

The Examination of The Wife's Role in Supporting the Economy During the COVID-19 Pandemic

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Abstract- *This study aims to determine (1) household income, (2) family expenses, (3) wife's income contribution, (4) wife's income for three main activities (social, economic, and domestic), (5) household poverty level. This research was conducted in Lape Village, Sumbawa Regency, NTB. The population in this study was calculated using the Rao Purba formula, obtained 100 respondents. Analysis of the data used in this study using descriptive analysis. The results of this study indicate that (1) the highest average wife's income per year is Rp. 20,880,000 by the kiosk owner and the lowest average wife's income is by the teacher, which is Rp. 2,304,000 per year, (2) the average expenditure for food per year is 46%, and non-food is 54% (3) The average contribution of wife's income is relatively small at 22 percent but plays a significant role in the family as seen from the average wife's time spent on economic activities by 33 percent, (4) The poverty rate of Lape Village households which are still classified as poor households, namely 40 families (51%) consisting of the poorest seven families (9%), impoverished 16 families (20%), poor 17 families (22%) and not poor as many as 39 households. (49%).*

Indexed Terms- *income, contribution, poverty level, empowerment, Covid-19, wife*

I. INTRODUCTION

Based on data from the national Covid-19 Task Force, as of July 9, 2020, 216 countries have confirmed positive cases of the 2019 Coronavirus disease (from now on referred to as Covid19). The spread of Covid-19 impacts the paralysis of various sectors of the economy of countries in the world (Dito, 2020). The government has made multiple efforts to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus with various policies ranging from Large-Scale Social Restrictions (PSBB) to new approaches such as the Enforcement of

Community Activity Restrictions (PPKM). The government has implemented PPKM to suppress the spread of Covid-19 in several regions in Indonesia. During the emergency PPKM period, several goods production (manufacturing) sectors experienced distribution bottlenecks, which led to a buildup of stock.

All household members will feel a situation that causes a household's economic downturn, especially the wife. The wife will appear to take the most dominant role in helping the family economy, namely with various productive activities during the Covid-19 pandemic to overcome household economic difficulties.

In traditional groups, the role of the wife is demanded to be greater in finding alternative sources of other income to meet the needs of household life. The lower the revenue generated by the husband, the wife, demands to increase her role in contributing revenue to meet the household economic needs. Several previous studies have proven that women need to allocate their time to take care of the household and tend to activities related to the social and economic environment. This will undoubtedly be difficult during the PPKM period, where all activities outside the home are limited. According to Zulkieflimansyah (2021), social and economic environmental activities outside the house during the Covid-19 pandemic,

Rizqi's research (2021) states that people will tend to limit their social environment, especially in activities outside the home such as shopping, gathering at cafes with friends or family, holidays, and others; this causes the community's economic actions to weaken so that the role of the wife in helping the household economy is vital. Because the income contribution of the wife/woman is beneficial for the household economy of small communities in general.

Lape Village, Sumbawa Regency, West Nusa Tenggara, is one of the villages with a wife who is a housewife in the family and participates in helping to increase her husband's income to meet the needs of family life during the Covid-19 pandemic. The problem of the Covid-19 pandemic and the family economy has caused the wives in Lape Village to have the initiative to work together to help their husbands by doing work that can generate money while still paying attention to the Covid-19 health protocol and with limited abilities due to the level of education. Those who are low, even so, the wives can still work to help their husbands by utilizing existing resources. The wives in Lape Village play a significant role in helping their husbands process and market agricultural products obtained after farming. Wives in Lape Village not only sell agricultural and plantation products, but some also open stalls, sell ice, work gardening as honorary teachers, and so on, as long as these activities can be used to supplement their husbands' income to meet their daily needs. During the pandemic. So, wives play a significant role in helping to improve the family's economy.

II. OBJECTIVES

Objectives of the paper are, how is the household income level in Lape village, Sumbawa district?, how is the wife's contribution to increasing household income in Lape village, Sumbawa district?, how is family expenditure in Lape village, Sumbawa district, how is the household poverty level in Lape village? Sumbawa Regency?

III. METHODOLOGY AND THEORETICAL APPROACH

This research will be carried out in Lape Village, Lape District, Sumbawa Regency, West Nusa Tenggara, a village where most of the area is water. This research was conducted in Lape Village in October-November 2020. The majority of the population makes a living as farmers, ranchers, civil servants, entrepreneurs, and others. The role of the wife that will be analyzed in this study is the level of poverty, the level of family income, the contribution of the wife's income, household expenses, the active role of women or the outpouring of women's working time, all of which are analyzed descriptively.

This research is descriptive, namely an attempt to systematically describe the facts and the relationship between the phenomena studied. The model used in this research is a descriptive method, which is a method that aims to solve a problem that exists at present by collecting, compiling, analyzing, and interpreting data to reach conclusions and formulate a solution.

The population in this study were all wives in Lape Village, Sumbawa Regency, who had jobs. The people of the number of working wives is unknown, so the sampling in this study needed to use the Purba (2018) formula and obtain 100 respondents. This research was conducted using a survey method, which is a method that aims to collect data from several variables in a community group through a questionnaire (Sugiyono, 2018). Operational definitions of variables in this study are:

- a) Family income is several salaries or wages received from the sale of catches and other businesses measured in rupiah for one year. The family income referred to in this study is household income which comes from three sources, namely the income of the husband, wife, and other sources generated by the family every year.
- b) Family expenditure is the total cost incurred to meet the needs of family life, which consists of expenditures for food needs and non-food needs measured from the real annual needs.
- c) The wife's contribution in this study was to determine the assistance of the wife's income to family income as measured in percentage and the wife's time spent covering the work done by the wife. The wife's working time is grouped into three activities, namely household/domestic activities (cooking, taking care of children and husband, and shopping), earning a living (productive activities), and social activities (Gumilar, 2015).
- d) The poverty level referred to in this study is a measurement of the household poverty level based on the volume of expenditure per capita per year as measured by the price or value of local rice (Sajogyo, 2016). In other words, Sajogyo defines the poverty line as the level of consumption per capita per year which is equal to the value or price of rice.

Analysis of the data used in this study is descriptive quantitative analysis. Field findings data are arranged systematically which shows how the wife's role is in helping the household. The analysis of operating income is obtained from the total revenue or total revenue (TR) minus the total cost or total cost (TC). Where the total revenue consists of multiplying the amount of production (Q) with the selling price (P). The total cost (TC) consists of fixed costs (FC/fixed costs) which are costs that remain incurred even though the production is large or small and variable costs (VC/variable costs) are costs whose volume depends on the production. The formula used to calculate income is

$$\text{Profit}(\pi) = \text{Total Revenue (TR)} - \text{Total Cost (TC)}$$

Description:

$$\text{TR} > \text{TC} = \text{Profit}$$

$$\text{TR} < \text{TC} = \text{Loss}$$

$$\text{TR} = \text{TC} = \text{No Profit and No Loss (BEP)}$$

Household income consists of three (3) sources, namely the income of the husband, wife, and other sources. According to Mardiana (2016), household income can be calculated by the following equation :

$$It = Im + If + Io$$

Description:

It : household income (family)

Im : Husband's Income

If : Wife's Income

Io : Other sources of income

Family expenses are costs incurred for the necessities of life, which consist of expenditures for food and non-food needs. Expenditures are made by calculating the daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly household needs. Total household expenditure (Nur, 2012) can be formulated as follows:

$$Ct = C1 + C2$$

Description :

Ct: total household expenses

C1: expenditure on food

C2: non-food expenditure

The allocation of working hours according to Gumilar (2015) the allocation of working hours or the time spent is analyzed using the following formula:

Allocation of working hours or time devoted to earning a living

$$CWKwfnf = \frac{WKwfnf}{WKwfnf + WKwrt + Wksos} \times 100\%$$

Description:

CWKnf : Devotion of wife's work time to earn a living

WKwfnf : Working time to earn a living

WKwrt : Wife's working time for household activities

Wksos : Wife's working time for social activities

The wife's income contribution is used to find out how much the wife's income contribution to household/family income (Gumilar, 2015) can be calculated by the following equation:

$$K = \frac{It}{If + Im + Io} \times 100\%$$

Description:

K : absolute contribution of wife's income (%)

Im : husband's income (Rp)

If : wife's income (Rp)

Io : income from other sources (Rp)

The level of household poverty is based on the amount of per capita expenditure per year as measured by the price or value of local rice (Sajogyo, 2016) as follows:

$$\text{Expenditure} = \frac{\text{RT/Year Expenditure(Rp)}}{\text{Number of family dependents}}$$

$$\text{Expenditure} = \frac{\text{Expenditure Capita RT/Year(Rp)}}{\text{/Kapita RT/rice equivalent(kg) Price of rice (Rp/Kg)}}$$

Description :

Expenditure = Total costs incurred in capita RT/year (Rp)

Rice price = Price rice or local rice value (Rp/kg)

The number of = Number of family dependents in family capita

The income earned by fishing is the main source of family income. Family income is the total of the total income earned by the husband, wife, or other family members.

- Husband's Income

Income in this study is the amount of profit earned by the husband. More details can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1. The Average Husband's Profit Based on Wife's Type of Work

No	Type of work Wife	Profit (π)= TR-TC(Rp/year)	TR>TC= Profit TR<TC=Loss
1	Bakulan	47,499,482	Profit
2	Ice Seller	20,371.143	Profit
3	Kiosk Owner	61,606,358	Profit
4	Teacher	76,901,771	Profit
5	Housewife	20,494,861	Profit
	Average	45,374,723	Profit

Source: data processed 2021

Table 1 shows that the husband's average income (TR)/year is Rp 62,596,365 and the average cost (TC)/year is Rp. 17,221,642, as for the average profit(π)/year of Rp. 45,374,723, where the highest average total revenue (TR)/year is obtained by husbands and wives who work as kiosk owners, which is Rp. 93.600.000, and the lowest is obtained by husband and wife who work as ice sellers, which is Rp.25,920,000. Family Income

The overall family income generated by husband, wife, and children or other family members can be seen in Table 2.

Table 2. The average level of Family Net Income

No	Type of work Wife	Net Income Level (RP/yr)			Total
		Husband	Wife	Child	
1	Bakulan	47,499,482	10,355,745	1,584,638	59,439,865
2	Ice Seller	20,371.143	9,570,000	-	29,941,143
3	Kiosk Owner	61,606,358	20,880,000	4,320,000	86,806,358
4	Teacher	76,901,771	2,304,000	-	79,205,771
5	Housewife	20,494,861	-	378,947	20,873,808
	Average	45,374,723	10,777,436	1,570,896	55,253,389

Source: data processed 2021

Table 2 presents data on the average level of family income per year. Based on the data that has been obtained the average wife's income is Rp. 10,777,436 each year, this value is not as big as the main income earned by the husband, which is Rp. 45,374,723.

• Wife's Income Contribution

The wife's income contribution is the contribution of the wife's income compared to the total income of all family members which is calculated in percent (%). The contribution of the wife's income in the family is very helpful for the family's economy. This can be seen from the percentage of income contribution which is presented in Table 3.

Table 3. The average percentage of family income

No	Type of work Wife	Family Income Contribution (Rp/year)		
		Wife (%)	Husband (%)	Child(%)
1	Bakulan	23	74	4
2	Ice Seller	57	43	-
3	Kiosk Owner	20	71	8
4	Teacher	3	97	-
5	Housewife	-	98	2
	Average	21	77	3

Source: data processed 2021

Table 3 shows the percentage of income contribution of each family member. The average percentage of the wife's income is 21%, the husband is 77% and children is 3%. The highest wife's income contribution is owned by ice sellers, reaching 57%. While the lowest income contribution is owned by teachers at 3%. From these data, it can be seen that the wife in Lape Village contributes greatly in meeting the needs of daily life, the wife's high profit does not determine that her contribution is high, so first, look at the profits of the husband and other family members. The wife's very high-income contribution is supported by the amount of time she devotes to productive economic activities.

• Family Expenses

The expenditure referred to in this study is the expenditure made by the family on a daily basis consisting of two parts, namely expenditure for food and expenditure for non-food. Food expenditures are all forms of costs incurred for food needs such as food,

oil, and other basic materials. Non-food expenditure includes all costs incurred for education, transportation, electricity, house taxes, and other non-food costs.

The larger average expenditure incurred by the family is the non-food expenditure of IDR 8,890,641 per year (55%). Meanwhile, the average food expenditure is lower, namely Rp. 7,386,667 per year (45%).

The highest average food expenditure is carried out by families who work as teachers, which is Rp. 9,720,000 per year, while the lowest average expenditure is made by the ice selling family, which is Rp. 4,800,000 per year. The highest average non-food expenditure was carried out by a family with a wife who worked as a teacher, which was Rp. 11,118,000 per year, while the lowest average non-food expenditure is carried out by families with wives who work as housewives, which are Rp. 6,234,158 per year. Family income in Lape Village is quite good in terms of the level of expenditure covered by income. This shows that the average level of welfare of the population is still relatively good.

- Household Poverty Level

According to Kusnadi (2015), poverty is the inability of an individual or group to obtain goods and services to meet basic living needs, limited social needs, and or living standards. Criteria for measuring poverty vary. To find out the level of household poverty, it is seen from household expenditure, namely the total household expenditure in a year consisting of food and non-food expenditure divided by the number of household members. Then to find out the poverty level of this household, the result of the family's per capita expenditure in a year is divided by the value of rice or the price of rice in the area using the Sajogyo criteria for poor households in rural areas. More details can be seen in Table 4.

Table 4. Household Poverty Level

Type of work	Category		Total	Percentage	
	Poor	not poor		Poor	Not Poor
RT MOTHER	10	9	19	53	47
Bakulan	21	26	47	45	55
Kiosk owner	1	1	2	50	50
ice seller	1	2	3	33	67
Teacher	0	1	1	0	100
Total	33	39	72	%	%

Source: Data processed 2021

Based on table 4 above, it is known that most of the households in Lape Village are still classified as poor households. This can be seen from the number of households as many as 33 households (45.8%) the category of poor households consists of the poorest criteria as many as 6 families (8%), very poor 14 families (19%), and poor as many as 13 families (18%). Meanwhile, 39 households (54.2%) were included in the Non-Poor category according to the concept of the Sajogyo poverty line. So the poverty rate in the study area is still quite high, in Lape village it is difficult to increase income, due to limited education and ability to manage business in order to provide added value from fish catches.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research and discussion, it can be concluded:

- Economic activities carried out by the wife to help the household economy during the Covid-19 pandemic: among others, such as baskets (selling fish), ice sellers, kiosk owners, and teachers. The highest average wife's income is owned by the kiosk owner, which is Rp. 20,880,000 per year. Meanwhile, the lowest average income for wives is owned by teachers, which is Rp. 2,304,000 per year. The contribution of the wife's income in the family is very influential on family income, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic. The average percentage of wife's income obtained from Bakulan, Ice Seller, Kiosk Owner, and Teacher is 21%, the husband is 77% and children is 3%.
- The average level of expenditure issued by the family consists of food and non-food expenditures.

The larger average expenditure incurred by the family is the non-food expenditure of IDR 8,890,641 per year (55%). Meanwhile, the average food expenditure is lower, namely Rp. 7,386,667 per year (45%). This shows that the average level of welfare of the population is still relatively good.

- c) The household poverty rate in Lape Village is still quite high. Most of the households in Lape Village are still classified as poor households, as many as 33 households (45.8%) are included in the category of poor households consisting of the poorest criteria as many as 6 households (8%), Very poor 14 households (19%), and Poor a total of 13 families (18%). Meanwhile, 39 households (54%) were included in the Non-Poor category and the highest percentage of poor households was contributed by wives who work as housewives by 53%.

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