

Strategy for Household Survival of Unlicensed Gold Mining Workers (PETI) in Nagari Lubuk Gadang Timur, South Solok Regency

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Abstract

This research is motivated by PETI workers who experience economic problems in household life, where the income earned by PETI WORKERS is not sufficient for household needs. Where the average income of PETI workers is Rp. 1,000,000. per month, however, PETI workers continue to work even though work as PETI workers is at high risk, namely raids from the government. The problem in this research is that gold mining without a permit (PETI) is illegal and can also damage the environment. So that the apparatus conducts raids once a month, which are carried out a maximum of two weeks in a month. Therefore this study aims to describe the household survival strategies of unlicensed gold mining workers (PETI). The theory used in this research is Max Weber's social theory. The method used in this study is a qualitative approach with a descriptive type to describe the problem under study. Retrieval of informants using purposive sampling with a total of 15 informants. There are two types of data in this study, namely primary data and secondary data. The research data was collected using observation techniques, interviews and document studies. Data analysis was carried out by collecting data, reducing data, presenting data and drawing conclusions using the unit of analysis in this individual study. Based on the results of the research that has been conducted, it was found (1) that PETI labor is the main job in fulfilling the household economy of Jorong Sungai Aro. (2) There are 3 livelihood strategies for PETI workers. The first strategy is to optimize family potential, the form of family potential optimization strategy used by the Jorong Sungai Aro household is that the wife helps her husband work vegetables and children who sometimes during school holidays help the family by becoming working PETI. Second, the strategy of minimizing expenses with a priority scale is carried out by getting used to living frugally. The third is utilizing social networks by borrowing money from neighbors, paying at stalls or shops and so on. The strategy for utilizing social networks that is usually carried out by poor families is to borrow money from neighbors or family and borrow money from food stalls to buy basic foodstuffs.

Keywords: Strategy, Household, PETI Workforce



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INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is an agricultural country that has abundant natural resources. Its strategic location shows how rich Indonesia is in natural resources with all its flora, fauna and abundant natural resource deposits. Indonesia's natural resources can be obtained, among others, from the mining business. The mining sector is one of the mainstays for earning foreign exchange in the framework of the continuity of the country's development. Mining activities are basically a process of converting natural resources into real economic capital for the state and then into social capital. One type of mine in Indonesia is a gold mine. Gold mining is an activity that is identified with activities in the context of taking part of the produce, where one of the activities is gold mining.

Basically, there are many fields of work that can be occupied by humans to earn income, this is due to limited resources, some humans choose to do illegal work. Illegal work is work that does not have official documents from the government and is prohibited by law because it is detrimental to the government, other people, or the environment (Pamungkas and

Rahmawati, 2021: 89). One area of illegal work that is mostly carried out by the community is Unlicensed Gold Mining, abbreviated as PETI (Sandi, 2018: 125). PETI is one of the jobs that many people in South Solok, especially Jorong Sungai Aro, where livelihood as a PETI has become the main livelihood.

One of the rivers in West Sumatra which is used as a place for gold mining by PETI is the Batang Hari river which is located in Sangir District, South Solok Regency. Based on observations on September 12, 2022, researchers found that every day there are around hundreds of PETI who are active along the Batang Hari river. PETI activities are dangerous for the environment and society, so the police often carry out raids to secure PETI. The Directorate of Criminal Investigation for the West Sumatra Regional Police and the Solok Selatan Police conducted a joint raid on the Batang Hari river to take action against PETI perpetrators. The South Solok Police Chief conducts PETI raids along the stream for 1-2 weeks a month, of which these raids are carried out every month.

Nonetheless, the Wali Nagari Lubuk Gadang Timur estimates that around 65% of family heads in Jorong Sungai Aro are involved in the illegal gold mining business. The number of families in Jorong Sungai Aro is 463 families. This means that most of the heads of families in Jorong Sungai Aro are involved in mining as their main job in meeting household needs. The income from being a PETI worker is not large because the results of gold mining are divided into three, namely the owner, machine and labor. If there are many workers who participate in gold mining in one *dompeng*, the wages received will be smaller, the average amount of income from gold mining is Rp. 1,000,000 per month. Meanwhile, the cost that must be spent on household needs per month is around Rp. 2,000,000 up to Rp. 2,500,000. Therefore, income from gold mining is considered insufficient to finance the household needs of PETI workers.

It can be said that the income and expenses of the PETI workers' households are not balanced. Meanwhile, to be able to live a life, PETI workers must have income because there are families to feed and there are costs that must be incurred such as children's school fees, electricity bills, and other household and daily expenses. In addition, PETI workers realize that the field of work they are engaged in is at high risk because there is a possibility of drowning or being carried away when mining for gold or being caught by the police during a raid. Even so, PETI workers survive and this is because PETI workers have several strategies that allow them to survive

RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a qualitative approach that is used to reveal and understand the reality that exists in the field in accordance with the actual conditions. According to Moleong (2011) qualitative research is research that intends to understand phenomena about what is experienced by research subjects such as behavior, perceptions, motivations, actions and others, holistically and by means of descriptions in the form of words and language, in a natural context and by utilizing various scientific methods. The informants in this study were 15 people, consisting of 1 head of Jorong, 7 PETI workers, 4 PETI workers' wives, 3 PETI workers' neighbors.

Withdrawal of informants is done by purposive sampling technique. The data collection method was carried out by means of non-participant observation, interviews and document studies. Observation or observation is an activity carried out by humans by using the five senses of the eye as their main aids besides the other five senses such as the ears, nose, mouth and skin (Bungin, 2011). Meanwhile, the in-depth interview is an interaction between the interviewer and the person being interviewed directly and the interview can also be said to be

a face-to-face conversation between the interviewer and the person being interviewed (Mujtahidin & Oktariato, 2022) (Adillah, 2022). From the results of the interview, it can be obtained that PETI workers is the main occupation of the people in Jorong Sungai Aro. In addition, the income and expenses are not in accordance where the income as a PETI worker is only Rp. 1,000,000/ month while spending reaches more than 2,000,000 per month.

And document study is a method of research conducted on information documented in the form of images, sound, writing, and other documents usually known as document analysis research or content analysis. Content analysis researchers work objectively and systematically to describe the contents of communication materials (Arikunto, 2013). The unit of analysis for this research is individuals, namely PETI workers. To obtain and analyze data, this research uses the Milis and Hubermen models. Miles and Hubermen share the stages of analysis starting from data collection, data reduction, data presentation and drawing conclusions. The research location was carried out in Jorong Sungai Aro, District, Nagari Lubuk Gadang Timur, Sangir District, South Solok Regency.

RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

PETI activities in Jorong Sungai Aro are carried out by the community based on economic pressure which is increasingly difficult to fulfill, so that the community takes shortcuts to find new livelihoods by mining gold illegally and without following applicable regulations. Even though the government has made regulations regarding implementation permits regarding legal areas, so that people carry out PETI activities that are illegal (unofficial). The large amount of illegal gold processing can be seen from the location that is operated as a place for processing illegal mining products, this can be seen from the many locations where illegal mining is processed, the more environmental damage will be caused.

Lack of capital is one of the reasons why PETI workers focus on or remain to become PETI, the limitations felt by PETI workers are due to insufficient income as PETI and high work risk, in which income is uncertain due to weather and raids by the local government. This is because they do not have the capital to do other work, apart from working as a PETI, they do not incur costs or capital, only prioritizing labor. even though their income is uncertain, the people in Jorong Sungai Aro still choose to work as PETI laborers. Work as a PETI is the main job in meeting household needs, to make a living, because fishing work is the only household work in Jorong Sungai Aro that is done to survive.

Table 1. Income of PETI Workers

Name	Distribution	Income
Bos	25%	3.000.000
Mesin	15%	1.350.000
Buruh Peti	60%	7.650.000 : 7 workers: 1.093.000/ worker

Source: Interview Results

The data in the table shows that the group's income from gold mining is divided, of which 25% is Rp. 3,000,000 for the boss and 15% IDR 1,350,000. for machine 60% Rp. 7,650,000 for workers divided by the number of workers, which means that the average income of PETI workers in Jorong Sungai Aro is 1,093,000 per month.

Table 2. Expenditure of PETI Workers

No	Expenditure Type	Unit	Average Family Expenditure (Rp/Month)
1	Basic Needs		
	Rice	Kilogram (Kg)	500.000
	Side dishes	Kilogram (Kg)	400.000

	Kerosene/gas	Liter/Kilogram	60.000
	Cooking oil	Liter	20.000
	Total		1.280.000
2	Not Tree		
	Education	1 Middle and high school students	1.300.000
	Electricity		190.000
	Total		1.190.000
	Total		2.470.000

Source: Interview Results

From the total income and expenditure of PETI workers, it is not balanced where the household expenses of PETI workers are IDR 1,755,000 per month, this shows that there is no match between their income and their monthly expenses. Facing this situation, PETI workers need to carry out subsistence tactics to become their livelihood in order to be able to carry out their survival,

Strategies for Surviving PETI Workers in Fulfilling Life's Needs

The Livelihood Strategy for PETI Workers' Households in Maintaining the Economy is an attempt by a person or a group of people to find ways or steps to deal with difficulties related to challenges in economic life by managing the income and expenses for the family's economic needs. The point is that in this study it was limited to the various ways to survive that were carried out by the Jorong Sungai Aro household.

Optimizing Family Potential

Optimizing all the potential of the family to overcome economic shocks by increasing working hours than usual because of the increasing demands of life, in addition to involving family members to work so that they can help their daily lives, such as involving wives and children Optimizing strategies family potential referred to the active strategy.

An active strategy is a strategy carried out by poor families by optimizing all the potential of the family (eg doing their own activities, extending working hours and doing anything to increase their income). Where the action includes actions, behavior or actions taken by households of PETI workers to achieve a goal, where social actions taken by a person are based on considerations related to an action to achieve household welfare and analyze what kind of actions are taken by PETI workers in Jorong Sungai Aro.

The active strategy carried out in Jorong Sungai Aro was carried out by the family of the deceased, such as the wife who helped make a living by selling vegetables in the market. Apart from your wife, you are also assisted by your children to join in mining when your child is on holiday from school. This is done to meet household needs, so that income and expenses are balanced.

Minimizing Expenses with Priority Scale

The Strategy for Minimizing Expenditure with a Priority Scale refers to the Passive strategy. Which strategy is carried out by the people of Jorong Sungai Aro by minimizing family expenses, for example costs for clothing, food, education, and so on. The Strategy for Minimizing Expenditures with a Priority Scale that is usually carried out by poor families is to get used to living frugally. Saving is a culture that has been carried out by rural communities, especially rural communities belonging to poor families. This is done by the community in Jorong Sungai Aro so they can meet household needs by planting vegetables behind the house. Planting vegetables was done by Mr. Hendri's wife so that spending on necessities was more

economical. By growing vegetables, Mr. Hendri's wife no longer needed to buy vegetables at the market so that the money that should have bought vegetables could be saved for other needs. Apart from that, Pak Hendri's wife does other things by using electricity as needed, such as not turning on the lights and fans when they are needed.

Utilize Social Networks

The strategy of utilizing social networks is carried out by establishing relationships, both formal and with the social environment and institutional environment, for example borrowing money from neighbors, borrowing money at stalls or shops, taking advantage of poverty programs, borrowing money from moneylenders or banks and so on. The social networking strategy carried out by households in Jorong Sungai Aro where Pak Surun's wife owes groceries such as cooking oil and eggs to stalls during the hard season, after that she is paid when Mr. relatives who are better off for household needs.

Discussion

Based on the title of this study about the strategy for household survival of gold mining workers without a "PETI" permit in Jorong Jorong Sungai Aro Nagari Lubuk Gadang Timur, Sangir District, South Solok Regency. The theory that researchers use in writing this thesis is the theory of social action put forward by Max Weber. Weber's views on the subject matter of sociology are very different from the views of other experts, especially with Durkheim. Weber with social action, according to him, not all human actions can be considered as social actions. An action can only be called a social action if the action is carried out by considering the behavior of others, and is oriented towards the behavior of others. According to Weber, an action is human behavior that has subjective meaning for the perpetrator.

In the theory put forward by Max Weber if it is related to the survival factor of PETI workers, namely the existence of a social action carried out by PETI workers to be able to survive during the rainy season and raids by the government are obtained by mining workers and when the weather is not good and with uncertain income, however, PETI workers remain as PETI workers. With social action carried out by fishermen, they are able to produce social change.

CONCLUSION

Households who work as PETI laborers are the main job in fulfilling the economy in their household. There are 3 strategies for the livelihood of PETI workers. The first is a strategy to optimize family potential, which is usually done by diversifying income or looking for additional income by doing side jobs. The strategy for optimizing family potential used by the Jorong Sungai Aro household is that the wife participates in helping her husband work such as selling vegetables and children who sometimes during holidays help the family by becoming PETI Laborers and the second is form.

The strategy for minimizing expenses with a priority scale that is usually carried out by Jorong Sungai Aro households is to get used to living frugally. The passive strategy used by Jorong Sungai Aro households is to live a frugal life starting from saving electricity, growing vegetables and so on. The third network strategy is a strategy carried out by utilizing social networks which is carried out by borrowing money from neighbors, borrowing money from stalls or shops and so on. The strategy of utilizing social networks that is usually carried out by poor families is by borrowing money from neighbors or family and borrowing money from food stalls to buy food staples.

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