

## PERCEPTION UNDERSTANDING AND ATTITUDE OF HOUSEWIVES IN ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT

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**Abstract:** The method used in this study is the experimental and descriptive method, namely description, explanation, and analysis. The population in this study were housewives in the Musi Hilir River Basin Area, Palembang City, which consists of the base zone, namely Gandus Village, the middle zone, namely 7 Ulu Village and 16 Ilir Village, while the end zone is Sungai Lais Village. The samples taken in this study were for the base zone, middle zone and end zone. Determination of the sample in this study used the purposive sampling method, meaning that there is a specific purpose to describe a particular social symptom or social problem. from the study obtained that the perception of housewives based on education experienced differences, the understanding of housewives based on education did not differ and the attitude of housewives based on education had a good attitude towards managing aquatic ecosystems.

**Keywords:** Attitude, Perception, Understanding,

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### INTRODUCTION

In terms of hydrological conditions, Palembang City is divided by the Musi River into two large parts called the upstream and downstream parts. Palembang City has 108 tributaries. There are 4 large rivers that cross Palembang City. The Musi River is the largest river with an average width of 504 meters. The other three large rivers are the Komerang River with an average width of 236 meters, the Ogan River with an average width of 211 meters, and the Keramasan River with an average width of 103 meters.(Windusari & Sari, 2015).

Beside the big river is another small river located across the downstream, which functions as urban drainage (there are  $\pm$  68 active tributaries). The small river has a width ranging from 3-20 meters. In the river flow, there is a retention pond built, so that it becomes part of the river boundary. The water level of the Musi River is greatly influenced by the ebb and flow of sea water. In the dry season, there is a decrease in river discharge, so that the water level of the Musi River reaches a minimum height (Salsabila & Basaiban, 2022).

The riverbank is the lifeblood of the people living around it. So important that the decline in the quality of the river can have an impact on the decline in the quality of life of the people living around its banks. Efforts to maintain the condition of the river and its banks are a joint ecological effort by the community to reconcile conservation and development. The good or bad quality of the Musi River waters depends on the people living on the riverbanks, the people who use the river for transportation, trade, nature tourism, and daily activities (Rosanti et al., 2022).

According to (Ardyansah Susilo et al., 2023), the Musi River that divides the city of Palembang needs serious attention, because currently many problems arise in the river that is the pride of Palembang, for example the river basin. The condition of the Musi River Basin in the South Sumatra region is increasingly concerning. It is recorded that of the approximately 7.7 million hectares (ha) that exist, only 800 ha of land is still in good condition.

The increasingly declining condition of the Musi River Basin waters is due to nature and human activities in their daily lives, especially the people who live on the riverbanks. According to (Rosanti et al., 2022) due to pollution by various types of waste, the water

quality of the Musi River continues to decline. Currently, the quality status of the river water which is the raw material is heading towards class II standards. Every day, the housewives do activities on the banks of the river to do MCK (bathing, washing, toilet) or dispose of household waste in the waters of the Musi River. The purpose of this study was to determine the water quality of the Musi Hilir Watershed in Palembang City and to determine the perception, understanding and attitude of housewives in managing the aquatic ecosystem of the Musi Hilir Watershed (River Basin) in Palembang City.

Waste management as one of the environmental improvement efforts, currently its implementation still faces various obstacles. The habit of people who directly throw their garbage or waste into the river, and the lack of willingness to process the waste produced are the main problems as occurs along the DAS (River Basin Area). River management is river development which includes utilization efforts, namely the use and development and conservation in the form of river protection and control is part of river management, the aim is to obtain water management systems so that they can provide maximum benefits for community welfare.

Participation of the community who live around the Musi River tributaries is the main key to accelerating development and overcoming pollution. Community participation can be started by supporting cleanliness, encouraging mutual cooperation starting from the yard and its surroundings. Chemical observation, namely observation of water pollution based on dissolved substances, and changes in pH. Head of the Palembang Environmental Agency (BLH) Abu Bakar, Friday (2/18/2011). According to the established standards, the pH of river water is around 0-9, while the pH of Musi River water is around 6.3-7, meaning that currently Musi River water can still be processed and used for drinking. BOD and COD in the Musi River and nine tributaries have increased. However, Musi River water is safe to be used as drinking water because it is still in class I. Novrian Fadillah explained that the results of the study showed that BOD and COD content increased by 5-10 percent from the standards set by the government (for rivers) (Sriwijaya post, 2010:2).

## METHODS

The method used in this research is the experimental and descriptive method, namely depiction, explanation, and analysis. Descriptive research according to (Sugiyono, 2019) is a method that functions to describe or provide an overview of the object being studied based on the data obtained. Data collection using a questionnaire method that will be distributed to housewives in the Musi Hilir River Basin Area, Palembang City. Data collection for physical and chemical quality through BLH SUMSEL.

The population in this study were housewives in the Musi Hilir River Basin Area (DAS) of Palembang City which consists of the base zone, namely Gandus Village, the middle zone, namely 7 Ulu Village and 16 Ilir Village, while the end zone is Sungai Lais Village. The samples taken in this study were for the base zone, namely RT.10 / RW.03, Gandus Village, Gandus District, the middle zone, namely RT.56 / RW.15, 7 Ulu Village, Seberang Ulu I District, and RT.04 / RW.01, 16 Ilir Village, Ilir Timur I District, while the end zone was RT.31 / RW.07, Sungai Lais Village, Kalidoni District. To more clearly determine the number of housewife samples in each research sample location, it can be seen in Table 1.

**Table 1. Research sample**

No.	Area Zone	Place	Number of Housewives as Sample
1	Base	RT.10/RW.03, Gandus Village, Gandus District, Palembang City	28 people
2	Middle	RT.56/RW.15, 7 Ulu Sub-district, Seberang Ulu I District, Palembang City	45 people
		RT.04/RW.01, 16 Ilir Village, Ilir Timur	16 people

3	End	I District, Palembang City RT.31/RW.07, Sungai Lais Subdistrict, Kalidoni District, Palembang City	33 people
<b>Total</b>			<b>122 people</b>

The sample determination in this study used the purposive sampling method, meaning that there is a specific objective to describe a particular social phenomenon or social problem (Syafrizal Helmi Situmorang, 2016). Samples for the physical and chemical quality of the waters of the Musi Hilir River Basin in Palembang City are in 3 zones, namely the base zone in Gandus Village, the middle zone in Ampera and the end zone in Sungai Lais Village. The research instrument used was in the form of a questionnaire to determine the perception, understanding and attitude of housewives in the management of the aquatic ecosystem of the Musi Hilir River Basin in Palembang City. The questionnaire consists of 23 forms of presentation proportions for each item. The largest proportion in answering is the standard for calculating the score value.

**Table 2. Instrument Planning Matrix**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Question Items</b>	<b>Number of Questions</b>
1 Perception	1 Environmental conditions of natural resources in the Musi River Basin	1, 2	2
	2 The contribution or need for housewives to protect and maintain the Musi Hilir Watershed	3	1
	3 Potential of the Musi Hilir Watershed	4, 5, 6	3
	4 Factors that threaten the balance of the Musi Hilir water ecosystem	7, 8	2
2 Understanding	1 Current environmental conditions of the Musi River Basin's natural water resources	9	1
	2 The role or contribution of housewives in protecting and maintaining the aquatic ecosystem of the Musi Hilir Watershed	10, 11, 12, 13, 14	5
	3 Potential of Musi River Basin	15	1
	4 The role or contribution of housewives in damaging or threatening the sustainability of the Musi Hilir Watershed	16	1
3 Attitude	1 How to dispose of trash	17, 18	2
	2 How to process waste	19, 20, 21	3
	3 Efforts to involve families to maintain river ecosystems	22, 23	2
<b>Total</b>			<b>23</b>

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### **Discussion of Housewives' Perceptions on the Musi Hilir Watershed in Palembang City Based on Education Level**

Housewives' perceptions in the management of the Musi Hilir River Basin (DAS) aquatic ecosystem in Palembang City from 4 sample research locations showed differences in housewives' perceptions based on differences in education levels of SD (Elementary School), SMP (Junior High School), SMA/SMK (Senior High School/Vocational School) and College graduates. The perceptions of housewives who graduated from SD (Elementary School) and SMP (Junior High School) appeared to have the same perception, namely disagreeing with the management of the Musi Hilir DAS aquatic ecosystem in Palembang City. This is in accordance with the statement (Hartatik, 2018) that attitudes, emotions, and thought patterns will influence a person's perception, and through perception humans continue to have relationships with the environment.

Housewives who are graduates of SMA/SMK (Senior High School/Vocational School) and graduates of universities tend to have a good perception, in other words, they agree with the management of aquatic ecosystems. This is in accordance with the statement (P. Afandi, 2018) that factors that influence perception include attention, awareness, memory, language, needs, beliefs and experience. If someone undergoes a high level of education, then that person will have experience, a sharp memory so that the knowledge and science gained regarding the management of aquatic ecosystems will be remembered and applied in everyday life.

### **Discussion of Understanding of Housewives on the Banks of the Musi Hilir Watershed in Palembang City Based on Education Level**

The understanding of housewives in managing the aquatic ecosystem of the Musi Hilir River Basin Area (DAS) in Palembang City, when viewed from each statement at the base, middle and end locations, there is no significant difference in understanding between housewives who graduated from elementary school (SD) and junior high school (SMP) graduates. Housewives who graduated from SMA/SMK (Senior High School/Vocational School) and college graduates have a good understanding of aquatic ecosystem management, this is in contrast to housewives who graduated from SD (Elementary School) and SMP (Junior High School). This is in accordance with the statement (Maliki et al., 2023) said that understanding comes from the word understand which means having a lot of knowledge, being clever and understanding properly.

(Nitisemito, 2019) written understanding is the process, way and act of understanding or comprehending while understanding is a lot of knowledge and thoughts in accordance with most people. If we relate it to the history of educational levels, then it is true that housewives who are high school/vocational school graduates and college graduates will have more knowledge than housewives who are elementary school graduates, because the function of a school is a place of knowledge and people who have knowledge.

### **Discussion of the Attitudes of Housewives on the Banks of the Musi Hilir Watershed in Palembang City Based on Education Level**

The attitude of housewives who graduated from Elementary School (SD), Junior High School (SMP), Senior High School (SMA/SMK) and College graduates shows that housewives who graduated from SMA/SMK and College graduates have a good attitude towards managing aquatic ecosystems compared to housewives who graduated from Elementary School and Junior High School. According to (Kasmir, 2020) In Hanstoe, he put forward five definitions of attitude, one of the definitions of attitude is that attitude is the tendency to act, perceive, think and feel in facing an object. If a housewife has a lot of background experience, broad knowledge and good perception, then the housewife will also have a good attitude. This is because knowledge, understanding and perception will determine a person's attitude.

## CONCLUSION

The water quality of the Musi River has decreased, this can be seen from several components that have exceeded the standard quality limits of SUMSEL GOVERNOR PERGUB No. 16 of 2005. The perception, understanding and attitude of housewives differ based on education level. Housewives who graduated from elementary school (SD) and housewives who graduated from junior high school (SMP) have the same perception, understanding and attitude, in the management of aquatic ecosystems is not good. Housewives who graduated from high school/vocational school (SMA/SMK) and college graduates have good perception, understanding and attitude towards the management of aquatic ecosystems. Good perception in the management of aquatic ecosystems, a lot of understanding about the management of aquatic ecosystems will create a good attitude in managing aquatic ecosystems.

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