

STRENGTHENING FAMILY LAW LITERACY TO ACHIEVE HARMONIOUS FAMILIES IN KAMPUNG INDONESIA NONTHABURI

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ABSTRACT Family harmony is a fundamental element in building a stable and prosperous society. However, many families face challenges such as economic inequality, interpersonal conflict, and limited understanding of family law. This community engagement program aims to strengthen family law literacy among Indonesian communities in Kampung Indonesia Nonthaburi. The method used includes legal education, counseling, and community-based collaboration involving religious and community leaders. The program involved family units as beneficiaries through participatory approaches. The results indicate that increased legal literacy significantly contributes to improved understanding of rights and obligations within marriage, leading to better communication and conflict resolution. Empirical findings show that 51% of participants demonstrated good legal literacy, while 43% reported a high level of family well-being. The program also highlights that family harmony is not solely determined by economic factors but by balanced fulfillment of roles and responsibilities. This study concludes that strengthening family law literacy is an effective strategy to promote harmonious families and recommends continuous community-based legal education programs.

KEYWORDS: *Family Harmony; Family Law Literacy; Islamic Family Law; Community Empowerment; Marriage Law.*

1. INTRODUCTION

The family is the smallest social unit that plays a crucial role in shaping individual character, social values, and societal stability. (Comparative Study of Population Policies in Asia-Focus on Eight Asian Countries-The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA), n.d.) A harmonious family contributes significantly to the well-being of both individuals and communities.

However, various challenges such as economic pressure, communication breakdown, and lack of legal understanding often disrupt family harmony. (*Instruments of Repression A Regional Report on the Status of Freedoms of Expression, Peaceful Assembly, and Association in Asia*, n.d.) In

Kampung Indonesia Nonthaburi, similar issues are observed among Indonesian migrant families. Differences in socio-economic conditions, cultural adaptation, and limited access to legal education create vulnerabilities within family structures. (MIPALCON 2010 Infrastructure Planning and Development in Developing, n.d.)

Previous studies have shown that legal literacy plays an important role in maintaining marital stability and reducing conflict. Empirical findings indicate that disparities in income, particularly when wives earn more than husbands, can influence household dynamics and potentially lead to conflict. (EAST MEETS WEST: INNOVATION AND DISCOVERY Organised by The International Academic Forum, n.d.) Additionally, lack of understanding regarding rights and obligations in marriage often results in misinterpretation of roles within the family.

This community engagement program aims to strengthen family law literacy as a strategy to build harmonious families. (Enhancing Well-Being by Realizing Enhancing Well-Being by Realizing Family Dynamics and Family Dynamics and Promoting Intergenerational Promoting Intergenerational Solidarity for an Inclusive Society Solidarity for an Inclusive Society Final Report, 2024) The program emphasizes participatory approaches involving community members, religious leaders, and legal practitioners. The objective is to enhance awareness, improve conflict resolution skills, and promote the values of *sakinah*, *mawaddah*, and *rahmah* in family life.

2. METHOD

This community empowerment activity was conducted in Kampung Indonesia Nonthaburi, Thailand, targeting Indonesian families residing in the area. The program was implemented over a period of three months through a structured and participatory approach.

The beneficiaries consisted of family units, particularly married couples and parents. The methods used include:

- a) Legal Education (Penyuluhan Hukum). Regular sessions were conducted to provide knowledge on marriage law, rights and obligations of spouses, and conflict resolution mechanisms.
- b) Legal Assistance and Counseling. Participants were given access to consultation services to discuss family-related legal issues and receive guidance.
- c) Community Collaboration The program involved religious leaders, community leaders, and local organizations to ensure effective dissemination of information.

Before the program implementation, preliminary observations indicated low levels of legal literacy and limited understanding of marital rights. The expected outcome was an increase in knowledge, improved communication patterns, and reduced conflict intensity within families.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

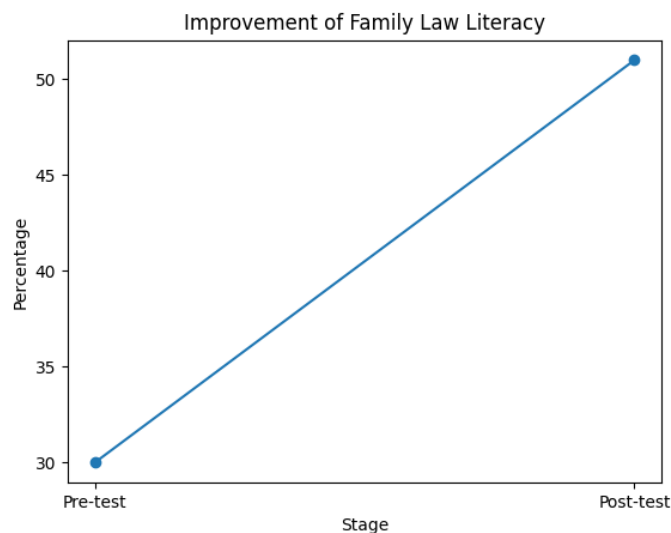
a. Improvement of Family Law Literacy

The results show a significant increase in participants' understanding of family law. Approximately **51% of participants demonstrated good legal literacy**, indicating that educational interventions were effective. (PUBLISHED IN INDONESIA IN 2024 United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC) Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM), n.d.) This improvement contributes to better awareness of marital rights and responsibilities, which is essential for maintaining balance in family relationships.

Table 1. Pre-test and Post-test Results

Indicator	Pre-test (%)	Post-test (%)
Legal Literacy	30	51
Family Well-being	25	43

The table shows a significant increase in legal literacy and family well-being after the program.



Graph 1. Literacy Improvement

The graph illustrates the upward trend in legal literacy after the intervention.

b. Impact on Family Well-being

The findings reveal that **43% of participants reported a high level of family happiness** after the program implementation. This suggests a strong correlation between legal literacy and family well-being. (Traditional Knowledge Systems and the Conservation and Management of Asia's

Heritage ICCROM-CHA Conservation Forum Series 3, n.d.) Families with better understanding of legal norms tend to have healthier communication patterns and more effective conflict resolution strategies.

c. Analysis of Family Challenges

Several key challenges were identified: **Economic inequality** affecting power relations in households **Interpersonal conflicts** due to lack of communication. **Limited legal knowledge** leading to misunderstandings. These findings align with sociological perspectives that emphasize the role of knowledge and structure in shaping social behavior.

d. Community Participation and Program Impact

Active participation from community members played a crucial role in the success of the program. The involvement of religious leaders helped contextualize legal knowledge within Islamic values, making it more acceptable and easier to implement. (President-Research Asian Institute of Technology, 2006) The program also encouraged the adoption of positive behavioral changes, including: Improved communication between spouses, Increased awareness of shared responsibilities, Greater commitment to maintaining family harmony

e. Reconstruction of Family Roles

One of the important outcomes is the reconstruction of understanding regarding family roles. The study shows that family harmony is not solely dependent on financial capacity but on the proportional fulfillment of rights and obligations. This reinforces the concept that mutual respect, trust, and commitment are key elements in achieving harmonious families.

4. CONCLUSION

This study concludes that strengthening family law literacy is an effective strategy to promote harmonious families. The program successfully improved participants' understanding of legal principles, enhanced communication, and reduced potential conflicts.

The findings highlight that: Legal literacy significantly influences family harmony, Community-based approaches are effective in knowledge dissemination, Collaboration with local leaders enhances program success It is recommended that similar programs be expanded to other communities and implemented continuously to ensure sustainable impact.

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CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

The author declares no conflict of interest. This article is the result of an online international PKM held in Nonthaburi village, Thailand on April 19-20, 2026, both offline and online, with the NGO Sharing Indonesian Academic Community.

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