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# Social Capital, Economic Coping, and Family Well-being in Family Women Migrant Worker

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#### Abstract:

The achievement of family well - being is an aspiration of all families including families of migrant workers, to achieve the well - being of one of the ways that the families of migrant workers with the departure of the wife work as domestic servants in various countries. The purpose of this study was to analyze social capital, economic coping and family well - being of women migrant workers. This research uses cross sectional studies. The location was chosen purposively in Tanggeung Village, Pagermaneuh Village, Margaluyu Village, Karangtengah Village, Tanggeung District and Pasirdalam Village Kadupandak District, Cianjur, West Java, Indonesia. Seventy five families were selected purposively among the families of women migrant workers. The finding indicates that social capital is in the moderate category, the coping economy is in the moderate category and the family well-being is in the low category. Finding in this study family well-being is influenced by husband's income and education, social capital and economic coping.

Keywords: economic coping, family well-being, social capital

#### 1. Introduction

The family is a structured kinship group with the function of nurturing, parenting, and socializing the newborn (Reiss 1969 in Puspitawati 2013). Every family must have a goal to family well-being. Alatartseva & Barysheva (2015) describe well-being in two aspects, namely objective well-being and subjective well-being. The objective approach is materially measured, such as ownership of money, ownership of land / assets, knowledge, energy, security and others, while subjective well-being is measured by the happiness and satisfaction felt by the family itself. Subjective well-being more indicates a feeling of personal / family satisfaction or gratitude for the life of his family (Puspitawati & Herawati 2008). Begic *et al.* (2007) states that the factors that affect subjective well-being are anxiety or anxiety, depression, coping strategies, social capital and social support.

Family well-being a desirable condition for families around the world. Various ways that each family member to achieve their well-being. Wives in the families of women migrant workers, must leave their families to work abroad due to economic demands. This becomes a dilemma, because with the departure of a wife working overseas creates problems. Puspitawati (2013) describes the benefits and costs of the wife who works as women migrant workers, while wife who work as women migrant workers can contribute to family well-being; Feel self-esteem, actualize potential, and self-competence; can interact with others at work and become part of the network; add insight and learn life, hajj opportunity; give an example to the child. While the cost of the wife who works as a as women migrant workers is to leave the house for two years, let the children treated / cared for by others, there are children who are disturbed growth, there is the risk of unloving marriage, less neglected homes, the risk persecuted and died.

In achieving family well-being, the family also has three capital, namely economic capital, human capital and social capital (Djohan 2008). Coleman (1988) defines social capital as the source that the agent reaches through a particular social structure and then used to gain his interests. Burt & Ronald (1997) interpret social capital as a friend, colleague, and community that opens opportunities for the utilization of economic and human capital. Based on research conducted by Wills *et al.* (2011); Mohnen *et al.* (2015); Celia & Lenora (2004); Alfiasari (2008); Kawachi (2006); Fujiwara & Kawachi (2008) found the influence of social capital on family well-being. Good social capital, will improve mental health, positive relationships, can accept itself as it is, a growing personality, a high level of trust and feel comfortable (Markovic & Manderson, 2002). Research Garcia & McDowell (2010) states that all families can

experience problems in social capital (low income, legal issues, illness etc.), such families are often referred to as low-status families that cause unproductive family in social life and this can cause stress for family members. The World Bank reports that social capital has a positive and influential contribution to improving household well-being (Grootaert 1999).

Coping is a process whereby individuals try to set perceptual gaps between demanding the situation's demands with their ability to meet demands (Lazarus & Folkman 1984). Based on the Sustainable Livelihoods Approach developed by Scoones, families carry out coping strategies to get out of vulnerable conditions that disrupt resources, one of which is social capital. Coping strategies are influenced by social capital (Krantz 2001) and social capital can assist households in the face of strategies against uncertain income risks (Grootaert 1999). The few coping strategies used show increased family well-being (Rosidah *et al.* 2012). Poverty affects the limited access that families can use to implement coping strategies (Hossain 2006). Debebe *et al.* (2013) finds the difference in economic handling done by Africans in the face of economic shocks, Africans not saving and reducing consumption. Borner *et al.* (2012) states that family economic control depends on ownership of resources owned, if have many assets, such as land, the family will sell the land in handling the economy.

Many studies are conducted related to family well-being, social capital and economic coping. However, research related to family well-being, social capital and economic coping has never been done to families of migrant workers. Various problems faced by women migrant workersfamily for the purpose of this research is to identify husband characteristics, wife characteristics, social capital, economic coping and family well-being on the family of women migrant workers and analyze the influence of husband characteristics, wife characteristics, social capital, economic coping on family well-being on the family women migrant workers.

#### 2. Methodology

This study uses Cross Sectional Study, which is conducted only at a certain time, it is not sustainable. Site selection was done purposively in Tanggeung District, Pagermaneuh Village, Margaluyu Village, Karangtengah Village, Tanggeung Village and Kadupandak District, PasirdalamVillage, District, Cianjur, West Java, Indonesia. Consideration of Cianjur Regency selection because it is ranked as the 3rd largest as contributor of migrant workers in West Java and the 6th largest of all Indonesia. The study was conducted from November to December 2016. The populations in this study were family women migrant workers in Tanggeung Sub district and Kadupandak Sub district, District Cianjur. Example of this research is intact family of women migrant workers in which the wife has work as migrant workers forat least six months and respondent in this research are the husbands. Determination of sample is done by purposive sampling with criteria wife work as migrant workers at least six months. The number of respondents is 75.

Primary data were obtained through interviews using structured questionnaires, including the characteristics of husband (age, education and income), wife characteristics (age, education, income and time to migrant workers), social capital, economic coping and family well-being. Social capital consists of four dimensions and 21 questions, namely participation (four questions), trust (four questions), reciprocity (eight questions) and social norm (five questions) with Cronbach's alpha 0.677, this questionnaire is a modification of The Measuring Social Capital in Five Communities in NSW (Bullen & Onyx 1998). Coping the economy consists of four dimensions and nine questions, as for the dimensions of the economic coping is the reduction of consumption (three questions), increase income (two questions), sell assets (two questions) and seeking help (two questions) with Cronbach's alpha 0.584, this questionnaire Is a modification of the questionnaire Borner *et al.* (2012) and the concept of Lazarus (1984). Family well-being consists of four dimensions and 11 questions, as for the dimensions of family well-being are the relationships within the family (three questions), economic conditions (four questions), health (two questions) and religion (2 questions) with Cronbach's alpha 0.719. This questionnaire is a modification of The Family Quality of Life Scale (Hoffman *et al.* 2006).

Data collected through interviews, then processed and analyzed through Microsoft Excel, SPSS 23.0 and smart Partial Least Square (PLS) Techniques. Data processing includes editing, coding, entering, scoring, and analysing. Data processing is done by using descriptive analysis (mean, standard deviation, maximum value and minimum value of husband characteristics, wife characteristics, social capital, economic coping and family well-being), for social capital variable, economic coping, and family well-being will be indexed With scale 0-100 then use cut off where low = 0.00-50.00, moderate = 50.01-75.00 and high  $\geq$ 75.01. Inferencing analysis used is Smart Partial Least Square (PLS) Techniques. Smart Partial Least Square (PLS) analysis is a powerful analytical method because it can be applied to any data scale and does not require many assumptions.

#### 3. Results and Analysis

# 3.1. Characteristics of Husband and Wife

The age of the husband is in the middle adult average, i.e. 41.6 with the minimum age of 30 years and maximum 64 years, while the wife age has a 36.6 average with a minimum age of 28 years and the maximum age of 50 years. Average education of husband only on elementary school graduation, which is 6.7 with the lowest education does not complete primary school and the highest education graduated from college, not much different from the education of husband, education wife has the average of 6.4 with the lowest education does not complete primary school and the highest education only completed junior high school. While in earnings, only four husbands with income above Cianjur Regency Minimum Wage (Rp 1.900.000), while wife income spread in various countries more than half of the income above minimum wage in Cianjur. The majority of husbands (73.3 percent) work as casual laborers while the wife's work all work as domestic servants in various countries. The length of working wife to become women migrant workers is quite varied, where the average length of wife to be women migrant workers is 30,5 months.

Variable	n	%	Average± Std	Min - Max
Age of husband (year old)			$41,6 \pm 6,5$	30 - 64
21 – 40 years (Young adults)	37	49,3		
41 – 65 years (Mature adults)	38	50,7		
66 – 74 years (Young elderly)	0	0		
Husband education (years)				
Non graduated from primary school	5	6,7	$6.7 \pm 2.1$	4 - 16
Graduated from primary school	55	73,3		
Graduated from junior high school	10	13,3		
Graduated from senior high school	4	5,3		
Graduated from university	1	1,3		
Husband's income (IDR)				
>Rp 1.900.000	4	5,3	516.000 ± 522.284	0 – Rp 2.600.000
<rp 1.900.000<="" td=""><td>71</td><td>94,7</td><td></td><td></td></rp>	71	94,7		
Age of wife (years)				
21 – 40 tahun (dewasa muda)	60	80,0	$36,6 \pm 5,6$	28 - 55
41 – 65 tahun (dewasa madya)	15	20,0		
66 – 74 tahun (lansia muda)	0	0		
Wife education (years)				
Non graduated from primary school	1	1,3	$6,41 \pm 1,10$	4 - 9
Graduated from primary school	63	84,0		
Graduated from junior high school	11	14,7		
Graduated from senior high school	0	0		
Graduated from university	0	0		
Wife's income (IDR)			$2.077.333 \pm 600.804$	
>Rp 1.900.000	46	61,3		2.600.000 - 3.500.000
<rp 1.900.000<="" td=""><td>29</td><td>38,7</td><td></td><td></td></rp>	29	38,7		
Old wife becomes women migrant				
workers (month)				
6 – 24	31	41,3	$30,5 \pm 15,1$	7 - 74
25 – 48	32	42,7		
49 – 74	12	16,0		

Table 1: Distribution of sample by category characteristic of husband and wife

# 3.2. Social Capital

The average social capital index score is 64.42. Social capital in this study included moderate 57 respondents or about 76.0 percent, while social capital is low only six respondents or about 8.0 percent. In the sample participation dimension is in the moderate category of 35 respondents and 31 in the high category, it indicates good husband participation in every big family activity and society. While in the dimension of confidence only 6.7 percent of respondents who are in the low category with 78.4 percent average, this dimension is the dimension with the highest average. This shows the high level of confidence husband to large families and surrounding communities. The dimension of reciprocal relationship of more than half is in the moderate category with 58.6 percent average, this indicates a good husband's reciprocal relationship. The last dimension, social norm is in the low category with 64.4 percent average (Table 2).

Dimensions of Social	Low	Moderate	High	Minimum - Maximum	Average±Std
Capital	(≤ 50,0)	(50,01-75,0)	(≥75,01)		
Participation	12,0	46,7	41,3	41,6 - 100,0	$76,2 \pm 16,9$
Trust	6,7	46,7	46,7	16,6 - 100,0	$78,4 \pm 16,4$
Reciprocal	33,3	53,3	13,3	25,0 - 91,6	$58,6 \pm 15,9$
Social norm	53,3	26,7	20,0	0,0 - 100,0	64,4 ± 11,1
Total modal social	8,0	76,0	16,0	28,5 - 92,1	$54,1 \pm 15,2$

Table 2: Distribution of sample by category & minimum value, maximal, average and standard deviation of social capital

# 3.3. Coping Economic

The coping of the sample family economy is included in the moderate category with an average of 54.1. The dimension of reduction consumption of average is very large, i.e., 81.7, it is very appropriate with the field conditions that coping the most widely done by families of migrant workers such as reducing food consumption, both primary consumption and secondary consumption. The dimension of adding income is in the low category, which is 49, 3 with an average of 68.6. The coping done by the husband on this dimension is to work as a day laborer off. The dimension of selling assets has only 4.2 because the majority of the families do not

have valuable assets that can be sold in conducting economic coping. The dimension of seeking help is in the low category, i.e. 74.7 percent with 47.7 percent average. (Table 3).

Dimension of Economic coping	Low	Moderate	High	Minimum - Maximum	Average ±Std
	$(\le 50,0)$	(50,01-75,0)	$(\geq 75,01)$		
Reduction consumption	13,3	13,3	73,3	0,0 - 100,0	$81,7 \pm 27,6$
Adding income	49,3	5,3	45,3	0,0 - 100,0	$68,6 \pm 30,6$
Selling assets	100,0	0	0	0,0 - 50,0	$4,2 \pm 12,2$
Seeking help	74,7	8,0	17,3	0,0-100,0	$47,7 \pm 28,6$
Economic coping	36,0	56,0	8,0	0.0 - 88.8	$54,1 \pm 15,2$

Table 3: Distribution of sample by category & minimum value, maximal, average and standard deviation of economic coping

#### 3.4. Family well-being

Family well-being is categorized as low, where 77.3 percent of families are in low category and it is only 39.9 in average. This is in accordance with the field observation that family well-being is still very low. In the dimensions of family relationships are in the low category with 46.5 percent average, it shows the low relationship/ interaction between family members, especially the interaction between husband and wife. On the dimension of economic conditions most families are in the low category with only 15.4 percent average. It shows the very limited family of migrant workers in the economy, especially in the primary cases, such as buying food, clothing and other primary needs. However, in the religious and health dimensions it is quite good, this is due to the study conducted by the local village head and the existence of local government programs, such as local health insurance and public well-being guarantee. When families have health insurance from government they feel that their health is guaranteed (Table 4).

Dimensions of Family well-being	Rendah (≤ 50,0)	Sedang (50,01 – 75,0)	Tinggi (≥ 75,01)	Minimal - Maximal	Average±Std
Family relationships	57,3	32,0	10,7	0,0 - 100,0	$46,5 \pm 20,8$
Economic conditions	93,3	6,7	0	0,0 - 75,0	$15,4 \pm 20,5$
Health	38,7	46,7	14,7	0,0 - 100,0	$64,2 \pm 25,8$
Religious	22,7	56,0	21,3	0,0-100,0	$54,6 \pm 28,4$
Family well-being	77,3	22,0	2,7	6,1 - 84,8	$39,9 \pm 14,8$

Table 4: Distribution of samples by category of minimum value, maximal, average and standard deviation of family well-being

#### 3.5. Influence of Husband Characteristic, Wife Characteristic, Social Capital, Economic Coping to Family Well-being

The result of test of influence of husband characteristic model, wife characteristic, social capital, economic coping to family well-being shows R-Square which is 0.274. It's means that the model explains 27.4 percent model variables affect the family well-being and the rest 72.6 percent influenced by other variable out of this research. The results showed the characteristics of husband (education and income) have a significant positive effect on social capital ( $\beta = 0.319$ ). This means the higher the husband's education and the greater the husband's income, the husband's social capital will increase. The result also shows that husband characteristics (education and income) have a significant positive impact on family well-being ( $\beta = 0.394$ ), which means the higher the education of the husband and the greater the husband's income then the family well-being will increase. The result shows social capital has a significant positive effect on family well-being ( $\beta = 0.210$ ), which means the better the husband's social capital then the family well-being will increase. The results of the study also shows that economic coping has a significant negative effect on the family well-being ( $\beta = -0.2293$ ), which means more and more coping of the family's economy indicates that the family is not prosperous. (Table 4 & Figure 1)

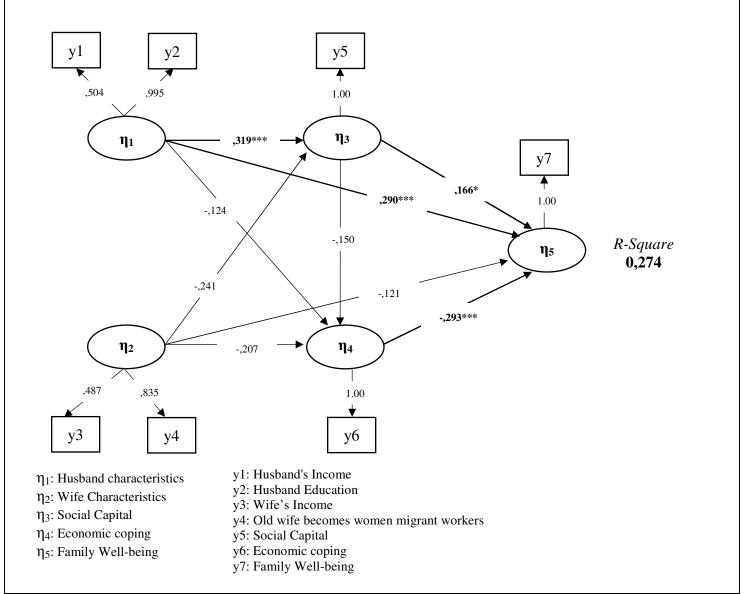


Figure 1: Model of influence of characteristic of husband, wife, social capital, economic copingon family well-being (n = 75)

Variable		Total					
	Total Effects	Direct Effects	Inderect Effects				
Social capital							
Husband's characteristics	0,319***	0,319***	0,000				
Wife's characteristics	-0,241	-0,241	0,000				
Economic coping	•						
Husband's characteristics	-0,171	-0,124	-0,047				
Wife's characteristics	-0,170	-0,207	0,037				
Social capital	-0,150	-0,150	0,000				
Family well-being	•						
Husband's characteristics	0,394***	0,290	0,104				
Wife's characteristics	-0,111	-0,121	0,010				
Social capital	0,210*	0,166	0,044				
Economic coping	-0,293***	-0,293***	0,000				

Table 5: Results of decomposition of influence of husband's characteristics and wife's characteristics, social capital, economic coping on family well-being

*Note: Signification on:* \*\*\*\$\leq 0,01, \*\*\$\leq 0,05, \*\leq 0,1

#### 4. Discussion

This study has found a positive influence of husband's income and education on social capital, which means the greater the income and the higher the education of husband, the husband's social capital will be better. Wills *et al.* (2011) found that income and education affect social capital. This study found a significant positive influence between the income and education of husband with family well-being, which means the greater income and the higher education will improve the family well-being. Stevenson & Wolfers (2013) found a positive influence between income and education on family well-being in the United States. In accordance with the finding of this study, Bruce & Mark (2004) state that income from a family has a significant positive effect on family life satisfaction. While the characteristics of wives do not have a significant effect on family well-being, it negatively affects the family well-being. This indicates that the wife's income does not contribute to the family well-being. This study also found a positive influence of social capital on family well-being, which means the better the family's social capital, the better the family well-being. The findings on this study are consistent with the findings of the study by Helliwell *et al.* (2013) found the influence of social capital on family well-being. Research conducted by Yip *et al.* (2007) in rural China found a positive influence between social capital on family well-being.

The most economic coping of the economy is coping with income, because it is quite effective in the face of economic pressures, such as the delivery of wives not yet arrived and the husband has not found employment, since the majority of husbands work as casual laborers. This study also found a significant negative effect of economic coping on family well-being. Dercon (2000) found that families who often do consumption reductions are low income families or less prosperous families, in other words, seemingly many coping of the family's economy indicates low family well-being. Ersado *et al.* (2014) says low income families do economic coping by reducing consumption. Debebe *et al.* (2013) this Ethiopian rural study shows that families will do economic coping in the form of not saving, reducing consumption, selling assets, borrowing / seeking help and working as casual workers in case of economic shock. Based on the Sustainable Livelihood Approach developed by Scoones, families do coping strategies to get out of vulnerable conditions that disrupt family resources.

# 5. Conclusions and Suggestions

Husbands who have greater incomes and higher education tend to have better social capital. By having a considerable income, husband can access social life. The amount of income a husband also has a great impact on family well-being, husbands who have greater income, tend to feel more prosperous than the husbands who have lower incomes. But the income of the wife actually gives a negative influence on the family well-being. Social capital owned by the family is quite good, seen from how the participation and trust of husband to big family. The better the family's social capital then the family well-beingwill be better. Family economic coping is in the moderate category, but on the dimension of reducing consumption is included in the high category. This suggests more and more family coping of the economy indicates the lower family well-being. Family well-being belongs to the low category, especially in the economic dimension and dimension of family relationships.

To improve the family well-being of women migrant workers should strengthen social capital (better social capital will help families get out of economic problems), increase participation in community activities, establish good relationships with extended family, friends and neighbors, and lastly maintain and foster trust in the family. It is better for the special family to think about going back to work as women migrant worker, because based on the finding in this research, the wife's income gives negative impact to the family well-being. The better economic coping that should be done by women migrant workers family are utilizing the yard well (planting vegetables), and trying to find a job even as a freelancer. For further research is expected to study about psychological coping, because the problem faced by the husband of women migrant workers family is more complex.

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