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## Women's Motivation on Politics in Malang Raya

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**Abstract.** Women have an important role in development, so the participation of women in politics is also needed. This is evidenced by several previous studies which reveal how the influence of women on government stability is more conducive to corruption action than the lack of women's participation in government. In addition, there is also an explanation related to the barometer of women's participation in politics in East Java which is considered mature. This also encourages researchers to use qualitative research methodologies with a phenomenological approach to look at the quality of women's motivations in politics. The location chosen is Malang Raya which is part of the province of East Java. Methods of data collection using interviews, documentation and observation. The results of the study show that women in addition to having rational and realistic motives for politics also have motivations that come from the family environment. Apart from self-actualization for the sake of emancipation, of course, women also have an impetus for regional development. The results of this study can be used as a reference for further research related to politics, sociology and women's studies

**Keywords.** Women, Motivation, Politics, Malang Raya.

### **Preliminary**

Women's participation in politics is very important, because their presence in the political arena to reach the position of policy makers can improve the welfare of women's groups by representing, guarding and influencing the agenda and process of policy making and making. *Transparency International's Global Corruption Barometer* consistently also claims its findings show that women are less likely to pay bribes and are more likely to condone corruption. The World Bank study shows that an 8% increase in the number of women sitting in parliament will reduce the country's corruption rate by 20%. *Women Research Institute*, conducted a survey conducted on 1,200 respondents in 33 provinces with a margin of error of 2.8%. Of the total respondents, as many as 58% of respondents agreed that the more women in parliament, the faster justice for women and men.

Along with the development of an increasingly modern era, the participation and level of awareness of women in political life has begun to improve, as seen by the participation of women in politics no longer only as voters but also as candidates worthy of being elected by the people, either as regional heads or as decision makers. in the legislative and executive seats. Although this is still driven by affirmative action policies and a system that benefits women.

One of the provinces in Indonesia that has become a barometer of women's politics is East Java. East Java is a province that is currently considered very mature in terms of women's politics. Ten leaders in East Java are women, coming from 38 districts and cities plus one province of East Java. The composition of regional heads is the highest in Indonesia. This means that women's political awareness in choosing and providing opportunities for women in

politics and becoming regional heads in East Java is very high. However, this is not directly proportional to the representation of women in legislative seats.

In 2014, East Java's female legislative candidates received the lowest votes (9.81%), with the highest percentage of representation achieved by Central Java, namely 44.23% (Puskapol FISIP UI, 2014). One of the areas in East Java that has a good percentage of women's representation compared to other regions in terms of politics is Malang Raya (Malang City, Malang Regency and Batu City). The data obtained from the KPU explains the representation of women in Greater Malang in the 2014-2019 period. in Batu City the representation of women in legislative seats is 32%, in Malang City as much as 20%, and in Malang Regency 12%.

By looking at the above explanation regarding the importance of women in the government structure to the factual evidence seen in Malang Raya in East Java province, this research focuses on finding out how women's motivation in politics in Malang Raya is; Malang City, Batu City and Malang Regency. This research will begin to gradually find out how women's motivation in politics is in Malang City, Batu City and Malang Regency.

### **Research methods**

This study uses a qualitative research methodology with a phenomenological approach. The phenomenology in this study serves to find out about the experiences of women as candidates and elected members of the legislature to the motivation of these women to participate in the world of power-oriented politics. The research location is Malang Raya, which includes Malang City, Batu City and Malang Regency based on the consideration of the high level of women's participation in legislative elections. Geographical reasons such as the proximity of the 3 regions of Greater Malang, similar demographic characteristics and Malang as an education city and the second largest city after Surabaya in East Java are other important considerations.

This study uses Field Research data collection techniques by collecting data related to research and then grouping it into discussions according to the needs and research, while the data collection technique in the field is done by semi-structured interviews will be conducted with female legislators and female legislative candidates. In Malang Raya, both elected and non-elected, interviews will also be conducted with party representatives who meet the criteria. To support the data, interviews will also be conducted with male legislative candidates and members of the legislature in Malang, the head of the KPU in Malang Raya and political consultants who handle the legislature in Malang. The second is documentation of documents in the form of writing, which can be in the form of diaries, life histories, regulations, policies. Documents in the form of images such as photographs of the legislative activities of the incumbent women, as well as recordings of the activities carried out. The last is moderate participatory observation, i.e. there is a balance between researchers being insiders and outsiders (Sugiyono, 2010), so that researchers can collect data by participating in some activities, but not all of them. Observations in this study were carried out at the legislative office for women and men, the Office of Political Parties in Malang Raya, KPU Malang Raya, political consultant offices in Malang Raya then the observation data were collected to be a source of data which would then be processed. According to Spradley (Sugiyono, 2010), the object of observation in qualitative research consists of three components, namely, place, namely Malang Raya and , actor, namely elected and inelected legislative members, incumbent and their activities are activities carried out by elected legislative members and not also the political parties that carry them in Malang Raya.

In determining the validity of the data (trustworthiness) an examination technique is needed based on several criteria, namely (Moleong, 2018), the degree of trust (credibility), transferability (transferability), dependability (dependability) and certainty (confirmability). In

testing the validity of the data technique, the researcher includes steps such as; Extended participation is required in research, diligent and detailed observation of the object of in-depth observation, checking and comparison using triangulation, peer examination through discussion, this technique is carried out by exposing temporary or final results obtained in the form of discussions with knowledgeable colleagues with the aim of validation, Negative case analysis to improve knowledge discourse, Checking the members involved in the data collection process, detailed descriptions and auditing. In qualitative research with the data collection method that the researcher chose, data collection will be carried out continuously until the data is saturated, which will result in high data variation, so data analysis is needed to systematically arrange the data obtained into categories, breaking down into units. , synthesizing, compiling into patterns, choosing which data are important or needed and which are not (Moleong, 2018).

## **Discussion result**

### **1. Women's Motivation in Politics in Greater Malang**

The involvement of women in politics in Malang Raya has various motivations. This can be seen through the data collected from several informants as political actors at the legislative level, both in Malang City, Batu City, and Malang Regency. The data set is then analyzed so that it can be used to answer the previously proposed research problem formulation. The discussion of the data that has been analyzed is carried out with reference to social action theory, and will then be presented based on the research area. The motivation of women in politics in Malang is the focus of research that will be answered in this section.

#### **1.1 Malang City**

The representation of women in the Malang City legislative election for the 2019 period is known to reach 29%, close to the recommended quota through an affirmative policy of 30% for female candidates. The 29% figure was obtained from the election of 13 female legislators from a total of 45 seats, each of which has a certain motivation in participating in political contestations at the DPRD level. Based on data obtained through interviews with several elected legislative members of Malang City, it is known that external factors are the main motivation that drives their participation in politics, especially factors that come from the family environment.

Indah Nurdiana, STP, member of the DPRD Commission B from the Democrat Party faction expressed support from her family. The existence of a husband who is also active in politics has a major influence in his work as a legislative candidate. This is also possible because both Mrs. Indah and her husband who serves as a member of the council are members of the same party. The husband's involvement in the bribery case of the Malang City APBD-P discussion which was uncovered by the KPK (Corruption Eradication Commission) in August 2017 ousted Mrs. Indah's husband from the Malang City DPRD seat. This incident became an additional motive for Mrs. Indah's participation in the legislative general election in the next period in 2019. She said that the absence of her husband required Mrs. Indah to carry out her duties as the backbone of the family.

Before being active as a member of the Democratic Party in 2018, she was a housewife who also had activities at the Dharma Wanita foundation. The knowledge about political activities obtained from her husband was initially deemed less attractive to Mrs. Indah to enter politics. The existence of doubts from the public regarding the stigma against women who are considered more competent in domestic work also affects their political motivation. But the enthusiasm of prospective voters and the willingness to prove their capacity as a housewife who

is able to carry out political mandates actually pushed Mrs. Indah to compete in the 2019 legislative elections.

A different motivation was expressed by another member of commission B, Dra. Wiwiek Sukesie DR, M.Sc., from the Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle faction. Prior to becoming a party member in 2018, she was a housewife with two children. However, encouragement from the environment, especially from the father figure who is also a member of the DPR, is considered a way of life, as well as a mandate that must be implemented. The existence of a belief that is hereditary is ultimately considered by Mrs. Wiwiek as a gift from God, and at the same time paving the way for her to obtain a position in the 2019 legislative seat.

Motivation from the family was also obtained by Amithya Ratnanggani Sirraduhita, SS, a member of Commission D from the PDI-P faction. His political education from his parents, as well as the support of his husband who is in the property industry, fostered his confidence to go forward to become a legislative candidate. Armed with the ability as expert staff for both parents who were in the seats of the DPR RI for several periods, political awareness had emerged before he was elected as a member of the council. According to him, the need for people who have received less attention from the government is his main impetus in competing in the legislative arena.

## **1.2 Batu City**

Women's participation in politics in Batu City has not been able to compete with male candidates and elected members. This is understandable because the political awareness of women in Batu City has not yet developed, even though since the end of 2017 it has been led by a woman. The percentage of woman DPRD members in Batu City was the lowest in Malang Raya in the 2019 period, which only reached 13% of the 30% affirmative action provision. The limited number of female members has in fact become a driving factor for the emergence of motivation for legislative candidates, as is known from the results of interview data that have been conducted.

Nur Aulia Lishanti, who was elected for the last two terms and currently serves as deputy chairman of Commission B of the Batu City DPRD, stated that the willingness to become a legislative candidate promoted by the National Mandate Party arose because of the limited number of female candidates. Meanwhile, each party participating in the legislative elections tries to fulfill the 30% quota for female candidates. This motivation is supported by Mrs. Aulia's background, who is from a political family, as it is known that her grandfather had served as member of the DPRD in Malang City from Golkar Party and the Head of the Madiun Cooperative Department.

*“Indeed, it was my friends who proposed to me because at that time it was difficult to find female candidates. Well, at that time, it was just like this, we only had to fulfill the 30% quota.*

*“I don't follow politics, even though I'm already in a political family. Because when I was little, I joined my grandparents in Madiun, and coincidentally, my late grandfather used to be a member of the Malang City DPRD. After several periods, he was asked to become the Head of the Cooperatives Department for the Madiun residency, city and district.” (Interview with Mrs. Aulia)*

Support for Mrs. Aulia in the nomination process as a member of the legislature also came from the family, both husband and children, especially in the second period. Encouragement also continues to emerge from the community around where he lives in the Pesangrahan Village area, Batu City, considering that he is the first citizen to be elected as a member of the legislature. This is coupled with the convenience obtained when undergoing the

process of fulfilling the legal requirements for the needs of every legislative candidate, which indirectly fosters the belief that competing in the legislative elections has become his way of life.

The lack of women who are involved in the political world of Batu City is also the main motivation for Hj. Dewi Kartika, ST, who has so far occupied a council seat for three terms. Starting her political career as a member of the Golkar party in 2004, her organizational vision was formed when she became chairman of the Golkar Women's Corps, namely contributing to the advancement of women through training activities. The year 2009 was the moment of his first candidacy, who at that time joined the Patriot Party as a political vehicle, as well as in order to fulfill the 30% quota for legislative candidates in the first year the affirmative action was implemented. He also emphasized the importance of the presence of women in the political sphere.

The existence of a supportive husband directly encouraged the success of Mrs. Kartika, who since 2014 joined the National Awakening Party and until now serves as Chair of Commission A DPRD Batu City. According to her, the support of her late husband, who once served as chairman of one of the largest dairy cooperatives in East Java Province, as well as being a community leader, has a very big role, especially in mapping ballots and procuring political costs.

He also does not deny the existence of discriminatory views that demean women in political affairs, both since his first nomination in 2009 until the last in 2019. This discrimination in the end actually became a motivation to prove himself in legislative competition.

Along with the growing awareness of women in Batu City in the political field, the willingness and confidence that emerges from the younger generation of legislative candidates also increases. This was conveyed by Amirah Ghaida Dayanara, S.IP., a member of Commission A from the 2019 Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle faction. With the provision of a study majoring in Government Science, Mrs. Amirah ran for the legislature at the age of 25 after going through the party regeneration process. The strong desire to develop the region through ideas and enthusiasm finally emerged after getting the opportunity given by the party, which also tried to meet the target of the affirmative action quota for women.

Stigma against women who are identical with domestic work is also a motivation for him to compete in the political arena. As expressed by another informant as a female legislative member, this view also encourages Mrs. Amirah to prove herself that women's political capacity can compete with male legislators. In addition, the presence of women in government will also have a positive impact in inspiring women to improve their abilities.

### **1.3 Malang Regency**

Based on data from the Malang Regency KPUD, the representation of women submitted by each political party in each legislative election period has shown an increase since the affirmative action provisions were rolled out. This can be seen in the 2019 election period, where prospective candidates for permanent members of the Malang Regency DPRD achieved an average female representation of 46%, and all participating parties managed to fulfill the quota of female candidates of up to 40%. Although it has not yet been realized at the legislative level, it is understandable that female candidates already have political awareness and are motivated to compete.

From the interview results, it is also known that the informants as elected legislative members in Malang Regency do not have a special drive to compete with male candidates, but rather efforts to develop the region optimally, without having to leave the nature of women as well as part of society. Motivation that comes from the family and party interests is also an

important factor supporting the success of the candidate. Hj. Masfufah, S.Pd. who served on Commission IV from the National Awakening Party faction explained that his main motivation to run as a candidate in the legislative election was the support from his family and community in the area where the party's ballot box was. This motivation is realized through affirmative action,

From an internal perspective, his motivation to re-run for the 2019 legislative candidacy was motivated by the demand to contribute to society. For women who have served as legislators for the last two periods, devoting herself as a useful figure to society is a noble goal, and to remind her social status for life. Then, the experience of accompanying her husband as village head made Bu Masfufah feel accustomed to being close to the community, so becoming a member of the council was another way for her to remain able to reach the community.

A similar motivation was also expressed by the Deputy Chairman of Commission I of the Malang Regency DPRD, Ninik Nurmiati, S.Pd., who was newly elected as a legislator in the 2019 election. The support from her husband who is the Village Head in Kanigoro Village, Pagelaran District, Kepanjen, became the main impetus for him to run for the legislature. The existence of her husband as the Village Head ultimately had a positive impact on the votes obtained from the community base in Pagelaran District. The synergy that always appears in every legislative election period between the Village Head and potential legislative candidates (candidates) is seen by him as an opportunity to develop and advance the village, through cooperation, one of which is in the form of a development stimulus.

The desire to develop the region is in line with the needs of the party that oversees him, Nasdem Party, in fulfilling the provisions of affirmative action as well as the regeneration process that prioritizes female candidates in the future.

### **Conclusion**

Politics does not only belong to a certain gender so that it becomes a prerequisite for someone to hold office. In this modern era we need to echo the emancipation so that we can rationalize our society which has long lived in a patriarchal tradition. This research intends to reveal how the motivation of women in politics in Malang. Researchers have explained how the quantity of women's participation in politics in East Java and Malang Raya. So this is what encourages researchers to uncover the quality aspect of women's motives for their participation in politics, especially in Malang Raya.

By looking at the results of interviews and other evidence found in this study, it can be concluded that the motivation of women in Malang Raya in addition to family support as the closest personal environment for each person, a family environment that encourages women to take part in politics implies that Malang Raya has an environment that encourages women to participate in politics. which prioritizes equal rights as early as possible (family environment). Then rational and realistic considerations and prioritize matters related to community development. Indonesian politics should prioritize what are the motives of women in politics. The results of this study are important for regional/national development because development must be motivated by rationalization in the form of emancipation.

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