The Role of Fishermen's Wife in Improving Family Welfare  
(Case Study in Majapahit Village, South Buton Regency)

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Abstract

This study aims to determine the role of fishermen's wives in family welfare and their motives. The study was conducted in Majapahit Village, Batauga district, South Buton Regency. The study was conducted in 2019, using the survey method. Respondents were taken by purposive sampling, namely 35 respondents from a number of 52 small fishing wives with a fleet under 3GT in Majapahit village. Secondary data collection was obtained from the Marine and Fisheries Service of South Buton Regency, while the primary data collection was obtained by distributing questionnaires to a number of 35 respondents of fishermen's wives in Majapahit Village, Batauga district. Data analysis was performed descriptively qualitative and quantitative. The results showed that of the 35 respondents, 9 or 25.7% of fishermen's wives only worked as housewives. While the majority of 26 people or 74.28% of fishermen's wives work in trading. This shows that the participation of the fishermen's wife in helping improve family welfare in Majapahit Village, Batauga District, South Buton Regency has a higher rate, compared to just as a housewife. As input and suggestions from the research are a) the need for education regarding the use of raw materials as processed materials which are the main hobby of consumer food in the local village; b) the need for education to family heads and housewives about business financial management that can be used as an effort to improve family welfare; c) diversification of processing activities made from fishery raw materials to increase the sale value of catches.

Keywords: role, fisherman’s wife, education, diversification, welfare

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Role has an understanding that is the expected behavior of individuals as the status of activities that include domestic roles and public roles, or contributing to their dominant role society. Suratmana in Wulansari (2011). According to Astuti in Alghaasyiah (2014) the gender role of women based on productive roles, that a woman has an additional role as an additional breadwinner for her family. In this productive role, the role is valued with money or goods that produce money or services related to economic activities, such as fishmongers or fishery-processing businesses. The social role is also a requirement of housewives to actualize themselves in the community. Both of them illustrate the role of women who have the function of a woman who is carried out in a social construction, without leaving the domestic or natural role. Some of the motives for women to work are finance and the need for self-actualization. Women who are involved in economic activities can be recognized as capable of supporting the family economy, (Wulansari, 2011). Another motive is the employment opportunities offered by capitalists, (Sudarwati, 2003) which encourage women to decide to work outside the home.
The role of women to work is still an unfinished problem for fishermen wives in Majapahit Village, Batauga District, South Buton Regency. Women try to make a living to help wage their husband's income which is intended to meet their household needs. But in essence, women are only doing work which is considered to be limited to utilizing free time, and does not think efficiently and effectively. From these problems, research is considered important.

2.0 METHODS

2.1 Research Time and Location

This research was conducted in 2019, an activity that updated data from the Baseline Survey on South Buton Regency in 2016. The activity was carried out in one of the villages in South Buton Regency, namely Majapahit Village, Batauga District, South Buton Regency.

2.2 Data Type and Sources

The type of data used is secondary and primary data. Secondary data was obtained from the data of the marine and fisheries service, as well as previous studies. Primary data were obtained by in-depth interview with key informants, as well as distributing of questionnaires to 35 respondents in Majapahit Village.

2.3 Data Analysis Methods

Data analysis was performed descriptively qualitative and quantitative. The analysis is carried out by paying attention to the characteristics, quality, and interrelations between activities. Research is focused on: a) Knowing the role of the fishermen's wife in improving family welfare in Majapahit Village, Batauga District, South Buton Regency; b) The motive of the fishermen's wives working to help their husbands earn a living in Majapahit Village, Batauga District, South Buton Regency; and c) Providing input and suggestions regarding the role of fishermen's wives to improve family welfare in Majapahit Village, Batauga District, South Buton Regency.

3.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 System Performance Benchmark

Batauga District is one of the districts in South Buton Regency. The population in Batauga Subdistrict based on BPS data in 2014 was 15,342 people with more male residents than women. A total population is 7,877 people with 51.43% of male population while the total female population is 7,645 people or 48.66%. One of the villages that have a concentration of livelihood on fishermen is in Majapahit Village. This village consists of 271 households and a total of 52 RTP who work as fishermen, or around 73.23% as fishermen.

Small fishermen with a fleet under 3 GT in Majapahit Urban Village are traditional fishermen who carry out daily fishing activities (one day fishing) using longline tuna fishing gear, basic longline, trolling, and fishing line, as well as a fleet of boats without motorcycles or coli and motorboat. The catches of the fishermen include bloating, tembang, kurisi, balaki, kuwe, grouper and lencam. At night they make an effort to go out to sea, and around 10 am they will return to catching, if they see the rising fish on the surface. The catch can be taken by papalele (collectors) at the boat landing site, some for consumption needs, and the rest will be sold directly by fishermen.

3.2 Motivation of the Fisherman's Wife

The wives of fishermen in Majapahit Village, Batauga district, South Buton Regency is 52 people, and 35 respondents were taken, or 67.3% of the total population. From a total of 35 people, 9 fishermen’s wives were recorded as housewives, while 26 wives worked to help their husbands. The work that housewives do is taking care of children, caring for the house, and preparing the daily needs of their families for food and drink. After completing their duties as housewives, they tend to wait for her husband to come home from catching fish. According to them, despite the urgent needs, a wife does not dare to do work outside the interests of the household. Domestic work is an obligation that must be carried out, and providing for the living is the obligation of the husband. According to them
as women, it is enough to keep the house clean, food needs are available, and when a husband needs help to prepare his needs, his wife is always there to fulfill them. Fortune according to them is enough to regulate God. The role of women according to Hubies (Alghaasyiyah, 2014) is classified as traditional, namely women have the obligation to do work in managing the house and guiding and caring for children who cannot be measured in monetary value. The important thing in it is that the mother becomes the most decisive figure in shaping the child’s personality. Concerns of the problems in the family is the biggest motivation for fishermen wives to not want to work outside from home is 5 people or 55.55%, and 4 wives or 44.44% have the excuse of not having enough experience and knowledge to do small business.

Another reason by the fishermen’s wives is that there is convincing them that by selling products, they would help their husbands to increase income generation. This motivation was obtained from 19 people or 73.07%. According to the wives, the main income is from fishing, and only a small portion is taken for family consumption. They only sell fish that are leftovers that are not purchased by the middle business people whom they call papale. Thus, according to them, the income obtained is not optimal with the amount of capital spent on trading purposes. The last motivation of the fishermen’s wife is they feel that they do not have enough experience and knowledge to sell. This motivation was brought from a number of 4 people or 44.44%. According to Kabir and Huo in Widodo (2012) the involvement of women in economic activities will contribute to increasing household income.

Fishermen’s wives who help their husbands work are 26 people or 73.07% motivated by the need to increase family income and like the profession of selling. Seen from the characteristics of respondents who chose to be a housewife because of concerns that the results of operations are not in accordance with the expenditure is dominated by respondents with a high school education level and age 35-45 years. Motivation due to lack of experience is dominated by respondents with high school education levels between the ages of 25-34 years. These three motives are owned by fishermen’s wives who are influenced by their educational background and age. According to
Sutermeister (Machmud, 2012), performance is influenced by motivation, ability, knowledge, expertise, education, experience, training, interests, personality attitudes, physical conditions and physical needs, social needs and egoistic needs. In addition, the educational background and work experience of employees determine the quality and quantity of employee performance (Wibowo, 2012).

3.3 Contribution of Fishermen's Wifes Income to Family

Income is being measured by contribution of fishermen's wives from the income of the amount of income earned by fishermen's wives with husband's income. The husband's income is calculated from the net amount received on average in a month, while the wife's income is obtained net from the average obtained in each month. The income of the fishermen's wife is low, according to Mubyanto (1985) that a person's income depends on the hours worked and the level hours of work income received. The wife of a fisherman in Majapahit Village does the job of selling fish and others after her husband has finished catching. The selling time carried out by the fishermen's wife is from 08.00-12.00 which is conducted around his house. Within a week, the average wife of a fisherman sells only four days. So that in 1 day, the time used by the fishermen's wife is 4 hours / day. The results obtained from the fishermen's wife have a small amount or under 50% of the husband's income, or an average of around 23.53% of the husband's income. Although it is obtained a little from the income of the fishermen's wife, it is considered able to increase the income of the husband who has an average income of Rp. 390,208. -.

Income is divided between the two based on the need of the family. Some of the options given regarding efforts to increase the income of fishermen's wives are by: a) the need for education regarding the use of raw materials as processed ingredients which are the main hobby of consumer food in the local village; b) the need for education to family heads and housewives about business financial management that can be used as an effort to improve family welfare; c) diversification of processing activities made from fishery raw materials to increase the sale value of catches.

![Figure 5 Income Average of Husband & Wife as Worker](image)

4.0 CONCLUSION

The wife of the fisherman as a housewife and the wife of a fisherman who works double by helping her husband by selling fish and others illustrates that in Majapahit Village, Batauga District, South Buton Regency has a very different percentage between the two. The wife of a fisherman as a housewife has a small percentage of 25.71% divided by the highest level of motivation is the concern that the results of operations are not in accordance with expenses. Whereas, 11.42% of the fisherman’s wives have inclined to not have enough experience or knowledge in selling goods. While the wife of a fisherman who also works selling fresh fish from the sea and sells other than fisheries, has the highest motivation to increase family income, which is 73.07%.

The percentage above shows that the role of the fisherman's wife in Majapahit Village is still dominated by housewives with the highest educational background is the High School (SMA) which helps the husband to work. The majority of motivation is derived from the desire to increase the husband's income. Self-actualization by working outside the home, being able to provide positive input to a woman, insights in socializing with others in the scope of work, getting insights about the latest developments outside the home, providing lessons learned for a woman to overcome problems, and materially, earning income which can increase the level of welfare for the
The role of the fishermen's wife in Majapahit Village, Batauga District, South Buton Regency can contribute in bringing about economic and social well-being. Economic prosperity can be obtained through income received by fishermen wives who work selling fish, while social welfare, for fishermen wives, is able to exercise their rights as a woman in self-actualization at work. Educational background and motivation that encourage fishermen's wives as both housewives and those who have a dual role, can be encouraged by the existence of several efforts, namely to achieve efficiency and increase in income, namely: a) the need for education about the use of raw materials as processed materials into the main hobby of consumer food in the local village; b) the need for education to family heads and housewives about business financial management that can be used as an effort to improve family welfare; c) diversification of processing activities made from fishery raw materials to increase the sale value of catches.

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