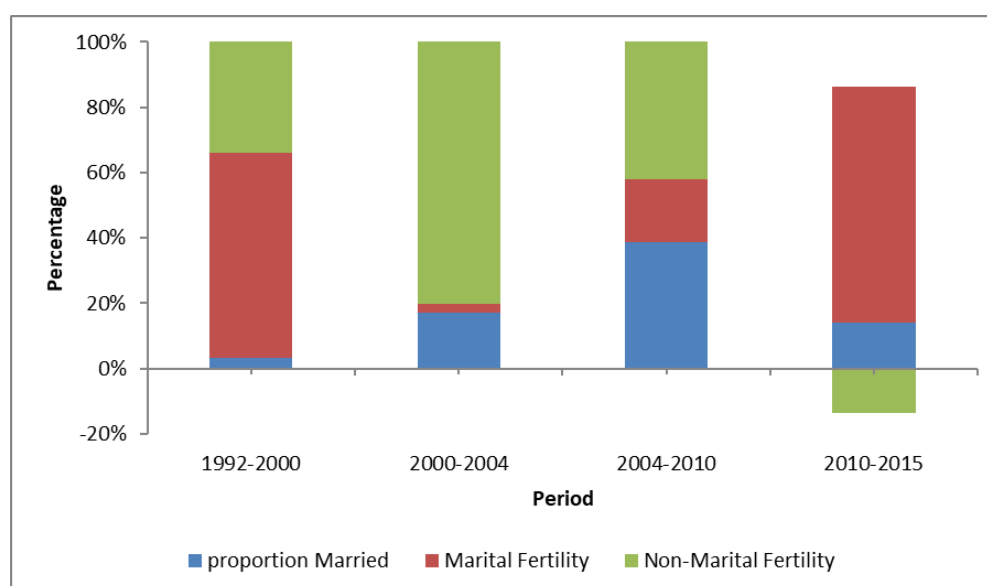
Table 4 and Figure 5 present the findings of the third decomposition technique employed in the study. According to Table 4, between 1992 and 2000, the drop in fertility was due to changes in marital fertility (63.2%), non-marital fertility (34.3%), and marriage patterns (3%). Between 2000 and 2004, the decrease in TFR is accredited to changes in

non-marital fertility (83.3%), proportion of married (17.7%), and marital fertility (2.8%). Furthermore, changes in TFR between 2004 and 2010 are associated with changes in non-marital fertility (46.0%), proportion married (42.1%) and marital fertility (21.0%). Between 2010 and 2015, changes in marital fertility (103.2%), proportion of married (20.3%), and non-marital fertility (19.6%).

Table 4. Decomposition of Total Fertility Rate (TFR) into Marital and Non-Marital Fertility and Proportion Married, Malawi, 1992–2015

Period (years)	Proportion Married	Marital Fertility	Non-Marital Fertility
1992–2000	3.3	63.2	34.2
2000–2004	17.7	2.8	83.3
2004–2010	42.1	21.0	46.0
2010–2015	20.3	103.2	-19.6

Source: Created by the author using data from MDHSs



Source: Created by the author using data from MDHSs

Figure 5. Decomposition of Total Fertility Rate (TFR) based on Lindstrom and Woubalem Method

Determinants of Fertility in Malawi

a. Marriage

The analyses in the previous sections have shown that the changing patterns of marriage are partly responsible for the decline in fertility in Malawi. There are three issues to be considered when this claim is examined: age at first marriage, proportion married, and the amount of spent between unions.

The proportions of married women by five-year groups and the average age at first marriage for Malawi are presented in Table 5. The overall percentage of married women in the reproductive ages remained unchanged at 71% between 1992 and 2000,

increased slightly to 72% between 2000 and 2004 and declined to 67% in 2010 and 65% in 2015. The changes in marriage are concentrated in the age groups younger than 35 years of age and the proportion in the age group 15–19 years records the greatest decrease. The proportion of married women in the age group 15–19 years declined by almost 55% from 0.50 in 1992 to 0.23% in 2015. Similarly, the percentage for women in age groups 20–24 years, 25–29 years, and 30–34 years were 10%, 7%, and 5% respectively. The proportion of currently married women in the age group 35–39 years remained unchanged, whereas the proportion increased for age groups 40–44 years and 45–49 years by 3% and 1% respectively.

Table 5. Proportion of Currently Married Women by Age, Malawi, 1992–2015

Age groups (years)	Years of surveys				
	1992	2000	2004	2010	2015
15–19	0.50	0.33	0.34	0.23	0.23
20–24	0.77	0.78	0.80	0.76	0.70
25–29	0.87	0.87	0.85	0.85	0.81
30–34	0.85	0.83	0.83	0.81	0.81
35–39	0.79	0.84	0.82	0.81	0.79
40–44	0.73	0.80	0.80	0.77	0.76
45–49	0.72	0.76	0.74	0.74	0.73
15–49	0.71	0.71	0.72	0.67	0.65
Age at marriage	17.7	17.9	18.0	17.8	18.3

Source: Calculated by the author using data from MDHSs

Age when women marry is one of the major determinants of fertility. It is assumed that fertility is high among women who marry at a young age. Other things being equal, early marriages are more likely to lead to women having their first child at a young age and giving birth to many children, especially in societies where the principal aim of marriage is to have children and contraceptive use is minimal. Mean age at marriage in Malawi remains low with over half of all women marrying before the age of 20 years. Table 5 indicates that average age

at marriage increased slightly from 17.7 years in 1992 to 17.9 years in 2000, 18.0 years in 2004, declined to 17.8 years in 2010, and increased to 18.3 years in 2015.

b. Contraceptive use

Given that the national family planning programme in Malawi was introduced in the mid-1990's, the country has recorded a remarkable increase in use of contraception.. Table 6 show that the prevalence of contraceptive use for all the

methods for was 13.0% in 1992, 24.6% in 2000, 25.5% in 2004, 45.8% in 2010, and 58.8% in 2015 (NSO and Macro, 2017, 2006, 2011, 2002, 1994). These percentages indicate that contraceptive use increased fourfold in two decades. Until recently, the increase in contraceptive use did not translate into noticeable fertility decline, but research has now linked the increased use of contraception with a decline in fertility. This observation has stunned some researchers (Palamuleni, 2013; Jain, et.al., 2014; Chintsanya, 2013).

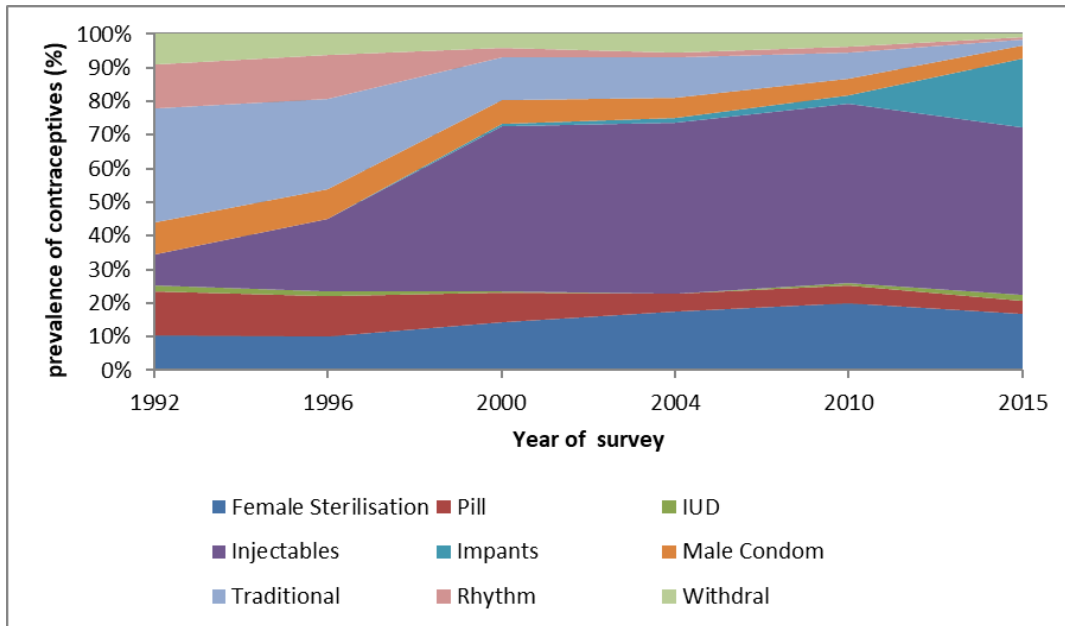
Table 6 and Figure 6 show contraceptive prevalence by method in Malawi. The results show that there has been a change in contraception method over

time. In 1992, rhythm (2.2%), pills (2.2%), female sterilization (1.7%), male condom (1.6%), injectables (1.5%) and withdraw (1.5%) were the most frequently used methods. By 1996, the use of all methods increased apart from the traditional methods. Use of injections increased from 1.5% to 4.9% during the 1992–1996 period. In 2004, injections (13.9%), female sterilization (4.8%), male condom (1.7%), pill (1.5%), and withdrawal (1.5%) were the most frequently used methods. A similar pattern is displayed in 2010. However, the commonly used contraceptive methods in 2015 were injectable, implants, and female sterilization in that order.

Table 6. Contraceptive Use by Method among Currently Married Women, Malawi, 1992–2015

Contraceptive Method	1992	1996	2000	2004	2010	2015
Female Sterilization	1.7	.2.3	3.8	4.8	9.7	10.1
Pill	2.2	2.7	2.3	1.5	2.5	2.3
Intrauterine device	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.3	1.0
Injectables	1.5	4.9	13.0	13.9	25.8	29.7
Implants	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4	1.3	12.3
Male Condom	1.6	2.0	1.9	1.7	2.4	2.2
Traditional	5.6	6.1	3.4	3.3	3.8	1.2
Rhythm	2.2	3.0	0.7	0.4	0.8	0.3
Withdrawal	1.5	1.4	1.1	1.5	1.8	0.6
Other	2.0	1.6	1.6	1.3	1.2	0.3
Not Using	86.0	82.0	75.0	74.3	54.0	40.9
Using	13.0	18.2	24.6	25.5	45.8	58.8
Traditional	5.7	6.0	3.4	3.2	3.8	1.2
Modern	7.3	12.2	21.2	22.3	42.0	57.6

Source: Created by the author using data from MDHSs



Source: Created by the author using data from MDHSs

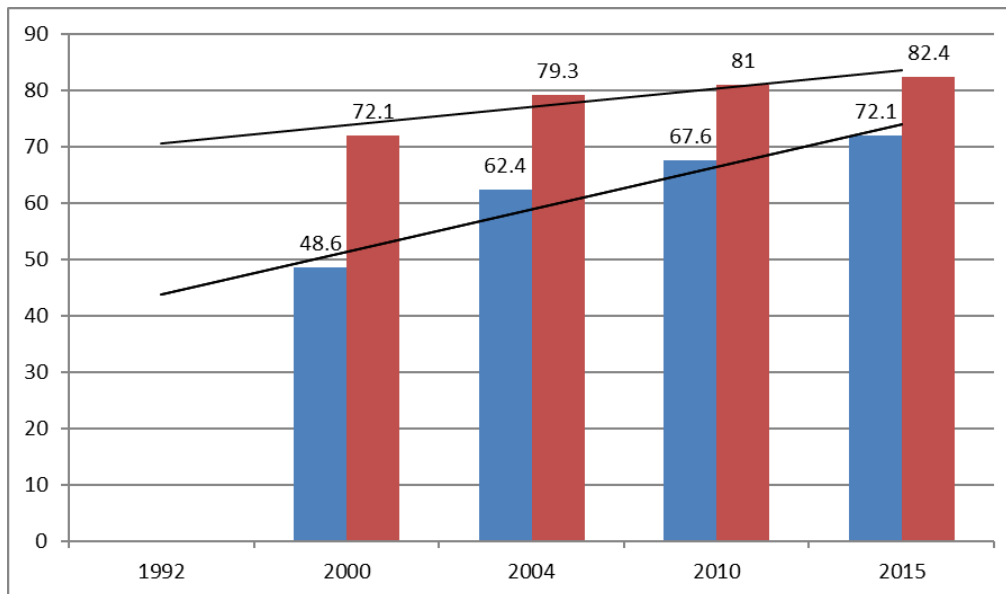
Figure 6. Prevalence of Contraceptive Use by Method, Malawi 1992–2015

c. Education

Education is correlated with both use of family planning and fertility (Shapiro, 2012; Sibanda, et.al., 2003; Lloyd, Kaufman, and Hewett, 2000). Education, especially mother’s education, is an critical factor influencing fertility (Shapiro, 2012). In general, educated women tend to have low fertility. Several hypotheses have been put forward to explain the observed negative relationship between education and fertility. Firstly, using the economic theory of fertility, it can be said that opportunity costs of bearing children among educated women are high. Secondly, according to the household bargaining model, educated women are more likely to support themselves and have more bargaining power, including on family size and contraceptive use. Thirdly, the advocates of the ideation theory argue that educated women may learn about the merit desired family size and contraceptive use through school, community, and exposure to global communication networks. Fourthly, educated women are knowledgeable about

prenatal care and child health, good hygiene, and causes of morbidity and mortality. These aspects may lead to better chances that their children will survive, which may in turn lead to lower fertility. Fifthly, female education tends to delay both age at first marriage and fertility. Given the amount of time women spend schooling educated women tend to marry late and spent a few years in childbearing activities. Although the impact on fertility of female education may be the same as that of male education, studies demonstrate that the former is more important than the latter.

Figure 7 shows that the gap between male and female school enrolment rates in sub-Saharan Africa is shrinking. As such reducing the gender gap in educational enrolment and attainment may contribute to fertility decline. Available evidence from MDHS data indicates that both male and female adult literacy rates in Malawi have increased. Adult literacy rate among males increased from 72.1% in 2000 to 79.3% in 2004 and 82.4% in 2015. Similar rates for females were 48.6%, 62.4% and 72.1% respectively.



Source: Created by the author using data from MDHSs

Figure 7. Adult Literacy Rates for Male and Females, Malawi 2000– 2015

Conclusion

Using MDHS data from 1992–2015, this study scrutinizes fertility levels and trends in Malawi. Possible factors influencing the level of fertility are also discussed. Although the decline in fertility in Malawi started in the 1980s, the decline was mild until after the first decade of the new millennia. Between 2010 and 2015, Malawi witnessed a substantial decline in fertility with TFR declining from 5.6 in 2010 to 4.6 in 2015. The decline in fertility of one child per woman is a noteworthy accomplishment within five years. Standardization and decomposition methods were employed to identify the demographic factors linked with the observed fertility decline in Malawi. This exercise enabled the researcher to provide a breakdown of the changes in CBR and TFR into components such as age structure, nuptiality, and marital fertility.

The study has illustrated that the increase in CBR between 1992 and 2000 and the decrease in CBR between 2000 and 2004 was primarily due to the changes in the age structure of the population. This finding

is not surprising given that one of the disadvantages of CBR as an indicator of fertility is that it is influenced by the age-sex composition of the population. During the period 2004 and 2010, the decline in CBR is influenced by the variations in marital fertility followed by the changes in the proportion of married women. Furthermore, during the period 2010–2015, the decline in CBR is influenced by nuptiality followed the decline in marital fertility. This finding reiterates that the changes in nuptiality patterns and marital fertility are important factors in influencing fertility decline in Malawi. In Malawi today, even though marriage is still early and universal, nuptiality patterns are undergoing some changes characterized by postponement of entry into marriage, increasing rate of cohabitation, divorce, and remarriage. These factors are associated with low fertility.

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The Effect of Per Capita Expenditure on the Working Status of the Elderly in Indonesia

Atina Asyfa Amania and Hardius Usman

Politeknik Statistika STIS, Jl. Otto Iskandardinata No.64C Jakarta, Indonesia

Corresponding Author: Atina Asyfa Amania (email: 212011254@stis.ac.id)

Abstract

The increasing number of elderly people indicates that Indonesia has begun to enter the second demographic bonus. This stage can be beneficial if the elderly remain productive and contribute to development. One of the things closely related to the elderly population and remains the development capital is their work activity. In Indonesia, the percentage of elderly who work also continues to increase yearly. However, most of them have low per capita expenditure, indicating that their low welfare motivates the elderly to work. This research aims to study the general description and characteristics of the elderly and working elderly in Indonesia, examine the effect of per capita expenditure on their working status, and analyze the differences in the effect considering other variables. The data is sourced from the March 2023 National Socio-Economic Survey (NSES), and the study utilizes binary logistic regression with interaction effects. The results showed that per capita expenditure has a significant effect on the working status of the elderly, but the effect is different in terms of place of residence, age, gender, head of household status, marital status, education level, health complaint status, and ownership of health insurance.

Keywords: ageing population; elderly; working status; per capita expenditure

Introduction

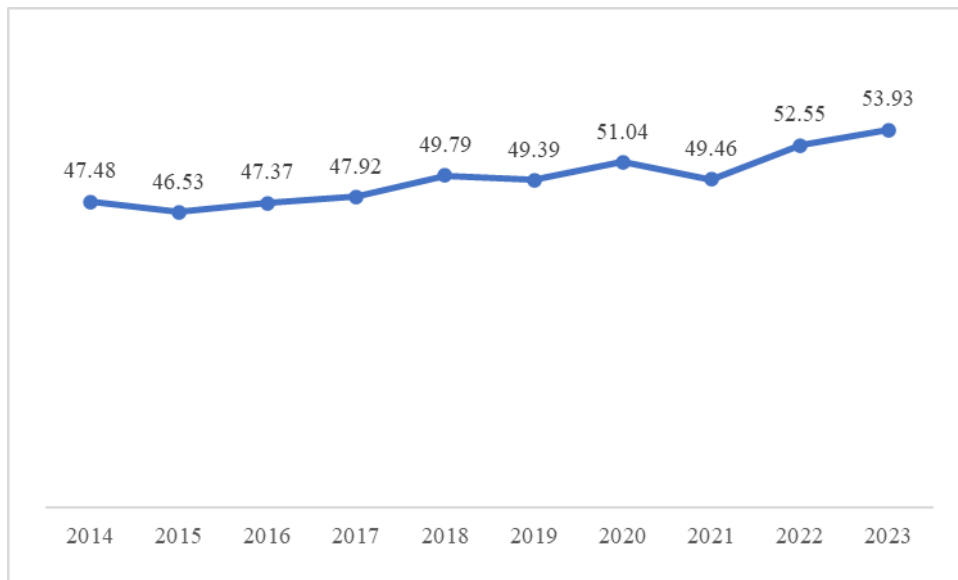
The demographic bonus in Indonesia is characterized by the number of people of productive age (15-64 years) being greater than the number of people of unproductive age. After the demographic bonus is over, there will be a phase called the ageing population. Indonesia has begun to enter the aging population phase, which is characterized by the increasing number and proportion of the elderly population. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), an elderly person is someone who has entered the age of 60 years. Similarly, according to Badan Pusat Statistik (BPS) - Statistics Indonesia and Law Number (No). 38 of 1998 concerning the Welfare of the

Elderly, elderly people are defined as those who are 60 years old and above. In the period 2010-2023, the percentage of the elderly population increased by at least 4 percent to 11.75 percent. An area is said to be experiencing population aging when the percentage of the elderly population reaches 10 percent or more (Cicik & N. Agung, 2022). By 2023, 18 provinces in Indonesia have exceeded 10 percent. In essence, this aging population phenomenon can be a second demographic bonus if the elderly population can still be productive and can contribute to development (Heryanah, 2015).

The 3rd goal of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is to ensure a healthy life and improve the welfare of all

people at all ages. One of them is to improve the welfare of the elderly population. Ideally, the elderly population already has economic security when entering old age, so that their quality of life is maintained despite declining productivity (Styawan, 2017). However, based on the results of the 2023 National Socio-Economic Survey (NSES), it was found that 40% of the elderly were in households with the lowest 40 percent expenditure. One of the consequences of the low welfare of the elderly in Indonesia is that the elderly people are forced to enter the labor market to meet their needs. Based on

BPS data, around three in ten (30.79 percent) households have elderly people, of which half of them (56.73 percent) are heads of households. The large number of elderly people who are heads of households indicates that many elderly people still have to be the backbone of the family, so they have to work. In a period of 10 years, the percentage of working elderly increased by 6.49 percent (BPS, 2023). The results of the National Labor Force Survey (NLFS) show that in 2023, 53.93 percent of the elderly are still working.



Source: BPS, Publication of Statistics on the Elderly Population 2022 and 2023

Figure 1. Percentage of Working Elderly in Indonesia 2014-2023

When viewed from an economic perspective, elderly population that is still working is certainly a positive thing. However, elderly who work should have jobs that are suitable for their physical condition. Wirakartakusumah and Anwar (1994) state that three reasons influence the elderly to work. First, there are still many elderly people who remain physically and mentally strong. Second, the elderly people enter the labor market due to economic pressure. Third, reasons that are more based on self-actualization or emotional motives (Junaidi, et.al., 2017). According to Sayers (2005),

most people will state that work is an activity carried out to make a living and fulfill the needs of life. The elderly population is the same, they certainly still have various needs that must be met, it is just that their physical condition has decreased compared to productive age. For the elderly, working is a good thing if done voluntarily as an option to stay active in old age, not because of economic pressure that forces the elderly to work to make ends meet. However, this is not always the case. Economic status is one of the factors that cause the elderly to enter the labor market.

Elderly people who are forced to enter the labor market can be an indication that their welfare is still quite low or their work activities are carried out to meet their needs (Jamalludin, 2020). This is in line with the 2023 National Socio-Economic Survey (NSES), that 41.32 percent of the elderly in Indonesia are in households with an expenditure distribution of 40%. In fact, welfare is one of the parameters used to measure the quality of life of the elderly (BPS, 2023). Elderly people who are prosperous will be able to enjoy their old age well (Mulyati, et. al., 2018). A person's socioeconomic status must be different and stratified, some are high, medium, and low and have implications for a person's retirement behavior in different ways (Nurwati & Listari, 2021). Economic status has an impact on health and work, and how these outcomes, in turn, affect the decision to retire (Norrestad, 2021). The existence of economic inequality based on gender, education, and work experience also has an impact on financial security of an elderly, affecting their retirement decisions National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, 2022). Affandi (2009) states that the main factor influencing the elderly to continue working is because the majority of elderly people are in low-economic family conditions which results in the elderly still playing a role in fulfilling their lives. The economic condition of elderly households can be measured using a monthly household per capita expenditure approach (BPS, 2023)

The lower the per capita expenditure of the population, the closer the population is to poverty. An increase in a person's per capita expenditure leads to a tendency for people to increase their consumption and enjoy more leisure time so that their working hours are also reduced. Low expenditure also reflects low income and poor financial condition. Therefore, elderly people with low expenditure levels tend to participate in the labor market to meet basic needs (Chattopadhyay, et.al., 2022). Research

conducted by Reddy (2016) shows that elderly men, residing in rural areas, low per capita income, belong to certain social groups that have a greater tendency to work. Chattopadhyay, et.al. (2022) conducted a study that showed that elderly people with low education, married status, no chronic diseases, and lack of health insurance are more likely to work. Demographic characteristics, such as gender and age, are one of the main factors that lead to differences in people's behavior. Lee, et.al. (2020) suggest that studies on demographics often ignore some moderator factors such as gender, age, tenure, marital status, work experience, and education level. Moderation analysis helps understand when and under what conditions the relationship between the dependent variable and the independent variable is stronger, weaker, or even reversed. This study tries to identify the effect of per capita expenditure on the working status of the elderly by considering moderating variables such as place of residence, gender, age, household head status, marital status, education level, health complaints, and ownership of health insurance. This study has significant implications for policy makers in their consideration of strategies related to working status among the elderly.

Based on the background that has been described, per capita expenditure is thought to be one of the things that causes the elderly to work involuntarily because of their low welfare. In addition, it is suspected that there are differences in the effect of per capita expenditure on the working status of the elderly by considering other variables, specifically the place of residence, age, gender, head of household status, marital status, education level, health complaint status, and health insurance ownership status. Therefore, this study aims:(1) to study the overview and characteristics of the elderly and working elderly in Indonesia in 2023; (2) to examine the effect of per capita expenditure on the working status of the elderly in Indonesia in 2023; (3) to analyze

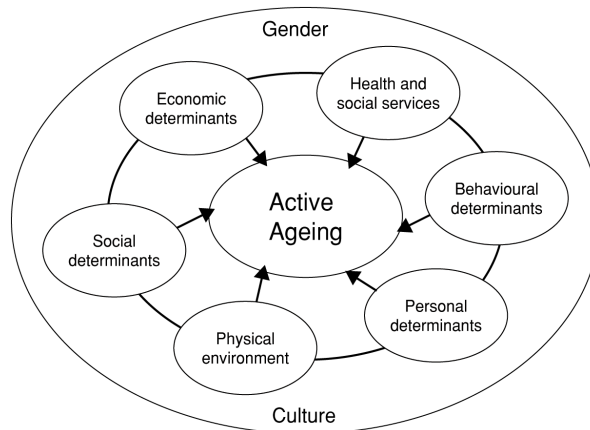
the difference in the effect of per capita expenditure on the working status of the elderly moderated by other variables.

Literature Review

An elderly is someone who has reached the age of 60 years and above. Meanwhile, work is an economic activity carried out by a person to obtain or help obtain income or profit, for at least one hour in the past week. The concept of work includes someone who is working and someone who has a job but during the past week temporarily did not work for various reasons, such as illness, leave, waiting for harvest, strike and so on

(BPS, 2023). Therefore, the elderly who are said to be working are the population aged 60 years and over who worked in the past week and the population aged 60 years and over who had a job but temporarily did not work during the past week.

Working elderly are part of active ageing. Therefore, the factors that influence elderly working can also be viewed as factors that influence active ageing. This is explained in the theory of determinants of active ageing by WHO. According to WHO (2002), the definition of active ageing is the process of optimizing opportunities in aspects of health, participation, and security in order to improve one's quality of life.



Source: WHO (2002)

Figure 2. Determinants of Active Ageing

Figure 2 shows the factors that influence active ageing, one of which is economic determinants. In this study, economic determinants will be seen from the per capita expenditure. BPS (2023) states that per capita expenditure is the cost of consumption for all household members for a month. costs incurred for the consumption of all household members during the month, either from purchases, gifts, or own production divided by the number of household members in the household. The higher the per capita expenditure indicates a high economic status as well (BPS, 2023).

Methods

In this study, the data used is secondary data derived from raw data from the March 2023 National Socio-Economic Survey (NSES) conducted by the BPS. The locus of this research is Indonesia. The unit of analysis in this study is the elderly population, which is defined as the population aged 60 years and over. The total sample in this study was 129,234 elderly people. The analysis methods used are descriptive analysis and inferential analysis. Descriptive analysis aims to study the

general description of the characteristics of the elderly and working elderly in Indonesia which will be presented in the form of tables and graphs. The inferential analysis used is binary logistic regression analysis with interaction effects. According to Jaccard (2001), interaction can be used to compare two or more states (categories). The interaction effect is said to exist when the effect of the independent variable on the

dependent variable is different, depending on the value of the third variable, also called the moderating variable. There are three variables in this study: dependent variable, independent variable, and moderating variable. The working status of the elderly (working or not working) is the dependent variable in this study. The operational definitions of the variables used can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1. Variables Used in Research

Variable (1)	Variable Notation (2)	Category (3)	Code (4)		
Dependent Variable					
Working Status	Y	Working	1		
		Not Working*	0		
Independent Variable					
Per Capita Expenditure	X ₁₁	Low	1	0	
		X ₁₂	Medium	0	1
			High*	0	0
Moderating Variables					
Place of Residence	D ₁	Rural	1		
		Urban*	0		
Age	D ₂₁	Young Elderly	1	0	
		D ₂₂	Middle Elderly	0	1
			Older Elderly*	0	0
Gender	D ₃	Male	1		
		Female*	0		
Household Head Status	D ₄	Household Head	1		
		Not a Household Head*	0		
Marital Status	D ₅	Married	1		
		Not Married*	0		
Education Level	D ₆	< Junior High School	1		
		≥ Junior High School *	0		
Health Complaint Status	D ₇	Doesn't Have	1		
		Have*	0		
Health Insurance Ownership	D ₈	Doesn't have	1		
		Have*	0		

Note: *) Reference Category

The logistic regression model without interaction

$$\hat{g}(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{11} + \beta_2 X_{12} \tag{1}$$

The logistic regression model with interaction

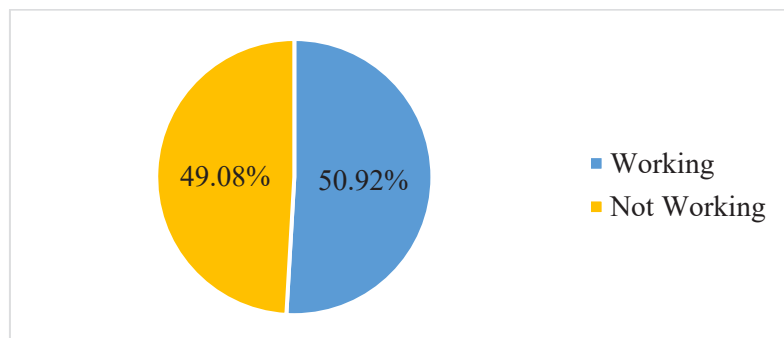
$$\begin{aligned} \hat{g}(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{11} + \beta_2 X_{12} + \beta_3 X_{11} D_1 + \beta_4 X_{12} D_1 \\ + \beta_5 X_{11} D_{21} + \beta_6 X_{11} D_{22} + \beta_7 X_{12} D_{21} \\ + \beta_8 X_{12} D_{22} + \beta_9 X_{11} D_3 + \beta_{10} X_{12} D_3 \\ + \beta_{11} X_{11} D_4 + \beta_{12} X_{12} D_4 + \beta_{13} X_{11} D_5 \\ + \beta_{14} X_{12} D_5 + \beta_{15} X_{11} D_6 + \beta_{16} X_{12} D_6 \\ + \beta_{17} X_{11} D_7 + \beta_{18} X_{12} D_7 + \beta_{19} X_{11} D_8 \\ + \beta_{20} X_{12} D_8 \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

The significance level (α) in this study is 5 percent. The analysis stage after obtaining the formed model is the model fit test, which is carried out by the Hosmer-Lemeshow test, classification table, and ROC curve. This test aims to prove that the logistic regression model formed is appropriate in explaining the working status of the elderly in Indonesia. Then testing is carried out simultaneously with the Likelihood Ratio test to determine the effect of the explanatory variables in the model together, and partial testing with the Wald test to determine the effect of each explanatory variable and interaction on the working status of the elderly in Indonesia.

Furthermore, model interpretation through Odds Ratio (OR).

Results and Discussion

BPS has released that the elderly population in Indonesia in 2023 will be 11.75 percent of the total population. The percentage of elderly in Indonesia by working status can be seen in Figure 2. In general, the percentage of elderly in Indonesia who work and do not work is almost the same. The percentage of elderly people in Indonesia who are still working is 50.92 percent, while the elderly who are not working is 49.08 percent.



Source: NSES March 2023 (processed)

Figure 3. Percentage of Elderly in Indonesia in 2023

The high percentage of elderly working in Indonesia indicates that the elderly people are still able to contribute to the economy, but on the other hand

indicates that the welfare level of the elderly is still quite low so that the elderly are forced to work to fulfill their household life.

Table 2. Characteristics of the Elderly and Working Elderly in Indonesia by Per capita Expenditure

Independent Variable	Category	Percentage of Elderly	Working Status	
			Working	Not Working
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Per Capita Expenditure	Low	44.31	50.90	49.10
	Medium	37.21	52.40	47.60
	High	18.49	42.90	52.10

Source: NSES March 2023 (Processed)

Table 2 shows the characteristics of the elderly and working elderly in Indonesia according to per capita expenditure. The elderly people in Indonesia are dominated by the elderly with low per capita expenditure at 44.31 percent. Meanwhile, in terms of the characteristics of working elderly, working elderly are dominated by low and medium per capita expenditure. Affandi (2009) states that the main factor influencing the elderly to continue working is because the majority of

elderly people are in low-economic family conditions which results in the elderly still playing a role in fulfilling their lives. greater than those with non-head-of-household status.

Inferential analysis was carried out with binary logistic regression with interaction effects so that it would produce a logistic regression equation containing parameter estimates as follows.

Model Without Interaction

$$\hat{g}(x) = -0.005 + 0.222X_{11}^* + 0.317X_{12}^* \tag{3}$$

Model With Interaction

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{g}(x) = & -0.005 - 3.430X_{11}^* - 3.566X_{12}^* + 0.458X_{11}D_1^* \\ & + 0.639X_{12}D_1^* + 1.753X_{11}D_{21} \\ & + 0.959X_{11}D_{22} + 1.636X_{12}D_{21} \\ & + 0.852X_{12}D_{22} + 0.547X_{11}D_3^* \\ & + 0.554X_{12}D_3^* + 1.332X_{11}D_4^* + 1.387X_{12}D_4^* \\ & + 0.807X_{11}D_5^* + 0.775X_{12}D_5^* + 0.339X_{11}D_6^* \\ & + 0.549X_{12}D_6^* + 0.363X_{11}D_7^* + 0.260X_{12}D_7^* \\ & + 0.119X_{11}D_8^* + 0.254X_{12}D_8^* \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

Note: * = Significant (p-value < 0,05)

Based on the model obtained, the model fit test will then be carried out. The model fit test is useful to see whether the model formed is suitable for explaining the

working status of the elderly. In this study, the model fit test used the Hosmer-Lemeshow test. classification table and area under the ROC curve.

Table 3. Hosmer and Lemeshow Test Results

Chi-Square	df	p-value
(1)	(2)	(3)
320.048	8	0.000

Source: NSES March 2023 (Processed)

From Table 3, it can be seen that the chi-square value of the Hosmer-Lemeshow test is 320.048 with a p-value of less than alpha 0.05, resulting in a decision to reject H_0 . This shows that with a significance level of 5 percent, there is not enough evidence to state that the model formed is appropriate (fit). The results of the Hosmer-Lemeshow

test are considered less stable because there are problems with the power of the test. This test will tend to reject H_0 when a large number of samples are used (Yu, et.al., 2017). Therefore, another test is needed to measure the goodness of the model formed by forming a classification table and ROC curve.

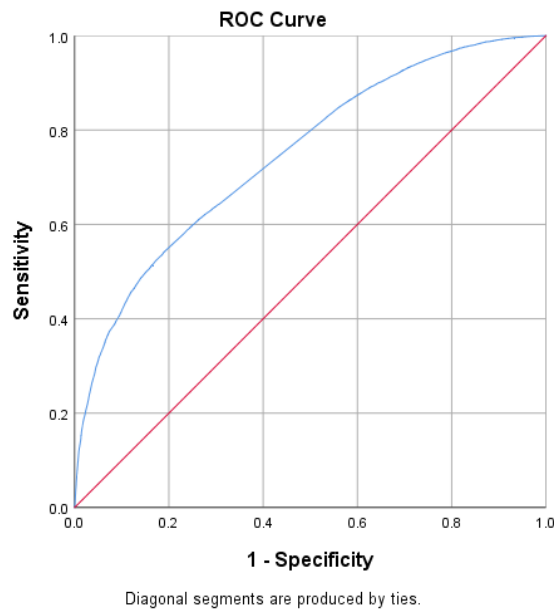
Table 4. Binary Logistic Regression Classification Results Table

	Working Status		Percentage of Total Classification Accuracy	
	Not Working	Working		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
Working Status	Not Working	40256	17611	69.6
	Working	25554	45813	64.2
				66.6

Source: NSES March 2023 (Processed)

When viewed from Table 4, the total percentage of classification accuracy is 66.6 percent so overall, the model can classify all observations correctly by 66.6 percent and the rest are classified incorrectly. Based on Table 3, the sensitivity and specificity values can also be seen. The sensitivity value of the model is 69.6 percent, which indicates that

69.6 percent of the elderly are correctly predicted to return to the working elderly group. While the specificity of 64.2 percent means that 64.2 percent of non-working elderly are correctly predicted to return to the non-working elderly group.



Source: NSES March 2023 (Processed)

Figure 4. ROC Curve

Apart from being seen from the classification table, the suitability of the model can also be seen by means of the area under the ROC curve. When viewed from Table 5, it indicates that the model is suitable because the resulting curve is close

to number one. This is also supported by the area under the ROC curve, which is 0.748, which is in accordance with the theory of (Hosmer et al., 2013) which states that the model classification is acceptable if the area under the ROC curve is ≥ 0.7 .

Table 5. ROC Curve Area

Area	Asymptotic 95% Confidence Interval	
	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
(1) 0.748	(2) 0.745	(3) 0.750

Source: NSES March 2023 (Processed)

Furthermore, a simultaneous test was carried out with the likelihood ratio test to see whether the independent variables jointly influenced the working status of the elderly.

Table 6. Omnibus Test Results

Chi-Square	df	p-value
(1) 27,908.200	(2) 20	(3) 0.000

Source: NSES March 2023 (Processed)

Based on the simultaneous test results, the G statistical value is 27,908.200. This value is greater when compared to the critical value in the chi-square table of 31.41. In addition, the resulting p-value is smaller than the significance level of 0.05 so that the

resulting decision is to reject H_0 . Therefore, it can be concluded that there is at least one independent variable that affects the working status of the elderly.

Table 7. Model Without Interaction

Variable	$\hat{\beta}$	p-value	Exp($\hat{\beta}$)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Per Capita Expenditure			
Low	0.222	0.000	1.248
Medium	0.317	0.000	1.373
Constant	-0.005	0.668	0.995

Source: NSES March 2023 (Processed)

Based on Table 7, before interaction, the per capita expenditure variable has a significant effect on the working status of the elderly. This is indicated by the resulting p-value <0.05 so that the decision taken is to

reject H_0 . Thus, it can be concluded that at the five percent significance level, there is sufficient evidence to state that the per capita expenditure variable has a significant effect on the working status of the elderly.

Table 8. Model with Interaction

Variable	$\hat{\beta}$	p-value	Exp($\hat{\beta}_j$)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Per capita expenditure			
Low	-3.430	0.000	0.032
Medium	-3.566	0.000	0.028
Per capita Expenditure * Place of Residence			
Per capita expenditure (low) * place of residence (rural)	0.458	0.000	1.582
Per capita expenditure (medium) * place of residence (rural)	0.639	0.000	1.895
Per capita expenditure * Age			
Per capita expenditure (low) * Age (young elderly)	1.753	0.000	5.770
Per capita expenditure (low) * Age (middle elderly)	0.959	0.000	2.610
Per capita expenditure (medium) * Age (young elderly)	1.636	0.000	5.135
Per capita expenditure (medium) * Age (middle elderly)	0.852	0.000	2.345
Per capita expenditure * Gender			
Per capita expenditure (low) * Gender	0.547	0.000	1.728
Per capita expenditure (medium) * Gender	0.554	0.000	1.739

Per capita expenditure * Marital status			
Per capita expenditure (low) * Marital status (Married)	0.807	0.000	3.790
Per capita expenditure (medium) * Marital Status (Married)	0.775	0.000	4.005
Per capita expenditure * Relationship to household head			
Per capita expenditure (low) * Relationship to household head (household head)	1.332	0.000	2.241
Per capita expenditure (medium) * Relationship to household head (RH)	1.387	0.000	2.171
Per capita expenditure * Level of education			
Per capita expenditure (low) * Education level (< Junior High School)	0.339	0.000	1.403
Per capita expenditure (medium) * Education level (<Junir Hight School)	0.549	0.000	1.731
Per capita expenditure * Health complaint status			
Per capita expenditure (low) * Health complaint status (don't have)	0.363	0.000	1.438
Per capita expenditure (medium) * health complaint status (don't have)	0.260	0.000	1.296
Per capita expenditure * Health insurance ownership			
Per capita expenditure (low) * Health insurance ownership (don't have)	0.119	0.000	1.127
per capita expenditure (medium) * health insurance ownership (don't have)	0.254	0.000	1.289
Constant	-0.005	0.000	0.995

Source: NSES March 2023 (Processed)

Meanwhile, the partial test in Table 8 shows that after interaction, the p-value < 0.05 is obtained for all independent variables and their interactions, which means that the independent variables have a significant effect on the working status of the elderly. The significant interaction indicates that there are differences in the effect of per capita expenditure on the working status of the elderly at each category level.

Based on the results of partial parameter testing in Table 7, it is known that before interaction, the per capita expenditure variable has a significant effect on the working status of the elderly. The tendency of elderly with low per capita expenditure to work is $\exp(0.222) = 1.248$ times greater than elderly with high per capita expenditure, assuming all other

variables are constant. Meanwhile, the tendency of the elderly with medium per capita expenditure to work is $\exp(0.317) = 1.373$ times greater than the elderly with high per capita expenditure, assuming all other variables are constant. This shows that the tendency of the elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure to work is greater than the elderly with high per capita expenditure. In line with Reddy (2016), research that older people with low socioeconomic status are likely to continue to participate in the labor market to earn a living. Low expenditure illustrates low income and poor financial condition of individuals. Affandi (2009) states that the main factor influencing the elderly to continue working is because the majority of elderly people are in low-economic family

conditions so that the elderly still play a role in fulfilling their lives. Therefore, it can be assumed that the elderly who work tend to be forced to fulfill their needs.

In general, elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure are more likely to work than elderly with high per capita expenditure. However, after considering various characteristics of the elderly, such as place of residence, age, gender, housing status, marital status, education level, health complaints, and ownership of health insurance, the effect of per capita expenditure on the working status of the elderly differs depending on these characteristics.

Judging from the place of residence, the interaction of per capita expenditure variables and the place of residence has a significant effect on the working status of the elderly, which indicates that residence moderates the relationship between per capita expenditure and the working status of the elderly. This means that the effect of per capita expenditure on the working status of the elderly varies depending on where the elderly live. Elderly people with low and medium per capita expenditure are more likely to work in rural areas than in urban areas. Thus, rural residence areas lead to an increase in the tendency of the elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure to work. It is suspected that the reason why the elderly work in rural areas is because they are forced to. Rural areas have limited opportunities and work styles, especially for the elderly with low skills. Elderly people who still work in rural areas usually work in the agricultural sector (Affandi, 2009). The agricultural sector is considered to require large physical labor and relatively low wages (Hernowo, et.al., 2023). As a result, elderly people in rural areas tend to work at low and medium levels of per capita expenditure presumably because they are forced to supplement their income and maintain their lives.

Judging from the age of the elderly, the interaction of per capita expenditure

variables and age has a significant effect on the working status of the elderly, which indicates that age moderates the relationship between per capita expenditure and the working status of the elderly. This means that the effect of per capita expenditure on the working status of the elderly varies depending on the age of the elderly. Elderly people with low per capita expenditure are more likely to work in the young elderly category than the old elderly. Then, the elderly people with medium per capita expenditure are also more likely to work in the middle elderly category than the elderly. Thus, the young and middle age of the elderly lead to an increase in the tendency of the elderly with low and middle per capita expenditure to work. Young and middle elderly are thought to have a more capable physical condition so that at low and medium per capita expenditure they are more likely to work. It is also in line with Reddy (2016) which shows that an elderly person's opportunity to work will decrease with age. Wang & Shultz (2010) state that older workers face a decline in both physical energy and cognitive abilities so that their involvement in the labor market is increasingly limited. Therefore, the elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure are more likely to work in the young and middle elderly presumably because their physical condition is still capable so they will try to maximize it as their income in old age.

In terms of gender, the interaction of per capita expenditure variables and gender has a significant effect on the working status of the elderly, which indicates that gender moderates the relationship between per capita expenditure and the working status of the elderly. This means that the effect of per capita expenditure on the working status of the elderly varies depending on the gender of the elderly. Elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure are more likely to work in male elderly than female elderly. Thus, the male gender causes an increase in the tendency of the elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure to work.

Sumarsono (2015) in his research found that the elderly population who are male will tend to continue working. This is related to the sense of responsibility of elderly men in meeting the needs of their families (Reddy, 2016). As a result, the elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure are more likely to work when the elderly people are male allegedly as a sense of responsibility of the elderly male in meeting the needs of their families.

Judging from marital status, the interaction of per capita expenditure variables and marital status has a significant effect on the working status of the elderly, which indicates that marital status moderates the relationship between per capita expenditure and the working status of the elderly. This means that the effect of per capita expenditure on the working status of the elderly varies depending on the marital status of the elderly. Elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure are more likely to work in married elderly than not married. Thus, the elderly with married status causes an increase in the tendency of the elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure to work. Chen, et.al. (2019) found that heads of households who got married have a greater tendency to be poor. The existence of marriage makes a person who was initially self-sufficient must provide for his or her spouse and other head of household (Ortega-Diaz, 2020). As a result, elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure are more likely to work when married, presumably for economic reasons to support the family.

In terms of head of household status, the interaction of per capita expenditure variables and head of household status has a significant effect on the working status of the elderly, which indicates that head of household status moderates the relationship between per capita expenditure and the working status of the elderly. This means that the effect of per capita expenditure on the working status of the elderly varies depending on the elderly's head of

household status. Elderly people with low and medium per capita expenditure are more likely to work in elderly people with head of household status than elderly people with non-head of household status. Thus, the elderly with head of household status causes an increase in the tendency of the elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure to work. Sumarsono (2015) states that the number of elderly people who work is related to their status as head of the household. This is related to the responsibility of the elderly as the support of the family to meet the needs of their family.

Judging from the level of education, the interaction of per capita expenditure variables and education level has a significant effect on the working status of the elderly, which indicates that the level of education moderates the relationship between per capita expenditure and the working status of the elderly. This means that the effect of per capita expenditure on the working status of the elderly varies depending on the level of education of the elderly. Elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure are more likely to work for elderly with <JHS education than elderly with ≥JHS education. Thus, elderly with an education <JHS cause an increase in the tendency of elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure to work. Reddy (2016) in his research found that a person's education is one of the important factors in the labor market because it is related to the type of work and the amount of income earned. As a result, the elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure are more likely to work when their education is <JHS presumably because there is no savings and security for their old age so they have to keep working to meet their economic needs.

Judging from health complaints, the interaction of per capita expenditure variables and health complaints has a significant effect on the working status of the elderly, which indicates that health complaints moderate the relationship between per capita expenditure and the

working status of the elderly. This means that the effect of per capita expenditure on the working status of the elderly varies depending on the health complaints of the elderly. The elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure are more likely to work in the elderly who do not have health complaints than those who have health complaints. Thus, elderly people with health complaints cause an increase in the tendency of elderly people with low and medium per capita expenditure to work. Mutchler, et.al. (1997) state that health conditions play a role in the work decisions of the elderly, those who remain healthy in old age tend to decide to continue working rather than enjoying their retirement. Elderly people with poor health conditions have a greater chance of quitting their jobs (Coile & Levine, 2007). Here the statement is in line with Sumarsono (2015) who revealed that health has the most important role in the work participation of the elderly so that more elderly people with good health conditions decide to enter the labor market. As a result, elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure are more likely to work when they have no health complaints.

In terms of health insurance ownership, the interaction of per capita expenditure and health insurance ownership variables has a significant effect on the working status of the elderly, which indicates that health insurance ownership moderates the relationship between per capita expenditure and the working status of the elderly. This means that the effect of per capita expenditure on the working status of the elderly varies depending on the ownership of health insurance. Elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure are more likely to work in elderly who do not have health insurance than elderly who have health insurance. Thus, elderly who do not have health insurance cause an increase in the tendency of older people with low and medium per capita expenditure to work. Hadley & Waidmann (2006) stated that the population aged 65 years and above who

have health insurance have decreased their health costs. As a result, the elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure are more likely to work when they do not have health insurance, presumably to earn additional income for their health costs.

Conclusion

Many elderly people in Indonesia are still working, which is 50.92 percent. In general, the elderly people in Indonesia are dominated by low per capita expenditure of 44.31 percent. Meanwhile, the characteristics of working elderly in Indonesia are having low per capita expenditure of 50.90 percent and medium of 52.40 percent. Per capita expenditure affects the working status of the elderly. In general, the elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure are more likely to work than the elderly with high per capita expenditure. However, the effect of per capita expenditure on the working status of the elderly differs depending on various characteristics of the elderly, such as place of residence, age, gender, head of household status, marital status, education level, health complaint status, and ownership of health insurance. The difference in the effect of per capita expenditure on the working status of the elderly is that the elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure are more likely to work in rural areas than urban areas, an increase in the tendency to work in the young and middle elderly categories, an increase in the tendency to work in male elderly, an increase in the tendency to work in the elderly with head of household status, an increase in the tendency to work in the elderly with married status, an increase in the tendency to work in the elderly with <JHS education, an increase in the tendency to work in the elderly who do not have health complaints, and an increase in the tendency to work in the elderly who do not have health insurance.

Given the importance of the problem of working elderly, the government should be able to look at the different characteristics of the elderly to see the effect of per capita expenditure on the working status of the elderly. The government can especially look more at the elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure from the characteristics of the elderly so that the elderly people are not forced to work, especially the elderly in rural areas by expanding access to jobs that are suitable for the physical condition of the elderly. In addition, the government needs to increase access to health insurance, especially for the elderly with low and medium per capita expenditure so that the elderly people are not forced to work to meet their health costs. For future researchers, especially socio-population research, it is important to make more interactions in the study because the effect of per capita expenditure on the working status of the elderly is influenced by various characteristics of the elderly themselves. The general condition will be different when considering various characteristics. In addition, researchers can try to use primary data to get more in-depth characteristics related to the elderly.

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The Child Marriage Trends in 3T Regions of Sumatra: The Impact of Law No. 16/2019 and the Covid-19 Pandemic on Poor Communities

Budi Wahyuni¹, Ratih Hidayah Nur², and Sri Purwatiningsih³

¹Lembaga Bantuan Hukum Asosiasi Perempuan Indonesia untuk Keadilan (LBH APIK), Yogyakarta, ²Indonesia Women Center Yayasan Hari Ibu (YHI) Kowani, Yogyakarta, ³Center for Population and Policy Studies, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Corresponding Author: Sri Purwatiningsih (email: athayarafif@yahoo.com)

Abstract

The study "Identification of Changes in Marriage Trends Age < 19 years Post the Law No. 16/ 2019 and in Covid Age 19 in Rural and Urban Poor, in 3T (Outer, Remote, and Frontier) Region of Sumatra Island" was carried out by PERMAMPU (Perempuan Sumatra Mampu) in 26 villages distributed over 26 districts, in 8 provinces on the island of Sumatra, using the FPAR (Feminist Participatory Action Research) method. This study is undermined by PERMAMPU's concerns about the increasing data and practice of child marriage and early marriage <19 years especially in the countryside, although the Marriage Law No. 1 of 1974, which previously allowed 16 years of marriage for women and 19 years for men, has been reduced to a minimum age of 19 years in women and men through the Law No.1 of 2019. The FPAR method focuses on the life stories of women and related stakeholders. The information and data obtained from 1,147 sources (986 women & 161 men) resulted in 32 case studies. In addition to qualitative data, also obtained quantitative data that showed an increasing trend in child-age marriage practices. This is typically caused by, among other things, a lack of understanding of Law No. 16 of 2019 and a low level of education about sexual and reproductive health rights, which led to unwanted pregnancies, school dropouts, and poverty.

Keywords: child marriages; 3T (Outer, Remote, and Frontier); reproductive health; poverty

Introduction

Child marriage is one type of forced marriage, according to the National Commission on Violence Against Women's Study on Culture-Based Violence. There are a number of customs and cultural norms that contribute to the practice of underage marriage. Cultural and religious constraints are often the driving forces for early marriage (Sulaiman, 2012; Latifiani, 2019; Lebni, et.al., 2020). According to cultural interpretations, women who have menstruated are seen as ready for marriage,

then are viewed as spinsters and turn into gossip. In addition to preventing adultery or bad behaviours, planned marriages are also performed to uphold social rank and class, prevent unwanted pregnancies, and girl abductions. Ending child marriage is a global strategy to protect children's rights. However, in some places, this agenda faces resistance (Natsif, 2018).

People will marry off women who became pregnant unintentionally in the name of culture. Unwanted pregnancies are frequently the cause of early marriage, one of which is the focus of Elfani and Muarifah's

(2022) research. Despite the fact that the pregnancy was caused by rape in an attempt to hide the shame of the family. Girls as young as nine or ten years old have been single parents two or three times in some places, according to research. Additionally, girls are sometimes married off to local religious leaders as a kind of hoping for blessing. As an offering to receive blessings from the god is the goal. The practice of child marriage is carried out because the girl has misbehaved. So the solution is to marry off the girl in order that her delinquency will decrease or even disappear.

The 2020–2024 RPJMN aim for Indonesia is for a reduction in the marriage rate below 19 years old to 8.74 percent. In the meantime, child marriage rates in Indonesia decreased to 10.82 percent in 2019 from 11.21 percent in 2017, according to KPPPA (Kementerian Pemberdayaan Perempuan dan Perlindungan Anak RI = Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection) data. Nonetheless, the National Commission on Violence Against Women discovered that during Covid-19, there was a notable surge in the number of weddings between individuals under the age of 19. There were 23,126 marriages under 19 in 2019, but that figure shot up to 64,211 in 2020. Globally, Riany (2022) even predicted that Indonesia, one of the nations with the greatest rates of underage marriage, will rank seventh in the world in 2022. According to data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS), 33.76 percent of Indonesia's youth

will marry for the first time between the ages of 19 and 21 in 2022. Then, between the ages of 22 and 24, 27.07 percent of the nation's youth will get married for the first time. Additionally, 19.24 percent of young individuals were married for the first time between the ages of 16 and 18. The government of Indonesia is actively implementing a variety of efforts to avoid child marriage (Eleonora and Sari, 2019; Tan, 2022; Yoshida, et.al., 2022), one of them is through efforts to increase the age of marriage (Putri and Rosida, 2019; Siswari, et.al., 2022)

Child marriage is encouraged by a number of variables, including social standards that are in place, economic factors, and unintended pregnancy. Numerous investigations have demonstrated that underage marriage is still a common occurrence in Indonesia. Child marriage is frequently caused by economic factors (Khaparistia and Edward, 2015; Hidayatulloh, 2018; Khaerani, 2019; and Dafani, et.al., 2023). Since social action is defined as individual action that is impacted by and influences other people, Max Weber's theory of social action serves as the framework for this study.

Child marriage is a phenomena that results from variables affecting its likelihood. In addition, child marriage affects the persons involved as well as other people. Thus, one way to analyse the social phenomena of child marriage is through the lens of Weber's theory.

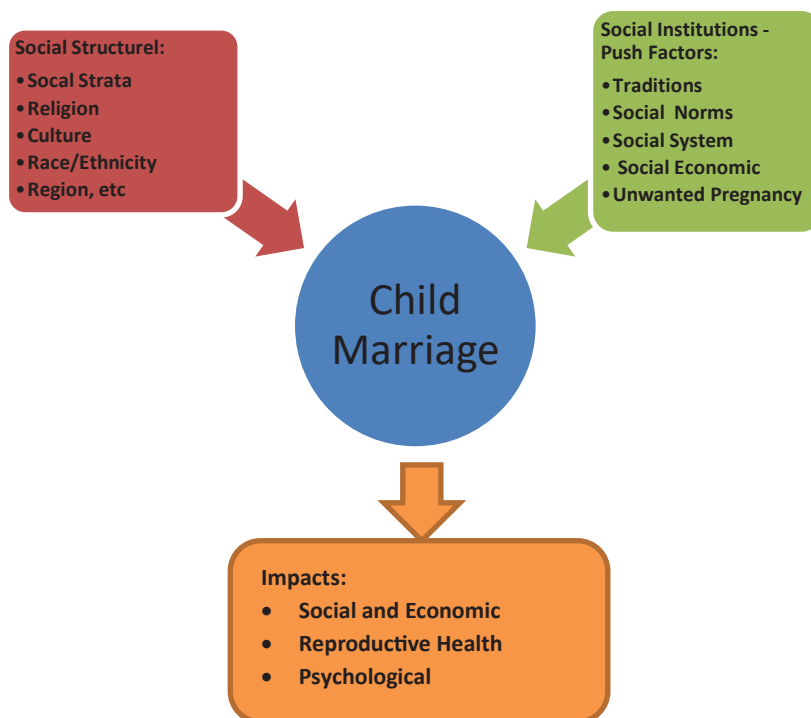


Figure 1. Weber's Theory in Viewing the Phenomenon of Child Marriage

According to Weber, the idea of social structure and social institutions, or institutions in society, generate or produce social action, or in this case, child marriage. One reason why child marriage occurs in our society is because of the relationship between these two ideas. Additionally focused on the intentions and ambitions of the offender is Max Weber's theory of social action (Ritzer, 2014). We can comprehend the behaviour of both individuals and groups—each with distinct reasons and objectives for implementing child marriage—by applying this theory. Using this hypothesis will also allow for the investigation of the effects of child marriage.

Next, by putting the prevalence of child marriage into a framework, Psaki, et.al. (2021) put Weber's theory into practice. Many drivers that may contribute to child marriage are described in this framework. Child marriage is widely accepted in society because of poverty and societal standards. Psaki (2021) further stated that the prevalence of child marriage is also

influenced by other variables, including unintended pregnancies, a lack of agency, and a lack of chances. After thereafter, these diverse motivations will interact and may show themselves as differences between cultures.

The 3T region is also a crucial area for research. Because it touches on a number of key issues, including equitable development, poverty reduction, national security, and unrealised potential for natural resources, the 3T Regions issue is significant. Furthermore, focussing on 3T Regions is a component of the endeavour to enhance national integration and establish social fairness. If these areas don't receive enough attention, they risk falling farther behind and finding it more challenging to achieve inclusive and sustainable growth.

Afterwards, the study's findings will be used as supporting evidence by district/city governments, interested parties, and policymakers to enhance the application and extension of laws and policies prohibiting the marriage of underage minors

to poor urban and rural subdistricts. As required by Minister of Health Regulation No. 3/2016 concerning Training and Implementation of Abortion Services for Indications of Medical Emergency and Pregnancy Due to Rape, the outcomes of Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR) will also serve as important information for policy advocacy and public awareness regarding girls who have been raped's access to safe abortion services.

Methods

Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR) is the research technique used in this study. It is centred on achieving women's human rights via the processing and analysis of women's experiences, knowledge, and engagement as change agents. FPAR incorporates communities and groups in its implementation. In order to develop coordinated action to uphold women's rights, community involvement is crucial. If issues come up, the FPAR

This study concerned to 3T regions, due to its bearing on a number of key issues, including equitable development, poverty reduction, and national security. The list of

programme functions properly. As a result, a sense of kinship must be prioritised in dealing with victims.

In addition to building empowerment and social change initiatives for marginalised and oppressed groups, FPAR will be able to give voice to underrepresented populations, such as poor women, women who have experienced violence, and persons with disabilities. As opposed to Participation, Action, and Research (PAR), which is more conventional or generic (simple) and occasionally overlooks marginalised groups, such women (Maguire, 1996; McIntyre, 2008; Ryan-Flood and Gill, 2010 in Andajani, et.al., 2022). Furthermore, FPAR integrates the beneficial elements of PAR with a feminist research paradigm, which empowers marginalised communities via a socially equitable, democratic, and participatory research process (Andajani, et al, 2022).

This study was carried out in 26 villages, 26 districts in 8 provinces on the island of Sumatra. Five (5) of these districts are 3T areas (Outer, Remote, Frontier)¹. resource persons in this FPAR is 1147 people consisting of 161 men and 986 women as follows.

¹List of underdeveloped regions in Sumatra for the year 2020-2024: 1) Provinsi Sumatera Utara (Kabupaten Nias, Kabupaten Nias Selatan, Kabupaten Nias Utara, Kabupaten Nias Barat), 2) Provinsi Sumatera Barat (Kabupaten Kepulauan Mentawai), 3) Provinsi Sumatera Selatan (Kabupaten Musi Rawas Utara), 4) Provinsi Lampung (Kabupaten Pesisir Barat). Kementerian Desa, Pembangunan Daerah Tertinggal, dan Transmigrasi (kemendes.go.id)

Table 1. List of Resource Persons in PERMAMPU's Research

Resource Person	Sex		Disability	Age				
	M	F		≤19	> 19-44	45-59	> 60-70	>70
Resource Person in Village Level								
FGD of Adult Women	1	409	0	26	273	84	12	2
FGD of Young Women (12-19 yo)	1	360	0	268	54	11	2	0
Interview:								
Married Women ≤ 19 yo (age of marriage 0-5 yo)	0	32	0	14	15	0	0	0
Married Women ≤ 19 yo (age of marriage 5-10 yo)	0	25	0	0	22	1	1	1
Married child's parents ≤ 19 yo	2	39	0	2	11	22	3	0
Unmarried young woman's parents (12 & 19 yo)	2	21	0	1	10	11	0	0
Religious Leader	19	3	0	0	4	10	4	2
Traditional Figures	22	4	0	0	1	12	9	3
Village Government (Village Leader, Village Secretary, BPD/Tuhapeut/MPD (Majelis Permusyawaratan Desa), Sekretaris Pekon)	21	3	0	0	13	9	0	0
Village Cadres, Midwives, PKK cadres	0	10	0	0	6	3	0	0
Youth figures, mosque teenagers	6	0	0	0	1	4	0	0
Resource Person in Sub-district Level								
Principal/teacher	1	3	0	0	3	1	0	0
Puskesmas	3	22	0	0	13	9	0	0
KUA	22	1	0	0	4	14	1	0
Resource Person in District Level								
Women and Children Empowerment Office	10	24	0	0	14	17	0	0
Health Office	5	7	0	1	6	5	0	0
Education Office	5	4	0	0	2	4	0	0
Department of Population and Civil Registration	3	1	0	0	0	4	0	0
Religious Courts	18	7	0	0	11	9	0	0
Ministry of Religion	9	1	0	0	1	8	0	0
Traditional Council	4	0	0	0	0	2	0	1
Sharia Police	2	1	0	0	2	1	0	0
Ulema Consultative Council	4	0	0	0	0	2	1	0
NGO Network, Mass Organizations, CBOs	1	6	1	0	4	2	0	0
Resource Person in Province Level								
Women and Children Empowerment Office	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Development Planning Agency at Sub-National Level	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
High Religious Court in Pekanbaru	0	1	0					
Total	161	986	1	312	471	245	33	9

Source: Data of FPAR Research Findings, 2023

Result and Discussion

Marriage <19 Years in Sumatra

Child marriage is one of the most crucial issues related to the protection of children and women. Some groups even mention that Indonesia can be said to have a child marriage emergency (Farihah, 2023). UNICEF data states that the number of child marriage cases in Indonesia was 25.53 million in 2023, making Indonesia ranked fourth in child marriage globally (*Kompas*, Maret 2024).

Meanwhile, Sumatra is a region where marriage under the age of 19 is common. PERMAMPU (Konsorsium Perempuan Sumatera Mampu), also known as “Women of Sumatra MAMPU”, is a coalition of eight women’s non-governmental organizations (NGOs) established in the Sumatra region. The coalition was founded on the principle of empowering grassroots women leaders to fulfill sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR) for women in the eight provinces of Sumatra Island.

Despite the fact that the 2019 Marriage Law raised the legal age of marriage from 16 to 19 for both men and women, not many people, including religious institutions, are aware of this change in the law. That’s the reason the phrase “less than 19” is unknown, although it always alludes to child marriage. Many people still refer to Law

No. 1, the 1974 Marriage Law, or assume that the sole change is the 18-year-old child age limit. All 24 participants in a PESADA (Perkumpulan Sada Ahmo), an NGO in North Sumatera Utara concerned with Gender Equality and Social Justice, assessment in 2023 who were representatives of six faith-based organisations in North Sumatra were unaware of Law No. 16 of 2019, a revision to the Marriage Law from 1974. In fact, some still refer to the view that children are under 17 years old because they do not yet have a KTP/NIK; and a small percentage stated that as long as they are over 18 years old, they can get married. This comes as a huge surprise. This viewpoint is thought to be representative of the general viewpoint in society, particularly in frontier, isolated, and outermost places; it is also thought to be representative of the viewpoint in PERMAMPU-assisted areas with rigid religious and customary practices that have not yet been attained.

For example, data from Lampung Province shows that there are still many requests for marriage dispensation. In Lampung Province, there has been an increase in the number of marriage dispensation applications since 2020. Data on the number of marriage dispensation cases from 2019 - 2023 in the Bandar Lampung Religious High Court area are as follows.

Table 2. Child Marriage Data in Lampung Province 2019-2023

Marriage Situation in Lampung in the Last 5 Years	
2019	283
2020	798
2021	722
2022	714
2023	666

* as of December 28, 2023

* High Court of Religious Affairs Bandar Lampung

Source: FPAR Report Lampung Province

Table 2 above shows that in Lampung Province there has been a surge in marriage dispensation applications since 2020. The post-Covid situation has actually increased cases of child marriage. In addition, the increase in the marriage age limit does not seem to have had an impact on society, because requests for marriage dispensation are still high. Requesting a marriage dispensation remains responsibility that must be performed by the relevant stakeholders (Salam, 2017).

Meanwhile, FPAR results also show that there are many cases of Siri marriage as a solution for not meeting the general administrative requirements for marriage at the KUA (Office of Religious Affairs). This option is taken when parents consider that it is time for their children to get married, while state marriage is not possible. For example, FGD results in Lampung Province where many people consider the marriage dispensation process to be complicated and bureaucratic, so they tend to prioritize the siri marriage process. There are also those who apply for marriage at the KUA and are rejected, then enter into a Siri marriage through religious leaders. Only when they are old enough do they remarry at the KUA in a registered manner and get a marriage book.

Maturation of Marriage Age

Four presidential directives pertaining to child protection should be prioritised nationally in terms of national policy. These directives include (1) enhancing the role of mothers and families in the upbringing and education of children; (2) decreasing child abuse; (3) decreasing child labour; and (4) preventing child marriage. Various ministries, institutions, and civil society have obeyed the aforementioned instruction; yet, children's rights breaches continue to occur in a variety of contexts.

KPAI is advocating for significant efforts to lower child marriage, which stands at 10.35% at the moment. The prevalence of

child weddings includes both legally recognised marriages and those for whom a marriage dispensation is requested. The secret to preventing child marriage is to uphold children's fundamental rights, including education and parental education. When requests are made for marriage dispensation, there must be compelling reasons to grant the request, and the supporting documentation must be grounded in an expansive interpretation of *maslahah* and *mafsadah*, taking into account the child's best interests as well as the child's internal and external circumstances. Setting a minimum age at which to seek dispensation is crucial addition to that. In an attempt to strictly enforce marriage dispensation as part of the best preventive measures against child marriage, KPAI urges the prompt ratification of the Draft Government Regulation on Marriage Dispensation.

The study findings indicated that teens' views about the approaching marriage age were correlated with their level of education. The prevention of early marriage is accomplished through counseling teenagers, with the goal of raising the age at first marriage so that women attain a minimum age of 20 and men age 25 at the time of marriage. Maturing the age of marriage and family planning is delaying marriage and pregnancy, the period of preventing pregnancy, the period of spacing pregnancies, the period of terminating pregnancy. The growth of the female reproductive organs terminates at the age of 20, and the growth of the male reproductive organs finishes at the age of 20 or 21. Men's reproductive organs continue to develop during this period of time, delaying pregnancy (Meliati dan Sundayani, 2021).

A common consideration in marriage decisions is the significance of enhancing the quality of human resources, such as the chance to pursue further education and secure employment, prior to the marriage process. The problems of employment and unemployment that affect the public are

directly linked to the question of decent work. Consequently, the BKKBN establishes the Marriage Age Maturation (PUP) programme at 25 years for men and 21 years for women. Men are already financially able to support their families at this age, while women are physically, intellectually, and emotionally prepared, particularly for pregnancy and childbirth. Naturally, this is done in light of Indonesia's 12-year mandatory school system, the chance to pursue further education, and the availability of respectable employment.

One effective way to stop child marriage and make sure girls can reach their full potential is to put a high priority on their education. For a girl to delay marriage and have more time to acquire the abilities, information, and self-assurance necessary to make judgements, the longer she attends school. In order to create healthier families that will last for generations, girls should put off getting married and having children (UNICEF, 2018).

The gender component of the protection of children's rights is acknowledged by both the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Girls confront unique gender-based issues such as early pregnancy, child marriage, less access to school than boys, and vulnerability to sexual abuse in addition to issues that are common to children, such as health and education.

Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) is an important issue for both women and girls. Enhancing education and reproductive health resources for girls in schools is one strategy to improve the protection of children's rights in the SRHR. One example of enhancing SRHR for girls in schools is the Menstrual Health Management programme, but regrettably, neither the community nor the government has given this kind of programme enough attention or support.

Women are subjected to gender inequity and prejudice from an early age. Girls' experiences with gender inequity will define their mature potential. Therefore, it is impossible to separate the component of gender justice from the preservation of children's rights. As a result, starting in early life, efforts must be taken to promote gender justice, increase the representation of women, and end prejudice against them. Thus, the feminist agenda to advance gender justice includes children's rights protection (Atnike, 2020).

According to the findings of the focus group discussion (FGD) conducted in West Sumatra, marriage at the age of 19 is customarily performed in practically every region, including nagari and sub-districts (urban areas) for a variety of reasons. For instance, for religious, cultural, traditional, or economic reasons. However, because they are more likely to experience domestic abuse, drop out of school, or even become pregnant or lose a child, victims of child marriage will ultimately suffer negative effects from the union. Because they are not yet ready for parenthood, mothers under the age of 19 are more susceptible to difficulties during pregnancy and childbirth, which could endanger both the mother and the child.

Due to their failure to comply with state regulations, a large number of marriages between individuals under the age of 19 are also performed through unregistered marriages. Islam permits halal marriages, therefore one option to have an unregistered marriage is through one of these reasons: lack of age, something undesirable, marriage to someone else's husband, promiscuity, or reasons not to commit adultery. According to studies conducted in Aceh Tamiang, there was one instance of an unreported marriage that happened without a marriage dispensation application; the couple was forced to get married during a raid.

In societies where there are Islamic communities, the process of being married at the age of 19 is known as *sirri* marriage.

There are, nevertheless, distinctions between Muslim and non-Muslim communities in places like the islands of Nias and Mentawai. When someone reaches the age of 19, in Nias Island, for instance in West Nias, they are only allowed to marry in front of their families and under the watchful eyes of traditional leaders. In the meanwhile, in North Nias, a child under the age of 19 will be temporarily adopted as the male parent's adopted child, with permission to share a room. When the child reaches the age of 19, the marriage will take place.

Meanwhile, church-conducted marriages for those under the age of 19 are practiced in Mentawai, West Sumatra Province. However, prior to the church performing the wedding ceremony, church sanctions—also referred to as "Church Strategy"—are applied to those who violate marriage laws pertaining to individuals under the age of 19. This church plan consists of numerous stages that need to be completed, including:

- Following each weekly worship service, the couple will receive additional instruction from the pastor or church leadership regarding the principles of goodness. They will be asked to confess their sins and commit to the correct teachings once more.
- The church implemented its plan as a kind of support, and this continued for almost half a year.
- Following the church's assessment that the couple is prepared, has admitted their transgressions, and has received adequate guidance on life and domestic duties, a re-blessing is performed in front of the congregation.
- This blessing serves as a means of repentance, official reunification with the church, and official acknowledgement of their marriage by the church.

There are a number of interrelated factors that contribute to child marriage in Indonesia. Poverty, for instance, is one reason. Results from earlier research, including the National Socio-Economic Survey (Susenas), indicate that girls, children from low-income households, children living in rural regions, and children with low levels of education are the groups of children most at risk from child marriage (UNICEF, 2020). For instance, in Aceh Province, poor family functioning, discord in the home, divorce, children from broken households, poverty, inadequate education, and school dropout are the main causes of marriage at the age of 19. Mass judgements, raids, beatings, and forced marriages for couples caught in extramarital affairs or wooing, pregnant outside of marriage, or wedded because they left school to lessen the financial load on their parents. Aside from that, it's also accepted that a person who has reached puberty may accept a marriage proposal from someone else. Belief in social myths: for instance, you won't find love easily if you turn down three proposals. The process of discovering one's individuality, joining in and feeling like you're gaining freedom of action, peer pressure, and the continuation of child marriages within the family.

Impact of Child Marriage

Based on the results of FGDs and interviews, there are various negative impacts of <19 years of marriage, including:

- Unstable emotions are the root cause of domestic violence (KDRT).
- Health conditions pertaining to reproduction that may lead to miscarriage.
- Stunting in cases of low birth weight (LBW).
- It is challenging for girls to find employment since many drop out of school. They will then face structured poverty as a result of the economy collapsing.

- Shifting the burden of caring for babies to parents which also adds to the economic burden.
- Double burden on women (wife must carry out her obligations as wife, mother, and backbone).
- Stress and disharmony which lead to divorce.
- Parenting styles that lead to kid neglect (because of financial and mental inadequacies; marriage is merely a means of avoiding penalties).

Table 3. Impact of Marriage Age <19 Years on Health Aspects

Nagari Katapiang, Padang Pariaman Regency	Nagari Tanjung Bonai, Tanah Datar Regency	Goisooinan Village, Kepulauan Mentawai
The reproductive organs are not yet perfect, which often leads to death of the mother and baby, miscarriage and low birth weight (LBW)	The vulnerability of women who marry and conceive at 19 years of age	Mothers die during childbirth at a higher rate
Miscarriages	The mother's physical development is not at her best	The infant mortality rate is high
Malnutrition, anemia	Miscarriage, enabling the mother's and child's deaths	Being traumatised up to adulthood.
Being stressed out as a young woman because she was carrying more weight than she could handle in life.	Malnutrition during pregnancy	Numerous illnesses exist, including cervical and breast cancer.
Harm to a woman's reproductive organs.	Becoming the victim of economic, domestic, or sexual violence, etc.	Children born to young moms are frequently stunted
Children's development and growth are delayed	Low birth weight	-

Source: FGD results from 3 *nagari*/villages in the research location (Research Report FPAR/Feminist Participatory Action Research in West Sumatera Province)

Child marriage has consequences on health aspects. Based on the results of previous studies, it shows that adolescent girls who marry early are more likely to experience complications during pregnancy and childbirth due to their physical immaturity. This includes higher risks of maternal mortality, and low birth weight for newborns (WHO, 2006; Maheshwari, 2022, and Dadras, et.al., 2023).

The research result also showed the health impacts of child marriage. They are

extensive and severe, ranging from heightened risks during pregnancy and childbirth to long-term mental health challenges. Child brides face a lack of reproductive autonomy, poor access to healthcare, and increased exposure to violence, all of which contribute to compromised physical and mental well-being. These health consequences extend to their children, perpetuating a cycle of poor health and poverty. Addressing child marriage is critical to improving maternal and

child health outcomes globally, and requires concerted efforts to improve education, healthcare access, and legal protections for vulnerable girls.

Impact of Marriage Age <19 years from Socio-Economic Aspects

Women are typically the ones who lose out on marriages under the age of 19, including mental health issues brought on by not being prepared to raise children, child neglect, and other issues specific to young marriage. Adding to the financial strain brought on by having more family members living in the home, as well as the load parents bear in caring for their grandchildren. The wife needs to fulfill her responsibilities as a wife, mother, and backbone, which creates a double load. Therefore, it should come as no surprise that occasionally they endure discord that results in divorce. Parenting

styles range from nurturing (kids looking after kids) to neglectful (married off to avoid sanctions).

Child marriage has significant socio-economic impacts on individuals, families, communities, and even national economies. The practice not only affects the life trajectory of child brides but also perpetuates cycles of poverty, limits economic growth, and reinforces gender inequality. Child brides are more likely to be economically dependent on their husbands or families, which limits their decision-making power within the household. This economic dependency increases their vulnerability to domestic violence and abuse, as they have fewer options for financial independence. A study in Feminist Economics discusses how this dependency diminishes their overall well-being and exacerbates gender inequalities within society (Parsons and Edmeades, 2015).

Table 4. Impact of Marriage Age <19 years from Socio-Economic Aspects

Jambi Province	West Sumatera Province
Becoming a burden on parents	Short marriage life (frequent divorce)
Don't have a permanent job yet	To find job, many people relocate to Padang City, but typically the salaries is poor
Poor, triggering divorce	Many of the survivors who remain in the village work as agricultural labourers or weavers
Informal sector jobs: risky, low wages	
Create new poverty	

Source: FGD & Interview in Jambi and West Sumatera Province

In the meantime, as most married children discontinue their schooling, child marriage will also affect children's education. The girl child, who cannot continue her education because of physical evidence of pregnancy and will eventually have to care for her child, is the disadvantaged party when there is an unwanted pregnancy and the students are married off. On the other hand, the boy child is able to continue his

education because he does not experience physical changes (Judiasih, 2022).

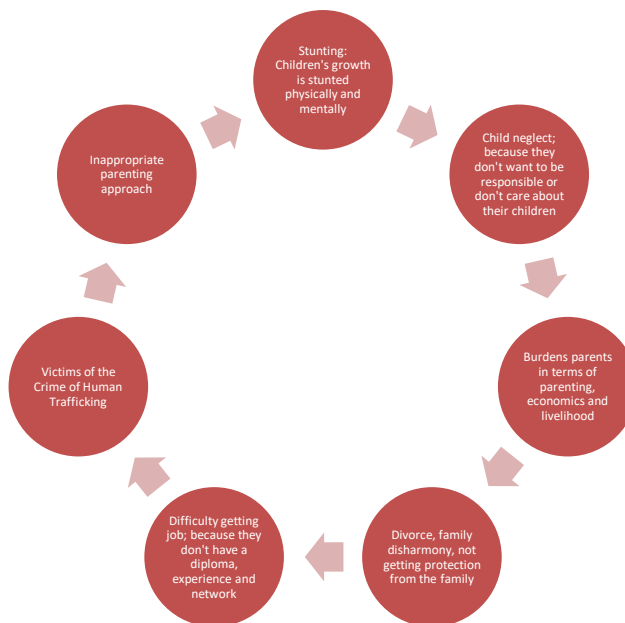
Due to their lack of a legal identity, children born into marriages when the couple's age was under 19 are also at risk of not being able to attend school. The majority of marriages between people under 19 take place in a Siri, and children born out of these unions are not officially recorded in the nation. It is still possible to obtain legal identity, but the process is lengthy and

requires parental carelessness because it is closely tied to the history of their parent's marriage being officially or unofficially registered in the nation.

Examining the effects of child marriage instances on health, socioeconomic status, and education will subsequently have an impact on the general quality of human resources. Among the other effects of child marriage are:

1. those who married while they are under 19 or when they are still in school show no interest in or are compelled to finish their schooling,
2. labelling: when unwed pregnancies or marriages at under-19 occur, women
3. are held responsible, which breeds mistrust of women in general,

4. the infant has a short life expectancy at birth,
5. their parents' aspirations for a respectable life are also dim due to their lack of education.
6. when a household lacks the information, abilities, and guidelines necessary to maintain a high standard of living, it is more likely to disintegrate,
7. women who were married but younger than 19 years old reported experiencing both physical and psychological abuse. Eight of them went through trauma and developed more closed-off behaviours



Source: FPAR Study in Aceh Province

Figure 2. The Continuing Impact of Child Marriage

The children of child marriage victims will also experience disruptions in family resilience, and based on the results of FPAR, in general, many marriages under the age of 19 do not last long. Related to family resilience, the results of research in Riau Province identified several impacts that arise

if there is marriage under the age of <19 years, specifically as the following.

1. Children from child marriages or marriages between people under the age of 19 sometimes lack resilience and tenacity (babies move less actively and

- are less agile), and as they become older, they tend to be less imaginative.
2. Newborns are typically reserved, less imaginative, and psychologically unstable.
 3. Children under the age of 19 or who have experienced child marriage lack the capacity or competence to sustain a family. As they get older, kids will often emulate their parents' behaviour patterns because they are wired to do so. Parents who have been split will also have a tendency to respond adversely when their parents do.
 4. A lack of independence and a generally unsatisfactory level of family unity, with frequent disagreements negatively influencing the kids.
 5. Children born into marriages before the age of 19 are mostly raised by their mother's parents; they do not always receive the full amount of care from both of their biological parents.
 6. Children are more exposed to the parenting styles of their moms' relatives, their grandmothers and aunts.

The Reasons Behind Child Marriage

Table 5. The Reasons Behind Child Marriage

No.	Causes of marriage <19 years old	
	Unmarried young women (12 - 18 years old)	Female (adult) - married and unmarried - assisted group member
1.	Unwanted Pregnancy	To avoid adultery
2.	Deep love	Unwanted Pregnancy
3.	School dropouts	Economic reasons
4.	Promiscuity	The influence of social media
5.	The influence of social media	Caught by security/environmental forces
6.	Restrictions on activities during Covid-19	Victims of parental domestic violence
7.	Fear of becoming an old maid	Lack of parental supervision
8.	Not knowing the impact of early marriage	Less understanding of reproductive health
9.	Absence of youth-oriented activities	Lack of applying religious values
10.	Subject to customary law: for escaping with a boyfriend from one's home	Subject to customary law: for escaping with a boyfriend from one's home
11.	Lack of parental attention	Not aware of Law No. 16 of 2019
12.	Not aware of Law No. 16 of 2019	-
13.	Minimal knowledge of SRHR	-
14.	Relationship with boyfriend is very close	-

Source: FGDs with groups of adult women and young unmarried women aged 12-19 years, in Jambi Province, 2023

The factors that contribute to early marriage, as stated in the table above, will be examined using past research findings. The factors that contribute to early marriage described above appear to be consistent

with the findings of Hikmah's (2019) study in Kutai Kartanegara Regency, including economic reasons, education, parents, and customs. According to Nabila, et.al. (2022), poverty, economic survival strategies,

conventions, and cultures all influence early marriages. Furthermore, Mubasyaroh (2016); Marta (2017); Muhith, et.al. (2018); Naveed and Butt (2020); and Anggreni, et.al. (2023) have indicated the aforementioned aspects. Moreover, the table lends itself to the following analysis.

1. Social Influence

Social media: Social media has an impact on both groups of women, teenagers and adults. Early marriage behaviour and decisions are heavily influenced by social media, particularly in regards to expectations of romantic connections and unrestricted association. This demonstrates how social media platforms can provide teenagers with knowledge and social norms that are not always helpful in helping them manage relationships and make life decisions.

Intimate Partnerships: The adolescent group's primary causes were found to be deep love and extremely tight connections with lovers and girlfriends. This emphasises how critical it is to teach adolescents about healthy relationships and emotional literacy so they can comprehend the long-term effects of making marital decisions too young.

2. Pressures from Culture and Customs

Customary Law: Cultural constraints pertaining to customary law, particularly those pertaining to escaping with a boyfriend, affect both groups. This demonstrates how certain communities continue to uphold customs that support early marriage in spite of national legislation like Law No. 16 of 2019. The conflict between state law and customary law is demonstrated by social pressure to marry following a customary transgression, such as escaping with a boyfriend.

Fear of being a Spinster: The fear of becoming a spinster, which mostly affects young females, is another

cultural pressure. This societal convention highlights how crucial it is to get married young in order to escape social shame.

3. Economic and Educations

Economic factors are a major factor among adult women, and they frequently result in early marriage in an effort to lighten the load on the family. Teenagers' school abandonment is a significant contributing factor because a lack of knowledge frequently limits their options for a more diverse existence. The decision to marry young seems to be heavily influenced by the lack of proper financial and educational assistance.

4. Inadequate Understanding of Reproductive Health

One important aspect in both groups is a lack of knowledge about reproductive health. Many young girls are forced into early marriage as a result of this ignorance, which also results in unintended births. Better education initiatives on sexual and reproductive health (SRHR) are crucial, as this illustrates.

5. Environment Factors and Violence

In the group of adult women, parental domestic violence emerged as one of the causes. This indicates that early marriage for some women is an escape from an unsafe home environment. This reflects the need for greater attention to the protection of women and children in situations of domestic violence.

Prevention of Child Marriage

A community-based approach is one element that needs to be taken into consideration because the prevention of child marriage is a difficult issue. One of the most crucial things that can be done to safeguard children's rights and make sure they have access to health care, education, and opportunity to grow up and realise their

full potential is to prevent child marriage. Child marriage prevention aligns with the Minister of National Development Planning's "National Strategy on Preventing Child Marriage" (Bappenas, 2020). One significant point is that efforts to prevent child marriage necessitate collaboration among the government, community, and religious leaders (Musawwamah, et.al, 2023).

One way to tackle this issue is to enact and implement rules and regulations that forbid marriage in any capacity and to strictly enforce the consequences for those who break them.

a. Women and Child Empowerment

This strategy involves providing women and children with economic empowerment, education, and training so they can make educated decisions about their future.

b. Cross-Sector Cooperation

This approach is carried out by involving various parties, including the government, non-governmental organizations, civil society, the private sector and others in efforts to prevent marriage at the age of <19 years.

c. Community Intervention

This approach involves dialogue and consultation with communities to understand and address the cultural, social and economic factors that encourage marriage at the age of <19 years.

Conclusions

The age of 19 and child marriage are not easy issues to solve. According to Weber's theory, every actor contributes in a complex way. Although Law No. 6 of 2019 raised the marriage age to at least 19 years old, which was initially seen as a remedy, the reality is very different. It appears that gender equality begins around age 19. In this instance, women's reproductive organ preparation has not been greatly impacted by reaching the age of 19. Particularly if the health center's

health letter's definition of reproductive health is restricted to having a regular menstrual cycle or monthly menstruation. Couples in child marriage and under 19 years of age are relatively difficult to encourage to delay pregnancy. In addition to pregnancy being evidence of women's fertility, available contraceptives are not adequate for women with child marriage and under 19 years of age, apart from male condoms and IUDs (Intrauterine Contraceptive Devices). The real picture that stunting investment has started from child marriage and age under 19 years. At least pregnancy is in a situation of unprepared reproductive age.

The results of this FPAR show less encouraging results. The difficulty of guarding Law No. 6 of 2019 is not a simple task. Unraveling this problem requires the commitment of all parties without exception. At the family level, how parents prepare their children's future, how community leaders, traditional leaders and religious leaders support their community members not to marry off their children before the age of 19, teachers who are active in schools to continue to echo the importance of delaying the age of marriage until after the age of 19, as well as the KUA and Religious Courts which are considered the frontline for passing marriage age dispensation for adherents of Islam.

Law No.6/2019 seems unable to prevent child marriage because child marriage and the age of <19 still takes place for various reasons and uses loopholes to pass the marriage. The complicated requirements for applying for marriage dispensation could actually be a solution to reduce child marriage. Unfortunately, there are no sanctions for those who avoid the dispensation. As a result, marriages at this age continue to take place even if they are traditional or religious (nikah sirri).

In order to prevent child marriage and the age of 19 as early as possible, the results of multiple FGDs provide recommendations that highlight the need for derivative

regulations, such as Regent or Mayor regulations, as well as village-level regulations. One such recommendation is to forbid applications for dispensation to the Religious Court, as this will exacerbate the issues, particularly for women. Domestic violence and divorce are sometimes the results of child marriages and unions involving people under the age of 19.

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Transformation of District/City Response Patterns for Child Protection during Post Covid-19, Case Study of Central Java Province, Indonesia

M. Indra Hadi Wijaya, Farid Agushyvana, Sutopo Patria Jati, Nofa Martina Ariani, Cahya Tri Purnami, Salma, Naintina Lisnawati, Amni Zarkasyi Rahman, and Satria Aji Imawan

Diponegoro University, Semarang, Indonesia

Corresponding Author: M. Indra Hadi Wijaya (email: indrahadiwijaya@live.undip.ac.id)

Abstract

Covid-19 for three years has become an inseparable part of the lives of urban and rural communities. The impact occurs, such as the impact of Covid-19 on children. Children are a vulnerable part of society during a pandemic, about the conditions for their health, education, and protection. The role of the city in carrying out its duties as a public servant is important, where all stakeholders have an important role. Central Java, one of the provinces affected by Covid-19 has responded well with its adaptive programs. This research was conducted with a quantitative approach with a quantitative descriptive method, starting with an analysis of the role of stakeholders and programs related to Covid-19 prevention for children. The results of the analysis are continued by looking at the spatial pattern between cities and districts. Research data is taken from primary surveys through FGD and document review. The results of the study identify that not all city/district areas have a response to child protection during the Covid-19 pandemic, urban areas are more responsive to this condition. Increasing the role of protection for children during a pandemic is an important part of the process of returning to the new normal.

Keywords: Covid-19; children; response; city

Introduction

Covid-19 has claimed many lives and changed the order of life in many fields (OECD, 2020). Two years after the first cases were detected in late 2019, the disease has infected more than two hundred million people and caused more than five million deaths worldwide (WHO, 2021). The Covid-19 pandemic is not just a health crisis, millions of people have lost their income and even jobs because of the policy of limiting social activities to prevent more severe transmission. The pandemic exacerbated existing social inequalities and disrupted services for regions and cities.

Cities, where most people live, are a typical representation of humans living in a society. Individuals build their lives through interaction and cooperation with others; some exchange goods in the market for economic activity, and others achieve results that cannot be achieved alone but collectively (Kang, et.al., 2020). The rapid growth of urban areas around the world, but especially in developing countries, is also expanding the capacity of local and regional governments and institutions to provide adequate infrastructure and services to their residents (Güneralp, et.al., 2020).

Disease restructured urban expansion over centuries, redistributing

populations across space. The rapid increase in urban populations at lower latitudes poses new risks. The increasing number of new cities especially in developing countries, causes very dense settlements, creating potential risks and vulnerabilities in terms of the emergence of communicable diseases and close contact between people creating hotspots for their rapid spread (Gupta, et.al., 2022).

The growth of residential areas with high density illustrates the availability of settlements that is not proportional to the speed of urban population growth and limited land. This is shown by 55 percent of the world's population living in urban areas and is predicted to reach 68 percent in 2050 (Bocquier, 2005). The spread of Covid-19 which has become a pandemic will be a challenge for densely populated communities. The government's policy to deal with Covid-19 by reducing the intensity of leaving the house is difficult for residents of dense settlements to avoid. Snyder is quoted in Hutama, et. al. (2020) considering space constraints, overcrowding makes physical distancing and quarantine activities ineffective, so the spread of virus infection is very likely to occur quickly. This means that Covid-19 is spreading more quickly in larger cities on average with the added implication that, in an uncontrolled outbreak, a large proportion of the population is expected to become infected in more densely populated urban areas. This condition emphasizes the need to apply a more aggressive distancing policy in big cities while also maintaining socioeconomic activities (Stier, et.al., 2020).

In the areas of cities and health, the complexity of cities is reflected by the many initiatives and city-wide networks that try to address key problems. Focusing on children or other targeted sub-populations can be seen as supporting this fragmentation. The concept of a healthy city from Antonovsky in Brown, et.al. (2019) includes 'Saluto genesis' which means the city as a place to protect people from disease and support the creation and maintenance of health. A healthy city is

also an inclusive place; caters to the needs of all regardless of age, gender, income, status, or ethnicity. In this research, the focus will be on children and diseases, especially Covid-19. Therefore, urban planning that focuses on the healthy development of children will provide benefits for decades, and influence future generations as well as present generations. The economic and social benefits of a lifelong approach are especially significant in terms of healthier populations (Wood, 2016) (UNICEF, 2012).

Another impact of the Covid-19 pandemic in urban and rural areas is the fulfillment of children's rights, especially in the provision of basic services such as health, education, child protection, and poverty alleviation. Regional capabilities and readiness in responding to this condition vary, such as the readiness of educational facilities to organize learning or sell online (Shofiana, 2020) (Irawati, et.al., n.d.) (Imawan & Purwanto, 2020). The range of the pandemic is likely to continue soon as the psychological and academic trajectory unfolds over time. The challenge of disease prevention – a particular challenge for children: involving the community in planning and decision-making, together with efficiently educating parents and children, has proven beneficial when implementing public health strategies (Ashikkali, et.al., 2020).

The quick response from the government as the decision maker focus on the dimensions of the basic needs of children. The indicators of this policy include education such as average length of schooling, school year expectancy, school dropout rate, gross enrolment rate, pure enrolment rate, school enrolment rate, and continuing rate. Health such as the Prevalence of children exposed to Covid-19, the Prevalence of complete basic immunization coverage, Prevalence of Covid-19 vaccine coverage. Child Protection such as Child Protection Index, Index of Fulfilment of Children's Rights & Child Special Protection Index.

The condition of Covid-19 since it was first detected in Indonesia in early March 2020, Covid-19 has infected and caused hundreds of thousands of deaths. In Central Java Province, more than 6 million cases were recorded until June 2023 including children (Province, n.d.). The selection of Central Java Province in the study was based on the characteristics of Central Java, such as having a large and heterogeneous population in various demographic groups, such as based on age, gender, economic status, and health conditions. Apart from that, Central Java has a variety of urban and rural areas, which have a combination of large urban areas, such as Semarang and Solo, as well as large rural areas. This variation allows for the study of the differences in the impact of Covid-19 in areas with different levels of urbanization. Meanwhile, for the spread of Significant Cases during the pandemic, Central Java is a province with a significant number of Covid-19 cases in Indonesia. This makes this province relevant to the focus of studies on the spread, handling, and impact of the pandemic.

The response of the central and regional governments is implementing various policies to reduce the potential for transmission and death such as requiring adherence to health protocols (wearing masks, keeping a safe distance, and washing hands), limiting activities in several sectors (trade and services, education, and offices). These policies impacted the outcomes of other sectors such as trade, education, and tourism. In these areas, many people who depend on these sectors have experienced a decline in income and even lost their livelihoods (Wijaya, et.al., 2021).

Covid-19 in Central Java was detected in the city of Solo on March 13, 2020. In the same month, learning from home began. Movement in and out of the area began to be restricted. The Governor formed the Task Force for handling Covid-19 down to *Rukun Warga* level. Non-critical sector activities began to be restricted. At the

end of the first half of 2020 (Province, n.d.), face-to-face learning is allowed with strict health protocols for areas with green vulnerability zones which are then expanded to yellow vulnerability zones in the second semester. In mid-2021, there was a spike in cases in Indonesia and Central Java itself until the Imposition of Emergency Community Activity Restrictions (PPKM) was enacted. Along with the improving conditions and the handling carried out by the Central Java Provincial government, the total to date (June 2023) has reported cases reaching 626,762 cases and declared cured and 34,290 patients died. The condition of Covid-19 in Central Java almost completely impacts the age line from adults to children. Data for 2022 cases of Covid-19 occurring in children aged 1-18 years are quite dominating. It is important to address the impact on children by analyzing data on aspects of education, health, and child protection.

This research answers how cities and regencies respond to the Covid-19 pandemic for children. There have been several studies that have looked at the impact of the pandemic on children as stated (Ashikkali, et.al., 2020; Benner & Mistry, 2020; Lawson, et.al., 2020) which focuses on the child physically and mentally. On the other hand, Covid-19 and the growth of urban districts discuss a lot of infrastructure where digital is the subject of much discussion (Corburn, et.al., 2020; Florida, et.al., 2023; Gupta, et.al., 2022; WHO, 2021). Meanwhile, this research will combine the condition of children affected by Covid-19 with regional responses in dealing with it in Central Java Province. The expected result is a regional response pattern where cities and regencies will have different responses to Covid-19 handlers.

Methodology

This research took place in Central Java Province, as it is known that Central Java Province is a densely populated province.

With this density, the risk of Covid-19 is high presentation. On the other hand, children are also of particular concern to the government in a pandemic situation. For the details of the location of the regional samples, taken based on the spatial distribution in the northern, southern, and central parts of Central Java Province, the identification results chose five City Districts to be sampled in this study (Brebes Regency, Semarang City, Pati Regency, Cilacap Regency, and Klaten). The data used is mostly secondary data concerning 3 main aspects that are identified including Education, such as Average Years of Schooling, Expected Years of Schooling, Dropout Rates, Gross Enrolment Rates, Pure Enrolment Rates, School Enrolment Rates, and Continuation Rates. Health such as the Prevalence of children exposed to Covid-19, the Prevalence of complete basic immunization coverage, the Prevalence of coverage of Covid-19 vaccine, and Child Protection such as the Child Protection Index, Index of Fulfilment of Children's Rights & Child Special Protection Index.

Analyzing the Performance Achievements of the Convention on the Rights and Policies of the Child, the Sustainable Development Goals, and the 2018-2023 Central Java Provincial Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMD) as the reference for this impact analysis. Understanding these three things as well as reports and research related to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on children resulted in a list of issues to be discussed. These issues are grouped into five dimensions of discussion, specifically health, poverty, education, child protection, and the environment.

The research stages began with the collection of documents and data from planning documents and supporting data taken from statistical data and reports from BPS or related agencies such as the United Nations Children Funds (UNICEF), Ministries/Institutions, and related Regional Government Organizations. to see the trend of Development achievements related to

Covid-19. The results of interviews with interviews and in-depth discussions about local governments.

The analysis began with the identification of Performance Indicators and achievements and continued with the calculation of performance achievements. This data analysis shows the trend of the problems discussed from conditions before the pandemic to after the pandemic. Along the way, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the current child protection policy has shifted to a child recovery policy. The child recovery policy focuses on 3 areas, to be specific education, health, and child protection. The explanation is followed by an analysis of the causes or root causes of the problem and the subsequent impacts if not addressed, supported by the results of FGDs with stakeholders. The results of the analysis in several study areas were grouped to form a regional response pattern with their respective characteristics.

The selection of data collection and analysis methods considers that the government does not yet have an emergency policy in handling Covid-19 so that regional readiness in formulating policies is not entirely appropriate and varies.

Results

Regional Response to Covid-19 for Children

1. Cilacap Regency

The establishment of a national emergency status due to the Covid-19 pandemic in Indonesia has made the government work even harder to suppress the spread of Sars-Cov-2, the virus that carries severe pneumonia. The Cilacap Regency Government is also rushing to take strategic steps. First, forming a task force that specifically serves public complaints, and provides factual and actual information about the prevention and handling of Covid-19 in Cilacap Regency. The application of

process-based policy innovations places more emphasis on improving the quality of work processes internally and externally, from various stakeholders which are carried out efficiently and effectively. The working mechanisms of public organizations which tend to be slow, convoluted, and complicated are changed to working mechanisms that are fast, precise, and productive. The purpose of process-based policy innovation is that the community gets renewal in service following excellent service standards. The following is the application of process policy innovations that have been carried out by the Cilacap Regency Government in the prevention and control of Covid-19, that is building an application system based on internet and intranet information technology to present information, data and visualization regarding the spread, prevention and control of pandemics.

a. Educational Aspects

Conduct data collection for children who do not attend school (*ATS/Anak Tidak Sekolah/Number of Out of School Children*) in Cilacap Regency to record children who have dropped out of school, children who have not attended school, and children who do not continue school so that ATS can be handled in accordance with the data collection carried out. The results of the investigation into the data on children not attending school showed that the main cause was household finances being disrupted by Covid-19, where parents or the family's source of income were lost.

b. Health Aspect

Continuing complete basic immunization services in Cilacap Regency to pursue IDL (*Imunisasi Dasar Lengkap/Complete Basic Immunization*) status in Cilacap Regency which had declined during the COVID-19 pandemic, especially in 2021 (69.93%). In 2022 Cilacap Regency will

carry out the National Immunization Month (*BIAN/Bulan Imunisasi Anak Nasional*) immunization program which has succeeded in increasing the IDL status in Cilacap Regency to 105.73%. Continuing Covid-19 vaccination services for children up to dose 2. Strengthening adaptive systems for providing and monitoring nutrition services to prevent service disruptions during times of crisis. Improving services for stunting babies in Cilacap Regency with the "Kacing Merah" program.

c. Aspects of Child Social Protection

The social protection of children that have been carried out by the Cilacap Regency Government is by providing assistance and compensation to children affected by Covid-19. During the Covid-19 pandemic, which has been almost 2 years, more people have been affected and have died, and not a few children in Cilacap Regency have become orphans because their parents have died due to the Covid-19 virus. For this reason, the Maos District Covid Task Force, Cilacap Regency, and Pertamina Maos are holding social services by helping orphans affected by Covid-19 and the community who are carrying out *isoman (isolasi mandiri)*. Assistance and compensation for orphans affected by Covid-19 totaling 19 children. The form of food package assistance is in the form of 5 kg of rice, 1 liter of oil, milk, canned bread and shopping vouchers of Rp300 thousand. The Social Rehabilitation Assistance Program (*ATENSI/Asistensi Rehabilitasi Sosial*) launched by the Ministry of Social Affairs can be developed optimally by inviting the community to participate, by mobilizing various potential sources that can be utilized to provide social protection for orphan victims of the Covid-19 pandemic.

2. Brebes Regency

To reduce the development of the Covid-19 case in Brebes Regency, since May 6 2020 Brebes Regency has established Community Activity Restrictions (PKM/*Pembatasan Kegiatan Masyarakat*). Restrictions on Community Activities (PKM) in Brebes Regency are valid for 28 days. The first restriction is in the form of limiting activities outside the home. Second, restrictions on the implementation of activities in schools and/or other educational institutions. Third, restrictions on work activities in the workplace. Fourth, restrictions on religious activities in places of worship. Fourth, restrictions on activities in public places. Fifth, restrictions on social and cultural activities, and sixth, restrictions on the movement of people using public transportation modes. The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic in Brebes Regency was felt in various sectors including the economy, health, education, child protection, and so on. In addition, it does not only affect adults but children in Brebes Regency are also affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The application of process-based policy innovations places more emphasis on improving the quality of work processes internally and externally, from various stakeholders which are carried out efficiently and effectively. The working mechanisms of public organizations which tend to be slow, convoluted, and complicated are changed to working mechanisms that are fast, precise, and productive. The purpose of process-based policy innovation is that the community gets renewed in service in accordance with excellent service standards. The following is the implementation of process policy innovations that have been carried out by the Brebes Regency Government in the prevention and control of Covid-19, namely building an application system based on internet and intranet information technology to present information, data, and visualization regarding the spread, prevention, and control.

a. Educational Aspects

The Brebes Regency Government built facilities and infrastructure for a Clean and Healthy Lifestyle (PHBS/ *Perilaku Hidup Bersih Sehat*) in the school environment. For 2022, the Brebes Regency Government through Dindikpora Brebes has issued the GKB (*Gerakan Kembali Sekolah*) budget in 2 stages, specifically stage 1 by disbursing Rp546,900,000 with recipients of 995 children from education levels including 216 SD/MI, 424 SMP/MTs and SMA/MTs. SMK/MA totaled 355 children. Meanwhile, in the second stage, the GKB assistance budget was Rp. 477,300,000, recipients of 862 children (215 SD/MI children, 308 SMP/MTs children, and 339 SMA/SMK/MA children). The hybrid class learning program for junior high schools from underprivileged families was launched by the Acting Regent of Brebes on May 2, 2023, in the context of National Education Day (*Hardiknas*) in 2023. At the launch of this first year, 3 schools were used as pilot projects, to be specific SMP Negeri 5 Brebes, SMP Negeri 2 Kenggungan, and SMP Negeri 3 Bumiayu. The purpose of holding hybrid classes is for underprivileged families who go to school far away or students help their parents in the morning and afternoon so they cannot go to school. In the future, this hybrid class learning will be carried out in 17 districts.

b. Health Aspect

Several partners have played a role in helping to improve the nutritional status of toddlers in Banjarharjo District in the form of giving eggs. To pursue and complete the basic immunization status, Brebes Regency is carrying out a national program, namely the National Immunization Month (*BIAN*) program which will be implemented in 2022. The

government is moving quickly to prepare for the expansion of the Covid-19 vaccine program after BPOM granted permission for the emergency use of vaccines for children aged 6 – 11 years. The plan is to vaccinate children in Indonesia starting in 2022 in regencies/cities that have reached the target dose of 1 for more than 70% of the total target and more than 60% of the elderly population (elderly). Likewise, the Brebes Regency has reached 70% of the total vaccination target.

The Brebes Regency Health Office together with 38 Community Health Centers throughout Brebes Regency carried out the Covid-19 Vaccination Activities in Elementary Schools in each area in the Brebes area. Health workers will start vaccination in the second week of January 2022. The Covid-19 vaccine used has been clinically tested by BPOM and also recommendations from the Indonesian Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (ITAGI) and the implementation of this vaccination will be carried out in stages.

c. Aspects of Child Protection

In the Covid-19 situation, the Brebes Government and cross-sectoral institutions and partners work hand in hand to help and try to ease the burden on children in Brebes Regency through material and immaterial assistance, especially children whose parents have been affected by Covid-19 and continue their schooling through affirmations. One of the programs carried out is the provision of compensation and scholarships for orphans outside the orphanage. Compensation for orphans outside the Brebes Regency orphanage is an annual program. This program was implemented as a form of concern for the Government of Brebes Regency for school-age orphans outside the

orphanage. DP3KB (Dinas Pemberdayaan Perlindungan Perempuan dan Keluarga Berencana) Brebes Regency Collaborates with the Brebes Regency Amilzakat Agency (Baznas) to distribute school package assistance and pocket money to children who have lost their parents due to Covid-19 in 2021. The Regent of Brebes, Chair of the Brebes Regency Baznas, and Secretary of the DP3KB Brebes Regency provided compensation symbolically in Losari and Bulakamba Districts (Figure 3). The Covid-19 pandemic, which will soon end, has left several problems, including many new orphans or orphans due to the death of their parents from Covid-19. This assistance is intended for orphans/orphans/orphans whose parents died because of Covid-19.

3. Pati Regency

Pati Regency Data as of February 12 2021 shows the number of positive confirmed cases in Pati Regency at the same time as many as 1,986 people with details of 48 being treated, 1,614 recovered and 324 died. This condition caused Pati Regency to become one of the most highlighted areas during the Covid-19 pandemic. Cases of Covid-19 at the age of 18 and under are low, that is 56 cases or 3.2%. The cases of Covid-19 in the age group 19 years and over are very high, specifically 1685 cases or 96.8%. Most cases of Covid-19 were in the age group 46-59 years, that is 637 people (36.59%) followed by the age group 31-45 years, namely 482 people (27.69%). Furthermore, the age group of 60+ years or the elderly was 354 people (20.33%).

The application of process-based policy innovations places more emphasis on improving the quality of work processes internally and externally, from various stakeholders which are carried out efficiently and effectively. The working mechanisms of public organizations which tend to be slow,

convoluted, and complicated are changed to working mechanisms that are fast, precise, and productive. The purpose of process-based policy innovation is that the community gets renewed in service by excellent service standards. The following is the application of process policy innovations that have been carried out by the Pati Regency government.

a. Educational Aspects

Re-open schools as soon as possible while still implementing health protocols, increasing the coverage and quality of distance learning, and prioritizing universal internet access. The level of learning lag also needs to be studied as a basis for preparing programs and campaigns to overcome them. Accelerate investment in sanitation and handwashing facilities and strengthen capacity to promote good handwashing practices at community, household, school, and health facility levels.

b. Health Aspect

At the end of 2022, the Vaccination Program for Children aged 6-11 years was implemented at the Pati District Hall and attended by the Regent of Pati, Deputy Regent of Pati, Forkopimda (Local Coordination Forum), all Heads of Health Centers and Health Office of Pati Regency. Pati Regency cumulatively has reached the target of more than 70% and for vaccination of the elderly more than 60%. The target of 225,000 children's vaccinations consists of public and private elementary schools. To facilitate data collection, the Pati Regency Government is also working with the Pati Regency Education and Culture Office. The number of students in public elementary schools is 80,135 and 5,632 in private schools. So, the total is 85,767 students. The type of vaccine used is Sinovac because the side effects are

milder than other types of vaccines. And then it will be assisted by the Community Health Centers in each region for the implementation of vaccinations. This became a concern after seeing data on immunizations for toddlers which had decreased during the Covid-19 pandemic. He (Head of Planning Agency) mentioned that the target of 100% of toddlers in Pati Regency receiving immunization, in 2020 it could only reach 99%, and then it would decrease again in 2021 to 98%.

c. Aspects of Child Protection

Pati Regency received a package of assistance or compassion from the Central Java National Amil Zakat Agency (Baznas) together with Baznas Pati in December 2021. They are orphans, aged between 8 and 13 whose parents died of Covid-19 19. The forms of assistance provided included school equipment, honey, snacks, and supplies for daily needs. Baznas is one of the institutions that during the Covid-19 pandemic has provided a lot of caring assistance starting from education, house renovations and productive economic assistance. Expanding the scope and benefits of child-focused social protection programs, so that the program can be accessed by all Indonesian families during times of crisis. Carry out protective measures to detect, prevent and deal with violence against children and other vulnerable groups; provide mental health and psychosocial support to all children and caregivers.

4. Klaten Regency

Klaten Regency as a region of Central Java Province cannot be separated from the impact of Covid-19. Klaten Regency declared an Extraordinary Event (KLB/Kejadian Luar Biasa) on April 1, 2020, after 1 patient was found to be positive for

Covid-19. Developments of COVID-19 in Klaten Regency up to June 24, 2023, the number of positive confirmed cases of the coronavirus in Klaten Regency has reached 28,571 people. Furthermore, there are 1,099 people died from COVID-19, 577 were actively positive (being treated), and 26,895 people were declared cured. Regarding Covid-19 cases in children, cases were found in April with 18 cases, in May there were 46 cases and in June there were 11 cases in 2021. Under these conditions, the local government's attention to children is increased by limiting schools and vaccinating children. The Covid-19 pandemic in Klaten Regency has had several impacts on various sectors, including the Education, Health, and child protection sectors. Several indicators for assessing the impact of Covid-19 in Klaten Regency.

The application of process-based policy innovations places more emphasis on improving the quality of work processes internally and externally, from various stakeholders which are carried out efficiently and effectively. The working mechanisms of public organizations which tend to be slow, convoluted, and complicated are changed to working mechanisms that are fast, precise, and productive. The purpose of process-based policy innovation is that the community gets renewed in service following excellent service standards. The following is the application of process policy innovations that have been carried out by the Klaten Regency Government in preventing and controlling Covid-19, that is building an application system based on internet and intranet information technology to provide information, data, and visualization regarding the spread, prevention, and control of pandemic.

a. Educational Aspects

The Klaten Regency Government built facilities and infrastructure for a Clean and Healthy Lifestyle (PHBS) in the school environment. At the time of

entering the period of adaptation to new habits, where learning methods in schools have started trials of learning offline, the Klaten Regency Government requires every school to provide PHBS facilities and infrastructure, one of which is the aspect of washing hands with soap (CTPS/*Cuci Tangan Pakai Sabun*/wash hands with soap), requiring the use of masks, and temperature checking when entering the room as an effort to prevent the transmission of the Covid-19 virus from the school cluster.

b. Health Aspect

The Klaten Regency Government's efforts in dealing with toddler stunting are through the "Gong Cething" or "Gotong Royong Atasi Stunting" program. The pattern of intervention provided is in the form of regular education related to stunting and its prevention by partner universities, as well as interventions for providing supplementary food for stunted children with the concept of "cething" where the food served is varied and contains several nutrients needed for stunted children. The government moved quickly to prepare for the expansion of the Covid-19 vaccine program after BPOM granted permission for the emergency use of the vaccine for children aged 6-11 years. Vaccination of children in Indonesia will start in 2022 in regencies/cities that have reached the target dose of 1 more than 70% of the total target and more than 60% of the elderly population (elderly). Likewise, Klaten Regency has reached 70% of the total vaccination target.

c. Aspects of Child Protection

In the Covid-19 situation, the Klaten Regency Government and cross-sectoral institutions and partners work together to help and try to ease the burden on children in Klaten Regency

through material and immaterial assistance, especially children who have lost their parents due to Covid-19 and continue their schooling through affirmations. To provide education to the public so that people are willing to report cases of violence against children, the Klaten Regency government has made innovations in the form of Sosiprak (Socialization through *ketoprak*) and the KaTca KeTawa online service (Apps Talk for Mental Health). The Covid-19 pandemic has caused many new orphans or orphans due to the death of their parents due to Covid-19. Therefore, a school package distribution program is needed. This program is assistance for orphans/orphans/orphans whose parents died because of Covid-19.

5. Semarang City

Semarang City as one of the areas affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, based on data as of June 2023, the number of positive confirmed cases of the coronavirus in Semarang City has reached 35,253, and 3,760 people have died, and 31,493 people have been declared cured. This number is relatively high considering that Semarang City is one of the big cities on the island of Java which has a high level of mobility. These impacts can be attached to life in some children. The first response of the Semarang City Government to the needs and protection of children is to stop school activities and other educational institutions and vaccinate children. Follow-up programs after Covid-19 will concentrate on the aspects of education, health and child protection.

The application of process-based policy innovations places more emphasis on improving the quality of work processes internally and externally, from various stakeholders which are carried out efficiently and effectively. The working mechanisms of public organizations which tend to be slow, convoluted, and complicated are changed to

working mechanisms that are fast, precise, and productive. The purpose of process-based policy innovation is that the community gets renewed in service by excellent service standards. The following is the application of process policy innovations that have been carried out by the City Government of Semarang in the prevention and control of Covid-19, specifically building an application system based on internet and intranet information technology to present information, data, and visualization regarding the spread, prevention and control of Covid-19 in Semarang City which consists of three applications. The three applications consist of the alert corona.semarangkota.go.id, the Semarang Health Agency application based on social media (Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook), and a special application for health workers in handling Covid-19, that is the Isolation Hospital Information Management System (SIM- hospital).

a. Educational Aspects

Re-open schools as soon as possible while still implementing health protocols, increasing the coverage and quality of distance learning, and prioritizing universal internet access. The level of learning lag also needs to be studied as a basis for preparing programs and campaigns to overcome them. Accelerate investment in sanitation and handwashing facilities and strengthen capacity to promote good handwashing practices at community, household, school, and health facility levels.

b. Health Aspect

Continuing essential health services, including follow-up immunization campaigns, and continuing vaccinations for the community. This became his concern after seeing data on immunizations for toddlers that had decreased during the Covid-19 pandemic. He mentioned that from the

target of 100% of toddlers in Semarang City receiving immunizations, in 2020 it could only reach 99%, and then it would decrease again in 2021 to 98%. Strengthen adaptive systems for providing and monitoring nutrition services to prevent service bottlenecks in times of crisis.

c. Aspects of Child Social Protection

Expanding the scope and benefits of child-focused social protection programs, so that the program can be accessed by all Indonesian families during times of crisis. Carry out protective measures to detect, prevent and deal with violence against children and other vulnerable groups; provide mental health and psychosocial support to all children and caregivers.

Dynamics of Urban and Rural Areas in Response to Covid-19

Overall, although urban areas have more resources to deal with Covid-19, their main challenge is controlling the rapid spread due to population density. Meanwhile, in rural areas, the biggest challenge is limited health infrastructure and access to information and vaccination, which requires a special approach in efforts to prevent and control Covid-19. The impact of Covid-19 on the education sector in urban and rural areas is quite different because both have differences in access to technology, education infrastructure, and readiness to implement distance learning. Meanwhile, the aspect of child health. The impact of Covid-19 in urban and rural areas is quite different due to differences in access to health services, environmental conditions, and social support.

Table 1. The Pattern of City/Rural Responses

No.	Aspects	Urban	Rural
1.	Education Access to Education	Better access due to more adequate infrastructure, by having internet access.	Access to online learning in rural areas is much more limited. Many rural areas still experience problems with weak internet connections or even no internet access at all.
	Quality of education	Many schools have the resources to create engaging and interactive learning materials. Children are complaining of boredom and stress from having to learn from home for long periods without face-to-face interaction.	The learning process often decreases drastically due to the limited methods that can be used.
2.	Health Access to Health Services	Children in urban areas generally have better access to health services. Vaccine distribution is faster.	In rural areas, access to health services is more limited. The handling of children with special needs is difficult to access. Low public awareness of the importance of vaccines.

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No.	Aspects	Urban	Rural
	Exposure to COVID-19	The risk of exposure to COVID-19 is higher due to high mobility and interaction between residents.	Lower risk of exposure but low awareness of health protocols.
3.	Child Protection Risk of Domestic Violence	Urban social distancing and lockdown policies have increased economic and psychological stress on families, leading to an increased risk of domestic violence.	The pandemic has also worsened the situation of families who are already economically vulnerable, sometimes pushing children to work to help the family or even face the risk of early marriage.
	Assistance Programs and Social Networks	Government and non-governmental aid programs are more likely to reach children in urban areas	Socialization of children's rights and child protection campaigns are often less carried out in rural areas.

Discussion

This research has several implications that can inform evolving national, regional, and local responses to Covid-19 outbreaks and the specifics affecting children. From the point of view of city-first development, it is very important for major cities to act quickly to overcome this epidemic. Second, social distancing will affect cities differently based on city size (Stier, et.al., 2020). The conditions in Central Java also have the same characteristics where the size of the city and district places a different emphasis on handling. For example, urban areas have stricter protocols than rural areas. At the same time, after the outbreak subsides, social distancing policies in small towns can be relaxed first, allowing a quicker return to normal life and economic activity compared to more densely populated urban areas (Couclelis, 2020).

The city's response to the impact of Covid-19 on children around the world took unprecedented action by imposing a lockdown, which in turn required children to carry out every part of their daily life at home. After the lockdown was lifted, children's educational settings were replaced by online classes instead of attending school, and recreational activities were limited to indoors or to nearby playgrounds and parks (Kang, et.al., 2020). Central Java is also carrying out

the program. What is noteworthy is how the education curriculum that has been prepared has not fully accommodated infrastructure in areas where not all areas have internet access, this condition is due to the different service coverage in cities and rural areas (Gupta, et.al., 2022; Sirkeci & Yucesahin, 2020). This condition makes government programs adapted to the region. The result of this system is that there is learning loss where the child's ability to understand lessons is reduced and in rural areas, the number is relatively higher.

The aspect of child protection where one of the affected groups of children is orphans victims of the Covid-19 pandemic is also related to welfare. Mallon (2005, in Astuti, 2014: 217) looks at orphans who are victims of the Covid-19 pandemic and really need a family with conducive conditions. Therefore, the government needs to facilitate these orphans to get care in families that can bring them to prosperity, that is families that can meet the needs of children, can provide proper education, and can facilitate children with adequate range of physical and mental needs of caregivers. Pancawati in (Florida et al., 2023). mentioned that the expected role of the government in handling orphans due to Covid-19 is to provide scholarships, then provide a guarantee of life or provide work if the orphans are adults.

In the health aspects that affect children during a pandemic as discussed in (Ashikkali, et.al., 2020; Benner & Mistry, 2020; Lawson, et.al., 2020) emphasis on children's basic needs such as immunization and vaccination is the main program. The conditions in Central Java the immunization and vaccination programs experienced different conditions in each urban district. Fulfilling basic immunization needs with the Covid-19 pandemic, almost all regions in Indonesia, including Central Java Province, are experiencing obstacles. Social restrictions and refocusing of budget allocations are obstacles in the process of administering immunizations to children in the regions. Meanwhile, vaccination for children in anticipation of Covid-19, the main obstacle is ensuring that vaccination is safe for children. Another health impact from the presence of Covid-19 for affected children is long covid, until now there is no accurate information for this data.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The Covid-19 pandemic has affected efforts to fulfill children's rights, including in Central Java Province. The increasing challenges in efforts to reduce poverty and unequal access to basic services and infrastructure from before the pandemic have had a major impact on communities with high economic and social vulnerability. Even though Indonesia has experienced dealing with similar outbreaks before, the huge impact caused by this pandemic has hampered health services, other basic services, and economic and social activities and affected people's lives including children. The pandemic has disrupted the usual health services that children receive, such as monitoring of malnutrition and immunization. If this disruption is allowed to continue, it can affect the health and development of children in the future. Regional responses vary, urban areas are more prepared than rural areas with more adequate infrastructure for

aspects of education, health, and child protection.

From the analysis described above, the following are several recommendations that policymakers can consider accelerating the restoration of the fulfilment of the rights of children affected by the pandemic. The first one is expanding the social safety net for children affected by Covid-19. Local governments can invite funding sources or other organizations that can provide non-material support to be jointly involved in the recovery program for the welfare of children affected by Covid-19. Second, improve access to basic services and infrastructure that are responsive to infectious disease control and child-friendly. Third, strengthening the capacity of stakeholders in program planning and monitoring. Fourth, strengthening the role of society in fulfilling children's rights.

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Youth Leadership Development through the Patriot Desa Program of West Java

Asraar Kamal Azmi¹, Hakimul Ikhwan², and Umi Listyaningsih³

Master Program of Leadership and Policy Innovation, The Graduate School, Universitas Gadjah Mada, ²Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Universitas Gadjah Mada, ³Faculty of Geography, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Corresponding Author: Asraar Kamal Azmi (email: asraarkamalazmi@mail.ugm.ac.id)

Abstract

The national Youth Development Index (YDI) is still fluctuating. One of the provinces with a lower percentage change in YDI than expected is West Java, which is at the bottom of the list. This is ironic considering that 20% of Indonesia's total youth reside in West Java. In fact, during period 2018-2023, many programs were launched which focused on youth development, such as Patriot Desa. The presence of the Patriot Desa Program did not make the value of Youth Participation and Leadership increase. Therefore, this research aims to find out how the Patriot Desa Program impacts youth leadership development in West Java. The methodology used in this research is qualitative with a case study approach. The research was conducted in Sukaharja and Sukamakmur Village, Sukamakmur Sub-district, Bogor Regency. Data collection techniques through interviews the representatives of the West Java DPMD, Patriot Desa, village secretaries, youth organizations, and local champions. The program followed by young people who became Patriot Desas was able to have an impact on the development of individual and social leadership. In particular, the village patriots who served in the research locations were highly dedicated with a self-sacrificing attitude and always collaborated with various parties, so that they were able to bring about changes in the village in social, economic and environmental aspects. However, these things are also inseparable from the influence of pre-deployment orientation and the role of the regional coordinator who is very supportive as a mentor. Youth involvement in community empowerment programs can be a means of developing youth leadership. Therefore, the government needs to involve more youth in other programs so that there is an increase in the domain value of youth participation and leadership.

Keywords: Patriot Desa; youth leadership; leadership program; youth leadership development; West Java

Introduction

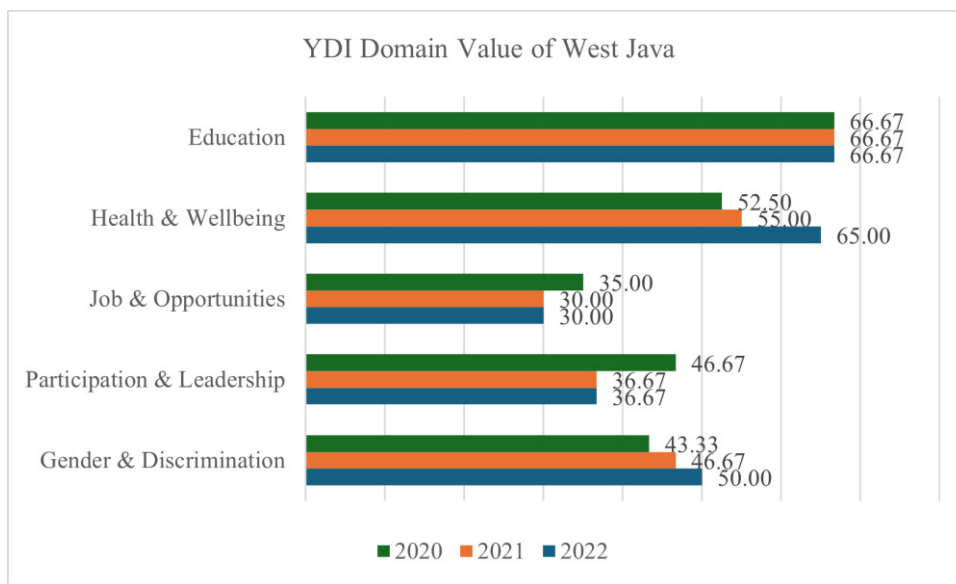
As community-based youth organizations and youth activism have grown over the past two decades, the role of today's youth as leaders and change agents has become equally important. Fundamental to preparing

youth to be effective leaders is creating opportunities for them to engage and participate in leadership development contexts (Jones, 2009). The world will face overlapping trends, starting with an increase in the number of youth and then a decline in their population. Therefore, the demographic

bonus phenomenon which is predicted to occur in 2030 needs to be optimized as an opportunity, before it turns into a threat. The national Youth Development Index (YDI) value from year to year has not shown positive signs because the trend is still fluctuating. According to Smeru (2018), the above occurs because there are still discrepancies between the SDGs and the Youth Law. One of them is the unavailability of guidelines to find creative ways to engage youth. In addition, increasing YDI is not only the task of the Central Government alone but also inseparable from the role of the Regional Government.

Based on the latest YDI data, there are 17 provinces with a percentage change in YDI which is lower than expected. This indicates less than optimal youth development in these areas. One of them is

West Java Province at the bottom of the list with an IPP value of 49.67. This is ironic because almost 20% of Indonesia's total youth reside in West Java (Badan Pusat Statistik, 2022). In fact, since the West Java Provincial Government was led by the pair of Governor Ridwan Kamil and Deputy Governor Uu Ruzhanul Ulum (2018-2023), many excellent programs have been launched, one of which focuses on youth development, such as Sekolah Perempuan Menggapai Cita (Sekoper Cinta), Jabar Future Leader, Jabar Innovation Fellowship, Youth Innovation Summit, One Village One Company, CEO Bumdes, and Patriot Desa (Pemprov Jawa Barat, 2023). The flagship program of the West Java Provincial Government in the youth sector which is most closely related to the community directly is the Patriot Desa Program.



Source: Bappenas (2023)

Figure 1. YDI Domain Value of West Java

Mortensen, et.al. (2014) says most youth development programs are still designed based on adult or traditional leadership theories and concepts. For example, the traditional leadership theory of traits and behaviors theory explains that a person must have certain traits or characteristics to be considered worthy of

being a leader. Meanwhile, youth see leadership as an inclusive opportunity that can be managed by anyone who wants to make a change. For youth, leadership is about working for the common good by prioritizing the needs of others over their own. Youth leadership aims to improve community conditions, not to achieve a

certain status (Schnoll, 2015). This leads to Klau (2006) findings that youth leadership programs are more often based on the imagination of policymakers, rather than what is actually needed by youth. Therefore, the author is interested in conducting research to determine the impact of the implementation of the Patriot Desa Program of West Java on the leadership development of youth participants.

Method, Data, and Analysis

This research uses qualitative methods. Qualitative methods prioritize research findings based on observations of phenomena which occur in the field. The qualitative method in this research was conducted through a case study research approach. This research will be conducted in Sukaharja and Sukamakmur Village, Sukamakmur Sub-district, Bogor Regency, West Java Province. Data sources in qualitative research can be primary and secondary. Primary data is obtained from observations and interviews with informants consisting of the Institutional Division and Development of Community Participation of the West Java DPMD, Senior Staff of Village Community Empowerment, village government, youth organization, local champions, and the Patriot Desas. Meanwhile, secondary data comes from literature studies in the form of literature and information and reports from government documents available in print or digitally.

Result and Discussion

Departing from the concern of the Governor of West Java at that time (Ridwan Kamil), about the conditions in West Java, he and his partner (Uu Ruzhanul Ulum) have a vision of "The realization of West Java Inner and Outer Champion with Innovation and Collaboration". This vision is supported by

the missions, specifically (a) creating cultured, qualified, happy, and productive people through improving innovative public services and (b) accelerating growth and equitable development based on sustainable environment and spatial planning through improving regional connectivity and regional arrangements. Since before being elected, the Governor-Vice Governor pair has been campaigning for their flagship programs, such as Millennial Juara and Gerbang Desa (Gerakan Bangun Desa). This is motivated by the fact that many villages in West Java are rich in natural resources, but are not supported by qualified human resources, especially youth.

Patriot Desa, as a human investment-oriented program, certainly makes humans the main target of the program. One of the things which is expected from this approach is that Patriot Desa can work in the village as a leadership school. This program is a series of leadership schools and a place of service for the best sons and daughters of West Java from various backgrounds. For one year, the Patriot Desa program provides an opportunity for West Java youth who have passed the selection to develop their leadership experience by becoming field facilitators spread across villages in West Java. The program, with all its shortcomings and advantages, has provided many lessons for the Patriot Desas. In general, it can be seen that the learning and leadership development of Patriot Desa is divided into two competency classifications, namely individual leadership and social leadership.

Individual Leadership

Individual leadership refers to a person's ability to lead, direct and motivate themselves. This generally includes the ability to manage time, make decisions, and achieve personal goals without relying on intensive external direction or supervision. Individual leadership reflects a person's level

of autonomy and initiative in leading themselves. Individual leadership is important for personal and professional success. People with good individual leadership tend to be more independent, more productive, and more effective in achieving their personal goals. It also reflects a person's level of independence and maturity in managing his or her own life.

One of the principles of youth leadership programs according to Woyach & Cox (1992) is to facilitate the development of individual strengths and leadership styles. In addition, Redmond & Dolan (2016) also said that by participating in this kind of leadership program, at the competency level, youth will clarify and develop their personal values. Then, at the behavioral level, youth will develop a clear vision of what they want to achieve as leaders and develop negotiation skills to motivate followers to participate. Meanwhile, the individual leadership capabilities that develop in the Patriot Desas are as follows.

1. Adaptive

In carrying out their duties, Patriot Desas are always placed in areas that are outside their home domicile. This makes them have to adjust to the new place. Cultural differences with the people of the assignment village are new in the life learning of the Patriot Desas. Patriot Desa of Sukamakmur Village stated as the following.

“Banyak belajar bermasyarakat sih Kang, pertama itu ... Karena aku, ya jujur, introvert ya, Kang. Awalnya tuh sangat berat, tapi karena menjadi di Patriot Desa, mau nggak mau ya, dari Garut udah digembleng, kalau bisa, kalau ada sekumpulan orang nih, menghindar tuh gitu. Tapi kan di Garut orangnya ramah-ramah kan, gak bisa kita cuek gini ya bu. Jadi mau gak mau harus senyum, menyapa dan dari situ dibentuk tuh keramahan aku juga. Cara bersosialisasi

ke masyarakat itulah kan karena beda ya, daerah sana sama sini kan beda ya. Maksudnya dari Medan ke Sunda itu kan beda beda banget.”

Leaders with high self-awareness are better able to adapt to new situations (Mumford, et.al., 2000) and self-management is associated with the ability to be flexible in the face of change (Cherniss and Goleman, 2001). Leader flexibility allows leaders to quickly adapt to different action needs. Yukl and Mahsud (2010) have argued that cognitive ability affects leader flexibility. This is the reason for the minimum education requirement for Patriot Desa candidates. In addition, in this case, emotional intelligence and behavioral flexibility are said to influence each other, thus requiring leaders to understand the needs of others and respond to these needs constructively (Zaccaro, et.al., 1991).

2. Visionary

Patriot Desa does service in villages not without long-term goals. The experience and learning they get during their community assistance tasks can be used as a provision for achieving their goals in the future. Patriot Desa of Sukaharja Village stated that as the following.

“Ketika saya jadi Kepala Desa pun sudah tidak bisa sudah apa bisa mempelajari dan mengetahui situasi kondisi pemerintahan paling terkecil, yaitu desa. Ataupun misalkan jadi dewan pun sebetulnya hampir sama.”

This is what Redmond & Dolan (2016) said about the impact of leadership programs at the behavioral level, youth will develop a clear vision of what they want to achieve as leaders. The above statement of the Patriot Desa is also based on the role of the Patriot Desa as a facilitator in the assignment village, which has duties and

functions, among others, as a liaison between the village and other village institutions, villages and vertical institutions, and villages and other stakeholders. In addition, it also functions to integrate existing village potential with national, national, local, and municipal strengthening and development programs so that synergy is maintained. On the other hand, this impact is very much felt by the community, especially after a long time they were often ignored by the Village Government when proposing programs. The existence of the Patriot Desa is able to become an accelerator for community programs.

3. Strategic

Patriot Desa has limited time and budget but needs to solve problems in the village community. Thus, the Patriot Desas are trained to design strategies to achieve program goals. Patriot Desa of Sukaharja Village shared his experience as follows.

“Nah kalau saya pribadi kan kelompok sadar wisata kan dibalik. Merintih dulu dari awal, biar dulu masyarakat itu keluar keringat, keluar tenaga, keluar waktu, keluar materi-materi itu dalam artian kayak kopi, keur goro kayak gitu kan akhirnya apa bisa tumbuh yang namanya tuh nasionalisme terhadap dirinya sendiri dan organisasinya atau lembaganya lah. Sekarang contohnya kayak gini, kelompok sadar wisata enggak bakalan mungkin mundur satu jengkal pun kasarnya kan gitu ketika ada pengembang atau investor masuk bisa menguasai wilayah itu. Karena dia sudah rasa memiliki dan sudah keluar keringat atau perjuangannya selama proses. Nah saya mah menumbuhkan itunya dulu kang. Jadi ketika ada anggaran pun dan lain sebagainya itu bisa terlaksana dengan baik.”

Successful strategy formulation and implementation requires effective strategic leadership. Strategic leadership is how leaders develop strategies to achieve specific goals. A strategy should identify the steps needed to move from the current state to the desired state by looking at the problem from multiple perspectives and reorganizing the problem to understand its root causes. According to Hughes & Beatty (n.t.), strategic leadership operates on a long-term schedule and integrates short-term results with a long-term focus.

4. Decision making

Still related to the same issue, that is the limited budget and time that a Patriot Desa has in carrying out their duties, so they need to determine and make decisions on what work they need to complete first. The problems found may be many, but they cannot all be solved in a very limited time and budget. Patriot Desa of Sukamakmur Village explained as follows.

“Menyampaikan permasalahannya yang real dan kita sodorkan gagasan yang real juga, jangan muluk-muluk. Jangan yang harus berat-berat karena kan kita satu tahun nih dibatasi dengan waktu, sedangkan kita nggak punya anggaran tadi. Ya udah kita apa yang bisa kita lakuin, daripada kita mikirin konsep yang berat-berat. Misalkan kayak sampah ini kan sebenarnya hal yang sederhana ya Kang, tapi dari sampah itu ya syukur banyak manfaatnya dari segi kesadaran masyarakat pengetahuan penggerak lokalnya juga, dan desanya juga udah mulai paham gitu, Kang.”

In addition, external factors of the program that come from the village itself also need to be taken into consideration. Thus, decision-making by the Patriot Desa needs to be careful in order to achieve what is expected by the Patriot Desa and the

community. Patriot Desas must be aware of the limited time they have to live in the village. There are quite a lot of problems in the village that are not comparable to the patriot's assignment period. Thus, Patriot Desas needs to sort and select which priority issues can be resolved within the remaining timeframe and available resources. Targeted initiatives are sought that are closest to the community and need immediate resolution. However, the initiatives should be realistic and easy to achieve and implement together.

5. Problem solving

The strategy and decision-making carried out by the Patriot Desa above is none other than the goal of problem solving. The presence of the Patriot Desa in the assignment villages is of course to carry out 3 main functions to solve existing problems in the village. Land conflict is one of the obstacles encountered in patriot assignment villages such as Sukaharja Village. This began because some of the land in Sukaharja, especially those that became tourist attractions, no longer belonged to the villagers. Thus, the implementation of programs related to these tourist objects has been hampered. The landowners, who are outsiders, are only business-oriented without considering the conditions of the local community. However, this protracted problem has not been resolved by the Village Government as the authority in the area. Patriot Desa of Sukaharja Village shared the opinion as follows.

Jadi, kalau berbicara Sukaharja, ini agak sedikit membuka aja. Sukaharja itu salah satu wilayah yang rentan konflik tanah. misalkan kayak di sana ya, tanah ini dikuasai negara, bla bla bla gitu kan. Nah rata-rata kayak gitu. Nah kalau saya, strateginya dalam artian bagaimana caranya potensi curug ini bisa diakuisisi dan mau dikembangkan oleh desa.

Akhirnya diresmikanlah secara tidak langsung kita juga sebenarnya lebih ke publikasi ke masyarakat bahwa oh ini mau dikelola oleh desalah, tapi melalui lembaga kelompok sadar wisata. Karena kayak gunung batu ini, ini sebenarnya konflik, Kang. Kenapa kita belum merembet ke sana. Ini konflik karena ada pihak dari luar yang mengakuisisi keseluruhan tanahnya, keseluruhan hampir pinggiran tanahnya sehingga si akses naik gunung batu itu tertutup.

In a study by Hendricks, et.al. (2010), youth leadership program participants reported that the program was beneficial in terms of gaining knowledge, attitudes, and skills. Through the ability to manage and negotiate conflict, youth gained greater confidence and a positive attitude towards the challenges they face and achieve their goals. Meanwhile, Redmond & Dolan (2016) in their research also conveyed the impact of leadership programs attended by youth at the competency level, youth will develop critical thinking skills when facing challenges and develop systematic and creative problem-solving skills.

The ultimate goal of leadership is to create change. Youth emphasize creating positive change in their communities. Leaders teach their communities how to change. Leaders make responsible and radical decisions to change their society. What makes youth a leader is when they take the time to stand up and make a difference. Solving a long-standing problem in the village is such a change.

6. Recognizing the potential of others

An important and prominent component of individual leadership for Patriot Desas is their ability to see the potential of each community. The demand to create local mobilizers from the village community itself has trained them to monitor and invite the community to get involved as a local

mobilizer. Local mobilizers are civilians who are able to have a positive impact on the community. Below are the statements by Patriot Desa of Sukamakmur Village:

"Iya, jadi kan dari pendekatan kita bisa, ini lah bisa, apa namanya ya Kang? Bisa ada dari hati tuh, oh ibu ini ada keinginan untuk membangun desanya loh. Itu aja dulu, Kang. Kalau udah ada keinginan baru tuh dari kita nggak tau jadi tau, kan jadi jalan semua tuh. Yang penting ada keinginan untuk membangun desanya dulu. Dan kebetulan yang Bu Mumu ini satu rumah tuh sama suaminya, sama anaknya. Semua penggerak lokal, Kang, tapi di bidang berbeda. Kang Tofiknya anaknya kopi, jadi kita pengembangan kopi. Si bapaknya pengrajin ini sapu, kerajinan tangan dari bambu, si ibunya dari gula semut. Benar-benar dan mereka memang keluarga pendidik, Kang. Jadi memang pengetahuan untuk membangun desanya, kepedulian mereka itu udah ini sih, paham."

Patriot Desa facilitates the growth of local champions and assists in strengthening their capacity so that they can manage and develop independent initiatives according to village typology in the economic, social, and environmental fields. Leaders are people who are able to see things that the general public does not see. Youth believe that everyone has the potential to be a leader. Leaders are in communities everywhere, people who may not even think of themselves as leaders help others in living life.

7. Trustworthy

On the basis of the many things that the Patriot Desa has done to solve one by one problems in the village, it is easy for the community and village government to trust the Patriot Desa. Over time, this trust also emerged among other village governments,

including the Village Head. The Village Head's level of trust in the Patriot Desa has gone as far as authorizing the use of the village seal independently by the Patriot himself. In addition, this granting of trust from the village government also occurs in the aspect of managing the village's official website and social media accounts. The head of the Youth Organization of Sukaharja Village said the following.

"Mengembangkan desa itu aktif, jadi kayak email desa, terus website desa, dia udah tahu semua. Login login mau gimana juga dia udah tahu semua. Karena memang kita percayakan sama dia."

Sztompka (1999) argues that trust can be defined as a bet about what another person will do. If someone trusts another person, it means that the person believes that the person has good intentions and that the person can perform an entrusted action (Hardin, 2006). The concept of trust has a very strong relationship with the trusted person's past reputation, expectations, competence, dependence, risk, and closeness of the relationship.

Social Leadership

The individual leadership skills of a Patriot Desa will lead them to another skill, the social competence of a young leader. Social leadership refers to an individual's ability to lead and influence others in social or group situations. It includes the ability to interact, communicate and collaborate with others to achieve a common goal. Social leadership involves a range of interpersonal skills and the ability to lead, motivate and support group members. Social leadership often occurs in a variety of contexts, including organizations, work teams, communities, and society.

Social leaders are responsible for creating an environment that supports the

growth and development of group members and achieving common goals in a positive and effective way. Social leadership requires strong interpersonal skills and an awareness of the social dynamics within the group. Patriot Desas who have spent some time living with the villagers have been encouraged to have these competencies. As a country with a large territory and a large population, Indonesia needs to develop leaders who can bridge the needs of local communities and solve various unresolved social problems.

Leadership in this context is interpreted as a strategy that must be prepared for youth as members of a social community. Social leadership aims to influence social movements and changes, such as youth issues, social sustainability, environment, and other issues, depending on the dynamics that develop in society. If youth are able to examine and analyze themselves, it is expected that they will become socially sensitive leaders in the future. The following discussion outlines various youth social leadership skills.

1. Collaborative

The Patriot Desa Program as a human investment uses the approach of strengthening the village as a community resource center. The approach is carried out by encouraging community participation as a resource that can be managed into shared values, knowledge and strength, which are needed for village or rural area development. This approach begins with developing the role of local champions, creating a forum for collaboration until the coordination of various village community resources independently, as a foundation for the sustainability of the Village Desa program. Therefore, some of the tasks of the Patriot Desa related to participation are (a) realizing collaborative and participatory village development initiatives and (b) encouraging community participation in village development.

The way to overcome these challenges is through innovation and collaboration. Limited resources are not a barrier to the continuity of the program as long as it can still collaborate with other parties who can cover the weaknesses of these resources. In addition, working innovatively can also support the implementation of the program. Limited conditions will usually encourage people to unleash creativity. Patriot Desa collaborates with many parties. The collaboration is intended to fulfill the needs of the village community that cannot be met by the Patriot Desa alone. The secretary of the Sukamakmur village government explained as follows.

“Seperti yang sudah dijalankan oleh Teh Karina (Patriot Desa) sangat membantu. Salah satu contoh penyuluhan dan sebagainya, seperti dari Dinas Lingkungan Hidup. Jadi Teh Karin selalu koordinasi gitu. Kemudian dari Dinas Pertanian juga kan dulu sudah berkontribusi untuk bibit pohonnya itu sebenarnya berapa kurang lebih ya. Ya pokoknya seribuan lebih bibit pohon itu juga berkat Patriot Desa yang menjadikan kerja sama dengan pihak yang menjadikan kerja sama dengan pihak pemerintah desa untuk penyambungannya. Kemudian, ada juga misalnya seperti buku-buku yang layak baca untuk perpustakaan umum. Kemudian apa, sementara itu juga dengan dinas terkait yang menangani ini apa, kemarin itu Al-Quran untuk tunanetra ya. Sementara itu, Patriot Desa juga melakukan upaya komunikasi dan integrasi dengan pihak luar desa, yaitu pengajuan Bantuan Keuangan Kompetitif yang disediakan oleh Pemerintah Provinsi Jawa Barat. Bantuan tersebut merupakan inovasi pembiayaan pembangunan yang bertujuan untuk mengoptimalkan pemanfaatan APBD Jabar melalui

pemberian dukungan pembiayaan dan subsidi secara layak dan inovatif. Oleh karena itu, dampak pencapaian indikator kinerja daerah dan prioritas pembangunan daerah dalam RPJMD Jabar akan semakin dirasakan oleh masyarakat lokal.”

Patriot Desa's relationships, both internal and external, are very important here. Internal relationships can come from the community itself and other networks at the sub-district level. Meanwhile, external relationships come from the Regional Coordinator network, which has access to a wider range of external parties. As a Patriot Desa, we should not only think that our relationships are only with people in the village, but also need to open access to develop networks and have relationships with parties outside the village who have links and interests in village development.

The idea that leadership is not an individual endeavor, but rather leadership is represented by collective efforts. Leadership is people coming together, joining hands, and tackling problems in their society. People need to be able to come together and work towards a common goal for things to work. Collaborative leaders seek to integrate ideas from various sources, including seeking to adopt traditional leadership and other variations. Through collaboration, problems that arise in organizations and communities are successfully solved and everyone involved feels included in the process. By working together, we can develop better strategies and achieve our goals with precision.

2. Participatory

The next basic competency of a Patriot Desa in social leadership is how he involves community participation in every program or initiative that is run. The Patriot Desa program, which is oriented towards human resource development, is certainly important

to involve community participation in every agenda so that the community is ultimately able to do this on their own in the future. Patriot Desa of Sukaharja Village said as follows.

“Jadi pembangunan yang ideal itu kan hasil pembangunan yang ideal adalah pembangunan yang sesuai dengan keinginan masyarakat.”

The obstacle of the village community, which is also the target of this program, is human resource capacity. The main task of the patriots is to educate the community about what they want to do, for example the establishment of a Waste Bank in Sukamakmur Village. The community cannot be mobilized immediately because their habits towards waste management have not yet been formed. This also applies to the establishment of other institutions such as Pokdarwis and BUMDes. Before allocating a budget to run the program, Patriot Desa needs to first build the capacity of the administrators so that they will be able to carry out the functions of the organization properly.

The management of village community institutions and the implementation of work programs need to be supported by the capacity of human resources who at least understand the basis and purpose of the organization. It often happens when an institution is given a budget but cannot use it optimally. Thus, the budget is wasted without any meaningful results. In fact, it is not uncommon for the institution to become inactive in the middle of the road when the budget runs out and the work program does not continue. That is also the basis why the Patriot Desa program uses a human investment approach so that the foundation is formed first before other things.

Another study conducted by Saputra (2014) found that the level of community participation in the National Independent Rural Community Empowerment Program

(PNPM-MP) in Siliwangan Village, Lole Peole Sub-district, Poso Regency was very high. The results of this study indicate that village development and progress are influenced by community participation in village development and community perceptions of the importance of participation in village development. The above inhibiting factors are in line with research conducted by Ramdani (2014) on the implementation of the Youth Bachelor Program for Rural Development (PSP3) in Dlingo District, Bantul Regency. In the study, there were several obstacles in the implementation of the PSP3 program, to be specific, geographical conditions; language and cultural factors; lack of support from the local government; and funding factors. In addition, factors such as communication and budget were also found in the research of Maulani, et.al. (2022) on policy decentralization in the Pioneer Youth program in Serang City and Mustikawati, et.al. (2022) on strategies to strengthen participation and leadership domains in the implementation of youth development policies in Sukabumi City.

3. Persuasive

The ability to understand the other person and respect the judgment of others above will ultimately lead to the ability to influence or invite others. In addition to being trusted, understanding the intentions conveyed by the Patriot Desa will have an impact on community participation in the idea. Harris & Beckert (2019) define youth leadership as a process in which a leader mobilizes the support of others to create positive social change. On a behavioral level, youth will develop negotiation skills to motivate followers to participate (Redmond & Dolan, 2016).

The first and foremost thing that becomes the biggest homework for every Patriot Desa is how to change the old mindset of the village community to be

willing to think forward for the common good. In every development program, villagers tend not to easily trust outsiders who come with ideas to do this and that in their area. They tend to believe in the program after seeing the results elsewhere. They need proof that the program they want to run does have a real impact on them. So, this is a barrier for village initiative programs that want to bring something new to the table. Patriot Desa's leadership has made the community aware of the importance of protecting the environment, especially from waste generated by the community itself. The local champion of Sukamakmur Village argued as follows.

“Ya semenjak ada Patriot Desa ya alhamdulillah apa perlahan-lahan gitu ya masyarakat di sini pada sadar. Tadinya kan masalah sampah ya pada berantakan gitu kan sembarangan. Jadi apa adanya Patriot desa ada dorongan gitu kan, jadi sekarang Alhamdulillah udah mulai inilah berkurang.”

On the other hand, the Patriot Desa Program, which is a program administered by the provincial office, cannot run alone if the lowest level, namely the village where the assignment is located, is not given adequate policy support. The patriots who struggle in the village together with the community, then produce an idea or local initiatives, will still not be realized if the village government does not make policies that are in line with these initiatives, so the Patriot Desas need to persuade the village government as well. For example, the construction of a road that provides access to the Curug Cibengang tourist site in Sukaharja Village. The village government still prioritizes physical village development and does not really think about human development, the results of which are not visible to the naked eye.

4. Understanding the others

Understanding the interlocutor is the ability of a Patriot Desa in the context of social leadership, which is also related to individual abilities related to self-adjustment or adaptation that have been conveyed previously. A Patriot Desa who is a higher education graduate must certainly be able to know the extent to which the community understands the use of terms in program implementation in the village. The terms contained in the Terms of Reference or the General Guidelines of the program cannot simply be passed down to the village community, where many people still do not have higher education. Patriot Desa is accustomed to conveying to the community language that is easier to understand, as long as it does not change the substance. Patriot Desa of Sukamakmur Village aid as the following.

“Yang pertama ilmu berkomunikasi ya, itu sangat penting gitu loh, Kang. Bagaimana kita menyampaikan itu ke masyarakat dengan sederhana tadi.”

Patriot Desa in its daily activities always interacts with rural communities, which educationally still have very little higher education. Therefore, the terms used in discussions need to be adjusted so that they can easily understand and not misinterpret or simplify technical terms. For example, the use of the term 'Local Champion' can raise questions and objections from actors who have been targeted by Patriot Desa. Essentially, the substance of what is being done is more important than overly lofty terms. Encouraging local people to become local mobilizers is not an easy task. There is a tendency for people to perceive other intentions from their appointment as a local mobilizer in their village. Thus, the community needs to be approached and

explained slowly in order to understand and be willing to take on the intended role.

Skepticism and the low capacity of human resources in the village are challenges for Patriot Desa. The education level of the Sukamakmur Village community tends to be very low. The highest number, 29.62%, is elementary school graduates. The literacy rate is also still quite high, at 4.49%. Meanwhile, only 0.59% of the population (diploma and bachelor's degree holders) have attended university. The education of the people of Sukaharja Village is not much different. This is shown by the fact that the majority, or 19.58%, are elementary school graduates; meanwhile, the number of people who are not literate is also still high, at 6.35%; then 18.70% did not graduate from elementary school, which is quite a lot. Meanwhile, the number of people who attended university is still very small, only 1.29% (Diploma and Bachelor).

5. Respecting others value

In a social situation, not all people have the same view in assessing something. Moreover, the Patriot Desa is placed in a village that is not the patriots' area of origin. For patriots who have the same ethnicity and language or who come from West Java originally, it may not take long to adjust to a new social environment, but it is different for patriots who are administratively residents of West Java, but biologically and culturally not Sundanese. Patriot Desa of Sukamakmur Village shared his experience as follows:

“Dari segi budaya ya pastinya ada, mungkin ya tapi aku selalu menyikapinya dengan positif aja gitu mungkin mereka belum paham, atau memang belum terbiasa gitu kan. Misalkan aku gak pake hijab, kan pasti ada orang yang menganggap ‘ini perempuan apa sih?’ gitu kan. Ya kalau kita gak kenal gitu gak yang gak pernah ngobrol pasti judge-nya itu cepat negatifnya kan, tapi kalau kita

udah pendekatan malah udah akrab gitu kan.”

Some of the principles of effective leadership programs according to Woyach & Cox (1992) are to enable young people to understand the history, values and beliefs of their society and to promote awareness, understanding and tolerance of other people, cultures and communities. This is similar to what is done in the Sariling Gawa program (Luluquisen, et.al., 2012). One of the elements and rationale of the Sariling Gawa youth leadership development model is to build community capacity by involving young people in civic, cultural, social and community affairs. Fundamentally, this also relates to a leader's collaborative ability to attract and unite diverse forces and combine according to the background, scientific, social and cultural background of the leader.

6. Willing to sacrifice

The spirit of social leadership in a Patriot Desa is even manifested in actions taken, even though it is not part of the program obligations. The Patriot of Sukaharja Village was once willing to sacrifice his laptop to be sold in order to get funds to revitalize a village tourist attraction that never received support from his own village government. Patriot Desa of Sukaharja Village stated as follows.

“Kang Azmi, lamun kudu diceritaken yeh, hayang buka wisata saking belum ada respon dari desa dulu, saya pernah jual laptop bikin buka wisatanya. Iya banner, konsumsi, dan lain sebagainya. Ya, tapi itu mah hanya sebatas perjuangan lah. Cuma kita kan nggak ngeliat itu, tapi ngeliat masa depannya nih masyarakat harus ... tumbuh dan bergerak.”

The head of the Pokdarwis said that before there was a Patriot Desa, the

condition of Cibeungang Waterfall was very poor. This tourist attraction did not receive any attention from the Village Government. The Pokdarwis Chair added that this revitalization effort started from scratch. Then, gradually, the Patriot Desa began to gradually revitalize Cibeungang Waterfall with existing resources. The limited budget at the beginning was not an obstacle, as long as the villagers were willing to work together.

Many contemporary leadership theories are value-based, another key component of leadership according to youth. Youth find it very important to work for the common good, putting the needs of others ahead of their own (Mortensen, et.al., 2014). Youth leadership aims to improve the conditions of society, not to achieve a certain status (Schnoll, 2015). Values-based leadership is leadership that helps youth understand the values important in their leadership, such as integrity, empathy, and concern for the interests of others.

7. Beloved by the community

After all the things done and the positive character shown by the Patriot Desa, they as a leader in the social sphere get positive feedback from the community. This shows that the presence of the Patriot Desa is expected by the village community, so his departure is not relieved. A testimonial from a local champion in Sukaharja Village is recorded as follows.

“Kalau saya kan cuma punya tenaga, ilmu nggak punya, yang punya ilmu kan Kang Soleh. “Kang Soleh ini masalahnya gimana?” Lebih bagusnya diperpanjang lagi gitu. Bener, saya mah, kemarin sampai lurah, sampai saya mau tanda tangan sama masyarakat yang ada untuk bertahan dengan dia, tapi saya gak ... Iya, ya. Saya ngomong soalnya, perlu berapa ratus tanda tangan masyarakat di sini? Kalau emang gak bisa, ya kayak gitu.”

Leaders must have good character, but not necessarily certain qualities or skills. Youth must have good character, strong self-confidence, and a desire to contribute to their community. This is what makes someone a leader. Young leaders have the ability to inspire others, never give up, keep moving forward despite feeling alone, and keep moving forward despite difficult circumstances. It is true that skills can be taught, but the accumulation of skills does not necessarily equate to leadership. Leadership consists of skills, experiences, needs, and motivations, and is a long and cumulative endeavor, not a single act of one individual that can serve as a catalyst for action (Kress, 2006).

Factors Influencing Patriot Desa Leadership

In carrying out their duties at the placement location, of course the things that have been carefully planned and prepared by the Patriot Desa do not go without obstacles. The purpose of the monitoring and evaluation mechanism is one of the proofs that indeed every government policy or program needs continuous improvement in order to achieve the big vision that has been set at the beginning. However, in addition to obstacles and barriers, there are also keys to success that can support the development of Patriot Desa leadership.

1. Personality of Patriot Desa

The Patriot Desa of Sukamakmur Village is a young woman from West Java by the name of Karina Simangunsong. Karin comes from Pontianak City, West Kalimantan with Batak ethnicity and Christianity. Karin's educational background is a Bachelor of Public Administration graduate from Tanjungpura University, Pontianak City, West Kalimantan. Meanwhile, the Patriot Desa of Sukaharja Village is a West Javanese youth by the name of Solehuddin. Soleh comes from

Sukabumi Regency, West Java. Soleh is of Sundanese ethnicity and has a variety of Muslims. Soleh's educational background is a Bachelor of Government Science graduate from Jenderal Achmad Yani University, Cimahi City, West Java.

The main inhibiting factor for the development of Patriot Desa leadership comes from the patriot individuals themselves. Although one of the requirements for registering as a Village Patriot candidate is to have a West Java ID card, not all residents with West Java ID cards are native to West Java, which is a Sundanese tribe. Thus, there are differences in culture, language, beliefs, and other individual attributes attached to the patriots with the village community assignment. This causes the Patriot Desa to have to first go through an adaptation phase, which has also led to community resistance. Patriot Desas must be able to quickly adjust to the local customs and wisdom in the village of assignment with the little time they have. In addition, internal aspects of the patriot can also include strong intentions and commitment. Intention is the starting point of a patriot's journey, while commitment is the thing that will keep the intention in its journey to reach the final destination. Long-term community empowerment programs require straightforward intentions and strong commitment because this is not an ordinary category of work that only seeks nominal value.

2. Pre-assignment orientation

The Patriot of Sukamakmur and Sukaharja Village both began their assignments in Sukaharja Sub-district in 2022. Then they also both extended their service period in the same place in 2023. So, the researcher here will see how the leadership development of the Patriot Desa is formed from a journey for almost 2 years carrying out its role in Sukamakmur Sub-district, which is also inseparable from the background and

previous experience. However, basically before the first assignment, the Patriot Desas were given 45 days of intensive training to support their role in the community. This also fills an interesting space for discussion on whether leaders are born or whether they are trained to be taught or learned. In the debate over whether leaders are born or made, some people believe that leaders are born to be leaders through genetics or fate. Meanwhile, there are those who argue that leadership is something that can be achieved or strived for. In the context of developing youth leadership skills, it is important to recognize that every youth has the capacity to be a leader as an individual (Kansas, 1995).

Van Linden & Fertman (1998) describe three stages of leadership development starting with recognition, interaction, and integration. This suggests that a person's leadership is built and developed in certain stages. These phases are developed and modified in the leadership learning process. It is a short-term educational process that helps us learn skills. These competencies include knowledge, skills, and attitudes that are essential for successful performance (Ricks, Ginn, & Daythry, 1995). Another important element suggested in youth leadership development is providing hands-on learning experiences (Kress, 2006). Experts view authentic experiences as the primary source of leadership learning (Kress, 2006; Ricketts & Rudd, 2002).

3. Role of mentor

Lastly, the position of the Regional Coordinator, often referred to as the regency coordinator, plays an important role here. In accordance with its main tasks and functions to monitor and evaluate the running of the program and the personal conditions of the Patriot Desas, the Regional Coordinator also acts as a mentor for the Patriot Desas. Thus, mentor leadership is also a supporting factor

in the development of Patriot Desa leadership. According to Woyach & Cox (1992), one of the principles that makes leadership programs effective is involving young people in significant relationships with mentors, positive role models, or nurturing adults. Redmond & Dolan (2016) also stated that the impact of youth participation in leadership programs at the neighborhood level, youth will receive guidance from mentors and facilitators if needed.

Young people pay attention to how leaders show leadership. They need to guide others to do the right thing by acting as mentors, not dictating to them completely. To me, leadership is not a dictatorship in which one person directs all efforts. Leadership is guidance. Leadership is about someone being a guide. Leaders tell people how to do things. The role of the Regional Coordinator is not only limited to administrative purposes, for example in the context of routine monitoring and evaluation. However, the Regional Coordinator is here able to become a place for Patriot Desas to take an example of leadership through its character that is able to guide and nurture.

Conclusion and Suggestion

Patriot Desa, as a program oriented towards human investment, certainly makes humans the main target of the program. One of the things that is expected from this approach is that Patriot Desa can work in the village as a leadership school. This program is a series of leadership schools and service containers for the best sons and daughters of West Java from various backgrounds. In general, it can be seen that the learning and development of Patriot Desa leadership is divided into individual leadership and social leadership. The abilities in individual leadership consist of adaptive, visionary, strategic, decision-making, problem-solving, being able to see the potential of others, and being easily trusted. Furthermore, social

leadership consists of the ability to be collaborative, participatory, understand the other person, influence others, respect the judgment of others, be willing to sacrifice, and be loved by the community. Meanwhile, the factors that influence the development of leadership include the individual Patriot Desa, pre-assignment orientation, and the role of the mentor. Based on these conclusions, the researcher provides the following suggestions:

1. There needs to be an integration effort to improve the West Java Youth Development Index, especially in the Youth Participation and Leadership Domain.
2. Future research can use mixed methods with a broader research locus and a more comprehensive theoretical framework in order to obtain better results and images related to the development of youth leadership through the Patriot Desa Program.

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