



The Struggle of Women to Occupy Parliamentary Seats in the City of Jambi in the 2024 Elections

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Abstract: The struggle of women to occupy parliamentary seats in Jambi City in the 2024 elections is still faced with obstacles such as discrimination and patriarchal culture. Although the 1945 Constitution does not distinguish between men and women, women's representation in the legislature is still low. Efforts such as the 30% quota for women's representation in political parties are expected to increase women's representation. The presence of women in parliament is considered valuable in creating political dynamics and voicing the interests of the people. Factors such as political and social change, personal experience, policy objectives, perceptions of representation, and family support can motivate women to engage in politics. Although there are still challenges, efforts to increase women's representation in politics remain a hope.

Keywords: Women's Representation, Parliament, Elections

Introduction

The principle of equality in law and government, which was strengthened in the amendment to the 1945 Constitution, affirms that every citizen has equal standing in law and government. This is reflected in Article 27 Paragraph (1) which states that citizens must submit to the law and government without exception. Likewise, Article 28D Paragraph (3) confirms this principle. The 1945 Constitution clearly does not differentiate between men and women, affirming gender equality. However, in practice, there is still discrimination against women in many aspects of life such as the household, politics, government, and employment. Elections are crucial in the formation of local legislative bodies because they determine who will lead the government. The next question is how to involve women in elections. This question is crucial because elections serve as a democratic tool that allows democracies to substantially recognize women's involvement. Therefore, elections should be more than just a political competition for men. To realize the principle of people's sovereignty as stated in the 1945 Constitution, democratic and quality elections are the means to elect people's representatives to sit in the people's representative institutions.

Therefore, the people's representative body ideally consists of people, both at the center and in the regions, who are able to represent the people and communicate the wishes of the people they represent.

To realize the principle of people's sovereignty as set out in the 1945 Constitution, democratic and quality elections are the means to elect representatives of the people to sit in representative institutions. Therefore, the people's representative body ideally consists of people, both at the center and in the regions, who are able to represent the people and communicate the wishes of the people they represent. Based on the results of the 2010 population census conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS), the number of women in Indonesia based on the total population in 2010 was 118,010,413 people or about 49% of the total population. This means that the same ratio should apply to the representation of Indonesian women in representative institutions. However, the number of women representatives in the legislature is less than expected. The results are also only marginally better than in previous elections.

Women's rights are not fulfilled in politics, so many women activists, non-governmental organizations, political party members, and intellectuals demand an increase in women's political representation (Sumakud & Septyana, 2020). One of the ways women activists demand a quota system for women's representation in politics in Indonesia is by implementing a quota system for women's representation per party. This figure comes from research conducted by the United Nations (UN), which states that a minimum number of 30% allows changes to occur and have an impact on public institutions. Furthermore, Law No. 10/2008 stipulates that new political parties can only join after include at least 30% of women in the central management of political parties. In reality, Indonesian women are still less involved in politics. This is evidenced by the lack of women's representation in parliament, government, political parties, and other public institutions. According to women's fighters, this situation has a direct impact on state policies that often ignore the needs and interests of women (Syafia, 2020).

The struggle of women to occupy parliamentary seats in Jambi City is not easy, because not a few people assume that women do not deserve to enter the political sphere, where women are tasked with taking care of the household and there are still those who adhere to a patriarchal culture. Therefore, women's representation in Jambi City is still very low. From the problems that have been explained above, therefore researchers want to analyze the low representation of women in the Jambi City parliament.

Methodology

This research uses qualitative research methods. The method used in this research is literature review. Literature review is a systematic process of collecting, evaluating, and synthesizing literature related to a particular research topic. This is an important step in research, helping researchers understand the existing research landscape, analyze existing understanding of a topic, and identify knowledge gaps that can be filled with new research. Data collection techniques and documentation from google scholar. Data analysis and critical review techniques. Critical review is a process of evaluation and critical analysis of a particular work or topic.

Result and Discussion

Women have been fighting for their rights since ancient times. The history of women's representation in the Indonesian parliament began at the first Indonesian Women's Congress in 1928. Since then, Indonesian women began to realize the importance of participating in development, including in politics. History records that in the first election in 1965, around 6.5 percent of members of parliament were women (Adeni & Harahap, 2017). The 30% quota, which is the minimum number of women's representation in the Jambi Provincial DPRD membership, is a very important form of political participation. However, the facts on the ground are far from what has been expected, because in reality women's representation has not experienced a high increase at all. Efforts that can be made as an endeavor to make women's achievements in politics can be achieved, namely one, women must be encouraged to be able to play an active role in politics. This activity can confirm a woman's function in conducting political socialization, communication, education, as well as political recruitment, and also things that become supporters and obstacles that must be passed to realize the success of women in fighting for their political rights to become representatives of the people in Jambi Province.

Women's Representation in Parliamentary Seats in Jambi City

The opinion of Soetjipto (2015: 89), which distinguishes the definition between gender and sex, but it is not uncommon to find definitions that mix the two (Soetjipto, 2015). Socio-culturally, in general, the distinction between men and women can be seen or identified in terms of gender. However, when viewed in terms of the anatomy of the body or biology, the difference between men and women is seen in terms of sex. Regarding the issue of political participation representation, Soetjipto (2015: 40) explains that affirmative action for women's participation in parliament is not only seen from the side of the DPR RI, but also must pay attention to the DPRD, both provincial and regency / city (Soetjipto, 2015). Minimum numbers are needed to create a balanced order and achieve strategic numbers. And the 30% figure is a significant figure that can create the desired balance.

Another opinion expressed by Ihromi (2015: 499) states that women's participation to achieve representation in politics is an activity both in terms of a citizen or also as part of an association or organization or political party, which independently without coercion devotes ideas, and policies, be it setting goals to the path towards achieving these goals. The hard and long struggle that women go through or face in order to achieve election as representatives of women in parliament is not easy, especially to achieve it must fight against the strong patriarchal currents. In addition to carrying out the mission of political parties that have been attached as cadres, but also women representatives also carry the burden and expectations of the people or also groups of women who vote as a sign of trusting the representative in parliament. So the responsibilities of women members are also not easy. When women are charged with a great responsibility to facilitate the wishes of those represented, then the quality of their work begins to be considered and questioned, through the various ideas they release.

When faced with a very complicated situation, women are required to be present as a figure full of initiative, can be an incendiary and encouraging spirit for other women, especially if they can do it to men as other members of parliament. Because as a minority, women are not necessarily inferior when viewed in terms of quality compared to men (Hardinanto & Raharjo, 2022). The small number of women in parliament must really be used by women to create political dynamics by expressing ideas based on the interests of women. the interests of the people. The tenderness that women have can be something very powerful in going through difficult times and many problems (Senjaya et al., 2023). Great achievements will make people not see a small number, so the presence of women is increasingly felt, qualified, appreciated, so that they can have an influence in every policy. How valuable women are in terms of representation in politics is the activity that women do, to achieve gender equality, achieve equal rights with men, and also the tough struggle to voice the wishes of women in parliament.

The 30% quota for women is a very important thing to fight for as a minimum number, meaning that women can exceed the quota, this is important to be able to eliminate the label attached to women that states women cannot fight in terms of policy formation. The presence of women in politics also makes hope arise that women can bring a cooler approach in the world of politics which is known to be hot, besides that it can also brake the "greed" of male parliamentarians, because women are known to use more heart. The statement described is in line with what was conveyed by several political experts, namely one, based on justice, because it will be very far from justice if representatives are only controlled by men, two, based on political pragmatism, assuming that the presence of women can make politics constructive and also friendly (Hamid, 2012).

Including women in politics is a very good thing because the role of women in policy making is often hindered by the dominance of men, and even most women only become policy objects, not occupying policy-making positions. Recruitment is the activity of selecting several people to get the place they want to achieve, as well as the responsibilities attached to it, which are in the political system in general and the government in particular. Recruitment is especially important for women who want to participate in politics, the fulfillment of the quota of female candidates who meet the requirements of the legislation will increase the opportunity for women to be able to voice the interests of their people. Every political party that can nominate candidates must fulfill a minimum of 30% female candidates to compete in the elections as stipulated by Law No. 2/2008 on Political Parties.

Factors causing women to advance to parliamentary seats

There is a view that women are often included only to fulfill gender quotas, and that their ambitions and qualifications in politics are often not reflected. In this context, "mak-mak berdaster" refers to women who are seeking political office but have limited political education or experience. Nonetheless, there is hope that women who have better political education and training will be able to change their fate and take a more active role in politics (Adrianty, 2021). This shows that despite the challenges, there is still hope in efforts to positively change the role of women in politics. Mona Lena Krook said she had identified

several factors that motivate women to run for parliament (hafiz al-ma'arij, tamrin, 2023). Some of the factors that can be highlighted based on heviews are:

1. Political and Social Change

Changes in the political and social environment can be a motivating factor, such as changing views on the role of women in politics. Successful female leadership and increased awareness of the importance of women's representation in politics can motivate women to participate.

2. Personal Experience

Personal experiences of gender inequality and specific issues affecting women can motivate women to participate in politics to address these issues. There is also a drive from the individual themselves who wants to change or fight for women's rights. In addition, running for congress is also a way for women to bring positive change to society.

3. Political Objectives

Women who have clear political goals and are interested in addressing specific social issues are politically encouraged to run for office to bring about the change they desire.

4. Perception of representation

When women feel that they are underrepresented in political structures, they may feel the urge to run for office to make their voices heard and their perspectives represented.

5. Family and Environmental Support Factors

Support from family, friends and community can be an important factor motivating women to run for office. A supportive environment can foster confidence and belief in their abilities. As a result, many female parliamentary candidates do not have the full support of their families, as women are only responsible for providing for their families, and women have a choice between choosing their families or participating in family factor politics. The refore , some women are torn between their responsibilities as housewives and political activity.

Table 1. Jambi City DPRD Member 2019 Election

No.	Political	Female	Male	Number of Seats
1.	Democrats	2	3	5 Seats
2.	PDIP	1	5	6 Seats
3.	Gerindra	0	7	7 Seats
4.	PAN	0	4	4 Seats
5.	Hanura	0	2	2 Seats
6.	ESC	1	2	3 Seats
7.	Golkar	0	4	4 Seats

8.	PPP	0	1	1 Seats
9.	MCC	1	4	5 Seats
10.	Nasdem	1	5	5 Seats
11.	UN	1	0	1 Seats
12.	Create	0	1	1 Seats
Total		7	38	45 Seats

Table 2. Jambi City DPRD Member 2024 Election

No.	Political	Female	Male	Number of Seats
1.	Democrats	1	2	3 Seats
2.	PDIP	1	4	5 Seats
3.	PAN	1	4	5 Seats
4.	ESC	1	3	4 Seats
5.	Golkar	1	7	8 Seats
6.	PPP	0	2	2 Seats
7.	Gerindra	0	6	6 Seats
8.	MCC	0	4	4 Seats
9.	Nasdem	1	5	6 Seats
10.	Perindo	0	2	2 Seats
Total		6	39	45 Seats

From the data table above, it can be seen that women's representation in 2019 was 7 people, while in 2024 it decreased to only 6 women who managed to occupy parliamentary seats.

Conclusion

Women's representation in politics in Jambi City in the 2024 elections is still faced with obstacles such as discrimination and patriarchal culture. Although the 1945 Constitution does not distinguish between men and women, women's representation in the legislature is still low. Efforts such as the 30% quota for women's representation in political parties are expected to increase women's representation. Women who are successfully elected as representatives of the people in parliament must face various challenges and responsibilities, but their presence is very valuable in creating political dynamics and voicing the interests of the people. Women's representation in politics is essential to creating justice and positive change in society. Factors such as political and social change, personal

experience, policy objectives, perceptions of representation, and family support can motivate women to engage in politics. Although there are still challenges, efforts to increase women's representation in politics remain a hope.

Suggestion

Efforts to increase women's representation in politics remain a hope, with factors such as political and social changes, personal experiences, policy goals, perceptions of representation, and family support motivating women to engage in politics.

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