

The Role of Women Entrepreneurs in the Weaving Industry in Bima City in Improving Household Welfare

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the influence of social capital on the household welfare of women entrepreneurs in the weaving industry in Bima City. Social capital is measured through three dimensions: bonding social capital, bridging social capital, and linking social capital, with demographic factors as control variables, including education level, number of household members, and length of business. The study used a quantitative approach with explanatory sequential mixed methods. Quantitative data were obtained through questionnaires distributed to women entrepreneurs in the weaving industry in Bima City, while qualitative data were obtained through interviews and observations to support the analysis. Data analysis was conducted using binary probit regression to test the influence of social capital on the probability of households achieving welfare status. The results showed that linking social capital has a positive influence on the opportunity to achieve household welfare, while bonding social capital and bridging social capital have not shown a significant influence. In addition, education level also contributes to improving household welfare. These findings indicate that access to formal institutions, government, financial institutions, and empowerment programs play an important role in improving the household welfare of women entrepreneurs in the weaving industry in Bima City.

INTRODUCTION

Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are a crucial sector in the Indonesian economy, absorbing labor and contributing to national economic growth. Within this sector, women play a strategic role as entrepreneurs, contributing not only to increasing family income but also to driving local economic growth. One form of women's entrepreneurship that continues to thrive is the traditional weaving industry in Bima City. Besides its economic value, the weaving industry also plays a role in preserving regional culture through the production of the distinctive Tembe Nggoli woven fabric, a symbol of the Bima community.

Most weaving businesses in Bima City are run on a household scale, with women as the primary actors. Production activities are carried out at home, enabling women to fulfill their dual roles as housewives and entrepreneurs. Through these businesses, women are able to generate additional income to meet family needs, finance their children's education, and improve household well-being. However, the success of a weaving business is determined not only by production capacity and economic capital, but also by the entrepreneur's ability to build and utilize social capital through relationships with family, the business community, the government, and other supporting institutions.

Social capital, consisting of bonding social capital, bridging social capital, and linking social capital, is believed to expand entrepreneurs' access to information, collaboration, capital assistance, training, and empowerment programs. Previous studies have shown that social capital plays a crucial role in supporting business success and improving community welfare. However, research specifically analyzing the influence of each dimension of social capital on the household welfare of female entrepreneurs in the weaving industry in Bima City is still limited. Furthermore, most previous studies have focused on aspects of income or women's empowerment without empirically examining the contribution of each dimension of social capital to household welfare.

Based on these conditions, this study aims to analyze the influence of bonding social capital, bridging social capital, linking social capital, and demographic factors on the household welfare of female entrepreneurs in the weaving industry in Bima City. The results of this study are expected to contribute to the development of studies on social capital and women's entrepreneurship and serve as a consideration for local governments and related institutions in designing women's empowerment policies oriented towards strengthening social networks to improve household welfare.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a quantitative approach with an explanatory sequential mixed methods design. The quantitative approach is used as the primary method to analyze the influence of social capital on the household welfare of female entrepreneurs in the weaving industry in Bima City, while the qualitative approach is used to strengthen and explain the results of the quantitative analysis through interviews and observations. The study was conducted in Ntobo Village, Raba District, Bima City, as one of the centers of the traditional weaving industry. The study population was all female entrepreneurs in the weaving industry at the research location, while the sample was determined according to the sampling technique used in the study. Primary data were obtained through questionnaires, interviews, and observations, while secondary data were obtained from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS), related agencies, and various scientific literature.

The dependent variable in this study is household welfare, while the independent variables include bonding social capital, bridging social capital, and linking social capital, with education level, length of business, and number of household members as control

variables. Data analysis was conducted using a binary probit regression model to examine the effect of social capital on the probability of achieving household welfare for female entrepreneurs in the weaving industry in Bima City.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This study involved 94 female entrepreneurs in the weaving industry in Bima City as respondents. Data analysis was conducted using probit regression to examine the influence of *Bonding Social Capital*, *Bridging Social Capital*, *Linking Social Capital*, and demographic factors on household welfare status. Before testing the hypotheses, descriptive statistics were presented to provide an overview of the characteristics of the research data.

Table 1. Descriptive Statistics test results
Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Standard Deviation
Bonding	94	1	4	2.60	.677
Bridging	94	1	4	1.98	1,005
Linking	94	1	4	1.39	.691
Last education	94	1	3	1.65	.651
Number of household members	94	1	6	3.56	.990
Length of Business	94	1	27	10.99	7,025
Welfare Status	94	.00	1.00	.1489	.35793
Valid N (listwise)	94				

Based on Table 1, the *Bonding Social Capital* variable has a mean value of 2.60 with a standard deviation of 0.677. These results indicate that respondents have relatively strong relationships with family, relatives, and their immediate environment. The *Bridging Social Capital* variable has a mean value of 1.98, while *Linking Social Capital* has a mean value of 1.39, indicating that respondents' relationships with business groups and formal institutions are still relatively low. In addition, the average length of business for respondents reached 10.99 years, while the average welfare status value of 0.149 indicates that most respondent households are still in the less prosperous category.

Next, the model feasibility test was carried out using *the Omnibus Test of Model Coefficients*.

Table 2 . Omnibus Test of Model Coefficients
Omnibus Tests of Model Coefficients

		Chi-square	df	Sig.
Step 1	Step	16,062	6	.013
	Block	16,062	6	.013
	Model	16,062	6	.013

The *Chi-Square* value is 16.062 with a significance level of 0.013. A significance value of less than 0.05 indicates that the regression model used is significant and therefore suitable for explaining the influence of social capital and demographic factors on the welfare status of female entrepreneurs in the weaving industry in Bima City.

Next, the model's ability to explain variations in the dependent variable was tested using the *Nagelkerke R Square value*.

Table 3. Model Summary
Model Summary

Step	-2 Log likelihood	Cox & Snell R	Nagelkerke R
		Square	Square
1	62,735 ^a	.159	.278

The *Nagelkerke R Square* value is 0.278. These results indicate that the variables *Bonding Social Capital*, *Bridging Social Capital*, *Linking Social Capital*, last education, number of household members, and length of business are able to explain variations in household welfare status by 27.8%, while the remaining 72.2% is influenced by other factors outside the research model.

Next, a probit regression analysis was conducted to determine the influence of each independent variable on household welfare status.

Table 4 . Variables in the Equation
Variables in the Equation

		B	SE	Wald	Df	Sig.	Exp(B)
Step 1 ^a	Bridging	-.447	.403	1,234	1	.267	.639
	Linking	1,226	.427	8,231	1	.004	3,408
	Last education	1,330	.612	4,712	1	.030	3,779
	Number of household members	-.211	.308	.470	1	.493	.810
	Length of Business	.060	.056	1,128	1	.288	1,062
	Constant	-5,098	1,854	7,563	1	.006	.006

Based on Table 4, it is known that the *Bonding Social Capital* variable has a significance value of 0.464, so it does not significantly influence the status of household welfare. The *Bridging Social Capital* variable also has no significant effect with a significance value of 0.308. Meanwhile, *Linking Social Capital* shows a positive regression coefficient and is the variable that has the greatest influence on increasing the chances of households achieving a prosperous condition. In the final model, *Linking Social Capital* (Sig. = 0.004) and the highest education (Sig. = 0.030) are proven to have a positive and significant effect on the status of household welfare. In contrast, the number of household members and the length of business do not show a significant influence.

The Influence of *Bonding Social Capital* on Household Welfare Status

The results of the study indicate that *Bonding Social Capital* does not significantly influence the household welfare status of female entrepreneurs in the weaving industry in Bima City. Although the regression coefficient is positive, the significance value is greater than 0.05, indicating that support from family, relatives, or neighbors has not significantly increased the chances of household prosperity.

This situation suggests that close social relationships serve more as a source of moral and emotional support and assistance in daily activities than as a source of economic capacity. In the weaving industry, family support does aid the production process, but it has not been able to expand access to capital, marketing, or business innovation, thus limiting its impact on household well-being.

The Influence of *Bridging Social Capital* on Household Welfare Status

The study results show that *bridging social capital* does not significantly impact household welfare. This suggests that respondents' involvement in business groups, business communities, or women's organizations has not yet provided economic benefits that directly improve household welfare. This finding indicates that broader social networks have not been optimally utilized to gain market access, business information, or collaboration opportunities that could increase business revenue.

The Influence of *Linking Social Capital* on Household Welfare Status

The results of the study indicate that *Linking Social Capital* has a positive and significant effect on household welfare status. The *Exp(B)* value of 3.408 indicates that the better the relationship between female entrepreneurs and the government, financial institutions, cooperatives, and business support institutions, the greater the household's opportunity to achieve prosperity. These results indicate that relationships with formal institutions provide tangible benefits in the form of access to capital assistance, training, business information, production technology, and marketing opportunities that can increase business productivity and household welfare.

The Influence of Demographic Factors on Household Welfare Status

The results of the study indicate that the highest level of education has a positive and significant effect on household welfare status. The higher the respondent's education level, the greater the household's chance of achieving prosperity because education improves the ability to manage a business, make decisions, and exploit economic opportunities. Conversely, the number of household members and the length of time in business did not significantly influence household welfare status. This indicates that business experience or the number of family members do not necessarily improve welfare unless accompanied by increased productivity, business innovation, and expanded access to markets and capital sources.

Overall, this study shows that *Linking Social Capital* is the most important dimension of social capital in improving the household welfare of female entrepreneurs in the weaving industry in Bima City. Therefore, strengthening relationships between business actors and the government, financial institutions, and various business support agencies is necessary to encourage sustainable improvements in household welfare.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

The results of the study indicate that *Bonding Social Capital* and *Bridging Social Capital* do not significantly influence the household welfare of female entrepreneurs in the weaving industry in Bima City. Conversely, *Linking Social Capital* has a positive and significant effect on household welfare because it can increase access to information, training, business assistance, and capital sources. In addition, the highest level of education also has a positive and significant effect on household welfare, while the number of household members and the length of business do not show a significant effect. These findings indicate that

strengthening relationships with formal institutions and improving the quality of human resources are important factors in improving the household welfare of female entrepreneurs in the weaving industry in Bima City.

Regional governments and relevant institutions are expected to strengthen empowerment programs for women entrepreneurs in the weaving industry by increasing access to training, business mentoring, capital assistance, and expanding marketing networks. Furthermore, entrepreneurs are expected to be more active in building partnerships with formal institutions to gain broader access to various business support resources. Future research is recommended to include other variables, such as financial literacy, product innovation, access to digital technology, and business income, to provide a more comprehensive picture of the factors influencing household well-being.

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