

### Bugis-Makassar Gender Value in Fisherman Community in Kampung Nelayan Untia of Makassar City

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#### **ABSTRACT**

The fisherman's families in South Sulawesi strived to survive from poverty. They were not burdened by poverty and lead normal life. One of the survival strategic implemented by the fishermen's family was by involving all family members in the production process, in which every family member carried out a role in household economic activities. This showed that gender did not get in the way of the household culture of fisherman's family in South Sulawesi. This study aimed to find out the profile of fishermen's families and the gender role division as the actualization of Bugis-Makassar gender values. In this qualitative research, the informants were selected by purposive sampling. The results of the study revealed that fisherman's families in Kampung Nelayan Untia were classified as poor based on the amount of income, education level of the children, and living conditions. The gender role division that took place in fishermen's families including the dual roles played by women as the knowledge were obtained from socialisation and actualization of the values of the Bugis-Makassar community as well as the adaptation to the social environment of the place where they were staying.

Keywords: Poverty, gender role division, Bugis-Makassar value

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Province of South Sulawesi has great potential in fisheries that contributes to Indonesia's fishery and marine production. The Province of South Sulawesi has a coastline along 1,937 km and a sea area of 266,877 km2. Approximately 2/3 of the districts in South Sulawesi have coastal and marine areas with small islands scattered in several districts such as Makassar City, Selayar Regency, Bone Regency, Sinjai Regency, Bulukumba Regency, Takalar regency, Barru regency, Luwu regency, North Luwu regency, and Pangkaje'ne Regency, as well as Pangkep islands. The fishery resource potential in the marine waters of South Sulawesi was  $\pm$  162,436 tons. However, the geographical conditions and the fisheries potential are inversely proportional to the conditions of the people living in the area. Poverty is the real picture for fisherman communities in South Sulawesi.

Previous studies that have been carried out show the poverty of fisherman communities in South Sulawesi. The studies include the studies entitled "Kemiskinan masyarakat nelayan di Desa Aeng Batu-batu, Kabupaten Takalar" (The Poverty of fishermen communities in Aeng Batu-batu Village, Takalar Regency) by [1]; "Desain pemberdayaan masyarakat nelayan dalam pengentasan kemiskinan di Sulawesi Selatan" (Fishermen community empowerment design in poverty eradication in South Sulawesi) by [2]; "Transformasi sosial budaya pada masyarakat maritim di Kecamatan Galesong Utara, Kabupaten Takalar" (Socio-cultural transformation in maritime communities in North Galesong District, Takalar Regency) by [3]; "Sekuritas sosial perempuan rawan sosial ekonomi pada komunitas nelayan pulau kecil, kasus Pulau Salemo, Desa Mattiro Bombang, Kecamatan Liukang, Kabupaten Pangkajene Kepulauan, Sulawesi Selatan" (Social security for women with socio-economic prone in small island fishermen community, Salemo Island,

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Mattiro Bombang Village, Liukang Sub-district, Pangkajene Kepulauan Regency, South Sulawesi) by [4]; "Pinggawa Sawi nelayan Bugis Makassar dalam analisis relasi internal eksternal" (Pinggawa Sawi of Bugis Makassar Fishermen in Analysis of Internal External Relations by [5]; and "Determinan pendapatan nelayan tangkap tradisional wilayah pesisir barat Kabupaten Barru" (Determinants of traditional fishing income in west coast of Barru Regency).

There is an interesting thing for the fact that despite the poverty encountered by the poor fishermen families in South Sulawesi, they survived. The fishermen's families did not feel burdened by the limitations they were experiencing and they ran a normal life. One of the strategies implemented by fisherman's families to survive was to involve all family members in the production process, where each family member carried out a function and role in household economic activities [3]. This shows that gender does not discourage the fisherman family households in South Sulawesi.

The concept of gender is a difference between men and women that is socially and culturally constructed related to roles, behaviors, and attributes that are considered appropriate for men and women. As with other cultures and traditions, the culture of the Bugis-Makassar community has norms governing the roles of men and women. If both men and women carry out their roles according to the norms, there will be harmony and peace in the family. The husband acts as a pangulu bola (head of the family) and as a passappa dallé (the breadwinner for the family). Since men are responsible for the family's financial support, those who are going to get married are required to be able to "mattuliliwi dapureng wékka pétu " (walk around the kitchen seven times). Meanwhile, women act as to ri bola/ pangonroang bola/ pajjaga bola/ pajjaga bili (house guard) and as I Mattaro (treasurer and household manager). Thus, women who are going to get married are required to be misseng dapureng or macca maddapureng (able to do house chores) [6].

The fishermen's settlement in Untia sub-district, in Birngkanaya district, Makassar City, is a new development area where residents were relocated from Lae-lae island in 1998. The relocation was carried out as part of the Lae-lae island tourism development plan by the Makassar City Government at that time.

As part of the South Sulawesi fishery development plan, the President of the Republic of Indonesia Joko Widodo inaugurated the Untia Fishery Port, the second largest port in Indonesia, in November 2016. Untia Fishery Port diversified the livelihoods of residents. In addition to being a fisherman and working in fisheries sector, there were entrepreneurs, traders, and transport workers.

It attracts considerable interest in examining the social life of fisherman communities, especially related to the gender role division. Hence, the current research was carried out to find answers to the following research problems: What is the profile of the fishermen's family in the fisherman's settlement of Untia Village, Biringkanaya District, Makassar City? How is the gender role division as the actualization of Makassar-Bugis gender values in fishermen's families in untia village, biringkanaya sub-district, makassar city?

### 2. METHOD

This study aimed to describe and take a careful examination on the profile of fisherman's families and the gender role division as the actualization of Makassar-Bugis gender values in fishermen's families in Untia village, Biringkanaya sub-district, Makassar City. For this reason, the authors used the descriptive analysis method with a qualitative approach. The qualitative approach used in this study emphasizes the actual state of an object (social situation) which is directly related to the context and time of the focus of the study [7].

The subjects of this study were fishermen's families in the fishermen's settlement in Untia sub-district, Biringkanaya District, Makassar City. The informant selection was carried out by purposive sampling with the following criteria: fishermen's families who were relocated from Lae-lae Island and have become a fisherman for the last 10 years. The ten-year working criteria was set considering that during that period of time, the economic conditions at the national, regional, and international levels experienced high dynamics. There were eight informants were selected to be examined more deeply. The eight informants represented fisherman's families in Kampung Nelayan Untia, representing Bugis and Makassar ethnicities, as well as based on age groups and income ranges.

The data of this study were collected through (1) unstructured in-depth interviews that the researcher provided points that served as interview guides and could be developed in accordance with the data and informants from other subjects instead of close-ended questions, (2) participant observation of fishermen's family activities, especially those related to the research problems; (3) documentation of the written data.



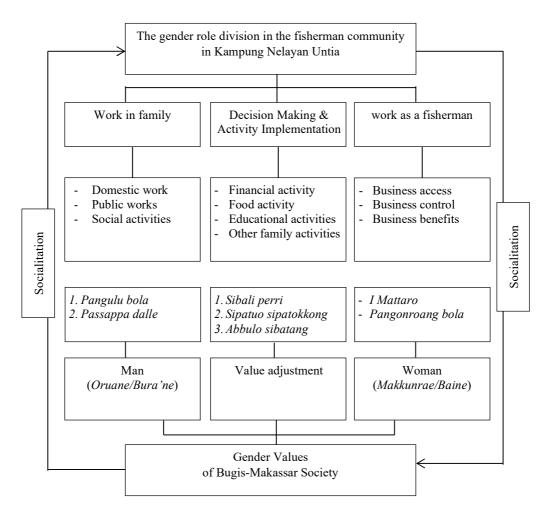


Figure 1: The Research Framework

Secondary data were obtained from related officials such as Untia Urban Village Office, Biringkanaya District Office, and Untia Fishery Port Office.

The qualitative data analysis took place from the first time of data collection to the findings answering the research problems. It was followed by an interactive analysis model comprising of (1) data reduction, (2) data display, and (3) conclusion drawing/verifying [8].

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

## 3.1. The Profile of Fisherman's Families in Kampung Nelayan Untia of Makassar City

An occupation as a fisherman has been occupied by the residents of Kampung Nelayan Untia since they were children. Being a fisherman is a job that their parents had previously been engaged in. Mubyarto (1984) in [9] stated that working as a fisherman lasts from generation to generation due to the social isolation resulted from being separated from the mainland. It makes it difficult for them to leave this job. This social isolation also made it difficult for them to take formal education. The study revealed that the highest level of education that has been taken was Elementary School. One of the factors that cause them to leave their education was the obligation to help their parents, in which boys with their father's fish in the sea, while daughters help mothers at home. Another factor was the unavailability of schools other than elementary schools on Lae-lae Island. They had to cross the sea to the city of Makassar to continue their study.

The low level of education of fishermen in the Kampung Nelayan Untia, especially the residents who have been relocated from Lae-lae Island, was generally found in all fisherman communities. [10] describes that the majority of fisherman communities are among those with low education. Likewise the findings of research, one of the most important of the three socio-cultural problems faced by fisherman communities is the low level of education [11].

There were only 10% of fisherman's families who sent their children to the senior/vocational high school levels. Generally, the children graduated from elementary school or dropping out of school in junior high school. Argues that this occurs due to the low level



of education of parents, thus they do not understand the importance of formal education for children [12]. The argument from is not in line with the findings of this research that the fisherman's families in Kampung Nelayan Untia were well aware of the importance of formal education for their children's future, to have the professions apart from being fishermen. However, the low and uncertain incomes forced them to quit the school. This difference in mindset is caused by their current living conditions which are different from their previous living conditions in Lae-lae island, where social isolation as stated by Mubyarto (1984) is no longer experienced.

There is no longer social isolation in the fisherman community in Kampung Nelayan Untia. Thus, it has an impact on the occupational mobility that not all children in fisherman's families work as a fisherman. Although there is at least one person among the children who continues to be a fisherman, most of the children work in various sectors and professions. The occupations include construction workers, factory or warehouse workers, seller, and janitor at the university located in Untia sub-district.

The difference in mindset can also be seen in the shift of gender role division. The Bugis-Makassar gender value constructs men in the public role and women in the domestic role. However, in the Untia fisherman community, women are given the freedom to be involved in public role. Women generally work for economic reasons such as helping their husbands or parents to increase income and meet the economic needs of the family [13]. Confirms that the majority of women from the lower classes work for increasing income even though they only work as a domestic worker and factory workers with low income. The results of the study found that women in Kampung Nelayan Untia generally worked as cashew nut shellers, janitor, or waiters at food stalls [14].

Other social and economic conditions of the fishermen's families in the Kampung Nelayan Untia is their semi-permanent house. The houses provided by the government have been reconstructed by utilizing the space under the houses. The land size is the same as 150 m2 with freehold (certificate of ownership). Every house has a bathroom and toilet. They are struggling with clean water supply. This study found that initially Kampung Nelayan Untia was equipped with a clean water from Makassar regional water company and electricity state electric company of Indonesia. However, since 2014, the water stopped being supplied due to the rapid development of housing and industry in Biringkanaya District, Makassar City. Meanwhile, groundwater cannot be used as a source of clean water because it is brackish (salty). To meet the needs of clean water, the residents have to buy it at retail.

To support their work, each fisherman's family owns a *biseang* (small boat) equipped with a small motorized

engine and fishing gear, such as nets obtained either by buying or from the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries. According to fishermen, even though the government has given much attention, the different ecosystem between Lae-lae Island and where they live is an obstacle in increasing business productivity. The distance from the high seas and the silting that occurs at the canal and the coast are the main obstacles. In Lae-lae Island, they were able to catch fish with little effort.

# 3.2. Gender Role Division as the Actualization of the Bugis-Makassar Gender Value in the Fisherman's Family of Kampung Nelayan Untia

Gender characteristics are the specific set of characteristics behavior that society and expects from men and women based on the values, culture, and norms at a particular time. Gender roles are what men and women should and should not do based on values, culture, and norms. The Bugis-Makassar community has norms for the division of roles for men and women, in which the husband acts as a pangulu bola (the head of the family) and as a passappa dallé (breadwinner for the family). Meanwhile, women have a role as to ri bola/ pangonroang bola/ pajjaga bola/ pajjaga bili' (house guard) and as I Mattaro (treasurer and household manager).

The results of the study revealed that the fisherman's families in Kampung Nelayan Untia carried out gender roles in accordance with gender values that were built in the Bugis-Makassar community. The husband (man) is the head of the family who plays a public role and is responsible for financial wellbeing, while the wife (woman) is responsible for the domestic role as of housewife and childcare. Even though in daily life, both husband and wife help each other. According to [8], in fisherman communities, there is a sexual division labor pattern that has a very strong effect on the culture of the community that the sea belongs to/ the territory of men and the land as the women's territory. However, in the case that the husband's income is not sufficient for the family, wives have to work to support the family financially.

The involvement of women in the public role is found in the second generation of fishermen families or the children of those who were relocated from Lae-lae Island. As previously described this is due to the uncertain and insufficient husband's income when compared to the number of family dependents such as school-aged children and parents [15][16]. Finally, women play a dual role. That the dual role of women includes all activities carried out by women as housewives and workers. As housewives, women carry out their domestic roles such as taking care of their husbands and children as well as doing household chores such as cleaning the house, washing, and cooking. As workers, women carry out their productive



roles by working to earn a living to support their husband's income [17].

The role division that takes place in fishermen's families, including the dual roles played by women in Kampung Nelayan Untia is the knowledge obtained from the socialization and adaptation to the social environment in which they are staying. The socialization takes place in the family and the social environment. It is a process that instills the values and norms, including the values for the gender role division. When they lived in Lae-lae island, women had played a dual role for mutual assistance and mutual support. It was also the values held by the Bugis-Makassar ethnic group. For instance, the value of sibali perri (helping each other in trouble), sipatuo sipatokkong (enlighten and raising one another), and abbulo sibatang which means unity and togetherness in building a family. The adaptation process to the social environment occurred when they were relocated from Lae-lae Island to Kampung Nelayan Untia. Not only the social environment was different, the physical environment and ecosystem were also different.

As indicated by Indrawasih and many other previous studies, previously, women played a productive role related to the work of men (fishermen) in the house, such as helping to market or process catches [18]. However, after moving to Kampung Nelayan Untia, the fishermen no longer brought their catch home. The fish they caught were immediately brought and sold to the Paotere Fish Auction Place. Sometimes fish have been sold since they were still on the boat. The new social environment in industrial development and warehouse area provides new alternative livelihoods. Among the jobs undertaken by women from Kampung Nelayan Untia are cashew nut sheller, seller, construction workers, and janitor.

The gender role division implemented in fishermen's families is the actualization of the values of the Bugis-Makassar community and the dynamics that occur when they move from Lae-lae Island to Kampung Nelayan Untia. This can be analyzed through the structural-functional theory proposed by Talcott Parsons. The basic thinking of this theory assumes that every structure in a social system is functional towards the others. According to Parsons, the family is like warmblooded animals who can maintain their constant body temperature even though environmental conditions change. This does not mean that families are always static and unchangeable, however, they adapt seamlessly to the environment, or Parson referred to this as dynamic equilibrium[19].

According to this theory, in the context of gender relations, the sexual division of labor is normal. Husbands take an instrumental role, help to maintain the society and the family's physical integrity by providing food, shelter, and connecting the family to the outside world. While the wives take an expressive role to help thicken relationships, provide emotional support,

supports the integrity of the family, and ensures the run of household affairs. According to this theory, an overlap and a deviation of function between one another will imbalance the system. The theory of Parsons does not occur in fishermen's families, especially the families that the wives play a dual role. There are 2 things that underlie it. First, they have internalized the Bugis-Makassar gender values that have been socialized since they were young. They are still responsible for the domestic roles even though women carry out public roles. Likewise, their husbands are involved in a domestic role in between their work as fishermen. Second, the form of an extended family of the fisherman's community, in which they still live with their parents and other relatives. This allows for a wider distribution of role division, when husband and wife play public roles, other family members help carry out domestic roles.

In terms of decision-making and household activity, it is revealed that women are more dominant in financial management, food activities, education, and other family needs. This is in line with the conceptual value of the gender division of the Bugis-Makassar community, where women are required to become I Mattaro (treasurer and household manager). Conversely, if the wife cannot manage the finances, it is called the baku' sebbo' (leaky basket). Meanwhile, if the man has a role in managing the family finances, it will be called kampidokang or macukkereng. The terms are labeled for men and women who do not comply with the norms of the division gender stereotypes that can harm the gender roles [18]. Meanwhile, the men make the decisionmaking in fishermen's activities including access and control of fisheries business, although in some cases they still discuss it with the wife. For instance, before buying fishing equipment, since the wife plays the role of the financial manager of the family.

### 4. CONCLUSION

Conclusions were drawn based on the results and discussion of the study. It can be concluded that fisherman's families in Kampung Nelayan Untia are classified as poor, based on the amount of income, educational level of children, and living conditions. The occupation as fishermen has been passed down from generation to generation. The social environment causes occupational mobility as in contrast to the conditions on Lae-lae Island where they previously lived, which did not provide an alternative for other fields one child continue working as a fisherman, other children worked in various fields of professions. However, the low level of education only provided them low-income jobs, such as factory workers and janitor. For this reason, it is hoped that the fisherman community will make children's education a priority. Thus, their children can work with a better income in the future.



The role division that takes place in fisherman's families, including the dual roles played by women is the knowledge they get from socialization and actualization of the values of the Bugis-Makassar community. In addition, the adaptation to the social environment provides wives more opportunities to play a public role and work apart from the production of their husband's catch. In terms of decision-making and activities, it is revealed that women are more dominant in financial management, food activities, education, and other family needs. Meanwhile, in the decision making in fishing activities, the husband is more dominant. The findings of this study indicate the importance of maintaining local values, especially the values of gender role division in the family.

### **AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS**

- Idham Irwansyah Idrus as the head of the research implementer is responsible for coordination and research ideas
- M. Ridwan S. Ahmad as a member I, acted as the initial problem analysis at the research site and helping data analysis and finalizing article manuscripts
- Sopian Tamrin as member II plays a role in analyzing data
- 4. Muh. Risqi Mesya as member III acts as a data collector in the field
- Lona Syafana Pasha as member IV acts as a data collector in the field

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