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Father's Involvement, Child Protection, and Child Subjective Well-being in Migrant Woman Worker Families

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Abstract:

This study aimed to analyze the effect of father's characteristics, mother characteristics, child characteristics, father's involvement, child protection, and child subjective well-being in migrant woman worker family. The study using designs a cross-sectional study. Location of the research was selected purposively in Pagermaneuh Village, Karang Tengah Village, Tanggeung Village, Margaluyu Village from Tanggeung Sub-district and Pasir Dalem Village from Kadupandak Sub-district, Cianjur Regency, West Java Province, Indonesia. Sample of this research were 75 fathers' and 75 children from intact family, whose is mother left overseas and at least has been a migrant woman worker for 6 months. The results show that father's involvement is in medium category, child protection is in high category, child subjective well-being is in medium category. The child characteristic has a significant negative direct effect to fathers' involvement. The child characteristic has a significant negative direct effect to child subjective well-being. The child characteristic has a significant negative indirect to child protection through the father's involvement. Fathers' involvement has a significant positive direct effect to child protection.

Keywords: *child protection, child subjective well-being, father's involvement*

1. Introduction

1.1. Father's Involvement

Children need a clear form of positive reaction-acceptance-from parents or other caregiver figures. The main concept of acceptance and rejection in children is the emphasis on how one's subjective view of parenting behavior. Acceptance and rejection simultaneously will shape how much parental warmth, a series of unity that can be placed on everyone, because everyone have a difference childhood experiences with less or more affection from the main caregiver (Rohner 2012).

The warmth of parents has a role in the quality to a bond of affection between parents and children, which is demonstrated by physical, verbal, and symbolic behavior. Acceptance can be shown with affection, attention, comfort, nurturing, and support. Rejection is indicated by a variety of painful behaviors both physically and psychologically (Rohner 2012).

McBride and Mills (1993) stated that father's involvement in child parenting is getting involved with all the children daily activity. The indicator from father's involvement in child parenting it's focuses on expressive, emotionality, and compassion (Cullen and Grossman 2007). Harmaini (2014) states that from a parenting child's point of view, father's involvement is based on the fulfillment of affection, caring, support and financial needs. According to Stublely et al. (2015) fathering behavior that leads to the safety and child well-being.

The indicator of parenting is to focus on affection, nurturing, providing, and discipline (Cullen and Grossman 2007; Rane and McBride 2000). Chaudhary et al. (2015) states that indicators of fathering are active in raising children, caring, feeding, and providing protection to children. Factors that will affect the whole father's involvement with children are the local culture (Harmaini 2010), whereas Wilson and Prior (2011) state the accessibility, direct involvement and sense of father's responsibility to their children that will affect father's involvement.

1.2. Child Protection

UNICEF defines child protection as a prevention and response to violence, exploitation and torture of children - including commercial sexual exploitation, child labor, child marriage, harmful traditional practices, and human trafficking. According to Jeffries et al. (2015) child protection is a child protected from harms behavior, domestic violence and the impact of domestic violence itself. Implementation of a father's protection is by being outside the home to seek and fulfill the child's birthright (Harmaini et al. 2014). Gilbert et al. (2011) state the child protection approach is to focus on protecting and supporting children from the risk of lack of parental care, mistreatment, and being hurt by relatives or others.

Osagie and Akande (2001) describe that indicators of mistreatment in children are (a) physically abused, (b) sexually abused, (c) abandoned, (d) treated unreasonably emotionally. This mistaken treatment of children shows that the child is not well protected. According to Osagie and Akande (2001) the mistreatment of children is, a behavior by others to the children such as (a) beyond the normal, (b) at risk of harm either physically or mentally.

The differences in economic, socio-cultural, religious and political outlooks provide different views on society in assessing children, on the notion of behavior and parenting practices, the role of the state influences child protection and welfare progress, to become a healthy family (in the context of protected children), neighboring qualities and the environment around our lives will be very influential (Rudd and Herzberger 1999; Welbourne and Dixon 2013).

1.3. Subjective Well-being

Welfare has a broad meaning how the quality life of someone (Ress et al. 2010). According to Ress et al. (2010), subjective well-being is an important concept that associated to economic circumstances, family relationships and self-reliance in life also as predictors of other problems. Life satisfaction is one of the important components in subjective wellbeing. Life satisfaction is related to some positive things whether long term or short term.

The child subjective well-being is a view and feeling that created by participation in the child's routine and activities-which is directly related to the family's ability to provide the child's physical, mental, and social basic needs-so that the child will have self-esteem, life purpose, and trust (Keith and Schalock 1994; Schor 1995).

According to Moore (2008), there are four key areas of child well-being individually that is, physical, psychological, social and educational / intellectual. The physical dimension is related to the biological condition of the child's health and physical condition and healthy life habits. The psychological dimension sees the mental and emotional state and how the child judges himself and his future. The social dimension sees the child's direct involvement in the home and school environment, and the child's ability to connect with peers. The dimensions of education relate to the child's ability to learn, remember and reason according to his age range.

Parenting behavior, parenting practices, and the role of the state have an effect on child protection and child well-being progress (Welbourne and Dixon 2013). Father's involvement in parenting has a very important contribution in child development, the transition of children to adolescence, and the well-being of children also mothers-father's themselves in the future (Minuchin 1985; Cabrera 2000; Wilson and Prior 2011)

1.4. Conceptual Framework

Hanson (2010) define family refers to two or more individuals who depend on another for emotional, physical, and economical support. Woman migrant worker families require mothers to leave the family to earn a living, for fulfilling their family economic demands. Fathers who remain at home with children have a burden and obligation directly involved in parenting.

According to Stublely et al. (2015) fathering is all the behavior of the father's that leads to the security and welfare of children. Fathers is expected to have a capability to nurture children with care, so that children will be protected. Father's involvement in parenting can increase the well-being of mothers and children, and also foster the good to father's in the future. A father's who succeeds in fulfilling roles and responsibilities in parenting will enhance his subjective well-being (Hughes 1989). Father's involvement in overall parenting is positively related to the satisfaction and happiness of the child's life (Allen 2007).

Child protection activities should include focusing on increasing attachments among others, keeping up with current developments, and self-acceptance competencies as parents (Tremblay et al. 1999). Mentally and emotionally the child also should be protected, where verbal and disparaging torture, treatment aimed at threatening the child, and the lack of attention or emotional presence of the caregiver are a mistaken treatment to a child, and that's mean the child is not well protected (Schumacher & Carlson 1999).

Gilbert et al. (2011); Welbourne & Dixon (2013) argue that economic, socio-cultural, religious and political differences have different effects on people's perceptions of children, good behavior and parenting practices and the country's recognition of protection and progress on the welfare of children.

According to Diener (2000) the components of one's subjective well-being are life satisfaction (overall life assessment), satisfaction in key areas (job satisfaction), positive influences (good mood and good emotion), and low negative influences (bad mood and bad emotion). Keith and Schalock (1994) state that well-being is a general view on a person's feelings regarding his life circumstances, including personal and family issues. The subjective well-being of the child is a view and feeling created by participation in routine and activity (Weisner 1998). According to Schor (1995) the health and well-being of children directly relates to the family's ability to provide the child's basic physical, mental, and social needs

2. Methods

This study design uses cross sectional study, which is research with a data retrieval technique where researchers will observe in a certain point and time. Location of the research was selected purposively in Pagermaneh Village, Karang Tengah Village, Tangerang

Village, Margaluyu Village from Tanggeung Sub district and Pasir Dalem Village from Kadupandak Sub district, Cianjur Regency, West Java Province, Indonesia. The researches location selected due to the consideration that in the official data BNP2TKI (National Agency of Dispatch and Protection of Indonesian Migrant Worker) in 2015, Cianjur Regency was ranked the 3rd largest as contributor of migrant worker in West Java Province and the 6th largest of all Indonesia. The study was conducted from November to December 2016.

The population of this research is all the family in Cianjur Regency. Sample of this research are woman migrant worker family in Tanggeung Sub-districts and Kadupandak Sub-districts. The respondents in this research are the father's and children of 9-12 years old from intact family, whose is mother left overseas and at least has been a woman migrant worker for 6 months. The sample withdrawal technique is done by purposive sampling, because there are some characteristics that must be owned. The number of respondents studied is 75 fathers' and 75 children. Characteristics of the fathers consists of age, education, occupation, and income. Characteristics of the mother consists of age, education, income, and length of work become a woman migrant worker. Characteristics of children consist of gender, age, child birth order, and number of children in the family. Gender is divided into male and female. Father's' involvement in parenting was measured using a scale-shaped questionnaire that refers to the concept of a scale tool, The Inventory of Father's Involvement, composed by Hawkins et al. (2002) and modified by the researchers. The researchers modified the measuring instrument to match the state of the child left behind by his mother. The Inventory of Father's Involvement data as a whole numbered 26 items of questions then modified by researchers into 16 questions for children, which was originally for the father's. The dimensions of the modified question were developed based on the concept of McBride and Mills (1993) routine child activities; Harmaini (2015) affection, support, and finance / provide for a living. Each question is given a scale and a value with the following terms: never given a score of 1, rarely given a value of 2, often given a value of 3, and always assigned a value of 4, resulting in a total score of 16-64. The higher the index value means the father's is increasingly involved in parenting. The questionnaire Cronbach alpha is 0.69.

Child protection by father's is measured using a scale questionnaire that refers to the concept of Indonesian Child Protection Act No. 23 of 2002 Article 13. Based on the concept two dimensions are made, namely the physical dimension and the psychological dimension. The questionnaire developed by the researchers consisted of 13 questions for the child. Each question modified is to match the state of the child left by the mother to work as a migrant worker. Each question is given a scale and a value with the following terms: never given a score of 1, rarely given a value of 2, often given a value of 3, and always given a value of 4, and a negative question score is reversed, resulting in a total score of 13-52. The higher the value means the more children are protected. The questionnaire Cronbach alpha is 0.63.

The child subjective well-being is measured using a scale-shaped questionnaire which refers to the concept of the Students' Life Satisfaction Scale scheme composed by Huebner S (1991) and modified by the researcher. Data Students' Life Satisfaction Scale as a whole amounted to 9 items of questions then modified by researchers to fit the conditions of children left by mothers to work as migrant workers. The dimensions of modified questions were developed based on the concept of Diener (2000) non-material and material. Questions addressed to the child. Each question is given a scale and a value with the provisions: never given a score of 1, rarely given a value of 2, often given a value of 3, and always given a value of 4, and negative questions scores reversed so that the total score of 9-36. The higher the value means the child is more prosperous. The questionnaire Cronbach alpha is 0.65.

3. Data Analysis and Results

Based on the results of research the average age of children is 10.8 years old with a minimum age range is 9 years old and a maximum age range is 12 years old. Less than half the number of children in this research was 12 years old (38.7%). The number of children in the family has an average of 2 children in each family, with a minimum number of children is 1 and a maximum number of children is 5. Based on the number of children in the family, more than half the number of children there are 2 children in the family (53.3%). Children in this study had a varied birth order, ranging from the 1st child to the 5th child. Less than half children in this research were the first child (49.3%), followed by the second child (34.7%), the third child (9.3%), the fifth child (4.0%), and the fourth child (2.7%).

The average age of the father's in this study was 41, 6 years old with a minimum age range is 30 years old and a maximum age range is 62 years old. Less than half the of father's age in this study was categorized early adult (49.3%). Mother age in this study has an average age of 36.6 years old with a minimum age range is 28 years old and a maximum age range is 55 years old. The majority of mother age in this study was categorized as young adults (80.0%). The father's educational duration in this study had an average of 6.7 years, with most of the length of education father's spent 6 years (elementary school) (73.3%). The average length of maternal education is 6.2 years with the majority of the duration of education taken by the mother is 6 years (elementary school) (84.0%). The results showed the average father's income of IDR 527 333 / month, from the minimum father's income range is IDR 0 / month and father's maximum income range is IDR 2 600 000 / month. Meanwhile, the mother has an average income of IDR 2 139 333 / month, with the minimum mother income range is IDR 1 400 000 / month and the mother income maximum range is IDR 3 500 000 / month. Based on the results of research less than half the number of mothers who worked overseas being a woman migrant worker for 25-36 months (37.3%). The results showed more than half the number of families in this study was categorized small family (<5 people) (62.7%).

Variables	Unit	Total (n=75)		Mean±SD	Min-max
Father age	Year			41,6±6,4	30 – 62
Early adult (28-40)		37	49,3		
Middle adult (41-60)		35	46,7		
Late adult (>60)		3	4,0		
Mother age	Year			36,7±5,7	28 – 55
Early adult (28-40)		60	80,0		
Middle adult (41-60)		15	20,0		
Late adult (>60)		0	0,0		
Father education length	Year			6,7±2,0	4-16
4 (Not graduate)		4	5,3		
5 (Not graduate)		1	1,3		
6 (Elementary school)		55	73,3		
9 (Junior high school)		10	13,3		
12 (Senior high school)		4	5,3		
16 (Bachelor)		1	1,3		
Mother education length	Year			6,4±1,1	4-9
4 (Not graduate)		1	1,3		
6 (Elementary school)		63	84,0		
9 (Junior high school)		11	14,7		
Father's income	IDR			527333±523520	0-2600000
Mother's income	IDR			2139333±551980	1400000-3500000
The length mother became woman migrant workers	Month			30,8±15,1	7 – 74
1-12		3	4,0		
13-24		26	34,7		
25-36		28	37,3		
37-48		6	8,0		
>48		12	16,0		
Family size	People			4,4±0,9	3-7
Small family (< 5 people)		47	62,7		
Medium family (5-7 people)		28	37,3		
Large family (> 7 people)		0	0,0		

Table 1: Family characteristics

Variables	Unit	Total (n=75)		Mean±SD	Min-max
Children age	Year			10,8±1,1	9-12
9		10	13,3		
10		26	34,7		
11		10	13,3		
12		29	38,7		
Number of children in the family	People			2,4±0,9	1-5
1 children		8	10,7		
2 children		40	53,3		
3 children		19	25,3		
4 children		4	5,3		
5 children		4	5,3		
Child birth order					
First child		37	49,3		
Second child		26	34,7		
Third child		7	9,3		
Forth child		2	2,7		
Fifth child		3	4,0		

Table 2: Child characteristics

The results showed that less than half the father's involvement in this study is categorized medium (40.0%) with an average index score of 68.1 where the minimum index score was 22.2 and the maximum index score was 100.0. Based on this research most of the child protection by father's is categorized high (74.7%) with the average index score of 84.2 where the minimum index score was 45.4

and the maximum index score was 100.0 Less than half the child subjective well-being in this study were moderately (44.0%) with an average index score of 60.5 from a minimum index score was 11.1 and a maximum index score was 92.5.

Category	Father's involvement		Child protection		Child subjective well-being	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Low (0,00– 50,00)	16	21,3	1	1,3	20	26,7
Medium (50,01-75,00)	30	40,0	18	24,0	33	44,0
High (> 75,01)	29	38,7	56	74,7	22	29,3
Total	75	100,0	75	100,0	75	100,0
Min-Max (0-100)	22,2-94,4		45,4-100,0		11,1-92,5	
Mean±SD (0-100)	68,1±16,1		84,2±12,6		60,5±17,6	

Table 3: Father's involvement, child protection, child subjective well-being

The child characteristics (child birth order, number of children in the family) ($\beta = -.450$; $p < 0.01$) have significant negatively effect on the father's involvement in child parenting, the smaller child birth order and the least number of children in the family then the father's will increasingly more involved in child parenting.

The child characteristics (child birth order, number of children in the family) ($\beta = -.211$; $p < 0.01$) have a significant negatively effect on the child subjective well-being. The child who born earlier and the least number of children in families will raise the subjective well-being that he or she feels.

The father's involvement had a very significant positively effect on the child protection by father's ($\beta = .610$; $p < 0.01$). The more father's is involved in parenting then the child will be more protected.

The child characteristics (child birth order, number of children in the family) ($\beta = -0.275$; $p < 0.01$) in the model have a significantly negative indirect effect on child protection by passing father's involvement in child parenting. The smaller child birth order number or the least number of children in the family then the father's will be increasingly involved in child parenting, the more father's involved in parenting then the be more protected child will be.

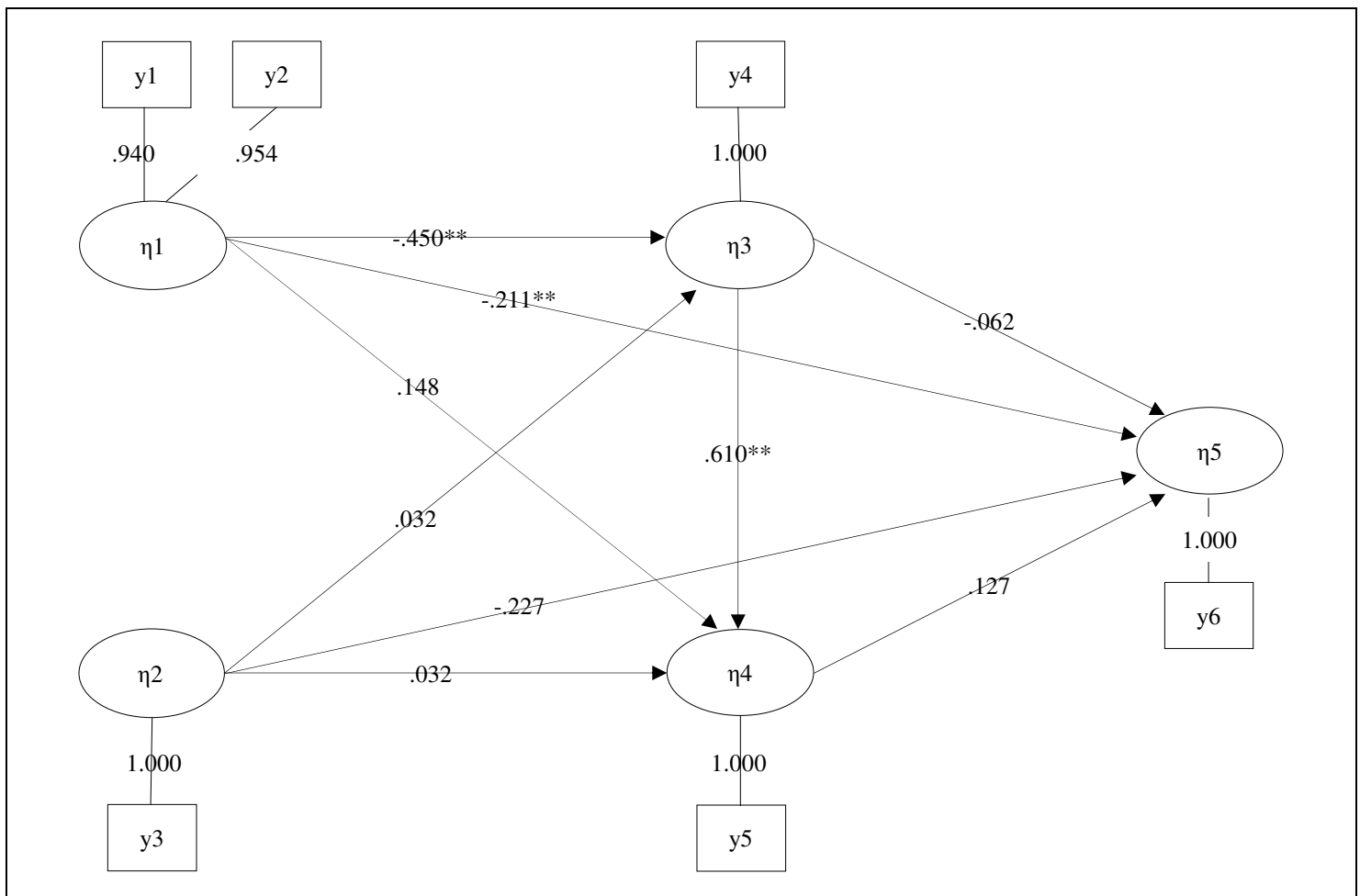


Figure 1: Father's characteristics, mother characteristics, child characteristics, father's involvement, child protection, child subjective well-being model

Information:

η_1	: Child characteristics	y_1	: Number of children in the family
η_2	: Family economic characteristics	y_2	: Child birth order
η_3	: Father's involvement	y_3	: Family income
η_4	: Child protection	y_4	: Father involvement score index
η_5	: Child subjective well-being	y_5	: Child protection score index
		y_6	: Child subjective well-being score index

Variables	Direct Effect	Indirect Effect	Total Effect
Father's involvement (η_3) $R^2=0.21$			
1. Child characteristics (η_1)	-.450**	.000	-.450**
2. Family economic characteristics (η_2)	.032	.000	.032
Child protection (η_4) $R^2=0.38$			
1. Child characteristics (η_1)	.148	-.275**	-.127
2. Family economic characteristics (η_2)	.032	.020	.052
3. Father's involvement (η_3)	.610**	.000	.610**
Child subjective well-being (η_5) $R^2=0.10$			
1. Child characteristics (η_1)	-.211*	.012	-.199*
2. Family economic characteristics (η_2)	-.227	.005	-.222
3. Father's involvement (η_3)	-.062	.078	.016
4. Child protection (η_4)	.127	.000	.127

Table 4: Direct effect, indirect effect, and total effect

4. Discussion

Father involvement in child parenting are dynamic and fluid in nature and can change dramatically following a major transition in their life. Major life event in father life like birth of a child, change in marital relationship, and change in familial and household composition can effect the father involvement (Castillo et al. 2011). The results showed that the child birth order and number of children in the family have a significantly negative effect to father's involvement in child parenting. The smaller number of child birth order or the fewer children in family will make the father more involved in parenting. A father who only have one children will be easier to take care, because is just only one child to take care. In contrast to the father who have five children, father would have a difficulty in take care of five people at once and father also must make a living

Research by Paquette et.al. (2000) found that the number of children in family have negatively effect to the father involvement in parenting. The more children in the family, the more father is not involved in parenting. Gilbert et.al. (2011) states that the approach of child protection is to focus on protecting children with sufficient parental care and protecting children from mistreatment or harm by relatives or others. Lamb et al. (1985) threefold typology of fathers' involvement with their children are engagement, accessibility, and responsibility. Lamb et al. (1985) terms, engagement refers to the amount of time that fathers spend in a direct interaction with their children daily activities; accessibility refers to the amount of time that fathers' physical availability and monitoring their children activities; and responsibility refers to the fathers take responsibility for their child care, make arrangements, decisions and tasks related to childrearing.

Chaudhary et.al. (2015) states, the indicator of parenting done by the father is active in raising children, loving, feeding, cleaning and providing protection to children. The father involvement in child parenting in this study has a very significant positively effect to the child protection by father. Fathers' who are quite involved in parenting in their daily lives, will also provide protection to his child. In addition, the child birth order and the number of children in family will affect the child protection by father through the father involvement in child parenting. The smaller number child birth order and the fewer number of children in the family, will make father more involved in nurturing them. Children whose fathers are more involved in caring for them will automatically get better protection from their father. Fathering is all the behavior of fathers that leads to the safety and well-being of children (Stublely et al. 2015). Specific effects of fathers' involvement with children at age seven can predicts child protection against poverty and homelessness in comparison to peers who did not have the advantage of an engaged father (Sarkadi et. al., 2007).

Based on the results in this studies the smaller number of child birth order or the fewer children in families, the children will have a better subjective well-being. A child who born as a first child and only have on brother or sister is tends happier than a child who born as the fifth children. Father from two children or less can give all his attention and care to his child without divided. Income that mother send from overseas to her husband can used to provide all the basic needs for their children. The child subjective well-being is a view and feeling that created by participation in the child's routine and activities-which is directly related to the family's ability to provide the child's physical, mental, and social basic needs-so that the child will have self-esteem, life purpose, and trust (Keith and Schalock 1994; Schor 1995). Previous research found that the satisfaction of one's life tends to increase, or at least not decrease due to age (Larson 1978, Herzog and Rodgers 1981; Stock et al 1983). According to Diener (2005), in general demographic factors (income, marital status, employment status, age, gender, education, presence or absence of children and religious activities) have an effect in

influencing one's subjective well-being. How much influence the demographic factor on a person's subjective well-being depends on the personal value and purpose, personality, and culture.

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