

Quality of Women's Role in Social, Economic and Political Dimensions and the Role of Academic Institutions in Making It Happen

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Abstract

In various dimensions of social life, especially in the social, economic and political dimensions, there are differences in the quality of roles between men and women, where the quality of women's roles in these three dimensions is still very weak. This cannot be separated from the social order and system that develops in society, such as labels given to women which indirectly hinder women's movements. The maximum role of academic institutions is also expected to improve the quality of women's roles. If we pay attention so far, it is very clear that the role of academic institutions has not been able to function optimally in improving the quality of women's roles. Therefore, this discussion wants to explain the quality of women's roles in social, economic and political aspects, as well as what steps academic institutions must take to make this happen.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Almost all of Indonesia's population are women. The female population is 49.42% (133.54 million people) of the total (270.2 million people) population of Indonesia [1]. Of course, this is a huge human resource that can be utilized and its role optimized in the development process. The role of women in various dimensions of society's life certainly contributes energy and thought and is able to bring change in all aspects of society's life towards a better direction [2].

However, so far women's resources are still under-considered, even though the quantity of women's involvement in various dimensions of life, such as in the political and economic realms, is in accordance with the policies or regulations issued by the government [3] Nur Rofiq Azijah. Of course, the role of women will not bring significant changes to the lives of women themselves, if their role is only limited to the formality of numbers (quantity), thus often ignoring the quality of the roles played by women [4]. In fact, with a small quantity of involvement but maximum quality, it will automatically bring big changes for women [5].

It cannot be denied that there are many factors that have caused the weak quality of women's roles so far, one of which is the idea that women occupy the second position after men, both in the household and in society [6]. This also has implications for the placement of women in social, economic and political dimensions, as a result women are still not trusted to occupy main positions such as leaders in these various dimensions of life [7].

However, of course this discussion is not aimed at insisting that women must occupy the main position, but rather emphasizes the realization of equal partners between men and women so that the quality of the roles of men and women can both be taken into consideration when deciding on a policy or resolving social problems. . Because basically

men and women are a great team if they can work together well, starting from the life of the family, community, nation and state [8].

For this reason, awareness is needed from both men and women themselves to start opening their minds that it is not competition that should be prioritized [9]. When men and women have the idea of defeating each other and want each other to appear to be superior, then what will happen is actually a loss for one of the parties, and usually the ones who will lose are some of the men and some of the women, because they can't. We deny that there are things that men cannot do [10]. Likewise, there are things that women cannot do, therefore what is needed is the formation of equal partner relationships [11].

If equal partner relationships between men and women are well realized then the quality of women's roles will naturally begin to be taken into account and considered in all dimensions of society's life [12]. However, of course, to make this happen also requires collaboration with various parties, one of which is academic institutions (universities) [13]. So far, academic institutions still rarely discuss gender, which is related to the roles of men and women [14].

In fact, every study program in higher education should include courses and often hold scientific meetings such as seminars or public lectures that specifically discuss gender, because every alumnus will enter the world of work which is often dominated by the presence of patriarchal culture (a culture that prioritizes men). -men in all things), but if in college it is started to be instilled, taught to manage gender differences well then when they enter the world of work, they will respect each other's differences in roles between men and women, which will lead to the formation of equal partners, and there is no distinction in terms of recognizing the quality of the role they carry out [15].

Sociological Discussion on Strengthening the Role of Women in Social, Economic and Political Dimensions: "Ensuring the Quality of Women's Roles and Maximizing the Role of Academic Institutions" is one of the discussions that will clarify the quality of women's roles and the functions of academic institutions that should be carried out in order to strengthen the role of women in this aspect. social, economic and political

2. RESEARCH METHOD

The research method used in writing this article is the literature study method, namely a research approach that involves collecting, reviewing and analyzing existing literature to gain a deeper understanding of a particular topic. This method is often used in academic and professional research to identify trends, gaps, and conclusions in a particular field of study.

The literature study method is used in this research to collect and analyze information from various academic sources. This approach was chosen for relevant reasons, namely the availability of sufficient literature, and more theoretical research objectives.

3. RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Strengthening the Quality of Women's Roles

Differences in position between men and women in society, especially Indonesian society, can be caused by many factors, including educational level, economic status, social environment, politics and community culture [16]. The thing that most significantly influences this is usually the culture that develops in society which is related to status, position, rights, capacity, abilities and so on which are attached to men and women, or what is also called patriarchal culture, namely a culture that assumes that men occupy the first position in society [17]. The culture that develops in society will of course automatically influence the strength of women's role in all aspects/dimensions of life.

Therefore, so far it can be said, especially in Indonesia, that the strength of women's role in social, economic and political aspects is still very weak. There needs to be strengthening of the role of women, especially in terms of the quality of the roles they carry out. Because of several research results, including the results of the author's research in 2010, regarding Gender Mainstreaming in Poverty Alleviation. Indeed, it has been seen that there has been an increase in women's involvement quantitatively (number/number), this is happening because there are strict rules that are binding for the realization of women's involvement in this quantity. For example, regarding women's involvement in politics, it is clearly regulated in Law Number 8 of 2012 concerning the General Election of Members of the People's Representative Council, Regional Representative Council and Regional People's Representative Council, Article 8 Paragraph (2) reads "political parties that do not meet the threshold limit on vote acquisition in the previous election or new political parties can become election participants after fulfilling the requirements." Article 8 Paragraph (2) Point e reads "include at least 30% (thirty percent) representation of women in the management of political parties at the central level". So, women's representation in the constitution is guaranteed.

However, it is very unfortunate that the quality of women's roles is still very weak, so it can be said that the policies produced cannot fully represent the desires of the majority of women in Indonesia. Strengthening the role of women referred to in this discussion is strengthening in terms of quality, namely in conveying aspirations, making decisions and enjoying maximum development results in three dimensions/aspects, namely social, economic and political.

3.2. Quality of Women's Role in Social, Economic and Political Aspects

Women and men have different social roles and functions. From these differences, there are social and cultural aspects that construct and become an important discourse to describe a phenomenon that occurs in each of men and women which has been formed socially and culturally and in the existing system (Nurhasanah & Zuriatin, 2023). There is a process of production and reproduction which gives rise to unequal relations between men and women which often gives rise to problems such as women are still considered secondary, therefore injustice, discrimination, backwardness and violence against women arise which corner women as social creatures who should be have the same rights as men [18].

The Indonesian state has also made various efforts aimed at improving the quality of roles, both for women, but it turns out that it has not been able to provide equal benefits for women and men. In fact, it is not yet effective enough to reduce the existing gap [19]. This shows that women's rights to obtain optimal benefits have not been fulfilled so that improving the quality of women's roles in all dimensions of life has not achieved optimal results, because human resource capacity has not been fully utilized.

It is acknowledged that up to now there has been an opinion that the quality of women in development is still very low, which causes the role of women to be left behind in all matters. So, to overcome this, efforts and strategies are needed to integrate gender into all dimensions of social life by placing women as development subjects [20] One way is to maximize the function of the institution, namely by including courses on gender in every existing study program curriculum. at university.

Factors causing the gender gap are the social and cultural values of society, which generally prioritize men over women (patriarchal ideology); The gap in the conditions and positions of men and women means that women have not been able to become active partners for men in overcoming social, economic and political problems aimed at equitable development [21].

As explained by Susiana regarding the gap in quality between men and women in political parties, she explained that the current party system and the choices and methods of recruiting female legislative candidates by political parties increasingly strengthen pessimism regarding the emergence of substantive representation from the 30% quota for women. [11]He added that in the 2014 election, descriptive representation was still the focus of attention when looking at women's representation in parliament, whose representation had decreased. One of the factors causing this is an electoral system that is not friendly to women's representation. When elections use an open proportional system based on the order of the most votes, female candidates need extra energy, not only social capital in the form of influence, campaign methods, popularity, but also material capital factors, both money and other small amounts.

With this majority voting system, the 30% policy in terms of nominations through the rule that 1 out of 3 candidates must be female is still not enough to help the electability of female candidates. Another factor that must be considered is how women qualitatively face competition with male candidates. This is something that is not easy to realize and requires special attention from political parties and non-governmental organizations in encouraging women to have the desire to enter the world of practical politics accompanied by sufficient knowledge and energy. In this way, in the future, the ideal of women's representation of at least 30% or even more in parliament will be realized [22]. This certainly requires maximum support and involvement from academic institutions.

Furthermore, the role of female politicians in parliament is interpreted as being able to carry out their rights and obligations as representatives of the people who have the power and responsibility to behave and carry out activities that are pro-people. by carrying out the three representative functions well, namely the legislative function, budget function and supervisory function, optimizing checks and balances and setting DPRD performance standards for those governed in the sense of accountability, obligation and cause in the government process.

First, female politicians can carry out the legislative function, by producing pro-gender regional policies or regulations as a form of community need that is used to protect the rights of women. In particular, as a form of fighting for and accommodating the aspirations of women in society, and also seen from the extent to which the role of female politicians provides support to the executive and judiciary as government institutions other than themselves through the authority to regulate society contained in the articles of the same law. Usually, this step is to call relevant stakeholders for a general study and view, then discuss the matter together.

Second, the Budget Function. Women politicians are expected to be able to play the role of gender budgeters to organize gender sensitive budgeting plans in monitoring policies, both regional regulations from the executive and initiatives from the legislature so that the budget can be in accordance with budgeting that has been determined and plotted in the budget body. by the chairman of the council and the secretary of the council into these regional regulations. For the sake of the smoothness of the policy-making process because policy-making requires discussions, workshops outside the city to develop material for policy-making, it will be hampered.

Third, Supervisory Function. Women politicians are also expected to be able to play a role in reviewing and changing the actions of deviant executives. Surveillance is a consequence of the people's power it operates. Therefore, female politicians are also the holders of the power mandate of representative bodies and are responsible for the use of mandates to those who give them mandates.

So it can be said that the quality of women's involvement in politics does not necessarily guarantee the quality of women's involvement. Because when talking about the quality of involvement, it cannot be answered with numbers but with the contribution made and the benefits that women can get.

Furthermore, in the economic sector, women have a vital role, although they often do not receive recognition, for example, even though women equally have a share in the family income (sometimes even having a larger income), women's work is still considered a side job or simply helping the family economy. This is of course very detrimental to women and it will be very difficult to improve women's economic status, even though in fact when women enter the public sphere (production), working and producing are just as important as the results obtained by men. Because of course the wife's work is based on an agreement within the family based on economic needs, therefore men and women who work must receive the same social respect.

Meanwhile, in social life today there are still women who have not had the luck to gain recognition for the importance of their role and the qualities they possess. The stereotypes attached to women limit women's movements, so that the social roles played by women are often underappreciated and cannot be maximized.

Actually, what women need is recognition from society that women also have qualities. Of course, the qualities possessed by women are not to compete with men. But to cooperate with each other. In families in Indonesia in general, parents or the environment, directly or indirectly, have socialized the roles of sons and daughters differently. Boys are only asked to help their parents in certain things, and are often given the freedom to play and are not burdened with certain responsibilities. Girls, on the other hand, are given the responsibility to help with household chores (cleaning, cooking and washing).

Gender roles are formed through various value systems including traditional values, education, religion, politics, economics, and so on. As a result of social formation, gender roles can change in different times, conditions and places so that the roles of men and women may be interchangeable. Taking care of children, earning a living, doing household work (cooking, washing, etc.) are roles that can be carried out by men and women, so they can change places without violating nature. Thus, we can term these jobs as gender roles. If gender roles are considered as something that can change and can be adjusted to the conditions a person experiences, then there is no real reason

3.3.The Role of Academic Institutions in Strengthening the Role of Women.

To improve the quality of women's roles in the political, social and economic dimensions, of course cooperation with various parties is really needed, because the government cannot do it alone. In this discussion the author feels that the role of academic institutions is also very important in making this happen. It cannot be denied that so far it seems that there is still a very weak understanding of the values related to equal partnerships between men and women, and there is still very little training or national seminars with the theme of improving the quality of women.

In fact, in higher education, every existing study program needs to include courses on gender and the role of women in its curriculum. However, so far only social science study programs have courses related to this. Like at the Bengkulu Muhammadiyah College, it is only available in the Sociology study program. Meanwhile, there are no other study programs yet. In fact, this course is very important, because every graduate of the study program will definitely work in various fields which are always mixed between men and women. This is where the importance of knowledge about the

importance of supporting women's roles and knowledge about other genders lies, because otherwise it will be the dominant cultures in society, such as patriarchal culture, which ultimately weaken the quality of women's roles.

There have been several gender issues in education so far, including: 1. The high illiteracy rate of women (twice that of men) 2. The participation rate in elementary-high school and tertiary education for women is much lower than for men, especially in poor communities 3. Teaching materials and curriculum at all levels and types of education are not gender sensitive and are still gender biased 4. Education management is gender biased, especially in the appointment of school principals at primary and secondary education levels, as well as leaders in higher education institutions 5. Gender biased educational practices and the lack of stability/weakening of Women's/Gender Studies Institutions

Therefore, the maximum role of academic institutions in improving the quality of women's roles is very necessary. There are several things you can do:

First, hold gender courses in each study program. This is certainly not easy, there needs to be awareness and understanding from various parties, because many people think that the study of gender is more synonymous with social sciences. Meanwhile, other sciences feel that the study of gender is not within their realm of scientific study. Indeed, basically gender studies are not always related to all sciences, but the emphasis here is related to the general provisions that every student must obtain because basically after graduating they work in society, that is when an understanding of gender is needed. So far, because there are no courses on gender, competition between men and women has increased, discrimination against women has also become more widespread, and the presence of new women is considered a complement or formality. This is what weakens the quality of women's role in society, both in social, economic and political aspects.

Second, increase seminar studies on gender. This is the second solution that the author feels can be done if the first solution is not yet possible because it will take a long time to discuss and formulate it. By holding a national seminar on gender themes, this has indirectly provided provisions for each participant, but of course there must be follow-up to the seminar, for example by collaborating with gender observers/institutions, or perhaps producing a study on gender.

4. CONCLUSION

1. The quality of women's role in social, economic and political aspects is still weak. Women's involvement in these three aspects is limited to quantity (numbers) and is often used as something that is just a formality.
 - a. First, in the political aspect the role of women is still weak in terms of planning, policy formulation and decision making.
 - b. Second, in the economic aspect, productive activities carried out by women do not receive the social rewards that men do. Women who work are only considered as extras.
 - c. Third, in the social aspect because there is a social order and system in society which constructs women because there are assumptions that women are always given secondary importance, considered incapable of making and producing policies and incapable of becoming leaders. From this, a process of negative labeling in subordination can result in violence against women because this discrimination is the result of judgment in the meaning of women.

2. It is necessary to maximize the role of academic institutions to improve and ensure the quality of women's roles in social, political and economic aspects. Two things you can do are:
 - a. First, holding courses on gender in each study program requires a curriculum review
 - b. Second, increase national seminar activities on gender and collaborate with gender observers/agencies.

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We hope that the results of this research can provide a useful contribution to science and can become a basis for further research.

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