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# THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN LOCAL WIFE FOR FAMILY FOOD SECURITY IN PANGEAN DISTRICT, KUANTAN SINGINGI REGENCY

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#### Abstract

The Role of Women in Local Wisdom for Family Food Security in Pangean District, Kuantan Singingi Regency, the position and obligation as housewives are not only to serve their husbands, cook, clean the house, care for, educate but also to increase the income and standard of living of the family. The formulation of the problem in this study is How the Role of Women in Local Wisdom for Family Food Security in Pangean District, Kuantan Singingi Regency. The type of research is Sociological Law research, carried out by empirical and normative approaches.Rural women play an important role in family food security and fulfill the family's economic economy, women do not only play the role of women as wives and are also called housewives, women are also very helpful in household income regulating household expenditures to maintain the level of food security, the role of women in food production and Non-Food, Women and Food Determination.

# INTRODUCTION

Women as part of the nation's components participate in efforts to achieve food security, especially family/household food security. Significantly it will not be achieved if it does not start with movements carried out by the community<sup>1</sup>. Indonesia as an agricultural country should mobilize the components of the nation to overcome food insecurity through an appropriate and adaptive policy at the community level<sup>2</sup>. The community plays a role in a gender perspective in realizing food sovereignty, because so far "control" of food is still synonymous with men's roles. The gender aspect that looks deeper into the role of women is a benchmark for successful empowerment from the institutional aspect of food security because cultural aspects have so far marginalized the role of women in accessing food.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Prakash, Daman. Rural Women, Food Security and Agricultural Cooperatives. Rural development and Management center; Teh Saryu'. J-129 Kalkaji, New Delhi 1100019. India. February 2003.

Raharto said Development in rural areas has resulted in various changes, especially in the economic structure and culture of rural communities, especially farmers. The modernization paradigm in agricultural development that prioritizes the principle of efficiency has an impact on changes in the economic structure of farmer households. Agricultural development in rural areas has led to rapid economic growth, although it has not been fully matched by an increase in the structure of household income for farmers. This is due to the rate of shift in labor, where the turning point of economic activity in Indonesia is reached earlier than the turning point in labor.

The changes that occur are closely related to the patterns of land tenure and exploitation, the relationship pattern and the structure of employment opportunities, which ultimately lead to the income structure of rural farmers. Agricultural land that continues to shrink due to the high demand for land is the impact of the rapid flow of industrialization, the need for economic infrastructure, and settlements, while new agricultural land clearing efforts have not matched the needs. However, the agricultural sector and primary employment do not absorb too much female labor. This condition is based on and strengthened by the assumption that women should take care of the household and family, while men are expected to play more roles in the public sector.

Agriculture is still the source of livelihood for the majority of the workforce in Indonesia. Agricultural development aims to increase the income and standard of living of farmers, increase employment and business opportunities, improve household nutrition and food security, and alleviate poverty in rural areas. All of this is closely related to the role, duties and functions of women in rural areas. Guided by the household income that can be generated by husband and wife (double income pattern), women have job opportunities that can generate income for their households, as an effort to reduce poverty in rural areas.

There is a basis, men and women have the same opportunity to choose, access, and have sufficient purchasing power in food procurement. Thus food security can be referred to as the rights and abilities of both men and women to determine and control the production system, distribution system and food consumption system<sup>3</sup>. This is exacerbated by cultural factors that legitimize patriarchal culture. Research on the role of women in food security is

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Eny Yuniriyanti, Ririn Sudarwati. Women Empowerment Model in Efforts to Improve Family Food Security through Dasa Wisma PKK Group. Malang: University of Merdeka Malang, 2016.

expected to minimize gender disparities in food security, so that the causal factors can be found and appropriate problem solving steps<sup>4</sup>.

# a. Role of women (wife - housewife)

In supporting the economy of farmer households in villages in Pangean District in the context of poverty alleviation. Talking about the life of a farming family in general shows a farming community. Especially the small number of land farmers and farmers who cultivate other people's land and also these farmers are only agricultural laborers who expect wages from the owner of the farm, whose conditions are classified as poor (because they are activities that generate low income) and experience economic uncertainty<sup>5</sup>. This is because the farmers in this area can be classified as owner farmers, tenants, and farm laborers. Cultivators and farm laborers often face special obstacles that cannot be avoided. It turns out that from observations in the field, Most of the farmer families in Pangean Subdistrict can be classified as poor, if seen from the houses that are small (on average 6x5 m) and made of bamboo and wood walls, some are only boarding buildings. Due to these obstacles, farmers and household members, such as mothers and their children, must improve their working mechanisms, in order to meet the economic needs of their household. This means that all household members have to work, including the farmer's wife and children. From the results of the in-depth interviews with the wives of the farmers in the sub-district mentioned above, it turns out that they do not only play roles related to their position and obligations as housewives, such as: serving their husbands, cooking, cleaning the house, caring for, educating and managing the economy. her household. But also help how to meet the needs of his family<sup>7</sup>. As a 'way out to meet their household needs, the wives of these traditional farmers decided to work. This is in accordance with what Ani (Padang Kunyit village community) argues that the role of women is not only working in the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Mustofa. "Analysis of Poor Household Food Security and Social Capital in DIY Province". *Geomedia Journal of Geography Science* 10, no.1 (2012).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Sukiyono, K and Sriyoto. "Structural Transformation of Transmigrant Women Outside the Agricultural Sector and Its Contribution to Household Income (Case of Transmigration Around Bengkulu City)". *Bogor Agroeconomics Journal*, 1997.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Raharto, Aswatini. The Life of Poor Fishermen in Crisis Times. in the Research Team: *The Impact of the Economic Crisis on Families of Vulnerable Groups: Several Cases* PPT-LIPIJakarta: PPT-LIPI in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, 1999.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Nuniek S, Kartini, Jatmiko. *Discrimination Against Women Workers in Garment and Textile Company Management Policies in Semarang Municipality*. Research Magazine of the Diponegoro University Research Institute Year X 37, March, 1998.

household, namely serving, such as educating, caring for, arranging to be enjoyed by others or enjoying together with others. But also work, namely carrying out activities that provide income for family needs. This means that the tradition of women as workers is actively involved in economic activities (to earn a living) in various types of activities according to their skills and education as well as available employment opportunities. The situation of the wives of traditional farmers in Padang Kunyit Village, which have a dual role, namely in addition to doing household chores that do not generate income directly and doing work outside their household to earn a living, is also supported by siodah (Pembatang Community), which states that helping to earn a living in daily family life where usually women in the village accompany their husbands to work to earn a living. From the results of the interview regarding their family income, it turns out that the farmer housewife in Pembatang Village does not only rely on her husband's income, who on average from being a farm laborer only earns Rp. 50,000, - up to Rp. 60,000, - / per day If calculated in a month it can be estimated, for example: 30 x IDR 50,000, - then you get an income of IDR 1,500. 000, - up to Rp.2,250,000, -. It turns out that from the results of the interview, their household income is uncertain / not really able to meet their daily needs coupled with the condition of the very high prices of food goods, due to special constraints, such as not own land. To fulfill their family's needs, if they don't go to the garden, they switch professions while looking for other jobs as a side job, such as: farming, craftsmen and so on. However, these opportunities are not always obtained, for example, such as working as a dependent worker when there is a call (being a handyman / assistant worker). Efforts to address household needs as one of the adaptive strategies of farmer households in Pembatang Village are division of labor between husbands and wives. This division of labor is a mutual agreement, husbands go to gardens and wives help to earn income, such as washing clothes, trading, going to gardens, etc. It turns out that the role of the wife in supporting the household economy of farmers in the village of Pembatang is actually proven to be relatively large, if it is seen from the types of activities carried out and the dominance in holding and managing household finances and being responsible for meeting the economic needs of her household. In addition, the farmer's wife also controls the economy, in this case spending other needs. The farmer's wife also handles and regulates household expenses and must be responsible for fulfilling her household's economic needs. In this case, the farmer's wife dominates in holding and managing household finances. Husbands / farmers don't care whether their income is sufficient or not. The activities carried out by the wives / housewives of farmers in the villages

of Padang Kunyit and Pembatang show that they do not only live at home for their husbands and children. In fact, the process of activities of women as wives and housewives of farmers can eliminate the notion that women's life according to nature is only to bear children and to become caretakers of the house. However, it is true that the women farmers' wives in the villages where the research was conducted have multi-functional tasks. This means that women are at the same time referred to as farmer housewives in Padang Kunyit Village not only carrying out their roles and positions in the family as workers related to household problems that are not counted or valued in money. But they also have a role and position outside the family. Encouragement to carry out activities outside of their family duties, because they are aware of their responsibilities in meeting and preparing their daily needs for family members. They realize that the income of their husband who works as a farmer in terms of income is uncertain. For this reason, in an effort to meet family needs, a wife is also known as a housewife who has to work. They made the decision, remembering that the position of women who are also known as peasant housewives is as individual and social beings. This means that women and also known as housewives have the right and can determine their will according to their personalities. They are more aware of their role, that they are capable and able to work to help their household economic life.

This is as expressed by Ihromi (Holistic Journal, Year IX No. 17/2016), that work is an activity carried out either directly or indirectly to earn income in the form of money, goods and services, expend energy and have value and time. The position and role of women in the livelihood system greatly determines women not only as housewives, but also overcoming deficiencies in increasing household economic costs. For this reason, there are those who choose to "work" outside the home in order to meet their family's needs by working extra, such as selling food, snacks and even working as laundry laborers with wages or additional husbands going to the garden as farm laborers. If it is calculated from the additional income obtained from the wives of farmer households in Padang Kunyit Village, the average can be displayed. The wife who is looking for extra by working turns out to be getting an additional Rp. 50,000, - to Rp. 75,000, -. By understanding the activities of farm wives as a whole, it can be seen that in general they do their own household chores (farmer's wives who have relatively large daughters help them with daily tasks), such as childcare, cleaning, cooking, wash the clothes of household members. If it is observed from the activities of every farmer housewife in this study, there is no time to relax. It should be added that in general, women work not only to fill spare

time or develop a career, but to earn a living to meet family needs, because the income earned by their husbands is insufficient so that women as wives of traditional farmers in Padang Kunyit Village work. outside work related to her household. They earn a living to try to help or support their family's economy. This is in accordance with what Munandar stated (Holistic Journal, Year IX No. 17/2016), in his role women work not only to take care of the family, but to help as well as replace men's jobs according to their abilities in order to support the economy or family income. Furthermore, he argued, when viewed from economic factors, the motivation of women to work, among which was in accordance with the conditions of the research location, concerning women as wives or housewives of farmers in the villages of Pembatang and Padang Kunyit, namely to increase family income, so that the family economy does not only depends on the husband, and to fill his spare time, what is more important is to alleviate poverty. Efforts to understand the status of women's roles in a family or society cannot be separated from various indicators. One indicator that is often used to determine the level of status of women is the level of female labor force participation. In other words, the higher the level of participation in the workforce of women, it is assumed that the status of women in the family or society will be higher as well.

### b. Phousehold income

The husband's income, which on average comes from being a farm laborer, only earns Rp. 50,000, - up to Rp. 60,000, - / per day If calculated in a month it can be estimated, for example: 30 x Rp. 50,000, - then the income is Rp. 1,500,000 to Rp. 2,250,000. It turns out that from the interview results, household income they are uncertain / not very able to meet their daily needs coupled with the condition of the very increasing price of food goods, due to special constraints, such as not owning their own land<sup>8</sup>. To fulfill their family's needs, if they don't go to the garden, they switch professions while looking for other jobs as a side job, such as: farming, craftsmen and so on. However, even that opportunity is not always obtained, for example, such as working as a handyman depending on a call (being a handyman / kenek). Efforts to address household needs as one of the adaptive strategies of farmer households in

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 12 of 2012 concerning Food.

Pembatang Village are division of labor between husbands and wives<sup>9</sup>. This division of labor is a mutual agreement, the husband goes to the garden and the wife helps earn income, such as washing clothes, trading, going to the garden, etc. It turns out that the role of the wife in supporting the household economy of farmers in the village of Pembatang is actually proven to be relatively large, if it is seen from the types of activities carried out and the dominance in holding and managing household finances and being responsible for meeting the economic needs of her household. In addition, the farmer's wife also controls the economy, in this case spending other needs. The farmer's wife also handles and regulates household expenses and must be responsible for fulfilling her household's economic needs<sup>10</sup>. In this case, the farmer's wife dominates in holding and managing household finances. Husbands / farmers don't care whether their income is sufficient or not. The activities carried out by the wives / housewives of farmers in the villages of Padang Kunyit and Pembatang show that they do not only live at home for their husbands and children. In fact, the process of activities of women as wives and housewives of farmers can eliminate the notion that women's life according to nature is only to bear children and to become caretakers of the house. However, it is true that the women farmers' wives in the villages where the research was conducted have multi-functional tasks. This means that women are at the same time referred to as farmer housewives in Padang Kunyit Village not only carrying out their roles and positions in the family as workers related to household problems that are not counted or valued in money<sup>11</sup>. But they also have a role and position outside the family. Encouragement to carry out activities outside of their family duties, because they are aware of their responsibilities in meeting and preparing their daily needs for family members. They realize that the income of their husband who works as a farmer in terms of income is uncertain. For this reason, in an effort to meet family needs, a wife is also known as a housewife who has to work. They made the decision, remembering that the position of women who are also known as peasant housewives is as individual and social beings<sup>12</sup>. This means that

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Syamsiar, Siti. "A Model of Family Food Security Through Local Wisdom (A Study of Sand Land Management in Depok, Parangtritis Village, Kretek District, Bantul Regency, DIY Province)". Department of Socio-Economics, Faculty of Agriculture, UPN "Veteran" Yogyakarta. *Journal of Socio-Economic Dynamics* (2010). <sup>10</sup> Suhardjo. *Understanding and Framework for Household Food Security*. Paper presented at the Home Energy Food Security Workshop. Yogyakarta. 26 – 30 May 1996.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Raharto, Aswatini and Haning Romdiati. Identification of Poor Households. in Seta, Ananto Kusuma et.al (editor), *Widyakarya National Food and Nutrition VII*, pp: 259-284. Jakarta: Indonesian Institute of Sciences, 2000

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Fakih, Mansour. Analysis Genderand Social Transformation. Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar, 1996.

women and also known as housewives have the right and can determine their will according to their personalities. They are more aware of their role, that they are capable and able to work to help their household economic life. Meanwhile, my wife also looks for additional work by working, it turns out that in a day she earns an additional Rp. 50,000, - to Rp. 75,000, -. By understanding the activities of the farm's wives as a whole, it can be seen that in general they do their own household chores (farmer wives who have relatively large daughters help them with daily chores), such as childcare, cleaning, cooking, wash the clothes of household members.

# c. The household expenses

The household expenditure is one indicator that can provide an overview of the welfare state of the population. Village community household expenditures can be grouped into two, namely household expenditures for food and non-food items. Normatively, household expenses, especially those related to foodstuffs, must be regulated wisely. In this arrangement the housewives play a large role. A mother must be able to manage a limited income to be able to meet all the needs of foodstuffs, which are usually to meet the needs within a period of one month. The following is the proportion of household expenditure for foodstuffs based on village typology.

Table 1. Proportion of Household Expenditure on Foodstuffs

No	Variable	Percentage
1	Rice	7.40%
2	Side dishes	9.20%
3	Cigarettes	1.70%
4	Fish	6.70%
5	Seasonings	4.20%
6	Vegetable	3.40%
7	Drink	3.30%
8	Fuel	2.70%
total		39%

Sumber: data primer

The limited nature of family resources or available income will affect the priority of family expenditure allocations. For low-income families, most of their income will be used to meet the needs of foodstuffs, so that the percentage of expenditure on foodstuffs will be relatively large.

The increase in household income causes other needs besides foodstuffs, while the increase in expenditures to meet foodstuff needs is not as large as expenditure on non-food materials. Non-food material expenditure is the amount of money spent and goods valued in money for non-food consumption for all family members, which is measured in rupiah per year (Rp / year). The results are as follows:

Table 2. Household Expenditure on Non-Food Materials

No	Variable	Percentage
1	brother	5.30%
2	health	5.60%
3	lighting / fuel	3.40%
4	repair the house	16.00%
5	education	15.70%
6	recreation	2.20%
7	invite	2.90%
8	clothes	1.90%
9	household furniture	0.80%
10	social activity	6.20%
11	repair the facilities	1.20%
12	Others	0.30%
total		61%

Sumber: data primer

# d. The Level of Food Security

The level of household food security can be measured by the proportion of food expenditure (food) to total expenditure. When using economic indicators, the criteria are if the share or percentage of food expenditure is low ( $\leq$  60% of total expenditure), then this household group is food resistant. Meanwhile, if food expenditure is high (> 60% of total

expenditure), then this household group is food insecure. Food-resistant households are households that have low expenditure and consume enough energy. A low share of food expenditure means that less than 60% of the income is spent on food. And this indicates that food-resistant households have the ability to meet energy consumption because they have high access economically as well as have high physical access. Food insecure households are households that have high expenditure and consume less energy. High food expenditure means that more than 60% of the income is spent on food. This indicates the low income received by this household group. With the low income they have, food-insecure households in allocating their food expenditure cannot meet energy sufficiency. High food expenditure means that more than 60% of the income is spent on food. This indicates the low income received by this household group. With the low income they have, food-insecure households in allocating their food expenditure cannot meet energy sufficiency. High food expenditure means that more than 60% of the income is spent on food. This indicates the low income received by this household group. With the low income they have, food-insecure households in allocating their food expenditure cannot meet energy sufficiency.

## e. Prole of Women in Family Income

A household income can be obtained from various activities carried out by both women and men by utilizing natural resources, expertise and skills, as well as how they allocate time. women have a contribution to increase household income which they feel is insufficient. The increase in women's participation in economic activities occurs because, first, there is a change in people's views and attitudes about the importance of education for women and men, and the increasing awareness of the need for women to participate in development. Second, the willingness of women to be independent in the economic field, in the sense of trying to pay for their daily needs and also the necessities of life of those they depend on. Another possibility that causes an increase in women's participation in increasing household income is the expansion of job opportunities that can absorb female workers. The results of the study show that the contribution of women is quite large in family income, as follows:

Table 3. The Role of Women in Family Income

No	Income Type Pe	ercentage
1	Joint Income from Farming Enterprises	21.9%
2	Husband's income from outside the farming business	16.8%
3	Wife's Income from Outside the Farming Business	23.5%
4	Joint Income from Outside the Farming Business	32.9%
5	Gifts from other children / families	4.8%
total		100%

# f. Prole of Women in Food and Non-Food Production

From all the surrounding aspects, the role of women in the food production sector is undeniable. In food crop farming, for example, the division of labor between men and women is very clear, it is often said that men work for activities that use a lot of muscles while women work for activities that require accuracy and tidiness or that take a lot of time. Because women are involved in family economic activities (productive roles), women have a dual role, namely as housewives who are responsible for productive activities that help husbands earn a living to meet family needs.

Women is considered to have a role because in addition to taking care of household chores such as taking care, guiding, and educating children, which is the main responsibility of a mother, a woman farmer also plays a role (helps her husband) in the rice farming process. Some of the activities carried out in rice field farming include determining commodities, determining the time of farming, determining the procurement of production factors, managing farm finance the villages studied, women have a fairly prominent role in all livestock activities, from determining the type of livestock to the sale of livestock products<sup>13</sup>. On the other hand, the role of women is quite prominent in financial management and the sale of livestock products. The prominent role of women in all livestock activities can be understood for several reasons, first, the amount of time women are around the house which is not far from the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Supranto J. Multivariate Analysis: Meaning and Interpretation. Jakarta: Rineka Cipta, 2004.

livestock area. Furthermore, there are many detailed livestock activities that need to be handled in detail by women as well. And the number of women's activities that are in line with livestock activities, such as providing food, cleaning cages, maintaining health and others.

The role of women is quite prominent in the trade business, the reality on the ground shows that there are several aspects that they lack in order to increase their business, including lack of courage to compete (in the sense of self-development), too focus on a few small details (by forgetting big goals), often emotional in inappropriate situations and conditions (when running a business), less courageous in taking business risks (tends to carry out safe business activities), is less aggressive, prefers to react than takes initiative, and is more task-oriented than destination.

## g. The Women and Food Determination

Women has a very important role in the effort to consume food at the household level considering that in the hands of a woman or a mother, food is planned, processed and prepared as a barrier for her family. The size of the budget in planning, processing, preparing and serving foodstuffs is also the basis for a woman (a housewife) in an effort to improve the quality of food consumed by her family<sup>14</sup>. Various non-rice alternative food sources in the research area have a strong relationship with the role of women in the provision of family food. Women play a role in the production, processing and distribution of these alternative foods. This food source usually grows in the yard near the house or yard that is easily accessible from the house. Therefore, at any time, women can use this food as a substitute or as a substitute for the main food, namely rice. Some of these alternative foods are not commercial foods, meaning that these foods are mostly used by families as food reserves.

The types of plants that are widely planted by the community are bananas, sweet potatoes, corn, etc. While other plants grown by the community, these plants, apart from corn in their daily life, are mostly used for family consumption. In addition to growing crops that produce carbohydrates, people also plant plants that produce vitamins such as fruits and vegetables. The results of interviews with Wati (the Pembatang Community) of the community indicated that the community had grown less and less vegetables and fruit

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Sugandi. *Agricultural Policy Recommendations: Food Security Development Policy in Bengkulu Province*. LAST\_UPDATED 2 Thursday, March 24 2011 7:52 PM, 2011.

in their own yards. They mainly work on fruit and vegetables from buying at the market or from retailers who go around the village every day. Vegetable plants that are still being planted by residents are cassava leaves, papaya leaves and melinjo (so) leaves. In addition to these vegetables, such as spinach, long beans, water spinach and other people buy at the market or traveling traders. Meanwhile, the fruits that are still planted with a little intensity are mango, papaya, rambutan. In certain seasons people use the fruit for their own consumption.

# **CONCLUSION**

The Role of Women in Family Food Security in Pangean District, Kuantan Singingi Regency; The role of women (wives - housewives) plays a role not only for work related to their position and obligations as housewives, such as: serving their husbands, cooking, cleaning the house, caring for, educating and managing the household economy. But also help how to meet the needs of his family; Household Income, the husband's income, which on average comes from being a farm laborer, only earns Rp. 50,000, - up to Rp. 60,000, - / per day If calculated in a month it can be estimated, for example: 30 x IDR 50,000, - then you get an income of IDR 1,500,000 to IDR 2,250,000. It turns out that from the results of the interview, Their household income is erratic / insufficient to meet their daily needs, coupled with the condition that the price of food goods is very high, due to special constraints, such as not owning their own land. To fulfill their family's needs, if they don't go to the garden, they switch professions while looking for other jobs as a side job, such as: farming, craftsmen and so on; Village community household expenditures can be grouped into two, namely household expenditures for food and non-food items. Normatively, household expenses, especially those related to foodstuffs, must be regulated wisely. In this arrangement the housewives play a large role. A mother must be able to manage a limited income to be able to meet all the needs of foodstuffs, which are usually to meet the needs of a period of one month; The level of household food security can be measured by the large proportion of food expenditure (food) to total expenditure. When using economic indicators, the criteria are if the share or percentage of food expenditure is low ( $\leq 60\%$  of total expenditure), then this household group is food resistant. Meanwhile, if food expenditure is high (> 60% of total expenditure), then this household group is food insecure; The Role of Women in Family Income; The increase in women's participation in economic activities occurs because first, There is a change in people's views and attitudes about the importance of education for women and men, and a growing awareness of the need

for women to participate in development. Second, the willingness of women to be independent in the economic field; The Role of Women in Food and Non-Food Production Housewives who are responsible for productive activities that help their husbands earn a living to meet family needs, women are considered to have a role because in addition to taking care of household chores such as taking care, guiding, and educating children.

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