

THE ROLE OF WOMEN TODAY IN SOCIAL AND POLITICAL UPHEAVAL IN THE ERA OF REGIONAL AUTONOMY

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Abstract

Gender inequality in public and political life is a global challenge faced by society in the era of democracy where a meaningful democracy is a democracy that pays attention to and fights for the interests of the majority of Indonesia's population, which consists of women. The role of women in politics is actually the role of women's volunteerism to involve themselves in government institutions. There is no compulsion if women have to enter politics. However, it is based on women's own awareness to get involved in politics. To encourage an increase in women's political participation, a thorough understanding and analysis is needed so that appropriate policy recommendations are produced. Many arguments explain the importance of women's involvement in representation in politics, but empirical conditions also show that there are many factors that hinder women's political participation. The efforts made to increase women's political participation in Indonesia are: a. Political Education from the family; b. Encourage involvement in the organization; c. Advocacy for women about the importance of women being involved in politics; d. Preparing girls from an early age to become familiar with politics.

Keywords: Women, Social and Political, Regional Autonomy

INTRODUCTION

Politics and women are a necessity in government in Indonesia. In the world of politics, the role of women is very much needed to represent the voices of women in Indonesia. Their position in the legislative body is a strategic position in influencing policies to be taken by the government related to women's interests (Muhtaj, M. E, 2007).

The role of women in politics is actually the role of women's volunteerism to involve themselves in government institutions. There is no compulsion if women have to enter politics. However, it is based on women's own awareness to get involved in politics (Ford, L, 2018). Gender equality for women is not only in the political field, but also in other fields of work. Other areas of work that were previously only intended for men can now be done by women.

According to Dolan, J., et al (2021), said that: "Basically, women's political participation is the voluntary activity of women who are members of the political women's caucus community. This caucus consists of various elements, including political observers, women activists, lecturers, women parliamentarians, female political party cadres and so on, so that in this caucus they take part in the process of selecting rulers, either directly or indirectly in the policy formation process. general. In general, participation is not only in the political field, but in all areas of life, because women have the right and obligation to take part or participate actively, so it requires hard and overall struggle from all women in all lines, especially in political lines which are very influential. towards policy products" (Waring, M, 2010). This gender equality further improves the quality of Indonesian women in their participation in various national and state lives.

Women in Indonesia are required to participate in development, but on the other hand, women must not forget their nature as mothers and wives (Kuntari, I. S., et al, 2017). According to Lovenduski, J (2002) said that: "On the one hand, Indonesian women are required to play a role in all sectors in order to contribute to development, on the other hand there is a demand that Indonesian women not forget their nature as women. The dilemmatic situation faced by women is experienced by Indonesian women who have careers in politics. Women with careers feel called to dedicate their talents and skills to the development of the nation and state. Apart from that, women are often haunted by the opinion that exists in society that women must serve the family." However, it is a choice for women to involve themselves in politics, there is no compulsion for women to take part in politics.

The dual role of women in development in Indonesia encourages these women to participate in politics. A noble goal because they want equality in exercising their rights and obligations as citizens (Purwanto, D. A, 2021). On the other hand, she plays a role as a politician, but on the other hand, she plays a role as a mother in the household. Playing these roles must be balanced, don't let one role be destroyed because you focus too much on the other role.

Most women think gender equality means equal position in work. This is not completely true and not completely wrong. In the political field, women's participation in general elections also constitutes equal rights. However, meeting the quota of 30% of women's representation in government has not yet been achieved. The quota desired by the government

has not been achieved due to various factors that do not allow women to sit in government (Lorenza, D. G, 2022).

There are differences in responses regarding women circulating in society (Robinson, K. M., & Bessell, S, 2002). The first view assumes that the position between men and women is actually no problem so that women's condition is not a problem. This view suggests that women benefit from their positions and maintain those positions that make them comfortable. The second view assumes that there are injustices felt by women today which they feel need to be changed. There are four divisions regarding the statements of oppressed women, namely liberalists, radicalists, Marxists and socialists.

RESEARCH METHOD

The study in this research is qualitative with literature. The literature study research method is a research approach that involves the analysis and synthesis of information from various literature sources that are relevant to a particular research topic. Documents taken from literature research are journals, books and references related to the discussion you want to research (Earley, M.A. 2014; Snyder, H. 2019).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The Role of Government in Women's Empowerment

Based on Indonesian statistics, it is known that the number of women occupying a greater percentage than men, namely 50.3%. This data shows that women are a greater resource than men. With this amount, if supported by good quality and experience, the level of community welfare will increase (Purnamawati, I. G. A., & Utama, M. S, 2019).

Various efforts have been made by the state to improve the living standards of women in particular and society in general. Both at the level of policies, activities and development programs that are oriented towards achieving equality and eliminating gender gaps in people's lives. On the other hand, civil society supports it by balancing government administration, planning and implementation. There is awareness that the success of National Development in Indonesia is very dependent on the role of men and women as actors and the utilization of development results. In its implementation, up to now, women's participation has not been optimized, thus contributing to the emergence of gender inequality and injustice (Verma, M. M, 2009).

Gender injustice and inequality is known as the gender gap, which in turn gives rise to gender problems. One indicator that can be used to measure

gender gaps is gender empowerment measurement (GEM) and the Gender Related Development Index (GDI) which are an inseparable part of Human Development (Tripathy, B., & Raha, S, 2019).

Based on the 2002 Human Development Report (Runtunuwu, P. C. H, 2020). Indonesia's GDI is ranked 91st out of 173. Meanwhile HDI is ranked 110th out of 173 countries which is still behind compared to countries in ASEAN, for example, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines which are ranked 59th, 70th and 77th respectively. The 1999-2004 State Policy Guidelines (GBHN) mandate that to improve the role and position of women, it is necessary to develop a national policy carried out by an institution that is capable of realizing gender equality and justice, as well as increasing the independence and ability of women's organizations.

To reduce this gap, the government has issued several regulations that can support the realization of gender equality and justice, namely as follows:

1. Law Number 7 of 1984 concerning Ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against women.
2. Presidential Instruction Number 9 of 2000 concerning Gender Mainstreaming (Neufeld, B., & Van Schoelandt, C, 2014).

Women's Participation in Politics

Indonesian women are no longer confined in intellectual darkness. Women who were previously not allowed to go to school, only allowed to clean the house, cook, sew and take care of children, can now enjoy access to education. A woman's duties and responsibilities are not just to be an addition to the household. However, they must be able to discuss the direction of their nation's progress (Clavero, S., & Galligan, Y, 2021).

Talking about politics is not only done by politicians, the government or bureaucrats but all levels of society. At every coffee hangout we can hear residents discussing politics, debating which candidate pair is the best or criticizing government policies. It can be said that women's representation in the political field is still far from expectations (Bari, F, 2005). In Indonesia itself, women who enter the world of politics are still shackled by their background, patriarchal culture, and gender differences. Although until now there have always been efforts to improve this problem.

The Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection of the Republic of Indonesia continues to strive to increase women's participation in politics. The creation of policies such as UU No. 10 of 2008 article 55 paragraph 2 implementing a zipper system which stipulates that for every 3 potential

candidates there is at least one woman. Fulfillment of the 30 percent quota for women's representation in parliament is in fact still far from satisfactory (Kumar, D. P, 2017). This figure was not fully achieved and even gave rise to pros and cons within the party. The author believes that there are fundamental things that make it so difficult for women to enter the world of politics. It is a patriarchal culture. A system that is still maintained and maintained in people's lives. An assumption that women are lower in rank than men. Women are weak creatures and must be protected so they must be treated according to men's wishes. The worry is that it will actually lead to cases of violence against women.

No less dangerous is the effect of this stigma. When women consider this to be something taboo. Believing that this has become a natural law that cannot be changed. so that when faced with men fighting for office positions, for example, there will be a feeling of pessimism about winning. Or feel proud to be led by a woman. Even though Indonesia is a democratic country with Pancasila. Every individual in society has his or her own freedom. Freedom to express oneself to carry out all social actions while remaining bound by applicable laws. Voting or nominating to be elected in society. It's all part of democracy (Mervis, Z., et al, 2013).

Likewise, the fifth principle which states social justice for all Indonesian people emphasizes that culturalization in Indonesian society is not justified. There should be no discrimination, division or classing in society, especially based on gender between women and men. Everything is considered the same entity and is actually treated fairly. justice in the political, economic and social spheres of society. With the birth of new Kartini such as Mrs. Megawati Soekarno Putri as the first female president in Indonesia, it is proof that women are no less powerful than men. Mrs. Sri Mulyani who serves as minister of finance or Mrs. Retno Marsudi as minister of foreign affairs. They are some of the many great women who have important roles in this country (Costa, A. A. A, 2010).

The female figures above can provide a breath of fresh air for all Indonesian women today. Developing enthusiasm and motivation to play an active role in politics. Likewise in other economic and social fields of society. Raising awareness of equal opportunities in citizenship. The bottom line is that there are rights, obligations and political space that can be filled to fight for the future fate of the nation and state (Costa, A. A. A, 2010). Likewise, the government must be able to guarantee the security of every woman's political rights in accordance with democratic values and the principles of Pancasila. So

all Indonesian women don't need to hesitate when they have to get involved in politics. There is no fear when it comes to being a leader in a government agency/institution.

The large number of women entering the world of politics in Indonesia is not a new story. According to Huntington and Nelson (Waring, M, 2010), "Talking about women and politics is an interesting discussion. Because, the political role of women from the perspective of radical feminists is where a total transformation occurs, the role of women from the domestic realm to the public realm. Or in popular language, equality. Women's involvement in the political arena is nothing new. "In the history of women's struggle, women's participation in development, much progress has been achieved, especially in the fields of education, economics, social, culture and government." The reason for women to take part in government is very important to represent women's voices so that the policies made take into account women's interests as well.

According to Talib (Munir, S., et al, 2014) said that: "In terms of ideology and human rights, women have the same position as men. Women and men have the same rights, positions and opportunities to obtain health, education, employment, the right to life, the right to freedom of thought, the right not to be tortured, the right to be recognized as individuals before the law, the right to associate, organize, participate in politics, and various universal rights protected by law. Women and men have the same position, which is guaranteed and protected by the State. The reasons why it is important for women to represent their people in the legislature are as follows:

1. Social and cultural values that prioritize men
2. Division of labor based on gender in traditional agrarian societies
3. The image of women as gentle
4. Religious teachings that are interpreted narrowly and partially
5. Lack of political will from the Government
6. Deficiencies in individual quality and political cadre.

The reasons above are the reasons why women participate in political participation." Laws in Indonesia do not differentiate between genders, everyone has the same rights. This equality of rights and obligations is contained in the GBHN. Indonesia cares about women's rights.

Efforts to Increase Women's Participation in Politics

To encourage an increase in women's political participation, a thorough understanding and analysis is needed so that appropriate policy recommendations are produced. Many arguments explain the importance of women's involvement in representation in politics, but empirical conditions also show that there are many factors that hinder women's political participation (Artina, D, 2016). Apart from issuing laws and regulations that can guarantee increased women's representation, efforts must be encouraged to increase political participation, efforts that must be made are: (Ndlovu, S., & Mutale, S. B, 2013).

First, education must start from the family, that taking part and participating in the world of politics is an important part of building society, nation and state. Political education in this non-formal environment must also be implemented, such as family involvement in encouraging family members to be willing to talk about politics and discuss political themes that exist in society. The family is the first medium or means when a woman enters the world of politics and the family is also the first to accept or act as a forum for women to discuss political issues after being involved in society.

Second, girls who take basic political education from middle school to university are encouraged to actively participate in organizations such as OSIS, BEM, and extra-university organizations such as HMI, GMNI, youth organizations such as KNPI, and community organizations such as Muhammadiyah, NU, and others. other. So it means that women have consciously prepared themselves to become leaders. Currently, the women who are most active in the world of politics are those who since becoming students have been active in various student organizations and student organizations.

Third, advocating for women to be called to participate in the political arena. Providing awareness of the fulfillment of fair rights for women in every political decision, thereby encouraging women's participation in the world of politics with the aim that in political decision making women have a role in fighting for their people.

Fourth, prepare girls from an early age to be called and challenged to enter the world of politics through an education curriculum based on an early introduction to politics. This method will have an impact on the future where more and more women will take part and participate in the political arena.

Fifth, provide enlightenment, awareness and encouragement to women to participate in various political activities such as participating in

campaigns, voting, becoming legislative candidates, candidates for Governor/Deputy Governor, Mayor/Deputy Mayor, Regent/Deputy Regent, and so on. Efforts to increase representation must also be encouraged so that women's electability or representation reaches 30 percent in parliamentary seats. 40 percent of women on the list of permanent candidates, according to (Rumah Pemilu, 2018) for this reason, it is necessary to increase women's electability in the 2019 general election system competition, namely: Having economic capital and a social base.

In the Reformation era, opportunities for women were increasingly open to become players, no longer just passive participants. At least, there are three factors that give hope that opportunities will open up for women to increase their role in the world of politics. First, women's high education raises awareness of the importance of women being directly involved in politics to contribute to the development of an advanced and fair Indonesia. Second, the allocation of 30 percent to women to become legislative candidates in election law policies can be used as a legal basis. Third, considering the enormous potential that exists in Indonesian women, which is quantitatively greater than men, it is only natural that this opportunity and potential is not wasted (Matland, R. E, 2005).

Women in Local Politics in the Era of Regional Autonomy

Several definitions of political participation emphasize that the main element in political participation is the activity of a person or group of people to participate actively in political life. Surbakti defines political participation as "the participation of ordinary citizens in determining all decisions that concern or affect their lives (Rakhmaniah, A, 2018). Samuel Huntington and Joan Nelson (Kagami, H, 2005) define political participation as "the activities of citizens who act as individuals with the aim of influencing government decision making".

Before the birth of the Republic of Indonesia, the role of women in the world of politics already existed, because Indonesian history records a figure named Gayatri Rajapatni (queen above all queens) who died in 1350 and is believed to be the woman behind the greatness of the Majapahit Kingdom (Majapahit is a Hindu-Buddhist kingdom which in the eyes of many people is not perhaps provide space for women to participate in politics). The results of a study conducted by the former Canadian Ambassador to Indonesia, Earl Dark, prove that the peak of Majapahit's glory was achieved because of the central role of Gayatri, wife of Raden Widjaya, mother of the third queen of

Majapahit, Tribhuwanatungga-dewi, and grandmother of Hayamwuruk, the greatest king in the history of the Majapahit kingdom. Gayatri never served officially as queen, but her political role gave birth to a very extraordinary political generation in the archipelago at that time (Agustina, E, 2019).

The existence of political parties is a form of community participation that is important in developing democratic life which upholds 'freedom' in speech, attitude, action and politics. Upholding 'equality' in any form, including equality in taking part and competing in the world of politics. Upholding 'togetherness' in building the nation, so that the Indonesian nation becomes a great nation, a just nation, a dignified nation and an independent nation. This part is not only done by men, but women must take part in it. Uphold 'honesty' in the eyes of society, because if we are honest then we will be trusted forever. Women must have learned the values of honesty, because women's hearts and souls are soft and always prioritize their conscience in all their behavior (Budiardjo, M, 2003).

The political participation of women in political activities in Indonesia can generally be seen from two indicators, namely: first, the involvement of women in legislative institutions, both DPR and DPRD. And second, the presence of women as decision makers in executive institutions, both in government structures and in echelon I to echelon III positions in ministries or institutions. According to Miriam Budiardjo, legislative institutions in Indonesia have existed since pre-independence times with the formation of the Volksraad in 1918. However, women's political participation in legislative institutions only began in the 1950s (Guo, X., et al, 2009).

CONCLUSION

It is time for the role of Indonesian women on the political stage to receive a proportional portion. There should be no more statements that doubt his ability to appear on the political stage, therefore there must be a movement that encourages the realization of government policies that are gender sensitive. The success of women on the political stage in Indonesia has been proven in terms of their role in making public policies in legislative institutions, as well as their ability to lead regions. This dual responsibility as a housewife and as a career woman is not shared by men, even though there are many obstacles that are obstacles for these women. Therefore, we must fully appreciate and support the role of women in the political system in Indonesia as a form of equal rights and obligations as mandated by law. The efforts made to increase women's political participation in Indonesia are: a.

Political Education from the family; b. Encourage involvement in the organization; c. Advocacy for women about the importance of women being involved in politics; d. Preparing girls from an early age to become familiar with politics.

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