

## The importance of education for women in the progressive era

Santi Sartika\*, Dita Franesti, Lathifah Apriana Putri, Wisnu Aji Saputra

Universitas Ahmad Dahlan, Jl. Jend. Ahmad Yani, Kragilan, Tamanan, Banguntapan, Bantul, Yogyakarta,  
55191 Indonesia

\*Corresponding author: santi2015003075@webmail.uad.ac.id

### Abstract

In the current era of globalization, women are required to be independent, have a global perspective, and be resilient. So that with this knowledge, women can get recognition and position in the family and society. However, women have not been able to get this. There is still a gap between women and men in society. Where they think that women are not important to achieve higher education, because they will end up in the kitchen and take care of the household. Therefore, the authors try to open people's insights, that education for women is very important. Given the role of women in the family, as well as the number of cases that harm women. This research uses descriptive qualitative methods, by describing, analyzing, and observing matters related to education for women. With the hope that what was presented will get good appreciation from the community, add insight into the importance of education for women, and improve the existing education system.

**Keywords:** education for all, progressive era, women role

**How to cite:** Sartika, S., Franesti, D., Putri, L. A., & Saputra, W. A. (2022). The importance of education for women in the progressive era. *Proceedings of the International Conference on Education*, 1, 61-67.

---

### INTRODUCTION

Women have an important role in the family and society. However, in this globalization or progressive era, women are required to become stronger, independent, and globalization-minded individuals to avoid being left behind (Torani et al, 2019). Unfortunately, there are still many people who think that women do not need higher education because they will end up in the kitchen or taking care of the household. This statement is not wrong, because it is the nature of a woman to be at home. However, there are many great women out there who can create jobs or work according to their fields that can be used as examples.

Women need to be nurtured and empowered with education and the economy so that the role of women in the family and society will be stronger (Van Laar et al., 2013). If a woman has extensive education or knowledge, then the position of women will be high in the eyes of society (Mayo et al. 2001; Mcquillan et al., 2008). In reality, women in Indonesia are not given opportunities. Women still cannot get recognition from society, or awards. In this case, there are still many people who think traditionally or can be said to be ancient. The thought that women will not be able to change, do and make what a man does. The low interest of women to go to school and study is influenced by their environment and the will of their parents.

According to Wardoyo, the percentage increase in women's education affects efforts to improve indicators of the quality of human resources, especially in the fields of education and health. Educated women not only have good knowledge in maintaining the health of children and families but also create a wider role by improving the quality of health (Wardoyo, S. S. I., 2014). The importance of education for women is a serious problem that must be resolved. Because women (mothers) are the first madrasa for their children in the future. Where a woman has the

responsibility to educate and teach her children to be a good person, polite, full of responsibility, and always respects everyone.

The importance of education for women is something that people must understand so they don't think that women will only end up being housewives. The author tries to open the public's insight, that education for women is very important. Considering the role of women in the family and the many cases that harm women, it is hoped that what is presented will get good appreciation from the community and can add insight into the importance of education for women, as well as improve the existing education system.

## RESEARCH METHOD

The method in writing this paper is descriptive qualitative, which tries to describe, describe, determine, and interpret a phenomenon that occurs within the scope of education, especially education for women in Indonesia. The data collection technique referred to in this study is to find data from specifically regarding the role of women, the importance of education from various sources consisting of related works, as well as studies that explain data sources, as well as sources in the form of books, writings and journals, newspapers and internet media, as well as the results of surveys in the surrounding environment as well as surveys conducted by the Indonesian government regarding women's education in Indonesia by utilizing digital platforms, in the form of a database of analysis of dropout rates and also as a form of digital literacy that has been applied by women. Then the next stage after collecting the data, the data is processed and then classified.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### The role of women in the family

Women in the family have important responsibilities that are not light. In addition to having to prepare to work to meet the needs of his life and family, there are also other responsibilities in the form of responsibility for his children both physically, the need for love, and the need for their children's education. Fulfillment of children's education does not only provide opportunities for their children to learn and be sent to school alone (Syamsiyah, D., 2015).

Women are now faced with various important roles. Because women are also expected to be able to choose and be responsible for the roles they will choose when they enter the adult stage of development. The role of women at the adult stage is now generally starting to shift by the gender roles they hold to an egalitarian direction. Women are now gradually starting to leave their traditional gender roles which have been their way of life because this role is contrary to competence and achievement.

The role of women in the family is very influential in importance because a woman (mother) is an advisor in the family. The role of women in the family (Zahrok, S., & Suarmini, N. W., 2018), includes, First, women must be able to educate their children to be good individuals and orderly in their education. In this case, the role of women and their families is very much needed. Because the family has a big influence in terms of education for children. However, it depends on the condition of the family. Where everyone's family conditions are different and require a woman to be able to adjust.

Second, women play a role as educators for children and families. Each family member has different roles and responsibilities. However, as people know, it would be nice to pay attention to their children's education so that as parents they will be high in the eyes of their children and respected and respected.

Third, as caregivers and protectors for the family, because the role of women is very large in civilization, they will be strong and victorious because they have great women and will be destroyed if the women are not good or bad.

Fourth, as a printer for generations of highly educated nations without forgetting good manners or attitude towards everyone. So that they can pass on to the next generation. In this case, it is necessary to have education for women or education is important for women.

### Factors that cause girls drop out of school

The reality on the ground shows that there are still many girls who drop out of school. There are several reasons why women do not continue their education. According to Hakim, A. (2020). Several factors cause children to drop out of school, starting from family economic factors, so they choose not to continue their education and end up working or choosing to get married. Family demands that require them to help the family's economy are the reason why a woman chooses not to continue her education. In fact, with this education, a woman can find a more decent job by the field she is pursuing and is interested in. Another impact is that there are many cases of illiteracy in Indonesia. The following is data on the Indonesian population aged 10 years who are illiterate.

**Table 1.** Indonesian population aged 10 years and over who are illiterate (Percent)

No	Year	Male	Female	Total
1	2018	2.30	5.42	3,93
2	2019	2.32	5.12	3,70
3	2020	5.42	4.92	3,62

Source: Susenas BPS RI (2020).

Table 1 shows that the percentage of illiteracy rates in women from year to year is higher than men. So many people think that women are not better than men. This assumption still exists today in rural areas. Environmental factors also influence women not to continue their education. If the community environment and many friends drop out of school, the child will be affected and lazy to do school activities. Because of the unsupportive environment, a woman becomes easily influenced. It is feared that if this is still happening in the community, it can make you have no long-term thoughts. This results in being easily influenced, resulting in violence and harassment against women. This is not desired by all parties. And make one of the reasons why education for women is important.

Rumberger (1983) describes in more detail the factors that cause women to drop out of school.

#### *Family economic status*

The first factor that causes women to drop out of school is the family's economic status which is less stable or even lacking, causing delays in the cost of education that requires payment. In this case, it needs to be considered because it is one of the main factors in increasing the dropout rate for women. this can also be pursued and addressed by providing scholarships for underprivileged and high achievers with high school aspirations.

#### *Lack of attention from parents*

Lack of parental attention makes children seek other attention by associating with things that are not true in other words, namely promiscuity which causes many unfavorable cases to be created. Therefore, the role of parents in this matter is very important.

### *Inharmonious parental relationship*

Parents as the main actors and the first people known to children are the main source of good and bad examples of children. Parental relationships that are less harmonious will cause children to become depressed and think that they feel unwanted and wasted. Therefore, children must have good memories that are always remembered to be used as good life lessons as well.

### *Unsupportive living environment*

The environment in which they live is also a factor causing women to drop out of school, seen from the influence of the environment on children's growth and development. The number of children dropping out of school can influence other children to imitate them. This is influenced by the playing environment and the existing community. Therefore, the importance of choosing friends to hang out with is the main thing that must be done before engaging in social interactions with outsiders in a diverse society.

### **The importance of education for women**

Women are agents of change in the world who are the main source of education. Therefore, Singh, K. (2016) explains the importance of education for women, in the form of:

- a. Women will be the first schools for children in the future, so the fate of education in Indonesia is in the hands of women. How women (mothers) teach their children will affect the growth, development, and mentality that is embedded in the child.
- b. Education is the initial capital for a woman to realize the dreams that have been arranged.
- c. Can support his life both in terms of economy, romance, work, can also support the lives of others too, namely by helping, helping, teaching, and spreading the education that has been obtained both in school and education obtained from the experience he has gained.
- d. Can keep up with the times, with increasingly rapid technological advances. Women are also required to be able to keep up with developments.
- e. Preventing the increase in the number of early marriages, with the education of women will be diverted by the issue of early marriage. Therefore, education is one way to prevent the increase in the number of early marriages.
- f. Reduce poverty. Education can be the main capital for a woman to get a job, with decent work, women can improve their economic status.

From the description of the importance of education for women, it can be concluded that education is not only important for women themselves but for other people, families, and the surrounding community. Besides being able to improve the economy, education can prevent many crimes that will befall a woman. Education is important in the midst of this increasingly rapid technological development.

In the current era of globalization through increasingly advanced social media, starting from Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube, women have to be smart in choosing and sorting out what is good and what is bad. Because through that page many bad people take advantage of it for bad deeds. Such as trapping their victims, bullying through social media, blaspheming each other, and even harassment. As in Figure 1, what happens is that social media is not used properly but is used for useless things, even to the detriment of a party.

In Figure 1, we can explain that crime is not only in the real world, but the virtual world can also be used as a medium for committing crimes (Anggreni, 2020). Social media should be used as a medium for exchanging news and activities, not as an arena for crimes that harm someone

(Sasmito, 2020). Therefore, education for women is very important. Given that crime can happen anywhere, in any way. Starting from tricking, creating fake accounts, insulting, threats of violence, being spied on, influenced, or with inappropriate comments. So that it can interfere with the psyche, low self-esteem, stress, and insecurity that always interfere.

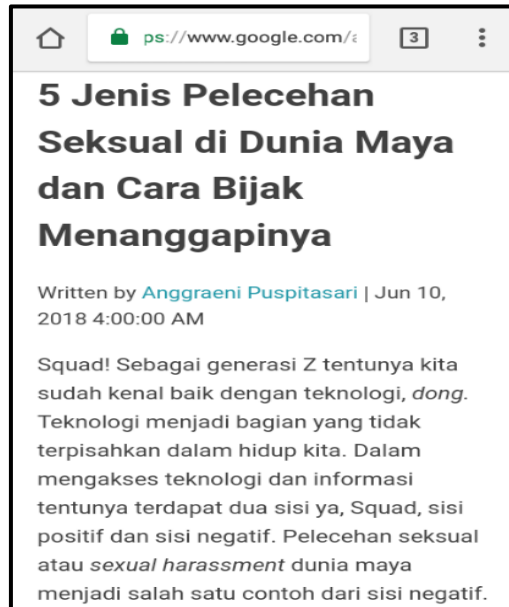


Figure 1. Sexual harassment in cyberspace.

There are many examples of cases of sexual harassment against women. And most of these women are school dropouts. Lack of knowledge about this is very dangerous because it can affect survival. From Voaindonesia, there is 32 percent of girls who have experienced violence on social media, as in Figure 2 which explains that violence against women also occurs on social media.



Figure 2. Violence against girls on social media

Figure 2 shows the results of the Plan International survey which shows the high number of violence against girls in Indonesia when using social media. In the survey, it was recorded that 32 percent of girls in Indonesia had experienced this. While the number of people who have seen girls experience violence on social media reaches 56 percent.

In this case of violence on social media, not all of the victims reported it to the authorities. Only about 10 percent are willing to report the case. The rest just kept quiet without changing or changing the way they showed their expressions. One of the things that cause violence on social media against women and children 15 – 20 years old is sharing too much personal data. Because of wanting to appear or communicate with a lot of sharing personal data. As a result, many people who are strangers or who are not known are curious about what was uploaded and then contact the victim. This is where knowledge or education for women is important.

Educated women will not share or share personal data with the general public. Because it can be fatal if you can't distinguish what is good and what is bad, which one wants to invite or intends to be evil. In this modern era, there are still many women who choose only to be housewives. However, it would be better if a woman has broad insight, knowledge, and knowledge. This can be obtained by attending education, training, tutorials, lifelong education, and always upgrading the skills possessed in line with the times. Given that a woman is an educator in her family.

In this case, digital literacy also needs to be encouraged amidst the spread of hoax news that becomes public consumption. The importance of education can also prevent these things. Women must have a broad way of thinking and good digital literacy. This modern and progressive era has become the main source of sexual violence, both in the real world and in the real world. By doing this, if women are able and capable, it can be used as an opportunity to increase the family economy. For example, by attending entrepreneurship training and having capital, women can build their own business world. Can improve the family economy, create jobs, and get an important role and position in society. However, education and training for women must still be considered, both from the women themselves and from the government or women's observers. So it will be in line with one and the other.

## **CONCLUSION**

In this progressive era, women are expected to be able to perform various roles. Starting from the role of a mother in the family to work roles. It's not a new thing now that many women have important roles as state officials, as teachers, police officers, and other professionals who can prove that women are capable of being on a par with men. This is what proves that the task of women is not only to take care of the household, but women also have the right to pursue education as high as possible. Another thing is that it is hoped that the fulfillment of these rights can increase the cases that afflict women. Many women are demeaned and considered weak, which triggers cases of violence and harassment against women. Education for women also aims to form a good attitude to a mother which will be passed on to her child to treat the next generation character and quality.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We thank the Bureau of Students and Alumni of Universitas Ahmad Dahlan for its support to this research and article writing.

## REFERENCES

- Anggraeni, P. (2020). *5 Jenis Pelecehan Seksual di Dunia Maya dan Cara bijak menanggapi*. Retrieved Maret, 3 2022 from: <https://www.ruangguru.com/blog/5-jenis-pelecehan-seksual-di-dunia-maya-dan-cara-bijak-menanggapi>
- Hakim, A. (2020). Faktor Penyebab Anak Putus Sekolah. *Jurnal Pendidikan*, 21(2), 122-132.
- Mayo, R. M., Ureda, J. R., & Parker, V. G. (2001). Importance of fatalism in understanding mammography screening in rural elderly women. *Journal of women & aging*, 13(1), 57-72.
- McQuillan, J., Greil, A. L., Shreffler, K. M., & Tichenor, V. (2008). The importance of motherhood among women in the contemporary United States. *Gender & Society*, 22(4), 477-496.
- Rumberger, R. W. (1983). Dropping out of high school: The influence of race, sex, and family background. *American Educational Research Journal*, 20(2), 199-220.
- Sasmito, M. (2020). *32 Persen Anak Perempuan Pernah Mengalami Kekerasan di Medsos*. Voaindonesia.com. Retrieved Maret, 3 2022 from: <https://www.voaindonesia.com/a/persen-anak-perempuan-pernah-mengalami-kekerasan-di-medsos/5616177.html>.
- Singh, K. (2016). Importance of education in empowering empowerthewcentn in India. *Motherhood International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research & Development*, 1(1), 39-48.
- Susenas BPS RI. (2020). *Penduduk Berumur 10 Tahun ke Atas yang Buta Huruf*. BPS Republik Indonesia. Retrieved Maret, 3 2022 from: <https://www.bps.go.id/indicator/40/539/1/penduduk-berumur-10-tahun-ke-atas-yang-buta-huruf.html>
- Syamsiyah, D. (2015). Perempuan dalam Tantangan Pendidikan Global: Kontribusi Kaum Perempuan dalam Mewujudkan Millenium Development Goals. *Palastren Jurnal Studi Gender*, 8(2), 225-242.
- Torani, S., Majd, P. M., Maroufi, S. S., Dowlati, M., & Sheikhi, R. A. (2019). The importance of education on disasters and emergencies: A review article. *Journal of education and health promotion*, 8.
- Van Laar, C., Derks, B., & Ellemers, N. (2013). Motivation for education and work in young Muslim women: The importance of value for ingroup domains. *Basic and Applied Social Psychology*, 35(1), 64-74.
- Wardojo, S. S. I. (2014). Pengaruh Pendidikan Ibu Untuk Mengatasi Kematian Bayi di Asia Tenggara. *Jurnal Keperawatan*, 5(1).
- Zahrok, S., & Suarmini, N. W. (2018). Peran perempuan dalam keluarga. *IPTEK Journal of Proceedings Series*, (5), 61-65.