

## LITERATURE STUDY: ANALYSIS OF POLYGAMY FACTORS IN MEN

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### ABSTRACT

*This research aims to determine the underlying factors in men who are polygamous. This research uses a literature study method to look for aspects that underlie men's desire to carry out polygamy, using a data accumulation scheme via Mendeley and Google Scholar to access journals and scientific works. A literature search was carried out using the keywords "polygamy" and "Factors" with vulnerabilities in 2015-2024. Keywords are chosen because the themes are related to the topic and are relevant for the last 10 years and the data is up to date. Based on the search, 17,990 articles were found with the research article type, and only 4 of the most relevant articles were selected. The results of previous research and literature studies explain that the factors for polygamy in men are socio-cultural factors, religious factors, psychological factors, educational factors, economic factors.*

### KEYWORDS

Polygamy, Polygamy Factors, Literature Study



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### INTRODUCTION

The practice of having more than one wife or commonly called polygamy. The practice of polygamy existed in pre-Islamic times (Shiddiq, 2023). The complex concept of the practice of polygamy can be seen from various religious, social, and legal perspectives. Both religious, social and legal rules in Indonesia itself, polygamy is not prohibited, however, there are provisions or conditions that must be met before obtaining a polygamy permit.

The provisions in Islam, the conditions that must be met if a man wants to have polygamy is fair. As explained in the words of Allah SWT:

وَإِنْ خِفْتُمْ أَلَّا تُقْسِطُوا فِي الْيَتَامَىٰ فَانكِحُوا مَا طَابَ لَكُمْ مِنَ النِّسَاءِ مَثْنَىٰ وَثُلَّةَ وَرُبُعَ فَإِنْ خِفْتُمْ أَلَّا تَعْدِلُوا فَوَاحِدَةً أَوْ مَا مَلَكَتْ أَيْمَانُكُمْ ۚ ذَلِكَ أَدْنَىٰ أَلَّا تَعُولُوا

*"And if you fear that you will not be able to do justice to the orphaned woman (if you marry her), then marry the women you like; two, three, or four. Then if you are afraid that you will not be able to do justice, then (marry) only*

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*one person, or the slaves you have. That is closer to not doing persecution."* (QS. an-Nisa':3)

The provisions for polygamy in Indonesia are regulated in Law No. 1 of 1974 concerning Marriage: the requirements for polygamy are contained in article 4 letter a ("Law No. 1 of 1974 concerning Marriage" 1974), exceptions for husbands who are allowed to engage in polygamy are contained in article 3 ("Law No. 1 of 1974 concerning Marriage" 1974), specifically for Muslims are regulated in the KHI in article 56 paragraph 1. (: 2011)

The description of the legality of polygamy is very clear, but until now the debate about polygamy has not ended. Polygamy has become something controversial among the community, one of which is the practice of illegal polygamy. Wild polygamy is one of the alternatives for men who want to practice polygamy but cannot meet the requirements for polygamy. This has a very influential impact on the order of social life in society, both positive and negative impacts.

As a result, the practice of illegal polygamy has a very devastating impact on families, children and wives. Psychological and social environment disruption to children so that children will feel depressed, withdraw from social life (Jumala, Nirwani, 2023). The crack is harmonious in building a family, because there are often quarrels. Not providing for the birth and mind, and abandoning his children and wife. The wife's mental damage that resulted in suicide (Kassaw & Shumye, 2021). Although there are many impacts of polygamy that already exist in people's lives, in fact there are still many husbands who engage in illegal polygamy without paying attention to the negative impacts that exist.

This research makes an important contribution to scientists and scientific development in Muslim countries by providing a deeper understanding of the history and contributions of Muslim scientists, encouraging research and innovation, strengthening dialog and cooperation between scientists, supporting the development of science education, and enriching the discourse and understanding of Islam (Roswandi, 2023).

Research on the topic of polygamy factors has been carried out by many previous researchers. Research by Ridwan, et al. in 2024 which examined the factors behind polygamous men in the city of Makassar, the results of the research were that the factors that affect polygamous marriages are no children, sexual infidelity, following the sunnah of the Prophet PBUH, having incurable diseases, and lack of wife services (Ridwan et al., 2024). The research of Haji Bujang N, Nur Zakiyah Binti Hj Ramlee in 2021 which examines the factors of polygamy in the country of Brunei Darussalam, the results of the research are that the factors for the occurrence of oligamy in Brunei Darussalam are to strengthen the friendship that has been separated for a long time and want to deepen Islam, the prospective wife has the desired characteristics, wants to be responsible for the future wife who is pregnant as a result of the abuse they have done, avoid matters that are contrary to Sharia Law, preserve so that there is no defamation, and the willingness of both parties, namely the applicant and the wife-to-be (Bujang, 2021). The research of Sabila Nasir, Sehrish Farooq and Farah Malik which examined the causes of polygamy, the impact of polygamy and coping strategies

of women in dealing with wives relationships, the results of the research are first, the reason why women allow polygamy is infertility, only having a woman, the husband loves her. Second, the consequences of polygamy are jealousy, unhappiness, and loneliness due to injustice. Third, coping strategies used by polygamous women include gaama beliefs, the role of fate, and compromise with wives (Naseer et al., 2021).

Research was also conducted by Zuman Malaka in 2023 which discusses the issue of polygamy from the perspective of legal sociology which includes aspects ranging from polygamy factors, the impact of polygamy and the legal regulations that govern polygamy, the results of the research are that people practicing polygamy are influenced by economic, biological, economic and educational factors. Then the impact of the practice of polygamy in society basically has a negative impact on the perpetrators of polygamy who do not meet the provisions of Islamic sharia and positive law in Indonesia (Malaka, 2023). The research was conducted by Finaul Asyura, and Marthoenis, and Maidar in 2021 which discussed factors related to polygamous families in Pidie Regency, the results of the study showed that the most dominant variable for the incidence of polygamous families was a history of disease 12 times (Asyura et al., 2021). The research was also conducted by Hayase Y, Liaw K. L. The research objective was to identify the factors that influence the practice of polygamy in Sub-Saharan Africa, the results of the study are the level of polygamy which varies between countries, the education of husbands is more influential, religion and ethnicity, and age are factors (Hayase & Liaw, 1997).

This study was made to obtain an in-depth exploration of the factors that contribute to men's decision to polygamy. Through a comprehensive understanding of these factors, we can open up more constructive and critical insights into polygamy, consider a variety of perspectives, and move towards a more holistic understanding of this complex social phenomenon.

The problem formulation in this study is the component that is the reason for polygamy in men. This research shows from a review of Islamic law and Islamic families which are very closely related to the concept of polygamy. This research is intended to find the components that influence men to choose polygamy. In addition, the analysis of polygamy factors for research also has the purpose of enriching literature studies that previously felt lacking. The output of this research can be carried out to broaden the horizons of readers, then it can be used as a reference material as well as evaluation material for future researchers to obtain improvements in research results.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

This study uses a literature study technique to explain that literary studies is the preparation of actions related to the method of collecting literature data, studying, recording, and managing research materials (Zed, 2008). Literature studies were conducted to find out the aspects that are factors for men to be polygamous with a data accumulation scheme through Mendeley and Science Direct to access journals and scientific papers. The literature search was carried out with the words "Polygamy", "Factor" with vulnerability in 2013-2023. The Literature Study: Analysis of Polygamy Factors in Men

word dot was chosen because it relates to the theme and vulnerability of the research year chosen 10 years is less developed to obtain relevant and up-to-date data.

Based on the search, 384 articles were found that matched the keyword, then only 10 articles relevant to the topic were selected with the following analysis:

Table 1. Articles relevant to the topic

| No | Writer                                 | Research methods                              | Research Object   | Data Collection and Respondents   | Research Results  |
|----|--|---|---|---|---|
| 1  | Massoud a Royin                        | Qualitative method with a case study approach | Women who are practicing polygamy in Afghanistan. The researchers did not examine men who underwent polygamy or the impact of polygamy on children.   | in-depth interviews with 30 women who are undergoing polygamy in Afghanistan. | Factors that drive polygamy in Afghanistan include: poverty, lack of education, pariahi culture, war and conflict. (Royin, 2023)  |
| 2  | Asyura, F, Marthoen M, Maidar M        | Qualitative method with a case study approach | This study focuses on polygamous families in Pidie Regency, Aceh, Indonesia. The researchers studied the characteristics of polygamous families, the factors that drive polygamy, and the impact of polygamy on families and communities. | In-depth interviews with 30 polygamous families in Pidie district             | Characteristics of polygamous families: Islamic religion, generally having 2-3 wives, the first wife is older, children of different wives living together and sling respect. (Asyura et al., 2021)   |
| 3  | Wapuka Joan Precious, Georgine Onyango | Exploratory                                   | The factors behind the continued practice of polygamy are considered by Bukusu.   | Purposive sampling  | Polygamous men: polygamous men will be respected and given leadership, as a remedy for the first case of infertility, give women the opportunity to marry, raise the status of human beings, have many children and have a source of wealth and labor. (Precious & Onyango, 2020) |
| 4  | Huda Saheli, Husayn                    | Descriptive Correlation al                    | A man and a woman involved in a polygamous marriage   | Questionnaires and interviews   | The results show that there is a significant relationship between men's education,  |

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cultural factors and traditional components, and between judicial and justice factors, first wife's permission, and the terms of the marriage contract. Further, individual responses suggest that sexual conviction is effective as a subjective factor. (Salehi et al., 2013)

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## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The practice of marriage by having more than one wife (polygamy) is a phenomenon that until now is still very existing among the community. Polygamy is influenced by several factors. Here are some of the common factors that underlie polygamous men: socio-cultural factors, economic factors, religious factors, and psychological factors (Westermarck, 1926).

Social and cultural factors are the influence of the practice of polygamy. The basic principles behind it are first, gender norms where people view polygamy as a symbol of social status for men and a way to expand the family (Westermarck, n.d.). *Second*, polygamy as a hereditary tradition (Zeitzen, 2020). *Third*, family pressure to have more children, especially boys. *Fourth*, women's limitations on education, employment, and economic resources make them more vulnerable to polygamous marriages (Astari et al., 2023).

Economic factors are the influence of the practice of polygamy. The underlying basis is: *first*, Economic Security: Polygamy is seen as a way to increase family income and economic security, especially in communities with limited resources. *Second*, Land Ownership: In some societies, polygamy is associated with wider land ownership and greater wealth (Berger-Polsky et al., 2020). *Third*, Workload: Polygamy is seen as a way to distribute household and agricultural workload among multiple wives.

The religious factor is the influence of polygamy. The basis behind it is: *first*, different religious interpretations of polygamy can affect its practice (Boulos, 2021). *Second*, the views and fatwas of religious scholars may have a significant influence on an individual's decision to practice polygamy. *Third*, believing that polygamy is a way to fulfill their religious obligations (Egesa, 2021).

Psychological factors become the influence of polygamy. The basis behind the debate is: The desire to have many children, especially boys, can encourage polygamy, and the desire for power and control over women can be a factor in some cases of polygamy.

The factors that influence men to polygmy according to research are:

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1. Poverty is one of the factors or the basis for men to be polygamous. In difficult economic situations, polygamy may be seen as a strategy to increase family income and ensure food security, and additional wives can be seen as an additional source of labor for agricultural activities, small businesses, or household chores.
2. Lack of education is a factor for men and women about low insight and knowledge about marriage, children's rights, and the obligations of husbands and wives in marriage.
3. Patriarchal culture is one of the fundamental factors underlying the practice of polygamy in various parts of the world. The patriarchal system, which places men in a superior position and women in a subordinate position, creates an environment conducive to polygamy to flourish. In patriarchal cultures, men have a higher position and are respected. Polygamy is sometimes seen as a symbol of male status and power, so it is assumed that those who practice polygamy are more respected.
4. Wars and conflicts can lead to the deaths of large numbers of men, leaving many widows and children without breadwinners. The uncertainty of the future resulting from wars and conflicts can encourage surviving men to take additional wives as a form of resilience and guarantee of offspring.
5. The first wife's problem was barren because it was based on the desire to have offspring, especially sons, to continue the family lineage.
6. The view that polygamy can increase wealth through multiple offspring does exist in several contexts, especially in the past. This is based on several reasons, including:
7. Agrarian Economic System: In the past, where the agricultural sector was the main pillar of the economy, having many children was considered profitable. Children can help parents with work, such as cultivating rice fields, herding livestock, and doing other household chores. The more children, the more labor available, so it is expected to increase crop yields and family wealth.
8. Traditions and Culture: In some cultures, boys are considered valuable assets. They are expected to help the elderly in old age and pass on the family lineage. Therefore, having many boys can improve the social and economic status of the family.
9. Religious Beliefs: In some religions, having multiple children is considered a gift and a sign of fertility. This can encourage men to polygamy in hopes of having more children.



## CONCLUSION

Polygamy, the practice of marriage with more than one partner, is a complex phenomenon with a variety of underlying factors. These factors can be categorized into several aspects, such as religious, cultural, social, economic, and psychological factors. On the one hand, polygamy is allowed in some religions with certain terms and conditions. On the other hand, polygamy is banned in many countries and is considered a violation of women's rights. Cultural and social factors also play an important role in the practice of polygamy, where societal norms and values can encourage or prohibit polygamy.

Economic factors, such as poverty and dependence on boys for labor, can also encourage polygamy. On the other hand, polygamy can exacerbate poverty and increase gender inequality. Psychological factors, such as the desire to have multiple children or overcome insecurities, can also encourage individuals to choose polygamy. The factor of low education, as well as the factor of religion. It is important to remember that each case of polygamy has its own story and reasons. More research is needed to understand the complexity of the factors that drive polygamy and their impact on individuals, families, and society.

For further research, it is hoped that the literature will be further enriched for further research on analyzing how intersectional factors, such as gender, race, and class, can affect the experience and perception of polygamy, and comparing the practices and impacts of polygamy in different countries and cultures.

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