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Research paper



Practical Policy in Pusong Slums Area, Lhokseumawe Methodology: Critical Pragmatism

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Abstract

Nowadays, conditions of Pusong fisherman's community (*kampung*) which is trapped in slump and poverty arise as major issues in Lhokseumawe. Over the years, this phenomenon tends to increase and spread out in the area of *kampung*. Concerning to the phenomenon, the study was conducted to reveal the existence of occupants within their environment. Practical observation was held to conceive the way of life of the people in the *kampung*. The results of study are expected to be used by the local government to make policy regarding to the *kampung* improvement. Research findings indicate that idea of 'rubbish bank' can be adopted as 'pioneer' policy to improve the *kampung's* environment become preferable.

Keywords: *Slum, Policy, Dwelling, Self-help.*

1. Introduction

Kampung Pusong is located in the center of Lhokseumawe and facing directly to the Malacca Strait. There are worked as fishermen. They lived on the stilts houses which were the physical condition of existing wooden houses is particularly vulnerable devastated by natural disasters or fires. Generally, the people have low education level, have no other skills except fishing which economically classified to low-income residents. The phenomenon shown that cycle of life there whirl in slump and poverty environment which is not meet minimum standard for humans to dwell. This article focuses on the discussion of the existence phenomenon of the people in the settlements to obtain a good policy as a tool to improve the dwelling problem toward preferable quality of living.

2. Method

Critical pragmatic analysis is used as a method to reveal and respond the research problem. The data have been gathered through direct observation regarding to the quality of physical settlements and dwelling existence. Physical settlement criteria are substantial since it can be dominant factor which influencing people to make decision, whether stay or leave. Whereas dwelling existence criteria included the way of thinking among the people to survive in the settlement. The way of thinking among the people used as an approach to improving their dwelling problem.

2.1. Pusong settlement in the existence value

According Drakakis-Smith, the type of housing provision in developing countries is two housing in the form of conventional and non-conventional. Pusong slum housing is part of the category of non konsional for home physical form of the material quality is not standard, planned independently who do not have special expertise in designing buildings and houses standing on government lands with illegal status. According to Burgess, the mode of housing production in developing countries in industrial, manufacturing and artisanal. Housing rundown Pusong is artisanal mode housing of production since the house was founded and occupied by the same person. Therefore, it is certain that the quality of the home has quality and quantity is very low because of the existence of the house is present based on the quality and quantity of human ability is limited anyway. The following diagram slums Pusong value in the eyes of experts and governments.

2.2. Slum housing as a lived spaces

The settlement is exist along the beach and is not orderly well. Pusong neighborhood is very dirty due to household garbage. Utilities those are available although in poor condition such as collective self-services cleanwater and electricity suppllied by the National Power

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Company (PLN) existed in the area. But there is no grey and black water piping or drainage system, neither wastewater sewarage system. Therefore, grey and black water dumped directly to the ground or seawater surface and decompose naturally by the ebb and flow of sea-water.




Figure 1: Pusong Slum Housing

Houses in Pusong generally used local wood or timber as material for column and wall, and worn zinc/metal as roof material. Most of the houses typically arranged in stilts house and connected each other by narrow floating timber road, which also connect the settlement to the city center. Spaces inside the house have limited capacity; generally only has quite small room for sleep and another small room for another activity that can be used as a dwelling. People who dwell inside it have been existed for over than 30 years. This phenomenon is still growing until recent time aand turned the neighborhoods into slums settlement area. To all or dwelling conditions they have (labor, work and action), they were able to survive that tend to increase descendant with very limited quality of life. This study is an effort to raise the quality of their lives by physical housing they live today.

2.3. Labour condition inthe pusong

In general they are to dwell in slums Pusong are low-income communities. According to data obtained their income under IDR 1.2 million ($100US) per month. Total income are highly inadequate to the need of their daily lives. Therefore, all efforts were made all family members to seek additional income to meet the needs they face. Goal to seek additional income they can do as a household assistant part time around their homes and to trade with very limited capital. So, with the condition that income they can not carry out this plan better life in the future, but only to fight to survive. Value low-quality labor that would produce human quality low. With the intake of food that was unfit, often sick because unhealthy living environment has brought them on the quality of the man has no human value reserve earnings become less educated are less likely to have the expertise and difficult to increase the degree of his life. Therefore pragmatically required a thought on where dwelling to maintain their physical health and utilize environmental quality of slum settlements potentially be increasing their income. The condition of the human body healthy and have sufficient income is the basic logic of human problem solving issuing of bad living conditions they experienced.

2.4. The value of settlement policy

In Indonesia, the provision of collective standard housing in large of numbers by government is not likely to happen because of financial reason. Therefore, relevant action need to be take place by providing a policy which can create job opportunities among the people to increase their income. Positive potencies of the settlement need to be addresses as a generator creating alternative jobs and new economic opportunities. To running the program of policy need to be at low cost due to the operational reason. Government also be expected to place their representative to control and manage the program. The concept of self-help housing which is proposed by J.F. Turner concerning to improve the house independently with cheaper cost possibly can be adopted.

2.5. Dwelling quality

People who live in Pusong can be regarded as bridgheader, namely low-income communities who spend more time on the work site, the house only as a mere break and performed his residence adjacent to the location in order to work. But it can distinguish typology bridgheader society in Pusong than other dwellings that the head of the family who works as a fisherman had a couple days not worked as a time of preparation work, sell their catch and is subject to natural climate that is supportive of making a living. Over the head of the family is in residence, the wife can replace the role of the family to earn a living or to help his wife work to survive. Therefore, the head of the family has the potential time that could be used to reorganize involved in the environment and place of residence along with the government on policies that have been previously prepared in accordance with the existing potential.

2.6. Integrated labour and settlement

Pusong slum areas paved with rubbish on every surface in sight. Plastics and consumables garbage accumulate at certain points depending on natural processes such as the ebb and flow of sea water in their settlement. Therefore, the waste can be used as raw goods are ready to process into reusable goods for everyday needs such as sandals, shopping bags, flower pots, and recycled objects more testable quality of life. Given this potential, then the family members no longer spread to the location of the work to earn a living and the head of the family has a work at home to earn a living when the climate was not allowed to go to sea. Therefore, the government can load a commodity processing waste into recycled at certain points in their housing environment. If this can happen then it is certain that their environment will be clean of trash and cut off the source of the disease exists. And the local community have a source of income that can be backed up for the sake of the plans better in the future to improve the quality of their lives. Recycled rubbish will always remain there since the settlement are crossing by city storm water drainage. During the rain, recycled rubbish will float off, accumulated and trapped in the settlement which can be potencies to be collected and recycled it. This opportunity can be positive for people to increase their income by doing rubbish harvest and in the long term can improve their quality of life.

2.7. Provision rubbish bank in the kampong pusong

Nowadays, recycled rubbish is no longer avoided because of the reason that it can be processed or recycled into such things which are worth for people. Price of recycled goods can be high according to their quality of craftsmanship through the facilitation by government. Increased income of people, gradually can pull out them from poverty. Rubbish bank is take a place as a collective center of recycled rubbish. There, the community facilitate by government manage all the process included 'bank in' process, sorting the type of rubbish, cleaning, craftsmanship process up to marketing of the product. This is the concept idea of policy to improve problems which are existed in Kampung Pusong. The policy derived from phenomenon within the settlement, lifted it as a potency for local community.

4. Conclusion

The term seedy as the image attached to the physical environment and their place of residence is not the main target for change that image. But who's where dwelling actor who became a critical success factor to change the image of both the venue. By uncovering the dwelling phenomenon, they are expected to break a bad way to live a way of life that is better to change that image. The government policy is the concept of substance tying all aspects of the problems that exist in their settlements into settlement issues conducted jointly by combining all the existing potential of the various parties involved. Self-help is no not release the community to solve the problems of the settlement itself, but as an integrated instrument to give awareness about the importance of life of the state in solving the existing problems, especially the problems in Pusong.

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