

# Marital Satisfaction in Terms of Communication, Conflict Resolution, Sexual Intimacy, and Financial Relations among Working and Non-Working Wives

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## Abstract

One of the signs of a successful marriage is marital satisfaction of both husbands and wives. However, in the current era, addressing the role of wives who work outside the household has been a challenge for some married couples. The aim of this study is to examine the influences of communication, conflict resolution, sexual intimacy, and financial relations on the marital satisfaction of working and non-working wives. The study was conducted on a total of 144 subjects consisting of 90 full-time working wives and 54 non-working wives. Data collection was conducted through questionnaires. Results of linear regression analysis showed a difference in the factors affecting marital satisfaction in working and non-working wives. Marital satisfaction in working wives was influenced by communication, sexual intimacy, and financial relations; while marital satisfaction in non-working wives was influenced by communication and financial relations.

## Kepuasan Pernikahan dalam Hal Komunikasi, Resolusi Konflik, Keintiman Seksual, dan Hubungan Keuangan di antara Istri yang Bekerja dan Tidak Bekerja

### Abstrak

Salah satu hal yang menjadi tanda keberhasilan pernikahan adalah kepuasan pernikahan baik suami maupun istri. Namun di era saat ini peran istri yang bekerja di luar rumah menjadi tantangan tersendiri bagi pasangan suami istri. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui pengaruh komunikasi, intimasi seksual, resolusi konflik dan relasi finansial terhadap kepuasan perkawinan pada pasangan suami istri dengan istri yang bekerja dan tidak bekerja. Keseluruhan partisipan berjumlah 144 orang yang terdiri dari 90 istri yang bekerja dan 54 istri yang tidak bekerja. Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan menggunakan skala. Hasil analisis regresi linear menunjukkan adanya perbedaan faktor-faktor yang menyebabkan kepuasan antara pasangan dengan istri bekerja dan tidak bekerja. Kepuasan pasangan dengan istri yang bekerja dipengaruhi oleh komunikasi, intimasi seksual dan relasi finansial. Sedangkan pada pasangan yang istrinya tidak bekerja, kepuasan pernikahan dipengaruhi oleh komunikasi dan relasi finansial.

*Keywords: communication, conflict resolution, financial relations, marital satisfaction, sexual intimacy*

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## 1. Introduction

The number of dual-earner couples has increased during this decade. This is related to the increasing number of women who have completed their formal education (O'Brien, 2012) and means that the number of working wives is increasing day by day.

Working wives play dual roles in their marriages. They play the roles of both housewives and workers. Their dual

roles are like two sides of a coin: Working can help wives develop and actualize themselves and also provide additional household income. However, it also imposes additional obligations and challenges (Pujiastuti & Retnowati, 2004). This is true especially for full-time working wives.

Wives' new roles as income earners in addition to their traditional household roles have also been argued to change their view of marriage. Olson, DeFrain, and Sko-