

## Elderly Solidarity in Facing Social Alienation in Kertajadi Village Cidaun District Cianjur City West Java Province

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### Article Info

*Received : 16 August 2024*  
*Revised : 25 August 2024*  
*Accepted: 28 August 2024*

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### Keywords:

*Solidarity; Elderly; Social Alienation*

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### ABSTRACT

This work contains the results of research on elderly solidarity in facing social isolation in Kertajadi Village. The aim of this research is to determine the characteristics of respondents as elderly people who live alone, the feelings felt by fellow elderly people, the shared burdens experienced and the mutual need among elderly people. The method used is a descriptive method with a quantitative approach. The research objects sampled in this study were 70 elderly people who felt social isolation using proportional random sampling techniques. The techniques used in data collection were questionnaire techniques, non-participatory observation and documentation studies. The results stated that solidarity was high, but there were several items that received low scores, namely the statement that elderly people were weak and needed help from other people in all their activities, then the statement that fellow elderly people in the village Kertajadi rarely gathers together.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Humans as social creatures interact with each other, in these interactions there is also a process of cooperation, interdependence, close relationships between humans and mutual trust that exists between humans [1],[2]. This form of relationship can be found in all human groups, starting from childhood to old age in humans according to their development process[3]. Aging is a natural process in human development. In the process of aging, humans experience a setback which includes changes and decline in physical, psychological and social functions as stated by Azizah through three stages, namely weakness, limitations or inability and obstacles[4].

According to Suyono, Chairman of the Republic of Indonesia Wredhatama Association (PWRI) stated that in 2015 Indonesia's elderly population reached around 29-30 million people (12%) of the total population of Indonesia and the number of elderly people in Indonesia is predicted to continue to increase because it is influenced by age. The life expectancy of the Indonesian population also continues to increase from before in 2004 with a limit of 68.6 years, increasing to 72 years in 2015. Kertajadi Village, Cidaun District is one of the areas of Cianjur City which is located quite far from the government center of Cianjur City, where government development programs are difficult for the people in Kertajadi Village, Cidaun District. According to data from Kertajadi Village government officials in 2015, the number of elderly people in Kertajadi Village was quite large, namely 778 people (9.20%) of the total population of Kertajadi Village, namely 8,474 people.

In Indonesian culture, parents or elderly figures are figures who should be respected and trusted as figures who have good knowledge of religion and norms and are sometimes a source of advice that the wider community needs [5],[6]. As time goes by, this has changed, now there is a degradation of the values and norms regarding respect for the presence of elderly people in some communities. Durkheim said that the alienation experienced by individuals from their social environment occurs due to the overturning of social status and roles as a result of changes and division of work in society [7],[8]. Durkheim's opinion is in accordance with the many elderly people who experience social alienation from social life due to changes in roles and status they have experienced [9],[10].

Some Indonesian people consider that the elderly are a burden because they can only depend on other people. Apart from that, family economic factors also influence the lives of the elderly who are considered a burden, so many of them are abandoned by their children to look for work in faraway places[11]. This is one of the phenomena that is currently occurring, is that people no longer respect the existence of the elderly and seem to make the elderly feel socially isolated from community life[12]. Elderly people in Kertajadi Village have experienced a decline in terms of their social life, this happens because some people no longer pay attention to the roles and participation of elderly people in community activities. Most of the people in Kertajadi Village also care less about the living conditions of elderly people who live alone, both in terms of food and their health conditions, although there are some people who still care and pay attention to the fate of these elderly people.

The elderly in Kertajadi Village also feel that they have the same fate and have the same problems as elderly people who are socially isolated and need help both from fellow elderly people and from other communities. Based on this background, the author is interested in researching whether among the elderly as people who are marginalized by society in Kertajadi Village, they have strong solidarity in facing the problem of social alienation. Apart from that, the author also wants to examine how solidarity exists among the elderly and whether solidarity between elderly people can adequately resolve the problems of social isolation they face and support their lives to continue to maintain their social functioning [13].

The problem formulation is the main problem in this research and can be used as a reference and guideline in carrying out research. The problem formulation in this research is "How is elderly solidarity in facing social isolation in Kertajadi Village, Cidaun District, Cianjur City, West Java Province?". Next, the main problem is described into sub-problems which include the feeling of mutuality felt, the mutual support experienced and the mutual need that occurs between elderly people.

## **2. METHOD**

The approach used in this research uses a quantitative approach and research design used is a descriptive design. The target population in this study is the elderly population in Kertajadi Village, Cidaun District, Cianjur City, West Java, while the sample population in this study is elderly people who live alone, where sampling will use proportional random sampling techniques. This sampling technique can be used on stratified populations, area populations or cluster populations. In this study, researchers will classify based on area population into RWs, totaling 7 RWs in Kertajadi Village, Cidaun District, Cianjur City, West Java.

The most important thing in this technique is the use of balanced representation from the existing population, where the researcher already knows the size of the existing population units, then the researcher can take representatives from these population units.

So, researchers took samples from a population of elderly people who lived alone using the Slovin formula [14] as follows:

$n$  :  $N/1+N.d^2$

Information :

$n$  : number of samples

$N$  : population number

$d$  : error tolerance limit

The sample that the researcher determined with an error tolerance limit of 0.1

Data collection in this research used a questionnaire, the measurement scale uses a Likert scale which is used to measure attitudes, opinions and perceptions of a person or group of people about social phenomena [15]. By using a Likert scale, the variables to be measured are translated into indicator variables. Then these indicators are used as a starting point for compiling instrument items which can be in the form of statements or questions. The answer to each instrument item using a Likert scale has a gradation from very positive to very negative, which can be in the form of words including: strongly agree, agree, disagree, disagree, and strongly disagree can also be very positive, positive, negative and very negative. This is used for quantitative research analysis purposes, so the answers can be given a score or value.

Apart from that, researchers also apply observation and documentation studies. The observations made by researchers in this study were to observe how solidarity among the elderly exists and how this solidarity can help the lives of the elderly, especially the problem of social isolation felt by the elderly in Kertajadi Village. Documentation studies are used to study literature and other things related to the elderly, the isolation experienced by the elderly and the solidarity of the elderly in Kertajadi Village. Apart from that, researchers can use pictures or photos, videos or voice recordings in data collection. The researcher measured the reliability of the instrument using the Spearman Brown formula[16].

$$r_i = \frac{2 \cdot r_b}{1 + r_b}$$

Information :

$r_i$  : Instrument reliability

$r_b$  : Item Reliability

Researchers have tested an instrument with 24 items or statement items on 35 trial respondents, which researchers took from the elderly population in Kertajadi Village who were not used as research samples. Reliability testing was carried out using the split half technique which was analyzed using the Spearman Brown formula.

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Table 1: Score of Reliability Test Instrument Items

No. Respondent	Odd	Even
1	53	53
2	46	49
3	55	58
4	58	55
5	48	49
6	51	53
7	56	55
8	56	55
9	54	55
10	56	60
11	55	55
12	56	55
13	56	55
14	54	51
15	55	58
16	54	60
17	49	50
18	54	51
19	51	50
20	47	50
21	43	49
22	44	44
23	50	56
24	45	54
25	53	53
26	39	42
27	51	48
28	53	53
29	50	50
30	60	60
31	60	60
32	56	56
33	53	50
34	52	51
35	60	60
Amount	1.833	1.863

Reliability calculations were carried out using the Microsoft Excel 2007 application to find the correlation value for each statement item using the formula =CORREL (number of odd values; number of even values), then the item correlation value was 0.81. The next calculation to determine the reliability of the instrument is calculated using the Spearman Brown formula as follows:

$$r_i = \frac{2 \cdot r_b}{1 + 0.81}$$

$$r_i = 0.89$$

Information :

$r_i$  : Instrument reliability

$r_b$  : Item Reliability

The calculation results according to the Spearman Brown formula show that the reliability of the instrument is 0.89 and this result includes very high reliability according to the reliability coefficient category according to Guilford (1956) which is as follows:

0.80 – 1.00: very high reliability

0.60 – 0.80 : high reliability

0.40 – 0.60: medium reliability

0.20 – 0.40 : low reliability

In this study there are five alternative answers with a gradation from very positive to very negative, where each answer is given a score of 5 to 1, or vice versa, from very negative to very positive the answer is given a score of 1 to 5. A score of 5 is better than a score of 4, 3, 2, 1, then a score of 4 is lower than a score of 5 and better than a score of 3, 2, 1 and so on.

Table 2: Continuum Value of Alternative Answers to Research Instruments

Category	Score	Category	Score
Positive Answer (+)		Negative Answer (-)	
Strongly Agree	5	Strongly Agree	1
Agree	4	Agree	2
Neutral	3	Neutral	3
Disagree	2	Disagree	4
Strongly Disagree	1	Strongly Disagree	5

Table 2 shows that the highest score can describe the positive aspect of solidarity, the score in the middle is the score that shows no change, while the lowest score describes the negative aspect of each aspect of solidarity.

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### 3.1 Aspects Of Feelings Among The Elderly

Table 3: Respondents' Responses to the Feelings Aspect Felt by the Elderly

No	Statement	Score of Answer					Total Score
		SS	S	KS	TS	STS	
1	Fellow elderly people are all friends	245	84	0	0	0	329
2	Feel sad when you find out that other elderly people are experiencing problems	100	144	0	14	7	265
3	Feel happy when taking part in community activities with fellow elderly friends	260	68	3	0	0	331
4	I feel lonely because I am away from my children.	15	124	27	20	17	203
5	I feel like my children don't pay attention to me anymore	10	20	120	40	0	190

6	SI feel no longer respected by society	39	18	30	44	5	136
7	There is a sense of mutual trust in sharing stories between me and other elderly people	30	248	6	0	0	284
8	There is a desire to always be close to fellow elderly friends	205	108	3	2	0	318
Amount		904	814	189	120	29	2.056

Information :

SS : Strongly Agree  
S : Agree  
KS : Neutral  
TS : Disagree  
STS : Strongly Disagree

The score results in table 3 show that the score obtained from the aspect of feelings felt by the elderly is high with a total of 2,056 from the 8 (eight) statement items assessed by the respondents. This shows that the value of the fellow-feelings aspect is considered high and illustrates that the respondent or elderly person has the same feelings in accordance with what has been stated in the questionnaire.

### 3.2 Aspects of Concern Experienced By Fellow Elderly People

Table 4: Results of Respondents' Responses to have the same load Aspects Experienced by Fellow Elderly

No	Statement	Score Of Answer					Total Score
		SS	S	KS	TS	STS	
1	There are physical limitations in carrying out daily activities	0	208	15	14	6	243
2	My children no longer depend on me	0	102	18	8	55	183
3	Society views me as weak and in need of help from others	0	28	39	14	36	117
4	My fellow elderly friends and I visit each other when we are sick	205	102	0	2	0	309
5	Always remember your fellow elderly friends when you have problems	40	220	15	4	0	279
6	Always give to fellow elderly friends when I get good fortune	205	108	3	2	0	318
7	My fellow elderly friends and I visited each other's homes in turn	105	184	6	2	0	297
8	Treat fellow elderly friends like your own brothers	255	76	0	0	0	331
Amount		810	1.028	96	46	97	2.077

Information :

SS : Strongly Agree

S : Agree  
 KS : Neutral  
 TS : Disagree  
 STS : Strongly Disagree

The score results in table 4 show that the score obtained from the aspect of responsibility experienced by fellow elderly people is considered very high with a total score of 2,077 from 8 (eight) statement items. This high assessment shows that respondents or elderly people in Kertajadi Village experience the same fate or the same burdens of life as other elderly people.

### 3.3 Aspects of Mutual Need Among Fellow Elderly

Table 5: Respondents' Responses Aspects of Mutual Need Among Fellow Seniors

No	Statement	Score Of Answer					Total Score
		SS	S	KS	TS	STS	
1	I respect the opinions of other seniors	85	212	0	0	0	297
2	Share stories with fellow seniors	70	216	6	0	0	292
3	Remind each other, forgive and give advice if other elderly friends make mistakes	245	72	3	2	1	323
4	Need support and advice from fellow elderly in facing problems	250	76	0	2	0	328
5	I usually fulfill my daily needs without help from others	155	72	39	14	1	281
6	My fellow elderly friends and I rarely gather together	6	106	33	0	0	145
7	My fellow elderly friends and I comfort each other to relieve the loneliness we feel	190	108	15	0	0	313
8	My fellow elderly friends and I often help when we get into trouble	275	60	0	0	0	335
Amount		1.276	922	96	18	2	2.314

Information :

SS : Strongly Agree  
 S : Agree  
 KS : Neutral  
 TS : Disagree  
 STS : Strongly Disagree

The score results in table 5 show that the score obtained from the aspect of mutual need for the elderly is worth a high score with a total score of 2,314 from 8 (eight) statement items assessed by 70 respondents.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

The aspects in this research consist of aspects of mutual feelings felt between elderly people, then there are aspects of mutual support experienced by fellow elderly people, then there are aspects of mutual need between elderly people, where each of these three aspects has 8 statement items.

Table 6: Elderly Solidarity in Facing Social Alienation in Kertajdi Village, Cidaun District, Cianjur City

No	Aspect of solidarity	Elderly Respondents	
		Total Score	Research result
1	Feelings	2.056	High
2	have the same load	2.077	Quite Significant
3	Need each other	2.314	High
Amount		6.441	High

The research results stated that the statement scores from two aspects were high and one aspect had quite high results. The research results show that aspects of solidarity are in accordance with what is happening and what the respondents as elderly people feel about the conditions of their old age. Overall, the response score or respondents' assessment of all aspects of solidarity was 6,441 on the continuum line, including the high category (T), which means that in each aspect of solidarity, many respondents gave a value of agree (S) or strongly agree (SS) and this means the feeling aspect, the aspect of sharing responsibility. and the aspect of mutual need is really felt and occurs in the respondents' lives as elderly people, especially in facing social isolation in their lives as a group belonging to a minority group in society, namely as elderly people.

Based on the problems faced by the elderly, the needs analysis to overcome these problems is as follows:

- a. Increase public awareness to be able to pay attention to activities of the elderly that they cannot do alone and require assistance from others and pay attention to the level of decline in physical condition, other organs and sensory functions by checking the health of the elderly on a regular basis.
- b. Create special activities for the elderly, for example gymnastics for the elderly, special recitations for the elderly and special cooperatives for the elderly, or other activities or programs that are light and appropriate to the abilities of the elderly so that the elderly can feel like they are participating and can gather together with others. other elderly people and feel useful again in their presence in society. This is in accordance with social needs, namely in the form of roles in relationships with other people, interpersonal relationships within the family, peers and relationships with social organizations.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author would like to thank God Almighty for his mercy and grace so that the author can complete this research well. The author also does not forget to thank all parties who have helped complete this research, especially elderly respondents in Kertajadi Village, Cidaun District, Cianjur City. Hopefully this research can be useful for the progress of the nation and the welfare of the elderly in the future.

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