

## ***Hardiness of Karo Survivors Affected By Sinabung Eruption Based on Gender***

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**Abstract**—Hardiness was important to know because it involves the ability to deal with stress. The purpose of this research was to know the difference of hardiness in the Karonese society due to Sinabung disaster reviewed based on gender. According to Karonese culture, role of man as a successor of the customs more dominant than women. The samples of this research were 100 men and women who lived in the camp for years. Data obtained by hardiness scale made by researcher with some changes based on theory of Kobasa (1979). Based on data analysis it was found the difference in hardiness of the Karonese survivor due to Sinabung disaster reviewed based on gender. The results of mean show that hardiness in Karonese female survivors is higher than the hardiness in Karonese male survivors. Women in Karonese society more resistant to face the problem although they are not overly dominant role in culture

Keyword: *Gender, Hardiness, Karonese, survivor.*

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Mount Sinabung located in Karo regency, North Sumatra was suddenly re-active in 2010 after four hundred years not erupt. Until 2013, almost 30.000 people lost their home (Leandha, 2015)<sup>1</sup>. The number of refugees reached 2.443 peoples or 795 heads of family placed in seven evacuation spots (Ananda, 2015)<sup>2</sup> around Kabanjahe city, North Sumatra. This disaster had caused damage in its surrounding villages and thousand survivors had lost their home. The survivors did not only lose their home but also their agricultural land which became their main source of livelihoods. The Survivors' home and agricultural land had been damaged due to volcanic ashes and cold lava. Because of that, the survivors were forced to leave their home and they had to be evacuated. For almost 6 years until now many of survivor still lived in camp, although many of them (more than 300 heads of family) had been moved to new relocation area which the government had been build a house for them.

However another phenomenon appears which is happening to the Mount Sinabung survivors was that the survivors were seen to go back working, farming so that they can fulfill their economical needs. Most of them worked as a farmer. They can accept the situation that just happened and they don't regret it. They are not worried about mount Sinabung anymore event though it keeps erupting. The ability to survive which was performed in a positive attitude even though they went through unpleasant situation known as hardiness. Kobasa (1979)<sup>7</sup> said that there are three dimensions in hardiness, namely: (1) control, an individual's belief that he can control what happens in his life, (2) commitment, people believe that he has a purpose in life, (3) the challenges, individuals perceive opportunities or the challenges of life a self development for the better. Each individual may have dissimilarity on hardiness and is not closed the possibility that gender has a big role on hardiness (Bellmont, 2000)<sup>8</sup>. One of tribes in Karo is Karonese, Karonese has patriarkhi phylosophy to describe the gender system. The patriarkhi philosophy is a phylosophy which makes male becomes more dominant in every kind of life aspects than female and it makes Karonese parents nurture their children in different way both boys and girls. In Karonese culture, the man position is considered higher than female, because male is considered as the successor descendent of surname; if there is aboy in a family, then the boy is going to be considered as the important child and the first of every thing. (Bangun, 2006)<sup>9</sup>. Boy were taught by their

parents to responsible for the family, as the protector of the younger brother or older sister and to be the successor of the surname in the future (Bangun, 2006)<sup>9</sup>. Karonese male plays role as breadwinner to fulfill their family needs ,even though in reality there are more Karonese female who make living to fulfill their needs (Natar, 2004)<sup>10</sup> According to Mrs Walia Keliat (in Sembiring, 2008)<sup>11</sup> Karonese female is a tough woman but they tend to accept a condition as a 'lower class' than male Karonese, they also lack of confidence. According to Tamboen (1952)<sup>12</sup> married women still manage things that need both power and patience, because they nurture their children and husband, manage house, work in the field to fulfill the family needs. So that Karonese female is used to big and tough responsibility in living life (Natar, 2004)<sup>10</sup>. Because Karonese women have grown accustomed to their role as a wife, a breadwinner, housewife, therefore hard working attitude and hardiness has been awakened in their lives. Therefore we hypothesized that there is difference in hardiness on Karonese female survivors than Karonese male survivors when they were faced with situation which can make them stressful caused by mount Sinabung.

**METHOD**

Participant in this research are the refugees that lived in camp. The amount of participant in this research are 100 adults, already lived in the camp for 3 years, and married people.

**Instrument**

The instrument used in this research is hardiness scale by Kobasa (1979)<sup>7</sup> which composed from 3 dimension control, commitment, challenges and consist of 12 item. We adapted every question in understandable way so that every participant easy to understand and doing tryout. Control dimension was measured with 4 items  $\alpha = .718$ ), commitment dimension was measured with 4 item  $\alpha=0,597$  , challenges was measured with 4 item  $\alpha=0.812$ . We also do some adjustment to some question according to the situation at the camp to make them easy to understand the question . For example: *Trying my best at camp will make difference in my life*. The measurement we make in format 4 response (1 = "Strongly disagree" until 4 ="Strongly agree"). Questionnaire begin with short description about the research which will be done with inform consent. Next the survivors give response about the variable in this research.

**RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

Table 1. Independent T-test

| <b>Independent T-test</b> |                                    |   |       |         |        |                |                 |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---|-------|---------|--------|----------------|-----------------|
|                           |                                    | Levene's Test for Equality of Variances |       |         |        |                |                 |
| <i>Hardiness</i>          | <i>Equal variances assumed</i>     | F                                       | Sig.  | t       | df     | Sig.(2-tailed) | Mean Difference |
|                           | <i>Equal variances not assumed</i> | 2,536                                   | 0,114 | -10,862 | 98     | 0              | -7,42           |
|                           |                                    |   |       | -10,862 | 86,036 | 0              | -7,42           |

Based on the result of statistical tests that have been done showing value  $p < 0,05$ , it is 0,000. The correlation coeficien(r) which is 0,365 and  $p = 0,000$  , and showed

that there are difference in hardiness of the Karonese survivor due to Sinabung disaster reviewed based on gender. Although they

faced the same problem due to lived in camp, but the research showed there are difference in hardiness based on gender

**Table 2. Mean Hardiness**

|           | Sex    | N  | Mean  | Std. Deviation |
|-----------|--------|----|-------|----------------|
| Hardiness | Male   | 50 | 51,52 | 2,705          |
|           | Female | 50 | 58,94 | 4,002          |

Table 2 showed that male and female survivor has a difference scoring in hardiness. Female survivor obtained the highest Mean (M= 58,94) compared to male survivor (M=51,52). This is shown that hardiness in female Karonese survivors more visible than hardiness in male karonese survivors. This research have the same results with Imaroatul research (2009)<sup>4</sup> that say women hardiness higher than men. Natar (2004)<sup>10</sup> in his paper said that Karonese women are used to face big responsibilities and demand from society, and those things make them tougher and stronger. According to Tarigan (2009)<sup>13</sup> said that Karonese female have much more duty when they got married. They should looked after children and served husband, take care of housing such as washing,

swipping, even some of them who lived in vilage will have to walk far to fetch water for household use. while the demands of the role of men is not as much the duty and responsibility for of women. While Karonese men didnot have bigger role than what those run by women Karonese women.

Karonese male also have duty and responsibilities as family name carrier, decision maker in cultural ritual, working for feeding family eventhough in fact Karonese male seldom working to the field and wasting a lot of time from morning until the afternoon by going in coffee shop for talking, playing chess, gambling, hangover with friends (Natar, 2006)<sup>10</sup>

**Table 3. Score Mean between Dimension of Hardiness**

|            | Sex    | N  | Mean  | Std. Deviation |
|------------|--------|----|-------|----------------|
| Control    | Male   | 50 | 20,18 | 1,466          |
|            | Female | 50 | 23,16 | 1,695          |
| Commitment | Male   | 50 | 19,02 | 1,270          |
|            | Female | 50 | 21,34 | 1,547          |
| Challenge  | Male   | 50 | 12,32 | 1,518          |
|            | Female | 50 | 14,44 | 1,500          |

As shown in table 3 there is difference score mean between dimension. And the result showed that dimensions of control have a higher score than the other dimensions. Score Female in Control dimension are higher (Mean=23,16) than Male (Mean=20,18). Overall control dimension maybe contributed in hardiness in female survivor. This data match with Tarigans opinion (2009)<sup>12</sup> that the Karonese are tough ,patient, gentle, honest and succumb attitude if fronted with some

problems. The subject that has been interviewed said the tragedy happened in his life caused by Sinabung Mountain made him more thankfull, more patient and appreciate other survivors. It is suitable with the theory that Kobasa and Maddi(2005)<sup>13</sup> said that control is individual believing which is himself was able to thinking positively, and also able controlling emotion to some events happened in his life.

The next significant hardiness aspect in Karonese female and Karonese male is the commitment. This is suitable with the theory that was told by Bangun(2006)<sup>9</sup>, that Karonese has consistency, full of confidence, and persistence in doing an activity. An Interview with one of the subjects concluded that life in evacuation must be passed and not give up by working in the other peoples field for the sake of their children education. Kobasa and Maddi (2005)<sup>13</sup> said if individual the high commitment believes in value of the truth and believes himself in any conditions of his life, and believes as well that change will

help him to improve that leads him to the wisdom. by the experience.

The least significant aspect is challenge aspect either it is from Karonese female or Karonese male. This is suitable as well with the interview which is conducted by researcher to one of the subjects explained that the situation in evacuation is unenjoyable compared with their life before Sinabung Mountain erupted, and the survivors did not enjoy to any recent activities held by the government to them. It means the condition is fit with Kobasa and Maddi's theory (2005)<sup>13</sup> regarding the challenge aspect is a difficult thing to be done or granted.

### SUMMARY

1. There is a difference in hardiness of the Karonese survivor due to Sinabung disaster reviewed based on gender.
2. Karonese women have higher hardiness than Karonese men. In other words women are much more able to deal with pressure. They used to lived with demands from their society, and those made them tougher.
3. Dimensions of control have a higher score than the other dimensions. They belief that they can control what happens in his life, many of them back to work as a farmer not just passively hoping on the help of others

### SUGGESTION

There are limitations in obtaining information from participants if using a quantitative approach. It would be better if

the qualitative method used for data obtained richer.

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