THE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH IN THE VIEW OF
INDONESIAN MUSLIM FEMINISTS

Tati Hartimah
Dept. Islamic History and Culture, FAH—UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta
South Tangerang, Indonesia
tati.hartimah@uinjkt.ac.id

Abstract

The reinforcement of reproductive health rights continues to face a variety of challenges. Although actively campaigned, the facts on the ground are still worrying. based on data, the number of maternal mortality, abortion, and early marriage, is still very high.

With the intention of portraying various views and actions of Muslim feminists on issues of reproductive health (especially family planning, maternal mortality, HIV / AIDS, early marriage, and abortion), this study used a qualitative method with descriptive approach.

The research identified several things. First, Muslim feminists are still very active parties voicing the importance of this issue to always be noticed, especially by the government. They have launched various steps to unravel the problem related to reproductive health.

Second, although there is UU No. 36 Tahun 2009 on Health, and Government Regulation (PP) No. 61 Tahun 2014 on Reproductive Health, in fact, the regulation does not have the strength in the field. It is not only a homework for the government but also for all parties which are concerned with reproductive health issues, including the Indonesian Muslim feminists.

Third, cultural problems are still the biggest obstacle to Muslim feminism. Besides the patriarchal paradigm that is still very strong in developing the community, the principle of 'many children, many sustenances' is still a culture that is maintained without ever thinking about the risks or impact that will arise.

Fourth, many people still practice traditional practices that have a negative impact on women's reproductive health. Living environment in some cases strongly influences people's habits in dealing with issues related to reproductive health. In addition, there are still problems related to the lack of experience and understanding of men on various issues of women.

This study provides some recommendations: First, it is necessary to have a derivative regulation which is related to reproductive health as a reinforcement plot of UU No. 36 Tahun 2009 on Health, and Government Regulation (PP) No. 61 Tahun 2014 on Reproductive Health. In addition to policy advocacy, the Muslim feminists also need to optimize the communication with the government to develop regulation related to reproductive health.

Secondly, Muslim feminists need to strengthen the programs that directly come into contact with women's groups in various layers of community, including creating the synergy with various groups (the leaders figure of religious and community, and with religious councils) in every running reproductive health program.

Third, the government should be more open as much as possible involving Muslim feminists in various programs which are related to reproductive health, including in the socialization program of legislation that has been prepared. In addition, the government also needs to strengthen the understanding of reproductive health, especially to educational institutions/school through the curriculum that contains the respects values for women's reproductive rights.

Keyword: Muslim Feminists; Reproductive Health; Reproductive Rights; Women