

# Analysis on 2019-nCov: What the Sociology Perspective Says about the Epidemics

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**ABSTRACT**--This paper aims to analyze the sociology perspective on the corona virus issue in Indonesian society. Medical sociology provides an overview of the application of sociological theories in providing understanding of health, especially the COVID-19 virus. Perspectives in sociology that can be used in analyzing the health sector is functionalist and conflict perspectives. A functionalist perspective that focuses on health issues views good health and requires maximum medical care in collaborating with the community while respecting norms and values. Perspective conflict focuses on inequality in social life and classifies people into race, class and gender and quantity and quality become a measure in the system in society. The results of this study indicate that the perspectives of functionalist focus on a framework that involves the community as a social system so that the number of victims affected by the Corona virus can be minimized.

**Key words**-- Functionalism perspective, Medical sociology, Norms, Values, Framework.

## I. INTRODUCTION

COVID-19 virus outbreaks cause death which continues to grow every day. This situation makes the COVID-19 virus issue become one of the crucial issues in the government policy agenda in various countries around the world including in Indonesia. John Hopkins CSS through the Map of Coronavirus COVID-19 Global Cases provides data on the number of deaths from the COVID-19 virus of 2,620 cases and 79,434 people who have been infected in the world and as many as 2,495 fatalities from Hubei Province in China (Liputan6, 2020). Symptoms caused by the COVID-19 virus are coughing, fever, and chest pain. These symptoms are the same as flu symptoms accompanied by rapid virus transmission that makes people panic.

Budu as Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Hasanuddin University, said that the COVID-19 virus is an outbreak of infection that needs special attention but does not need to be responded excessively because it will make people worry (Budu, 2020). The location of Indonesia from an endemic location in Wuhan does not mean that Indonesia is free of the virus. Nevertheless, people do not need to panic in responding to the development of the corona virus such as overstocking masks. One scientific study that can be used in studying the COVID-19 issue of the virus is sociology perspective. Perspective is one of the ways that can be used in analyzing a problem. The

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sociology perspective is one of the first steps in observing the handling of the COVID-19 issue of the virus in Indonesia.

In addition, in sociology also known as sociological imagination introduced by C.Wright Mills (Scott & Nilsen, 2013). By focusing on imagination, sociology tries to see individual relationships in society. Individuals can overcome personal problems, can control themselves in relation to social issues and within the framework of information. The quality of mind possessed by humans, they can use information to overcome the COVID-19 issue of the virus, especially how to avoid the virus. Sociological imagination encourages individuals to understand the meaning of history and its relationship with the external.

Sociology is one of the disciplines that is useful in examining in cases related to health, especially the COVID-19 issue of the virus because it does not only study social phenomena but also helps to overcome them (Bruce & Yearly, 2006). Sociology presents a new perspective on how to control health issues, a more detailed understanding of health cases being studied, sociology studies focus on factors relationships and structural factors involving individuals as in the social world and changes in various social phenomena in society including health sector. This is because sociology is a study of human societies (Giddens & Sutton, 2010).

One perspective in sociology that can be used in analyzing the health sector is a functionalist perspective. The perspective emphasizes norms and values that will control power to achieve the goals of an institution (Thompson, 2013). In addition to functional perspective, there is also a conflict perspective. This perspective focuses on inequality in social life. This perspective groups people into groups based on race, class and gender. These groups can exert influence on health services especially those related to quantity and quality (Lee, 2018)

## **II. AIM OF RESEARCH**

To analyze the Sociology perspective on the corona virus issue in Indonesian society. Medical sociology provides an overview of the application of sociological theories in providing understanding of health, especially the COVID-19 virus. Sociological theories have a set of ideas that are interconnected and provide more detailed knowledge about the social world (Ritzer & Stepnisky, 2013).

## **III. METHOD OF RESEARCH**

The method used is qualitative. Qualitative approach used in this research are literature review and interviews. Review literature is used to obtain more detailed data obtained from various reading sources such as journals, books, research reports, and sources from the internet. Interviews involve experts to refine previously obtained data.

## **IV. DISCUSSION**

Health functionalist views that good health needs maximum medical care in collaborating with the community while still paying attention to norms and values. Functionalist perspective sees someone who is experiencing pain will have a role as a sick person so that people who are sick cannot do their obligations and can sometimes be

considered to interfere with social functions (Lee, 2018). Therefore, the role of health workers is very important in perspective functionalists including in providing insight into the COVID-19 virus.

These health workers can work in hospitals or in health centers or known as *Puskesmas* in Indonesia. *Puskesmas* is not as big as a hospital in size but in a functionalist perspective, the place can function as a center for community empowerment, a center for development that provides health insight, a health center for first level strata that can provide services that are private goods and also a place for public goods. To carry out its functions properly in a functionalist perspective, health workers must have the skills and education in accordance with the tasks performed. This perspective sees that health workers are a strategic resource because they are able to use financial, physical and shaping resources to facilitate their work. With this capability, health workers can carry out their roles optimally in handling cases of the COVID-19 virus. This ability includes skills or expertise in dealing with sudden emergence. Then the other ability is that health workers are responsible for completing tasks in each work unit.

As explained in the background above, conflict perspective observes health issues by looking at quantity and quality such as the role of education. The relationship between education and health is unidirectional in that high education can provide improvements in the level of health in society. Groups of people who have higher education potentially have a higher awareness of being able to maintain their own health so that they do not contract the COVID-19 virus. Conversely, those who have low education potentially have less awareness about how to avoid the COVID-19 virus. Therefore the role of government, especially those involved in the health sector, has a large role in increasing public awareness of health, especially regarding the COVID-19 virus. The government can optimize public awareness through the dissemination of information or counseling about the COVID-19 virus.

Corona virus prevention socialization has been carried out by the government as has been done in malls, train stations, airports and create information sites about the Corona virus. The government also has explained how to identify the initial symptoms if one has contracted Corona virus such as flu and fever and dry cough as an initial stage. Furthermore, the next symptom that occur is experiencing shortness of breath after one week of contracted. The World Health Organization (WHO) says that the incubation period is around 14 days from transmission to showing symptoms (Lumbanrau, 2020). Increasing awareness of Corona virus prevention is very important because the number of cases and deaths continues to increase. The data below shows the highest number of cases and deaths in countries around the world

**Table 1:** Number of cases and deaths from Corona Virus

No	Name of Countries	Cases	Dead
1	China	80.859	3.121
2	Italy	9.172	463
3	South Korea	7.382	51
4	Iran	6.566	237
5	France	1.116	19
6	Germany	1.112	-
7	Spain	999	28
8	Diamond Princess Cruise Ship	696	7

9	Japan	488	9
10	Swiss	332	2
11	UK	277	5
12	Netherlands	265	3
13	USA	213	11
14	Sweden	203	-
15	Belgium	200	-
16	Norway	169	-
17	Singapore	150	-
18	Malaysia	117	-
19	Austria	112	-
20	Bahrain	95	-
21	Australia	77	3
22	Greece	73	-
23	Kuwati	64	-
24	Canada	62	-
25	Iraq	60	6
26	Egypt	55	1
27	Iceland	55	-
28	Thailand	50	1
29	United Arab Emirates	45	-
30	Chinese Taipe	45	1
31	India	43	-
32	Israel	39	-
33	San Marino	37	1
34	Denmark	36	-
35	Lebanon	32	-
36	Czech	32	-
37	Finland	30	-
38	Portugal	30	-
39	Vietnam	30	-
40	Brazil	25	-
41	Ireland	21	-
42	Algeria	20	-
43	West Bank	19	-
44	Indonesia	19	-
45	Oman	16	-
46	Slovenia	16	-
47	Qatar	15	-

48	Romanian	15	-
49	Saudi Arabia	15	-
50	Ecuador	15	-
51	Georgia	13	-
52	Argentina	12	1
53	Croatia	11	-
54	Poland	11	-
55	Philippines	10	1
56	Chile	10	-
57	Estonia	10	-
58	Hungary	9	-
59	Azerbaijan	9	-
60	Costa Rica	9	-
61	Mexico	7	-
62	Russia	7	-
63	Pakistan	6	-
64	Belarus	6	-
65	Peru	6	-
66	French Guiana	5	-
67	New Zealand	5	-
68	Slovakia	5	-
69	Bulgaria	4	-
70	Maldives	4	-
71	Macedonia	4	-
72	Senegal	4	-
73	Afghanistan	4	-
74	Malta	3	-
75	Faroe Islands	3	-
76	Bangladesh	3	-
77	Latvia	3	-
78	South Africa	3	-
79	Cambodia	2	-
80	Camera	2	-
81	Luxembourg	2	-
82	Martinique	2	-
83	Morocco	2	-
84	Nigeria	2	-
85	Saint Martin (French territory)	2	-
86	Tunisia	2	-

87	Albania	2	-
88	Bosnia and Hersegovina	2	-
89	Monaco	1	-
90	Armenia	1	-
91	Andorra	1	-
92	Dominican Republic	1	-
93	Gibraltar	1	-
94	Vatican	1	-
95	Jordan	1	-
96	Liechtenstein	1	-
97	Lithuania	1	-
98	Bhutan	1	-
99	Nepal	1	-
100	Moldova	1	-
101	Saint Barthelemy	1	-
102	Serbian	1	-
103	Sri Lanka	1	-
104	Togo	1	-
105	Ukraine	1	-
106	Paraguay	1	-
107	Colombia	1	-

Source (Lumbanrau, 10 March 2020)

The data above shows that almost all countries in the world are exposed to the Covid-19 corona virus. The virus that was first discovered in China in the Wuhan area spread very quickly by crossing the country. Habits of people who do not quarantine themselves when sick can worsen the situation because it can transmit the virus to other people. The figure below shows the Covid-19 corona virus shows a growing number of cases.



**Figure 1:** Map of Corona Virus Spread for Total Cases and Total Deaths (Lumbanrau, 10 March 2020)

Figure 1 above gives an overview of the spread of the Covid-19 corona virus infection to spread to all continents in the world except Antarctica. Perspective functionalist observes how the influence of health care, health and illness is influenced by other aspects of social life (Mooney, Knox, & Schact, 2007). The data above about cases of people who are positive for the Corona virus and for those who have died due to the virus, based on the perspective of a functionalist, requires a framework that involves the community as a social system so that the number of victims affected by the Corona virus can be minimized.

## V. CONCLUSION

Functionalism focuses on the function of the constituent elements in society such as norms, customs, traditions and institutions that interact with one another. Functionalism sees society as a framework that has complex parts and works together to maintain stability and solidarity within the community. One element in society is the government, especially health workers who have a big role in providing socialization to the public about how to avoid the Corona virus. The role played by those in the health sector through socialization is one of the forms of behavior that can support the integrase functionalist perspective.

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