

THE INFLUENCE OF DISCRIMINATION TOWARDS KARONESE WOMEN IN DESA HULU, PANCUR BATU, NORTH SUMATRA: LIBERAL FEMINISM

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ABSTRACT

The thesis entitled "The Influence of Discrimination on Karonese Women in Desa Hulu, Pancur Batu, North Sumatra: Liberal Feminism" countain of the study about liberal feminism. The analysis of liberal feminism in the study used the theory (Friedan, 2006) that men and women have the equal right in the fields of political, economic, and social fields. The method used in analyzing the problem in this study is a descriptive qualitative method. From the data which are used in this study, it is found the influence of liberal feminism on Karonese women in Desa Hulu, Pancur Batu in terms of education, economy and social life. Then it was also found the impact of liberal feminism on the development of Karonese women in Desa Hulu, Pancur Batu, namely (1) Positive impacts: they can pursue higher education, work, protected and independent. (2) Negative impacts: women become overly independent, do not need men, and are viewed as strong creatures.

Keywords: *Feminism, Liberal Feminism. Karonese Woman.*

INTRODUCTION

Feminism is a stream or criticism that studies the movement of women to get equal rights. According to (Ngwang, 2019) feminism is a movement that fights for women's rights in all fields, such as: political, economic, social.

The feminism divided into find kinds as the following:

1. Liberal Feminism
2. Radical Feminism
3. Marxist Feminism
4. Cultural Feminism
5. Eco Feminism

In this study the writer wants to use the theory of liberal feminism, for it is a view to settle women in order to have freedom, freedom and equality based on rationality. Basically, men and women are not different. The feminism argues for all people to have equal opportunities and rights based on their existence as social beings (Fitriani & Sumartini, 2018). In this study the writer connects the liberal feminism to the movement of women in Desa Hulu, Pancur Batu.

The Karonese women who live in Desa Hulu, Pancur Batu, have gender inequality that limits their space of movement, how discrimination binds their space in society, which we can see in village head elections, where women are doubted in leading a region or village, and we can also see how during the deliberation, women should not interfere they are only listeners and agree with the decisions taken. Likewise, Karonese women are not given the opportunity to go to big cities to get jobs or better education. However, all that changed after being given an understanding and knowledge about feminism or gender equality.

According to Kartini, education is one thing that can open and change people's minds towards a modern direction, where women and men can work together in society, and women have great

potential for life and society. She argues that Indonesia will not have change and progress, if there are still differences between women and men, they can coexist and work together to create the progress of a nation.

According to (Ginting & Nofasari, 2018) Women's lives are very interesting in being discussed, especially regarding the role and position of Karonese women in society. In Karonese society there are differences in treatment of women and men which cover various aspects of society that lead to discrimination against women in Karo society.

The purpose of this study is to find out how the liberal feminism influenced Karonese women living in Desa Hulu, Pancur Batu, and the impact of what happened after the existence of feminism, on the development of Karonese women in the village. The result of this study is expected to expand knowledge or studies the development of women or the feminism in Indonesia.

THEORITICAL REVIEW

Feminism is a women movement that demands equal rights between women and men and in this study feminism theory is more concerned with literature related to feminism literary criticism. (Hooks, 2000) Feminism is a movement to end injustice against women and is an awareness of thinking that gives rise to a perspective looks at life.

Women have the same right to have the same rights as men in society, but that does not mean that men and women are enemies. What feminism strives for is equality in the society such as in politics, social economics, and the inequality that exists in society as well. True equality does not focus on certain parties, but also runs it together.

Liberal Feminism teaches women to act independently, and have full freedom. This theory refers to a relationship between women and men. Women can develop just like men in all areas of life to achieve freedom and integrity so that women do not have to rely on men (Fitriani & Sumartini, 2018). Liberal feminism is a view to settle women in order to have complete freedom, freedom and equality based on rationality. Basically, men and women are not different. Feminism argues for all people to have equal opportunities and rights based on their existence as social beings.

Liberal Feminism for Women Education

Mary Wollstonecraft tells of the decline in European society and women being confined in the home, while men are being given the opportunity to build the best of qualities. (Wollstonecraft, 2014) She argues that women are less valuable than men because of the lack of education for women. The Solution offered by Wollstonecraft is to educate women the same as men, so they can become productive, free workers so they can make a huge contribution to society.

Liberal Feminism for Equal Civil and Economic Rights for Women and Men

According to (Mill, 2001) “the principle which regulates the existing social relationship between the two sexes, the legal subordination of one sex to the other is wrong in itself, and now one of the chief hindrances to human improvement, and that it ought to be replaced by a principle of perfect equality.” He emphasizes the importance of rationality for women. it must be emphasized that in order to achieve equality of association with men, it is not enough to receive the same education; women must also be given the opportunity to participate in the economy and be guaranteed civil rights, which include the right to organize, freedom of expression, the right to vote, private property rights, and other civil rights.

Women in Development

Momsen argues in her book that the development process impacts both men and women. Women have suffered losses as a result of the modern sector dominating the economic system, such as the production of food and clothes, which is done by women and has become one of the economic activities that support them. Previous to the 1970s, productivity and money were linked. Under her book, Momsen also contends that in development theory, equity between diverse groups in the society is important.

The bottom line is that this approach wants women's ability to contribute to development, so WID is no longer talking about women's discrimination but rather solving problems with effort to integrate women in development. Theory used by the writer because of the awareness and activities carried out by Indonesia women to appear in the country's economic development

Discrimination

Discrimination is an act or policy that treats a person or group differently and unfairly based on something. According to (Pokharel, 2008) discrimination is an unpleasant treatment to anyone based on race, religion, gender, age, skin color, disability and so on. This can hinder the achievement or goals of equity, development and peace.

Discrimination is recognized as a form of injustice and an issue for women around the world. This certainly has an impact on the capacity of women to participate and freely in society, where the world's population consists of women, most of whom still experience discrimination in various phases of life directly.

METHODS

In this study, the writer uses descriptive qualitative research methods. According to (Bogdan & Biklen, 1997), qualitative research means the data collected takes the form of words or pictures rather than numbers. The written results of the research contain quotations from the data to illustrate and substantiate the presentation. Interview transcripts, field notes, photographs, videotapes, personal documents, memos, and other official records are among the data.

They try to analyze the data with all of its richness as closely as possible to the form in which it was recorded or transcribed. That is by trying to provide an explanation or describe the situation and phenomena that occur in the object of research using data analysis, and then the research tries to answer the problem objectively. The writer use descriptive qualitative because the final results of this study is identified and analyzed the influence of liberal feminism on Karonese Women in Desa Hulu, Pancur Batu

The subjects in this study were Karonese women living in Desa Hulu. Pancur Batu, will then focus on interviewing several women who are considered influential in the progress of the environment and will also answer several questionnaires that are considered to understand things about liberal feminism. This is considered to be able to answer and explain liberal feminism that affects development in the Hulu Village environment.

The techniques of data collection are formulated as follow: (1) Doing interviews with several Karonese women in Desa Hulu, Pancur Batu. The interviews were conducted to obtain data or information about the influence of liberal feminism on Karonese women. (2) Giving questionnaires to several Karonese women in the village, then the answers from respondents will be used as data and research reinforcement. (3) Collecting data or documents through various electronic or print media to complement existing data.

The Techniques of Data Analysis are formulated as follow: (1) Data collection from all the information obtained from the results of interviews, questionnaires, and documents through several stages (2) The data reduction is by editing, grouping, and summarizing data on various related matters (3) Presenting data from the grouping or summarizing of data systematically, this is created in the form of an analytical description report that leads to conclusion. .

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Research conducted by researchers in Desa Hulu, Pancur Batu, where the writer found:

Liberal Feminism's Influence on Karonese Women in Desa Hulu Pancur Batu

Liberal feminism emerged because of inequality, injustice, and discrimination against women, and liberal feminism is a view to settle women in order to have complete freedom and equality. As for the gender inequality towards Karonese women in Desa Hulu Pancur Batu, it takes the form of discrimination and marginalization.

The advancement of science and technology and education in this day, where news and information can be accessed as quickly as possible using various media and the internet, Advances in science and technology have opened new insights for Karonese women in Desa Hulu Pancur Batu. Based on this, Karonese began to change their understanding of the position of women in society and their families, as stated by the respondents in this study, namely: RW Br. Gurusinga:

“In the past, before there was such sophisticated technology, I didn't know what women's emancipation was. Even at school it was very rare and almost never studied, but after I saw it on TV and on the internet, many people have voiced about it, about women's freedom. Seeing many women who work as a teachers, doctors, nurses, etc., made me think about sending all my children to higher education, including my daughter, to be like them (as a teachers, doctors, nurses, etc.)”

Based on the explanation, the progress of science and technology turned out to provide new insights for Karonese women in Desa Hulu Pancur Batu. So with the change of the by Karonese women is mindset in Desa Hulu Pancur Batu they send their children to a higher level is school where the women also need to go to school so that they are equal in terms of education with men, this is one mindset Karonese women who already understand about women's emancipation in accordance with the times. This was also conveyed by B.T.P Br. Gurusinga; S.S Br. Depari, and S.R. Br Gurusinga in their explanation as follows:

"Apart from school, I also know about the existence of women's emancipation from various media on the internet, we find a lot of women who talk about women's emancipation, at school they are not discussed too much, but are still studied"

"Not only at school, has the media now raised a lot of topics about women's development. Of course, with that, it has an influence on me, to want to fight this injustice, and change the mindset of other people, including my family, that women also have the right to get the same thing as men."

“I, as a woman, felt that when I got married, I didn't bring anything as my provisions to my new family. I am only considered a housewife, and in the midst of the times, when I want to find a job, I find it difficult because I only graduated from high school. Now that I know the importance of education, that's why I send my daughter to school and advise her to work as a provision for herself and her family in the future.”

According to Kartini, education is one thing that can open and change people's minds towards a modern direction, where women and men can work together in society, and women have great potential for life and society. Based on this, liberal feminism influences their thoughts and understanding through the information and knowledge they get from various media and education, which encourages them to change situations and phenomena like discrimination, social injustice in their families and environment.

Discrimination occurs among karonese women in Desa Hulu , Pancur Batu, but this discrimination increases their understanding and awareness about gender equality. As stated by the respondents in this study, namely: A.V Br. Gurusinga

“We also feel discrimination. At the time of the village head election around 2017, if I'm not mistaken, there were 2 candidates, Mrs. Ulina and Mr. Gurusinga. At that time at the coffee shop, I was told by the supporters of Mr. Gurusinga not to vote for candidate No. 1, namely Mrs. Ulina. Then I asked him, why? He said, “It is impossible for a woman to lead, our village could be more destroyed in the future because, basically, men are more worthy to be leaders, women talk more than work and do not understand the development of our village”

“Then I said, “Why do you say that, sir? How do you know? Don't underestimate women. Look sir....., there are many women in the lead at this time. There are also many educated and accomplished women.” and not only did he say that, but there were also some people who sat in the coffee shop and said the same thing to me and Mrs. RW. Gurusinga. And when the election came, we (mothers) agreed to support number one (Mrs. Ulina). Furthermore, we have seen many women today come forward to become leaders. Now women and men are the same. And it is proven that when Mrs. Ulina was elected as village head, our village was getting better and better. In fact, she won two times.”

Based on this explanation, it is clear that there is discrimination felt by Karonese women in Desa Hulu Pancur Batu, but this discrimination opens their understanding and encourages them to fight the gender injustice they feel, so that it has an influence on the development of Karonese women in the village, and women are also deserve to be leaders who are judged on the results of their work, not based on gender.

Regarding the form of injustice in the form of restrictions on women's space for movement that appear to Karonese women in Desa Hulu Pancur Batu, it can be seen in the explanation from Mrs. K. Sinuraya and D. Natalia below:

“After getting married, my husband forbade me to work, at that time I was very sad and did not dare to argue. He said “Just stay at home. You don't have to work. Just take care of the kids at home. Who wants to take care of the children, if not you?” I just shut up and obeyed him, because I'm too lazy to make noise and fight.

“Well, when his work contract ended, our family's economy fell really badly. There was my opportunity to persuade him (her husband) so that I could go teach again (as a teacher). At first he didn't give permission right away, but because of economic needs, he was allowed to do so after a while, and until now, we are working together and taking care of children and families.”

“I have experienced discrimination in the office, when I was pregnant with my first child, where another employee said to me, “Mom, just stay at home, being pregnant, isn't it difficult? I already have a husband, why else go to work, women work in the kitchen and take care of the children”

Based on the explanation, it can be seen that Karonese women in Desa Hulu Pancur Batu contribute to supporting the families financial based on the knowledge they get, and this can ensure that women and men can work together and help each other in the both domestic and public areas and social.

Such as Friedan opinion that women can work to meet their needs ... it can be seen on the following in the explanation of Mrs. A. Gurusinga;

“I used to want to go to college and want to be a teacher, but my father didn't allow it because of economic limitations and besides that, my father put more emphasis on education for my younger brother, I can't fight or do much as a child. That's why I want my children to go to high school and pursue their dreams, because I don't want my daughter to be like me, especially now that it's modern and women's emancipation is voiced”

Based on the explanation above, it shows that boys are prioritized over girls. The discrimination in terms of education experienced by her, made her oppose this by sending her children to school without distinguishing between men and women. In her the past time, her parents did not allow her to continue her education and dreams, that why in the present time she prioritizes her children to get the highest education and pursue their dreams. It is clear how the influence of the discrimination she experienced affects her views and thoughts on the position of women.

Some of the discrimination also felt by Karonese women in Desa Hulu, Pancur Batu, can be seen in the explanation of S.R. Br. Gurusinga and S. M. Br. Surbakti in this study:

“My father forbade me to go to Bandung, even though I had been accepted to work in a private company there. My father forbade me because it was too far and too dangerous to live alone in a big city. "Be afraid of being influenced by promiscuity in the city; be afraid of many thieves and bad people if you have to live alone.”

“When I had a boyfriend whose family was much richer than mine, I was very sad because his parents asked about my job; at that time, I had just graduated from college and had not worked; after that, his parents ignored me and left me. I was very sad, because now women are also measured by their work; that's why I worked hard until now, and I already have a business.”

This is also felt by E.P Br. Tarigan; and M. A Br. Purba that we can see in the following explanation;

“When I graduated from one of the universities in Medan, I immediately wanted to go to Jakarta to work there, but my parents forbade me to go to that city because it was too dangerous and no family or friends were known there. I was very sad about that, because nowadays it is very easy to access many things, right? However, my parents, who are still old-fashioned and don't understand rights and freedoms, After that, after that, I talked with my parents by inviting my cousins to persuade my parents and give a new understanding of what women's emancipation or women's movement is, and my parents finally let me go to Kalimantan, yeaah, because there is an aunt who lives there.”

“When I wanted to major in sports, I was scolded by my father because they said it was a major for boys and it's better for you to go to nursing school, but when I saw the video of the Indonesian badminton player, Gracia Poli, my father changed his mind, and now I'm in college in sports education.”

Based on the explanation, it is clear how the discrimination experienced by Karonese women in the village, and through this, we can also see how women oppose the actions of their parents by providing a new understanding of the women's movement, Based on the explanation, it is clear how the discrimination experienced by Karonese women in the village, and through this, we can see how women oppose the actions of their parents by providing a new understanding of the women's movement. We can see that most of those who carry out acts of discrimination against women or their daughters are parents who were born in the 40s and 70s, where all of them do not know or understand about liberal feminism, or what is more commonly known as women's emancipation. The explanation is that because of their husband's concern about being away from their daughter, there are restrictions on movement for women who are not allowed to continue studying and work outside the city.

The Impact of Liberal Feminism on Karonese women in Desa Hulu, Pancur Batu.

In the modern era, we often find the word feminism in various media, such as TV, radio, magazines, newspapers, and internet media. Feminism is a movement that fights for women's rights in all fields, such as political, economic, and social. Of course, with the emergence of feminism that occurred in the 18th century until now, of course, has an impact, both positive and negative impacts.

In this study, there are several impacts that arise due to the influence of liberal feminism on Karo women in Desa Hulu Pancur Batu.

The Positive Impact

Based on the exposure submitted by the respondents in this research who answered and explained as follows;

- E. Br. Ginting
“The positive impact Yaaah, it makes it easier for me to study or get a job. With this movement, there is no such thing as discrimination at work; everyone is given the same opportunity.”
- R.A Tarigan
“Liberal feminism guarantees the safety of women, such as sexual harassment and acts of violence, because there are many institutions that guarantee the safety of women, so we don't have to be afraid to travel anywhere.”
- G. Anggasta
“Women become more independent and dare to refuse if it is not good for them. There is no longer a barrier for women to progress and develop.”
- S. R. Br. Gurusinga
"With the emancipation of women, women are protected by the law, so we don't have to be afraid. What's more, in the household there are often acts of violence; now we can report it to the authorities and get protection.”
- R. I. Br. Ginting
“Women are safer, especially in the midst of the hype about sexual violence and violence against women, because there are many institutions that protect us.”
- J. M. Meliala
“We can work freely anywhere; there is no discrimination in that regard, and there is no need to depend on family and men alone.”

Based on the statements by the participant above, it can be seen that there many positive impacts from liberal feminism felt by Karonese women in Desa Hulu, Pancur Batu.

The Negative Impact

Based on the exposure submitted by the respondents in this research who answered and explained as follows;

- E. Br Ginting
“Has a negative impact, namely that women feel they can live alone, and do not need men”
- S. M Br. Surbakti
“Of course women are the same as men, there are no more the weak people, then the term "ladies first" is no longer valid, because we are already equal to men”
- R.A. Br. Tarigan
“The negative impact that is felt, for example, on the bus or waiting in line is the same and equal between women and men. There is no longer such a thing as priority and the weak. Women are considered strong and equal to men, except for the elderly, pregnant women, and those with special needs.”
- E.P. Br. Tarigan
“As for the negative impact, yes, women are too much, even if they feel they don't need a man, and they also feel that they don't need to get married and have children because they feel enough with themselves.”

Based on the statements by the participant above, it can be seen that there many negative impacts from liberal feminism felt by Karonese women in Desa Hulu, PancurBatu..

CONCLUSION

From the research findings, it can be concluded that Karonese women in Desa Hulu, Pancur Batu, are independent women who are enthusiastic, innovative, and quick to respond to various social and family phenomena. The Karonese women in Desa Hulu, Pancur Batu, have a leadership spirit. and hardworking, they will do anything for the sake of their families and children, so that they can go to school, even though we know that it is actually the responsibility of a man as a father and head of the family. They are starting to be able to fight domination and discrimination, so they are able to prove to everyone that women have the same abilities as men and are able to refute the highly developed assumption of gender inequality. They understand about that through education, information, and what they get from various media.

The respondent's narrative when interviewed and the questionnaire submitted by the writer to the source of the research object, namely Karonese women in Desa Hulu, Pancur Batu, where the results of the research conducted by the writer found that liberal feminism influenced the lives of Karonese women in the village, with the discrimination and awareness they felt gave a big change to their minds. In this study, many parents want to send their children to school and many women want to be educated because in the future, women and men will be equal and compete in social life. If women have education and work, then no one will demean women.

Regarding the impact of liberal feminism on the development of Karonese women in Desa Hulu, Pancur batu, it can be concluded that the movement provided, among other things, (1) positive impacts; they can pursue higher education, work according to their fields and abilities, are free of opinion, protected and independent. However, (2) it has a negative impact: it can cause women to become overly independent, to not need men, to live alone, and to be viewed as strong creatures.

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