

## Research Article

# The Resilience Families of Indonesian Migrant Workers (PMI)

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**Abstract.**

Migrant laborers from Indonesia have both beneficial and negative effects. This research aims to uncover the characteristics that impact family resilience among migrant workers from Indonesia. This form of research is qualitative and employs a literature review methodology. PMI family issues include a lifestyle of excessive consumption, family discord, parenting, and kid development. There is a shift in the family structure when a woman or husband becomes an Indonesian migrant worker. In this situation, the husband assumes the conventional tasks of the wife, such as childrearing and education; meanwhile, the woman is unable to fulfill the intangible rights and duties (inner life) of their marriage. This is a difficult situation for immigrant families. Intensifying long-distance contact between PMI and their families is the answer to their family troubles. This is to prevent putting the family at risk. Family functions are optimized to the greatest extent possible. In addition, participation and assistance from numerous stakeholders are required. Family watchdog institutions may give PMI family children financial literacy and parenting aid.

**Keywords:** family, resilience, migrant workers

## 1. Introduction

Migrant workers from Indonesia consist of all Indonesian nationals who labor for pay beyond the borders of the Republic of Indonesia's Unitary State. In 2020, there will be 17.805 PMI placements and in 2021, there will be 7.065 postings (bp2mi.go.id, 2022). According to BP2MI (Indonesian Migrant Workers Protection Agency) statistics, there were 1.847 PMI during the month of March 2022, with 9.433 placements in Asia and Africa, 1.337 in Europe and the Middle East, and 77 in America and the Pacific. East Java (3.177), Central Java (2.797), West Java (2.123), Lampung (850), and Bali (844).

There are several reasons why people move to another nation, including employment, family relationships, and education [1]. The international worker placement program is one means through which the community's well-being might be enhanced [2]. Due to financial demands, many Indonesian women leave their husbands and children to work

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as migrant laborers overseas. Most parents see migration as a temporary option to better their family's socioeconomic status owing to poverty, inadequate social protection, and lack of opportunities [3].

The departure of TKW from the country has both beneficial and bad effects on the grieving families. With remittances, migrant worker families may raise their level of life [4][2], [5]. It is likely that remittances received from overseas will alleviate family financial limitations and led to an increase in children's education, child health, and a decline in child labor [6].

The negative effects of PMI's flight overseas include an increase in marital conflicts, parents with less interest in their children's education, and divorce. Due to a failure to communicate, divorce, loss of maternal care and love, and a feeling of disharmony ensue [7]. As a consequence of a wife's PMI, the family's resilience will decrease. Financial motives, such as the desire to construct a home, own a farm, possess a private automobile, and pay for their children's education, are the primary "reasons" Indonesian women labor overseas [7]. The study demonstrates that when moms go to work, dads play a major part in childrearing. Fathers have a crucial and formative role in the early years of a child's development. In the meanwhile, as adolescents develop and their issues get more complicated, they need a father figure who is better able to communicate, give them undivided attention, listen to their worries, serve as a role model, and keep order [8].

There is one study indicates that family migration can lead to three problems: (1) mismanagement of capital/remittances from work abroad, which are frequently used for hedonic purposes; (2) an increase in domestic conflicts, such as infidelity that can lead to divorce and neglect of children; and (3) difficulties in the development of their children. Parenting issues are a prevalent issue for the children of migrant workers. Researchers are interested in evaluating the elements that determine the resilience of Indonesia migrant worker families given this context [9].

## 2. Methods

In this study, the author used a library research methodology. There are several reasons why the author uses the library research method, including the fact that the problems in this research can be answered by studying books, magazines, journals, newspapers, or other relevant sources; library research is also required as a preliminary study with the goal of understanding community events; and the available literature sources are reliable for answering the problems in this research, which are related to the factors

that affect telecommunications. This study employs a qualitative methodology that emphasizes analysis in the process of inferring from existing comparisons and analyzing the evolution of the link between observed occurrences using scientific reasoning. In the majority of cases, secondary sources are used to collect library data in library-based research. In other words, secondary data are supplementary to primary data and may be derived from sources such as books, articles, journals, and documentation materials, among others. In this research, we may locate and evaluate data sources, such as publications and papers pertaining to the issues under investigation, what and how are the factors that influence the resilience of PMI families.

Documentation and online data retrieval are used in the data gathering process for this investigation. Documentation is a strategy for collecting qualitative data by studying documents whose veracity has been established. This online data collection may be accessed on the government's official website. In addition, important national and international publications are accessed or downloaded in order to search for relevant data. Using this method, it is also feasible to get more recent data pertaining to the topic under investigation.

### 3. Results and Discussion

#### 3.1. A system's resilience

In the face of shocks, a system's resilience must be able to adapt to new situations while preserving its core traits, function, structure, identity, and feedback [10]. Complex socioecological systems are the subject of resilience research, which investigates their development and dynamics. National resilience begins with the home, the lowest unit of society. The strength of the family unit is the foundation of national economic, cultural, educational, and religious resilience. Through the interaction of its members, which happens within the setting of the family, a society's culture is formed [11]. Families in which both men and women work outside of Indonesia sometimes struggle to preserve family peace. The strength of a family may be determined by how well its members get along, how well their children are educated, how well their families are doing financially overseas, and how difficult it is for them to obtain quality job. Changes in family structure, social support from other PMI families, biological demands, and parenting styles are some of the elements that influence the resilience of PMI families.

### 3.2. Potential Issues with Families of Migrant Workers

According to a study the Happy family has the following aspects in their daily routine:

1. Readiness to serve as a badge of honor;
2. A high degree of closeness between husband and wife;
3. Utilization of innovative challenges, constant training, and skill development in parenting;
4. Husband and wife assume leadership responsibilities from a place of love; and
5. Kid obedience. [12]

There are three primary issues that PMI and their families must address:

1. Misuse of remittances from working overseas;
2. the rising frequency of divorces and child maltreatment owing to poor relationships at home; and
3. the difficulty in finding proper foster care for PMI children [9]

### 3.3. Variations in Family Composition and Structure

When one member of a family chooses to become PMI, the whole family dynamic changes [13]. This change impacts the traditional Indonesian family structure, which is still heavily influenced by the patriarchal system's pattern of roles and status. Several studies demonstrate a change in marital responsibilities. In a household where both parents are PMI, the primary breadwinner is the woman. On the other side, the husband now assumes the customary obligations of the wife. Mistrust between husband and wife is one of the potential issues in a PMI household. Changing roles and distrust between partners can have an influence on relationships within extended families. A kid's grandparents, aunts, or uncles take up the role of the caregiver because they are better equipped to handle the challenges of raising a child.

As a consequence of this transformation, many patterns surrounding the status of the spouse in the migrant worker's household evolved [13]. First, the husband assumes the typical housemaid duties of the wife. This topic has two variations: spouses who work outside the house to pay for the family and husbands who remain at home to raise their children [13]. In addition, men are the ones who outsource their chores around

the home to others rather than doing them themselves. This trend holds true for both working and nonworking men. Fathers who do not care about their families or are not active in their children's lives are the third factor.

### 3.4. Social Support

When nuclear families have trouble resolving their own issues, they often seek assistance from their large network [14]. Examples of social support include emotional support, appreciation, instrumental assistance, and informational support [2]. Families of migrant workers are expected to discover inner strength if they have access to substantial social support. Resilience in the face of adversity is the ability of families to withstand crises, adapt to new conditions, recover and even prosper. Parenting need help from the community. Partners (husbands), friends or coworkers, social organizations, and social media networks provide support systems. Therefore, a comprehensive social intervention is required to increase migrant families' social support [15].

Walsh identifies three primary mechanisms associated with family resilience:

1. The family's belief system, particularly the ability to understand obstacles, perceive them favorably as opportunities, and maintain hope through depending on God's promises (transcendent & spirituality).
2. The pattern of family organization, which is characterized as the capacity to adjust to internal and external changes (flexibility), its social connectivity, and its ability to process its socio-economic resources to increase its resilience.
3. The communication process, includes the family's capacity to describe the nature of the situation at hand, to express and comprehend each other's feelings and empathize with one another, and to work together to discover solutions. [14]

### 3.5. Biological Requirements

The majority of PMI employees are married or have started their own families. By the year 2020, marriage and divorce will affect 6/10 of migrant workers who move overseas to work [9]. In this sense, the manner in which migrant worker families fulfill their material rights and obligations (such as the need to pay for childbirth expenses) has developed [13]. If the wife must assume the job of migrant worker, it is difficult to meet their demands. In the meantime, they are unable to fulfill the intangible rights and responsibilities (inner life) associated with their marriage. In the same way that a husband is obligated to

respect his wife, he is also obligated to take excellent care of her, offer emotional support for her, be patient with her, and constantly work to build her character. To preserve the harmony of the PMI family, extensive long-distance communication should be implemented.

PMI has a problem in meeting biological demands. A wife's affection for her husband and her desire to offer outstanding service extend well beyond her husband's sexual requirements. Several studies demonstrate that spouses cheat, gamble, or indulge to alleviate the tension generated by their biological demands [13]. In addition, contract marriages among males are becoming popularity. The wife was susceptible to the same occurrence. Several accounts indicate that spouses engage in extramarital encounters until they get pregnant, at which point they are deported back to their hometowns [13].

### 3.6. Parenting

Society has shaped parenting as if it were exclusively a task for mothers. While women are responsible for the raising and development of their children's physical and spiritual selves, their social responsibility also includes expressing emotions and sharing personal experiences. In the meanwhile, my father assumed control of production and politics. PMI families have an extra obstacle in the form of parental emigration for employment purposes [9]. Due to economic hardships, moms assume the traditional position of home breadwinner. After my mother departed to become a PMI, the once-functioning family unit has ceased to exist [16]. Husbands recognize that children's education is a shared responsibility, but wives tend to be more emotionally close, patient, and patient in educating children than husbands, who tend to be emotional and impatient in educating.

Consequently, the husband's adjustment process in the family greatly affects the process of educating children while the wife works. attain PMI [17], [18]. Schooling cost, the age of the kid, and the educational background of the household's head have a substantial impact on the level of education of the children of a PMI wife [19]. There are children whose education quality shows hope for improvement because they live with their mothers and are well guided, thanks to the dedication of both parents who are working abroad and sending quite a substantial amount of money each month; and there are children whose education quality shows hope for improvement, thanks to the dedication of his grandparents, who care for and guide him at home [9]. In this instance, his grandparents were able to care for him and his siblings despite the fact that his parents had become PMI.

PMI children who grow and develop without full parents likely to face developmental difficulties, including disregard of parenting, schooling, and child health [18]. Parental engagement correlates with academic achievement. Parents that care about their children are often successful in all environmental aspects. Indifferent parents, on the other hand, tend to fail in all structural aspects of the family [20]. As a consequence of their educational struggles, youngsters are assigned negative social labels. The resulting stigma often results in unfavorable impressions, such as lousy children [21]. In this instance, the family must focus on the learning process and socialization of youngsters [22].

## 4. Conclusion

Migrant workers cross international borders for a number of reasons, including employment possibilities. Changes in family structure, social support from close relatives, husband or wife's biological demands, and parenting styles are elements that influence the resilience of PMI families. When members of a family work as PMI, the wife has a larger influence in economic choices than the husband. On the other side, the husband assumes the customary obligations of the wife. If the woman is required to work as a migrant worker, it becomes difficult to meet their demands. In the meantime, they are unable to fulfill the intangible rights and responsibilities (inner life) associated with their marriage.

A woman with PMI leads her kid to be cared for by her husband, grandpa, grandmother, and other close relatives, so impairing the educational attainment of her children. In this sense, long-distance contact between PMI and PMI families must be strengthened so as not to expose the family to risk. In addition, the resilience of PMI families requires assistance from several partners.

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