The Relationship between Empowerment and Income Level in Rural Families in Serang Regency and Pandeglang Regency, Banten Province

Prof. Dr. Sudadio, M.Pd

ABSTRACT: A family is said to be prosperous if it can meet its basic needs, namely food, clothing, housing, health and education. Indicators of family empowerment can be measured through household income derived from work activities. The purpose of this study was to determine the relationship between the level of empowerment and the amount of income in rural families in Serang and Pandeglang districts. The quantitative research approach was used to obtain data from respondents using survey instruments on the level of empowerment and income level. The data analysis used is correlation analysis with the statistical formula product-moment Pearson. Based on the data obtained, there is a strong correlation of 0.795 between the level of family empowerment and the level of family income.

KEYWORDS: empowerment, rural family, income level

INTRODUCTION

Empowerment is a process so that everyone becomes strong enough to participate and influence events and institutions that affect their lives. Empowerment emphasizes that people acquire enough skills, knowledge and power to influence their lives and the lives of others who concern them.

Related to this understanding, Sunarti (2014: 91) argues that family empowerment is an effort made by various parties to make families more empowered and qualified through their abilities. Family empowerment is expected to give birth to an independent family, able to manage problems and find solutions to solve problems. Empowered families have creativity in improving the welfare of their family members.

The family as the smallest unit in society plays an important role as an asset of the nation. The family is not only considered a target of development, but is a perpetrator (subject) of development. For this reason, it is necessary to regulate the development of prosperous families, especially in preparing potential family member resources. In the field of family resilience, efforts are made to improve the ability of families to nurture and develop children, in addition to reducing disharmony and violence in the family.

According to Hasrima, et al (2023: 43-46) The family is the smallest unit in the social and social structure consisting of the head of the family and several family members who gather and live in a place (home) and interact with each other in their respective roles and contribute to the formation and maintenance of culture. The head of the household has primary responsibility for the household, while family members or households are individuals living together under the responsibility of the head of that household. Family income includes the total real income of all household members used to meet common needs as well as individual needs in the household. Family income is a reward or compensation received as a result of contributions in production activities.

According to Soeratno (1996: 16), family welfare indicators can be measured through household income derived from work activities. Every family member who has the ability to work within the household will be motivated to contribute to the welfare of their family. Several studies have shown that family members, such as wives and children, play a role in various activities, both in household work and in earning income.

Family income is obtained through the sale of factors of production, in which remuneration for services is received as a consequence of the provision of such factors of production, such as wages, land rent, working capital, and so on.

Serang Regency and Pandeglang Regency, both regions located in Banten Province, Indonesia, have unique geographical, economic, and social characteristics. Serang Regency, which borders DKI Jakarta Province, has an economy dominated by
agriculture, plantations, and industrial sectors. Education is also an important aspect with the existence of several universities and higher education institutions. Serang Regency also boasts a rich cultural heritage, supporting the tourism sector through its historical and natural sites.

On the other hand, Pandeglang Regency, located in the northern part of Banten Province, highlights its natural diversity which includes mountains, beaches, and fertile agricultural land. Agriculture, especially food crops and plantations, plays a key role in Pandeglang's economy. Tourism potential is also significant, with beautiful beaches such as Carita Beach and Anyer Beach, as well as natural and cultural attractions that are an attraction.

In the context of empowerment and income levels of families in rural areas of these two districts, it is necessary to emphasize efforts that utilize local resources. Economic and social empowerment programs can focus on sectors such as agriculture, handicrafts, and tourism.

In addition, education and skills training can be an important element in strengthening people's capacity to face economic change. An in-depth study of income distribution and the role of family members, especially women, in local economic activities can provide better insight into the relationship between empowerment and family income levels. With a mature understanding of local dynamics, empowerment measures can be designed more precisely to improve the welfare of people in rural areas of Serang Regency and Pandeglang Regency.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Quoting the book Basic Concepts of Community Service: Development and Empowerment, written by Eko Sudarmanto et al (2020: 21), the definition of community empowerment is an effort to increase the dignity and dignity of certain groups of citizens who are in conditions of poverty and underdevelopment. The concept of empowerment arises from activities and efforts to strengthen social capital in a group or community. In sociology and social science studies, these efforts are then known as community empowerment. These efforts are intended to build the capacity of the community by encouraging, motivating, and awakening their awareness, as well as developing their potential.

The term empowerment comes from the word "power" which means ability, power, or power. So that empowerment is literally defined as an increase in ability, energy, strength, or power. Empowerment means participatory or participating in development. Meanwhile, according to Prijono and Pranarka, empowerment is a process for the community to become empowered, encourage or motivate individuals to have the ability or empowerment to make their life choices and empowerment must be aimed at disadvantaged groups or communities.

Empowerment according to Cook and Macaulay is a change that occurs in management philosophy that can help create an environment where each individual can use his or her abilities and energy to achieve organizational goals.

Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that empowerment is a process of enabling a person or community group to be able to understand and control the economic, social, and political situation in the environment where he is located. That is, he is actively involved in activities aimed at improving his standard of living, so that he is able to stand alone and not depend entirely under the control of other people and groups and can overcome the problems faced. If such conditions can be achieved, it is expected that there will be community involvement by individuals or groups to actively participate in activities aimed at improving or improving the standard of community life.

Empowerment is also in line with the teachings of Islam, even basically Islam is a religion of empowerment. In the Islamic view, empowerment is a relentless movement. This is in line with Islam's own paradigm as a religion of movement or change. As in the word of Allah Surah Ar-Ra'ad verse 11 which reads: It means: "For (man) there are angels who always guard him in turn, from the front and behind him. They guard it at the command of Allah: Indeed, God will not change the condition of a people so that they change the situation that exists in them. And if God wills evil against a people, then no one can resist it, and there is no protection for them but Him."

Chamber (1995: 2) explained that the concept of development with a community empowerment model is not only to meet the basic needs of the community but rather as an effort to find alternatives to local economic growth.

Rappaport (1984: 4) defines empowerment as a process in which individuals, organizations and communities are able to meet their needs.

Osmani (2000: 20) defines empowerment as a condition in which helpless people create a situation in such a way that they are able to express their desires and at the same time they feel involved in activities related to government.

Meanwhile, according to the World Bank (2001: 18) it is more defined as empowerment activities as an effort to provide opportunities and abilities to community groups in this case poor families to be able and dare to speak out in expressing their ideas
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and opinions and have the courage to choose something both in the form of methods, products, actions and concepts that are considered best not only for their families and individuals but also for its people.

Community empowerment is a concept of economic development that summarizes community values to build a new paradigm in development that is people-centered, participatory (Firman, 2021: 4). It can be studied from 3 (three) aspects: 1) ENABLING which is creating an atmosphere that allows the potential of the community to develop, 2) EMPOWERING which is strengthening the potential of the community through concrete steps concerning the provision of various inputs and opening up various opportunities that will make the community more empowered, 3) PROTECTING which is protecting and defending the interests of the weak community.

The objectives of community empowerment according to Mardikanto (2015: 202) there are 6 objectives, including: 1) Institutional improvement, “better Institutional”, is expected to be able to improve institutions including the development of business partnership networks. Good institutions will encourage the community to participate in existing institutional activities. A good institution is an institution that has a vision, mission, clear goals, measurable goals, a directed work program that involves all members to be responsible for the obligations that have been given, 2) The improvement of the “better business” business, is expected to have implications for the improvement of the business of the institution. In addition, activities and institutional improvements, are expected to improve the business carried out that is able to provide satisfaction to all members of the institution and benefits to the wider community, 3) Improvement of income “better income”, business improvements made, are expected to be able to improve income obtained by the community, including family and community income, 4) Environmental improvement "Better Environment", The environment is currently much damaged caused by the Community. Community income must be sufficient to be able to meet the needs of life, the possibility of humans taking actions that damage the environment because they are desperate to support themselves and their families. So income improvement is expected to improve the "physical and social" environment because environmental damage is often caused by poverty or limited income, 5) Improvement of life "better living", the level of life of the community can be seen from various indicators or various factors including the level of health, education level, and income level or purchasing power of each family with good income, there is expected to be a correlation With good environmental conditions, in the end good income and environment are expected to improve the living conditions of each family and community, 6) Community life "Better Community", if every family has a good life it will produce the life of a community group that has a better life. A better life means being supported by a good physical and social environment so that it is hoped that a better community life will be realized.

Income Level

In Law No. 36 of 2008 Article 4 paragraph (1), it is stated that income is any additional economic ability received or obtained by the Taxpayer, which can be used for consumption or to increase the wealth of the Taxpayer. That is, the higher the level of income the greater the amount that can be consumed or invested. Income or income can be interpreted by a certain amount of money received by someone in a certain period of time from the main or side job (Rahman, 2018: 31).

Gary Becker, emphasizes that a person's level of education and training affects his income. Education and skills increase individual productivity, which in turn can increase income. The level of national income per capita is often considered an indicator of economic growth, and this theory considers factors such as capital accumulation, innovation, and economic efficiency.

In the context of public policy, experts can consider income levels to design redistribution policies, social assistance programs, and efforts to reduce economic inequality. Some health professionals may view income level as a factor that affects access and quality of healthcare. Low income can be an obstacle for individuals to get adequate health care.

Rural Families

Family living conditions in the village community are currently in a transitional state between traditional lifestyle life and modern society. The pattern of modern life is characterized; 1) Open to innovation and change, 2) Does not reject diversity, 3) Oriented to the future, 4) Considers the importance of organizing and planning, 5) Respects the dignity and dignity of humans as humans, 6) Believes in the ability of science and technology in processing natural resources.

Most rural family activities are already urban-oriented (although they still live in rural areas). This leads to less time and togetherness with family. Or there are still frequent movements in the livelihood patterns of rural families who switch to urban areas, but they still live in rural areas. This causes additional time needed to work so that time for family is reduced. Or it can be called the entry of industrialization into the countryside (Hartati, 1994: 12). (Chozin & Khomsan, 2010: 6) revealed various studies show that rural people face various challenges in social and economic life even though there are still various natural potentials that generally still exist in rural areas that have not been explored and utilized. This makes residents in rural areas look for jobs in urban areas that will eventually leave their families. Based on these factors, the importance of development in rural areas where
families can feel at home and comfortable living in rural areas because the area can support the fulfillment of basic needs and family development needs (Sunarti, 2009: 2). Hasanah, (2015: 1-3) As for the advantages in the family in the village community: 1) In the family life environment in rural communities, the position of parents and family elders is still strong in authority and power. Children are still strong in their conviction that “heaven is at the feet of the mother,” so to speak that touches the hearts of their parents despite the slightest effort to avoid it as far as possible. The great sense of sin when children violate such beliefs and family establishments is ingrained in the life of rural families, 2) The position and domicile of the family are still within the neighboring area. Such conditions give birth to an atmosphere of mutual cooperation, in joy or sorrow. This situation is a characteristic of friendship and mutual concern between one family and another, 3) In moral formation, ethics are always maintained, because if an indecent behavior arises, it will become a gossip of society. And maintaining a taboo system for perpetrators who cannot, 4) be accountable, is certainly a pretty positive force.

Village Development

Chambers (2015: 26), a development expert emphasizes the importance of community participation in village development. According to him, successful development must involve local residents as partners and leaders in the process. The success of village development often depends on the level of community participation and involvement. Actively engaged communities tend to have a higher level of sustainability in the implementation of development programs. Schumacher, in his book "Small Is Beautiful," emphasizes the concept of sustainable development by promoting an economy based on local needs and the environment.

Village development theory attempts to explain the processes and dynamics of growth, change, and progress at the village level. Some of these theories may emphasize economic, social, or cultural aspects. Here are some commonly recognized theories of village development: a) Modernization Theory: This theory describes that villages will experience growth and development through stages similar to the development of urban and industrial communities. Modernization includes social, economic, and cultural changes that lead to "modernity", b) Dependency Theory: This theory argues that villages develop in response to economic and political relations with larger societies, including the state and the international world. Dependence can involve economic inequality and control over resources, c) Economic Growth Theory: The main focus of this theory is on the economic growth of villages. Village development efforts are directed at increasing production and income through investment in sectors such as agriculture, small industry, and tourism, d) Community-Based Development Theory: This theory emphasizes the active participation of the community in the village development process. Village development must originate from and be directed by local communities, utilizing local knowledge and resources, d) Capability Approach, e) Developed by Amartya Sen and Martha Nussbaum, this theory focuses on improving individual capabilities to achieve a dignified life. Improved well-being is measured by the ability of individuals to achieve their goals, f) Sustainable Development Theory: This theory emphasizes the need for development that considers economic, social, and environmental aspects. The goal is to ensure growth that is not only economically sustainable but also does not damage the environment and pays attention to social justice, g) Theory of Social Change: This theory proposes that social change in villages occurs through the transformation of social structures, cultural values, and interaction patterns. Understanding of social change is considered important in achieving village development.

RESEARCH METHODS

In this study using quantitative methods. Where the techniques used in data collection using questionnaires, from October to December 2023, with locations in Serang and Pandeglang districts, in order to prove the hypothesis "There is a Relationship between Empowerment and Income Level of Rural Families in Serang and Pandeglang Districts" are as follows.

Based on the subject matter studied, namely the Relationship of Empowerment with Rural Community Income in Serang Regency and Pandeglang Regency, Banten Province, the method used in this study is the quantitative research method Product Moment Pearson Correlation. This type of research analyzes with statistical test tools to calculate 2 variables to be revealed. The population and object of this study are family members (father or mother) domiciled in Serang Regency and Pandeglang Regency as many as 91 people, to obtain valid data researchers use data collection instruments in the form of questionnaires that are distributed to respondents, after obtaining data, then data processing and analysis are carried out. by using statistical formulas for normality testing, validity testing, and hypothesis testing using Pearson's Product Moment statistical formula.

Then for data analysis used correlation analysis with the statistical formula prodcuchmoment pearson. Where this technique is used to reveal whether there is a relationship or influence between the empowerment relationship with the income level of rural families in Serang Regency and Pandeglang Regency, using the SPSS tool.
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RESEARCH OF RESULTS

Table 4. Empowerment Matrix in Seen from the Amount of Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO</th>
<th>EARNING EMPOWERMENT</th>
<th>RESPONDENTS’ ANSWERS ABOUT FATHER’S INCOME</th>
<th>RESPONDENTS’ ANSWERS ABOUT MOTHER’S INCOME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 500,000 – 1,000,000</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 1,000,000 – 1,500,000</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 1,500,000 – 2,000,000</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 2,000,000 – 2,500,000</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 2,500,000 – 3,000,000</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6 3,000,000 – 3,500,000</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.7 3,500,000 – 4,000,000</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.8 4,000,000 – 5,000,000</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.9 5,000,000, MORE</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Information:
The income level is obtained by three categories of classes, namely: 1) low class between 500,000 – 2,000,000 as much as 0.833 percent, 2) middle class category 2,000,000 – 3,500,000 as much as 0.866 and, 3) high class category 3,500,000 – 5,000,000 more as much as 0.633.

Table 5. Family Empowerment Type Matrix in View of Job Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPES OF FAMILY EMPOWERMENT</th>
<th>TYPES OF JOBS</th>
<th>FATHER’S WORK</th>
<th>MOTHER’S WORK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1) Civil servants</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Farmer</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) Trade</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) Day laborer</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5) At the factory</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6) Own business at home</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7) DOES NOT WORK</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>36</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8) OTHER…..</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of respondents | 81 | 87 |

Data analysis in table 5:

Based on the data visualized in table 5, interpretation can be interpreted, namely: 1) types of empowerment of families working in government offices: fathers 0.108 and 0.06 mothers, 2) types of empowerment of families working as farmers: fathers 0.08 and 0.02 mothers, 3) types of empowerment of families working independently: fathers 0.15 and 0.38 mothers, 4) types of empowerment of families working as laborers: fathers 0.15 and 0.01 mothers, 5) types of family empowerment that do not work: fathers 0.23 and 0.48 mothers, of the distribution of the five largest occupational categories in the fathers group are independent.
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work by 15 percent and not working by 23 percent, while in the largest group of mothers are not working or only being housewives 38 percent and not working as much as 48 percent.

This condition has a cultural meaning that prevails in Indonesia, where the role of the father is as a public role, (working outside the home), while the role of the mother is to have a domistic role (working at home or taking care of the house).

Table 6. Matrix Four Indicators of Rural Family Empowerment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>N0</th>
<th>TYPES OF EMPOWERMENT FAMILY</th>
<th>RESPONDENT’S ANSWER CHOICES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>FAMILIES CAN EASILY MEET AND MEET BASIC FOOD NEEDS</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>FAMILIES EASILY SEND CHILDREN TO SCHOOL</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>FAMILIES CAN EASILY SEEK TREATMENT IF SOMEONE IS SICK</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>YOUNG FAMILIES HAVE ELECTRONIC DEVICES (CELLPHONES, TVS, REFRIGERATORS, ETC.)</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description: 1= not easy, 2=easy, 3=very easy, 4= very easy.

Based on the analysis of the data listed on the matrix of rural family empowerment indicators in Serang Regency and Pandeglang Regency, it can be stated that there is an easy level to obtain nine basic staples, easy to send children to school, easy to reach hospital care and easy to own household electronic devices.

Test the hypothesis

The hypothesis test is intended using the statistical formula Product Moment Pearson Correlation, in order to determine the "relationship between the level of empowerment and the amount of income in rural families in Banten"

Based on the Significance Value of Sig. (2-tailed), 1) If the value of Sig. (2-tailed) < 0.05 then there is a correlation between the variables that are connected, 2) If the value of Sig. (2-tailed) > 0.05 then there is no correlation. Therefore, based on the asterisk ("*) given by SPSS: a) If there is an asterisk (*) or (**) in the pearson correlation value, there is a correlation between the variables analyzed; b) If there is no asterisk in the pearson correlation value, then the analyzed sanabel has no correlation. For this reason, as a guideline or indicators to determine the level of relationship between the independent variable and the dependent variable are if: 1) Pearson Correlation value 0.00 to 0.20 = no correlation, 2) Pearson Correlation value 0.21 to 0.40 = weak correlation, 3) Pearson Correlation value 0.41 to 0.60 = medium correlation, 4) Pearson Correlation value 0.61 to 0.80 = strong correlation, 5) Pearson Correlation value 0.81 to 1.00 = perfect correlation.

Matrix results Test hypothesis Based on the results of Pearson’s Product Moment Test Analysis

### Correlations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Penghasilan Ayah dan Ibu</th>
<th>Keberdayaan Keluarga</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Penghasilan Ayah dan Ibu</td>
<td>Pearson Correlation</td>
<td>.795**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sig. (2-tailed)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keberdayaan Keluarga</td>
<td>Pearson Correlation</td>
<td>.795**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sig. (2-tailed)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).
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Based on the results of the correlation test, it shows that there is a strong correlation of 0.795 levels of family empowerment with family income levels, with a level of significance of less than 0.05 which is 0.000, with a level of significance of 0.275, which means that the two variables are significantly related. From the guideline degree of relationship of pearson correlation value, . The correlation value of the analysis results is positive, where the greater the variable X (the more empowered the father and mother) will affect the variable Y, namely the higher the income of families in rural areas.

CONCLUSION

Empowerment is a process of forming attitudes and behaviors in individuals or communities in order to live more independently and towards being more empowered and prosperous, both in the family environment and the surrounding environment. A prosperous family is a family that is devoted to God Almighty, has harmonious, harmonious and balanced relationships between members and between families in the community and families that can meet their daily needs sufficiently. Income is any additional economic ability received or obtained by the taxpayer, which can be used for consumption or to increase the wealth of the taxpayer. That is, the higher the level of income the greater the amount that can be consumed or invested.

From the data above, it can be concluded that the level of family welfare varies, judging from the income of fathers and mothers in Serang Regency and Pandeglang Regency has significant differences because it is seen from the difference in work as well. In addition, the fulfillment of the needs of both food and shelter needs for each family is certainly different because of the influence of the level of work of father and mother which determines the amount of income of each family. Judging from the results of the discussion, in this case indirectly the government must consider social assistance programs, and efforts to reduce economic inequality. Then also the level of income is also an influence on access and quality of health services. Low income can be an obstacle for individuals and families to get adequate health care.

Based on the report's findings, it is recommended to develop economic and social empowerment programs focusing on sectors such as agriculture, handicrafts, and tourism in rural areas of Serang Regency and Pandeglang Regency. These programs can include education and skills training to strengthen people's capacity to deal with economic change. Suggestions for conducting an in-depth study of income distribution and the role of family members, especially women, in local economic activities. This can provide better insight into the relationship between empowerment and family income levels in both districts. With a mature understanding of local dynamics, it is advisable to design more targeted empowerment measures to improve the welfare of people in rural areas of Serang Regency and Pandeglang Regency.

Things that are recommended to be implemented holistically in order to achieve sustainable economic and social empowerment in Serang Regency and Pandeglang Regency such as Agriculture, Handicrafts, Tourism, Infrastructure, Partnerships with Private Parties, Technology-Based Approaches, Community Welfare Programs.

REFERENCES

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