

Altruistic Behavior: Comparison of Men and Women in Indonesia

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Abstract: Indonesia is a country having a lot of cultures, religions and well known as a tolerant and help each other. They have an adage, that's "berat sama dipikul dan ringan sama dijinjing" (Indonesian are living together and helping each other). If the idea is correct, we might say Indonesian are altruistic people. Because of such phenomena, researcher is interested in proving the idea. Researcher differentiates between women and men to compare the two. According to the theory before in the West Countries, women are more altruistic than such men, so that the question may arise is, "is that the same in Indonesia?". To measure such behavior, researcher finds a tool called Adapted Self Report Altruism Scale (ASRAS) in Indonesia by Researcher. Researcher spreads ASRAS forms online to the university students in Bina Nusantara who are seventeen to twenty-four years old and adults who are twenty-four and above years old. Having such analyzed research, the results can explicitly between men and women. The main purpose of this research is to have the level of altruistic scale for Indonesian and which one is more altruistic than the other.

1 INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is a country known as high social level of population. Indonesian live together and build connection each other as a community. It can be seen from a low level of governmental structure, they are *rukun tetangga* (bringing peace each other in small area of residents) and *rukun warga* (bringing peace each other in a few of *rukun tetangga*). These kinds of structure cannot be found in other countries. The task of *rukun tetangga* is to help neighborhood if there are dispute or conflict each other and also to help family if they have problem. The task of *rukun warga* is to facilitate a harmony living around *rukun tetangga*.

Through those phenomena, researcher is interested in finding the level of altruistic behavior of Indonesian, especially between men and women. If the concept is so, Indonesian are high in altruistic level and next question is that "which one is more altruistic than the others; men or women?". This research is used as Adapted Self Report Altruism Scale. The scale is adapted from SRAS by Rushton, Chrisjohn and Fekken (1981).

Altruism is a topic that discussed in the context of social behavior. People are questioning about

those who want to help and act sacrificing to others. One theory said that such genetic is delivered from one generation to the other generations (Hamilton, 1964). Richard Dawkins (1989) said that altruism was derived from human being selfish behavior. He quoted Hamilton theory that altruism is individuals being selfish, make decision together to facilitate and maintain selfish behavior among them. The purpose was their personal interests (Dawkins, 1989).

The Dawkin's theory is rejected by Gintis, Bowles, Boyd and Fehr (2003). They, therefore, find a theory about strong reciprocity. There is a tendency doing good among people when they experience the good act from the other people (Gintis, Bowles, Boyd and Fehr, 2003). Long before Gintis, Bowles, Boyd and Fehr (2003) found the theory, Batson and Shaw mentioned there were some people who were born naturally as altruistic (Batson and Shaw, 1991). They have good empathizing and willing to help others (Batson, 2011). Rosopa did a research about helping people who actually did helping themselves (Rosopa, Schroeder and Hatfield, 2013). This is different from what Gintis said. Helping behavior was not caused by reciprocity but by helping the others.

Theory about altruism is developed in daily context, such as what Jaffe did. He uses altruism in punishment context. People who did wrongly are punished by doing good for community. The altruistic punishment can change norms in the society (Jaffe, 2004). The other side, Saslow uses altruism in the context of spirituality. She finds that more spiritual the person, more altruism the person is (Saslow, 2011). Through these theories, we can say that prosocial behavior is not only moved by the selfishness but also by the good heart of people and by practice.

Women have higher level of altruistic than men (Mills, Pedersen and Grusec, 1989; Fabes and Eisenberg, 1998). Through their research, women are easier to help because of the role of unifying than men. Men are rather acting than unifying. Women have tendency to be warm, social orientated and sensitive to relation and men have tendency to gain self-control and success (Eagly, 1997; Eagly and Wood, 2012; Eagly and Wood, 2016; Bierhoff H W 2002).

1.1 Definition of Altruism

There are various theories about altruism and in this case, researcher will focus on some relevant to the research. Batson defines altruism as an act of helping others, even if doing so involves some cost to them (Batson and Shaw, 1991). Simmons defines altruism as a feeling or tendency to do good to others, even at the expense of personal gain (Simmons, 1991). He mentioned 4 factors, those are willingness to do things to enhance the welfare of others, not one's own, voluntary, intentional involving helping others and expecting no reward. In the handout book of social psychology defines altruism as a tendency to help even so doing that will take personal cost (Aronson, Wilson, Akert and Sommers, 2015).

Fuentes defined altruism as prosocial behavior that satisfied the observable requirements of altruistic behavior plus the following criteria: The behavior benefits another person; It's voluntary; the beneficiary of the act is well defined; the performer of the act does not expect to receive any external benefit from the act (Fuentes, Lopez, Etxebarria, Ledesma and Apocada, 2014).

Through those theories researcher defines altruism as individual tendency doing good, freely, to the others, even if it involves a cost to the helper and the helper does not expect in return of what he or she has done (Batson and Shaw, 1991; Simmons, 1991; Aronson, Wilson, Akert and Sommers, 2015).

1.2 ASRAS 2018

Adapted Self Report Altruism Scale is designed to measure altruistic scale for Indonesian. This test is adapted from Rushton, Chrisjohn and Fekken (1981) who firstly found consistency of the altruism in all field of life. The previous theory said there were no consistency (Hartshorne, May and Maller, 1929). He proved through correlation test, altruism in variety fields was +.5 and +.6 (Rushton, Chrisjohn, and Fekken, 1981). The Self Report Scale was tested to Western Ontario University students and the results were significant. He compared the test with the other instruments such as Educational Testing Service (ETS) and Nurturance Scale of the Personality Research Form (PRF) (Jackson, 1974). The results were the same. SRAS could be compared to the other measurements.

In 1992 SRAS was developed in India. The results was SRAS could be adapted to India culture (Khanna, Singh and Rushton, 1993). In 2009 SRAS adapted by Peter Witt and Chris Boleman in America. The tool has been used by CYFAR Life Skills Project, Youth Development Initiative and Texas A&M University (Boleman and Witt, 2009).

2 METHOD

This research uses quantitative method and the participants are from Bina Nusantara university students and adults. They are strictly selected because of according to Newman and Newman the later adolescence (about 18-24) can be differentiate gender, autonomy from their parents, and internalized morality (Newman and Newman, 2008). The further steps of life which are adulthood and old age can be more mature to do altruistic act. Participants from Bina Nusantara University are eighty-one students and they are seventeen to twenty-four old year old. The adults are 128 people and they are twenty-five and above year old.

The SRAS by Rushton, Chrisjohn, and Fekken, (1981) is adapted to Indonesian context by researcher. Researcher used sample about 309 participants and find the tool was established. The original items are twenty and after adaptation become thirteen items. The process of adaptation using experts to translate the language from English to Indonesian and Indonesian to English and also expert judgement. After that researcher used SPSS 24 and Amos 24 to find reliability, EFA and CFA. The results are Cronbach Alpha .837; corrected items .3 and above; communalities extraction .4 and

above; *RMSEA* .56; *AGFI* .897; *CFI* .958; *GFI* .934. The conclusion is this test can be used for Indonesian.

The participants from Bina Nusantara university students were asked to fill ASRAS questions using their own cellular phone in the class. The adults were asked to answer the questions using media social (WhatsApp group). One person asked to send to the other person using their own cellphone. The total participants are 309 (Try out ASRAS: 50 men and 50 women; Field ASRAS: 104 men and 105 women). There are no missing data in this research.

Data were collected using google form and analyzed them using SPSS 24. This research is applied research. The objective is comparative (to compare score or value between two variables). The purpose of this comparison is to capture the real situation of altruistic behavior between men and women.

The independent variables are gender: men and women. While dependent variable is altruistic behavior. According to ASRAS there are three factors: they are helping with cost; care; and empathy. To measure the dependent variable, Researcher use ASRAS 2018. The method to compare men and women, researcher use t-test from SPSS 24

3 RESULTS

3.1 Interpretation

According to descriptive statistic using Kolmogorov Smirnov the data are normal. They can be seen through table 1.

Table 1: Test of normality.

Kolmogorov-Smirnov ^a			
Gender	Statistic	df	Sig.
men	.067	104	.200*
women	.071	105	.200*

There are 209 participants and the data that can be used are Kolmogorov-Smirnov which has significant both for men and women $\alpha = .2 > .05$. After making sure that the data are normal, researcher uses independent t test. The results can be seen the following table.

Table 2: Test for equality.

	Levene's Test for Equality of Variances		t-test for Equality of Means		
	F	Sig.	t	df	Sig.
Equal variances assumed	1.58	.21	-3.76	207	.000
Equal variances not assumed			-3.76	204,80	.000

Base on Levene's Test $\alpha = .210 > .01$. It indicates that the data is equal variances assumed. It means t -test $\alpha = .00 < .01$. The assumption that can be used is there different level of altruistic behavior between men and women.

Table 3: Group statistics.

	Gender	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Total	Men	104	41.07	9.216	.903
	Women	105	45.66	8.388	.818

The table 3 shows us that women are more altruistic than men. It can be seen through *mean* value. Men are 41.07 and women 45.66.

3.2 Discussion

Indonesia is assumed as high level of altruistic behavior. It can be observed through the low governmental structures. They are *rukun tetangga* and *rukun warga*. According to the results such measurement using ASRAS 2018, we find data the low altruistic level (score below 50) is 14.3%, medium level (score between 50 to 70) is 40.7% and high level altruistic behavior (70 and above) is 45%.

Table 4: Score of altruistic behavior.

N/score	Under 50	50 to 70	70 to 100
30	14.3%		
85		40.7 %	
94			45%

According to the score, the image of high level prosocial behavior, especially altruism is in stake.

There is a threat that the tradition to help each other could be reduced from time to time. If Indonesian are altruist people the high score (70% and above) must be more than 50%. This score is a warning for people in Indonesia. If they want to keep as a nation which is social people who want to help each other, they need to keep the tradition and also develop the pro social behavior.

The results of t-test indicate that women are more altruistic than men. The theory in the west about this, is the same (Mills, Pedersen and Grusec, 1989; Fabes and Eisenberg, 1998), the nature of women which is unifying and more social person give contribution to be more helpful. Women are more communicable than men. The communication reflects the level of emotional closeness (Palchykov, Kaski, Kertész, Barabási and Dunbar, 2012; Kamas, Preston and Baum, 2008).

In the context of participants, even women are higher score than men the gap is not too high (men's mean is 41 and women's mean is 45). Perhaps the role of women as defining by Mills and Grusec (1989) bring the differences. Asih and Pratiwi did the research about the pro social behavior and they found there were no differences between two (Asih and Pratiwi, 2010). The conclusion that can be taken is even women are more altruist than men, the gap is not too high.

3.3 Limitation

There are a lot of factors that can change Indonesian from altruism to selfishness. The research of altruism in Indonesia mentions that high level of altruism is 45%. The factors that can decrease and increase the altruistic behavior need to define. For doing so, researcher is aware of the limitation of this research. The future research is needed, especially how to intervene people in Indonesia to raise the altruism and to wake up the tradition of helping and tolerancing each other.

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