



Contents lists available at [Journal IICET](#)  
**JPPi (Jurnal Penelitian Pendidikan Indonesia)**  
ISSN: 2502-8103 (Print) ISSN: 2477-8524 (Electronic)  
Journal homepage: <https://jurnal.iicet.org/index.php/jppi>



## Social problem analysis of gender inequality in Donggala district

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### Article Info

#### Article history:

Received Oct 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Revised Des 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Accepted Jun 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

#### Keyword:

Social problems,  
Gender inequality,  
Gender issues

### ABSTRACT

The difference in treatment between women and men affects the lives of women and men themselves, either directly or indirectly in society, is a source of gender problems. Discussing gender issues is not a problem for women facing men, but gender issues are a common community problem, which requires a process of mutual awareness in the division of roles and positions that does not ignore the rights and obligations of women and men in the family, community and other lives. This study aims to produce an analysis of gender problems in people's lives in various fields of development. The method used is to conduct a qualitative analysis of the gender profile data contained in regional apparatus organizations in Donggala Regency. The results of the study indicate that gender issues are an important issue in the implementation of development in Donggala Regency, Central Sulawesi Province, this can be seen from the gender profile data so that an analysis of this is needed. The results of this analysis are expected to be the basis for the preparation of development programs in the fields of health, economy and employment, as well as in the fields of politics and decision-making. It is concluded that the high maternal mortality rate, the large number of poor female family heads and the low political participation of women are the main problems that are difficult to resolve.



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## Introduction

When people talk about gender issues, they are talking about both men and women, but the focus is on women because they are the ones who suffer from gender inequality. The issue of Gender Equality and Justice (KKG) has long been a concern of various parties, both at the national and international levels (Clavero & Galligan, 2021; Okin, 2015; Runyan, 2018). This issue became even more important after being the subject of discussion at the Population Conference in Cairo (ICPD 1994). The issue of justice and gender equality cannot be separated from the process of fighting for human rights as manifested in the 1948 UN Declaration of Human Rights (HAM) (Bunch, 2018; Hoover, 2013). The implementation of women's empowerment to realize gender equality is an integral part of the national development system. An integrated program with various activity programs from the related development sector. Efforts to empower women in Indonesia are still experiencing many obstacles and obstacles (Samarakoon & Parinduri, 2015), especially from the socio-cultural and religious point of view as well as public awareness of the importance of gender equality and justice in the successful implementation of development (Cornwall & Rivas, 2015; Sen & Mukherjee, 2014; Woodward, 2012).

It is clear that the status of women in Indonesia is not yet equal to that of men, and their roles are still subordinate to those of men in the country (Akter et al., 2017; Suwana, 2017). The state of this location is reflected in many facets of human existence. In Indonesia, the gender gap is still at a relatively high level. This is made abundantly clear by the fact that gender inequality still exists in many facets of development, including education, economics, social culture, and politics, amongst others (Berliana et al., 2021; Nisak & Sugiharti, 2020). The educational attainment of women continues to lag significantly behind that of men. There were still 27.8% of women in 2012 who did not have a high school diploma, according to data on the proportion of the population; this proportion was higher than the number of men who did not have a diploma, which was only 22.3%. The low quality of life and the role that women play both point to the fact that women are still behind in terms of advancement in the field of economics, which can be seen in the poverty that women face. Indicators of women's social and cultural backwardness include the rise in the number of reported cases of violence as well as a low index measuring gender development and empowerment. In the meantime, the low percentage of women who are politically active is demonstrated by the small number of women who are elected to positions of power within the legislature. According to Amory (2019), in his research on the gender role of women in development in West Sulawesi, he came to the conclusion that the average length of schooling for women is still far below that of men and that the participation rate of women in the workforce is still far below that of men. Both of these findings are supported by the fact that the average number of years that women spend in school is also still far below that of men. This condition demonstrates that gender issues are still a strategic issue that needs to be handled in a serious manner.

The situation and condition of women in Central Sulawesi are reflective of the situation and condition of women throughout Indonesia as a whole. There is still a significant influence of patriarchal norms and cultural values on the position of women in society. Aside from the fact that this study focuses on a different topic than the ones that came before it, the main distinction between them is that this one is more concerned with the social issues that are brought on by gender inequality.

## Method

This study uses qualitative methods with the aim of obtaining detailed and in-depth data from informants. Data is a collection of facts or figures or anything that can be trusted to be true so that it can be used as a basis for drawing conclusions (Siregar, 2013). Analysis of the data used in this study is an interactive model of analysis (Interactive Model of Analysis) which has three components, namely: data reduction, data presentation and drawing conclusions and verification. In this form the researcher keeps moving between the three components with the data collecting component during the data collection process.

A review of the literature on the topics covered in this study's secondary sources provided the data used in this study. Interviews and Focus Group Discussions (FGD) were the main methods used to collect the primary data for this study. Data presentation can be done after data processing or data analysis activities, there are various statistical techniques that can be applied ranging from simple to complex to analyze data depending on the type of data and research objectives. The general form of how to present data/analytical results, namely: Presentation of data in narrative form, is the most conventional way of presenting. There is no one strict rule regarding this. The goal is that we are able to take the essence or summary of a group of available data to be presented in narrative form so that data users can understand it well.

## Results and Discussions

Donggala Regency is one of the regencies in Central Sulawesi province with Banawa as its capital. August 12 is set as the birth date of Donggala Regency which is commemorated every year. In the past, Donggala was known as a port and trade city, the traffic of goods and services could only take place through the Donggala port in the Banawa sub-district, from time to time economic activities, especially trade and government, were in fact more sucked up in Palu City, the former capital of the district which is now still the capital city. The province, although still functioning as a goods port, Donggala Port is less crowded than Pantolan Port in Palu. In the mining sector, Donggala Regency has the potential for mining materials in the form of gold, gravel, natural gravel, crushed stone, natural sand, foundation stone, with sirtu itself arguably found in almost all districts, especially in the West Coast region.

Gender problems are problems that always exist in people's lives, gender will remain a problem because it is related to the injustice between the roles of men and women. Many issues that arise then focus on the gender equality experienced between men and women. Gender equality and justice discusses equal relations between men and women, especially in the context of equal treatment, access, and opportunities in various

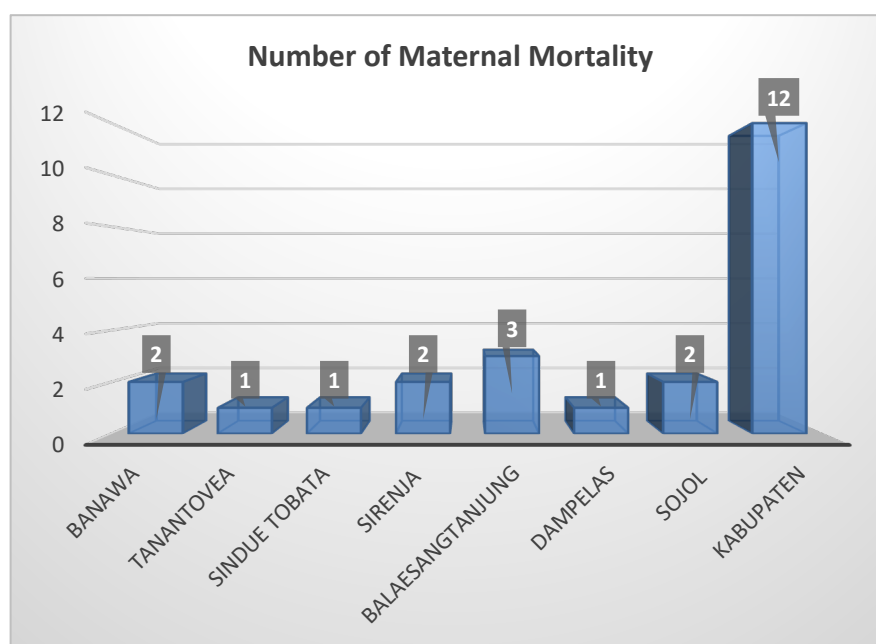
fields of life. Gender equality is still lacking and there are restrictions on entering certain fields which result in the emergence of gender problems.

## Health Sector

### Maternal Mortality Rate

Gender issues that must be prioritized for handling are the high maternal mortality rate (MMR), family planning, HIV/AIDS, community nutrition problems and an unhealthy environment. This shows that there are still many disparities between the health status of women and men. Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) is the number of women who die from a cause of death related to pregnancy disorders or their treatment (excluding accidents, suicides or incidental cases) during pregnancy, childbirth, and in the puerperium (42 days after giving birth) without taking into account the length of time.

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**Figure 1.** The number of maternal deaths in Donggala Regency  
Data sources: Ministry of Health, District Health Office of Donggala

The cause of maternal death due to pregnancy, childbirth and postpartum in five sub-districts in Donggala Regency is eclampsia. Eclampsia is a complication of pregnancy with a high risk of death during pregnancy. When preeclampsia does not get proper treatment, eclampsia will occur. Eclampsia is preeclampsia accompanied by seizures. This condition is dangerous and needs to be treated immediately.

Pregnancy complications, such as preeclampsia and eclampsia, can also increase the risk of death during pregnancy. Preeclampsia is characterized by high blood pressure, the presence of protein in the urine, and in advanced stages, organ damage will occur. The risk of developing preeclampsia is higher in women who are pregnant for the first time, pregnant women under the age of 20 or over 40, are overweight, have kidney disease, or diabetes, have a family history of high blood pressure, or are pregnant with twins. In addition to eclampsia, the cause of maternal mortality in Dampelas sub-district is caused by other diseases that are congenital in childbirth. The results of the FGD obtained information that from several areas in Donggala Regency, for example in Balaesang Tanjung District, according to community leaders who participated in the FGD as follows:

"The geographical condition of villages such as Tanjung Manimbaya village which is far from reachable makes them slow to get fast health services, there are also many other villages, the roads are difficult, usually they can only use motorbikes".

This statement is one of the reasons that there is still a maternal mortality rate, because it is too late to receive health services. In addition to this, from the results of the FGD, it was also found that there were still people in the community who did not really understand health care during pregnancy.

### Family planning

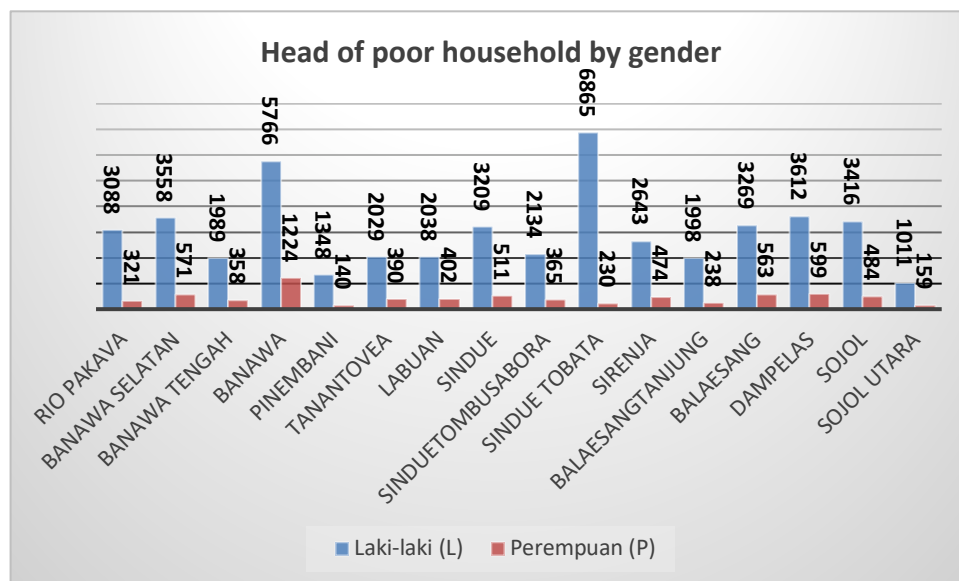
Public understanding of contraceptives is still diverse, so it affects the choice of contraceptives. Like the general public perception, that the use of contraceptives is more dominant in women. Whereas men can also become family planning acceptors with several choices of contraception. The number of active family planning participants will increase if the use of contraception is based on a good understanding and awareness of family planning. Knowledge of prospective acceptors of contraceptive devices/drugs will determine the type of contraception that suits their needs. The data above shows that family planning participants/acceptors in Donggala Regency are predominantly female, from a total of 4,010 family planning acceptors there are only 362 male family planning participants/acceptors or around 6.4%. From the results of an interview with one of the family planning extension officers in Donggala Regency, it was stated that many people still think that family planning matters are the affairs of women or mothers. This is the main reason that family planning acceptors are dominated by women.

One of the development programs is the population and family planning program in which the term Communication, Information and Education (KIE) is known, which is the process of delivering and receiving messages in order to improve and utilize the knowledge, attitudes and behavior of the community, and encourage them to consciously accept the family planning program. With this program, it is also hoped that the acceptance of family planning programs in the community will be more gender responsive, so that family planning is not only considered a woman's business.

### Economy and Employment Sector

The economic field describes the economic life of the people in Donggala Regency in sixteen sub-districts, while Employment is everything related to labor before, during and after the completion of the employment relationship, both in jobs that produce goods and work in the form of: The labor law aspect is a private law field that has a public aspect, because even though the employment relationship is made based on the freedom of the parties, there are a number of provisions that must be subject to government provisions in the sense of public law.

The head of a poor family is a family that cannot fulfill one or more of the poverty determinants, including clothing, food, and housing. The data for the heads of poor families in Donggala Regency are as follows:



**Figure 2.** Data on heads of poor families in Donggala Regency  
Data source: Provincial/District Education Office

The head of a poor family based on the data presented in the table means that the percentage of men is greater than the percentage of women, the word family is a small unit in society consisting of husband and wife and children. The data shows that in the family only a small percentage of women are heads of households compared to men, or what is commonly called single parents are categorized as poor household heads. The word poor is meant to describe the condition of the response house for women who are single parents who are lacking in meeting basic human needs, which include clothing, food, in addition to health and education needs.

Three years of data obtained describe female job seekers in 2019 at the elementary education level there are still 20 female job seekers but not male job seekers. At the junior high school level, 90% of female job seekers are female. High school education level, the number of female job seekers is 46% compared to male job seekers, this year's figure shows that many women are no longer looking for work but choose to stay at home as housewives to take care of the family. The education level of D1/D2/D3 in 2019 from the data obtained describes the number of female job seekers reaching 82%. The S1 education level of female job seekers is 77% as shown in the table above, which is very much compared to the number of male job seekers, this illustrates that in Donggala Regency they still choose and see the differences between women and men in job acceptance. And at the S2 education level, there are still women who are looking for work, namely one person.

2021 is the year the impact of covid causes the number of job seekers for education levels ranging from junior high, high school, Diploma and Bachelor to increase compared to previous years, as well as female job seekers. The difficult economic situation requires that many women who are only housewives must participate in making a living to meet household needs. The percentage of female job seekers at the junior high school level compared to male job seekers was 8.3%, female job seekers at the high school level this year increased greatly compared to the previous year the percentage ratio with men was 23%, job seekers at DI-DIII education level or diploma the percentage of women very large compared to male job seekers, which is 65% and the percentage of undergraduate education is smaller than the number of male job seekers at 47.7%.

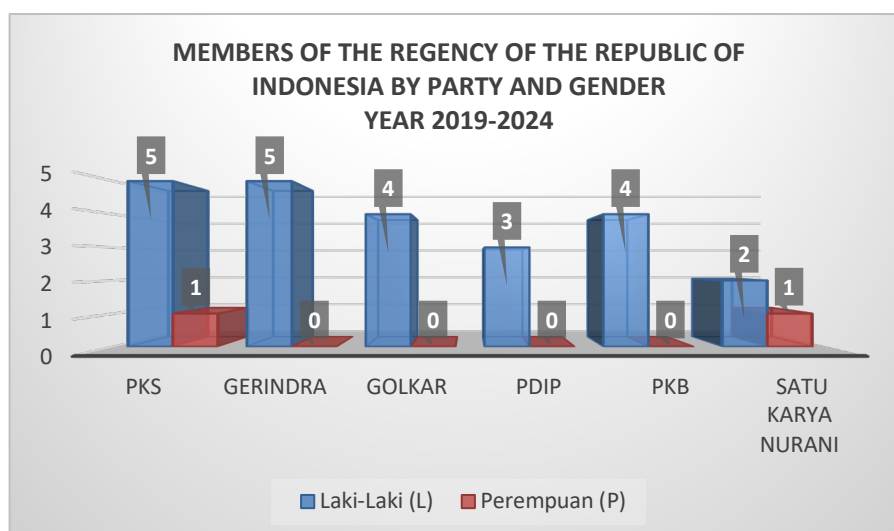
### **Politics and Decision Making**

Women's issues and politics are interesting issues, women's issues and politics are always interesting to discuss. In political institutions, there is a wide gap in the representation of women. It seems that the hopes of women activists to realize equality in the political field are still far from reality. This can at least be seen from the quantity and quality of women in the national and regional parliaments that are not significant. This means that the number of women who sit in the legislature is still far from what is aspired to or is still below the 30% quota as agreed on the affirmative action policy. In addition, very few women occupy strategic positions in the management of political parties.

### **Representation in the Legislature**

The representation of women in the legislative body in Donggala Regency still needs to be improved. This condition is reflected in the number of female DPRD members of Donggala Regency, whose number has not yet reached the 30% quota. From the available data, in general, from a comparison of the number of legislative seats, the number of representations of Indonesian women in institutions that function as policy makers does not reach the expected 30 percent or only reaches 24% of the total members of the DPRD. A study from MacManus in 1992 on the low representation of women in politics showed that the low number of female candidates in political contestations, including the legislative elections, was the main factor in the low number of women occupying strategic political positions. This condition is in contrast to the ideal condition where in development, especially in the legislative realm, the presence of women can provide nuances and colors that pay more attention to the needs of women in every stage of development. It is hoped that there will be more representation in the management of political parties and the representation of women as female legislative candidates in general elections. If the number of women in this case will certainly have an effect on improving the quality of women. But unfortunately, women still face many challenges in this regard. The description of women's representation in DPRD members in Donggala Regency is as follows (Table 3).

The data in figure 3 shows that of the 30 members of the Donggala Regency DPRD, of the 10 parties that won seats, there were only 4 women, representatives from 3 political parties, namely the Nasdem Party, PAN and the Hanura Party. This figure shows that only 13% of women hold positions as members of the Donggala Regency DPRD, and this figure is still far below the affirmative action figure of 30%. From the results of interviews and FGDs conducted, it is stated that there are at least two problems for women in politics, including in Donggala Regency, namely the problem of women's participation which is still low in the political space and the problem of the absence of a party platform that concretely defends women's interests. Therefore, women's participation in the legislature needs to be increased because women's representation is needed in the policy-making process to solve women's problems. In addition, only women are able, understand, feel, and empathize with women's problems and aspirations.



**Figure 3.** Representation of women in DPRD members  
Data Source: DPRD Secretariat

### Judicial and Police Sector

One of the Judicial Powers or Judicial Powers in Donggala Regency is the power that is obliged to defend the law and has the right to give justice to its people. The Judicial Body in Donggala Regency, which has the power to decide cases, imposes penalties on every violation of laws that have been held and implemented. Women's representation in the judiciary as judges in Donggala Regency, 14% of women's representation in the judiciary as chairman of the Donggala District court. The representation of women has a special position and has its own rights, because judges are not ordered directly by the Head of State. The representation of women can fight for the rights of women and children in leading the trial and deciding the punishment for those who are prosecuted.

The position of women's representation in the police force in Donggala Regency is only 1% of the total number of police officers of 420 people. The amount of representation is only one percent in conducting pre-prosecution, examination, addition, prosecution, implementation of judges and court decisions, supervision of the implementation of parole decisions and other legal actions in general criminal cases based on laws and regulations for women and children. The task of female police officers is very much needed in terms of technical activities and public criminal justice activities in the form of providing guidance and coaching for women and children with problems. Provision of facilities, conceptions, regarding the opinions and/or legal considerations of the attorney general regarding general criminal cases and other legal issues in law enforcement policies for women and children.

### Roles and Positions in Executive Institutions

Regional executive agencies are government officials who assist in carrying out tasks in an area. The regional executive body is the regional head along with other autonomous regional apparatuses, also known as the regional government. The involvement of women in the type of position in Donggala Regency with the type of ASN position is 55.3%. For general functional positions, female representation is 47% which is a large percentage, while for certain functional positions, female representation is very large compared to the number of men, which is 65.3%. Echelon III is 31% female representation and fourth echelon is 44% female representation in ASN positions. In addition to echelonization, in staffing in government, the terms classification and grouping of civil servants workspace are also known. The classification and grouping of these spaces is marked by the names IV/D, III/C, II/A, I/B, and so on according to the position held. This is usually also directly proportional to the period of work that has been taken. In 2018 the number of male civil servants dominated in groups I and II, while Groups II and IV were dominated by female civil servants.

The representation of women as sub-district heads in Donggala Regency is quite well represented with a percentage of 25% compared to the number of male sub-districts, the large representation of women as sub-districts describes women as regional apparatuses domiciled as coordinators of governance in Donggala Regency who can fight for the rights of women and children in the sub-districts that are led. Female sub-district heads can also encourage women's participation to participate in development planning at the sub-district level in development planning deliberation forums in villages/kelurahan, and sub-districts, female sub-district heads can provide guidance and supervision to all work units that involve women in implementing



work programs, and community empowerment activities in the sub-district work area, evaluating various women and children empowerment activities in the sub-district area.

## Conclusions

Efforts to realize gender equality and justice are still difficult, because there are many things that hinder, especially the patriarchal culture that is still inherent in people's lives in Donggala Regency. However, gender equality requires equal conditions for men and women to obtain opportunities and their rights as human beings, so that they are able to play a role and participate in various activities such as politics, law, economics, socio-culture, education and national security and enjoy the results. the development. Gender equality also includes the elimination of discrimination and injustice, both against men and women, must be fully supported as long as it does not harm either party.

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