

**Parenting of Poor fisherman family and Potential Conflict****(Study Case on Eretan Wetan Village, District Kandang Haur, Regency Indramayu)**Dr. Soni A. Nulhaqim, S.Sos., M.Si<sup>1</sup>([soni.nulhaqim@unpad.ac.id](mailto:soni.nulhaqim@unpad.ac.id))Dr. Rini Hartini Rinda A<sup>2</sup>([rini\\_stks@yahoo.co.id](mailto:rini_stks@yahoo.co.id))Maulana Irfan, S.Sos., M.I.Kom<sup>3</sup>([maulana.irfan@unpad.ac.id](mailto:maulana.irfan@unpad.ac.id))Ishartono, M.Kesos<sup>4</sup>([ishartono\\_kesos@yahoo.com](mailto:ishartono_kesos@yahoo.com))Wandi Adiansah, S.Kesos<sup>5</sup>([adinsahw@gmail.com](mailto:adinsahw@gmail.com))

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**Abstract**–This research discussed parenting on poor fisherman family in the area of northern beach, west java, which is located in Eretan Wetan Village, *Kecamatan Kandang Haur, Kabupaten Indramayu*. The focus of this research is the way of parenting by poor fisherman family in the area of potential conflict.

The method of this research is descriptive, qualitative approach with study case technique. The informants are poor fisherman family that owns children below 5 years that inhabitant in the potential conflict area. The data collection techniques are in-depth interview and observation. Data processing of this research is data categorization, description, conclusion, and analysis.

The result of this research revealed that conditions of poor fisherman family are as follow: limited and uncertain income, indecent house, and good kinship relationship. Parenting is conducted by mother and relatives along with father whenever he is not doing fisherman activity. Fulfilment of children needs are eating, drinking, dress, depended by income condition of parents (mother/father), relatives, and employer. For the health issues, medicines from local stores and health service facility in *puskesmas* are the main source of health aid. Parenting in the form of security needs, emotional warmth, children independency, guidance, and limitation are accounted by parents along with relatives including playing with their peer groups. Parents hope that their children do not become a fisherman, but working on the land. If there is a conflict within the area, parents attempt to cover their children for not seeing it and give a moral message for not doing that.

Keywords: Parenting, Fisherman Family, Poverty

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## INTRODUCTION

Every child in any development process needs proper child care especially from family as the first and primary environment for children. Child care is an effort to fulfill physical needs, emotional, social and psychological so that children could develop optimally. Basically every parent tends to fulfill the need of their children. However, several parents in Indonesia have not yet able to satisfy the need for child care optimally. This condition is due to several factors such as poverty, level of education, working busyness, and any other factor.

Based on those factors, the dominant as a reasoning for least child care is poverty. It occurs in fisherman society. In Indonesia, Fisherman society is considered as a group of absolute poverty among other poor society (Mukflihati, 2010 on Nulhaqim, 2017:13). Several types of research revealed that the condition of fisherman especially small-scale fisherman in Indonesia is on marginal condition (Kusnadi, 2000; Semedi, 2003; Budi, 2008; Nulhaqim, 2017).

Poverty factor has become one of the causes for least of the fulfillment of child care for children in poor fisherman family. Another factor that contributes toward least fulfillment of child care is lack of access to information/knowledge that is acquired from educational area whether formal or informal. Thus, it could be understood that the poor fisherman family has low capacity for child care.

One of the areas of fisherman in west java province is located in the north beach area. The number of fisherman on west java in 2012 is 103,721 people. The distribution of fisherman has concentrated in north beach west java specifically Indramayu for 44,515 people. With the high distribution of fisherman in north beach especially Indramayu are still categorized as a small-scale fishery. It means that they own a boat that most of their income is depended on catching fish activity in the sea, then selling those fish in the local and limited market (Prihandoko, 2011 on Nulhaqim, 2017).

Geographically, the location stands on the primary path or national road which is north beach path that becomes an area of the trajectory toward western Jakarta and eastern cities of middle java, Yogyakarta and East Java. This location is vulnerable to social conflict, which leads to the national issue (Nulhaqim, 2017). Childcare on fisherman family in Indramayu

obviously cannot be separated from child and family environment. The child care is in line with development in context (Batshaw et al., 2007) stated that childcare which will affect to children development indicate social-culture which is part of environment system that affects childhood development. The environment is divided into the physical and social environment. The social context consists of people, activities, and social background. Social background affects the development of children based on history, culture or custom within certain area. Based on those thinking childcare on fisherman family on Indramayu would be deeply affected by the social-cultural background of fisherman life.

Physical and social environment are crucial factors which affect child care is undeniable. The environment of the coast and cultural of head seaward are factors that have high contribution toward child care on fisherman family. The condition is in line with ecosystem perspective (Beckett & Johnson, 1995; Ashman, 2000; Zastrow, 2004). Based on experts, individuals always interact with various systems and system area. Zastrow (2004) and, DuBois (2005) categorized them as person-in-environment and person-in-situation. Childcare aspects are deeply affected by daily activities of their parent. The way of fisherman parent/family to fulfill primary children treatment, safety/protection from violent, exploitation and neglecting, guidance and limitation, along with stability to fulfill the need of children including stability to perform affection bond.

## RESEARCH METHOD AND RESEARCH LOCATION

The type of research that is conducted in this research is descriptive with qualitative approach and study case technique. The data source for this research is primary and secondary data. The data collecting technique are in-depth interview, non-participatory observation, and literature review. The data analysis process is accounted for simultaneously with data gathering which are data categorization, descriptive data, data analysis and concluding.

The research is conducted in Eretan Wetan village, *Kecamatan* Kandanghaur, *Kabupaten* Indramayu. This village has 179.8 Ha area which is consisted of 21 *Rukun Tetangga* and 5 *Rukun Warga*. Eretan Wetan village is inhabited by 11,260 people which are consisted by 4,598 chiefs of the family (Profil Desa Eretan Wetan, 2017). Eretan Wetan village is located on

thenorth beach area in west java that directly borders with Java sea. It causes most of the people in this village have an occupation on fisheries and marine. Eretan area is an area that provides a high number of fish in Indramayu. Most of the people in Eretan village have a profession for fisherman and fish processing labor. Based on data which is acquired from *Profil Desa Eretan Wetan* year 2016, a number of fisherman in this village is 2.034 people. While a number of people that do fish processing labor is 3.625. Although the marine opportunity and potency of Eretan Wetan village are pretty big, the condition of fisherman state contrary. It is confirmed by a number of not welfare family which are 895. Besides, level of economic ability and level of income for fisherman are still low. Then, the low of a level of welfare could be interpreted by the existence of slum area on the village, indecent home and low of education level.

Eretan Wetan village is one of the potential conflict areas. It is noted that in the last 10 years, conflicts occur among ordinary society and fisherman society, conflict among block, youngster, election, among fisherman, and any other conflict (Nulhaqimet al. : 2017). The location is chosen based on two criteria which was stated before which is poor family fisherman that live in the potential conflict area.

## RESEARCH RESULT

### A. Informant Characteristic

The first informant is Mrs. M. Currently she is 30 years old. The level of education for Mrs. M is only until 2<sup>nd</sup> grade on an elementary school. Mrs. M has a husband and two children. Her husband is 34 years old along with their children which the first one is 11 years and the second child is 2.5 Years. Her husband profession is fisherman while Mrs. M profession is mother household but occasionally, she helps her husband as fish processing labor.

The second informant name is Mrs. S; she is 40 years old. Her level of education is the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade in elementary school. Currently, she is a mother household. Her husband is 42 years old and has a profession as a fisherman. Mrs. S has 5 children. The age of the first child is 21 years old who had married and already have children. Her last child age is 11 months.

The last informant is Mrs. SN which is currently 19 years, finish her school in third grade at an elementary school. She has a husband

who is 22 years old and a daughter who is 5 years old. Her husband had a profession for fisherman while Mrs. SN has a profession as mother household and processing fish labor. Both of them have finished their study in third grade.

### B. Characteristic Of Fisherman Family

The profession of a fisherman by inhabitants of Eretan Wetan village is originally a descendant profession. On average, male children in Eretan Wetan village have studied to be a fisherman in the age of 9 or 10. At that age, male children prefer to follow their parents to go to the sea and study to be the next fisherman. This condition creates a low average educational level in Eretan Wetan village. The point is economic factor enforces male children at the age of 9-10 years in Eretan Wetan village to quit school and prefer to find fish on the sea.

When a most male has a profession as a fisherman. In their daily busy for managing a household, female help their husband to earn much income by becoming fish processing labor. The intensity of female to work as processing fish labor are not fixed because of the business as a household mother. Usually when their children are not crying, or other people ask them to play something then the female doing processing fish labor. The average for female age is started from 12 years old. Usually, they are asked by their parents to help them.

For fishing activities conducted by fishermen families in Eretan Wetan village is not the same between one fisherman with other fishermen. This depends on the skipper of the ship owner they follow. Some fishermen are doing the activities of daily sailing that is leaving after dawn and come home late afternoon after ashar or magrib depending on whether or not the weather in the sea. If the weather in the sea is not good, often during the day after dzuhur, even the fishermen have to return home. Also, this daily fishing activity is also known as the term ngobor. Ngobor is done with the time of departure in the afternoon and goes home early morning. The types of fish caught in this daily fishing activity are tembang fish or anchovy. In addition to daily fishing activities, there are also fishermen who perform weekly sea activities (7 working days), monthly (20-30 working days), quarterly, six monthly and yearly. For this fishing activity is usually the boat used is a large boat with the number of crew of the ship (crew) between 5 to 45 people.

The amount of income earned by the fishermen in a single sailing is very uncertain; this depends on the number of fish obtained. This amount of income also depends on their role in the boat. The role of fishermen is differentiated into batol, motoris, captain, monitor official, crank, etc. Revenues earned by each role are different, some get 2 parts, 1.5 parts, 1 ¼ part and a whole part. The roles that achieve highest results are the captain and monitor official because this role requires special skills. For the division of its role usually has been determined by the owners of the boat owners.

Also, the income of fisherman families is essentially very diverse and very uncertain. This is influenced by the weather, and the number of fish catches obtained when fishing. Weather is very influential for catching fish. When the weather is not friendly, then the number of fish catch is little. When bad weather occurred, many fishermen prefer not to go to sea; they are very afraid of high waves and high winds. In addition to the small catch, the danger that lurks at sea becomes one of the considerations to not go to sea. For small fishermen who perform daily sea activities, the amount of their income is between Rp. 10.000 s.d Rp60.000 per day, while for fishermen who do the monthly sea activities the amount of their income is between Rp350.000 s.d Rp1.000.000. Meanwhile, the income of fishermen's wives who work as fish processing laborers is also very dependent on the number of fish that catches that processed fish cost Rp1.000 / kg. If the fish are plenty, the average weight is 100 kg, but if there is no fish, only able to process 10-20 kg in a day. The fisherman's relationship with the employer and the fish processor with his employer is built strongly in families, and there is a provision of money by his needs and should not be refunded, except when they want to move to other employers, the amount of money can vary from Rp.500.000 to 5,000,000.

### C. Parenting of Poor and Conflict-Affected Families

#### 1. Basic Needs

##### a. Nourishment fulfilment

Fulfilment of main meals 2-3 times a day, with rice menu and side dishes usually in the form of fish, eggs, vegetables, eggs, tofu, *tempe* and crackers. Children who are not breastfed are given formula milk at certain times such as in the morning, during the day or when the child is crying. Fruits are sometimes given when fathers get much money from the sea.

Children are also happy to eat snack stalls and soft drinks.

##### b. Health Care

Children are taken to *posyandu* monthly for examination and immunization especially for children under 3 years. If they are or over three years old, then they only visit *Posyandu* only if they are sick. Even though they are children of a fisherman, their mother forbade her children to play outside in really hot weather or during the rain to avoid illness. At the age of 3, Children are taught to take a bath and wash their teeth by their own to reduce the task of their mother. Related to the fulfillment of health needs, some families have Healthy Indonesia Card (KIS) for visiting doctors, also access to *Puskesmas* if the child is sick.

##### c. Residential House

Mostly, home of poor fishermen is classified as semi-permanent category type 27 housing. The existing space of the house is separated from the living room, middle room, 2 bedrooms, and kitchen. On average, every house is already equipped with bathroom. However, it is in bad condition as there is no door for bathrooms that they have to cover it with the banner. The bathroom is also located outside of house either on the edge of the gutter or near mangrove forest.

d. Associated with the needs of clothing, annual buying new clothes are very dependent on the income of the father. On average, they buy clothes for their children 2-4 times a year. However, the frequency of buying clothes is uncertain that even some families claimed to not buying new clothes even if it is *Lebaran* due to difficult family's economic situation. Some other families insisted on purchasing new clothes for their children during *lebaran* even though they have to make the loan.

#### 2. Safety

##### a. Safety on Playing

Child parenting needs to pay attention to safety, especially for toddlers. When the child is playing, their mother must always keep an eye on the children who are under 1.5 years old. Supervision is conducted because children at that age often put things around them into their mouth. The objects are such as coins, gravel, pencils, etc. It certainly makes parents



very worried if the objects are swallowed. It will affect the health condition of children. This supervision is also done because at that age the child is learning to walk, it certainly requires extra supervision, because often the child fell to the floor or hit the ground.

#### b. Environmental Security

Fisherman houses are very close to the beach that is certainly not a safe environment for children. However, according to the mothers, they have told their children not to play on the beach. Mothers also often accompany or pay attention when children play. Thus dangerous situation could be directly prevented. The Security for children is also assured when the mother must work to the fish processing; then the child is entrusted to relatives or their father if he is not working. The child is not left alone at home.

### 3. Warmth and Emotion

#### a. Hug and express affection

Emotional warmth is delivered by mothers in the form of accompanying and hugging her children while sleeping, chatting, playing whether inside or outside of the home. Fathers rarely have a long time with his children. During free time, fathers will only take care of boys, while girls are sent to a grandmother or other relatives if her mother has to work to fish processing place.

#### b. Respond when a child asks or request for something

Mothers often respond when children request for something or ask questions. However, usually, she will only respond when children are crying. If the request requires spending money, then the request will not be fulfilled. When children tell stories, usually parents, especially mothers listen and respond to children's stories. When the child is usually crying the parents hold or distract the child, such as giving milk and carry them to purchase some snack or distract the child by taking them to see the sea or see the boat.

### 4. Stimulation

#### a. Teach about independent

Mother taught for the children bath, dress, take food and eat by themselves. One child has been self-sufficient to eat, bathe and dress, while two children still have to be helped.

#### b. Play

As has been explained before that when children are playing, they are always accompanied by parents both by mother and father. The types of games that are usually done when playing with parents such as playing ball, bicycle, or just watching TV together. When watching tv, children also sleep late to watch a soccer game with their father. When children play with their father, they are usually taken to the boat, to the fish auction or house of his fellow fisherman friend. Nevertheless, father rarely invites children to play, because the father is too busy and feel that the task of parenting is mother's duty.

### 5. Guidance and Limitation

#### a. Guidance

Children are guided to play, eat, and take care of themselves. Mother always forbids her children if they go too far. Children are also guided to start worship (doing prayers). Guidance and limitation are also more dominant / performed by the mother because it is another who is always with the children every day, while the father is resting at home after sailing at sea.

#### b. Limitations

How to teach and apply the rule is done by providing guidance both orally and by giving examples of practice directly. Also, for children aged 3-5 years, they have been guided to learn to write, count, read Latin and Arabic letters, memorize short letters and daily prayers. This is done for the preparation of entry into Early Childhood Education (PAUD).

### 6. Stability

Mother always strive to do good parenting. However, sometimes mothers are busy for another occasion, for example working in fish processing to help meet the needs of the family. The income of husbands who do not settle sometimes make mothers feel stressed because the daily needs have to be fulfilled. Therefore, sometimes the mother is emotional or angry when the child is fussy or does not obey. Bringing children to fish processing make mothers much stressful because the child does not stand to stay at fish processing,

## HOPE FOR CHILDREN AND CONFLICT PREVENTION

Parents expect their children will not become fisherman or fish-processing worker in the future, unlike their father or most of their relatives. They hope that their children will work on land rather than in thesea. Parents also hope that their children will be able to go to college up to university level. In essence, children should not follow the footsteps of parents, because according to them, being fisherman is difficult and uncomfortable. It is enough for parents who feel the difficulty to be fishermen not their children.

In the case of conflict prevention, parents always guide and tie up all their children not to engage in unlawful acts such as drinking, drugs, brawl and fighting. Also, parents also often remind their children to make no mistake in mingling. Parents tend to give advice and understanding for their children always limit their friendship to only kind people. Besides, parents always reminded that children should always remember their parents, love, and giving empathy for the parents. Parents hope that their children will not engage in things that would make parents feel difficult or ashamed of the consequences of their actions.

The coastal area is one of the potential conflict areas. When a conflict occurs, parents usually give direction to their children for not imitating fighting or brawl. When there are some noisy, arguing, drunk or fighting, children are immediately forced to enter the house. Parents will not let children see bad behavior.

## ANALYSIS

Aspects of parenting have been done mainly by the mother, but there is still limited fulfillment in every aspect. The fulfillment of basic needs in the form nutrition, health, shelter, and clothing are still very limited. This condition can be understood due to the uncertainty and below regional minimum wage of income as a fisherman. Fixed employment with low salaries causes shortcomings in meeting the daily needs of the family. This situation can affect parenting skills. Every Child Review (2011) states that poverty is a crucial factor contributing to the loss of parental care. This loss of parenting capacity is due to the inability of the mother to fulfill the needs of children.

Fathers are less involved in parenting such as building affectionate bonds, playing with girls, providing guidance and limits. Child care is dominantly conducted by the mother. The dominant nurturing performed by the mother may be influenced by the culture and marriage law in Indonesia. The culture of West Java area determines that child care be handed down to generations by only mothers who settle at home. While father has many roles in the economic aspect of family. The cultural perspective is also influenced by the Law Number 1 the year 1974 concerning marriage, that the husband is the head of the family and the main breadwinner, that he is responsible for the life of his wife and children, which is often interpreted as breadwinner. The influence of local culture, that the father went to sea and resting at home, while the mother was at home.

Mother, although in a state of low economic position, but still shows her ability in child care. The ability to handle emotional stress when examined from a gender perspective, Pulla (2013) states that women display emotionally focused coping whenever men present problem-focused coping. This means that women have their basic ability to deal with their feelings. When men try to solve the problem. This situation is also visible from the results of the study that the mother's informant seems to try to manage her feelings by hiding the sadness and still showing the feeling of affection towards children. With this condition, Pulla (2013) states in theory that when women are faced with hormonal pressure, the limbic system is activated. This means that a part of the brain's nerves is related to aspects of emotion, including the ability to manage emotions, and familiarity is activated. So according to this theory, women can manage pressure.

## CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

### CONCLUSION:

The formulation of research results can be revealed as follows:

1. The condition of poor fisherman family is the family where the husband works as a fisherman since he was 9-10 years who have a family background as fisherman, while his wife works part-time as a fish processor in the local market. Their education level does not complete primary school, with low income. Parenting is done by the mother and her relatives and husband during free time.

2. Childcare in the fisherman family is done mainly by the mother, but there is still limited fulfillment in every aspect. The fulfillment of basic needs in the form of nutrition, health, shelter, and clothing is still very limited. Fathers are less involved in parenting such as building affectionate bonds, playing with his daughter, providing guidance and limits. Mother, although in a state of poor economy, but still shows her ability in child care.

3. The fisherman's parents expect their children if they are adults to work not to be fishermen but to get a job on land. Parents, especially mothers, play a role in preventing the development of conflicts in their children through advice and keeping the child from watching the atmosphere of conflict that occurs in the community.

### **SUGGESTION:**

Suggestions are proposed for increasing the capacity of mothers through training and mentoring with the target for parents and relatives who live in the family of fishermen by utilizing local institutions. The strengthening of nurturing capacity is more emphasized on the aspects of parenting and creating a harmony environment.

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