THE INFLUENCE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ON TAX AGGRESSIVENESS

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ABSTRACT

The most significant state revenue in Indonesia comes from tax revenues, with a self-assessment system. According to some previous studies, the system can be a factor in not achieving the tax revenue target. For companies, tax collection is considered a burden that reduces profits; this is why companies carry out tax aggressiveness as a strategy in tax planning. Tax aggressiveness is one of the factors hindering state tax revenues. This study aimed to analyze the effect of Corporate Governance and Corporate Social Responsibility on tax aggressiveness. The population in this study is a service company in the property sector, real estate, and construction services listed in the Indonesia Stock Exchange. The results of this study found that: 1. The Audit Committee has a significant influence on Tax Aggressiveness. 2. Independent Commissioner has no significant effect on Tax Aggressiveness. 3. Corporate Social Responsibility has a significant effect on Tax Aggressiveness. 4. The Audit Committee and the Independent Commissioner of Corporate Social Responsibility together significantly affect the aggressiveness of Taxation.

Keywords: tax aggressiveness, corporate governance, corporate social responsibility

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INTRODUCTION

The most significant state revenue in Indonesia comes from tax revenues, with a self-assessment system. Friskianti & Handayani (2014) stated that the system could be a factor in not achieving the tax revenue target. The role of taxes is significant so that the government makes efforts in collecting taxes and the participation of taxpayers who comply with their obligations in paying taxes. It can be seen from Figure 1 in which tax revenue is increased in recent years, will be but it has yet to reach the set targets.
Darmawan & Sukartha (2014) argue that tax collection is not always well received, especially by companies, because it is considered a burden that reduces profits. It is the reason for companies to carry out tax aggressiveness as a strategy in tax planning. Tax aggressiveness is one of the factors hindering state tax revenue (Anggadinata & Cahyaningsih, 2020). Lanis and Richardson (2013), as cited by Gunawan (2017), explain that managerial actions designed to minimize corporate taxes through aggressive tax activities are becoming an increasingly common strategy carried out by companies worldwide.

Based on the results of previous studies, several factors affect tax aggressiveness. Luke & Zulaikha (2016) found that the factors affecting the tax aggressiveness among other corporate social responsibility (CSR), Return on Asset (ROA), Intensity supply, and size. Meanwhile, Yunistiyan & Tahar (2017) prove that CSR and financial reporting aggressiveness positively affect tax aggressiveness. However, the board of commissioners and audit committee as proxies for good corporate governance do not affect tax aggressiveness. Research by Indrajati.W et al. (2017) found that liquidity does not affect the aggressiveness of the tax.

In contrast, leverage and capital intensity had a significant adverse effect on the aggressiveness of the tax. Still, independent commissary does not have a significant negative impact on the aggressiveness of tax. Gunawan (2017) proves that CSR has a substantial effect on tax aggressiveness. The wider the disclosure of CSR, the company tends to be more aggressive towards taxes, while corporate governance (CG) has no significant effect on tax aggressiveness. Maulana (2020) concludes that capital intensity, profitability, and inventory intensity positively affect tax aggressiveness. However, leverage and firm size do not affect tax aggressiveness. Jaffar et al. (2021) concluded that the company's size, plant property investment, equipment and inventory, influence, and commissioner intensity do not determine the tax's aggressiveness. This study chose the audit committee and independent directors as a proxy for good corporate governance and corporate social responsibility as variable determinants of aggressiveness taxes. The company fulfills CSR obligations to cover up its image so that it only looks good and gets support from the community and the environment. The greater the CSR disclosure, the higher the tax aggressiveness actions taken by the company (Yunistiyan & Tahar, 2017).

On the one hand, the company can minimize its tax burden. Still, on the other hand, this action is a public concern that can create negative perceptions and affect the company's good name. It can even affect the company's sustainability in the future. In addition, the company has obligations regarding corporate social responsibility, which will negatively impact it if it is not carried out according to

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**Figure 1.**

Realization of State Revenue 2014-2018

Source: Ministry of Finance (2018)
community expectations. The implementation of CSR is a form of the company's participation and attention to improving the welfare of the wider community, which positively impacts the company's survival.

This tax aggressiveness can be controlled through corporate governance. Corporate governance encourages adherence to the company as a taxpayer to run the tax obligation (Hidayati & Fidiana, 2017). Seprini (2016) states that the size of the board of commissioners and the audit committee significantly affects tax aggressiveness. Their responsibilities can also support the success of the Corporate Government as a social company (Corporate Social Responsibility). Gunawan (2017) states that applying corporate governance principles can reduce aggressive tax actions that are believed to limit management's space. Corporate governance can reduce the opportunistic actions of managers in maximizing their interests. If the company does CSR, the company helps the state improve the community's welfare and carry out sustainable development that benefits everyone (Luke & Zulaikha, 2016). Sagala (2015), as quoted by Luke & Zulaikha (2016), said that companies increasingly concerned about CSR's importance would be increasingly aware of the importance of taxes for the community and the state where taxes make a significant contribution to state revenue. Zeng (2012) and Watson (2015), cited by Mahdi et al. (2018), concluded that the higher the level of corporate social responsibility disclosure of a company, the lower the level of corporate tax aggressiveness. The purpose of this study was to test the effect of government and Corporate Social Corporate Responsibility against tax aggressiveness either partially or simultaneously.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Agency Theory (Agency Theory)

Agency theory explains the conflict that will arise between the owner and management of the company (Jensen & Meckling, 1976 cited by Maulana, 2020). The existence of separation between owners and management of the company can cause problems. Tax aggressiveness is influenced by conflicts of interest between agents (management) and claims that arise when each party tries to achieve or maintain the level of prosperity it wants. Companies that do taxes aggressivity will undoubtedly be affected by the measures taken by the management company to build the image of a good company and make maximum profit achievement. The company owner (investors) wants no taxes aggressivity because they manipulate the financial statement data.

Tax Aggressiveness

Tax aggressiveness is an activity or action that aims to reduce the company's taxable income both actively and illegally to reduce the tax burden so that the company's profits are optimal (Novit Asari, Ratnawati, & Silfi, 2017, as cited by Maulana, 2020).

Anggadinata & Cahyaningsih (2020) define taxes aggressivity as an action taken by the taxpayer by way of action activities, both legal (tax avoidance) or illegal (tax evasions). Action aggressiveness taxes done by way of tax planning company through tax avoidance activity (evasion of taxes) is the manipulation of earnings is legal still following the legislation rules by using Effective Tax Rate (ETR) as a proxy that used most widely used in the literature to measure the aggressiveness of tax. Tax aggressiveness is something that big companies often do. The company carries out this action to minimize the taxable amount obtained by the company. ETR can be formulated as follows:
Effective Tax Rate (ETR) = \frac{\text{Income tax expense}}{\text{Profit before tax}}

**Corporate Social Responsibility**

Rudito & Famiola (2013) explain that *corporate social responsibility* is necessary for corporations to interact with the community. To obtain the social benefits of this relationship, corporate need to adapt to build trust. *Corporate social responsibility* can be the company's responsibility to the community (social) outside of economic responsibility. Meaning the activities carried out by the company as a form of socialization in the company environment are not taken into account how the as a form of contribution to the company's operational activities to get a good image from the profit or loss will be obtained by the company (Panggabean, 2018). Handayani et al. (2018) stated that in this case, corporate social responsibility is a form of reciprocity to the surrounding community district. Corporate Social Responsibility has a positive effect on tax aggressiveness. The company fulfills CSR obligations to cover up its appearance so that it only looks good and gets support from the community and the environment. The greater the CSR disclosure, the higher the tax aggressiveness actions taken by the company.

**Corporate Governance**

According to the National Committee on Governance (NCG), corporate governance is closely related to trust to companies that execute them or the business climate. Asward & Lina (2015) state that corporate governance is an essential and dynamic aspect in the business world in every country. Understanding of corporate governance practices continues to evolve from time to time. However, the number of tax avoidance companies proves that public companies in Indonesia (Maharani & Suardana, 2014).

This study wants to examine the effect of Corporate Governance proxied by the Audit Committee (X₁) and Independent Commissioner (X₂) and Corporate Social Responsibility (X₃) on Tax Aggressiveness (Y) with Tax Incentives as moderating (Xₘ), which can be seen in Figure 2 below:

**Corporate governance and tax aggressiveness**

One factor influencing tax aggressiveness is corporate governance, and companies considered taxes as a burden. If the tax paid is high, then the company suffers a loss. This condition causes companies to carry out tax aggressiveness as one of the actions taken to reduce their tax burden. Susanto et al. (2018) stated that many companies still minimize tax payments by taking tax aggressiveness. For corporate taxpayers, tax aggressiveness will provide significant benefits if done correctly. The existence of *corporate governance* can be a motivation that encourages
companies to do tax aggressiveness. Seprini (2016) states that the size of the board of commissioners and the audit committee significantly affects tax aggressiveness.

a. Audit Committee and Tax Aggressiveness
Susanto et al. (2018) state that corporate governance can motivate companies to carry out tax aggressiveness. One of the corporate governance mechanisms in supervising the company is the audit committee. According to Rengganis & Putri (2018), tax aggressiveness can be minimized if audit committees increase. Conversely, if the number of audit committees in the company is small, the tax aggressiveness will increase.

In agency theory, it is said that when someone employs another person to delegate decision-making authority to the agent, the goal between the agent and the principal is to increase the value of the company through the prosperity of shareholders (Wongso, 2013). Thus the agent must manage the company as instructed by the principal (Atami, 2017).

Ginting & Suryani (2018) and Seprini (2016) show that the audit committee significantly affects tax aggressiveness. So the higher the audit committee in the company, the higher the tax aggressiveness of the company. Based on this description, the hypotheses used are:

\[ H_1: \] The audit committee affects tax aggressiveness

b. Independent Commissioner on Tax Aggressiveness
Several factors can influence tax aggressiveness, one of which is the proportion of independent commissioners (Wahyuni, 2018). Ayu (2017) states that an independent board of commissioners can provide instructions and directions for managing the company and formulating a better corporate strategy, including determining policies regarding corporate taxes owed. In agency theory, this can lead to agency conflicts when company managers maximize their profits (Gunawan, 2017). The principle of transparency is needed to be able to make decisions together. It means that companies tend to avoid actions that risk-reducing the company's value (Wijayanti, Wijayanti, & Chomsatu, 2017).

Suyanto & Supramono (2012) state that management is often opportunistic. They have a motive to maximize net income to increase bonuses by emphasizing costs, including taxes, to encourage managers to be aggressive towards taxes. With the number of independent commissioners in the company, corporate tax aggressiveness will be lower (Astrianti & Triyanto, 2018).

Ginting & Suryani (2018) and Fahrian & Priyadi (2016) show that independent commissioners affect tax aggressiveness. So that the higher the level of independent commissioners, the higher the level of tax aggressiveness in the company. Anggadinata & Cahyaningsih (2020) proved that the independent commissioner had a negative effect against aggressive tax. Based on this description, the hypotheses used are:

\[ H_2: \] Independent commissioners affect tax aggressiveness

c. Corporate Social Responsibility and Tax Aggressiveness
Companies that run aggressive tax strategies will not account for their society to the public. The company's policy to reduce its tax obligations legally is influenced by the attitude towards CSR. (Lanis and Richardson, 2012 as cited by Mahdi et al., 2018). In addition to the company's responsibility to shareholders, the company must also pay attention to the community's interests, government, consumers, suppliers, analysts. One form of the company's attention to stakeholders is to obey paying taxes
to the government without taking tax aggressiveness (Mahdi et al., 2018). Yunistiyan & Tahar (2017) prove that Corporate Social Responsibility has a positive effect on tax aggressiveness. The company fulfills CSR obligations to cover up its image so that it only looks good and gets support from the community and the environment. The greater the CSR disclosure, the higher the tax aggressiveness actions taken by the company.

Sholihin, Harnovinsah, & Aulia (2018) explain that based on legitimacy theory, the disclosure of corporate social responsibility aims to show the public the social activities carried out by companies and their effects on society. The ultimate goal of the disclosure is to support the main objective of obtaining maximum profit and, with this legitimacy, to increase the company's reputation, which will further affect the value of the company. Gunawan (2017) and Seprini (2016) found that corporate social responsibility has a significant and significant effect on tax aggressiveness. The wider the disclosure of corporate social responsibility, the company tends to be more aggressive towards taxes. According to the description above, the Hypothesis is:

H₃: Corporate social responsibility affects tax aggressiveness

d. Corporate Governance, Corporate Social Responsibility, and Tax Aggressiveness

The company's success can be supported by good corporate governance and social responsibility implemented by the company. Iqbal & Putra (2018) states the development of the company. It will increase social inequality and environmental damage increasingly high due to the uncontrolled exploitation of the company to a variety of resources to increase profits to disturb the balance of life. Thus, the necessary corporate governance and corporate social responsibility to minimize the company's negative impact and for the sake of building a formidable and sustainable company. However, with a growing company, the company will do things by maintaining large profits and planning the company's costs. Research on corporate governance and corporate social responsibility examined by Seprini (2016) shows that corporate governance as proxied by the audit committee has a significant effect on tax aggressiveness and corporate social responsibility. It also affects tax aggressiveness. Meanwhile, Simorangkir et al. (2018) show that corporate social responsibility and independent commissioners harm tax aggressiveness. Based on the description above, the Hypothesis used is:

H₄: corporate social responsibility and corporate governance affect tax aggressiveness

RESEARCH METHODS

The population in this research is a service company with the property sector, real estate, and listed building construction, and the financial reports published by the Indonesia Stock Exchange (ISE). The population at the property sector services company, real estate, and construction of as many as 64 companies. There are considerations made in this study, namely choosing a company listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange with the following criteria:

1. Company services with the property sector, real estate, and construction of buildings listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange from 2015-2017.
2. Publish annual financial reports for three years in a row, namely 2015-2017.
3. The published financial statements have been audited and use the rupiah value unit in the financial statements.
4. Financial statements provide complete data related to the variables to be studied.
5. The company is not in a state of loss.
Based on the above criteria, then the sample was selected by 14 companies for a total observation for three years, so the total sample in this study was 42 samples at a service company with the property sector, real estate, and construction of buildings listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange (ISE) in the period 2015-2017. The following are the names of real estate sub-sector service companies that have met the criteria:

| NO | KODE | NAMA                                           |
|----|------|------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | APLN | PT Agung Podomoro Land Tbk                     |
| 2  | ASRI | PT Alam Sutera Reality Tbk                     |
| 3  | BEST | PT Bekasi Fajar Industrial Estate Tbk           |
| 4  | CTRA | PT Ciputra Development Tbk                     |
| 5  | GPRG | PT Perdana Gapuraprma Tbk                      |
| 6  | GWSA | PT Grenwood Sejahtera Tbk                      |
| 7  | IDPR | PT Indonesia Pondasi Raya Tbk                  |
| 8  | JRTY | PT Jaya Real Properti Tbk                      |
| 9  | LPRG | PT Lippo Karawaci Tbk                          |
| 10 | MDLN | PT Modernland Realty Tbk                       |
| 11 | PPRO | PT PP Properti Tbk                             |
| 12 | PTPP | PT PP Persero Tbk                              |
| 13 | SMRA | PT Summarecon Agung Tbk                        |
| 14 | WSKT | PT Waskita Karya (Persero) Tbk                  |

Multiple linear regression analysis was used to test the effect of variable independent of a variable dependent. The test model in this study is stated in the equation below:

\[ Y = \alpha + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + e \]

Information:
- \( Y \) = Tax Aggressiveness
- \( \alpha \) = Constant
- \( \beta_1 \) = regression coefficient variable k Committee of the audit
- \( \beta_2 \) = Regression coefficient of independent commissioner variable
- \( \beta_3 \) = Corporate social responsibility variable regression coefficient
- \( X_1 \) = Audit committee
- \( X_2 \) = Independent Commissioner
- \( X_3 \) = Corporate social responsibility
- \( E \) = Error

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

a). Coefficient of Determination Test (R^2)

This test is used to measure how far the model can explain the dependent variable's variation. The following are the results of the analysis of the coefficient of determination:

| Model | R   | R Square | Adjusted R Square |
|-------|-----|----------|-------------------|
| 1     | .633a | .400     | .353              |

a. Predictors: (Constant), CSR, Independent Commissioner, Audit Committee
From table 2 above, it is known the influence of CSR, independent commissioners, and audit committees on tax aggressiveness is expressed by the R-Square value, which is 0.400 or 40%. It means that 40% of the tax aggressiveness variable can be explained by the Audit Committee, Independent Commissioner, and Corporate Social Responsibility variables. In comparison, the remaining 60% is explained by other variables or factors not included in this study.

b). Analysis of Multiple Regression

The results of multiple regression analysis show the results as shown in table 3 below:

Table 3.
Multiple Linear Regression Model

| Coefficients | Unstandardized Coefficients | Standardized Coefficients |
|--------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
|              | B                           | Std. Error                 | Beta       |
| 1 (Constant) | -388.721                    | 136.636                    |            |
| Audit Committee (AC) | 109.044 | 36.680 | .393 |
| Independent Commissioner (IC) | .189 | .149 | .165 |
| CSR         | .333                        | .109                       | .400       |

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Based on table 3, the values in the output are then entered into the multiple linear regression equation as follows:

Tax Aggressiveness (Y) = (388,721) + 109.044 KA + 0.189 KI + 0.333 CSR + e

c). Hypothesis testing

T-test results (partial).

The results of this test can be seen in Table 4 below:

Table 4.
T-Test Results (Partial Test)

| Coefficients | Unstandardized Coefficients | T    | Sig. |
|--------------|-----------------------------|------|------|
|              | B                           | Std. Error |    |
| 1 (Constant) | -388.721                    | 136.636 | -2.845 | .007 |
| Audit Committee (AC) | 109.044 | 36.680 | 2.973 | .005 |
| Independent Commissioner (IC) | .189 | .149 | 1.265 | .214 |
| CSR         | .333                        | .109                       | 3.055       | .004 |

Based on table 4, it can be seen that the Effect of the Audit Committee on Tax Aggressiveness

528
The result is that the significance value is 0.005 < 0.05, so it can be concluded that hypothesis 1 is accepted. Based on the calculation t arithmetic and t table, the obtained results of t are equal to 2.973 and t table of 1.6879. It can be concluded t > t table (2.973 > 1.6879) that Ho is rejected, and Ha accepted means there is a significant variable Committee on Tax Aggressiveness. It is in line with the research results by Ginting & Suryani (2018) and Seprini (2016), which state that the audit committee has a significant effect on tax aggressiveness. So the higher the audit committee in the company, the higher the tax aggressiveness of the company. 

For hypothesis 2, the result is that the significance value is 0.214 > 0.05, meaning that hypothesis 2 is rejected. It means that the Independent Commissioner variable has no significant effect on Tax Aggressiveness. Meanwhile, based on the t-count and t-table calculations, the results of the t-count are 1.265 and t-table 1.6879. It can be concluded that t-count < t-table (1.265 < 1.6879), namely Ho is accepted and Ha is rejected, meaning that there is no significant effect. Independent Commissioner on Tax Aggressiveness. The results of this hypothesis test indicate that the proportion of independent commissioners does not affect tax aggressiveness. It means that the Hypothesis is not supported or contradicts the results of research by Ginting & Suryani (2018) and Fahriani & Priyadi (2016), which state that the higher the level of independent commissioners, the higher the level of tax aggressiveness in the company. While this study result shows the opposite where the Independent Commissioner in the company has not been able to carry out oversight functions properly according to the rules of the legislation and the lack of control over the employees, making it easy to aggressive.

For hypothesis 3, the result is that the significance value is 0.004 < 0.05. So it can be concluded that hypothesis 3 is accepted, which means that the Corporate Social Responsibility variable has a significant effect on Tax Aggressiveness. Based on the t-count and t-table calculations, the researchers obtained the t-count results of 3.055 and t-table 1.6879, so it was concluded that t-count > t-table (3.055 > 1.6879), namely Ho was rejected, and Ha was accepted. It means that there was a significant influence on Corporate Social Responsibility for Tax Aggressiveness. It is in line with Seprini's (2016) research that corporate governance as proxied by the audit committee has a significant effect on tax aggressiveness and corporate social responsibility. It also affects tax aggressiveness. Meanwhile, Simorangkir et al. (2018) show that corporate social responsibility and independent commissioners harm tax aggressiveness.

**F Test Results (Simultaneous)**

The results of the f statistic test in this study produced the following data:

| Model          | Df | Mean Square | F     | Sig. |
|----------------|----|-------------|-------|------|
| 1 Regression   | 3  | 49159.603   | 8.453 | .000 |
| Residual       | 38 | 5815.362    |       |      |
| Total          | 41 |             |       |      |

a. Dependent Variable: ETR

b. Predictors: (Constant), CSR, Independent Commissioner, Audit Committee

In table 5, the ANOVA output shows that the F statistical test results obtained a significance value of 0.000, smaller than 0.05. Based on the arithmetic f and f table calculation, the researchers got results to count equal to 8.453 f and f table for 2, 1.6879.
Then it is concluded that $f$ arithmetic is more significant than $f$ table ($8.453 > 2.85$), namely $H_0$ is rejected and $H_a$ is accepted. That means that the Audit Committee, Independent Commissioner, and Corporate Social Responsibility simultaneously have a significant effect on Tax Aggressiveness.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on the results of data analysis and discussions that have been carried out, the conclusions of this research are as follows: A significant effect was found on the aggressiveness of the Tax Committee. In property sector services companies, real estate, and construction, the Audit Committee significantly influences aggressiveness. Higher taxes or lower audit committees of a company affect the aggressiveness of Taxes conducted by the company. It is in line with the research results by Ginting & Suryani (2018) and Seprini (2016), which state that the audit committee has a significant effect on tax aggressiveness. It means the higher the audit committee in the company, the more likely it is to increase the tax aggressiveness of the company. There is no significant effect of Independent Commissioner on Tax Aggressiveness. The results of this hypothesis test indicate that the proportion of independent commissioners does not affect tax aggressiveness. Therefore, the Independent Commissioner level in the property sector services company, real estate, and construction have an influence negative against the aggressiveness of tax. It also means when the Independent Commissioner has increased, the aggressiveness of tax would be decreased. It means that the Hypothesis is not supported or contradicts the results of research by Ginting & Suryani (2018) and Fahriani & Priyadi (2016), which state that the higher the level of independent commissioners, the higher the level of tax aggressiveness in the company.

In contrast, the result of this study shows the opposite, where the Independent Commissioner in the company has not been able to carry out oversight functions properly according to the rules of the legislation and the lack of control over the employees, making it easy to aggressive. Independent Commissioner has no significant effect on Tax Aggressiveness. For companies with a high level of Independent Commissioner, then the proper tax planning will be achieved. **Corporate Social Responsibility** has a significant effect on Tax Aggressiveness. In property sector services companies, real estate, and building construction, CSR considerably influences tax aggressiveness. It indicates that the higher or lower levels of CSR in the company's effect on the aggressiveness of Taxes conducted by the company. Seprini's (2016) research also states that corporate governance proxied by the audit committee significantly affects tax aggressiveness, and CSR affects tax aggressiveness. Meanwhile, Simorangkir et al. (2018) show that corporate social responsibility and independent commissioners harm tax aggressiveness. The Audit Committee, Independent Commissioner, and Corporate Social Responsibility together or simultaneously significantly influence Tax Aggressiveness. It is following Seprini's (2016) research, who found that **corporate governance**. It also proxied by the audit committee significant effect on the aggressiveness of the tax. And corporate social responsibility also affects tax aggressiveness. The results of this study are also in line with the results of research by Simorangkir et al. (2018), which concluded that corporate social responsibility and independent commissioners negatively affect tax aggressiveness. The company's success can be supported by good corporate governance and social responsibility implemented by the company.

**SUGGESTION**
The results of this study indicate that the Audit Committee and Corporate Social Responsibility have a significant influence on Tax Aggressiveness. In contrast, the Independent Commissioner does not influence Tax Aggressiveness. Based on the results obtained, it is expected that the company can evaluate or reconsider carrying out Tax Aggressiveness. The company can be controlled by managers and shareholders, both of which are interconnected to obtain the goal, namely the achievement of profits that can add value to the company. Then the role of corporate governance in the company becomes a role that can separate personal interests so that no party feels disadvantaged. The company's activity is also expected to reflect a good company, which does not have a destructive impact on the surrounding environment so that enterprises running social responsibility for her.

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