THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ECONOMIC PRESSURE, HUSBAND-WIFE INTERACTION, AND HUSBAND’S MARITAL SATISFACTION

I’lma Fadillah Nur Anisa Gunawan*, Diah Krisnatuti

Department of Family and Consumer Science, Faculty of Human Ecology, IPB University, Dramaga, Bogor 16680

*E-mail: ilmafadillahmur@gmail.com

Abstract

Marital satisfaction affects many aspects of people’s individual and social life. It is affected by factors such as economic strain and the couple’s interaction. Therefore, this study was conducted to determine the relationship between economic pressure, husband-wife interaction, and husband's marital satisfaction. The data for this study were gathered from an online survey of 33 informal working husbands and 32 formal working husbands from West Java. The respondents were selected by using the purposive sampling technique. The Economic Pressure Questionnaire and Interpersonal Behavior Scale measured economic pressure and husband-wife interaction. ENRICH Marital Satisfaction instrument has been used to measure a husband's marital satisfaction. The findings revealed that economic pressure and husband-wife interaction significantly relate to the husband’s marital satisfaction. Multiple regression analysis was used to analyze the relative strength of independent variables in predicting a husband's marital satisfaction. The results indicated that husband-wife interaction was found to have the strongest influence on a husband’s marital satisfaction. Findings imply that there is a need for strategies to improve the quality of husband-wife interactions to help prevent divorce prepared by both partners and related parties.

Keywords: economic pressure, husband-wife interaction, husband’s marital satisfaction

INTRODUCTION

Marital satisfaction has an important role in marital relationships. Marital satisfaction is defined as a person's global subjective evaluation of the quality of his marriage (Li & Fung, 2011). This is in line with Nurhayati, Faturrochman, and Helmi (2019), who see that marital satisfaction is one dimension of marital quality. According to Li and Fung (2011), marital satisfaction is one index commonly used in evaluating marriage. However, when marital satisfaction cannot be achieved, divorce can happen...
Dew and Jackson (2017) found that economic pressures influence marital satisfaction. In addition, Wijayanti (2021) also showed that economic factors are the highest cause of divorce in Banyumas Regency during 2020 (pandemic). Economic pressure can be defined as the tension experienced by the family, a mid-economic hardship described by objective and subjective economic pressure (Elder et al., 1992). On the other hand, Lorenz et al. (1991) argue that economic pressure is the family's emotional, cognitive, and behavioral response to difficulties in managing family resources to meet family needs. The BPS survey (2020) found that during the pandemic, the poor group, vulnerable poor group, and informal workers are the most economically affected groups.

Informal workers are workers who do not have any guarantees and have uncertain wages, while formal workers are workers who have a fixed wage and are registered with BPJS Ketenagakerjaan (Retnaningsih, 2020). According to BPS (2021b), formal workers are residents who work with the status of workers, employees, or business owners assisted by permanent workers. Meanwhile, informal workers are residents with the status of casual workers in agriculture and non-agriculture, family workers, self-employed, and working with the help of precarious workers. Based on data in 2020, informal workers had a lower average income than formal workers (BPS, 2021a). However, a survey by UNICEF, UNDP, Prospera, and SMERU (2021) showed that almost one in four households in Indonesia experienced increased spending during the pandemic. When the family's economic resources are limited, it becomes difficult for the family to meet the needs of the family. Thus allowing the informal working group to experience higher economic pressures than the informal workers.

Economic pressures have an impact on family relationships. For example, research by Elder et al. (1992) found that economic pressures can cause a decrease in husband-wife interaction, characterized by decreased warmth and increased hostility. This is in line with the opinion of Puspitawati (2021), who says that economic pressure is a big problem that can disrupt family members' relations.

The symbolic interaction theory sees an interaction between family members as forming the family (Burgess, 1926 in LaRose & Reitzes, 1993). Husband-wife interactions are part of family interactions which play an important role in the interactions between family members (Puspitawati, 2018). According to Chuang (2005), husband-wife interaction is a dyadic relationship between husband and wife. Good husband-wife interaction can increase satisfaction, happiness, and harmony in marriage, but bad interaction can cause conflict and divorce (Sunarti, 2021). This is supported by Dewi, Puspitawati, and Krisnatuti (2018), Aspary, Puspitawati, and Krisnatuti (2021), who found that the quality of husband-wife interaction affects marital satisfaction and happiness. In addition, Herawati et al. (2018) found that the more optimal family interactions, the higher the marriage quality.

The paragraphs above show that economic pressure, husband-wife interaction, and marital satisfaction are interrelated in maintaining family sustainability. This is important because, according to structural-functional theory, the family is the center of the social system, which is directed to be balanced, harmonious, and sustainable (Kingsbury & Scanzoni, 1993 Puspitawati, 2017). However, research that combines the variables of economic pressure and husband-wife interaction in examining marital satisfaction is still difficult to find. Most studies address these two issues separately, such as Dew and Jackson (2017), who investigated marital satisfaction during economic pressure during the pandemic also Nindyasari and Herawati (2018), who investigated emotional maturity and family interactions on marital satisfaction. At the same time, the BPS survey (2022) found that the two highest causes of divorce in 2021 were constantly arguing and economic problems. According to the structural-functional theory, the role of parents or couples is divided into two sets of activities: instrumental and expressive. Instrumental functions such as making money are closely attached to the husband (McIntyre, 1966 in Kingsbury & Scanzoni, 1993). This is in line with the research of Elder et al. (1992), who found that the husband was more affected by economic pressures than the wife because, in general, the husband had a role as the main breadwinner in the family. In this case, husbands with jobs in the informal sector have a higher risk of experiencing economic pressure due to the nature of their work with relatively lower wages (BPS, 2021a & BPS West Java Province, 2020).

According to Rollins and Feldman (1970), a decrease in the husband's marital satisfaction tends to be more influenced by work-related events such as retirement, unemployment, or a decrease in income than other family events such as the presence of children. However, research on the effect of economic pressure and husband-wife interaction on marital satisfaction from the husband's perspective is still rare. Some studies
that only look at the husband's perspective, for example, are the research of Harahap and Lestari 2018 also Nurhikmah, Wahyuningsih, and Kusumaningrum (2018) on the subject of husbands who have working wives. Whereas many studies, such as Fala, Sunarti, and Herawati (2020), Herawati et al. (2018), also Tyas, Herawati, and Sunarti (2017) suggested involving husbands in further family research. Based on the description above, the objectives of this study are: 1) Describe individual and family characteristics, economic pressures, husband-wife interaction, and marital satisfaction from the husband's perspective on formal and informal workers; 2) Analyze the relationship between economic pressure, husband-wife interaction, and husband's marital satisfaction; 3) Analyze the influence of economic pressure and husband-wife interaction on husband's marital satisfaction.

METHODS

This study is a quantitative study with a cross-sectional design. Data is retrieved via the Google Forms application, distributed through various social media platforms and in person. The research location chosen was West Java Province with the consideration that West Java Province was the province with the highest divorce rate in Indonesia in 2021 (BPS, 2022), and West Java Province was the province with the second highest poverty rate after East Java Province in March 2020 (BPS, 2021a).

The population in this study were husbands from intact families who had jobs and lived in West Java Province. The research sample was obtained using a non-probability sampling method and a purposive sampling technique. The respondents' criteria are that the husband works, has children as dependents, and lives in West Java Province. Data collection was carried out from March to June 2022, and 65 respondents were obtained. The number consists of 33 informal working husbands and 32 formal working husbands.

Economic pressure was measured using a modified economic pressure questionnaire from Raharjo, Puspitawati, and Krisnatuti (2015) in the book Puspitawati (2021). The instrument consists of five objective economic pressure questions, answered indirectly by respondents through questions about monthly income, monthly expenses, total assets, and total debt owned by the family. Meanwhile, subjective economic pressure consists of 16 items with a 3-points Likert-typed scale ranging from 1 (Never) to 3 (Often). A higher total score indicates higher levels of economic pressure. In the current study, Cronbach’s alpha coefficient of the scale was 0,921.

Chuang (2005) measured Husband-wife interaction using the Interpersonal Behavior Scale. This instrument consists of 15 items modified from 24 items in the Interpersonal Behavior Scale by Chuang (2005). There were six subscales in this instrument, which were love, directing, not domineering, not hostility, submissive, and respect. In addition, it was rated on a 5-points Likert-typed scale ranging from 1 (Never) to 5 (Always). A higher total score indicates higher levels of husband-wife interaction. In the current study, Cronbach’s alpha coefficient of the scale was 0,703.

Marital satisfaction was measured using the ENRICH Marital Satisfaction instrument from Fowers and Olson (1993). This instrument consists of 10 items on marital satisfaction, which are developed into 12 items representing personality issues, equilitarian roles, communication, conflict resolution, financial management, leisure activities, sexual relationship, children and parenting, family and friends, and religious orientation. It was rated on a 5-points Likert-typed scale ranging from 1 (Strongly disagree) to 5 (Strongly agree). A higher total score indicates a higher level of marital satisfaction. In the current study, The questionnaire used a Likert scale of 1-5 with Cronbach's alpha coefficient of the scale was 0,885.

The primary data was processed through cleaning, editing, scoring, and analyzing. The first analysis was descriptive in calculating the mean and standard deviation and the maximum and minimum values of each variable. Next, Pearson Product Moment Correlation analysis was utilized to examine the relationship between economic pressure, husband-wife interaction, and husband's marital satisfaction. Finally, multiple regression analysis was used to determine the influence of economic pressure and husband-wife interaction on the husband's marital satisfaction. The process was carried out with the help of Microsoft Excel 2010 and SPSS Statistics 25 for Windows.

RESULTS

Individual and Family Characteristics

Respondents involved in this study comprised 65 husbands, almost half of whom (47,7%) came from Bandung. Respondents were divided into two groups: informal working husbands (33 people) and formal working husbands (32 people). The types of informal occupations in this study consisted of entrepreneurs, traders, freelancers, online drivers, and writers. Meanwhile, the types of formal occupation consist of civil
servants, permanent employees, permanent workers, temporary employees, Polri, and foundation administrators. The average age of the informal working husband is 44.9 years.

Meanwhile, the average age of formal workers is 45 years. In addition, the length of an informal worker's education is in the range of 6 to 20 years with an average of 12.6 years or equivalent to high school or equivalent. On the other hand, the length of a formal worker's education ranges from 10 to 28 years with an average of 15.2 years or the equivalent of tertiary education.

The average age of the wives of informal workers is 40.2 years, while the wives of formal workers are 41.2 years old. Based on occupational groups, more than half of the wives in this study did not work or were housewives. The length of education of the wives of informal working husbands is 6 to 20 years, while the length of education of the wives of formal groups is 6 to 17 years. The average length of education for the wives of informal and formal workers is 12.1 and 13.4 years, respectively. On average, informal working husbands have been married for 18 years, while formal working husbands have been married for an average of 17.2 years. The family size depends on the husband of formal and informal workers, who are both in the range of 3 to 7 people, with an average of 4 people.

**Economic Pressure**

The objective economic pressure dimension results show that half of the informal workers and the majority of formal workers are in a low category (Table 1). This can be seen in the distribution of answers which shows that informal working husbands (72.7%) and formal working husbands (96.9%) are not categorized as poor based on the West Java poverty line as of March 2021. Informal working husbands (48.5%) and formal working husbands (68.8%) also have lower expenses than income. In addition, informal working husbands (42.4%) and formal working husbands (56.3%) do not have debt. Meanwhile, the average objective economic pressure index for the informal and formal groups is 44.6 and 25.3 respectively.

Almost half of the informal workers are low (48.5%) and moderate (45.5%). Based on the income sub-dimension, half of the informal working husbands are in a low category, while in the employment sub-dimension, 45.5 percent of informal working husbands are in a low category (Table 1). The average index on the income sub-dimension (36.3) is lower than the occupation sub-dimension (37.1). The husband's perception of economic hardship is more related to his dissatisfaction with his current job than his income. Meanwhile, most formal working husbands have subjective economic pressure in the low category in total and per sub-dimension (Table 1). Based on the sub-dimension, the average income sub-dimension index (23.4) is higher than the occupation sub-dimension (17.2).

The total economic pressure on half of the informal working husbands is in a low category. Meanwhile, the majority of formally working husbands are in a low category. The average index of total economic pressure in the informal group is 40.5, while the average index for the formal group is 23.5 (Table 1).

| Table 1 Distribution of husbands based on subjective economic pressure and husband's occupation |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Dimension                      | Low (<40)                      | Medium (40.01-70.00)           | High (>70)                      | Low (<40)                      | Medium (40.01-70.00)           | High (>70)                      |
|                                | n     | %    | n     | %    | n     | %    | n     | %    | n     | %    | n     | %    |
| Objective Economic Pressure    | 18    | 54.5 | 14    | 42.4 | 1     | 3.0 | 29    | 90.6 | 3     | 9.4 | 0     | 0     |
| Mean ± std                     | 44.6 ± 16.2                      | 25.3 ± 14.4                    |
| Subjective economic pressure   | 16    | 48.5 | 15    | 45.5 | 2     | 6.1 | 25    | 78.1 | 7     | 21.9 | 0     | 0     |
| Mean ± std                     | 36.7 ± 24.6                      | 21.8 ± 19.4                    |
| Perception of income           | 18    | 54.5 | 13    | 39.4 | 2     | 6.1 | 25    | 78.1 | 6     | 18.8 | 1     | 3.1   |
| Mean ± std                     | 36.3 ± 25                          | 23.4 ± 20                      |
| Perception of occupation       | 15    | 45.5 | 11    | 33.3 | 7     | 21.2 | 24    | 75.0 | 8     | 25  | 0     | 0     |
| Mean ± std                     | 37.1 ± 30                          | 17.2 ± 21.5                    |
| Total Economic Pressure        | 17    | 51.5 | 14    | 42.4 | 2     | 6.1 | 27    | 84.4 | 5     | 15.6 | 0     | 0     |
| Mean ± std                     | 40.5 ± 16.7                      | 23.5 ± 13.9                    |
Husband-Wife Interaction

The husband and wife interaction variables are divided into six dimensions. The dimension that has the highest average in both the informal and formal groups is the dimension of love. The average index of the dimension of love in the informal working husband is 80.3, while in the formal group, it is 80.5. Based on Table 2, more than half of the informal working husbands and almost half of the formal working husbands are in the high love category. This means that the husband has been able to show his love for his partner well. It can be seen in informal working husbands (63.6%) and formal working husbands (65.6%) who admit that they often advise their wives when asked and often do not hesitate to show affection to their wives (informal= 48.5%; formal= 53.1%), and husbands of informal (48.5%) and formal (56.3%) workers who often deliberately take time to chat with their wives.

The dimension with the lowest average in the informal and formal groups is the submissive dimension. The average index in both the informal and formal groups is 64.4 and 59, respectively (Table 2). The highest percentage of submissive dimensions in the informal group lies in the low category (42.4%). This means that the acceptance or willingness of informal workers' husbands to follow the wishes of their wives is still low. Meanwhile, half of the formally working husbands are in the moderate category (Table 2). This means that the acceptance or willingness of a formal worker's husband to follow his wife's wishes is quite good.

The results of this study also show that for husband-wife interaction in total, two-thirds of informal working husbands and the majority of formal working husbands are in the moderate category (Table 2). The average index in the informal group is 71.8, while the index average for formal working husbands is 72.3.

| Dimension                  | Informal |                | Formal |                |
|----------------------------|----------|----------------|--------|----------------|
|                            | Low (<60) | Medium (60-80) | High (>80) | Low (<60) | Medium (60-80) | High (>80) |
|                            | n  | %  | n  | %  | N  | %  | n  | %  | n  | %  |
| Love                       | 3  | 9.1 | 11  | 33.3 | 19  | 57.6 | 2  | 6.3 | 15  | 46.9 | 15  | 46.9 |
| Mean ± std                 |     |     |     |     |     |      |     |     |     |      |     |      |
| Directing                  | 6  | 18.2 | 18  | 54.5 | 9  | 27.3 | 3  | 9.4 | 23  | 71.9 | 6  | 18.8 |
| Mean ± std                 |     |     |     |     |     |      |     |     |     |      |     |      |
| Not domineering            | 9  | 27.3 | 10  | 20.3 | 14  | 42.4 | 6  | 18.8 | 7  | 21.9 | 19  | 59.4 |
| Mean ± std                 |     |     |     |     |     |      |     |     |     |      |     |      |
| Not hostility               | 13 | 39.4 | 13  | 39.4 | 7  | 21.2 | 10  | 31.3 | 16  | 50  | 6  | 18.8 |
| Mean ± std                 |     |     |     |     |     |      |     |     |     |      |     |      |
| Submissive                  | 14 | 42.4 | 12  | 36.4 | 7  | 21.2 | 13  | 40.6 | 17  | 53.1 | 2  | 6.3 |
| Mean ± std                 |     |     |     |     |     |      |     |     |     |      |     |      |
| Respect                    | 5  | 15.2 | 20  | 60.6 | 8  | 24.2 | 6  | 18.8 | 17  | 53.1 | 9  | 28.1 |
| Mean ± std                 |     |     |     |     |     |      |     |     |     |      |     |      |
| Total Husband-Wife Interaction | 3  | 9.1 | 22  | 66.7 | 8  | 24.2 | 1  | 3.1 | 27  | 84.4 | 4  | 12.5 |
| Mean ± std                 |     |     |     |     |     |      |     |     |     |      |     |      |

Husband’s Marital Satisfaction

This study divides marital satisfaction into ten dimensions. The dimension with the highest average in both groups is the dimension of conflict resolution. The average index of conflict resolutions of husbands of informal and formal workers are 80.3 and 85.9, respectively (Table 3). In addition, the highest percentage of the informal working husband is in the medium category (66.7%), while the formal working husbands are in the high category (50%). The dimension with the lowest average in both the informal and formal groups is the dimension of personality problems. The average index of personality issues of husbands of informal and formal workers are 65.2 and 69.5, respectively (Table 3).

Based on Table 3, more than half of the husbands in both groups had total marital satisfaction in the moderate category. The average index in the informal group is 74, while the average index in the formal group is 76.4. Based on the p-value, there is no significant difference between the marital satisfaction of the husbands of informal and formal workers, both per dimension and in total.
Table 3 Distribution of husbands based on husband’s marital satisfaction and husband’s occupation

| Dimension                      | Informal Mean ± std | Low (<60) n % | Medium (60-80) n % | High (>80) n % | Formal Mean ± std | Low (<60) n % | Medium (60-80) n % | High (>80) n % |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Personal issues                |                     |               |                    |                |                   |               |                    |                |
| Mean ± std                     | 18                  | 34,5          | 10                 | 30,3           | 5                 | 15,2          | 12                 | 37,5           |
| Equalitarian roles             | 12                  | 36,4          | 12                 | 36,4           | 9                 | 27,3          | 4                  | 12,5           |
| Mean ± std                     | 71,2 ± 22,6         | 69,5 ± 17,7   | 76,6 ± 14,1        |                |                   |               |                    |                |
| Communication                  | 8                   | 24,2          | 20                 | 60,6           | 5                 | 15,2          | 5                  | 15,6           |
| Mean ± std                     | 72,7 ± 15,8         | 76,6 ± 15,5   |                    |                |                   |               |                    |                |
| Conflict resolutions           | 2                   | 6,1           | 22                 | 66,7           | 9                 | 27,3          | 2                  | 6,3            |
| Mean ± std                     | 80,3 ± 13,6         | 85,9 ± 15,5   |                    |                |                   |               |                    |                |
| Financial management           | 6                   | 18,2          | 20                 | 60,6           | 7                 | 21,2          | 4                  | 12,5           |
| Mean ± std                     | 75,8 ± 15,9         | 76,6 ± 14,1   |                    |                |                   |               |                    |                |
| Leisure activities             | 8                   | 24,2          | 15                 | 45,5           | 10                | 30,3          | 9                  | 28,1           |
| Mean ± std                     | 75 ± 22,5           | 71,9 ± 18,8   |                    |                |                   |               |                    |                |
| Sexual relationship            | 4                   | 12,1          | 20                 | 60,6           | 9                 | 27,3          | 3                  | 9,4            |
| Mean ± std                     | 75,4 ± 15,5         | 76,6 ± 17,9   |                    |                |                   |               |                    |                |
| Children and Parenting         | 9                   | 27,3          | 14                 | 42,4           | 10                | 30,3          | 5                  | 15,6           |
| Mean ± std                     | 75,8 ± 19,2         | 78,1 ± 16,5   |                    |                |                   |               |                    |                |
| Family and friend              | 9                   | 27,3          | 16                 | 48,5           | 8                 | 24,2          | 3                  | 9,4            |
| Mean ± std                     | 71,6 ± 17,2         | 74,6 ± 16     |                    |                |                   |               |                    |                |
| Religious orientation          | 6                   | 18,2          | 16                 | 48,5           | 11                | 33,3          | 4                  | 12,5           |
| Mean ± std                     | 78 ± 19,5           | 78,9 ± 15,7   |                    |                |                   |               |                    |                |
| Total marital satisfaction     | 3                   | 9,1           | 21                 | 63,6           | 9                 | 27,3          | 1                  | 3,1            |
| Mean ± std                     | 74 ± 12,1           | 76,4 ± 12     |                    |                |                   |               |                    |                |

Relationship between Economic Pressure, Husband-Wife Interaction, and Husband’s Marital Satisfaction

Pearson correlation analyses were conducted to analyze the relationship between economic pressure, husband-wife interaction, and husband’s marital satisfaction (Table 4). The results showed a significant negative relationship between economic pressure and marital satisfaction ($r = -0.294, p<0.05$). This means the lower the economic pressure experienced, the higher the husband’s marital satisfaction. Meanwhile, husband and wife interactions were found to have a significant positive relationship with the husband’s marital satisfaction ($r = 0.654, p<0.001$). That is, the higher the husband-wife interaction, the higher the husband’s marital satisfaction.

Table 4 Correlations between economic pressure, husband-wife interaction, and marital satisfaction

| Variable                  | Husband’s marital satisfaction | $R$  | $p$   |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------|-------|
| Economic pressure         |                               | -0.294 | 0.018*|
| Husband-wife interaction  |                               | 0.654 | 0.000**|

Notes: (* ) significant at $p \leq 0.05$ (** ) significant at $p <0.00$.

Influence of Economic Pressure and Husband-Wife Interaction on Husband’s Marital Satisfaction

Multiple regression was conducted to determine the best predictor for explaining a husband’s marital satisfaction. Table 5 shows the results of multiple regression analyses of the two independent variables, economic pressure and husband-wife interaction, against the dependent variable, which is the husband’s marital satisfaction. Based on the table, the overall model was significant, with an adjusted $R$ square of 0.437. This model explains 43.7 percent of the variance toward total husband’s marital satisfaction with $F = 25,789, p <0.001$. The results showed that interaction between husband and wife was a significant predictor of marital satisfaction. In addition, the result revealed that husband-wife interaction ($\beta = 0.632, p <0.001$) was found to have the strongest influence on the husband's marital satisfaction.
The main purpose of this study is to determine the relationship between economic pressure and husband-wife interaction with the husband's marital satisfaction. This research divides respondents into two occupational groups, informal and formal. Based on BPS (2021b), groups of informal and formal workers are distinguished based on their employment status. Meanwhile, Retnaningsih (2020) distinguishes formal and informal workers based on whether or not their income is fixed.

Economic pressure is family members' emotional, cognitive, and behavioral difficulties in managing family resources to meet family needs (Lorenz et al., 1991). According to Elder et al. (1992), economic pressure is measured by objective and subjective economic pressure. The results of this study indicate that half the husbands in the informal group are in the category of low economic pressure (objective, subjective, and total). Meanwhile, most formal working husbands have low objective economic pressures, and the majority have low subjective and total economic pressures. If it is associated with the average age of the respondents, both groups of husbands have an average age of 45. According to Sugarman (2005), income generally, in middle adulthood (45-50 years), a person is at the peak of his career, so the income obtained tends to be higher. In addition, the results on objective economic pressures show that almost three per four informal working husbands and most formal working husbands are in the non-poor category based on the West Java poverty line as of March 2021. Meanwhile, more than half of husbands in both groups admitted that they never found it difficult to meet children's needs, pay electricity per month, and never have to go into debt to meet material needs.

Husband-wife interaction is part of family interaction (Sunarti, 2021). Chuang (2005) describes husband-wife interaction as a reciprocal relationship between husband and wife. Based on the study results, most husbands in the informal and formal groups have husband-wife interactions that are in the moderate category. This is because husbands in both groups have been able to show their love well, convey their emotions well, and have been able to respect their partner's existence quite well. In addition, it is also caused by more than half of the husbands of informal and formal workers often respecting every opinion of their wives, helping their wives make decisions for themselves, and never reprimanding their wives in front of other families.

Marital satisfaction is an individual's subjective assessment of his marriage from a certain point of view (Rollins & Feldman, 1970). The results of this study indicate that about three out of five informal and formal working husbands have total marital satisfaction in the medium category. This is because about two out of five informal working husbands and more than half of formal working husbands are satisfied with how their spouses care for their children and agree to spend time praying together. In addition, three out of five informal working husbands agree to have discussions to solve problems, while half of the formal working husbands strongly agree.

The results revealed a significant negative relationship between economic pressure and the husband's marital satisfaction. The lower the economic pressure experienced, the higher the marital satisfaction. This finding is consistent with prior research indicating that changes in husbands' marital satisfaction are more influenced by work-related events such as retirement, unemployment, or a decrease in income (Rollins & Feldman, 1970). This is due to the instrumental function attached to the husband's role, thus making the husband more affected by economic pressures than the wife (Elder et al., 1992; Bales & Slater, 1955; McIntyre, 1966 in Kingsbury & Scanzoni, 1993). This is supported by the research of Dew and Jackson (2017), who also found that economic pressure was significantly negatively related to the husband's marital satisfaction.

### DISCUSSION

#### Table 5 Multiple regression analysis for husband’s marital satisfaction

| Variable             | Unstandardized coefficients (B) | Standardized coefficients (β) | Sig. |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|------|
| Constant             | 19.018                          | 0.050                          |      |
| Economic pressure    | -0.110                          | -0.163                         | 0.091|
| Husband-wife interaction | 0.828                           | 0.632                          | 0.000**|

F = 25.789  
Adjusted R Square = 0.437  
R Square = 0.434  

Notes: (*) significant at p<0.05 (**) significant at p<0.001

### DISCUSSION

The main purpose of this study is to determine the relationship between economic pressure and husband-wife interaction with the husband's marital satisfaction. This research divides respondents into two occupational groups, informal and formal. Based on BPS (2021b), groups of informal and formal workers are distinguished based on their employment status. Meanwhile, Retnaningsih (2020) distinguishes formal and informal workers based on whether or not their income is fixed.

Economic pressure is family members' emotional, cognitive, and behavioral difficulties in managing family resources to meet family needs (Lorenz et al., 1991). According to Elder et al. (1992), economic pressure is measured by objective and subjective economic pressure. The results of this study indicate that half the husbands in the informal group are in the category of low economic pressure (objective, subjective, and total). Meanwhile, most formal working husbands have low objective economic pressures, and the majority have low subjective and total economic pressures. If it is associated with the average age of the respondents, both groups of husbands have an average age of 45. According to Sugarman (2005), income generally, in middle adulthood (45-50 years), a person is at the peak of his career, so the income obtained tends to be higher. In addition, the results on objective economic pressures show that almost three per four informal working husbands and most formal working husbands are in the non-poor category based on the West Java poverty line as of March 2021. Meanwhile, more than half of husbands in both groups admitted that they never found it difficult to meet children's needs, pay electricity per month, and never have to go into debt to meet material needs.

Husband-wife interaction is part of family interaction (Sunarti, 2021). Chuang (2005) describes husband-wife interaction as a reciprocal relationship between husband and wife. Based on the study results, most husbands in the informal and formal groups have husband-wife interactions that are in the moderate category. This is because husbands in both groups have been able to show their love well, convey their emotions well, and have been able to respect their partner's existence quite well. In addition, it is also caused by more than half of the husbands of informal and formal workers often respecting every opinion of their wives, helping their wives make decisions for themselves, and never reprimanding their wives in front of other families.

Marital satisfaction is an individual's subjective assessment of his marriage from a certain point of view (Rollins & Feldman, 1970). The results of this study indicate that about three out of five informal and formal working husbands have total marital satisfaction in the medium category. This is because about two out of five informal working husbands and more than half of formal working husbands are satisfied with how their spouses care for their children and agree to spend time praying together. In addition, three out of five informal working husbands agree to have discussions to solve problems, while half of the formal working husbands strongly agree.

The results revealed a significant negative relationship between economic pressure and the husband's marital satisfaction. The lower the economic pressure experienced, the higher the marital satisfaction. This finding is consistent with prior research indicating that changes in husbands' marital satisfaction are more influenced by work-related events such as retirement, unemployment, or a decrease in income (Rollins & Feldman, 1970). This is due to the instrumental function attached to the husband's role, thus making the husband more affected by economic pressures than the wife (Elder et al., 1992; Bales & Slater, 1955; McIntyre, 1966 in Kingsbury & Scanzoni, 1993). This is supported by the research of Dew and Jackson (2017), who also found that economic pressure was significantly negatively related to the husband's marital satisfaction.
The findings also showed that husband-wife interaction has a significant positive relationship with the husband’s marital satisfaction. This means that the better the husband-wife interaction, the higher the marital satisfaction of the couple. This is in line with Sunarti (2021) opinion, who says that a good husband-wife interaction can increase satisfaction, happiness, and harmony in marriage and otherwise cause quarrels, conflicts, and even divorce.

The multiple regression results also demonstrated that husband-wife interaction is the most influential factor for the husband’s marital satisfaction. This finding is consistent with prior research indicating that the effect of economic pressure on marital satisfaction is determined by the quality of husband-wife interactions (Elder et al., 1992). It means that strong husband-wife interactions can reduce the negative impact of economic pressure on marital satisfaction. In addition, the more optimal the husband-wife interaction, the higher the marital satisfaction they have (Dewi, Puspitawati, & Krisnatuti, 2018 & Aspary et al., 2021). Herawati et al. (2018) also found that the quality of marriage can be improved by the quality of interactions within the family.

These results also support the symbolic interaction theory, which says that existing interactions form the family. When interaction occurs, there is an exchange of meanings or symbols that shape human behavior (Burgess, 1926 in LaRose & Reitzes, 1993). According to Chuang (2005), these behaviors can influence and complement each other to meet individual needs. Behavior that shows high warmth and low hostility between husband and wife shows good interaction, thus increasing marital quality (Elder et al., 1992). In addition, according to Gottman and Silver (2015), continuous positive interaction will prevent divorce.

The present study attempted to determine the relationship between economic pressure and husband-wife interaction with husband's marital satisfaction. However, several limitations should be highlighted and taken into consideration. First, research is conducted online, so information regarding the picture of reciprocity in husband-wife interactions is limited. Therefore, future studies are recommended to do research through interviews to obtain a complete picture of marital interaction. Second, the husband's limited ability to fill out questionnaires through the google form causes some husbands to find it difficult and take a long time to be able to solve it. Therefore, future studies should use paper and pencil-based questionnaires to make it easier for respondents. Last, the limitation of this research is the lack of distribution of the husband's demographic character, and the use of non-probability sampling techniques makes the results of this study cannot be generalized to the population. Therefore, future research is recommended to use probability sampling techniques.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

In conclusion, the present study contributes to the body of knowledge by enhancing our understanding of the relationship between economic pressure and husband-wife interaction with husband's marital satisfaction. This study shows that most husbands in the formal group are in the low category of economic pressure, while only half of the informal working husbands are in that category. On the variables of husband-wife interaction and marital satisfaction, most husbands in both groups were in the medium category. The relationship test results show that the lower the economic pressure and the higher the husband-wife interaction, the higher the marital satisfaction of the husband. Based on the multiple regression test, husband-wife interaction is the strongest predictor for husband's marital satisfaction. It means that high and low marital satisfaction is more determined by the quality of husband-wife interactions. Therefore, better husband-wife interaction will lead to higher husband's marital satisfaction.

This study has both theoretical and practical implications. These empirical findings are consistent with the Symbolic Interaction Theory, which emphasizes families are formed from interactions. Therefore, interaction plays a role in determining the unity of the family. The results of this study indicate that a well-established husband-wife interaction can reduce the negative impact of economic pressure on a husband's marital satisfaction. Practically, the results of this study have implications for spouses, who expected to build strategies to improve the quality of husband-wife interactions. For example, spouses should try to express the problems or disagreements they feel, listen to their partner's opinions well, and try to manage emotions. For the government and stakeholders, this research is expected to be a material consideration for developing strategies to reduce divorce rates by improving the quality of husband and wife interactions. The strategies can be providing emotional management training and positive communication for couples, especially husbands, so interactions between partners can be improved. The training can be carried out in collaboration with the sub-district government through community leaders or local male-dominated community organizations such as youth organizations. In addition, the government can also cooperate with various companies and professional organizations at various levels. Last, for further research, it is
recommended to add other variables such as communication style, emotional maturity, and conflict management in couples.

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