

Research Review

The Psychological and Economic Impact of Residents on the Closure of Bong Suwung Localization in Yogyakarta City

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Abstract Economic development in Indonesia aims to improve people's living standards and welfare, but challenges such as high poverty rates are still a significant problem, especially in the Special Region of Yogyakarta (DIY). This study aims to analyze the economic impact of the closure of the localization of Bong Suwung, which is one of the centers of prostitution in Yogyakarta. Approach to descriptive qualitative research. Data is collected by observation, interview, and documentation techniques, primary and secondary data are integrated in the context of analysis, informants are determined by purposive sampling. The results of the study show that the closure of localization has a negative impact on people's incomes, including traders, parking attendants, and commercial sex workers (PSK). Many traders lost customers and income, while prostitutes were forced to look for new locations to operate. On the other hand, the closure affects the psychological condition of children from affected families, who have difficulty in continuing their education. This research highlights the importance of a more comprehensive approach in dealing with social and economic problems, as well as the need for support for affected communities to adapt and find alternative sources of livelihood.

Keywords: Psychological Impact, Economy Impact, Closure, Localization

1. Introduction

Economic development in Indonesia aims to improve the standard of living and welfare of the community, as mandated in the Preamble to the 1945 Constitution. However, the challenges faced, such as the high level of poverty, are still a significant problem, especially in the Special Region of Yogyakarta (DIY) Province. Data shows that by 2024, the number of poor people in Yogyakarta will reach 445,550 people or 10.83% of the total population, making it one of the provinces with the highest poverty rate on the island of Java.

Table 1 Percentage of Poor Population above the National Average

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Aceh	15.01	15.43	15.53	14.75	14.45
South Sumatra	12.56	12.98	12.79	11.95	11.78
Bengkulu	14.91	15.3	14.43	14.34	14.04
Lampung	12.3	12.76	11.67	11.44	11.11
IN Yogyakarta	11.44	12.8	11.91	11.49	11.04
West Nusa Tenggara	13.88	14.23	13.83	13.82	13.85
East Nusa Tenggara	20.62	21.21	20.44	20.23	19.96
Central Sulawesi	13.18	13.06	12.18	12.3	12.41
Southeast Sulawesi	11.04	11.69	11.74	11.27	11.43
Gorontalo	15.31	15.59	15.41	15.51	15.15
West Sulawesi	10.95	11.5	11.85	11.92	11.49

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Maluku	17.65	17.99	16.3	16.23	16.42
West Papua	21.51	21.7	21.82	21.43	20.49
Papua	26.55	26.8	27.38	26.8	26.03
Indonesia	9.22	10.19	9.71	9.57	9.36

Source : BPS RI, 2024

The employment sector in Yogyakarta also faces challenges, with a high unemployment rate and limited employment. Despite an increase in the percentage of formal labor, the informal sector still dominates, creating social and economic disparities.

Table 2 Percentage of the Number of Residents of Yogyakarta Working
by Formal and Informal Sectors

Job Type	2020	2021	2022	2023
Formal	42,59	44,64	46,62	46,22
Informal	57,41	55,36	53,38	53,78

Source: BAPPEDA DIY, 2024

One of the informal sectors that has been impacted by the economic and social gap is commercial sex workers who work as prostitutes. Prostitution is one example of a social problem that exists in people's lives and is difficult to eliminate. Social problems are the incompatibility of the elements of values and social norms that exist in society so that they hinder members of society from achieving their goals (Syani, 2002). According to Siregar (2015), prostitution is a type of work in which a person surrenders or sells services to the public to commit sexual acts by getting wages according to promises made. Prostitution is not a new problem in Indonesia. In Indonesia, prostitution has existed since the Mojopahit era (Koentjoro, 2004). Until 1945, when Japan colonized, this phenomenon continued to occur.

Meanwhile, Localization is a location set by the city government for Commercial Sex Workers to commit immoral acts (Ambarwati et al, 2020; Bachtiar & Purnomo, 2007). Localization usually consists of small red-lit houses with beds, guest chairs, clothes, and ornate tools. In addition, there is a wide variety of different types of girls from different tribes and races. A special place has now developed. Prostitutes and the general public who are not involved in prostitution live together in one community. This phenomenon can have many good and bad consequences for society.

Negative impacts are adverse impacts that will become a bad habit for society if left unchecked. Various aspects are influenced by localization in the community. These include spreading venereal and skin diseases, ruining family life due to being seduced by prostitutes, damaging morals, morals, laws, and religion (Kartono, 2014). Contrary to this opinion, some people think that localization is a useful place. The existence of localization provides livelihood to the surrounding community (Retnaningsih, 2014). The advantages of the existence of localization complexes are felt by the people involved in this business such as pimps, commercial sex workers and the surrounding community. The existence of localization has given rise to new jobs for the local community, namely economic improvements such as traders, pedicab drivers, motorcycle taxi drivers, maids or clothes washers, masseuses, and herbal medicine sellers (Miskawi & Matali, 2007).

The existence of localization is currently developing very quickly. Localization develops along with rapid population growth, especially from the movement of people from other cities (Amalia, 2013) Yogyakarta City is a city that is one of which is a tourist destination that is almost always crowded by visitors from various regions. The tours presented are not only historical places or tours in nature, but there are also night tourist attractions that can be visited like those found in several other cities. Night tourism that can be visited in Yogyakarta are such as cafes, coffee shops, angkringan, night clubs, discotheques, and what is definitely

not to be missed is the place where prostitution is practiced. Based on some of the places mentioned, the most interesting place to investigate more deeply is the place where prostitution is practiced. One of the famous prostitution locations in Yogyakarta is Bong Suwung (Kofifah, 2023).

Bong Suwung or better known as Ngebong is an illegal dwelling and is also one of the prostitution localizations in the Special Region of Yogyakarta starting around the 1970s. Bong Suwung was originally an empty ethnic Chinese cemetery area until it was eventually occupied and inhabited by the urban poor community in Yogyakarta due to limited access to housing in urban areas. Bong Suwung itself is located along the railway line of Tugu Yogyakarta station which has land use rights which belong to PT. KAI, which is precisely located on the west side of Tugu station (Rofiyandi, 2012). As an effort to improve the quality of service for passengers, PT. KAI, so PT KAI conducts arrangements outside the station and the facilities that support it. One of the arrangements carried out by PT. KAI is by relocating residents who occupy and use the Bong Suwung area located in Gedongtengen District in the Tugu Station complex, Yogyakarta. Meanwhile, the status of land in the Bong Suwung area is Sultan Ground (SG). PT KAI said that it had obtained a Palilah Letter from the Jogja Palace to manage the land. Therefore, with the closure or relocation of the Bong Suwung localization, the researcher wants to see the economic impact experienced by residents in the Bong Suwung area on the closure.

2. Method

This research uses a qualitative approach focused on policy research. The research was carried out at the location of Bong Suwung, Pringgokusuman Village, Gedongtengen Village, Yogyakarta City. Informants were determined by purposive sampling (Creswell, 2016). The number of informants in this study amounted to 6 people, namely Commercial Sex Workers, Affected Families, Local Residents, Traders, Community Leaders, Non-Governmental Organizations. Data and information were collected by observation techniques, unstructured interviews and documentation studies. Primary data and secondary data are integrated in the content of the analysis (Sugiyono, 2021). All data were validated by a *credibility test*, a *transferability test*, a *dependability test*, and a *conformability test* (Sugiyono, 2021).

3. Results and Discussion

The Public's View Of Bong Suwung

The presence of localization in society often causes discomfort and disrupts social interaction. Many people consider localization to be the cause of social problems, social ills, and moral decline, even though this is closely related to the social reality and economic conditions that trigger its existence. Localization often sparks debate; Some argue that localization only has negative impacts and harms society in general, while others believe that localization can offer certain economic benefits. The assessment reflects the complexity of the effects of localization which can vary depending on the perspective and socio-economic context of each party.

According to Frasa MW, a 46-year-old RW figure who lives in the same sub-district as Bong Suwung, the existence of localization has triggered a long-running debate. Some segments of the community feel that localization can increase income through the opening of various businesses, such as salons, laundry, credit shops, pharmacies, and massage services. However, there are also those who feel worried and disadvantaged by the existence of this localization, especially parents who are worried about its effect on their children. They are worried that children will be exposed to promiscuity and mimic the behavior of commercial sex workers (PSK), which can negatively impact children's mental development. The profession of prostitution is often considered a disgrace to society and has the potential to damage households.

Sutarmin & Budiarti, (2018) explained that localization is an area specifically intended for prostitution activities, becoming a place for Commercial Sex Workers (PSK) and pimps to achieve income and satisfaction. Along with the changing times and increasing urbanization, the localization function is now experiencing great challenges and no longer runs as before. Currently, the localization area is not only inhabited by prostitutes, but also by the general public who make a living without being directly involved in prostitution practices. Residents living around the location are often involved in various supporting businesses, such as

opening parking services, working as motorcycle taxi drivers, setting up food and beverage stalls, and selling contraceptives. The presence of this general public also adds a level of complexity to the localization environment, expanding its impact in terms of social and economic aspects. This creates new dynamics in the communities around the localised area, which changes the way they interact with the place and affects the local social and economic structure.

The Impact of Bong Suwung Localization Emptying on Psychology

The impact of prostitution practices carried out by immoral women in the Bong Suwung Localization, Yogyakarta City, one of the consequences affects psychology. The closure of localization can have a significant impact on psychology, especially for commercial sex workers (PSK) and the surrounding community. These impacts include fear, anxiety, changes in daily life, and even mental disorders.

- Impact on prostitution

- Anxiety and Fear:

The closure of localization can lead to uncertainty about the future, especially regarding sources of livelihood. Prostitutes may be worried about how they will make ends meet, especially if they don't have other skills or education.

The closure of localization can cause various uncertainties regarding the future, especially in terms of meeting economic needs. Commercial sex workers (prostitutes) may feel anxious about how they will be able to meet the needs of daily living. This uncertainty is exacerbated if they don't have alternative skills or education that can help them transition to other jobs. Often, these circumstances require additional support, both in terms of education and training, so that they can adapt to the changes that occur and find new ways to meet their needs

- Stress and Depression:

Localized closure can lead to increased levels of stress, anxiety, and even the risk of depression in the individuals involved. This happens because they undergo major changes in their daily lives, especially when their main source of income disappears suddenly. Uncertainty regarding the future and limitations in finding alternative income can add to the mental burden. There needs to be attention and support for their psychological condition, in order to help them cope with a difficult transition period and encourage them to find new solutions and opportunities in the midst of this changing situation.

Research by Budiasih and Kuncoro (2024) shows that the closure of the Bong Suwung area has a significant impact on the psychological condition of commercial sex workers (PSK), especially in the form of anxiety, fear, and stress due to their uncertain future. These findings are in line with the study of Carlson et al. (2017), which stated that sex workers often face instability in their living conditions, especially when there is an eviction or closure of a job site. A similar situation is also in South India, where nearly 39% of female sex workers report experiencing severe depression due to a lack of social and economic support after eviction (Patel et al., 2015). This confirms that evictions without adequate support can worsen the mental state of sex workers in various social contexts.

- Changes in Attitudes and Behaviors:

The closure of localization can trigger changes in attitudes and behaviors, both positive and negative. Some prostitutes may be trying to change themselves, while others may feel compelled to return to the same job elsewhere. This condition serves as evidence that evictions contribute to social exclusion, limiting access to a wide range of services and supports, which can have broader public health implications (Mühlen, et al., 2022).

- Impact on Society

- Social Change:

Localized closures, which often refer to the closure of specific areas that are typically the site of certain sexual services or activities, can trigger a number of significant social changes in the surrounding community. Here are some aspects that can be described in detail:

- Changes in Livelihood:

Unemployment: For many individuals who depend on industries related to localization, these closures can lead to loss of livelihoods. Sex workers, owners of supporting businesses (such as entertainment venues, restaurants, and hotels), as well as those involved in other informal sectors may face economic hardship.

Job Transition: Some individuals may be looking for alternative employment, which could lead to training new skills or switching to another sector. This transition process can be challenging, especially if they do not have access to adequate education or training.

- Lifestyle Changes:

Stigmatization: Closure of localization can increase stigma against individuals who were previously involved in the activity. Society may treat them differently, which can affect social relationships and community support.

Social Adaptation: Society may have to cope with changes in social dynamics. For example, individuals who have a habit of going to certain places for entertainment may need to look for other alternatives, which can change the way they interact and socialize.

- Changes in Social Structure:

Shifting Power Relations: The closure of localization can lead to changes in power dynamics in society, where certain groups have more control or influence over social norms and values.

Community Cooperation: Communities may be in a position to collaborate in finding new solutions to problems arising from the closure, creating a greater sense of solidarity.

- o Attitude Change:

The closure of localization can lead to significant changes in public attitudes towards commercial sex workers (PSK) and prostitution in general. Here are some detailed points regarding the change in attitude:

- Amplified or Minimized Stigmatization:

Increased Stigma: By closing localization, the community may consider active prostitutes as violators of social norms, increasing the stigma against them. This closure can reinforce negative views of sex workers, as if they are the cause of social problems.

Stigma Weakening: Conversely, the closure of localization can spark greater discussions about human rights and the need for protection for prostitutes. This could lead to a reduction in stigma if society begins to see sex workers as individuals who need to be protected rather than criminals who need to be punished.

- Changes in Moral and Ethical Perceptions:

Reinforcement of Conservative Moral Values: Some groups in society may be more in favor of localized closures, increasing negative views of prostitution as a whole as immoral acts. This could lead to increased social pressure to enforce more conservative norms.

Greater Acceptance: On the other hand, it is possible that the closure of localization could spark a debate about social justice and recognition of workers' rights, which could increase empathy and acceptance of prostitution as part of the legal employment spectrum.

- Changes in Attitudes Towards Regulations and Policies:

Support for Strict Regulation: The closure of localization is often accompanied by a push to improve regulation and enforcement of prostitution. This could lead to a difficult change in the way society views sex work, focusing on criminalization rather than decriminalization.

Support for Decriminalization: If the public sees the negative impacts of the closure, such as increased vulnerability to prostitution and health risks, there may be a greater push to support policies of decriminalization and protections for sex workers.

- Changes in Public Discussion and Awareness:

Increased Social Awareness: Localized closures can spark broader public discussions on issues related to sex workers, such as labor rights, sexual health, and gender violence. This can help educate the public and change the view of sex workers.

Greater Research and Advocacy: The closure of localization may encourage more research on the working and living conditions of prostitutes, as well as support advocacy for their rights, which could change the way society views as a whole.

– Response to Social and Economic Change:

Empathy and Solidarity: Communities who feel the impact of localized closures, either directly or indirectly, may begin to develop a sense of empathy for prostitution and understand the challenges they face. This can generate solidarity and support in the form of policy advocacy that is more focused on well-being.

The Impact of the Emptying of the Bong Suwung Localization on the Economy

The closure of localization has a negative impact on the economic sector of the surrounding community. This impact can be seen from changes in the amount of community income that affect the fulfillment of family living needs. Based on the results of interviews with several informants who used to work as traders, parking attendants and informal workers, it is known that the closure of the Bong Suwung localization made many traders go out of business because there were no buyers and no selling locations. In addition, in terms of parking revenue, which usually gets a certain amount of money with the closure of localization, it has an impact on the absence of income from the parking side. Job changes clearly have an impact on the income received. After the closure of the Semampir localization, people's income decreased compared to what was usually obtained when there was still localization.

There are several informal workers affected by the closure of localization, including commercial sex workers (PSK), traders, and parking attendants. Based on information from Commercial Sex Workers, the closure of localization has a very significant impact on their income and this was conveyed by AM.



Figure 1

Socialization and Assistance for Residents of Bong Suwung

Source : Researcher Documentation, 2024

"After sterilization, as many as 80 sex workers who previously only worked in Bong Suwung now choose to move to Parangkusumo and some also peddle themselves on the streets in Yogyakarta City."

The above statement mentions the changes that occurred after the sterilization program for sex workers in the Bong Suwung area. A total of 80 sex workers who previously lived in a boarding house in Bong Suwung decided to move to a new location, namely Parangkusumo. This decision may have been taken in response to the changing conditions encountered after sterilization, as well as perhaps because they were looking for an environment more conducive to their work.

On the other hand, there are also a number of sex workers who still choose to peddle themselves on the streets in the city of Yogyakarta. This shows that despite the change in the location of residence, their activities still take place. Selling themselves on the streets can

reflect their uncertainty in finding a more stable or legal job, as well as create challenges for them to earn an income.

This shift and choice of workplace provides an insight into the dynamics of sex workers' lives in social and economic contexts. They face a variety of factors that influence their decisions, including safety, income, and social stigma. Therefore, it is important to understand their situation more deeply and consider measures to provide appropriate support, whether in the form of rehabilitation, education, or access to health services. In addition, the impact of the closure of Bong Suwung was also felt by several families who had a heavy impact on the condition of the children.

"There are some children who no longer want to go to school, they are psychologically disturbed and do not want to go to school. Some of those in the shelter have not yet wanted to go to school. The first is psychic, the second is far, and there is no cost. Most of them moved to Parangkusumo, their school in Badran, the number cannot be ascertained".

The statement indicates that there are a number of children who experience psychological problems that make them reluctant to continue their education. This disturbed psychological condition is the main factor that prevents them from returning to school. This requires serious attention, because children's mental health greatly affects their development and learning.

In addition to psychological problems, there are also other factors that contribute to children's unwillingness to go to school, namely distance and cost factors. Many of these children live far from school, as it is mentioned that they moved to Parangkusumo and attended school in Badran. This long distance can cause difficulties in accessibility, plus the problem of transportation costs that become an additional obstacle for them.

With a combination of psychological problems, distance, and cost, this situation creates complex challenges for these children. Therefore, collaborative efforts are needed from various parties, such as the government, educational institutions, and the general public, to provide the right support and solutions so that children can return to school with good motivation and in more supportive conditions.

The Impact of the Emptying of Bong Suwung Localization on the Family Economy

The economic inability of the impact of the closure of the Bong Suwung localization was also felt by traders in the location.



Figure 2

The Condition of Bong Suwung Stalls

Source : Researcher Documentation, 2024

The results of interviews with traders in the Bong Suwung localization conveyed the following:

"Before the localization of Bong Suwung was closed, we depended on his livelihood from selling food, liquor, cigarettes and contraception-related items. The income from selling is quite large, even one day you can get hundreds of thousands to millions of rupiah. But now that the localization of Bong Suwung is closed, our income no longer exists."

The above statement describes the economic conditions faced by individuals or groups who previously ran a sales business in the Bong Suwung localization area. Before the closure of localization, they relied on income from various types of goods sold, including food, liquor, cigarettes, and contraceptives. This business activity is the main source of their livelihood, and under normal circumstances, they can get a significant income, with figures reaching hundreds of thousands to millions of rupiah in a day.

However, the situation changed drastically after the closure of the Bong Suwung localization. With the loss of a location that was previously the center of sales activity, their revenue is automatically affected. Without the demand generated from the localization, they now face difficulties in finding income. The survival that was previously supported by these sales efforts is now threatened, creating new challenges for them.

The closure of localization not only affects sex workers, but also impacts those who rely on side businesses around the area. This creates an atmosphere of uncertainty and economic hardship that can have a direct impact on their well-being. In this context, it is important to look for solutions that can help them adapt, such as training new skills or access to other business opportunities, in order to create a more sustainable livelihood in the future.

Based on the results of the interview, it shows that the policy of closing the localization of Bong Suwung makes people who take advantage of localization lose their source of income. Changing circumstances and environments make them have to be able to adapt.



Figure 3

The Condition of the Post-Emptying of Bong Suwung

Source : Researcher Documentation, 2024

The closure of localization in Pringgokusuman Village has a significant impact on the community that depends on work in the area. Many have suddenly lost their source of livelihood, forcing them to switch professions to meet their living needs. This process is not an easy one, considering that many of them have been working in the sector for a long time. Discipline in finding a new job, adapting to a new environment, and efforts to change one's image into challenges that must be faced by society. Therefore, this phenomenon becomes a mirror of the journey that illustrates the struggle to survive in difficult situations.

With the closure of localization, the people of Pringgokusuman are required to adapt quickly. Changing a long-standing career path requires them to learn new skills. A profession

that used to sound unusual to them, now has the potential to be a way out. However, the process of changing professions cannot be ignored. Many of them feel they don't have enough skills to compete in the more conventional world of work. The difficulty of getting skills training is one of the challenges in itself. People need to rely on internal resources and institutions outside the region to equip themselves, so that they can switch to more diverse jobs, ranging from industrial workers to the service sector.

From an economic aspect, the loss of livelihood due to the closure of localization has a considerable impact. Many families who previously had a fixed income had to rack their brains to make a living. Not infrequently, they have to accept a job with lower wages than before. The limited availability of jobs triggers increased competition, which often only prioritizes those with certain qualifications. This makes the affected people feel even more desperate. The limited knowledge about opportunities inside and outside Pringgokusuman Village also makes the effort to find a new job more complicated. Therefore, support from the government and social institutions is urgently needed to strengthen the competitiveness of the community.

The Role of Community in the Adaptation Process. In the face of localized closures, the strength of the community has become very important. There is a collaborative effort to provide each other with moral and practical support. The community in Pringgokusuman began to focus on skills training programs, such as sewing courses, digital skills, and entrepreneurship training. Through these initiatives, they aim to broaden the perspectives and employment opportunities for their members. The local community is also working with relevant parties to find long-term solutions in creating new jobs in the area. These collective efforts not only help individuals to adapt, but also strengthen social ties that may be severed by fundamental economic changes.

4. Conclusion

The closure of the Bong Suwung localization in the Special Region of Yogyakarta has a significant impact on the economy of the surrounding community. Prior to the closure, many individuals and families depended on localization-related economic activities, such as food vendors, parking attendants, and commercial sex workers (PSK). With the lockdown policy, they experienced a drastic decrease in income, which impacted their ability to meet their daily needs.

The results of the interviews show that many traders were forced to go out of business due to the loss of customers, while the parking attendants also lost their source of income. Commercial sex workers who previously worked in Bong Suwung were forced to find new locations, such as Parangkusumo, or peddle on the streets, indicating that they were struggling to adapt to the new unfortunate situation.

The impact of this closure is felt not only by individuals directly involved in localization, but also by their families, including children who suffer from psychological disorders and difficulties in continuing education. The economic inability that has arisen due to the closure of localization has created new challenges for communities to adapt and find alternative sources of livelihood.

Overall, the closure of the Bong Suwung localization highlights the importance of a more comprehensive approach in addressing social and economic issues, including the provision of employment alternatives and support for affected communities, so that they can better transition to a more stable and sustainable life.

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