Ecofeminism Movement as a Mangrove Forest Saving Strategy in the Coastal Area of Demak Regency- Central Java Indonesia

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This study aims to examine the role of women in saving the condition of mangrove forests along the north coast of Demak regency, Central Java, Indonesia. Since the last two decades, the condition of mangrove forests in the coastal area of Demak Regency has become increasingly worrying. This condition can be seen from the increasing loss of coastline area due to erosion. This problem certainly impacts the further destruction of coastal ecosystems and residents' livelihoods, the majority of whom work as fishermen and are highly dependent on the sustainability of coastal resources. Seeing this problem, a group of women initiated the ecofeminism movement by planting mangroves as an effort to save the coastal ecosystem of Java at Demak Regency. The nature of women who are considered to have instincts and sensitivity in managing the environment makes them seen able to persuade others to take part in the movement. Using a qualitative approach via in-depth interviews and the authors explored the perception, motivation, and actions taken by a group of women involved in the ecofeminism movement to save mangroves. This study found that the ecofeminism movement has increased local community awareness of the importance of conserving mangroves. This is reflected in the Forum Demak Hijau Seedling House that helps them to supply seeds for planting and build awareness with the local community. The role of the Pasijah family as planting facilitators has attracted various parties, ranging from students, environmental rescue communities, and the government to participate in saving mangroves. keywords: mangrove forest, coast, ecofeminism, women

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