

## **RURAL COMMUNITY AWARENESS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR WOMEN IN PEMALANG DISTRICT (CASE STUDY IN KARANGMONCOL VILLAGE, RANDUDONGKAL DISTRICT)**

**Devika Ayuning Tias**

<sup>1</sup>*R.Samidi*

<sup>2</sup>*Wahyu Jati Kusuma*

*devikaayu30@gmail.com*

### **Abstrak**

The main problem in this study is the low awareness of the people of Karangmoncol village towards higher education for women because it is influenced by several factors. The purpose of this study was to determine women's education in Karangmoncol Village, Randudongkal District, Pemalang Regency. To find out the views of the people of Karangmoncol Village, Randudongkal District, Pemalang Regency on higher education for women. And to find out the awareness of rural communities towards higher education for women, especially in Karangmoncol Village, Randudongkal District, Pemalang Regency. This research uses qualitative research methods that use a case study approach. In this study, researchers used triangulation techniques as validity by collecting different data with observation, interview and documentation methods. The results showed that women's education in Karangmoncol village was quite good because the last level of education for women in Karangmoncol Village was high school and for the last education of the community was elementary school, the views of the people of Karangmoncol Village towards higher education for women the community considered higher education for women unimportant. The awareness of the people of Karangmoncol Village towards higher education for women is low, economic factors, nature and the absence of interest in higher education are factors that prevent women in Karangmoncol Village from continuing to higher education.

Keywords: Village community awareness, higher education, women

### **1 INTRODUCTION**

Education is the main need for mankind in continuing life in the future. The quality of education affects the quality of human resources in the future life so that education should be accepted by the community in accordance with the NRI Constitution of 1945 article 31 Paragraph 1 which reads "Every citizen has the right to receive teaching" the educational process can determine the quality of the results of the achievement of educational goals in educating the nation that leads to educational activities and everything in accordance with what is desired by all activities education. (Ali, 2012:6-9).

Higher education according to Law No. 12 of 2012 states that higher education is part of the national education system and has a strategic role in educating the nation's life and the advancement of science and technology by taking into account the sustainable culture of the nation's treasury. Higher education is needed that is able to develop science and technology and produce scientists, professionals who are creative and cultured, tolerant and have character and courage for the benefit of the nation.

Consciousness is something in humans in understanding and responding or contributing to reality, the awareness of unique elements that exist in every human being. Consciousness is intentional, meaning that consciousness cannot be imagined without something realized (Siti & Siregar, 2016). Awareness of the process by which a person with his five senses is consciously able to give a view to everything in his environment. There are 2 factors that affect consciousness, namely the driving factor and the inhibiting factor of consciousness. The driving factors of consciousness are in the form of value systems, *attitudes and* behaviors, while the inhibiting factors of consciousness are the level of knowledge of the community, the level of public education, cultural influences and knowledge of consciousness.

Bintarto (1989) said that the village is a result of a combination of human group activities with their environment. The results of the combination can be seen from physiographic, social and economic, political and cultural elements that interact with each other. Meanwhile, Sutardjo Kartohadikusumo said that the village is a legal entity where residing in a community that is in power to hold its own government. The *dasa* community is a number of residents who live in an area with the lowest government

organization directly under the sub-district that organizes its own household. In other words, the village community is the people who live in the village.

Women are future mothers and educators for their children. A woman who is still young will become a mother and educator for her children. Every woman will certainly determine the relay of education, faith and Islam in her children (Mulia, 2016: 10). Education for women is very important to equip themselves in educating children, taking care of the household, working and socializing with the environment around them. In religion, there is no religion that prohibits women from studying or being educated. Education is everyone's right, both men and women, there is no reason to discriminate against education, women can learn any field.

Higher education is actually very important for the survival of life for all genders. Regardless of the nature of women or men, between the two have the same right to the opportunity to receive the highest possible education. Because education is the main bridge to a more established life in the future. In addition, women will also become the first educators for children so that in this case it further strengthens the reason for the importance of higher education for women. By maximizing the possibility of opportunities in getting higher education for women, it is expected to be able to bring a more advanced Indonesian nation by giving birth to a quality next generation (Sujatmoko, 2010).

Related to the above in Karangmoncol Village the lack of motivation for women to continue to college due to the limited opportunities provided, there are still many adolescent girls whose education only graduates until high school because of lack of interest and motivation to continue to college they prefer to work after graduating from high school, awareness of the importance of higher education in rural communities is still low is very unfortunate, The lack of awareness and knowledge of parents towards higher education also contributes to the lack of women in Karangmoncol Village who continue to university, besides that there are economic factors that prevent women in Karangmoncol Village from continuing this is the reason for the absence of interest and views that exist in the community that "women do not need to take higher education because later they will be in the kitchen", this view develops in the village community. Therefore, researchers conducted a study in Karangmoncol Village on how village community awareness of higher education for women

## **2 METHODOLOGY**

This research uses qualitative methods with a case study approach where the nature of the case study studies in depth to be able to find the reality that occurs in the field. The research design that researchers use is a descriptive design with data collection in the form of words, images and not in the form of numbers. This research design aims to describe or explain something such as conditions, circumstances, events, situations and others. (Arikunto, 2010: 3).

The data sources of this study include primary data and secondary data and the form of data in the form of words and actions, written sources and photos. The data collection technique is by observation, interview, documentation and triangulation to test the credibility of the data in this study, while the data analysis technique in qualitative research is inductive, which is then developed into a certain relationship pattern with analysis based on the data obtained. (Sugiyono, 2017: 335). The analysis is in the form of data reduction, data presentation and conclusion drawing.

## **3 RESULT**

Based on the research that researchers have done, they get results in the field that in Karangmoncol Village there are educational institutions such as PAUD, KINDERGARTEN, SD/MI there are no secondary school educational institutions, women's education in Karangmoncol Village mostly graduated from high school and for the community tends to graduate from elementary school. The livelihood of the community is mostly traders and laborers while community institutions in Karangmoncol Village such as coral cadets, posyandu and others. Researchers took data by taking women and community objects with additional data in the form of photo documentation and village data documents obtained from the village.

### **3.1 Discussion**

Based on what has been explained at the beginning that education is the right of all Indonesian people, whoever it is, has the right to get education and education is a forum for the development of human

children in meeting their respective consciousness spaces. After presenting the results of the study, the researcher drew the subject with the data that had been analyzed as follows:

### **3.1.1 *Women's Education in Karangmoncol Village, Randudongkal District, Pemalang Regency***

Women have a very important role by nature, women were created as creatures of God who will take care of the household, as wives and as mothers who give their affection for the family. Women today must be able to get out of their comfort zone by becoming career women, namely women who are independent not only taking care of the household but also doing work according to their expertise without being hindered by their status as housewives. Education for women is very important to equip themselves in educating children, taking care of the household, working and socializing with the environment around them. In religion, there is no religion that prohibits women from studying or being educated. Education is everyone's right, whether men or women, there is no reason to discriminate against education, women can learn any field.

Based on the results of data through observation, interviews and documentation that have been carried out by researchers, data was obtained that women's education in Karangmoncol Village that based on data obtained from the village hall office, the number of women in Karangmoncol village is 5066 people for the latest statistical data 2020-2021, seeing from the results of interviews with the community consider and realize that education is important, Education is a pathway to improve the quality of human resources if a country wants to progress, what is seen is the quality of its citizens. The people of Karangmoncol Village consider that education is able to change a person's mindset from not knowing to knowing and adding insight and achieving goals for a better future, education is part of a program held by the government. The role and support of parents becomes important in children's education. The people of Karangmoncol Village also in addition to taking formal education, many of whom take non-formal education, namely madrasah schools, meaning that the community realizes that education is important and has quite a lot of benefits.

The last education that is most taken by the people of Karangmoncol Village is elementary school because in the past people could only read and write it was considered sufficient and because based on data from educational institutions in Karangmoncol Village was not good because there were only PAUD, KINDERGARTEN, SD / MI and madrasah this was also a factor behind the community in the past their education only until graduating from elementary school.

However, over time, the community began to realize that the education required by the government was at the high school level, finally the parents of many women born over 2000 graduated from high school, meaning that the majority of women's education levels in Karangmoncol Village were up to the high school level. As for the education level of the people who were in the past or who have become parents of women, most of them graduated from elementary school if you look at the data on the education level of the people of Karangmoncol Village from 2018 and if based on data in 2021, most women in Karangmoncol Village have their last education, namely high school. Education is important for every human being, both men and women, educated women are able to give wise advice and are able to be good teachers for their children, at least women must have an educational basis to open their mindset because intelligence in children is passed down through their mothers.

### **3.1.2 *The views of the people of Karangmoncol Village, Randudongkal District, Pemalang Regency towards higher education for women***

Higher education is a continuation of secondary education organized to prepare students who become members of society who have academic or professional abilities who can apply, develop or create science, technology or art. Indonesian national education is education that is rooted in Indonesian culture and based on the achievement of Indonesia's national development goals. The national education system (Sirdiknas) is an integrated whole of all interrelated educational units and activities to strive for the achievement of national education goals.

Higher education according to Law No. 12 of 2012 states that higher education is part of the national education system and has a strategic role in educating the nation's life and the advancement of science and technology by taking into account the sustainable culture of the nation's treasury. Based on the results of research through observation, interviews and documentation that have been conducted by researchers, data were obtained that the views of the community in Karangmoncol Village towards higher education for women. A community's view is influenced by the existing conditions in the area for the livelihood of the people varies but most work as traders, laborers and farmers for the income earned

often only enough for daily food. The jobs that most women in Karangmoncol village take after graduating from high school are PT employees and shop employees. The environment of Karangmoncol Village is the same as the village in general from its customs, but looking at the village poverty level data, Karangmoncol Village is a village that still has a lot of poverty but over time it is getting better seeing from the uninhabitable community houses that have been repaired a lot because they received assistance from the government.

From this background, there are different views from the people of Karangmoncol Village towards women who take higher education. People know that higher education is college, a level of education taken after graduating from high school and higher education is taken to achieve goals. People who state higher education for women is not important because women will later become housewives who will only be in the kitchen, there are also people who consider higher education for women a waste of money especially because the age factor also affects if women take higher education will delay where the age has shown the age of marriage but instead still take higher education and the view that the distance traveled to Taking higher education away from home makes the expenses incurred not a little, especially for food and lodging during higher education. As well as insufficient economic reasons if used to pursue higher education. The nature of women and often women who pursue higher education their knowledge is not channeled in society but for themselves. But there is also a societal view that higher education for women is important as long as it has the cost and the person can afford it.

From what has been described above, researchers see this view as a benchmark for women's interest in Karangmoncol Village towards higher education less because of the existing views in the community, higher education for women is not important. Even though through higher education there are many positive impacts on someone, adding insight and changing mindsets and experiences, especially when someone is faced with problems in the modern era, there must be different ways of responding to problems with people who do not take higher education, the existence of universities supports or helps welfare in society, but this comes back again with the views of each individual about higher education. So from the view of the people of Karangmoncol Village towards higher education is good but not for higher education for women because seeing from the factors mentioned above that higher education for women is not important.

### **3.1.3 Awareness of Rural Communities, Especially in Karangmoncol Village, Randongkal District, Pemalang Regency on Higher Education for Women**

Consciousness according to Alwi (2005), is something that is felt or experienced by a person, consciousness is basically not passive but consciousness of the object of consciousness created by consciousness. There are three factors driving awareness according to Soemarmo Soedarsono, namely: *Value system* The initial principle built by humans is to focus on non-material factors and only normative. This means that this first principle, the element forming consciousness is more directed at the psychological (spiritual) element. *Attitude* The perspective becomes one of the driving elements of consciousness in which there are two driving components in the form of: togetherness and intelligence. The element of togetherness and intelligence contained in the attitude factor fosters a good self-image in the social order (society). From the good perspective contained in humans, people will see themselves as a person who can carry out the true function of the essence of human creation on earth, namely social beings who have a distinctive mind, instincts and intuition. *Polite* hospitality is respect and respect for others. Which belongs to the category of individuals who are self-conscious if individuals are kind (friendly) to others. With friendliness one will feel a peace of heart, empathy and respect as well as respect from others and psychological closeness to others. The factor driving awareness of the people of Karangmoncol village regarding higher education for women is having a KIP (smart Indonesia card) which is a driver of awareness of women in Karangmoncol village taking higher education.

Factors inhibiting awareness in oneself, namely mazmumah (bad) morals include: Level of community knowledge, Level of community education, cultural influences and knowledge of awareness Factors inhibiting women's awareness in Karangmoncol Village towards higher education are economy, age, lack of interest of women to pursue higher education because they prefer to work and existing views in the higher education community for women not important.

Based on the results of research through observation, interviews and documentation that have been conducted by researchers, data were obtained that public awareness in Karangmoncol Village towards women who take higher education is relatively lacking because people still consider higher education for women unimportant, in contrast to their view that higher education is important for men because men will later become the head of the family who will definitely work and being the backbone of the family, although there is a good assumption about higher education, but the interest of women in Karangmoncol

Village towards higher education is less because of the lack of parental and family support, the absence of costs that are a barrier to not being able to continue to college after graduating from high school is a benchmark why there is less interest in women in Karangmoncol Village to continue to college and prefer to work to help family economy and those who still have dependents of younger siblings who are still in school. Then if it is said about the actual desire they have the desire to continue but only limited to desire not accompanied by effort.

Looking at the background of the parents of women who make a living mostly traders and seeing the low level of education their parents take, there is a lack of public awareness of the importance of higher education for women. From what has been described above, it can be seen that the awareness of rural communities, especially Karangmoncol Village, towards higher education for women is influenced by several factors, namely the economy, parents' educational background, and lack of understanding of the importance of higher education for women because they prefer to work to help the family economy, the age which shows the age of marriage but still taking higher education. Higher education for women is the main key to improving self-quality, the higher women's education, the higher their quality, otherwise if the lower women's education it will be considered low. With the provision of knowledge, women can also advance and stand tall to help the development of a nation. Women with higher education will have critical thinking, broad-minded, open logic, with higher education women will increase their social strata in society. The progress of the nation and the good and bad character of children, are formed through the role of women as mothers.

#### **4 CONCLUSION**

Based on the results of this study, conclusions can be drawn in this study as follows:

1. Women's education in Karangmoncol Village, Randudongkal District, Pemalang Regency. The last level of education that most women in Karangmoncol village took was the high school level, this is evidenced by the results of interviews and temporary documentation data for the former community or parents of women, most of whom graduated from elementary school.
2. The views of the people of Karangmoncol village, Randudongkal District, Pemalang Regency towards higher education for women. Society considers higher education for women unimportant because there is no cost, the nature of women who will later become housewives and the delay in marriage because of higher education where the age has shown the age of marriage.
3. Community awareness of Karangmoncol Village, Randudongkal District, Pemalang Regency towards higher education for women. Public awareness of higher education for women in Karangmoncol Village is low because the factors driving women's awareness of taking higher education are lower than the inhibiting factors of women's awareness in Karangmoncol Village because there are several reasons behind the inhibition of women's awareness of taking higher education, namely economic factors, age, views in the community and parents' educational background.

Based on the results of this study, after obtaining conclusions, researchers propose the following suggestions:

1. Women's education in Karangmoncol Village, Randudongkal District, Pemalang Regency. Women in Karangmoncol Village are more aware that education is important for women because nowadays women and men are equal in any field and higher education is needed to educate children later.
2. The views of the people of Karangmoncol Village, Randudongkal District, Pemalang Regency towards higher education for women. The people of Karangmoncol Village changed the view that higher education for women is important, not limited by age or nature as women who will later become housewives because even though they become housewives, women can still have careers and help the family economy.
3. Community awareness of Karangmoncol Village, Randudongkal District, Pemalang Regency towards higher education for women. Rural communities are more aware of the importance of higher education for women and better understand that higher education for women can change the mindset and formation of social strata in society even though later women will become housewives, there is nothing wrong with taking higher education and there is nothing wrong with taking the highest education possible because there is no knowledge in vain, This knowledge can be used when women educate children.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

On this occasion, the author would like to thank the Supervisor for his guidance and direction, the Head of Karangmoncol Village who has given permission to conduct research and the people of Karangmoncol Village who have helped in the data collection process.

## **REFERENCES**

- [1] S. Arikunto, "Research Procedures for Practical Approaches" *Rineka Cipta*, 2010.
- [2] M. Ali and M, Asrori. "Adolescent Psychology: Student Development" PT. Bumi Aksara, Jakarta: 2012.
- [3] Noble, *educating girls*. Surabaya: Lentera Jaya Madnah, 2016.
- [4] Sugiyono, "Educational Research Methods: Quantitative, Qualitative, and R&D Approaches": Alfabeta, 2017.
- [5] N. Susilawati, "Rural Sociology".2012.
- [6] Act of 2012.
- [7] N., Siti & S. Siregar, "Fishermen's Community Awareness of Children's Education. *Journal of Government and Sociopolitical Science*, 4(1), 1-10. 2016.
- [8] H. Alwi. "Kamus Besar Indonesian (Third Edition)" Balai Pustaka, Jakarta: 2005.
- [9] Cirdiknas.