



Single Parent Efforts in Meeting Family Economic Needs in Bubu Village, Kambowa District, North Buton Regency

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study is to find out how the efforts of *single parents* in fulfilling the exit economy of a *single parent* in Bubu Village, and to find out what are the supporting and inhibiting factors in an effort to meet the economic needs of the family in Bubu Village, Kambowa District, North Buton Regency. This type of research uses a qualitative approach with a problem study method to 8 *single parents* in Bubu Village. The data collection technique uses interview, observation, and documentation methods. Data analysis uses approaches, namely: data collection, data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawn. The results of this study show the efforts of *single parents* in meeting the economic needs of families in Bubu Village/sub-district, Kambowa District, North Buton, namely 1. Work, 2. Expecting help from family, 3. Expect help from the government. The supporting factors for *single parent efforts* to meet the economic needs of the family are, 1. Motivation and encouragement from the family. The factors that hinder *single parent* efforts in meeting the economic needs of the family are, 1. Limited skills, 2. Limited infrastructure, 3. There is no help from the husband in meeting the needs of the family.

Keyword: Efforts, Single Parent, Family Economy.

INTRODUCTION

For the community, having a prosperous life is an ideal. If the people are poor, welfare will not appear. Because poverty is a type of prosperity that shows a lack of basic needs, poverty must be eradicated. In general, economic well-being is a situation in which a person's financial needs are met in order to live a respectable life and be able to develop personally and carry out their social roles.

We are all familiar with economic reasons; in Indonesia, they are the worst opponents for society, as evidenced by the fact that the poverty rate continues to increase every year (Lubis, 2015). The state of society indicated by income affects welfare. The source of money for each person or family often comes from their hard work. A family is said to be prosperous if its income exceeds its consumption level; On the other hand, the low well-being of a family may be due to those with lower incomes.

Household income refers to the currency earned to pay for services rendered or to purchase factors of production, such as working capital, land rent, wages, etc. The family economy in society can be described according to its magnitude. A family usually has a husband, wife, and children. The more families, the more labor available in finding work and paying wages. Household registration is mainly determined by the head of the household, but other family members are also involved.

Improvements in social welfare can be largely achieved through the family. The most important function of a woman is to take care of the house and support her husband in making more money for the family. Because of her sensitive emotions, women are kind and affectionate creatures. Women are often considered to have beauty, gentleness, humility, and nurturing qualities. Gaps in anatomy and physiology lead to variations in behavior as well as aptitudes and predispositions towards purposeful efforts and adapting to women's characteristics (Aptika, 2018).

Single parent is a picture of a tough woman. Because they have full responsibilities, for example, taking care of the house, including paying bills and maintaining the residence. A woman in this job must be able to take on the dual role of mother and father to her child. The responsibility of providing for, raising, and educating the child is getting bigger, and he must also be the main breadwinner of the family. None of this is simple. especially when met by women who are spoiled, weaker, and highly dependent. Moreover, he has never been used to living a difficult life because his partner always makes him happy (Hustasoit and Brahmana, 2021).

Single parent women have strong management skills to fulfill their roles as parents and mothers at the same time. He is a simple head of family in his capacity as a parent. In addition, they must support their families and provide for their basic needs. As a mother, she exercises her innate femininity by taking care of her children and taking care of household chores. It is important that you keep an eye on what is happening at home even when you are working. It is also important to help children develop mental independence. The secret of everything is love. Children should be given understanding gradually by adjusting to age. Children will inevitably experience psychological impacts that will affect how they behave in social situations, at home, and at school. The fundamental goal is to increase sentiment of

comfort and confidence. Children are the top priority in their absence of all work, the responsibilities carried out are useless (Hustasoit and Brahmana, 2021).

In a Single Parent family, the woman plays the role of the head of the household and is therefore responsible for the function of the household in raising her children and her obligation to work to support her family. The type of job, the skills required, and the minimum high school education in the world of work, single parents will be employed in jobs whose salary is sufficient to cover the agreed minimum wage in their respective regions. The difference between the amount of salary received and the amount of daily expenses is one of the indicators of economic adjustment activities.

According to Maripadang (2017) in her research found that *single parent* efforts As the head of the household in more and more families, mothers have two roles: they are single parents who take care of children at home and provide for their family financially. Then, in his research, Masyrurroh (2018) found that working, accumulating debt, and relying on assistance such as neighbors, closest relatives, the government, and non-governmental organizations are strategies carried out by single parents to survive.

Based on the discussion above, the researcher will then conduct a research that aims to analyze the efforts of Single Parents in supporting and meeting the economic needs of families, with the title of the research: " Single Parent Efforts in Meeting Family Economic Needs in Bubu Village, Kambowa District, North Buton Regency ".

METHODS

This research was carried out in Bubu Village, Kambowa District, North Buton Regency. The location is determined based on the fact that there are still many *single parents* in Bubu Village who work with the aim of supporting a more prosperous family economy. This study uses a qualitative approach with informants selected using a purposive sampling technique consisting of village heads and women with single parent status who work as copra makers. The data in this study were obtained through interviews, observations and documentation studies. The data obtained was then analyzed qualitatively with an interactive model consisting of data reduction, data presentation and conclusion drawn.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Single Parent Efforts in Meeting Family Economic Needs

In everyday life, individuals make various efforts to achieve their goals and ambitions. This concrete action is a manifestation of the desire to meet needs and achieve welfare. Family businesses, for example, are often run with the aim of meeting the family's financial needs. Everyone basically wants their basic needs met, which drives them to make various efforts. This situation becomes more challenging for single parents, especially mothers, who have to balance the responsibility of caring for children at home with the need to earn a living. Some of the efforts made by single parents to earn economic income include gardening, trading, raising livestock, and making copra. All these actions reflect human efforts in meeting the demands of life and achieving prosperity. Based on the results of the research carried out, it shows that the efforts of single parents in fulfilling the family economy in Bubu Village are as follows:

1. Work

In a single parent situation, mothers are often the main focus to meet the family's economic needs. According to research by Widiyanti (2021), single parents often have to undergo various types of work to ensure the economic stability of the family. Another study by Nurhaliza (2020) also emphasizes the importance of social support and access to job opportunities for single parents in strengthening the family economy. Thus, work is one of the main strategies that single parents carry out to survive and meet the needs of their families.

a) Farmer

The efforts of single parent women in Bubu Village, Kambowa District, North Buton Regency in meeting the economic needs of their families, especially through work as farm laborers, show a strong form of social and economic adaptation in the midst of limitations. The decision to get involved in the agricultural sector, particularly as farm laborers, reflects gender dynamics in rural economies, where women often have to fill dual roles as breadwinners and housekeepers. In this context, agriculture is one of the main ways to earn income that is used to meet the basic needs of families and children's education.

According to the feminist theory of poverty, the economic burden on single-parent women is heavier, especially in rural areas where access to resources and social support is more limited. Involvement in informal sector jobs such as agriculture also indicates a lack of

access to more stable and lucrative formal jobs, often due to low levels of education and skills (Kabeer, 2016). Nevertheless, this hard work shows women's resilience in overcoming economic difficulties and social responsibility in educating their children.

b) Merchant

Single parent efforts in meeting the family's economic needs through trade in Bubu Village, Kambowa District, can be seen as a form of socio-economic adaptation that is in line with the family economic resilience theory. According to research conducted by Sari et al. (2018), trading is often the main choice for single parents in rural areas because of the flexibility of time and relatively affordable capital. In Bubu Village, trade activities are not only the main source of income, but also an integral part of the village's economic structure dominated by the informal sector. Furthermore, Bianchi and Milkie (2017) emphasized that trading activities also allow single parents to maintain a balance between economic responsibility and childcare. This is important because single parents often face a double challenge, namely being the main breadwinner as well as the main caregiver. Thus, trade is one of the effective strategies in meeting the basic needs of families, such as food, clothing, and children's education. Based on this view, it can be concluded that trade not only plays a role in the stability of the family economy, but also in strengthening the social resilience of single parents in rural environments.

c) Breeders

The ability of families to survive and meet basic needs in challenging economic conditions. Livestock farming as a form of agrarian economic business can increase family income, especially in rural contexts that often have limited access to formal work. According to Suhardjono and Suryani (2018), livestock farming is one of the effective income diversification strategies for families in rural areas because it is relatively low in capital and has stable market potential.

In addition, raising livestock is also considered a form of family economic empowerment that can increase financial independence, especially for single parents who have family dependents. In a study by Putri et al. (2017), livestock farming has an important role in increasing household income and reducing economic vulnerability, especially for community groups that are in the poor or vulnerable category. Thus, raising livestock is a

rational choice for single parents in Bubu Village to increase their family's income and economic stability.

2. Expecting Help From Neighbors

Single parents' efforts in meeting the economic needs of families, especially in Bubu Village, Kambowa District, by relying on assistance from neighbors and family, reflect the importance of social solidarity in the local community. When income from work is insufficient, support from the social environment becomes a vital solution. This concept is in line with the theory of "Social Capital" which emphasizes the importance of social networks and relationships between individuals in society to help meet daily needs. According to research by Coleman, social capital, such as trust, norms, and networks, can increase efficiency in achieving economic and social goals, especially in resource-constrained societies. Recent research has also shown that in rural contexts, families and communities play an important role in providing economic and social support for single parents (Smith & Raval, 2016). This assistance not only helps to ease the economic burden, but also improves the psychological well-being of the individual. Thus, the role of the community in supporting single parents in Bubu Village is not only financial assistance, but also a form of strengthening social networks that function as a support mechanism in difficult economic conditions.

3. Expecting Help from the Government

The efforts of single parents in Bubu Village, Kambowa District in meeting the economic needs of families by relying on government assistance reflect the condition of economic dependence that is often encountered in rural areas. According to the concept of economic dependence, the inability of an individual or group to independently meet their basic needs creates dependence on others, in this case the government. Social assistance such as the Family Hope Program and Direct Cash Assistance are government strategies to reduce the impact of poverty and ensure the minimum welfare of vulnerable communities. Agricultural assistance also plays an important role, especially in villages where most of the population depends on the agricultural sector.

Research shows that this kind of assistance can improve short-term well-being, but it does not always have a significant impact on increasing long-term economic independence (Rahman & Zulfikar, 2017). Prolonged reliance on government assistance can hinder local initiatives to create sustainable sources of income. Therefore, a more holistic approach,

including local economic empowerment and individual capacity building, is needed to create long-term economic independence (Supriyanto & Damanik, 2018).

Supporting and Inhibiting Factors for Single Parent Efforts in Obtaining Family Economic Income in Bubu Village, Kacamatan Kambowa

1. Supporting Factors

The concept of intrinsic motivation and family support. According to Deci & Ryan (2017), intrinsic motivation is the drive that comes from within the individual to achieve certain goals due to personal satisfaction or held values. In the context of single parents, this intrinsic motivation can be in the form of a strong desire to provide the best for their children, including in terms of meeting educational needs and improving family welfare. Family support is also an important factor that can strengthen this motivation. This support can be emotional support, such as providing encouragement and encouragement, or practical support, such as helping with caring for children or providing financial assistance. Research from Collins & Laursen (2018) shows that family support can improve psychological well-being and strengthen a person's fighting power in facing economic challenges. With strong motivation and family support, single parents in Bubu Village are better able to increase their income, so as to be able to meet the needs of the children and the family as a whole.

2. Inhibiting Factors

A significant inhibiting factor for single parents in their efforts to obtain family economic income in Bubu Village, Kambowa District, is the lack of motivation and encouragement from the family. This situation reflects the emotional and psychological challenges faced by single parents in managing the economic needs of their families. Without the moral and zealous support of their closest circle, they may have difficulty maintaining the determination and persistence necessary to overcome financial barriers. This condition can negatively impact their efforts in finding and maintaining a stable source of income to meet the needs of their families. The inhibiting factors are as follows:

a) Limited Skills

Single parents in Bubu Village, Kambowa District, face great challenges in trying to increase family economic income, especially due to the limited skills they have. These limitations limit them from accessing decent work or creating business opportunities on their own. According to research conducted by Dewi (2017), limited skills are the main factor that affects an individual's ability to compete in the labor market. In addition, in the context of

single parents, the double burden of being a breadwinner and caregiver also adds to their difficulties in developing new skills (Hidayati, 2018). Low family motivation and motivation further exacerbate this situation, considering that social and family support is an important factor in encouraging a person to improve their skills and productivity (Sari & Purnama, 2019). Therefore, targeted interventions from the government and related institutions, such as skills training and economic empowerment, are needed to help single parent women increase their family income and achieve economic independence.

b) Limited Facilities and Infrastructure

In the context of single parents living in Bubu village, Kambowa District, North Buton Regency, there are several inhibiting factors in efforts to obtain a decent family economic income. One of the main factors is the limitation of facilities and infrastructure. Lack of access to vehicles such as motorcycles is a significant obstacle for single parents, especially in the daily mobility required to work or access other sources of income. Adequate transportation facilities are very important to support work productivity, especially in rural areas where transportation infrastructure is limited (Kamaruddin, 2018).

Family motivation and encouragement also play an important role in single parent efforts to increase income. According to research by Suryani (2017), family support can be a major driving factor in improving economic well-being, but on the contrary, lack of support can be a serious barrier. When families don't provide support or encouragement, single parents will feel overwhelmed, which ultimately reduces their productivity and ability to seek better income opportunities. Therefore, interventions that include improving village infrastructure and family empowerment programs can be a solution to overcome this obstacle.

c) Self-employed

The concept of gender and the double burden faced by women. Women who become single parents often face greater challenges in terms of economics because they have to carry out dual roles as breadwinners as well as housekeepers. In this situation, support from the husband or partner is crucial, especially in societies where traditional gender roles are still dominant.

According to research by Shafer and Malhotra (2018), the absence of a spouse can significantly affect the economic stability of a family, especially in the context of a rural economy. This is exacerbated by women's lack of access to resources and decent job

opportunities. Without a supportive partner, women in Bubu Village not only lose additional income but also lose the physical and emotional support that is essential in carrying out their jobs.

Furthermore, according to Carr and Springer (2016), the social stigma that is still attached to women as sole breadwinners can also hinder their efforts to increase income. Without the support of family and community, single parent women in these villages face greater social and economic isolation, which in turn affects their ability to participate fully in economic activities.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results and discussion above, the conclusion that can be drawn in this study is that single parents face unique challenges in improving the family economy. They take various efforts to meet their financial needs, including working hard to earn enough income. In addition, they also rely on support from extended families and government assistance in the form of basic necessities, cash, or other forms of assistance. For single parent women, the main supporting factor in their economic struggle is the motivation and encouragement from the family. This enthusiasm and moral support became a strength for them to continue to fight. However, they also face some obstacles, especially skill limitations that can reduce job or income opportunities. The absence of a life partner is also a challenge in itself, because there is no financial and emotional support from the husband in managing the family economy. Nevertheless, with strong determination and the right strategy, single parents still try to provide a decent life for their families.

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