Factors Affecting the Independence of Women in Home Industry in Facing the Covid Pandemic in Pandeglang Regency (Case of the Female Emping Melinjo Craftsman)

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Abstract

The existence of the COVID-19 pandemic that hit parts of the world at a macro level devastated the economic system, both large economies and the home economy were also affected by this event. This study aims to determine (1) the factors that influence the independence of women in home industry, and (2) the dominant factors that influence the independence of women in the home industry in Pandeglang Regency due to covid 19. This research was carried out in Pandeglang Regency with 152 respondents. all of which are women who run the melinjo emping home industry on a daily basis. The research design uses an explorative design. The types of data used are qualitative data and quantitative data. The subject of the research is a cottage industry managed by rural women, and the object is the independence factor of the cottage industry. The data needed in this study are data on family support, access to capital, entrepreneurial ability, and business scale, as well as internal factors and social networks, government support and access to information as external factors. The results showed that the independence of women home industry players in Pandeglang Regency during the Covid 19 pandemic was in the moderate category, there were two factors that influenced the independence of women in the home industry in Pandeglang Regency, namely: (1) internal factors, and (2) external factors. The most dominant factors influencing the independence of women in the home industry in Pandeglang Regency are internal factors, which include: business scale, access to capital, and business ability, while external factors that influence include others; social networks and access to information. Meanwhile, government support and family support have little effect on the independence of women in home industry in Pandeglang Regency.

Keywords

Covid 19 pandemic; Melinjo chips home industry; independence of rural women; Internal factors external factors



I. Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic that has been going on since 2019, not only has an impact on the health sector but also affects all aspects of people's lives. One of the sectors that experienced the greatest impact was the economy, where the existence of Large-scale Social Restrictions (PSBB) which in turn was also micro PPKM, resulted in the collapse of the economic system, both macro and micro. Small and medium micro enterprises (MSMEs) in which there is also a home industry (Home Industry) as a form of supra micro are also affected.

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The results of the LIPI survey (2020) show that during the Covid 19 pandemic, the MSME sector experienced a 94.69% decline in sales. Sihombing (2020) state that Covid-19 pandemic caused everyone to behave beyond normal limits as usual. The outbreak of this virus has an impact especially on the economy of a nation and Globally (Ningrum, 2020). The problems posed by the Covid-19 pandemic which have become a global problem have the potential to trigger a new social order or reconstruction (Bara, 2021). Judging from the scale of the business, more than 75% of sales experienced a decline, including 49.01% experienced by ultra-micro businesses, 43.3% micro businesses, 40% small businesses, and 45.83% medium businesses. Based on the length of business, there was a decrease in sales of more than 75%, there were more than 23.27% of businesses aged 0-5 years, 10.9% of businesses aged 6-10 years and 8.84% of businesses that had been running for more than 10 years. Based on his sales method, sales decline also occurred more than 75% of MSMEs, experienced by offline/physical sales methods by 47.44%, online sales methods by 40.17%, and offline and online sales methods by 39.41%.

Likewise, MSMEs in Banten Province out of 145,333 MSMEs in 2019, and those engaged in the processing business sector as many as 87,199, of which 40% (34,879) were able to survive and the remaining 60% (52,320) were affected. Efforts made by both the central and regional governments in dealing with this are in addition to providing capital injections through emergency response programs, online market development as well as business managerial development with the aim of increasing the capacity of MSMEs to be more flexible in dealing with problems.

Managerial coaching is carried out as a strategic step where business sustainability is determined, one of which is the ability (capacity) of the business actor to take advantage of opportunities, see market share and make decisions (Saleh K, at.al. 2018). The independence of women in running a home business is an attitude of interdependence (independence) of women in thinking and acting according to their own impulses and desires as a reflection of their capacity, especially in responding to an event or incident.

The independence of rural women is the ability to take advantage of their potential to fulfill the needs of life through collaborative activities with other parties, the independent nature of rural women is characterized by their ability to control, determine, manage and utilize resources, as a choice for themselves and their families in improving their welfare, which is applied through aspects: (1) decision making; (2) determination of cooperation with external parties; (3) access to capital; (4) utilization of environmental resources; and (4) business dynamics (Saleh K, at.al. 2018).

An independent woman is a woman who is able to accumulate expectations and obligations, be responsible and be a motivator for herself and her family in improving welfare. Independence can be done through increasing knowledge, skills, attitudes and motivation, which in turn become role models for families and communities.

The independence of the cottage industry that is run by rural women, as stated by Sitorus and Warsito (2013), is characterized by an attitude of initiative, freedom, progressive and tenacious, self-steadiness, and self-control. Interpersonally, cooperation and social relations are the main capital in building networks, both in the context of economic networks and social networks. Individual abilities that are actualized through cooperative relationships, proactive attitudes and mutual trust, to achieve shared goals and expectations are a form of social relationships, partnership networks, and mutual trust, which will provide value for benefits (profitability).

The level of the network built by women in the home industry is a manifestation of the level of independence, the involvement of women in the home industry as an alternative for developing self-capacity, and ultimately acting as a liaison and social bond (social bridging and linking) to achieve the level of ability and independence of women.

Women's independence is characterized by the ability of women both internally and externally (in collaborating and interacting with other parties). Independence will lead to an attitude of independence, synergy and sustainability, which are framed through social values that are shared with dignity (Sumardjo 2012). Discipline and commitment to what is decided is a form of independent activity.

Independence, which in development theory is known as improving the quality of human resources. Overall, independence is an attitude that is rooted in self-confidence, independence is also an individual's ability (mental and physical) to; (1) understand one's own strengths and weaknesses; (2) taking into account opportunities and threats; and (3) choosing various available alternatives to overcome problems and at the same time develop a harmonious and sustainable life (Saleh K. et.al. 2018). Independence is part of individual ability, economically, independence is characterized by the fulfillment of the economic welfare family level, therefore independent women are women who individually are able to maximize the potential of their resources.

Several literatures (Jejeebhoy 2001; Gupta 2007; Shatar and Kazi 2000; Setiawan 2015; Kant 1962; Steinberg 2002; and Chaplin 2002): reveal independence is the ability to create interdependence (interdependecy) and sit equally in a pattern of togetherness (partnership) with other parties (Saleh K. et.al 2018), the ability to overcome various problems in order to achieve goals without depending or closing oneself (self-reliance) on various possibilities of mutually beneficial cooperation, being free to determine one's destiny and decisions (powerness) in various relationships without burdening other parties. (Shatar and Kazi 2000; World Bank 2002).

Meanwhile, Mu'tadin (2002), Desmita (2010), Wijaya (2009), formulate independence as an attitude of freedom (autonomy) to determine one's own destiny, through self-confident behavior, not being dependent, and having freedom of action. Therefore, independence is an attitude that departs from self-awareness not to easily depend on others, but being independent does not mean that you don't need other people.

Independence is part of the process of social interaction, while being alone to decide is his responsibility to the environment. This form of independence is very diverse, there are at least three characteristics of women's independence including: family independence, community independence, and achievement independence (Chamami 2010). Independence is a continuous process, through learning activities and experiences. Women's independence can be seen from four elements, namely: (1) the ability to take the initiative, (2) the ability to solve problems, (3) full of perseverance, (4) obtaining satisfaction from business, and (5) wanting to do something without the help of others (Murniarti 2004; Chatib 1996, in Saleh K 2017).

Lestari (2007), Hastuti (2007), expressed concerns that arise in patriarchal society, what if independent women will result in the loss of women's nature as mothers, wives and daughters, because women have the same opportunities and responsibilities as men, even act as facilitators in both the family and the community. The status and power inherent in women are determined by how women are able to manage the household economy, the interaction patterns carried out both inside and outside the home, and develop their potential (Astuti 2012). The pattern of interaction that is built by women will produce an attitude of mutual trust, mutual cooperation, through the norms and values that develop in society which is a form of social capital (Christian 2013).

II. Research Methods

This study uses an exploratory research design. The names of the subjects in this study were women entrepreneurs in the melinjo emping home industry in Pandeglng Regency, the objects in this study were the factors that influenced the independence of women in the home industry, which included: (1) family support, (2) access to capital, (3) entrepreneurial skills, (4) business scale, (5) social networks, (6) government support, and (7) access to information. The data collected are Peimer and Secondary data, Primary data obtained through a questionnaire technique, then analyzed by factor analysis.

III. Discussion

3.1 Results

a. Characteristics of Respondents

The results showed that the characteristics of the melinjo emping home industry players based on the age structure were 64.3 percent in the adult group, (36-50 years old) with an average of 42.3 years. Formal education attended by 89.6 percent finished elementary school. Non-formal education in the form of participation in training or counseling activities carried out by the government or NGOs in the last six months has only been involved once or (98.7%) with business experience 31.2 percent (more than 16 years). More clearly can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1. Characteristics of respondents from melinjo chips home industry in Pandeglang Regency

| Variable | Category | Total | Percentage |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------|------------|
| | Very young (15–24) | 1 | 0.7 |
| | Young (25 – 35) | 21 | 13.6 |
| Mean Age 42.3 years | Mature (36 – 50) | 98 | 64.3 |
| | Old (<51) | 33 | 21.4 |
| | Total | 152 | 100.0 |
| | Low (>6) | 136 | 89.6 |
| Formal Education | Medium (6 - 9) | 2 | 1.4 |
| Mean 6.5 years | High (10 -12) | 3 | 1.9 |
| Mean 0.5 years | Very High (<12) | 11 | 7.1 |
| | Total | 152 | 100.0 |
| | Low (<3) | 150 | 98.7 |
| Non-formal Education | Medium (3-5) | 2 | 1.3 |
| Average 1.1 times | High (6-8) | - | 0.0 |
| Average 1.1 times | Very High (>8) | - | 0.0 |
| | Total | 152 | 100.0 |
| | Low (<7) | 31 | 20.1 |
| Avanaga langth of | Medium (7-11) | 36 | 24.0 |
| Average length of | High (12-16) | 38 | 24.7 |
| business 11.3 years | Very High (>16) | 47 | 31.2 |
| | Total | 152 | 100.0 |
| | Low (<17) | 15 | 9.9 |
| Business Motivation | Medium (17-19) | 95 | 62.5 |
| Average score 19.0 | High (> 19) | 40 | 26.6 |
| | Total | 152 | 100.0 |

Source: Data Proceed

The motivation of women in running a home industry is quite good, this condition is the main capital for the growth of women's independence, especially in anticipating the risks that may be faced.

b. Family Support

Family involvement in the development of home industry, especially in the use of labor in the family is in the medium category (81.17%) with the average use of family labor is 3 people. The sustainability of the work carried out by women cannot be separated from the availability of capital, internal capital is a major part in business sustainability because generally the cottage industry is still not bank capable so it is very difficult to receive external capital. Family capital support in the industry managed by women is in the high category (50%) with an average capital use of IDR. 1.5 million. Thus, the business he runs is also on a business scale with a medium category (33.6%). For more ease, see Table 2.

Table 2. Family Support in the Development of Home Industry

| Variable | Category | Amount | Percentage |
|--|----------------------------|--------|------------|
| | Low (< 2) | 21 | 13.64 |
| Labor Use Average 3 people | Medium (2 – 4) | 123 | 81.17 |
| | High (5-6) | 8 | 5.19 |
| | Very High (>6) | 0 | 0 |
| | Total | 152 | 100.00 |
| Average Capital Support 1.5 m | Low (< 1 m) | 19 | 12.34 |
| | Medium (1 − 1.5 m) | 31 | 20.13 |
| | High $(1.6 - 2 \text{ m})$ | 76 | 50.00 |
| | Very High (> 2 m) | 27 | 17.53 |
| | Total | 152 | 100.00 |
| Average Business Scale 284.2 kg/Month | Low (<150 Kg) | 34 | 22.4 |
| | Medium (150-250 Kg) | 51 | 33.6 |
| | High (250-500 Kg) | 45 | 29.6 |
| | Very High (>500Kg) | 22 | 14.5 |
| | Total | 152 | 100.0 |

c. The Independence of Women Actor in Melinjo's Home-Based Industry

The main obstacles faced by women in running a cottage industry are the weak practical ability and limited access to productive resources (especially business assets, capital guarantees, assistance/intensive services, and infrastructure advice). Figure 1 shows that the level of independence of rural women who are home industry players of 80.8 percent is in the medium group.

The level of independence of rural women in the emping melinjo cottage industry which is supported by indicators of resource utilization, business dynamics, collaboration with outsiders, access to capital and decision making shows that more than 50.0 percent are in the medium group, and the dominant factor is determined by the use of environmental resources.

The indicator of the level of decision-making as a manifestation of the ability of rural women to carry out business activities, business development and risk control, as shown in Figure 1, 68.7 percent of rural women who play the emping melinjo cottage industry have a fairly good decision level and are in the moderate group, this is illustrates that the independence of rural women in carrying out public roles is quite good.

Based on Figure 1, in general, rural women who play the melinjo chip home industry in Pandeglang Regency have understood their roles and responsibilities in developing a

business, this is illustrated by women's perceptions of the level of independence of 80.8 percent being in the medium category, the involvement of rural women in the chips home industry melinjo is a woman's choice in increasing family income and economic welfare.

The ability of women to make choices is a business sustainability strategy, this is reflected in the ability of women to make decisions such as; set the selling price, avoid risk, as well as seek and utilize market information. The moderate category also occurs in indicators of the level of independence in determining cooperation with outside parties, the network of cooperation built in developing a business, is not limited to family networks, but some have taken advantage of outside parties, both close relatives (kindship family), friendship (frienshif), cengkaw / collectors (wholselers) as well as with wholesalers.

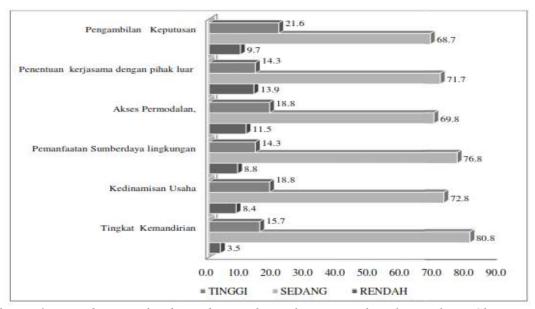


Figure 1. Distribution of Independence of Rural Women who Play Melinjo Chips Home Industry in Pandeglang Regency

Efforts that have not been made in increasing the business independence of rural women are in terms of cooperation, the cooperation (partnership) that has been carried out so far is still limited to the procurement of raw materials, both among emping home industry players and with collectors, while through market networks such as showrooms or markets. together is still not working because of the limited information and knowledge of rural women.

The independence of rural women in access to capital quantitatively (Figure 1), shows that 69.8 percent of respondents have utilized access to capital, although they are still in the medium group and 18.8 percent in the high category. financially have the ability to utilize capital sources, both internal and external capital (loan capital), and only 18.8 percent of the high category are able to access external sources of capital, most of rural women in utilizing capital sourced from non-banking, both from their own capital, as well as those from the Joint Venture Group (KUB).

Weak access to external sources of capital (banking), is more triggered by weak information related to banking credit requirements and services, besides that home industries (micro businesses) are still considered unbankable (non-bankable), do not have collateral/guarantor, and habits weak savings. The level of saving habits among microenterprises, including home-based industries, is one of the reasons that strengthens the assumption that micro and small businesses are not capable of repaying loans and financing

bank transactions (Irawan 2004). As a result, rural women tend to rely on internal capital according to what they have.

The use of internal capital by rural women provides a sense of security, both for business and family needs, because in the home industry most of the home industry players earn the business income they get as a source of family income, meaning that there is no financial separation between company finances and household finances. Provision of profits through savings allocated as capital in developing a business is often used for sudden family needs.

The indicator of the level of independence in utilizing environmental resources by respondents is 76.8 percent belonging to the medium group, this shows that rural women in utilizing environmental resources do not experience difficulties, such as in finding and utilizing raw materials, the source of raw materials used in the form of seeds. melinjo is quite available from the neighborhood. Even at the time of harvest, the presence is very abundant, but in general, cottage industry players do not yet have the ability to store raw materials that are prone to damage. The low mastery of melinjo seed preservation technology has resulted in home industry players not preparing excess reserves (stock) during the main harvest.

As a business that has been carried out for generations, the home industry of emping melinjo socially and economically provides benefits not only in increasing social status, but also in increasing the economic welfare of the family (economic whalfare of houshool). higher education is more open. Through indicators of the level of business dynamics, 72.8 percent of respondents have run a business well, and are in the moderate group, this condition shows that rural women who are players in the emping melinjo home industry, have understood the character and nature of the business they are running, such as seeking market information, developing market networks, innovating, as part of a business sustainability strategy (sustainable lifelihood).

The level of independence of women in the home industry is more dominated by the use of environmental resources, especially in the provision of raw materials, which until now still have a high dependence on the business they do. Another thing that happens is that women's independence tends to stagnate, this fact can be seen from several key indicators such as indicators of decision making, access to capital, cooperation with external parties, each of which is below the average, this tendency illustrates that the home industry of emping melinjo is more utilizing the potential regions in building market networks (natural and religious tourism spots).

d. Analysis of Factors Affecting the Independence of Women Entrepreneurs in the Emping Melinjo Home Industry, Pandeglang Regency

Factor analysis is based on the Total Variance Explained value, the number of factors that are formed into a measure of determining the main component, factor or main component can be determined by looking at the smallest characteristic root parameter (total eigenvalue) > 1, so that it is known what factors can affect independence Women Doing Home Industry in Pandeglang Regency. Based on Table 3, it is explained that (total eigenvalue) > 1 means that the analyzed variable is the main factor that affects the independence of female home industry actors in Pandeglang Regency, as shown in Table 3:

Table 3. Total Variance Explained

| Component — | Initial Eigenvalues | | Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings | | | |
|--|---------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|------------------|--------------|
| | Total | % of Variance | Cumulative % | Total | % of Variance | Cumulative % |
| 1 | 2.986 | 42.660 | 42.660 | 2.986 | 42.660 | 42.660 |
| 2 | 1.625 | 23.210 | 65.870 | 1.625 | 23.210 | 65.870 |
| 3 | .957 | 13.668 | 79.538 | | | |
| 4 | .722 | 10.313 | 89.851 | | | |
| 5 | .528 | 7.539 | 97.389 | | | |
| 6 | .182 | 2.607 | 99.996 | | | |
| 7 | .000 | .004 | 100.000 | | | |
| Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis. | | | | | | |

Based on the results of factor analysis as in Table 3, with the help of the SPSS 22.0 computer program, it can be seen that the factors that have a total eigenvalue > 1. Based on Table 3, there are two factors that have a total eigenvalue > 1 consisting of factor 1 (Internal factor) which has a total the eigenvalue is 2,986 with a variance value of 42.660%, and factor 2 (external factor) which has a total eigenvalue of 1.625 with a variance value of 23.210%. And the total percentage of variance of the two factors is 65.870 %. Thus, 65.870% of all existing variables can be explained by the two formed factors, meaning that these two factors are able to explain their influence of 65.870% on the factors that affect the Independence of Women Entrepreneurs in the Home Industry in Pandeglang Regency. The results of the analysis of factors that influence the independence of women in home industry actors in Pandeglang Regency can be seen in Table 4:

Table 4. Rotated Component Matrix

| Factor | Eigenvalue | Variable | Factor Loading |
|----------|------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| INTERNAL | 2.986 | Family support | .432 |
| | | Access to capital | .700 |
| | | Entrepreneurial ability | .622 |
| | | Scale enterprises | .733 |
| EXTERNAL | 1.625 | Social network | .778 |
| | | Government support | .538 |
| | | Access to information | .700 |

To determine which factors are formed in factor analysis, it can be done in two ways, namely: (1) giving the name of the factor that can represent the names of the variables that make up the factor, (2) giving the name of the factor based on the variable that has the highest factor loading value.

Based on the first method, factor 1 is formed from the variables of Business Scale, access to capital, entrepreneurial ability, and family support, and factor 1 is called internal factors, factor 2 is formed from social network variables, access to information and government support, and factor 2 is called external factors. Based on internal and external factors, the variables of social network, business scale, access to capital and access to information have the highest loading factor, which is 0.700, while the government support and family support variables only have a loading factor, between 0.538 and 0.432, meaning that the two variables are still not optimally in supporting the development of women's independence in the home industry in Pandeglang Regency.

Internal factors are generally formed by variables of business scale, access to capital and business ability, and external factors are formed by the existence of social networks and access to information. The low variable of family support as an internal factor in the independence of women in the home industry is more because this business is still carried out as a side business and is carried out part time. Meanwhile, the Government Support variable is more about the low level of guidance carried out both in terms of skills training and regulations related to the development of business management for women who are home industry players.

Based on the conceptual hypothesis testing as shown in Table 5, to determine the dominant dimension or factor influencing the independence of women home industry players, the varimax rotation coefficient parameter is used from the dimension or independence factor that is closest to +1 or close to -1. Values that are close to 1 are preceded by a value of 0.5 while values that are close to -1 are preceded by -0.5, based on internal and external factors, it is known that internal factors have more influence on the independence of women who are entrepreneurs in the home industry with a virmax rotation of 42.66 percent. compared to external factors which are only 23.21 percent. For more details can be seen in Table 5:

Table 5. Factor Analysis Result Rotation Matrix

| Dimensions/factors that affect the independence of women in the home industry | Varimax Rotation (%) | |
|---|----------------------|--------|
| Internal factors | 42.660 | - |
| External Factors | - | 23.210 |

Based on Table 5, the most dominant factor influencing the independence of women in home industry in Pandeglang Regency is the internal factor with a varimax rotation value of 42.660%. This means that the clarity of the association of several independent variables, then the internal factor dominates the independence of women by 42.660%. Internal factors emphasize more on the scale of business, access to capital, and entrepreneurial skills possessed by women who play the home industry. External factors affect the independence of 23.210%. External factors put more emphasis on social networks, access to information and government support.

3.2 Discussion

Based on the value of the Measure of Sampling Adequacy (MSA) there are two factors that affect the independence of women in the home industry, namely (1) internal factors, and (2) external factors. Together, these factors have a total percentage of variance of 65.870%, meaning that both factors are able to explain the effect of 65.870% on the Independence of Women in Home Industry in Pandeglang Regency and the remaining 34.130% is influenced by other factors outside the model such as market access factors. , this is in line with research conducted by Chalimah (2016), which concluded that internal factors are very decisive in the business run by women, as well as research by Eka Sudiarta, et.al (2014) which concluded that strategy and business scale are the main factors for women in running MSMEs. The most dominant factor influencing the independence of women in the home industry in Pandeglang Regency is the internal factor with a varimax rotation value of 42.660% which includes access to Business Scale with a value of 0.733.

The results of this study are also in accordance with previous relevant studies, namely those conducted by Eka Sudiarta et.al, 2014, Malta 2017, Primadhita and Budiningsih 2020, which stated that internal and external factors influenced the independence of women in the home industry. The results of this study are in accordance with the theory stated by Farid and Kristanti (2009), Wahyuni et.al (2017), and Haryanto, Y. et.al (2020), which states that

internal factors and external factors together affect independence. Internal factors and external factors that affect the independence of women in the home industry in Pandeglang Regency are also in accordance with the relevant previous research results, only in the current study there are additional dimensions of independence such as access to information, social networks, government support and business skills that are not discussed. in previous research.

Although the research results obtained regarding the factors that influence independence are in accordance with the results of previous studies, namely internal factors and external factors, there are differences in determining the most dominant factors affecting independence. These differences include, at the research location, the character of women in the home industry and the nature of the business being run. Data analysis methods that are different from previous studies can also be the cause of differences in research results in determining the most dominant factors affecting the independence of women in home industry in Pandeglang Regency, both from internal factors and external factors.

IV. Conclusion

Based on the results of the analysis of factors that influence the independence of women home industry players, it can be concluded as follows: 1) Factors that affect the independence of women home industry actors in Pandeglang Regency are (a) internal factors of 42.66 percent and (b) external factors of 23.21 percent.; 2) Internal factors are dominated by variables of business scale, access to capital and entrepreneurial experience. Meanwhile, external factors are dominated by social network variables and access to information; and 3) The results of the MSA analysis show that internal and external factors affect women in the home industry in Pandeglang Regency by 65.870 percent and the remaining 34.10 percent is influenced by other factors.

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