Marginalization socio farm laborers due to conversion of agriculture land

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Abstract: This study aims to determine the impact of marginalization due to the Conversion of agricultural land in Ngringo Village and the multiple livelihood strategies farmworkers use for daily survival. This study uses phenomenology to investigate socio-economic marginalization caused by land conversion to farmworkers. Field data were collected by interview and analysis of the actions taken by the informants in their daily lives. The main reason for using a phenomenological approach in this study is the unique lifestyle of farmworkers in Ngringo Village. This study shows that the initial problem due to land conversion is economic difficulties, which causes landowners to sell their agricultural land to cover all the necessities of life and their children’s education costs. In addition, the narrower the farmland to be cultivated, the more excellent the opportunity for farmers to work outside the agricultural sector; One of them is a construction worker. With such conditions, farm labourers continue to work on agricultural land that has changed ownership to become a company or factory because of the consequences. They may lose their livelihood because the land is used to build factories and industries. Another way to survive is to work as a srabutan. This phenomenon is a form of economic morality owned by farmworkers in Ngringo Village.

Subjects: Sociology & Social Policy; Sociology of Work & Industry; Rural Development

Keywords: Marginalization; land conversion; farm labourers; poverty

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PUBLIC INTEREST STATEMENT

The impact of land conversion affects the existence of farmers who are increasingly difficult to get a source of livelihood from agricultural land. It disrupts the economic resources of the farming community. Land conversion causes a shift in the livelihoods of farming communities from agriculture to outside the agricultural sector and has implications for the limitations of meeting the needs of daily life so that it will lead to poverty. In addition, the land conversion also affects the social structure of the farming community in Ngringo Village, which was previously a traditional village into a modern village.
1. Introduction

Marginalization of farmworkers in the village of Ngringo because of the increasingly small land being processed as a living source. Farmers have to do various strategies to meet the household’s needs. Farm Laborers who previously relied on primary income by cultivating agricultural land should shift out of the ground due to the sale and purchase transactions with the owners of capital. Farm labourers as marginalized groups think to get other livelihoods such as farm labourers, factory workers, and trade and develop other businesses outside the agricultural sector to cover the needs (Suasti et al., 2019). The problem of shifting the work of the peasants is not only based on their exit from the farming industry, but they have to deal with the higher labour force. Factors of expertise and experience make non-agricultural employment more difficult for farm workers. Work patterns of srabutan, srabutan increasingly become an option or alternative for farm labourers; this condition seems to agree that their position is marginal.

The problems faced by many countries globally are global climate change, world food and energy crisis, food and energy prices are rising, so that the countries that initially become food exporters tend to keep their products into food stock (Van Lier et al., 2000). Global conditions are also happening in Indonesia, so it takes effort to secure production and increase national food stock. Other national strategic issues are the high rate of population growth, the high rate of land conversion, the limited agricultural infrastructure and the rice-dependent population pattern (Sulistyowati et al., 2019).

In Indonesia, work as a farmer is a pattern of work that depends on nature and capital. They have a dependence on the land (sawah) and reliance on natural situations such as the rainy and hot seasons. The government makes many efforts to maintain the type of work as farmers by providing various subsidies and development of resources; the goal is to keep the existence and fulfilment of needs agricultural products. The results of previous research, Umanailo shows the development of industrial development causing the pattern of work and livelihoods of Ngringo villagers to shift, where work at that time was dominated by off-farm employment as a consequence of increasing types of work other than farming (Kanto et al., 2020; Mu’adi et al., 2020). Lipton (2010) Farmland is also shifting from the smallest size-groups in middle-income countries such as Brazil, Turkey, and Uruguay, and some advanced areas of India and China. Later development reduces rural labour (including family-farmer) supply and increases capital availability (Lipton, 2010). Wang studied the impacts of urbanization and socio-economic development on agriculture and rural communities in China. Some researchers investigated current land-use policies and drivers for land-use changes and the policy changes that resulted from these policies. They were particularly interested in converting land to non-agricultural uses and the impacts of endogenous socio-ecological forces or exogenous socio-economic factors on land-use transitions (Wang et al., 2018).

In a phenomenological study that has been done, researchers describe the condition of society that focused on Farm Laborers as a group of marginalized groups due to land conversion and modernization. Shifting work that causes a person to change from agricultural to non-agricultural, this study will be further developed about the pattern of a double income conducted by Farm Laborers to meet the needs of everyday life.

The choice for farm labourers, this condition seems to approve the position of peasants remain at marginalized levels. At the risk of modernization, it will be studied further about the multiple livelihood patterns undertaken by farm labourers to meet their daily needs (Loh & Agyeman, 2019). They are no longer dependent on reduced agricultural land due to the various developments (Kopacz et al., 2018). Furthermore, this study attempts to examine the socio-economic marginalization phenomenon of the community due to land conversion in Ngringo Village. The implications of this study give rise to a mix of concepts and theories of rural communities, which are considered strong in the influence of patrons, simple lifestyles, and they have limited ability to act. In this study, it appears that they are very complementary, as revealed by rational choice theory and have implications for those
who have no resources. The practical significance is that local governments can use this study as a basis for planning for village development whose people have an urban character.

2. Materials and methods

The research method used is a qualitative model with a phenomenological approach because it views human behaviour, what they say, and what they do as a product of how people interpret their world (Collins & Stockton, 2018; Creswell, 2007). The reason for choosing Ngringo village as the research location is because researchers are interested in the condition of farmworkers who are increasingly under pressure due to land conversion and labour competition. However, the farmworkers were still able to survive.

This qualitative research study uses interviews, focus group discussions, surveys, documentation, and observations to study the experiences of community members (Maxwell & Reybold, 2015). In determining the informants, the author uses “The purposive sampling method is a research method with deliberate sampling following the requirements”. The criteria for informants that the researcher deems appropriate to study this research include: People who used to be farmers have changed professions (not farmers); People who used to be farmers are now farmers and have other professions/jobs; People who still survive become farmers and farm labourers. In-depth individual interviews were conducted with key informants, such as community leaders, farm-workers, landowners, government officials, practitioners, managers, policymakers (Gill, 2020; Marshall, 1996; Qu & Dumay, 2011). The determination of informants was carried out by researchers using the criteria mentioned above.

The data collection technique used in this research is observation. Generally, farm labourers in Ngringo village start their work at 06.00 and end in the afternoon, so to observe the activities carried out, researchers try to adjust to the habits that have been carried out. In addition to observation, researchers also used interview and discussion techniques. The first approach is to approach the community or community leaders in Ngringo Village who are considered the most well known. The open characteristics of the Ngringo community will make it easier for researchers to get information about Farm Workers who can be used as informants. The advantage of the method used is that it has a sensitivity to see every symptom in the object of research (social situations), can explore data sources with participant observation and in-depth interviews and communicates research results to the broader community.

3. Results

This research has generated a general description of farm labourers in Ngringo village that have been marginalized due to economic pressures and speculation in economic activity for profit. Following the employment data in Ngringo village, the data showed a decline in agricultural employment.

Data Table 1 presents an overview of the decline in agricultural workers; from 1995 to 2015, the drop of peasants to 300 people or every year reduced by 30 people. As for farmers, the fall from 1995–2018 reached 143 people or loyal year decreased 14.3 people. For non-agricultural workers, the increase occurred in some sectors; industrial workers in 1980 amounted to 2300 people, by 2018 has reached 8564, an increase comes 300%. Employment as an employer increased from 1985–2018 to 1.5 people every year.

Land is an increasingly limited natural resource. Land as agricultural land is one of the essential supporting tools in agriculture compared to other supporting factors of agricultural production; agricultural land in Ngringo village continues to experience a reduction from year to year. Removal of agricultural land selling process conducted by Ngringo community to industrial developers.

Table 2 illustrates the causal factors of Marginalization that are divided into internal and external. Internal factors explain the fulfilment of needs, while external factors explain the land
| Types of work     | 1979 | 1980 | 1985 | 1990 | 1995 | 2000 | 2012 | 2018 |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Farmer           | 224  | 220  | 263  | 310  | 152  | 112  | 32   | 9    |
| Farm Laborer     | 357  | 354  | 290  | 321  | 287  | 210  | 47   | 21   |
| Industry Laborer | 1480 | 2300 | 4160 | 4163 | 4182 | 7923 | 8283 | 8564 |
| Construction laborer | 877  | 927  | 962  | 649  | 630  | 630  | 270  | 279  |
| Seller           | 97   | 176  | 230  | 492  | 566  | 422  | 301  | 321  |
| Driver           | 91   | 92   | 438  | 57   | 57   | 57   | 136  | 139  |
| Civil Cervant    | 1754 | 1941 | 2400 | 1583 | 1524 | 1891 | 2005 | 2026 |
| retire           | 17   | 223  | 429  | 553  | 639  | 799  | 873  | 893  |
| Businessman      | 49   | 45   | 288  | 298  | 293  | 293  | 318  | 318  |

Source: Ngringo Village Monograph, 2019.
Table 2. Causal element of marginalization

| Description | Cause | Purpose |
|-------------|------|---------|
| (1) Sale of land: Condition of agriculture | Internal demand of Irrigation contamination | Help children who have not gotten the job, the inheritance earned then sold for daily needs or business capital. Young people prefer to work in offices or factories. For the construction of factories and housing, the Ngringo Village location is considered strategic for housing production needs. The show cannot be sold. Land is sold to meet the needs of life. The land is sold for further education of children. |

Source: Compilation of Field Research Results March 2019.

Table 3. Impact of land sales

| Description | Cause | Impact |
|-------------|------|--------|
| (1) Land tenure by the company | Most land is intended for industrial and residential land | Farmworkers lack land or employment opportunities. Uncertainty of work because at any time, the function of the land may change. Farmworkers cannot work and have frequent sources of livelihood. Declining agricultural productivity and increasing production costs for pumping water from rivers to paddy fields. Agricultural products can be sold. The income of farmers is reduced. Gain the distribution of agricultural products and the cost of work is less due to the many parties involved. Get paid wages and salaries are cheap. |

Source: Compilation of Field Research Results March 2019.

condition that does not support them. Land sales become the central factor in the Marginalization of farm labourers and land conditions that do not support agriculture. By the transfer of land tenure, then the impact will affect the existence of Farm Laborers. The effect of sales can be seen in the table below.

Table 3 illustrates the impacts of agricultural land sales as farmers and business actors become more challenging to change land functions. The consequences that must be received are reduced income and disconnected access to employment. The sale of agricultural land by individuals or groups is a rescue action to meet the economic needs. In the field findings, there are several main reasons for the sale of agricultural land, including;

Table 4 illustrates the process of selling agricultural land as a community strategy to meet economic needs, in addition to the sales proceeds used for venture capital and investing outside the farming sector. The act of selling the land is the mindset of the peasants who prioritize the
division of labour time in which time is spent to work in the agricultural sector and the remaining time is spent on the services sector.

A marginalization is a form or process in which people or individuals can no longer access resources related to their livelihoods. In general, Marginalization can be defined in terms of material (low-income levels), social aspects (low levels of education, health, nutrition and poor housing) and politics (limited citizenship rights and lack of political participation)

Marginal lands are sometimes intended as a synonym for unused, degraded, abandoned, underused, fallow and free land, often stimulating an animated linguistic debate and possible misunderstanding. Edrisi and Abhilash define marginal land varies according to the aim for which this term is used and to the given background context to which it is operationally applied (Sallustio et al., 2018). This research has found an overview of farm labourers in the village of Ngringo. They have undergone a process of Marginalization due to economic pressures and speculation in economic activity for profit.

The results show that farm labour is increasingly pressured due to lack of land, but their ability to survive is done with alternatives such as cloistering and trading (Mao et al., 2018). Rational choice theorists see individuals as motivated by desires and goals that express their “preferences”. Simply put, the relationship between preferences and constraints can be seen in the purely technical terms of the tool’s relationship to achieving the goal.

The preference of agricultural labourers in Ngringo village cannot be expressed in the absence of power over livelihoods. Thus, the action is a political-economic principle that states that every farmer is entirely rational. Farmers will invest both short and long term, whether in livestock, land, or personal property (Magugu et al., 2018). This can be done by selling surpluses that have been obtained, and this condition applies to landowner farmers. In contrast, landless farm labourers will be marginalized as access to livelihood resources is terminated.
Comparing these findings, such a process also occurs almost entirely in research sites in Ngringgo Village, where conversions are made due to factors from landowners seeking to expand their business. Still, there is also something else to be found: the Conversion due to the availability of inherited resources and inheritance distribution patterns. The results obtained by researchers assume that efforts to solve daily living needs and cultural practices of work make landowners easily willing to release agricultural land.

4. Discussion

They introduce marginal utility and marginal cost concepts to explain the emergence of social order, assuming individuals are rational economic agents always seeking to maximize the “utility” received in their productive activities and exchange relations (Levine & Scott, 1999).

A decrease always follows the cause of Marginalization as a phenomenon of industrial development in the number of agricultural lands. The dominant factor that causes the condition of reduced land is the need of the company or manager to develop the industry, and land production becomes larger. Like the construction of shops, malls, entertainment centres, housing, factories require large amounts of land; such conditions facilitate the land sale by the villagers because it is considered an alternative way to economic problems.

Coleman Sociologists have argued that it is essential for people to acquire social capital and that social capital can improve a person’s material and social circumstances. Coleman supports this assertion by arguing that social capital can determine what kinds of resources are available to individuals and groups as defined by its function (Mabeya, 2015). For instance, (Fukuyama, 2001) Fukuyama says, “social capital can be defined simply as a set of informal values or norms shared among members of a group that permit cooperation among them”. (Putnam, 1994) Putnam defines social capital as the “connections among individuals, or social networks and the norms of reciprocity and trustworthiness that arise from them”) (Dreher, 2016). Bourdieu has it as the “the aggregate of the actual or potential resources which are linked to possession of a durable network of more or less institutionalized relationships of mutual acquaintance and recognition”. Coleman’s definition is, “any aspect of social structure that creates value and facilitates the actions of the individuals within that social structure” (Mabeya, 2015).

In the study of rational choice theory, each individual is perceived to have a condition of social capital that differs from one to the other but is bound by the same social references regarding the norms and social order they recognize. Actions performed are more based on; power over sources, assuming that a unilateral diversion of power over resources if he mastered something rather than if he did not master it. The basic assumption to be a rational choice is more emphasized on a collection of mechanisms that produce social consequences and, secondly, the importance of information to make a choice.

This study can prove that Farm Laborers have no control over their livelihood sources, weak or easy ownership rights to change their ownership. Thus the consequences will be accepted that they will be increasingly marginalized due to the power over livelihoods controlled by others.

The impact of Marginalization is described as a phenomenon of weakening the achievement of individual and group livelihood sources due to the dissociation of a person’s power from a livelihood source. As found in the study sites, the impacts have caused farm labourers to shift away from agriculture to access other jobs used to cover shortages or become new sources of livelihood.

According to Fakih, the process of Marginalization is the same as impoverishment. This is because he has not allowed the marginalized party to develop himself. Similarly experienced by farm labourers during this process of Marginalization occurs in access to livelihoods. Their existence is disadvantaged by the growing industry and the development of residential sites (Jian et al., 2017). The most important thing related to the impact of Marginalization is the reduction of
agricultural land in Ngringo village resulted in the decrease in employment opportunities and the indirect termination of the source of income. The research shows a disconnect due to the transfer of land ownership processed by Farm Laborers for profit.

Alongside these processes, urbanization and industrial development have resulted in the loss of more than one million acres of previously cultivated farmland per year in the United States alone. Farmland loss and concentration contribute to the loss of local food production and jobs in agriculture and the losses in providing ecological services, open space, and other rural amenities. Regarding the impact of Marginalization, agricultural labourers who have no assurance about livelihood resources orientation to working outside the farming sector. For this risk, Farm Laborers must also contribute to new livelihood sources working in the informal sector. Herein lies the critical problem for these farmers: they gain access to marginal land because they farm at a small scale, and the farm at this scale because they lack the market and expertise to risk operating at a larger scale, but yet because they remain small scale they are at the mercy of village committees who do not always recognize the value that they bring to the local community (Ding et al., 2018). Peerzado concludes that agricultural land conversion into urbanization may produce multiple issues, including social, cultural, environmental, and economic instability. Since it spreads over urban sprawl where agricultural land exists. Therefore, urbanization does not mean increasing the number of people on a short piece of land, but more individuals demand more things. As a result, the government must provide them with basic needs like food, houses, roads, schools (educational institutions), hospitals, parks, and other basic amenities of life (Peerzado et al., 2019). Research data indicates that farm labourers are more likely to sell and work as manual labour than in the formal sector.

The dismissal of farm labourers from the agricultural sector does not allow them to enter new work models, the leading cause being education and age. The average level of agricultural labour education reaches only junior secondary school, whereas the professional work world emphasizes high education status and experience.

Understanding the Marginalization in the village of Ngringo, there is an interesting phenomenon about the livelihood strategies undertaken by agricultural labourers. In the rational choice theory proposed by Coleman, it appears that “individual action leads to something that purpose (and also action) is determined by value or choice” (preference).

The action Coleman intended as an individual goal to achieve something in question; the action is not independent without being influenced by other factors. A detailed farmer typology within the groups may provide insights into specific drivers related to farmer characteristics. Farmers do not make decisions in a void; the primary reason for a farmer to change crops will depend on the purpose (i.e., soil conservation, protecting biodiversity, or income) related to farmer behaviour, experience, and attitude. Furthermore, the value becomes the main gauge for individuals taking action in their social life. This condition is in line with farmworkers in the village Ngringo. The deal is held because it feels like a worker committed to inviting each other outside the agricultural sector. The actor will pay attention to the following cost of action; an actor will choose not to pursue a high-value goal if resources are inadequate (Alarima et al., 2018).

Ngringo does not leave work as insufficient labourers but as actors seeking maximum profit; the objectives combine opportunities and alternatives. Multiple motives (push and pull factors) immediate households and individuals to diversify assets, incomes and activities. While some diversify because they have little choice, better-off families may diversify because they have many options (Asfaw et al., 2017). Meanwhile, the double earning pattern was made in the study sites by raising livestock, working in a food stall and night watches in several offices, factories, and companies. Diversification can act as a safety valve for the rural poor (survival) or accumulate for the rural rich (collection). A similar distinction is made between the reasons for diversification as a livelihood strategy: necessity (involuntary and desperation reasons) and choice (voluntary and proactive
reasons) (Asfaw et al., 2017). For Straddling, the design of farm labourers in Ngringo Village also maximizes household labour both in the agricultural sector and outside the farming sector.

Friedman and Hechter put forward two other ideas on which to base rational choice. First, a collection of mechanisms or processes “combine separate individual actor actions to produce social outcomes”. Second, the increasing understanding of information in making a rational choice. Farming information, factory worker information, trade information are the factors that influence them in making decisions to conduct economic activities outside the agricultural sector.

The third type of action is a unilateral diversion of power over resources in a person’s interest. The transfers are made when the underlying assumptions of the second kind of action are no longer used. The field data shows that the farmer wants to be independent to gain power over the source of the livelihood.

The action is done because of several factors; namely, construction workers are still regarded as similar jobs because they still use the energy in the implementation process and do not require a high level of education as in factory workers and industry. In addition, the network that has been built to facilitate them to help each other for the job,

Second, small-scale trading is an alternative that is considered entirely to facilitate them in meeting the needs of everyday life apart from being a farm labourer who is regarded as the result is not commensurate with what is expected. The prime motivation is to achieve an economic return and develop a new business opportunity for some farmers. Many of these people didn’t quit their jobs to go farming but used their capital and networks to find land and hire labour (sometimes from their own families or the previous farmer’s families) to do some or all of the work. Required capital can be affordable with their conditions, then choosing to trade small-scale can be considered a pretty helpful alternative.

Generally, Farm Laborers are the people who live in the village. With the characteristics of the village, kinship and solidarity become an essential things inherent in everyday life. Farmers working in rice fields that do not belong to it have their attachment, which is located in a cultural bond between local villages and the organization of farmer groups. The case has ever happened as in Zambia. Approximately 60 percent of Zambia’s population lives below the poverty line, and about half of the total population relies on the agriculture sector for their livelihoods (Resnick et al., 2018). Cultural ties are often used to deal with livelihood issues, which work on one available job. In addition, the organization is used to exchange information and build relationships among Farm Laborers in the village of Ngringo. Sayer notes that secular morality refers to how people should treat others and be treated, essential matters for their subjective and objective well-being (Saghero, 2016). Data collected from informants show their habits of getting a job from friends and close relatives, meaning that what happens is the phenomenon of feeling in the same boat in obtaining income. Conditions like this make them continue to survive and maintain good relationships with each other.

In the concept of economic morality, farm labourers in the village of Ngringo can rely on subsistence ethics, where social arrangements within the community respect the fulfilment of subsistence needs. On the other hand, Gotz (2015) also used the term moral economy; the moral economy was invented in the eighteenth century to describe many things. Thompson’s approach reflects only a minor part of this conceptual history (Umanailo, 2019). His understanding of the moral economy is conditioned by a dichotomous view of history and accepting a model according to which modern economy is not subject to ethical concerns. It is problematic to confine a term conjoining two concepts as general as “moral” and “economy” to a specific historical and social setting. Then it can be formulated as; (1) the economy is inherent in the social life of society; (2) humans are inherent in the natural environment; and (3) the limitations of goods and services are addressed by sharing
them with community members. Sanghera, fellow-feeling (or the ability to understand others) is a pre-condition of everyday moral conduct and is crucial for social interaction (Sanghera, 2016).

The implications of Scott’s study can be elaborated with the limitations of employment opportunities in the agriculture sector by inviting friends of Farm Laborers to get involved in work outside the agricultural industry, such as construction workers. In addition, the element of kinship also helped determine the Farm Laborers for those who were first invited to work. The management of pests has important implications for African agriculture, where most of the farmer community consists of smallholder farmers with low agricultural productivity (Zhang et al., 2018). Farmers have an unspoken agreement to help relatives, friends, and neighbors in need in exchange for equal treatment. Smith norms are an essential guide for what conduct is and is not appropriate without the need for too much deliberation (Mao et al., 2018). These norms have been inherent in the peasants’ economic morale. Four factors awakened from the economic morale of farm labourers in Ngringo village, i.e., (1) simplify the process of selling agricultural land, (2) selling inheritance in the form of land or agricultural land to meet the needs of life and education of children, Lipton (2010) continuing growth in rural population, and hence over the generations in the number of rural households, may lead parents to split land among inheriting offspring. (3) encouraging each other to work outside the village, (4) prioritizing land work with a profit-sharing system (Lipton, 2010).

Understanding the reality of farm labourers in the village of Ngringo can be seen as a moral form that links moral economy and political economists, where the construction of the choice of actions and behaviours that are influenced by the circumstances of the environment. The village conditions are formed from traditional village people who have been affected by life around them. So the society is not entirely in the pattern of subsistence, but on the other hand, the political economy also dominates the design of farm labourers. The process of Marginalization is a situation where individuals and groups are in a limited position to access their livelihood resources. Similarly, what happens to farm labourers in Ngringo Village? The marginalization process causes them to face the loss of agricultural land that has been functioning as a source of livelihood. Marginalization occurs because of the driving factors that have been an obstacle to community life in Ngringo Village. Difficulties in producing agricultural products due to the condition of less fertile land until the region’s development as an industrial and housing base seemed to lead to changing farm labourers to find alternative jobs outside the agricultural sector.

The birth of instant thought pattern that put the advantage in the form of sale of agricultural land with the high price and lack of awareness and desire to continue farming, then the next generation prefer to sell land in the hope of opportunities to work in the office or company. While the second is the formation of informal ties between Farm Laborers to work together and seek employment outside the agricultural sector. The offer from the industry to buy the land at a high price, causing most landowners to sell land as assets and capital in developing the business. This condition leaves Farm Laborers in a position of uncertainty about the livelihood resources they have had. Logical consequences caused by the landlord’s thinking have implications for other job searches by farm labourers due to the limitations and uncertainties of the land to try.

Proximity and sense of destiny due to the decreasing of land to make Farm Laborers have a mutual attitude to invite each other to look for work other than taking care of the fields, such as construction workers and trade. Approach and attachment are supported by the pattern of everyday life in the form of lifestyle villagers. Farmers are being marginalized socially and economically due to landowners and capital owners (industrial companies and housing developers) transferring agricultural land functions.
5. Conclusion
Culture as the guidance of society that formed in the value system construct two important things that are, the birth of instant thought pattern that put the advantage in the form of sale of agricultural land with the high price and lack of awareness and desire to continue agriculture, then the next generation prefer to sell land in the hope opportunities to work in the office or company. While the second is the formation of informal ties between Farm Laborers to work together and seek employment outside the agricultural sector. The offer from the industry to buy the land at a high price, causing most landowners to sell land as assets and capital in developing the business.

Funding
The authors received no direct funding for this research.

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Disclosure statement
No potential conflict of interest was reported by the author(s).

Citation information
Cite this article as: Marginalization socio farm laborers due to conversion of agriculture land, Agung Suharyanto, Budi Hartono, Irwansyah Irwansyah, Darmin Tuwu & M Chairul Basrun Umanailo, Cogent Social Sciences (2021), 7: 1999563.

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