

The Effects of Tourism on Local Women's Lives in Indonesia: Glocalization and the quality of women's lives

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Abstract:

The change brought by tourism to the locals in Indonesia can be understood only within the context of the complex social and economic system of a tourist' destination in particular geographical boundaries. These include: The lack of employment options, the predominance of poverty, the class structure, the process of setting up development policies, and the locals ideologies concerning gender. Tourism development does not necessarily affect all parts of a region or all classes equally or similarly. Tourism has had both positive and negative impacts; however, these vary between local and non-local people, and among socioeconomic classes. This paper examines tourism in traditional villages. It uses a gender analysis approach to gender roles and relationships, such as employment patterns, income, family structure and functions, and child-rearing.

Keywords: Tourism, gender analysis, Indonesia

Introduction: Tourism and gender analysis

In this paper, the understanding of tourism is a phenomenon which involves the people participating in it: (1) the tourists, the host people and others involved in supply of tourism activities; (2) the interactions between the participants; and (3) other abstract phenomena which ensue along with these people such as planning, management, policy, economic, and other social components related to tourism. Therefore, tourism can be defined as the phenomenon resulting from the interaction of tourists, locals from the destination area, and others involved in the circumstances and processes which are related to tourism.

Why gender analysis is important? The issue of integrating gender into every academic activity is essential. Since 1991, Weaver et al. show how a gender-based analysis in questioning knowledge and science can vary according to the scope of the area of science which is being analyzed, for example, physical science, economy, religion, architecture, and art. Given that feminist theory has led to a particular understanding of gender, it is not surprising that most gender-related research is being conducted by women who are working within feminist research (Barnett 1988). That is why the development of "gender analysis" research has focused primarily on women. Rao (1991:13), who produced a gender analysis framework, states that "...the analytical framework is, in essence, a means of making visible what women do and why. It is a process of building a gender-differentiated data base on activities, access to resource, and control over resources, and on factors influencing these three issues, in a way that facilitates translation into project or policy terms." It seems that within a gender analysis framework, implementation of a project emphasizes women in every phase of research and decision making.

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