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# Gender Relationship Analysis in Coastal Resources Management in Fishermen's Households: Functional Structural Theory Perspective

Syaifudin Suhri Kasim<sup>1</sup>, Sarmadan<sup>2</sup>, Masrul<sup>3</sup>, Ratna Supiyah<sup>4</sup>, Tanzil<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1,2,4,5</sup>Department of Sociology, Universitas Halu Oleo, Indonesia

<sup>3</sup>Department of Communication, Universitas Halu Oleo, Indonesia

Corresponding Author: Syaifudin Suhri Kasim; Email: syaifudinsuhrikasim@gmail.com

## ARTICLEINFO

# ABSTRACT

<i>Keywords</i> : Coastal Resources, Fishermen's Households, Gender Relations.	The results showed that gender relations in the management of coastal resources in fishing households took place in the following activities: fishing; making fishing lines; netting; net embroidery; fish transportation; fish preservation; and sale of fish. Of the seven activities, the wife plays a role in almost all coastal resource
Received : 24 July 2021	management activities, except for fishing activities. In addition, the wife does all
Revised : 29 July 2021	domestic roles while the husband only focuses on the public role and does not
Accepted : 31 July 2021	involve himself in the domestic role. In view of the structural-functional theory, the results of this study illustrate that gender relations in coastal resource management in fishing households indicate a power relationship and status differences between men and women. The involvement of the wife (woman) in almost all activities is a form of integration (integration) carried out by the wife (woman) to maintain the continuity of the household and maintain the balance of the family integrity system, although this role is not balanced but complementary. The results of this study also show that gender relations in the management of coastal resources in fishermen's households have ideologically "perpetuated" male domination and gender
	stratification in fishermen's family institutions and society in general.

#### INTRODUCTION

The government's attention to the management of coastal resources is quite large, because this area not only saves the potential of natural resources which is quite large but also the social potential of the community, moreover most of the population who live in coastal areas and depend on marine resources for their lives are still classified as poor. (Kusnadi, et al., 2006; Sahar, et al., 2020). Therefore, studies on the lives of coastal communities have become one of the main concerns that have been carried out by previous researchers, especially related to socio-economic problems of fishermen's households, including gender roles and problems in fisherman family institutions.

Until now, several studies have been carried out on the lives of fishermen in various dimensions of their lives to improve the quality of life of fishermen's households. Among them is what Rani Andriani BK, et al (2013) did about gender analysis in fisherman's family life. The results of his research conclude that in domestic and public activities in fishermen's households, especially in decision making, there is no particular pattern in particular. It can be seen that domestic activities are generally carried out by wives, while public activities are relatively the same between husbands and wives. Research by Achmad Azizi, et al (2012) on the role of gender in fisherman household decision making. The results of his research concluded that in fishermen's households there is no joint decision making between husband and wife, both in domestic activities and in productive activities. Decision-making is only carried out on the management of fisheries business which is still dominated by the husband. Sri Narti and Fera Indasari (2018) examined the stereotypes of the gender role of fishing communities in facing life's vulnerabilities. Research results conclude that there is a shift in household stereotype fishermen in the division of labor, especially in the view that women can only do a certain job by nature and vice versa for men.

Of several research studies over the views of coastal communities Various gender studies are still relatively limited, even though gender issues in fishermen's households are quite complex, so studies are still needed in other aspects, including analysis of gender relations in the management of coastal resources in fishing households and their relevance to the views of social theories, especially functional structural theory.

The concept of gender is a term used to distinguish the roles between men and women that are created and internalized in the family, society, and culture in which they live, including expectations, attitudes, traits, and behavior of how they behave as men and women. Satoto (2017), while gender relations are intended as relationships that exist between men and women based on differences in roles, functions, and skills that are dynamic in nature according to environmental conditions that are constantly evolving (Umar, 2000).

In this context, a household is a group of people who are united by marriage and who have their respective social roles and functions according to their position in the household. In domestic life, it appears that the social roles among its members are reciprocally interconnected and complementary. The interaction between the components of roles and functions is very important in keeping the system running.

Gender relations in the family or household become one of the main concerns of Talcott Parsons in his structural-functional theory which emerged as a reaction to his thoughts on the fading of family functions due to modernization. In Parsons' view, even though the environment changes, the family must be able to adapt to maintain a balance in the functioning of the system in the family. In the perspective of the structural functional theory that the sexual division of labor is something natural, where the husband plays an instrumental role in his capacity as the head of the household, and the wife takes an expressive role as the manager of the household. This role runs in a balanced way, because if between these functions there are overlaps and deviations, then the whole family system will experience an imbalance. Therefore, balance in roles must always be maintained. To maintain balance in the family, the three elements in the internal structure of the family must complement each other, including social status, social roles, and social norms (Bales, 1976; in Aisyah, 2013).

Social status in the family structure consists of, husband/father; wife/mother, and children with their respective different roles. In view of Structural-Functional theory, the influence of social roles in family institutions is very important. Because in every social role there are norms that become the standard of behavior for each actor so that they become the rules of the game in the division of tasks in the family. In Levy's view, so that family functions are not disrupted, it is necessary to have a division of tasks within the family so that gender relations among family members can run in a balanced way. This is also in line with the views of Talcott Parsons and Robert Bales who state that gender relations in family institutions are more about preserving harmony and not competition. Because the pattern of the relationship is determined by the following factors: First; power and status, where men are seen as having higher power and status than women. Second; non-verbal communication factors; and third: work differentiation factors (Aisyah, 2013).

Differences in status and power between husbands/men and wives/women become the basis for the division of labor in the household, where work outside the household or public affairs is the domain of men and all work at home or domestic affairs become the territory of women (Narwako, 2007).

#### **Methods**

This research was conducted in Tongali Village, Siompu Island, South Buton Regency, where the majority of the people live in coastal areas with the main livelihood as fishing. The selection of informants was done intentionally (purposive sampling technique). The type of research used is descriptive qualitative. Because this type of research can analyze social reality in-depth and can be used to study, uncover and explore what is going on behind every new and little-known phenomenon. Data were obtained through interviews and observations of all fishing family activities about coastal resource management. The main data sources consist of: a) Primary data obtained from observations and direct interviews with informants and observations of researchers in the field. b) Secondary data sourced from libraries, previous research reports (scientific research reports/journals). Books and documentation in the form of photos that is relevant to the research topic.

Data collection techniques are carried out by (a) observing the object of research, especially the types of activities carried out by fishermen's families. (b) Interviews (Interviews), to obtain direct and more in-depth information so that they can understand the relationship or cooperative relationship of fishermen's families in processing coastal resources and (c) Documentation, namely digging up a large number of facts and data stored in the material that is formed as documentation, some of the available data are in the form of letters, diaries, reports, photos and so on (Upe, 2016). The analysis technique uses a qualitative descriptive analysis technique which aims to get a systematic picture of how gender relations are in the fishermen's families at the research location. The analysis was carried out through four stages: First, data collection, Second, data reduction, thirdly data presentation and finally drawing conclusions.

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

In general, the results of the study show that gender relations in the management of coastal resources in fishermen's households take place in several types of activities, including:

#### **Gender relations**

In fishing, the uncertainty which at times is unfriendly and threatens the lives of fishermen. Therefore, in this activity, a strong workforce is needed to do it. In infield research, data obtained that fishing activities are only carried out by husbands and sometimes also involve boys who are teenagers while wives and daughters only focus on domestic affairs while waiting for their husband and/or son to return home after fishing at sea. But for households that have not or do not have children, both male and female, a husband only goes down by himself to catch fish while his wife waits at home while doing domestic work.

In catching fish, fishermen's family members do not catch fish every day, only three or four times a week and depending on the weather. There is one day that most fishermen in Tongali Village don't catch fish, namely on Friday because on this day men are required to pray Friday. There are two different times when fishing by family members of fishermen (husbands). There are fishing households that carry out fishing activities starting at 3 in the morning until 5 in the afternoon and there are also those who leave at 4 pm and return at 10 pm. As for the boys in helping their parents catch fish only during school holidays, except for families where their sons drop out of school, they can generally help their fathers every time they do fishing at sea. **Gender Relations in Making Fishing Lines** 

Fisher families are one group of households that have limited working capital. Therefore, in general, they do not buy ready-made fishing gear, but they choose to make it themselves. One of the fishing gear that fishermen families make themselves are fishing rods and nets. The manufacture of fishing rods generally in fishermen's households involves husband and wife including teenage children if any in the family.

The results showed that the fishing rods were made entirely by the husband and wife, only helping to buy the equipment. The wife buys fishing equipment after they complete all domestic activities which are their main task. Meanwhile, fishermen's children are not involved in making fishing lines.

#### Gender Relations in Making Nets/Trawlers

As is the case with fishing lines, in net-making activities, generally only the husband is involved, while the wife's involvement is to help the husband prepare additional tools such as lead, rope, and buoys to make nets. The time used in making one net hole is about 1.40 minutes/hour because you have to attach ropes at the top and bottom then equipped with lead and buoys. In the activity of making nets, a wife helps her husband after completing the domestic work.

#### Gender Relation in Embroidery Nets

The embroidery of nets/seines is done by fishermen when they do not go out to sea because the weather does not allow them to go down or when they are resting, especially on Fridays. In the embroidery of nets/trawl all family members are involved, without exception the wife and teenage children. The wife's involvement, apart from purchasing the tools or materials needed for net embroidery, is also fully involved in the embroidery. The average time used is 1 hour if the condition of the net/trawl is not too badly damaged.

## Gender Relations in Fish Transportation Fish

Transportation is carried out shortly after the husband arrives at the pier from fishing activities, where before the husband arrives, the wife rests her boat (body rod) at the pier, carrying a basin as a place to transport the fish. Their husbands catch while at sea. In fish transportation activities sometimes the husband is also assisted if his wife is sick and cannot carry out strenuous activities, while the fishermen's children are involved because they want to help and ease the work of their parents. The time spent by the fishermen's wife in transporting fish from the boat is 1 hour, while the fishermen's daughters who only lighten the work of their parents are half an hour or 30 minutes. So that transportation activities are generally only carried out by fishermen's wives while their husbands are not involved because husbands feel tired after carrying out these fishing activities.

#### **Gender Relations in Fish Preservation**

Transport activities are carried out by fishermen after the transportation of the results has been completed. This activity is entirely carried out by the fishermen's wives by putting the fish in a box that has been prepared with the addition of ice to keep the fish fresh because not every day the traditional market where they sell fish is opened, only 3 or 4 times a week. In this activity, fishermen's wives are usually assisted by their children when buying or preparing ice for fish preservation. In fish preservation activities, fishermen's wives spend an hour or less. The fisherman's wife uses a long time because she has to clean the box first. The time used in this activity is almost the same as the time used by the fishermen's wife in the activity of transporting fish from the boat.

#### **Gender Relations in Fish Sales**

The final activity of the coastal resource management process for fishermen in Tongali Buton Selatan village is marketing the catch. The marketing of the product is carried out by the wife and husband, where the wife sells it to traditional markets while the husband markets it to Papalele (a local term for collectors of fishery products in the area). But sometimes the wife also sells the fish to the *Papalele* depending on the circumstances, type, and quality of the fish because the *Papalele* only buys certain types of fish with good quality. Therefore, in weighing fish by *Papalele* not all types of fish obtained by fishermen can be weighed, there are only a few types of fish of choice because the fish purchased by *Papalele* are then marketed to other areas or to fish companies in the capital city of Sulawesi province. Southeast, and generally this *Papalele* comes from outside the region. The time spent by fishermen's wives in fish selling activities starts from 6 to 9, so the total time spent by fishermen's wives is 3 hours in fish marketing.

In general, the results of this study indicate that in the management of coastal resources in fishermen's households, the husband-wife cooperative relationship in the process takes place in 7 (seven) stages of activity, where the wives/ women fisherman almost involved in all of these activities, except for fishing activities.

#### **Functional Structural Theory Perspective**

If examined from the perspective of functional structural theory, specifically in fishing activities, the wife/women are not involved because in fishing activities is based on the view that fishing requires strong energy to face the harsh challenges of nature, so that wives/women are seen as inappropriate to engage in such activities. There is a view of men or husbands that wives/women do not need to be involved in these activities, this is a manifestation of the awareness of men in their status as heads of households and has an instrumental role that is expected to be able to maintain survival and protect their families. Moreover, in coastal communities, especially for fishing activities, it is the husband's responsibility while the wife only takes care of domestic work as long as the husband carries out fishing activities. In this division of roles, some norms become standards of behavior and are the result of family consensus born from the influence of their cultural system.

In the activities of making fishing line, making nets, embroidering nets/trawls, and selling fish, it shows that the involvement of the wife (women) in almost all activities is a form of integration (integration) carried out by the wife (women) to maintain household continuity and maintain the balance of the system. family integrity, even though these roles are not balanced but are complementary. The absence of conflict in the imbalance of roles is due to the non-overlapping of roles and the deviation of functions from one another. In addition, in the perspective of structural-functional theory, this shows an assumption in fishermen's families that family members (husband, wife, and children) are a complementary unit, just like biological organisms that have their own systems (roles and functions). each of which in some respects can be done independently. So that the involvement of fishermen's wives in making fishing lines, making nets, embroidering nets, and selling fish is perceived as a form of preserving family harmony, not a form of competition. This happened because of the mutual consensus among the fishermen's family members. Besides that, husbands already have an understanding that the view that positions women only doing domestic tasks does not need to be involved in public work, it seems that their values have changed. Moreover, the wife's involvement in the work is to help maintain the survival of her family. Therefore, a consensus is a glue that binds the system to work in the family, even though from the aspect of social life, men are still above women, but from the economic aspect, the wife plays a role that is no less important than men.

In fish transportation and preservation activities, if examined from the point of view of functional structural theory, this illustrates that gender relations in the management of coastal resources in fishing households indicate a power relationship and status differences between men and women, where the husband positions himself as a fisherman. a master who has strong authority in regulating the roles and functions of his family members. Socio-cultural construction still has a significant influence on the division of roles in the family, so it can be seen that gender relations in the management of coastal resources in fishermen's households have ideologically "perpetuated" male domination and gender stratification in fishermen's family institutions and society in general.

#### CONCLUSION

The results of the study indicate that gender relations in the management of coastal resources in fishing households take place in the following activities: (1) fishing; (2) making fishing line; (3) netting; (4) net embroidery; (5) fish transportation; (6) fish preservation; and (7) sale of fish. Of the seven activities, the wife plays a role in almost all coastal resource management activities, except for

fishing activities. In addition, the wife does all domestic roles while the husband only focuses on the public role and does not involve himself in the domestic role. In view of the structural-functional theory, the results of this study illustrate that gender relations in coastal resource management in fishing households indicate a power relationship and status differences between men and women. The involvement of the wife (woman) in almost all activities is a form of integration (integration) carried out by the wife (woman) to maintain the continuity of the household and maintain the balance of the family integrity system, although this role is not balanced but complementary. The absence of conflict in the imbalance of roles is due to the non-overlapping of roles and the deviation of functions from one another. Likewise, sociocultural construction still has a significant influence on the division of roles in the family. The results of this study also show that gender relations in the management of coastal resources in fishermen's households have ideologically "perpetuated" male domination and gender stratification in fishermen's family institutions and society in general.

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