

#### SOCIO-CULTURE EFFECT ON FAMILY SIZE : A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Studies about population growth would always be connected with fertility, fertility has another wide coverage that relates to another dimension such as politics, economy, social, and culture. This study is used to find out the effect of socio-culture on a family size. Generally cases related to fertility are viewed from macro and micro perspective, on the other side can be viewed from socio-cultured, socio-economy, and family size perspective. This systematic review was made based on PRISMA with secondary data onto journals and previous articles with specific keywords. Results from this systematic review show that family size is affected by socio-cultural, where the culture had an effect on the total child born. Besides that, there's a government policy, mother age, and country program. All of that had an effect on family decisions on having children that will affect family size.

Keyword – Socio-culture, Family size, Fertility, Socio-Economy, Systematic Review

#### INTRODUCTION

Studies about population growth of developing countries will always be related to fertility as a determinant factor that is more affecting than other factors at the growth of population. Other factors that had an effect on population growth such as fertility, mortality, and mobility. Adioetomo (2010) said, because of the importance of fertility, a lot of study and research tried to explain and find out about the impact on high fertility rate. Fertility has such a wide coverage that will affect directly even indirectly to another dimension such as politics, economy, social, and culture.



Cases that are related to fertility generally viewed from micro and macro perspective. On macro perspective, take an example from Todaro and Smith (2009), in their book "Economic Development in Third World Countries" shows off a result of the relation of economic growth in some countries with fertility and population growth based on fertility study in developed countries and developing countries. On the other hand micro perspective, there are a lot of studies about fertility that discuss about social-economic factors of fertility growth in some countries (Sunaryanto, 2015). Other than that perspective, fertility can be associated with many other things, such as socio-cultural, socio-economy, and family size.

In people's lives, social phenomena and cultural phenomena are almost always or even always related and influence each other, so social symptoms and habits are inseparable from cultural symptoms and habits. In fact, it is often not easy for a person to recognize that a symptom or event that occurs is a social or cultural event, the social system cannot be strictly separated from the cultural system, so conceptual questions about the social system and the cultural system are more appropriate when they are carried out in the discussion unit that is the sociocultural system. Sosio-cultural is also defined as an idea, habit, skill, art, and tools that made characteristics from a group of people at certain times. Socio-cultural is a system that is made from solid patterns that rule human behavior (Condon, 1973; Nisak, 2016). The sociocultural system is a combined system of the social system and the cultural system so that it becomes a social system that includes social relations in which people in society produce and develop cultural elements to meet the social and cultural needs to meet society. and develop their social and cultural life. The discussion of the dynamics and development of the socio-cultural system is closely related to the conditions of socio-cultural space and territory, population, cultural elements that include material results (material, material goods) and human thought in society, social organizations. and socio-cultural. institutions and their backgrounds.

Socio-cultural has an important impact on health problems in certain countries, especially countries that have a lot of diversity in certain customs, races, and cultures. One common example is when there is a culture that requires every family to have a baby boy, and assuming that he will be the successor of his family. Because of that culture, mothers indirectly have an obligation to give birth to have sons. Even the number of children born is not noticed. Of course the event will affect the growth of the fertility rate of certain people which will affect the growth of the population. The more children born, the more burdens must be borne by the family and the State. If that continues to happen then the State will have difficulty in regulating the population. Families that have a large number of children but are not matched with careful preparation will also add to problems such as children who are not well maintained, the economy is declining, and much more.

Fertility is also affected by family size in socio-cultural. On a social level or population, family size also can be a variation in population structure indicator from time to time, together with individual development and social relations from different groups.



Size and composition of family in certain communities and certain populations usually affected by family culture system, socio-economic status, biologist consequence, and psychology from future bride and groom (Uddin et al, 2012). Based on that introduction, this systematic review was made to analyze socio-cultural effects on family size.

#### **METHOD**

This systematic study was based on PRISMA. The Journals that we used were from journal sites such as ScienceDirect, Scopus, PubMed, and Google Scholar. Article research was done by specific keywords, based on our search we found 56 journals and previous articles. The theme of this research is about the influence of socio-culture on family size, so the focus of the article search will be on socio-culture, family size, and fertility. After that, the Articles that we found get selected with some inclusion criteria, inclusion criteria is a criteria sample that we want based on our objective that we determined such as the journal or article must be published in the year 2013 till 2022, indexed article, certified article, and article about fertility, socio-culture, socio-economy, and family size. Exclusion criteria is a particular criteria sample that makes inclusion criteria should be excluded, that we determined is the article accessible for abstract and prociding only. The method that we used to select a certain article is from filtering title, abstract, and keyword. At the end we found about 21 articles that match our criteria.

#### **RESULTS**

In the progress of making this systematic review journal we found out about 64 articles based on our inclusion and exclusion criteria. With the inclusion criteria we can filter a journal that can be used for our research or not, and the inclusion criteria we made were articles or journals that were match with our keywords, article or journal publication in the last 10 year, and article or journal that have full access. And after the exclusion we found about 21 articles or journal that match with our inclusion criteria for this systematic review.

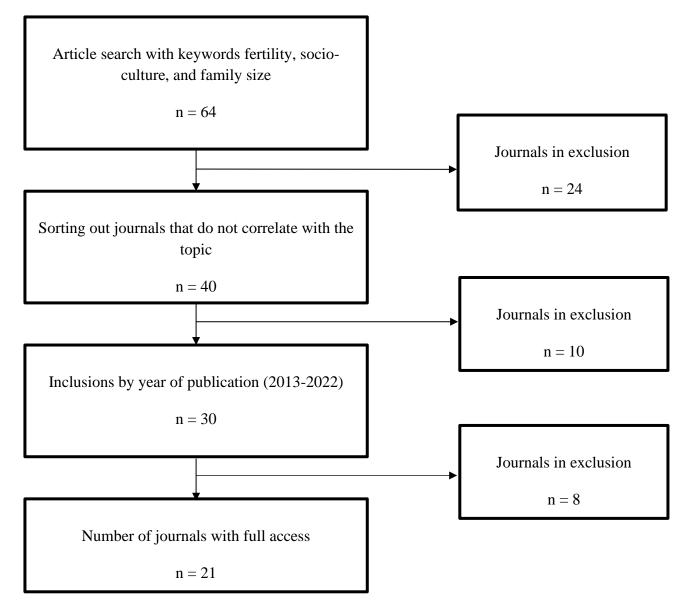


Figure 1. Studies identification process

### **Culture in the Family**

Definition of culture is a habit for developed way of life that are shared by a group of people and passed down from generation to generation. The culture formed from complex element such as religion, politics, language, tools, clothes, building and arts. To learn about culture is to see about the communication between people in different



environment. Culture is a lifestyle that comprehensive, culture characteristic is complex, abstract, and wide.

In the family environment, a culture that been applied paternally and structured will be a huge part of planting in the daily family environment that can change which can be changed if its suits the root of application such as adaptation from new environment. Adaptation in the social environment especially family should be done with an open mind and positive thinking so the process of adaptation will be good.

Cultural values have a great influence on the formation of a person's mindset and behavior, understanding the cultural values of the place where a family grows and develops will be an important protective factor that contributes to family resilience in that culture. Resilience itself is the ability to access or utilize protective factors that can help them rise and become stronger after facing problems (Henry, C.S., et al 2015). Culture has an important role in family resilience, as is the case in research conducted by Pudjia (2016), wherein the Batak tribe when facing problems they will find solutions through their clan communities to get a better solution or have some references, while in Javanese tribes when facing a problems they try as much as possible to solve the problem internally. This is under Bronfenbrenner's revised theory that culture is the main determinant that affects individuals directly (Velez-Agosto, et al., 2017).

Family is a primer socialization medium for people to learn about their culture. This perspective be in accordance with Goode, 1998 "societal proses is a culture tradition by succeeding to next generation where the family uses as successor channel that keep the culture live".

#### **Socio-Economic Family**

The socioeconomic condition of the family is the state of each family in society which is seen from a complex aspects such as the level of education, income, employment, and the number of family members that will have an impact on the welfare of society and the family on the smallest scale, the scope of society. The number of family members is also an assessment in the socioeconomic conditions of the family. Because the number of family members is directly proportional to the level of family needs. Based on considerations of socioeconomic conditions, income has an impact on the well-being of life. The income earned by each family comes from the work done by each individual. The level of family welfare can be seen from the comparison of the level of consumption with the income earned. If the family has an income greater than the level of consumption then the welfare of the family is said to be good, while if the income is lower than the level of consumption then the level of welfare of the family is said to be less. In addition to income, the family's social financial condition can also be known based on the number of family members. Family membership also has an effect on the well-being of the family. When



the number of family members is large, the greater the needs and it will have a weak influence on the welfare of the family because it is not enough to meet the needs of life.

According to Sumardi (2004), houses can be used in measuring the socioeconomic level, judging on the status of the house occupied, the physical condition of the building, and the size of the house occupied. Abdulsyani (Hanum & Safuridar, 2018) said about two aspects from status and hierarchy is a structural aspect and functional aspect. Structural aspect is an aspect that have hierarchy characteristic that contains high or low difference about other status. In other hand, functional aspect is an aspect that related to someone status.

Abdulsyani (2007) said that social condition is a relation between member in role and affecting each other, and economic condition is all of activities of family member in a way to meet the basic needs of daily life on economic value. Socio-Economic usually become a reference about status that given by other peoples. Socio-economic status can be defines as a role that have done by people in a group of peoples who related to the ability to fulfill daily needs based on that people achievement.

Socio-economic status on peoples should be different and graded, some maybe high, middle, and low, that because people lives in society. Social-economy had several factor, such as education, knowledge about health, environment, beliefs, and poverty. Socio-economic condition can be seen by a multiple aspects such as their jobs, education, health, and basic daily needs (Wanas et al., 2015). That factor can create a social structure in a social life.

### **Fertility**

Fertility is the ability to produce offspring related to female fertility. Women have a childbearing age in the range of 15-49 years, this period is referred to as Women of Childbearing Age and if married become a Couple of Childbearing Age (BPS Riau, 2013: 74). Fertility can also be interpreted as the ability of a man to be able to impregnate a woman (Khaidir, 2006). According to experts, fertility is influenced by several things, namely socioeconomic factors, biological factors, demographic factors, and the use of contraceptives (Wibowo, 2008: 5). Live birth is one of the factors that influence the increase in the number of people in a country. The size of the number of births in the population depends on several factors, such as age structure, level of education, age of marriage First, number of marriages, women's employment situation and use of contraceptives and income/assets.

A country's fertility or fertility rate is influenced by several variables, such as age, gender, marital status, contraceptive use or other characteristics. While according to Davis and Blake there are factors that affect fertility Intermediate variables, namely variables that have a direct effect and indirect variables such as social, economic and cultural factors.



The high and low fertility of the population greatly affects the rate of population growth. This affects the population of an area. If there are areas that have a larger population than other regions, there will be social and economic inequality. The uneven distribution of the population will also make it difficult for the government to regulate the welfare of the area. So far, studies on fertility have focused on determinants that can affect fertility rates in terms of micro and macro. From a macro perspective from Todaro and Smith (2009) in their book shows that economic growth in developing countries is related to fertility rates and population growth. From a micro perspective, there are so many studies on socioeconomic factors related to fertility rates.

Fertility in demographic perspective is a reproduction product from a women or group of women. In other way fertility related to number of live births. Fertility included in the role of birth in a population growth. Fertility have same meaning as live birth, is the release of a baby from a woman's womb with a signs of life.

### **Family Size**

Family size refers to the number of persons who live in the family. Family size can be seen by two perspectives micro and macro, at the micro level of family size as one aspect that determines person's family background or environment. In this perceptive, family size can mean the number of members of the family that usually consists of a parent and child. The family can be said to be the smallest social group formed in society. However, the family plays an important role in the economy, kinship, education, and several other systems that exist in society. Each family has different characteristics, it is influenced by the existence of culture. It also shows that although the family is the smallest social unit in society, it has a very important role in primary socialization and that way an individual can get to know the cultural values in his society. At the macro level family size is defined as an indicator of the structure of society that tends to vary every time with the presence of involvement. This will result in individual development and different social relationships between community groups (Laksono, Soedirham, Saptandari, & Wulandari, 2020).

The size of the family is also closely related to socioeconomic involvement in the community. Research in Ghana found that people with small family sizes enjoy a better social and economic life compared to large family sizes. This selection of family size also affects the demographic trends of a country (Chen, 2021). The smaller the size of the family the population has, the less economic inequality can be compared to before. In other words, a smaller family size can give family members the opportunity to live well economically and socially (Chen, Zhao, Chou, & Liem, 2021; Coley et al., 2021).

#### **DISCUSSION**



Sociocultural factors that often influence the choice of family size IS the culture of a region and local customs. Based on the results of research conducted by Arsyad, Raharja & Nugraha in 2014 regarding fertility in 6 provinces in Indonesia, it was found that people in the Batak and Minang tribal groups have a tendency to have children of a certain sex. The gender desired to be born and made the successor of the clan in the Batak tribal group is a boy, while in the Minang tribal group the gender that is desired to be born and used as a guard and maintenance of the inheritance of a large family is a daughter. From the results of the study, it can be seen that the large number of children will be influenced by certain tribes or ethnicities (Arsyad, Raharja & Nugraha, 2014; Bayu et al., 2017). People in certain ethnic groups tend to have their own customs related to fertility, decisions on the age of first marriage, the number of children desired or the ideal family size, sexual preferences, and methods for avoiding pregnancy. So that's gonna affect the high and low fertility that occurs. In addition, there are also other things that affect such as low levels of education and the large number of people living in rural areas also affect the high fertility that occurs (Bayu et al., 2017).

Based on the sociological perspective of fertility, the level of fertility in society is influenced by the norms that apply and are embraced by that society (Freedman, 1962; Sunaryanto, H., 2015). In marriage, having children can be said to be the goal as well as the beginning of the formation of the family. Estimates or thoughts on how many children will be desired are cultural domains. Where culture is a group subjective behavior so that the number of children will be different from each culture adopted by the family. This is in line with the results of research from several population experts, where they all agree that the high fertility rate for pre-modern societies is more due to the pro-natalist cultural value system (Davis and Blake 1955, Freedman, 1954; Sunaryanto, H., 2015)

The choice of family size of society is often influenced by state programs, the age of the wife and the regulations that are in a country. One program that has a significant effect is the family planning program. Based on the results of research in Pakistan, it was found that there is an effect of family planning programs on fertility preferences and reproductive health care in women of childbearing age. Exposure to this information also has an effect on the possibility of reducing women's desire to have multiple children (Khan & Wang, 2021).

Another factor that influences the choice of family size is regarding the age of the wife. There are studying that state that there are 2 factors that affect the fertility rate of a population, namely the age of the wife at the time of the first marriage aged 17-20 years and the number of wives that are not working (Marlina et al., 2017; Ndorang, 2016; Ismah, 2021). In addition to age, formal education obtained by a husband and wife also affects the age of marriage and fertility. So the best solution is to intensify 12-year compulsory education in children, because the longer the education is taken, the longer it will delay the desire to marry, so that it can directly reduce the fertility rate (L. Sinaga et al., 2017; Ismah, 2021).



The findings in China show that the country has a fairly low TFR rate for 1.2-1.6 due to costs of child care, but there is a deep history of policies such as the one-child Policy in 1979 and only then was the universal two-child policy announced in 2015. After the two-child policy, research has shown that having a younger sibling will significantly reduce per capita household expenditure, especially if the child is a boy where their investment focuses will be on the child and previous studies have also argued that, children not only consume household needs but also contribute to those household resources. Mothers with higher education are expected to be able to follow the two-child policy because mothers with higher education tend to have more qualified resources in child development than mothers with low education (Chen S, 2020).

Socioeconomic factors of households can be behind the existence of fertility research conducted in West Sumatra shows that among other things, it is caused by the work of the head of the household, where the higher the level of work will describe the welfare of the family and influence the decision to have children. Then, the level of household expenditure per capita, cost is an important factor of the sustainability of fertility. Household expenditure is the average expenditure in a certain period for the needs of a household member with many members in the household. This is supported by the first point, namely work related to income, that is obtained to use for life purposes of achieving satisfaction (Jhingan, 2003: 31). The population growth rate of developing countries is the third factor, where in Indonesia with population growth rates that can hinder the development process. The education of mothers and fathers plays a significant role in fertility, better maternal education in general will increase the possibility of better education availability for their children (Todaro 2004:421). Education will also have an impact on rational planning of the number of children (Defiana Larasati, et al, 2018).

Research in Ghana shows that there are several factors that show a high rate of desire to have children, including women with low economy, women with high economy, couples with higher education, urban women, women with high jobs (Ahinkorah B O et al, 2021).

The study also has some limitations. First, the literature obtained has different research methods so that generalizing is still difficult. Second, this research is still limited to secondary data onto journals so that the results obtained are not necessarily in accordance with the situation in the field. Third, the authors find it difficult to find appropriate readings because research on socio-cultural and family size on fertility is still rarely discussed.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Family size is influenced by various things, one of which is socio-cultural. The most influential thing is when a person lives in a certain region and tribal group. Local cultural factors can influence the determination of the number of children to be born. Some



tribal groups have cultures where there are tribes that need boys as leaders or girls to maintain the heritage. There are other things that affect family size, namely state programs, wife age and regulations in a country. One of the programs that is closely related to fertility is a family planning program that focuses on reducing maternal and child mortality and keeping the population stable. Meanwhile, the age of the wife in marriage affects the knowledge she has. An example of a regulation that affects the selection of family size is the regulation of child restrictions in China, where the results of this policy have an impact on the per capita expenditure of the family. In addition, this restriction also affects fertility so that the population can be controlled. Then with the control of the population, it will help the population in terms of the economy. The economic side also affects the desire for the number of children to have, where the high and low of the economy can be used as a reason for its determination.

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