

# The Role of The Cirebon Regency Government In Controlling Population Growth Which Continues To Increase

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## ABSTRACT

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The aim of this research is to determine the extent of the role and programs of local governments in dealing with ever-increasing population growth. With the broadcast of population numbers, it will become a serious problem faced by several regions in Indonesia, especially in Cirebon Regency. In the process of reducing the increase in population growth, the regional government has made several policies including the Family Planning Program, the provision of contraceptive medication in every Public Health Center and Hospital as well as private sector, PIKR Program, and the SIGA Application. As well as providing communication, information and education, it has been carried out through community groups with coordination from the technical implementation unit to the community. This study takes a descriptive approach while utilizing a qualitative strategy. The data collected was direct interviews with informants.

**Keywords : role of government, control, population growth**

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## INTRODUCTION

The government is responsible for aspects of people's lives. As a regulator and policy maker, the government establishes laws and rules to maintain order and justice. In terms of the provision of public services, the government is responsible for providing essential facilities such as education, health, transportation, and infrastructure to improve the quality of life of citizens (Bakhri & Fauzi, 2019). The government also plays a role in stabilizing the economy through fiscal and monetary policies, which aim to control inflation, reduce unemployment, and ensure sustainable economic growth. In addition, the security and defense of the country is the responsibility of the government, which is tasked with protecting citizens from internal and external threats. To reduce social and economic disparities, the government redistributes income through progressive taxes and social assistance programs (Darmansyah, Rochana, Sutardi, & Zuraida, 2014). In the management of natural resources, the government ensures sustainable and fair use, as well as maintaining environmental sustainability. The government also encourages development and innovation through investment in research and development, as well as supporting strategic sectors. In the international arena, the government conducts diplomacy and establishes international relations for national interests, including in trade, peace, and multilateral cooperation. All of these roles show how important the function of the government is in maintaining the stability, welfare, and progress of a country (Bakhri, 2023).

In general, the Population Control and Family Planning Office for Women's Empowerment and Child Protection in Cirebon Regency has two main areas, namely the counseling field and the service field (Bracke, 2022). Reporting recording services are handled by the KBK3 field. According to the information provided, DPPKBP3A in Cirebon Regency collaborated with the Technical Implementation Unit of Activities in

the UPTD P5A Area, which covers 40 sub-districts, to carry out activities. They also collaborate with the Health Center regarding contraceptive drugs. DPPKBP3A also tried to review and facilitate the family information system through the SIGA application which is operated by SIGA operators in Health Facilities (Gavin et al., 2014).

Population growth is currently accelerating, which worries countries around the world. Compared to other countries, this is a big problem in Indonesia, because population growth will affect various aspects of life, both economic and social, especially improving the quality of life or the quality of human resources accompanied by an increasing population. Poverty, income inequality, education, health, food availability, the environment, international migration, and income distribution are some of the negative impacts on the economic sectors of a country's population surge. (Larasati, Muda, Batubara, & Suharyanto, 2018)

As stipulated in Law Number 52 of 2009, the development of population and matters related to the number, structure, socio-cultural, religious, and environmental of the local population. In addition, it is stated that family development and population development are planned efforts to realize balanced population growth and develop the quality of the population in all dimensions of the population. According to this definition, it is hoped that there will be a balance in population growth so that people's lives can be controlled and balanced (Malinda, Amelia, Hidayat, & Heryanto, 2024).

With 277.7 million people, Indonesia is currently ranked fourth in the world in the country with the highest population, making it one of the countries with an ever-increasing population, according to [databoks.katadata.co.id](http://databoks.katadata.co.id).

Based on the Central Statistics Agency, there is an increase in the population from 2020 - 2022 in Cirebon district, in 2020 the number of people in Cirebon district reached 2,270,621 people, and in 2021 it increased to 2,290,967 people, then it continued to increase in 2022 reaching 2,315,417 people.

Based on the description above, the Family Planning program is one of the policies that helps overcome the problem of population growth (Sutrisno, Rahman, Gunawan, Sani, & Sutrisno, 2021). The benefits of this research are to make a positive contribution in supporting government policies and programs to reduce population growth problems. The author wants to know the extent of the role of the Population Control and Family Planning Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection in controlling the increasing population growth rate in Cirebon Regency.

### **Literature Review**

Research conducted by Mutohharul Janani, Hamzah, Khusna Ikhwanil Arifin (2024) entitled "The Role of the Banten Provincial Government in Running Family Planning Programs to Reduce Population Growth". This research uses a qualitative method with the type of library research, by critically examining various sources of literature on family planning programs, the role of the government, and their impact on population growth. (Janani & Arifin, 2024)

Second, a study conducted by Diana Watik, Farida Novitasari, and Anita Trisiana (2022) entitled "Analysis of the Role of the Government in Controlling Population Growth". This study uses a qualitative method with a descriptive approach, namely, describing the condition of the research object in a systematic, factual and accurate manner. As a result of this research, the Government has made various efforts to overcome population growth, family planning programs, marriage age policies and education improvement. Unemployment and poverty are still major challenges faced, and the active role of the government in developing programs, regulations and coordination

between institutions is also urgently needed to improve the effectiveness of population control. (watic, Trisiana, & Novitasari, 2022)

Third, this research entitled "Controlling Population Growth Through Family Planning Programs in Banda Aceh City" was conducted by M. Hade Ramadhan and Zahratul Idami (2020). This journal discusses the implementation of the Family Planning and Population Control (KKBPK) program in controlling the rate of population growth in Banda Aceh City. The KKBPK program is one of the Indonesia government's efforts in population control which automatically also participates in the development of quality families. This research was conducted to find out the implementation of the program and its obstacles. (Ramadhan & Idami, 2020)

## 1 The Role of the Government

The role of the government is a conscious effort made by a nation and state in order to achieve the goal of nationalism.

The government of a country has three main tasks, namely:

- a) Maintaining national security and defense
- b) Safeguarding the justice system
- c) Providing goods that are not provided by the government. (Adam Smith, 1976)

According to Richard A. Musgrave, government budget policy consists of three functions and objectives, as follows:

### 1) Allocation Branch

That is, the function of the government to provide public needs (*Public Needs*)

### 2) Distribution Function (*Distribution Branch*)

Based on consideration of socio-economic impacts: namely aspects of wealth and income distribution, educational opportunities, social mobility, market structure. Different citizens, with their respective abilities, have roles and responsibilities.

### 3) Stability Function (*Stabilitazion Branch*)

This function is responsible for maintaining economic stability and maintaining current policies. (Guritno, 2002:2).

## 2 Control

According to Ussy and Hammer, (in Darwin, Muhajir 2000) states "*control is management's systematic effort to achieve objective by comparing performance to plane and taking appropriate to correct important differences*", the meaning of Ussy and Hammer is that control is a systematic organizational effort to achieve goals by comparing work results with plans and taking appropriate actions to correct differences.

Glen A. Welsch, Halton, and Gordon translated by Purwatiningsih and Maudy Warouw 2000:3 is "control is a process to ensure the creation of efficient performance that enables the creation of corporate goals".

Based on the description above, management can be defined as the process of comparing work performance with the plan and correcting errors or deviations to achieve the company's goals.

This research introduces a novel examination of the role of the Population Control and Family Planning Office for Women's Empowerment and Child Protection in addressing the increasing rate of population growth in Cirebon Regency. Unlike previous studies that have focused on population control efforts at the national or provincial level, this study uniquely explores the specific challenges and strategies implemented at the regency level, particularly in the context of collaboration with local health centers and the

use of the SIGA application. Furthermore, the research provides new insights into the operational integration between family planning services and women's empowerment programs, a topic that has received limited attention in existing literature.

The objective of this research is to analyze the role and effectiveness of the Population Control and Family Planning Office for Women's Empowerment and Child Protection in controlling the rate of population growth in Cirebon Regency. It aims to evaluate the impact of family planning programs on population control and identify the challenges faced in their implementation. Additionally, the study seeks to explore how collaboration with local health centers and the use of the SIGA application contributes to the overall success of population control efforts in the region.

Theoretically, this research contributes to the existing body of knowledge on population control by offering a localized perspective on the role of governmental institutions in managing population growth. Practically, the findings will provide valuable insights for policymakers and public institutions in improving the effectiveness of family planning programs, particularly at the regency level. The study also offers recommendations for enhancing collaboration between local government offices and healthcare providers, which could serve as a model for other regions facing similar population challenges. Lastly, the research supports government efforts to promote sustainable population growth and improve the quality of human resources in Indonesia.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

This study uses a qualitative method with a descriptive approach. John W. Creswell (2010:4-5) states that qualitative research is a way to see and understand meanings that are thought to come from social or humanitarian problems. In this research process, a number of important efforts are made, including asking questions and procedures to collect specific data from the subject, analyzing the data inductively ranging from special themes to general themes, and understanding the meaning of the data.

In the process of collecting information data, direct interviews with informants are used. In essence, an interview is the process of getting more information about the research subject. (In *et al.*, 2023)

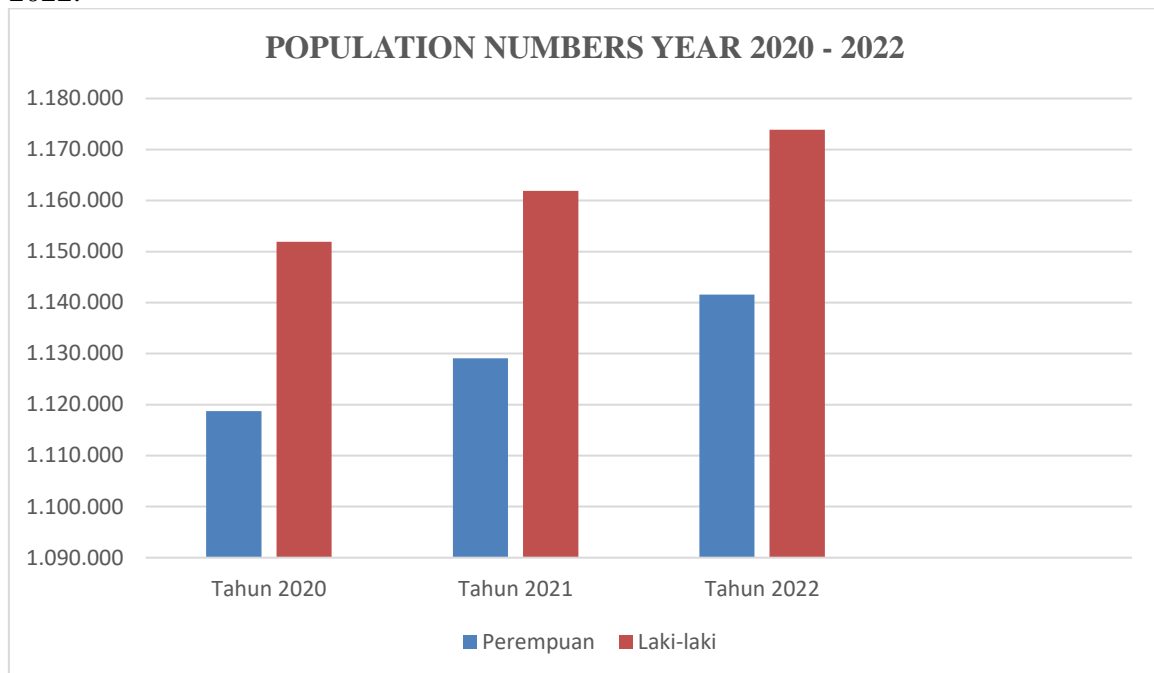
This study collects primary data from direct research informants and secondary data from written documents that have been processed and available at the research site. The purpose of secondary data is to complement primary data. (Pramuditha, 2021)

Data collection techniques used:

- 1) Interview, by asking several questions to the informant related to the research topic. The information of this research is aimed at the Population Control Office, Family Planning and Women's Protection, Child Protection in Cirebon Regency, more precisely with Mrs. Jaojatun, SKM., M.M.
- 2) Library Study uses a method of collecting data taken from literature, laws, regulations, and previous scientific research related to the research subject. (Tatuhe, Laloma, & Pesoth, 2016)

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The following is data on the number of residents in Cirebon Regency from 2020 to 2022.



**Figure 1 Total Population in 2020-2022**

*Source: Central Statistics Agency of Cirebon Regency  
(BPS Statistics of West Java, 2020)*

Matrix stated that the more population growth, the higher the number of people produced.

Malthus, who is famous in the science of population and better known as the "principle of population", argued that populations would multiply rapidly and fill some parts of the Earth's surface without restrictions, and that humans needed food to live. In addition, if there are no restrictions on population growth, the human population will experience a demographic crisis. (Robert Thomas Malthus 1766-1834)

What is the role of the Population Control and Family Planning Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection of Cirebon Regency in overcoming the problem of population growth that continues to increase? The central BKKBN through the Cirebon Regency DPPKBP3A to the KBK3 field provides free family planning services with contraceptive drugs (alokon) for the people of Cirebon Regency. Communication, information and education are carried out through groups with coordination from the technical implementation unit of DPPKBP3A. Alokon programs are carried out by health workers in the sub-district in collaboration with the Health Center. There are 70 health facilities that serve networked family planning programs both private and public, cooperation is carried out with health facilities spread across 40 sub-districts in Cirebon Regency, including 60 health facilities, and the rest are hospitals. The main target of providing family planning programs and contraceptive drugs is couples of childbearing age, the limit of childbearing age is around 15-49 years.

With the increase in the Median Age of First Marriage of 20.9 in Cirebon Regency, it can be said that the results of DPPKBP3A activity program have been effective. Last year in 2023, KBK3 won first place at the national level in the Long-Term Contraceptive

Method (MKJP) service, and the facility of 15 million children's card books has been delivered to the public.

In general, Family Planning (KB) does not prohibit having children and does not regulate the number of children, because the number and having children is the progressive right of each couple. But with this program, it is hoped that the community can open up insights and thoughts in creating a healthy and happy family.

### **Siga App**

The Population Control and Family Planning Office for Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (DPPKBP3A) in Cirebon Regency carries out its duties through two main areas, namely the counseling field and the service field. One of the important areas of service is the Family Planning, Reproductive Health, and Family (KBK3) Division, which handles recording and reporting. DPPKBP3A collaborated with the Regional Technical Implementation Unit (UPTD) for Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (P5A) in 40 sub-districts. In addition, they collaborate with the Health Center regarding the provision and distribution of contraceptives. In an effort to improve the family information system, DPPKBP3A also reviews and facilitates the Family Information System (SIGA) application, which is operated by SIGA operators in Health Facilities.

The SIGA application aims to optimize the recording and reporting of family data, which is important to support population control and family planning programs. SIGA operators in Healthcare Facilities play an important role in managing the data, so that the information collected can be used effectively for planning and decision-making. Overall, the collaboration between DPPKBP3A, UPTD P5A, Puskesmas, and the use of the SIGA application reflects a coordinated effort to achieve the goal of population control and improving family welfare in Cirebon Regency.

DPPKBP3A Cirebon Regency is indeed involved in advocacy activities related to population control, one of which is the Population Aware Village Movement (GDSK) and the Population Aware School (SSK). They seek to increase the age of first marriage through various initiatives, including through the integration of population education into the standard school curriculum.

### **Program PIKR**

The Population Development Grand Design Program (GDPK) is the initial forum for planning development activities from various Regional Apparatus Organizations in Cirebon Regency. They are trying to increase the age of first marriage through population standard schools. Cirebon Regency currently has a Human Development Index (HDI) of 11 years of schooling, which wants to be increased to a minimum of 15 years. This is in line with the government's efforts to raise the age of first marriage, which in general in Indonesia is at least 19 years old. One of the proposed ways is through extracurricular activities such as the Youth Generation, which has activity centers such as the Adolescent Health Information Center (PIKR).

Adolescents in Cirebon Regency are expected to gain an understanding of reproductive health and the importance of postponing marriage to a more mature age through programs such as PIKR. Thus, it is hoped that there will be an increase in awareness and behavior that supports population control efforts and the improvement of the welfare of the community as a whole.

### **Challenges and Obstacles**

The challenges faced by DPPKBP3A in Cirebon Regency in mobilizing the community related to family and population information can indeed be complex.

However, they have taken strategic steps to collaborate with rural community institutions such as Quality Family Villages (Kampung KB) in each village to bring services closer to the community.

In addition, there are several obstacles and challenges that are passed DPPKBP3A Cirebon Regency, both internally and externally. Internal obstacles, with changes in human resources can affect the performance of the Cirebon Regency DPPKBP3A, such as SSK and the Population Data House should have been notified from the beginning but because of personal turnover, it is only informed now, and also the lack of completeness of supporting facilities because the DPPKBP3A is not a prioritized Regional Apparatus Organization and does not serve directly to the community, only facilitating or providing contraceptive drugs and those who provide, handling, injecting and installing are health workers. Meanwhile, the external obstacle is the lack of public awareness of the literacy of family planning programs and contraceptive drugs. Not all people 100% agree with the program, DPPKBP3A Cirebon Regency once visited a group of people to provide socialization related to the family planning and alicon programs, but the community chose not to listen to the information.

## **CONCLUSION**

The conclusion of this study is that the role of local governments is very influential on the smooth implementation of these program policies, DPPKBP3A Cirebon Regency has carried out its main tasks and functions well. With structured cooperation between the government and the community, it can increase the expected success in overcoming this problem of increasing population growth. Internal factors with changes in human resources can hinder performance, but DPPKPP3A Cirebon Regency has overcome it well. External factors are from the community who lack awareness of the importance of the family planning program, this is a special concern for the DPPKBP3A of Cirebon Regency.

In general, the family planning program does not prohibit having children and does not regulate the number of children because it is a progressive right of each couple, but with this program, it is hoped that the community can open their insights and expectations in creating a healthy and happy family.

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