

Dinamika Hubungan Jarak Jauh (LDR) pada Keluarga Urbanisasi Sementara di Desa Taman Indah, Lombok Tengah

Dynamics of Long-Distance Relationships (LDR) in Temporary Urbanization Families in Taman Indah Village, Central Lombok

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Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis pengaruh urbanisasi sementara terhadap dinamika hubungan jarak jauh (LDR) dalam keluarga di Desa Taman Indah, Kecamatan Pringgarata, Kabupaten Lombok Tengah. Urbanisasi sementara terjadi karena kondisi ekonomi masyarakat yang bergantung pada sektor pertanian yang dinilai tidak dapat memenuhi kebutuhan hidup secara optimal, sehingga mendorong anggota keluarga untuk bermigrasi ke kota. Urbanisasi sementara memengaruhi pola komunikasi, kedekatan emosional, dan pembagian peran dalam keluarga. Teknologi komunikasi membantu menjaga hubungan, tetapi interaksi langsung yang terbatas menciptakan perasaan kesepian dan potensi konflik. Selain itu, ada perubahan peran dalam rumah tangga, terutama bagi perempuan yang mengambil tanggung jawab yang lebih besar. Meski demikian, hubungan tetap dapat dipertahankan melalui kepercayaan dan komitmen antar anggota keluarga. Dengan demikian, urbanisasi sementara tidak hanya berdampak ekonomi, tetapi juga membawa perubahan sosial dalam dinamika keluarga.

Kata Kunci : Urbanisasi Sementara, Hubungan Jarak Jauh (LDR), Dinamika Keluarga, Komunikasi Keluarga, Perubahan Peran.

Abstract

This study aims to analyze the influence of temporary urbanization on the dynamics of long distance relationships (LDR) in families in Taman Indah Village, Pringgarata District, Central Lombok Regency. Temporary urbanization occurs due to the economic condition of people who depend on the agricultural sector, which is considered not to be able to meet their living needs optimally, thus encouraging family members to migrate to the city. Temporary urbanization affects the pattern of communication, emotional closeness, and the division of roles in the family. Communication technology helps maintain relationships, but the limitations of direct interaction create a sense of loneliness and



potential conflict. In addition, there is a change in roles in the household, especially in women who take on greater responsibility. Nonetheless, relationships can still be maintained through trust and commitment between family members. Thus, temporary urbanization not only has an economic impact, but also brings social changes in family dynamics.

Keywords: *Temporary urbanization, long-distance relationships (LDR), family dynamics, family communication, role changes.*



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INTRODUCTION

Urbanization can be considered a social phenomenon inseparable from the development process, particularly in developing countries like Indonesia. Data shows that population migration from rural to urban areas continues to increase annually as part of the dynamics of national development (Central Bureau of Statistics, 2022). Economic factors, such as a lack of jobs in rural areas and the hope of earning more money in cities, typically drive rural-to-urban migration. However, not all types of urbanization are permanent. Often, especially in rural areas, temporary urbanization occurs, where people move to cities for work for a specific period, then return to their villages after a certain period (Todaro & Smith, 2015).

This temporary urbanization phenomenon is also occurring in Taman Indah Village, Pringgarata District, Central Lombok Regency. The community's economic situation, dominated by the agricultural sector, is one of the main factors driving this mobility. The seasonal nature of agriculture and its relatively low incomes have led some people, particularly men of productive age, to migrate to cities to meet their family's needs. As a result, family relationships are no longer conducted face-to-face, but rather through long-distance relationships (LDRs).

From a sociological perspective, the family is a crucial social unit in shaping interactions and relationships between individuals. Family relationships are not only emotional but also encompass role sharing, communication, and shared decision-making. When a family member temporarily relocates, these interaction patterns undergo significant changes. Communication that was previously face-to-face must shift to social media, potentially impacting emotional closeness and family harmony (Ritzer, 2012).

Furthermore, the phenomenon of long-distance relationships (LDR) in families not only impacts the emotional aspects but also the social structure within the household. Role changes often occur, with the remaining family member having to take on more responsibilities. additional responsibilities, both in childcare and household financial management. This condition shows that temporary urbanization not only impacts the economic aspect, but also brings complex social consequences on family life (Goode, 2007). To understand this phenomenon more deeply, this study uses the perspective of human development theory, which emphasizes that development is measured not only by economic aspects but also by an individual's ability to live a meaningful and prosperous life. In this context, temporary urbanization can be seen as a community effort to expand life choices, although it also poses challenges in maintaining family relationships. Therefore, it is important to examine how temporary urbanization affects the dynamics of long-distance relationships within families in Taman Indah Village.

Based on this description, this study aims to analyze the influence of

temporary urbanization on the dynamics of long-distance relationships (LDRs) within families. This research is expected to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the social impacts of urbanization, particularly in the context of family relationships in rural communities, and to inform the development of development policies that are more oriented toward the social welfare of the community.

METHODS

This research uses a descriptive qualitative approach with the aim of in-depth understanding of the phenomenon of temporary urbanization and its impact on the dynamics of long-distance relationships (LDRs) within families. A qualitative approach was chosen because it can explore subjective experiences, meanings, and social dynamics that cannot be measured quantitatively.

The research used was a case study, focusing on a specific location: Taman Indah Village, Pringgarata District, Central Lombok Regency. Case studies allow researchers to understand phenomena contextually and in-depth, reflecting the social conditions of the local community. The informant selection technique in this study used purposive sampling, which involves deliberately selecting informants based on specific criteria relevant to the research objectives. Informants included heads of families who had temporarily relocated, bereaved family members (wives and children), and local community leaders. This was done to ensure the data obtained accurately reflected the conditions being studied.

Data collection techniques were carried out through several methods, namely in-depth interviews, observation, and documentation. In-depth interviews were used to explore the experiences and perceptions of informants regarding long-distance relationships within the family. Observations were conducted to directly observe social conditions and community interactions, while documentation was used to supplement the data in the form of notes or information relevant to the research. The data analysis technique in this study used thematic analysis, namely by identifying, grouping, and interpreting the main themes that emerged from the research data. The analysis process was carried out through several stages, namely data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. To maintain data validity, this study used source triangulation techniques, namely comparing data from various informants to obtain more valid and reliable results. By using this approach and method, it is hoped that the research will be able to provide a comprehensive picture of the influence of temporary urbanization on the dynamics of long-distance family relationships in Taman Indah Village.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Urbanization as an Economic Strategy

Temporary urbanization in Taman Indah Village, Pringgarata District, Central Lombok Regency can be understood as an economic strategy employed by the community to address limited livelihoods in the village. The agricultural sector, dominated by the economy, is the primary factor driving this mobility. The seasonal nature of the agricultural sector and its uncertain income levels make it difficult for the community to meet daily needs. Under these circumstances, some residents, particularly men of productive age, choose to migrate to the city for a limited period of time to earn additional income for their families.

From a sociological perspective, this phenomenon can be explained through the concept of push and pull factors in urbanization. Limited employment opportunities, low incomes, and minimal economic opportunities in rural areas are driving factors for urbanization. Meanwhile, the availability of job opportunities in cities, both in the formal and informal sectors, and the hope of earning higher incomes are pulling factors for rural communities to undertake temporary mobility (Todaro & Smith, 2011). This situation demonstrates that temporary urbanization is not simply an individual choice, but a response to the structural pressures faced by rural communities.

urbanization can also be seen as a form of socioeconomic adaptation for rural communities. People do not completely abandon their villages, but rather maintain relationships with their families and social circles. This demonstrates the circular nature of urbanization, where individuals move to cities for work but return to their villages periodically. This phenomenon is common among rural communities in Indonesia, where urbanization is seen as a survival strategy amidst the changing times. local economic limitations (Mulyanto, 2008).

From a human development perspective, temporary urbanization can be understood as a community effort to expand life opportunities and improve family well-being. Income earned from working in the city used to meet basic needs, such as children's education and household needs. This aligns with the view that development is not only oriented toward economic growth but also toward improving the overall quality of human life (Kuncoro, 2006). However, this strategy also has social consequences, particularly in family life, which must be lived separately.

Thus, temporary urbanization in Taman Indah Village is not only a phenomenon of population mobility, but also reflects the community's rational strategies for coping with economic pressures. This phenomenon demonstrates the link between structural economic conditions and the social dynamics of rural communities. Therefore, temporary urbanization needs to be understood as part of

the community's adaptation process in an effort to maintain survival amidst limited economic resources .

2. Dynamics of Long Distance Relationships (LDR) in the Family

The temporary urbanization that occurred in Taman Indah Village, Pringgarata District, Central Lombok Regency, directly gave rise to long-distance relationships (LDRs) within families. This situation occurs when one family member, usually the head of the family, migrates to the city for work for a specific period of time, while the other family members remain in the village. As a result, interactions within the family, which were previously face-to-face, shift to indirect interactions through communication media.

This change in communication patterns is a key aspect of the dynamics of long-distance relationships. Research findings indicate that communication between family members is mostly conducted via mobile phones, either through calls or text messages. However, the frequency of communication is not always consistent, as it is influenced by work schedules and network conditions. From a sociological perspective, communication is a crucial element in maintaining harmonious social relationships. When communication becomes limited, the quality of the relationship can also potentially decline (Ritzer, 2012). This suggests that distance affects not only the frequency of interaction but also the depth of emotional connections between family members.

Furthermore, long-distance relationships (LDRs) within families are also fraught with various emotional challenges. Longing, loneliness, and anxiety are common feelings among separated family members. In some cases, limited communication can trigger misunderstandings that lead to conflict. This situation indicates that long-distance relationships are more vulnerable than in-person relationships. This aligns with the view that face-to-face interaction plays a crucial role in building emotional closeness and trust in social relationships (Goode, 2007).

However, not all long-distance relationships end in conflict or estrangement. Research shows that some families are able to maintain harmonious relationships despite distance. This is supported by trust, commitment, and open communication between family members. In this context, relationship quality is determined not only by the frequency of physical encounters but also by the strength of the social bonds they build. Families with good communication tend to be better able to overcome the various challenges of long-distance relationships.

The dynamics of long-distance relationships are also related to changes in family interaction patterns. Children left behind by parents who have moved away from home tend to feel closer to their stay-at-home parents. Meanwhile, their relationships with their parents who have moved away from home become more limited. This indicates a change in the structure of family interactions that can

impact the socialization process and the formation of long-term emotional relationships.

Thus, the dynamics of long-distance relationships (LDR) within families in Taman Indah Village demonstrate significant changes in communication patterns, interactions, and emotional connections. While communication technology helps maintain relationships, the limitations of in-person interaction remain a major challenge. Therefore, efforts from each family member are required to maintain communication, build trust, and maintain commitment to maintain harmonious relationships despite the limitations of distance.

3. Changes in Family Structure and Roles

The temporary urbanization occurring in Taman Indah Village, Pringgarata District, Central Lombok Regency, has not only impacted the economy but also brought about changes in the structure and division of roles within the family. When a family member, particularly the head of the family, migrates to the city, there is a restructuring of roles within the household. The remaining family members, especially the wife, must take over responsibilities previously shared, such as childcare, financial management, and household decision-making.

From a sociological perspective, this change indicates a transformation of family structure from a traditional pattern to a more flexible one. The previously rigid division of roles, with men as primary breadwinners and women as household managers, has shifted. This is in line with the view that family structure is dynamic and can change according to social and economic demands (Goode, 2007). In this context, women play more than just the role of housewives but also play a crucial role in maintaining the family's economic sustainability.

This changing role has also increased women's independence within the family. Research shows that wives left behind by their husbands not only manage the household but, in some cases, also work to supplement the family income. This suggests that temporary urbanization indirectly encourages women's empowerment at the household level. However, this situation also creates a double burden, with women having to simultaneously fulfill both domestic and economic roles.

When examined from a human development perspective, these changes in family structure and roles can be understood as part of society's efforts to improve the quality of life. Human development is not only related to increased income, but also to the individual's ability to fulfill social roles and improve family well-being (Kuncoro, 2006). In this regard, temporary urbanization provides opportunities for families to obtain additional sources of income, which are then used to meet basic needs such as education and health care.

However, these changes also have social consequences, particularly in

relationships between family members. Limited interaction between family members who migrate and those who remain in the village can affect emotional closeness. Furthermore, the increased role burden on family members left behind can also potentially cause psychological distress. Therefore, while urbanization may temporarily provide economic benefits, strong family adaptability is still necessary to maintain a balance between roles, responsibilities, and emotional relationships.

Thus, the changes in family structure and roles in Taman Indah Village demonstrate that temporary urbanization not only impacts economic aspects but also shapes social dynamics within families. The transformation of roles reflects the community's ability to adapt to change and demonstrates that human development is not only related to material things but also to the quality of social relationships within family life.

CONCLUSION

Based on the research results, it can be concluded that temporary urbanization in Taman Indah Village, Pringgarata District, Central Lombok Regency, is an economic strategy influenced by the limitations of the seasonal agricultural sector and low incomes. This situation encourages some family members, particularly men of productive age, to migrate to the city to meet their living needs. From a development sociology perspective, this phenomenon indicates a structural force that triggers temporary mobility as a form of adaptation to local economic pressures.

This temporary urbanization has had a direct impact on the formation of long-distance relationships (LDRs) within families, changing patterns of social interaction. Previously face-to-face communication has shifted to technology-based communication, which, while helpful in maintaining relationships, still has limitations in maintaining emotional closeness. Furthermore, there have been changes in the structure and division of family roles. Where surviving family members, especially women, must fulfill dual roles. While this situation increases independence, it also creates social and psychological burdens.

The dynamics of long-distance relationships within families are characterized by various challenges, such as loneliness, longing, and potential conflict due to miscommunication. However, this study also found that family harmony can be maintained through trust, commitment, and effective communication between family members. This demonstrates that relationship quality is determined not only by physical proximity, but also by the strength of the social and emotional bonds established.

Using the perspective of human development theory, temporary urbanization can be understood as a community effort to expand life opportunities and improve

economic well-being. However, behind these economic benefits lie social consequences that impact family dynamics. Therefore, it can be concluded that temporary urbanization has a dual impact: it serves as both an economic solution and a social challenge.

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