The Changing Role of Gender in Contemporary Muslim Families

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Abstract: Gender roles in the Muslim family have undergone significant transformations, resulting in exciting new dynamics in a society that was previously closely tied to tradition. This study explores these changes using library research methods that involve a comprehensive and integrated analysis of the literature to collect, evaluate, and integrate findings from various previous studies relevant to this topic. The results show that changes in gender roles in Muslim families today reflect social, cultural, and religious evolution. This results in balance and inclusiveness between men and women in family responsibilities and individual aspirations. The influence of religion, particularly in Islam, provides a framework that supports various interpretations of gender roles. Despite challenges and resistance, especially from groups still holding to traditional values, these changes have increased family well-being, broader political participation, and economic growth. Achieving greater gender equality in Muslim societies requires education, awareness-raising, and mutual support. With a

strong commitment, these changes can lead Muslim communities towards inclusiveness, better gender justice, and equitable benefits for all members.

Keywords: *Gender Roles, Gender Equality, Gender Justice, Muslim Families*

Abstrak: Peran gender dalam keluarga Muslim telah mengalami transformasi yang signifikan, menghasilkan dinamika baru yang menarik dalam masyarakat yang sebelumnya terkait erat dengan tradisi. Kajian ini mengeksplorasi perubahan tersebut dengan menggunakan metode library research yang melibatkan analisis literatur secara komprehensif dan terintegrasi guna menghimpun, mengevaluasi, serta mengintegrasikan temuan dari berbagai penelitian terdahulu yang relevan dengan topik ini. Hasil kajian menunjukkan bahwa perubahan peran gender dalam keluarga Muslim saat ini mencerminkan evolusi sosial, budaya, dan agama. Ini menghasilkan keseimbangan dan inklusivitas antara laki-laki dan perempuan dalam tanggung jawab keluarga serta aspirasi individu. Pengaruh agama, khususnya dalam Islam, memberikan kerangka kerja yang mendukung berbagai interpretasi mengenai peran gender. Walaupun ada tantangan dan resistensi, terutama dari kelompok yang masih memegang teguh nilai-nilai tradisional, perubahan ini membawa peningkatan kesejahteraan keluarga, partisipasi politik yang lebih luas, dan pertumbuhan ekonomi. Pencapaian kesetaraan gender yang lebih besar dalam masyarakat Muslim memerlukan upaya pendidikan, peningkatan kesadaran, serta dukungan bersama. Dengan komitmen yang kuat, perubahan ini dapat membawa masyarakat Muslim menuju inklusivitas, keadilan gender yang lebih baik, dan manfaat yang merata bagi semua anggota.

Kata Kunci: Peran Gender, Kesetaraan Gender, Keadailan Gender, Keluarga Muslim

INTRODUCTION

Gender roles in the family are a key aspect that affects the social structure, interpersonal relationships, as well as the development of

individuals in a family.[1] In recent decades, significant changes have taken place in gender roles, both in general society and in Muslim families. Gender roles refer to a set of social norms and expectations that govern an individual's behavior and responsibilities based on their gender.[2] In the context of Muslim families, gender roles have long been an integral part of Household Dynamics. Traditionally, Muslim families follow a more conservative pattern of gender roles, with the man as the main breadwinner and head of the family. At the same time, the woman is responsible for household affairs and the care of the children.[3]

However, over time, social, economic, and political developments have brought about significant changes in gender roles in contemporary Muslim families. Women are increasingly involved in education and professional careers, while men are beginning to participate in household chores and the care of children actively.[4] This has created a new dynamic in the relationship between husband and wife in Muslim families. In addition, gender roles in Muslim families are also influenced by religious and cultural factors. Different interpretations of religion and cultural values can play an

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[1] Trees Pels, "Muslim Families from Morocco in the Netherlands: Gender Dynamics and Fathers' Roles in a Context of Change," *Current Sociology* 48, no. 4 (2000): 75–93, https://doi.org/10.1177/0011392100048004007; Suzie Drummond et al., "The Relationship of Social Support with Well-Being Outcomes via Work–Family Conflict: Moderating Effects of Gender, Dependants and Nationality," *Human Relations* 70, no. 5 (2017): 544–65, https://doi.org/10.1177/0018726716662696.

[2] Beniamino Cislaghi and Lori Heise, "Gender Norms and Social Norms: Differences, Similarities and Why They Matter in Prevention Science," *Sociology of Health & Illness* 42, no. 2 (2020): 407–22, https://doi.org/10.1111/1467-9566.13008.

[3] Suud Sarim Karimullah, "Reinterpretasi Terhadap Kedudukan Perempuan Dalam Islam Melalui Takwil Gender KH. Husein Muhammad," *ARJIS (Abdurrauf Journal of Islamic Studies)* 1, no. 2 (2022): 115–33.

[4] Sara Bender et al., "Academic Women and Their Children: Parenting during COVID-19 and the Impact on Scholarly Productivity," *Family Relations* 71, no. 1 (2022): 46–67, https://doi.org/10.1111/fare.12632.

important role in how gender roles are understood and applied in the Muslim family context. Some Muslim families may still maintain more traditional gender role patterns, while others may adopt a more egalitarian approach.[5]

In an increasingly connected global context, changes in gender roles within Muslim families can be a mirror of larger changes in the family and social fabric as a whole. This is in view of the importance of the family in Muslim culture and traditions, which is often at the core of social identity and stability. Therefore, a deep understanding of the changing gender roles in Muslim families is not only important for such families but can also provide insight into how Muslim Societies respond to ongoing global developments.

Globalization also brings new challenges and opportunities in terms of gender roles in Muslim families. On the one hand, greater access to a variety of views and practices from around the world can stimulate a reconsideration of more traditional gender roles. On the other hand, globalization may also increase the pressure to maintain cultural identities and values that may involve more conservative concepts of gender roles. In addition, the political context and social changes also need to be considered in this study. Changes in government policies, including those related to employment, education, and women's rights, can affect gender roles in Muslim families. Changes in the social fabric, such as changes in social norms regarding marriage and family, can also have a significant impact.

The changing gender roles in contemporary Muslim families also create opportunities to explore new potentials in the economic and

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[5] Chelom E Leavitt et al., "Exploring Gender Roles in Highly Religious Families," *Review of Religious Research* 63 (2021): 511–33, https://doi.org/10.1007/s13644-021-00476-9.

educational context. Women who are increasingly involved in the workforce, for example, can make a greater contribution to the economic growth of families and society as a whole.[6] It can also affect children's educational patterns by involving women in a more active role in the formation of family values.

Previous studies have shown that gender roles in the family have undergone significant changes in various societies around the world.[7] Globalization, economic development, and greater access to education have been important factors in this change. These changes also include an increase in women's participation in the labor force and education, which often affects the way families organize gender roles. In the context of Islam, previous research has explored how religion and culture contribute to the understanding and implementation of gender roles in Muslim families.[8] The study noted significant variation in religious interpretations among Muslim families, with some adopting a more traditional approach while others combine Islamic values with gender equality.

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[6] Sonalde Desai and Omkar Joshi, "The Paradox of Declining Female Work Participation in an Era of Economic Growth," *The Indian Journal of Labour Economics* 62 (2019): 55–71, https://doi.org/10.1007/s41027-019-00162-z.

[7] Golnessa Galyani Moghaddam, "Information Technology and Gender Gap: Toward a Global View," *The Electronic Library* 28, no. 5 (2010): 722–33, https://doi.org/10.1108/02640471011081997; Judy El-Bushra, "Feminism, Gender, and Women's Peace Activism," *Development and Change* 38, no. 1 (2007): 131–47, https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-7660.2007.00406.x.

[8] Ahmed Al-Asfour et al., "Saudi Women's Work Challenges and Barriers to Career Advancement," *Career Development International* 22, no. 2 (2017): 184–99, https://doi.org/10.1108/CDI-11-2016-0200; Samia Ibtasam et al., "'My Cousin Bought the Phone for Me. I Never Go to Mobile Shops.' The Role of Family in Women's Technological Inclusion in Islamic Culture," *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 3, no. CSCW (2019): 1–33, https://doi.org/10.1145/3359148; Meguellati Achour, Fadila Grine, and Mohd Roslan Mohd Nor, "Work–Family Conflict and Coping Strategies: Qualitative Study of Muslim Female Academicians in Malaysia," *Mental Health, Religion & Culture* 17, no. 10 (2014): 1002–14, https://doi.org/10.1080/13674676.2014.994201.

Previous studies have also shown a link between education and changing gender roles in Muslim families. Higher education for women is often associated with more active participation in family decisions and less incidence of child marriage.[9] In addition, several studies have sought to find out the impact of changing gender roles in the family on the overall well-being of the family. Results vary, with some studies showing improved family well-being when gender roles are more balanced, while others highlight the challenges and conflicts that may arise in changing gender roles.[10]

Drawing on findings from previous studies, this study aims to provide a more holistic picture of the evolution of gender roles in contemporary Muslim families. The aim is to identify ongoing trends and relevant challenges and describe essential changes that may occur within the broader

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[9] Shahnaz Abdullah, Halima Qureshi, and Shakil Quayes, "The Adverse Effect of Child Marriage on Women's Economic Well Being in Bangladesh–Can Microfinance Help?," *The Journal of Developing Areas* 49, no. 4 (2015): 109–25, https://www.jstor.org/stable/24737366; Omid Dadras, Tanaporn Khampaya, and Takeo Nakayama, "Child Marriage, Reproductive Outcomes, and Service Utilization among Young Afghan Women: Findings from a Nationally Representative Survey in Afghanistan," *Studies in Family Planning* 53, no. 3 (2022): 417–31, https://doi.org/10.1111/sifp.12207; Frangky Suleman et al., "The Review of the Maslahah Mursalah Related to Early Marriage: Implementation and Orientation," *Jurnal Dinamika Hukum* 23, no. 3 (2023): 573–86, https://doi.org/10.20884/1.jdh.2023.23.3.3783; Arif Sugitanata and Suud Sarim Karimullah, "Implementasi Hukum Keluarga Islam Pada Undang-Undang Perkawinan Di Indonesia Mengenai Hak Memilih Pasangan Bagi Perempuan," *SETARA: Jurnal Studi Gender Dan Anak* 5, no. 1 (2023): 1–14, https://doi.org/10.32332/jsga.v5i01.6536.

[10] Lori Heise et al., "Gender Inequality and Restrictive Gender Norms: Framing the Challenges to Health," *The Lancet* 393, no. 10189 (2019): 2440–54, https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(19)30652-X; Dirk Hofäcker and Stefanie König, "Flexibility and Work-life Conflict in Times of Crisis: A Gender Perspective," *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy* 33, no. 9/10 (2013): 613–35, https://doi.org/10.1108/IJSSP-04-2013-0042; Ulla Kinnunen*, Sabine Geurts, and Saija Mauno, "Work-to-Family Conflict and Its Relationship with Satisfaction and Well-Being: A One-Year Longitudinal Study on Gender Differences," *Work & Stress* 18, no. 1 (2004): 1–22, https://doi.org/10.1080/02678370410001682005.

framework of gender roles in the context of Muslim families. The results are expected to contribute to a deepening understanding of this topic as the study seeks to explore these changes, examining influencing factors, such as economic, social, religious, and cultural aspects. In addition, the focus of the study also includes the impact of these changes on interactions within Muslim families, including the dynamics of husband-wife relationships, parenting patterns, and individual development in the family environment. With a deeper understanding of the evolution of gender roles in contemporary Muslim families, it is hoped that this study will provide valuable insights into how Muslim communities are adjusting to the social changes that are taking place and also provide a foundation for more effective policies and interventions to support the well-being of Muslim families in the midst of evolving social dynamics.

METHOD

This study adopts the library research method, including a thorough and integrated literature analysis. This approach aims to summarize, evaluate, and integrate findings from previous research relevant to the study's focus. Through an in-depth analysis of the literature, this study aims to deepen a comprehensive understanding of the evolution of gender roles in Muslim families, bringing together diverse perspectives from various existing research sources. This approach makes it possible to trace the history of the development of the concept of gender roles in the sphere of the Muslim family, as well as identify emerging trends from previous studies. Thus, the library research method becomes a solid foundation for the theoretical basis of this study and helps to direct data analysis in more depth.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Gender Roles in the Context of Contemporary Muslim Families

Gender roles include the norms, expectations, and tasks assigned to individuals based on their gender, and changes in gender roles can reflect larger social changes in society. In contemporary Muslim communities, gender roles in the family often mirror the complexity of the relationship between religious values, culture, and modernity. There are diverse views and practices within Muslim families that range from the very traditional to the more progressive. The religion of Islam, as one of the main factors influencing the social and cultural order in Muslim societies, plays a significant role in shaping the perception and implementation of gender roles.[11]

However, it is important to understand that in the context of contemporary Muslim families, significant changes have taken place. Globalization, technology, access to education, and economic factors have changed family dynamics. Women are increasingly involved in the world of work, education and social activities, which raises the question of changes in the division of Labor and responsibilities within the family. Moreover, approaches to gender roles in Muslim families can differ between generations. Younger generations may have more progressive views on gender equality, while older generations may hold more firmly to traditional norms. This creates tension between the expectations of different ages and can affect gender roles in the family.

In addition to internal factors, gender roles in Muslim families can also be affected by external factors such as government policies and

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[11] Antje Röder, "Explaining Religious Differences in Immigrants' Gender Role Attitudes: The Changing Impact of Origin Country and Individual Religiosity," *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 37, no. 14 (2014): 2615–35, https://doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2013.854919; Sara Ashencaen Crabtree, "Culture, Gender and the Influence of Social Change amongst Emirati Families in the United Arab Emirates," *Journal of Comparative Family Studies* 38, no. 4 (2007): 575–88, https://doi.org/10.3138/jcfs.38.4.575.

changing societal demands. Policies that support gender equality, protection of women's rights, and better education can have a positive impact on changing gender roles in Muslim families. Changes in gender roles in Muslim families can have a significant effect on the well-being of individuals. For example, when women have greater opportunities to participate in the workforce and get a higher education, they may feel more economically independent. This can increase their self-esteem and give them the ability to contribute to the family income, which in turn can improve the overall well-being of the family.

However, changing gender roles can also create challenges within the family. Some families may face difficulties in adjusting to these changes, especially if they have traditional views on gender roles. Conflicts can arise in conjugal relationships or between different generations, and this can affect the stability of the family. In addition, gender roles in Muslim families also have a potential impact on children's development. Children learn about gender roles from their family experiences, and changes in gender roles in the family can affect their perception of what is expected of them as a man or woman in the future.[12] Therefore, a shift in gender roles in the family can shape children's views on gender equality and provide opportunities for them to grow and develop without restrictions based on gender.

One of the challenges that may be faced is resistance to change on the part of those who maintain traditional norms. Some family members, especially older ones, may find it difficult to accept more balanced gender roles. Conflicts in the family can arise as a result of these differences in

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[12] Rebecca Horn et al., "Women's Perceptions of Effects of War on Intimate Partner Violence and Gender Roles in Two Post-Conflict West African Countries: Consequences and Unexpected Opportunities," *Conflict and Health* 8, no. 1 (2014): 1–13, https://doi.org/10.1186/1752-1505-8-12; Suud Sarim Karimullah, "The Urgency of Building Legal Awareness on Care of Children in the Family," *Amsir Law Journal* 3, no. 2 (2022): 76–86, https://doi.org/10.36746/alj.v3i2.66.

views, and this can hinder the process of change. In addition, changes in gender roles in the family can also raise questions about identity. Some individuals may experience discomfort or confusion when they try to change their gender roles according to changes in society. This may require them to reconsider their views on themselves and their role in the family and community.

Education can provide the knowledge, skills, and understanding necessary for women and men to take on more balanced roles in the family and society. Therefore, investment in the education of women and men should be a priority. In addition, advocacy and awareness about gender equality are also important. Civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, and activist groups play a major role in promoting gender equality in Muslim societies. They can hold campaigns, seminars and trainings aimed at improving understanding of gender issues and combating harmful stereotypes.

The role of religious leaders is also very important in encouraging positive changes in gender roles in Muslim families. Religious leaders have a great influence in shaping the views and practices of their people. Therefore, supporting religious leaders who promote gender equality in the context of spiritual teachings can bring about significant change in Muslim families and societies. In addition, it is also important to encourage women's participation in decision-making at all levels, both in the family and in government. Ensuring that women have a voice in the decision-making process can help address power imbalances that may exist in gender roles within the family.

The Influence of Religion and Culture on the Formation of Gender Roles

The influence of religion and culture in the formation of gender roles is a very complex and relevant topic in the context of social and cultural

development in various societies around the world. Religion and culture play a central role in shaping the views and duties attributed to individuals based on their gender.[13] Therefore, a deeper understanding of how religion and culture interact in shaping gender roles is essential for understanding gender dynamics in contemporary society. Religion often plays a very significant role in determining gender norms in the community. Each religion has its teachings related to gender roles. For example, in Islam, there are diverse understandings of gender roles that reflect different religious interpretations. While in other religions, such as Christianity and Judaism, there are also variations in views on gender roles that are reflected in religious traditions and teachings.

It is important to understand that religious interpretations can change over time and can be influenced by cultural and social contexts. For example, in some contemporary Muslim societies, there have been changes in the way religion is interpreted to support gender equality. It reflects an effort to embrace more modern values of equality without neglecting religious teachings. Culture also plays a key role in shaping gender roles. Cultural values, norms, and traditions often influence how women and men are assigned roles in society. For example, in some cultures, women may be expected to assume the role of family caregiver and perform household duties, while men are expected to be the breadwinners.

The influence of religion and culture in the formation of gender roles can also have a different impact on women and men.[14] Sometimes, cultural

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[13] Marwan Azouri and Lindos Daou, "The Cultural Side of Entrepreneurship in the Middle East: Religion, Gender and Family," in *Entrepreneurship and Social Entrepreneurship in the MENA Region: Advances in Research* (Springer, 2022), 219–28, https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-88447-5_8.

[14] Suud Sarim Karimullah, "Progressive Islamic Religious Education in the Family as a Means of Empowering Women," *AL-AUFA: JURNAL*

norms and traditions can restrict women's freedom and opportunities while at the same time granting certain rights or privileges to men. Therefore, the assessment of gender roles must take into account the perspectives and experiences of both sexes. In addition, it is also important to seek a balance between respect for cultural and religious values and the more universal values of gender equality. This requires open dialogue and discussion about how to understand and embrace those values without compromising the rights and opportunities of individuals based on gender.

Religious and cultural influences can also vary significantly between different regions and groups within a society. In some Muslim communities, for example, a more conservative interpretation of religion may predominate, while in others, there is more room for an inclusive and progressive interpretation. This reflects diversity in religious and cultural understandings and how other factors, such as politics and economics, influence these interpretations. However, in some cases, there is a tension between religious and cultural values and the more modern values of gender equality. This can create a conflict between traditional demands and more progressive demands in society. In the face of such conflicts, it is important to promote constructive dialogue between religious leaders, cultural figures, and gender equality advocates. In addition, it is also important to recognize that changing gender roles is not only about women but also about understanding and redefining the role of men. The concept of masculinity can also be strongly influenced by religion and culture, and changes in views towards male roles can pave the way for greater gender equality.

In many religions, there is great potential to support gender equality and women's rights. This is especially evident in the more inclusive and

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progressive interpretation of religion. In Islam, for example, many Muslim scholars and thinkers have articulated an understanding of gender equality based on Islamic teachings, which emphasize the need to respect women's rights and provide them with equal opportunities to participate in society. In addition, religion can also be used as a tool for advocating positive change in gender roles. Faith-based organizations often play a role in fighting for women's rights and combating gender inequality. They can use religious values to inspire action in favor of gender equality, such as abolishing practices that harm women and supporting women's education.

Similarly, a culture that is inclusive and progressive can be a driver of positive change in gender roles. In cultures that promote values of equality and justice, women and men can feel free to pursue their aspirations without strict gender boundaries. Culture can also create spaces for people to discuss gender issues and overcome stereotypes that limit gender roles. However, in involving religion and culture in the change of gender roles, it should be noted that this is not a simple process. Sometimes, there are tensions between conservative religious and cultural interpretations and more modern values of gender equality. In this regard, careful dialogue and a sensitive approach are needed to achieve mutual understanding and embrace the importance of gender equality.

Implications of Changing Gender Roles in Muslim Families

One of the most obvious implications of changing gender roles in Muslim families is the shift in family dynamics itself. More conservative traditions may have placed women in leading roles as housekeepers and mothers while men were the primary breadwinners. However, with more and more women involved in the workforce and seeking higher education, this traditional role has changed. Women now have a more active role in supporting the family economy, which also affects how responsibilities in the

family are divided. In addition, changes in gender roles can also generate new dynamics in the marital relationship. In contemporary Muslim families, women may be more active in household decision-making and play a more equal role with their husbands in this regard. It can create more equal relationships and based on partnership in managing the household and educating children.

One of the other major implications of changing gender roles is on the family economy. As more women are involved in the workforce, contemporary Muslim families often experience an increase in income. This can have a positive impact on family well-being, including access to better education, health services, and better housing. Families can more freely meet their basic needs and improve their quality of life. However, these changes can also bring challenges, especially when it comes to balancing work and family responsibilities. Working women often face dual pressures to live out dual roles as breadwinners and family caregivers. This can generate stress and tension, which can affect the physical and mental health of the woman. Therefore, it is important to create an environment that supports the balance between work and family in contemporary Muslim societies.

Changes in gender roles also have implications in education. With more and more women seeking higher education and taking a more active role in society, we are seeing an increase in women's participation in various fields, including science, technology, and politics. It brings great potential for improving the quality of human resources in Muslim societies, which can result in greater economic and social progress. However, education also plays an important role in changing social views and norms.[15] With broader

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[15] Mahrus Mahrus and Suud Sarim Karimullah, "Analysis of Educational Policy in the Framework of Learning Efficiency and Effectiveness," *FIKROTUNA: Jurnal Pendidikan Dan Manajemen Islam* 16, no. 02 (2022): 1–17,

education, individuals tend to be more open to ideas of gender equality and women's rights. This can create changes in values and attitudes in society, which in turn can affect the practice of gender roles in Muslim families. In addition, it is important to remember that changes in gender roles in Muslim families also have an impact on the younger generation. Children who grow up in families where gender roles are more balanced may have a more inclusive view of the roles of men and women in society.[16] They can be agents of change in promoting gender equality in the future.

The change in gender roles in Muslim families has significant implications in terms of women's empowerment. When women have greater access to education and economic opportunities, they tend to be more financially independent. This can improve the social and economic status of women in Muslim societies, as well as give them more control over decisions in their lives. Women who are more financially independent can participate in decision-making in the family, including in matters of children's education and family planning. However, keep in mind that these changes can also generate tension in the household. Rapid changes in gender roles can challenge traditional norms that may still exist in Muslim societies. Domestic conflicts can arise when a married couple has to navigate changing roles and responsibilities. Therefore, it is important to promote healthy communication and balance between parts of the household.

Changing gender roles can also create new opportunities in Muslim societies for women to engage in public and political life. With more and

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https://doi.org/10.32806/jf.v16i02.6179; Ulf Leo and Per Wickenberg, "Professional Norms in School Leadership: Change Efforts in Implementation of Education for Sustainable Development," *Journal of Educational Change* 14 (2013): 403–22, https://doi.org/10.1007/s10833-013-9207-8.
[16] Suud Sarim Karimullah, "The Influence of Technology on the Interaction of Parents and Children in the Family," *AGENDA: Jurnal Analisis Gender Dan Agama* 5, no. 2 (2023): 140–56, https://doi.org/10.31958/agenda.v5i2.10645.

more women having education and experience in the world of work, they can contribute in various fields, including politics. Women's participation in politics can bring a more inclusive perspective and support more balanced policy-making. In addition, these changes may affect the understanding of religion in Muslim societies. The more women have access to religious education and literature, the more women's voices can contribute to the interpretation and practice of religion. This can lead to a more inclusive understanding of spiritual teachings that respect gender equality. However, changes in gender roles also face resistance in some cases, especially in communities that still adhere to strong traditional values. This can create social and cultural tensions within Muslim societies. It is important to create spaces for dialogue and a deeper understanding of these changes in order to achieve greater gender equality.

Changes in gender roles can also affect the development of children in Muslim families. Children who grow up in families where gender roles are more balanced may have a more inclusive view of the roles of men and women in society.[17] They can grow up with the understanding that women and men have equal opportunities to pursue their dreams and aspirations. This can create a more tolerant and inclusive generation. However, it is important to remember that these changes can also create tensions in a society that may still adhere to strong traditional norms in terms of gender roles. This can create conflict between younger generations, who may be more receptive to these changes, and older generations, who may be more

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[17] Suud Sarim Karimullah et al., "The Relevance of Feminism in Promoting Gender Reform in the Context of Progressive Islam," *Jurnal Anifa: Studi Gender Dan Anak* 4, no. 2 (2023): 1–15, https://doi.org/10.32505/anifa.v4i2.7187; Afthon Yazid, Suud Sarim Karimullah, and Arif Sugitanata, "Comparative Study On Childfree Marriage In Some Selected Countries," *Jurnal Al-Hakim: Jurnal Ilmiah Mahasiswa, Studi Syariah, Hukum Dan Filantropi* 5, no. 2 (2023): 267–84, https://doi.org/10.22515/jurnalalhakim.v5i2.7869.

defensive of traditional values. In the face of such conflicts, a sensitive approach and open dialogue are essential to finding solutions that respect the diverse values within Muslim societies. In addition, changing gender roles can also create new opportunities in Muslim communities for women to act as agents of change in various fields, including Education, health, politics, and business. Women who have access to higher education and economic opportunities can be leaders in addressing social and cultural issues relevant to Muslim communities. This can bring about positive changes in decision-making and greater social change.

It is important to understand that changing gender roles is an ongoing journey, and gender equality is not a goal that can be achieved overnight. Therefore, the Muslim community must adopt a sustainable approach in support of this change. It involves continuous education, awareness, and advocacy to promote gender equality in all aspects of life, including within the family. One concrete solution is to create an environment that favors the balance between work and family. Governments and companies can play a role in providing policies that support parents, such as flexible parental leave and affordable childcare facilities. This will help women and men in carrying out their roles in the family and at work. In addition, education on gender equality must begin early. Schools and educational institutions can include materials that teach the values of gender equality and the importance of respecting the roles and aspirations of individuals, regardless of gender. This will help shape young people's views on gender roles more inclusively.

The government also has an important role in promoting gender equality through public policies and legislation that support the equal rights of women and men. These measures can include anti-discrimination laws, equal educational opportunities, and comprehensive reproductive health care. In addition, advocacy and support from civil society organizations are

also important in creating positive social change. These groups can provide mentoring, information, and help to individuals and families who wish to adopt a more balanced gender role change. With cooperation and joint efforts, it can create a more advanced, inclusive, and gender-equitable Muslim society that provides equal opportunities for all its members.

CONCLUSION

The change in gender roles in contemporary Muslim families is a complex and significant phenomenon that reflects changing social, cultural and religious dynamics over time. In the context of Muslim families, these changes have brought about a more balanced and inclusive dynamic between men and women in terms of family responsibilities and individual aspirations. The influence of religion and culture in the formation of gender roles is highly visible, with Islam as a religion within Muslim societies providing a framework that can be interpreted variously, allowing room for a more inclusive understanding of gender roles. However, these changes also trigger challenges and resistance, especially in societies that still adhere to traditional values. In addition, the implications of changing gender roles include increased family well-being, greater political participation, and increased economic contribution. Still, it also requires education, awareness, and support from across society to achieve greater gender equality in Muslim communities. With hard work and commitment, these changes can lead us toward a more inclusive, equitable, and gender-equitable Muslim society, one that benefits all its members.

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