

GENDER ANALYSIS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIALIZATION TOWARDS CHILD AND CHILD INVESTMENTS AMONG HIGHLAND FARMER FAMILIES IN WEST JAVA INDONESIA

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Abstract

The socialization of agricultural technology and investment activities implemented by parents toward their children must be done continuously in order to increase their family well-being of farmer families at highland areas. Schultz (1981) said that the child investment will improve economic efficiency and will enhance economic growth in the future. The objectives of the study were to describe gender analysis in (1) Identifying agricultural socialization and child investments, and (2) Analyzing the influence of social economic status of the family to agricultural socialization and child investments. It was a preliminary survey and a descriptive cross-sectional study design. The study was conducted at highland areas that were selected purposively at Ciputri Village, Pacet Sub District, and Sindangjaya Village, Cipunanas Sub District, Cianjur District-West Java Province. The pre-survey method of 120 samples was purposively chosen among farmer families in early 2014. Samples were 120 wives and their child. The characteristics of social economic of farmer families were represented by the level education of mother and father and monthly income per capita. The child consisted of 50 percent of male and 50 percent of females. The rate of age of mother and father were 37 and 42 years old. The rate of education level of mother and father were graduated from elementary school level. The rate number of family members was 6 people. Most of economic level of farmer families was above the poverty level. The rate of monthly income per capita was IDR 445.465. The agricultural socialization towards child was measured by 20 items concerning technologies and activities using ordinal scale (1 and 2). The investment towards child was measured by 23 items concerning education facilities and health care using ordinal scale (1 and 2). The reliability of Cronbach Alphas of agricultural socialization and child investment were 0.96 and 0.50. The difference independent of t test will be applied to analyze gender differences between male and female. Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) will be used to analyze the effects of latent variables. It was concluded that there was no differences between male and female child in terms of the treatments of agricultural socialization and child investment done by their parents. Most of farmer families implemented high level of agricultural socialization and investment toward their children both male and female. It was found out that the higher of social economic status of farmer families influenced directly significant to the lower of agricultural socialization towards their child. However, the opposite results showed that the higher of social economic status of farmer families influenced directly significant to the higher of investment towards their child. It seems that the richer farmer families were unlikely to have interested in introducing agricultural knowledge but were very likely to increase their investment towards their child.

Keywords: Gender, child investment, agricultural socialization