Women's Emancipation and Role in Community Development

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ABSTRACT

Currently the whole world recognizes equal rights and obligations for every citizen, including gender issues. However, the reality shows that women are left behind or disadvantaged more than men, including in the fields of education, health, employment, mastery and utilization of science and technology. Although not all elements of society recognize the role of women in development, several regions have recognized the success of women. Not only in developed countries or big cities but also in small towns. This study aims to determine the role of women in community development. There is a group of women who are aware of the positive potential, and the detrimental factors for them in terms of gender. These adverse factors include trafficking in women, prostitution, marginalization of women, feeling of position as second-class citizens compared to men, and views about women playing less political or bureaucratic roles, and so on.

INTRODUCTION

Every citizen wants his country to develop and become a leading country in the world. Citizens want other countries to recognize the state of their country. This desire explains the reason why the leader of a country wants the national development of his country to continue. State development or often referred to as national development cannot be separated from the existence of community development in the country.

In order to achieve the nation's desire to become a developed and superior country, community development is needed. Community development according to Sanders (1966) is a process of combining the strength of community organizations and the economic power of society. Community development consists of a series of activities to build critical awareness; mapping the potential, problems, and needs of the community; and undertake participatory planning, community organizing, resource mobilization, monitoring, and maintenance of development outcomes. With high community development, it will have an impact on the national development of a nation.

To improve the development of this community is not only the responsibility of the government but also of all parties. The academics have contributed to provide an explanation of how to form strong social organizations and can provide added value to people's lives. Academics can also provide socialization to strengthen the community's economy. Private banks can contribute by providing financial assistance to strengthen the community's economy. For other private parties, they can help improve the quality of life of the community by establishing adequate public facilities and providing education and training to the community.

Not only happens in organizations that can carry out community development. Each citizen can make his own contribution (Darmawan et al., 2021). For example, being directly involved in the economic development of the community. This can be done by opening a business that will create jobs for other communities (Cope et al., 2019). An important role can also involve various elements of society.

All parties can contribute to community development and have their respective roles. This role does not depend on a person's age, economic strata, gender, religion and culture. But in reality, in the implementation of community development there is still gender discrimination. This is not only happening in developing countries but also in developed countries. The issue of equality is maintained and developed for the sake of progress. Women get different treatment than men. Women are left behind or disadvantaged more than
men, including in the fields of education, health, employment, mastery and utilization of science and technology. Even though times have changed where many women have high careers and can make changes in their lives, the re-imagined view of women still sticks with women themselves. The important role of women and their emancipation must be recognized and strengthened in society.

The view of discrimination against women must be eliminated and equality becomes the main topic. Like men, women must have full access to their development or even contribute to the development of society. Many women have developed a mindset and not just a position to do housework. This paper will review the role and emancipation of women in community development.

**RESEARCH METHOD**
This is a literature study of the ideas put forward by the author that systematically identifies and conveys the results of scientific critical thinking. Writing in the form of a literature review to analyze and synthesize existing knowledge related to scientific topics as a form of contribution to thinking and developing knowledge on related topics.

**RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

**Community Development**
The term community development was first used by the British colonials as a substitute for the term "mass education". Community development is a process to improve the quality of people's lives for the better which is carried out with the active participation of the community and initiatives from their organizations. Community development in the past was based on the principle of equity, the application of which was directed at sectoral. Community development is defined as an activity carried out by the community, where they are able to identify needs and problems together (Miller, 1989). Meanwhile, according to Waumsley (2010), community development is considered as a planned activity to create conditions for the socio-economic progress of the community by increasing community participation. The development of the socio-economic sector of the community needs to be realized to improve the welfare of the community, which is supported by community organizations and participation that have the capacity, capability, and performance that continuously grows and develops in people's lives.

The most important principle in community development proposed by Haugh (2000) is that the experience of the community must be recognized and used as a starting point for a community worker. In designing policies, one must pay attention, listen, prioritize asking questions rather than giving answers, and be willing to learn from the community. According to Ife et al (2008), community workers must recognize that community members are more aware of their own problems, and that the community development process belongs to the community, not to development agents.

Community development is a series of efforts to help the community to be more empowered in increasing human resources and trying to optimize these resources so that they can increase their capacity and ability to take advantage of their potential while at the same time increasing their economic capacity through self-help activities.

**The Role of Women**
Women have historically played many roles. Women as mothers, wives, farmers, company managers, volunteer workers. The role of women in development is the rights and obligations carried out by women in certain statuses or positions in development, both development in the political, economic, socio-cultural fields as well as development in the field of defense and security, both within the family and in society (Amussen, 1993). More than that, the role of women at this time has played a very important role in the political field of government such as being President, Governor, minister, and so on. This further emphasizes that women in their lives do not only play multiple roles but have multiple roles in society.

Involving women in the development process does not mean only as an act that is seen from the side of mere humanism (Weiss, 2001). However, the role played by women in their participation in the field of development is an act in order to raise the dignity and quality of women themselves. The involvement of women is an absolute requirement in the effort to realize a just development. Women are assets and bulwarks of a nation that has a role from time to time in supporting global changes (Robinson et al., 2016). The country cannot prosper if the women are left behind, excluded and oppressed. So that the complete and comprehensive development of a country demands the full role of women in all areas of life (Montagu, 1953). That woman, both as citizens and as sources of development, have the same rights, obligations and opportunities as men in all development activities in all areas of life (Sohail, 2014).

**The Role of Women in Community Development**
The role inherent in a person must be distinguished from the position or place in social intercourse. The
position or place of a person in society is a static element that shows the individual's place in community organizations. While the role refers more to function, meaning that a person occupies a certain position in society and carries out a role. The difference between women and men lies in the roles they carry and the responsibilities that must be carried out as well as possible, these roles and responsibilities as applicable in the family and society. With this role, between women and men there is no need for a gender gap because there is a clear affirmation of the rights and obligations of the person concerned (Infante & Darmawan, 2022).

A role includes at least 3 things, namely: First, the role includes the norms associated with a person's position or place in society; Second, role is a concept of what individuals in society can do; and the three roles can be said to be individual behaviors that are important to the social structure of society. The role of course cannot be separated from the responsibilities inherent in women. As today's women who are starting to be touched by global modernization, they create renewal of thoughts that lead to progress in themselves and their environment. Today's women are part of the changing times who have various expertise according to their fields, whether they are professional or not. Women become agents of change from time to time who make their roles noticed by everyone. A very simple role is seen when the role of women can make a big contribution to the family. The existence of women, whether married or not, still has a very important role to always contribute to the family and society. The presence of women in the midst of life gives a big role as well as to contribute to various opportunities related to aspects of life in carrying out their functions as Indonesian citizens. Women as part of people who are able to be a motivation for many people to think critically about their environment so that they are able to provide creative guidance and make thinking power more productive.

The family environment has a considerable influence for women to participate in activities in the public sphere (Khan & Moin, 2013). Encouragement from family members such as husband and children to carry out social activities by being involved as members of an organization. However, according to the respondents, they must be good at dividing their time, lest their family interests be neglected because of this. In addition to support from the family environment, support from the outside environment in general is also a factor supporting the role of women in organizations. There are many activities that women can do in the community. Such as health service activities, early childhood education, and cooperatives. Women are considered to be able to identify community needs those men do not think about, such as those in the fields of health, education, savings and loans, clean water or connecting bridges to other villages. In addition, women are considered to be able to have a more objective attitude in determining priority needs.

Women can build a community in the economic field (Akhter & Naheed, 2014). Increasing the role of women through the development of productive economic enterprises is one of the efforts to empower women in utilizing fishery resources, which has implications for increasing fishermen's household income. With the involvement of women in support the family's economy, the difficulty in meeting the necessities of life will be reduced. Many programs are made to improve the welfare of women and their families. Women can open small businesses based on the potential of their region. Currently, many women provide training to housewives’ ladder to do small businesses in the culinary, clothing, or other craft fields. With this training, women's abilities will increase. Apart from providing training through courses, a women's cooperative has also been established to accommodate women's needs. In this era, women can sell handicrafts or buy household products. In addition, women are also able to manage cooperatives. Thus, regional income will increase with the addition of the community's economy.

In the fields of education, health and welfare, women have a big role to play. even these three things for women are the key to the effort to create involvement in the community development process. For educational activities, according to the findings of the researchers, in addition, women are more focused on providing education to children and women themselves. Many women currently open institutions that focus on early childhood education. Some regions do not have this institution so that many women are moved. Not only taking care of its operations but also being a teacher at the institution. The women's health sector also plays an important role. women with organizations in the area where they live regularly to carry out activities that improve health. These activities can be in the form of counseling, distribution of healthy food, or by providing vitamin supplements provided by the government. With this activity, women have played a role in the progress of development. Because a healthy society will benefit the country.
CONCLUSION
The role of women has shifted. There are groups of women who are aware of the positive potential, and the detrimental factors for them in terms of gender. These detrimental factors, such as the existence of trafficking in women, prostitution, marginalization of women, feeling of position as second-class citizens compared to men, and views about women playing less political or bureaucratic roles, and so on. Therefore, women have played a role in fighting for their destiny to build their people. In relation to the above matters, the government has indeed responded to these problems, through the ministry of women’s empowerment, the existence of concrete legal measures that specifically eradicate women's trafficking and prostitution, in addition to the government's policy to position women on an equal footing with men in political positions, or bureaucratic, as well as legislative positions.

Socio-culturally, theoretical data from field research shows that there is an enculturated culture, regarding women traveling by means of public transportation, it is considered natural that men should be given the opportunity to obtain physical comfort. This culture symbolizes that woman are physically weaker than men.

The potential of women can be used as the basis for women's empowerment through several government policies. The government needs to foster a culture in formal, including informal education in society that women can play a role in any field of work. This can be supported by the data in this paper that many social and economic sectors are positively dominated by women. Equality of gender roles is also aimed at efforts to develop the educational status of women. The government must maximize the national health development budget, which can specifically encourage material health that tends to be less profitable, to support its dual role.

REFERENCES