

The Role of Women's Activities in Increasing Family Income

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Abstract

This research aims to find out the active role of women in increasing family income, what are the factors and their impacts. The research was conducted in several villages in Limbangan District, Kendal Regency. This research uses a qualitative descriptive method. Data collection was carried out through observation, namely by observing ongoing phenomena, interviews, namely direct dialogue with informants and complemented by data documentation. Based on the results of research that has been carried out, it shows that the role of women working in Limbangan District has a very positive and significant influence on family income. They then use the income they earn from working to increase their family income, such as: First, to increase their husband's income. Second, meet family needs. Third, some income is saved for family needs, such as school fees, illness or other unexpected needs. It is hoped that the results of this research will be useful for scientific development on the theme of the active role of working women in helping to increase family income.

Keywords: Role of Women; Workers; Family Income.

INTRODUCTION

In the current era of globalization, women have participated in the world of work as much as men and this is also a source of pride for the family. Especially if the work supports the profession and generates high income. The society also considers that the existence of career women is a national progress that should be proud of.

In Indonesia, women continue to be given greater opportunities to participate in the development process. The process runs smoothly and naturally. However, besides that, Indonesian society is aware that the role of Indonesian women in development cannot be separated from their role as mothers in the family environment, namely as housewives. The large social and economic demands of the household encourage women to earn a living to increase family income.

Some of the motivations for women to work are that their husbands do not work, low household income, while the number of family dependents is quite high, filling their free time, wanting to earn their own money, and wanting to gain experience. Women can now participate in demanding equal rights and stating that their function has meaning for development in society in Indonesia. The reason women work is to help improve the family economy.

The heavy social and economic demands of households encourage women to earn a living to supplement the family income. This major change cannot be explained by economic factors alone, but it is necessary to pay attention to social factors such as changes in society's attitudes toward the role of women as housewives and workers. For women to enter the job market with a fairly good education and decent skills, but if they are married, it is difficult for them to fill the existing opportunities and get wages according to their expectations. In recent years, women's involvement in the public sector has shown increasing numbers. This shows that women's motivation to work in the public sector is increasing.

The decision to enter the job market that must be taken by married women is very complex, where the decision is very dependent on the individual's background and also the

influence of the family. To decide how much time they will spend working and how much time they will spend on household activities per day, per week, or month. The choice between the two activities is a choice that is open to each individual to spend their time.

Women have the potential to contribute to household income. The increase in women's participation in economic activities is due to changes in the views and attitudes of society about the equal importance of education for women and men, as well as the increasing awareness of the need for women to participate in development. The willingness of women to be independent in the economic sector, namely trying to finance their living needs and perhaps also the living needs of their dependents with their income. Another possibility that causes an increase in women's participation in the workforce is the increasing employment opportunities that can absorb female workers, for example, the emergence of handicrafts and light industry. As is also the case in Kendal Regency, especially in Limbangan District, which has a fairly high and dense population. Likewise, the number of female workers in Limbangan District which has a fairly high workforce,

With economic and educational advancement, many housewives today not only function as housewives but also work outside the home. Thus, women's achievements, especially in Limbangan District, Kendal Regency, are often not only measured in their success in managing their households but also in their careers. The increase in women's work participation is the family's desire to "meet their needs", so the participation of women entering the labor market, will encourage other women to also participate so that they can maintain their family's relative income level. The family's desire, for married women, is a decision influenced by the real wage level in the labor market.

Several previous studies have revealed the role of women's activities in increasing family income. The results of Koleangan (2018) stated that the income earned by female workers was considered sufficient according to them. Income for daily needs covers basic needs. The results of Forddanta (2022) revealed that the level of education has a positive and significant influence in supporting women's income. Research by Aswiyati (2016) found that the role of women as traditional farmer wives-housewives in the Kurwil Village tended to be large and their position as wives-housewives tended to be strong. Furthermore, a study by Haryanto (2020) concluded that the income earned by female workers was considered sufficient and quite significant. The results of Tuwu' (2018) The Role of Women in the public sphere is increasingly furious. The role of women in Lalimbue Village is getting bigger with the initiative to open economic businesses through the utilization of business opportunities in the Batur Gong Beach Marine Tourism area.

Based on the background explanation, the research aims to the analysis the active role of women in increasing family income in Limbangan District, Kendal Regency.

RESEARCH METHOD

This study applies a qualitative design, namely research whose focus is on the general principles that form the basis of a human life phenomenon, or also patterns that are analyzed from socio-cultural indications through the culture of the community in order to obtain a representation of the ongoing example. This study only describes a situation in the field in line with what the researcher obtains in the form of a number of written words or behavior.

The object of research is the state of the study to find out the phenomena that occur at the research location. The purpose of this study is to increase the role of working women in helping the family economy. This study documents the role of women in helping to increase family income. The main object in this study is focused on working women in 5 villages in Limbangan District.

The data collection method is the method used to collect the necessary information. In qualitative research, the researcher is the one who goes directly to the field to find

information. The data collection methods in this study are interviews, observations and documentation. Interviews are used as a data collection technique if researchers will conduct a preliminary study to obtain problems that must be studied, and researchers want to know a number of things from respondents in more detail. Observation is needed to determine the role of women who work in increasing family income in Limbangan District. Documentation is used as a source of data, in research requires a lot of data needed and documentation is used as a complement to strengthen research data. Documents collected in this study are in the form of data or images related to the focus of the problem

RESULT

Based on the interview data, a discussion will be conducted that provides some detailed information about the research results. Furthermore, the result and discussion will be carried out as follows:

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As for seeing the magnitude of the contribution of working women to increase family income, meet family needs, and to be save for family interests. The results of the interview show that women have a large contribution in supporting and increasing household income. The purpose of working women is to increase income so that they can help their husbands in meeting the family's economy and increasing family income. In addition to helping increase income, family needs will also be met. With the contribution of working women, it has a very positive impact on their families, women can also save savings. To be used in the future such as for the needs of their children's education and health costs for their families.

Factors of Working Women

The factors that cause women to work to increase household income based on the results of interviews with female workers. The results of the interview show that the more dependents in the family, the more needs in the family. So women also work because of the large number of dependents in the family. Because the income from the husband or other family members is relatively low, this is what causes women to work by working, so women will work to help their husbands earn a living for their families.

These working women have full support from their husbands, families, and children. The main thing that makes women work is also because they get support from their husbands, families, and children, with the support women will always be enthusiastic about working and also they work as the backbone of the family, but they are not fully responsible for their families, they only lighten the economic burden of the family and they work because the income earned by their husbands is not enough to meet the needs of their families.

Impact of Working Women

The impact of women in increasing household income is working women will certainly spend a lot of time working so that time with family will be reduced. However, from the results of interviews with these working women, they do not forget their obligations as mothers and wives in their households, they will share their time to take care of their households such as cooking, and washing, so even though women work they do not forget their nature as wives. Working women need a lot of time at work so they will have less time to mingle with the surrounding community. From the results of interviews with working women, they interact less with the community, but these working women will make time to participate in activities in the village where they live, even if only for a short time.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the research conducted by the researcher, it can be concluded regarding the active role of women in increasing family income in Limbangan District, so there are several conclusions. *First*, the role of women in increasing family income in Limbangan District has a very positive effect on the family economy. Women's income contributes to meeting family needs by working to improve the economy, helping to increase the husband's income and family income, meeting family needs, and saving for family interests. *Second*, the factors that cause women to increase household income are due to the large number of dependents in the family, helping husbands in meeting family needs, educational factors that make women work, and support from husbands, families, and children so that women will always be enthusiastic about working. *Third*, the impact of women working in increasing household income is lack of time with family. Lack of division of labor at home and interaction with the community reduces household income, namely lack of time with family, lack of division of work at home, and interaction with the community.

Recommendation

Based on the results of the study on the Active Role of Women in Increasing Household Income, the author provides suggestions that may be considered for further material. The suggestions are first, for working women to always remember their nature as women or housewives, although the main intention of working women is to help the family economy, it should not be too excessive. Get enough rest so that women's health remains good. Second, home businesses run by working women in Limbangan District can be developed further. The income obtained can not only help the family economy but can also be used as additional business capital so that the business being run can grow. Third, it requires concern from many parties, both the government and local village officials, to pay more attention and make efforts for working women so that their lives can improve, namely through coaching or socialization and policies that support increasing the income of working women.

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