

## **The Role of Parents in Supporting the Education of Daughters Continuing Their Study in Higher Education**

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### **Abstract**

This research is a qualitative descriptive research that aims to find out how society views education for girls and what is the role of parents in supporting girls' education in tertiary institutions. This research was conducted in Waelo Village, Fena Fafan District, South Buru Regency. Primary data collection was carried out through interviews with a number of informants who were considered to be directly involved. The results of this study can show that the role of parents in educating their daughters to a higher level is still very minimal. Education as an effort to educate the nation's children was apparently not obtained by some girls, especially girls who were in Waeleo Village, Fena Fafan District, South Buru Regency. This happened because of the attitude of parents who did not want their daughters to continue their studies at tertiary institutions. There are several factors that cause parents not to allow their daughters to continue their education to tertiary institutions, namely the first for economic reasons. Economic reasons are the basic reason for parents, because they are considered unable to pay, besides that, parents have the perception that there is no use and benefit if girls are sent to school because in the end they will become housewives, and because many events that often occur are pregnancies that befall women while they are still in school. It is these factors that make parents not allow their daughters to continue their education to a higher level. Seeing problems like this, the local government took steps to educate parents about the importance of education, as well as provide cash assistance to people who experience economic constraints in sending their children to school.

**Keywords:** Role of Parents, Women, Education, Higher Education



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### **INTRODUCTION**

Education is one of the most important things in life, especially in this day and age. Everything that is done is always based on the education you have, for example when looking for a job, one of the considerations is the level of education you have. With the acquisition of higher education, one's level of ability and skill will increase. According to SISDIKNAS Law No. 20 of 2003 that education is a planned conscious effort to create a learning atmosphere and learning process so that students actively develop their potential to have religious spiritual strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble character, and the skills needed by them, society, nation and state. In a simple and general sense the meaning of education is a human endeavor to grow and develop innate potentials both physically and spiritually in accordance with the values and norms that exist in society (Florida, N., López, C., & Pocomucha, V, 2012: 68).

According to (Hamdani, 2011: 66) in article 9 states that the community is obliged to provide support for the implementation of education. Furthermore, in article 10 it is stated that the government and regional governments have the right to direct, guide, help supervise the implementation of education in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations. Along with the times, the development of education is also increasing. Education is a very important aspect for the younger generation, because through education, the younger generation will be formed both in character, attitudes, traits and ways of thinking. Through

education, it is expected to be able to create intelligent and moral young generations who are able to lead the country and the nation in the future. Every human being can and is able to get education in various versions / ways, because basically education is not only obtained through informal education but also through non-formal education humans will be able to take education and various lessons will be obtained. Both formal and non-formal education both have very important benefits for every person who is engaged in education. Everyone has their own goals in pursuing education, whether it's just to get a white sheet filled with numbers as well as to get various life experiences that can be used as guidelines and references in life.

Because of the importance of education, everyone is competing to get higher education, but not everyone can take education to a higher level for various reasons, such as due to a lack of family economic capacity which prevents a person from continuing their education to a higher level. But in the world of education, the central and regional governments have prepared scholarships for those who are deemed to be unable. The provision of scholarship funds will facilitate and assist the poor who cannot afford higher education. In taking education, of course the role of parents is very important in order to provide encouragement, motivation, enthusiasm, direction and so on. But not all children get such encouragement from their parents. Seeing the reality that is happening is that many parents see and assess education in terms of gender. Some parents think that boys and girls are equally important and have the right to continue their education to a higher level, but some parents think that girls are not worthy of getting higher education with the rhetoric that children women will later become housewives so that knowledge/education is not useful for girls as supported by (Fakih Sughastuti, 2007: 278) that gender differences based on assumptions and assessments of social construction ultimately lead to traits or stereotypes that are confirmed as cultural nature and in a long process it has resulted in injustice as women (Fakih Sughastuti, 2007: 278).

Based on the reality on the ground, the role of parents in educating their daughters to a higher level is still minimal. Education as an effort to educate the nation's children was apparently not obtained by women, especially girls who were in Waelo Village, Fena Fafan District, South Buru Regency. This happened because of the attitude of parents who did not want their daughters to continue their studies at tertiary institutions. There are several factors that cause parents not to allow their daughters to continue their education to tertiary institutions, namely the first for economic reasons. Economic reasons are the basic reason for parents, because they are considered unable to pay, besides that, parents have the perception that there is no use and benefit if girls are sent to school because in the end they will become housewives, and because many events that often occur are pregnancies that befall women while they are still in school. It is these factors that make parents not allow their daughters to continue their education to a higher level. Seeing problems like this, the local government took steps to educate parents about the importance of education, as well as provide cash assistance to people who experience economic constraints in sending their children to school.

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

This study uses a qualitative approach. Bogdan and Taylor (1982) state that qualitative research is a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from people and observable behavior; the approach is directed at the background and individuals holistically (Zuchri Abdussamad, 2021: 30). Data collection techniques that researchers use include: Observation is a method or way of systematically analyzing and recording behavior by seeing or directly observing the intended individual or group (Basrowi and Suwandi, 2008: 94), then interviewing, researchers conduct research to

get information is by conducting interviews with respondents and informants, the interview method is a method of collecting data by way of communication, namely through personal relationships between researchers and data sources (Adi, 2004: 72). The data analysis technique that the researcher uses is the data analysis technique of the Miles and Huberman models. It has three stages, namely data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion. Data analysis according to Miles and Huberman can be described as follows (Miles & H in Sugiyono, 2005: 102). Data reduction is a process of merging and uniforming all forms of data into written form to be analyzed. While Data Display (data display) is a collection of information arranged so as to provide the possibility of drawing conclusions and taking further action. And the conclusion is the last step in making a research report.

## **RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **The Role of Parents in Supporting Girls' Education**

Etymologically, the role is part of the task that must be carried out. Role is something that becomes a part or holds the main function. Role is an action or action of a person in carrying out his rights and obligations as the holder of a certain position and position. Parents have a very important role in children's education because for children, parents are the first educational institutions for the personal development of children. Education which is a conscious effort to shape a child's abilities is very important, so the role and encouragement of parents is also very much needed. Parents can be used as a motivator and can also provide motivation, encouragement to a child to be able and as much as possible to get an education in order to become a generation that is smart and has good character. However, based on the reality on the ground, the role of parents in sending their daughters to higher education is still minimal. Education as an effort to educate the nation's children was apparently not obtained by women, especially girls who were in Waelo Village, Fena Fafan District, South Buru Regency. This happened because of the attitude of parents who did not want their daughters to continue their studies at tertiary institutions. We can see this in the statement made by Ms. Niken Liligoly who is a resident of Waelo Village, Fena Fafan District, South Buru District.

According to Ms. Niken Liligoly, the role of parents in supporting a child to continue their education is very important, because for children, parents are the motivators who are able to encourage a child's enthusiasm to continue their education. But in fact what happened in Waelo Village was that most parents were unable to carry out their role in supporting the education of a child, especially girls. For the people of Waelo Village, girls cannot continue their education to a higher level for the reason that the first thing that is assessed by parents is the factor of pregnancy. There are so many women who cannot continue their studies due to pregnancy during the study period. Seeing facts like this, parents are very hesitant to send their daughters to school and think that elementary, middle and high school education is sufficient as a provision of knowledge. The second reason is due to economic factors. With economic inability, children are forced not to go to school. Apart from that, the people of Waelo Village also have the perception that school is useless for girls because one day she will become a housewife.

As well as the opinion of Mrs. Aneka Liligoly, she said that education for girls is very important because in the modern era a diploma is needed in finding a job. Thus education is important because in addition to the diploma obtained also has good abilities. Both boys and girls have the same right to continue their education to a higher level. Mrs. Minggas Selekty also said that to me education is also important for girls, but what we see today is that there are still many parents who hold on to the old thinking that it is useless for girls to go to high school because they are still housewives even though their daughters and boys have the same rights, apart from that it is also due to economic factors where parents make the decision not

to continue their studies at tertiary institutions because the economy is very limited with the dominant parents' work being farmers.

From the information provided by the community, it can be analyzed that for most, the role and support of parents for education for girls is not that important. Although basically parents know that education is very important in improving children's ability to think critically, logically, and can help shape children's character. But for some Waelo people, this is not a measure because for them a girl is not worthy of continuing their education to a higher level and still prioritizing boys. For the people of Waelo, education for girls is only free because in the end women will return to the kitchen and become housewives so that the knowledge they get in education is no longer used. Apart from that, the community also considers that there are many real incidents that they find that there are so many pregnancies in school children, so that parents are worried that something like this will happen to the daughter they have. Things like this have reduced parents' trust in their daughters without having to give their children a chance. Because not all children have the same nature and character as other children. However, it cannot be denied that parameters like these have become ingrained in people's minds so that they are no longer able to change their way of thinking about the importance of education, especially for women. The latter is for economic reasons. The community believes that economic constraints are also one of the factors causing girls to be unable to continue their studies to a higher level, so parents prefer not to send their daughters to school.

### **Community Views About Education for Girls**

In community development, education is a very important key for a country. Because education will socialize the nation's ideology and socio-culture, reduce poverty and ignorance, and encourage social change, to increase the economy. Education is actually a strategic tool to increase the potential of the nation so that it is able to take part at a broader level. So that the importance of education needs to be regulated in a standard rule regarding education, which is under the umbrella of the national education system.

The following are the results of the researcher's interview with Mr. Luter Liligoly, who is one of the residents and also the Waelo Village government staff. He stated that the Waelo people consider education for girls to be unimportant. Why is this so? It happened because for the people of Waelo Village, only boys deserved to get higher education. Because for them daughters will one day become housewives, take care of the kitchen, so the education she gets will not be of any use to other people. So that most girls in Waelo Village only study up to high school level. As a result, the girls of Waelo Village marry at a young age, because they follow the will of their parents. To follow up on issues like this, the local village government has carried out activities in order to educate the community about the importance of education and the need to provide opportunities for women to continue their studies to a higher level. If there are economic constraints that prevent women from continuing their education, the village government will provide village funds in the form of underprivileged scholarships to families who are categorized as poor so that as much as possible they can continue their studies to a higher level. However, some people still adhere to their ancestral traditions not to send their daughters to school.

From the information provided by the community, it can be analyzed that the views of the Waelo Village community regarding the importance of education for girls are very much different from the views of the general public. The people of Waelo Village have the view that education is basically important but not for girls. Education is only intended for boys. From the comments submitted by the respondents above, for the people of Waelo Village, girls can only study up to the high school level, then the women will be married off so they can have



children soon. Education for girls is not important considering that later women will still return to their habitat to become housewives. Seeing problems like this, the local village government took steps to continuously carry out activities in order to educate parents about the importance of education for girls. In addition, the village government also provides cash assistance or scholarships to families who are considered unable to send their children to school.

## **Discussion**

Education which is a conscious effort to realize a good learning process in which students are able to develop the abilities that exist within them actively, so that in this way students will gain religious spiritual abilities/strength, intelligence, noble character and can develop the skills needed for themselves and society. In a simple and general sense, the meaning of education is a human effort to grow and develop innate potentials, both physical and spiritual, in accordance with the values that exist in society and culture. Education and culture exist together and promote each other. Education is not only seen as an effort to provide information and skill formation, but is expanded to include efforts to realize desires, individual needs and abilities so as to achieve a satisfying personal and social life pattern, education is not merely a means of preparing for life in the future, but for the life of children now who are experiencing development towards their level of maturity. Education is something that is obtained by humans or students through a long process so that they are able to make humans or students understand and understand and be able to think logically and critically (Rahman, A., Munandar, S.A., Fitriani, A., Karlina, Y., & Yumriani. 2022: 2-4).

Education has a very important role for mankind, one of which is to help develop human potential and resources so that they are able to compete in a healthy manner with the crowd as well as being able to think critically and healthily so as to be able to maintain peace among fellow human beings. Educating is not an easy and simple thing, educating requires an extraordinary struggle concerning the future of students who are taught so that they can become human beings who are reasonable and have good morals. That is why carrying out education is a moral task that is not light. As important as education is in efforts to educate the nation's life, improve people's welfare, and build and develop national dignity, the government is trying to pay serious attention to addressing various problems in the field of improving education starting from the elementary, middle, to high levels. This attention is addressed, among other things, by providing meaningful budget allocations.

In addition to growing and developing potential in humans, education is also important for life itself, namely education is to be able to improve careers and jobs, where with education humans can gain the skills needed in the world of work and help in realizing career development. Expertise is in-depth knowledge of a particular field that can open up good career opportunities for the future. So that with proper and good education it can help us as humans to make dreams come true. Not only limited to developing potential and improving careers in getting a job that education is very important to make humans better because it makes us civilized. In general, education is the basis of culture and civilization. Education makes us human beings to think, analyze, and decide. Growing character in oneself is also a goal with education, thereby creating better Human Resources (Florida, N., López, C., & Pocomucha, V, 2012: 67-68).

The education that a person gets is not only formal education or planned education but also non-formal education that can be obtained anywhere. Formal education as the first education is obtained because this formal education can come from the family. Before going further to pursue formal education, non-formal education has already been accepted. Thus for children the family is the first and foremost learning that can shape the nature and character

of the child. In addition to the family, the community environment where a person lives also forms formal education that can shape the character and personality of children, but not all environments support children's education, there are environments that have a negative influence on children which interfere with children's learning processes Education can be obtained through formal, non-formal and informal channels. Education in the family environment (in formal) has a very important role. This is because each individual gets the first education that comes from the family environment. Within the family, individuals are educated to be good children, who know manners and ethics and have commendable moral traits (Sulfasyah, S., & Arifin, J, 2017: 1).

Everyone has the same right to get an education, as Indonesia is a country that upholds the rights of every human being, so both men and women have the same right to get the highest possible education. There is no reason to discriminate against women, that women are not eligible to pursue higher education because of the gender factor, that by nature, women only work as housewives and take care of the kitchen. Women can study anytime and anywhere, and can study any field according to what they want like a man. Indeed, in general, most parents in Indonesia are now starting to realize the importance of school for their sons and daughters, but there are some parents who still have minimal perceptions of the importance of education for women because society or parents prioritize the education of boys over on her daughter.

This also happens because there is still a culture that has been firmly rooted in the notion that women should not be highly educated because later they will only go to the kitchen. In addition, there is also a trend that women who receive higher education do not develop their careers and prefer to be housewives. Without them realizing that both being a housewife also requires sufficient knowledge and knowledge to be able to educate and manage the household as well as possible, because if women have broad knowledge and a high level of education, then their micro role in the family will be high, even the social role of women in society is also high (Khayati, E. Z, 2008: 4). Given how important education is, education is not only intended for men but includes all human beings, including women. Education for women is very important and cannot be ruled out, because there are many benefits that women get from education. Even being a housewife requires sufficient knowledge to be able to become a smart housewife and be able to provide good education to her family and children in the future. As endorsed by R.A. Kartini, who views education as something that should be achieved and fought for, shows that education is considered very important for women.

Pramudawardhani & Estiana (2019) also explained that the intended education is education that can be accepted by all groups, both men and women, so it can be said that the education that Kartini aspires to is very noble because she wants education that prioritizes kindness. noble character. Women's education is a process that is obtained by a woman in order to gain knowledge through a long process of learning struggle. Between men and women there are no exceptions because both have the right to obtain education (Karai Handak, I. S., & Kuswanto, K, 2021: 49). Talking about motivation is a very broad process. Motivation is one of the benchmarks for someone to be successful, because through motivation the individual will certainly get an encouragement for his behavior, so that he is even more active in carrying out all tasks and responsibilities. Every human being definitely needs and needs motivation in carrying out his life. We get a lot of motivation from various parties, both from friends, teachers, family, and parents. Of course, these motivations are not just illustrations or expressions, but motivation can give encouragement and enthusiasm to every human being who needs motivation. Similarly, a child who wants to study education

really needs motivation from parents, because for children, parents' motivation greatly influences the level of children's education. The motivation given by parents who have children who continue formal education greatly influences the level of children's education. Because the motivations given will add to the enthusiasm of the child and provide understanding to the child to continue their education to a higher level. So here the role of parents is very in motivating children to study further to college. One of the roles of parents is to encourage and direct their children's education at home. So the child needs to be directed or motivated to him, so that he is more enthusiastic and passionate so that he wants to go to college (Erick Extrada, 2018: 2).

## **CONCLUSION**

Based on the data analysis that has been done, it can be concluded that the role of parents is very important in supporting children's education, especially girls, in pursuing education to a higher level. Where education has a very important role in improving and developing human resources in order to create human beings who are intelligent and able to think logically and critically. Many important lessons can be learned through education, both new knowledge gained and life lessons that can be used as learning to sustain life in the real world. Education is not only intended for men but women also have the same right to get education, especially education in higher education. But it cannot be denied that there are still many children of the nation, especially girls, who do not have the opportunity to be able to continue their education to a higher level for various reasons.

The first reason is due to economic factors. Economic problems are the main trigger so that many children leave their dreams just because of economic constraints. Related to economic problems, of course the government has made many policies in the form of scholarships but this is not guaranteed because there are still many wrong perceptions about the importance of education for girls. For the people of Waelo Village, education for girls is meaningless because in essence women will return to work to become housewives and take care of the kitchen so that the knowledge they gain in education is meaningless. Perceptions like these flood the minds of the people of Waelo Village, thus it is hoped that the local government can take steps to change people's mindsets about the importance of education, especially for girls.

From the facts that have been stated above, the author's hopes for the future in this research are as follows. In general, the people of Waelo Village want to give girls the opportunity to continue their education, not only at the high school level, but also at the tertiary level. Because education is very important for women. For the Government in Waelo Village to never stop and never want to give up in continuing to educate the public about the importance of education. Because without intervention from the government, the community will still cling to their old thoughts which without the community realizing that such thoughts will trigger the lag of women in taking the same education as men.

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