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**ANALYSIS OF ARTICLE 177 LETTER (D) LAW NUMBER 7 OF 2017
CONCERNING GENERAL ELECTIONS REGARDING WOMEN'S
REPRESENTATION QUOTAS IN LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS
2019 IN TANGERANG CITY**

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Abstract

Women's participation in politics is essential for the policy formation process. The aim of women's participation in parliament is to create accommodative and substantial political policy making. The right of politicized women was legislated through Law Number 68 of 1945. The aim of the research is to determine the representation of female legislative candidates who have met the qualifications of the Tangerang City Electoral Commission in the 2019 Election and to assess the contribution of women in parliament at the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council to political policy making. This research is empirical, utilizing data collection methods such as observation, interviews, and documentation at the Electoral Commission and Regional Legislative Council offices in Tangerang City. The research results show a significant disparity in the representation of female legislative candidates in Tangerang City who have met the qualifications set by the Tangerang City Electoral Commission qualifications has a very unequal number. In the 2019 election, 648 candidates qualified for the permanent candidate list, comprising 411 men and 234 women from a total of 16 political parties. Meanwhile, 50 people were appointed as members of the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council, comprising 44 men and 6 women, with a percentage of 12%. The contribution of women as members of the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council in making political policies has been sufficiently considered. This is proven by the implementation of socialization programs at the women's protection service and the establishment of policies related to public health services (Kesta).

Keywords : Women's Representation, Legislative Elections, Political Policy

INTRODUCTION

Equality of women in politics is necessary to create opportunities for women to participate. Women's participation in politics involves voluntary activities aimed at actively contributing to the political field, either directly or indirectly, in the policy formation process (Kiftiyah, 2019). The importance of women in parliament aims to increase women's participation in order to create inclusive and impactful political policy making.

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The Indonesian state has long passed Law Number 68 of 1958 regarding Women's Political Rights. However, the increase occurred after the changes to the 1945 Constitution came into effect due to the affirmative policy with the passing of Law Number 12 of 2003 concerning Elections for the The House of Representatives, Regional Representatives Council, and Regional Legislative Council (Mulyono, 2010). Affirmative policy is aimed at ensuring that certain groups, including both professions and genders, receive equal opportunities compared to other groups in the same field. It can also be interpreted as a policy that grants special privileges to certain groups (Ndolu and Sulistiyono, 2020). This policy requires political parties to include at least 30% of women in their founding and management. The implementation of the policy of 30% women quota in parliament reflects the government's dedication and initiative to achieve gender equality and improve the well-being of women.

The 2014 election was the first time in history when women received the highest number of votes and led the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council. In that year, the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council experienced a 20% increase in women's participation. Due to the transition of leadership from men to women (Fauziah, 2019). However, until 2019, we had not witnessed an increase in women's participation.

Quoted from SerpongUpdate.com on September 29, 2018, it was reported that the Commissioner of the Technical Division of the Tangerang City Electoral Commission Commission had finalized a total of 648 permanent candidate list for Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council legislators. The list of permanent candidates consists of 15 political parties. In addition, the participation of female legislative candidates in 2019 increased by 36.27% compared to the previous period. (Eliza Siti, 2018)

Based on the Tangerang City General Election Commission Decree Number 124/HK.03.01-Capt/3671/KPU-Kot/VII/2019 there are 10 political parties that have been successfully verified for the 2019 elections. Out of these 10 political parties, there are 3 political parties that have delegated women to parliament. The PDI Perjuangan faction delegated the most women, with four representatives. Meanwhile, the PKS faction delegated one person, and the PSI faction also delegated one person. As many as 8% of the appointed cadres are from the PDI-P party. The total number of female delegates was only 6, representing 12 percent of women's representation in the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council.

The author formulates the problem in this research as follows: (1) What is the representation of female legislative candidates who passed the Tangerang City Electoral Commission qualifications in the 2019 Election? (2) What is the contribution of women in parliament at the Tangerang city level Regional Legislative Council to political policy making?

RESEARCH METHODS

This research is empirical research. Empirical research is a type of research that examines the legal behavior of individuals or communities related to the law. Empirical legal research is also a method used to observe the implementation of law in the environment in society (Muhaimin, 2020). In this research, the author commenced the research on October 20, 2023. Data collection tools were utilized at the Tangerang City Electoral Commission and Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council in the form of observations, interviews, and documentation.

Sourced from permanent candidate list recapitulation, Legislators Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council by the Tangerang City Electoral Commission, Interview Results with the Chair of the Tangerang City Electoral Commission,

Interview Results with female members of the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council, and Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections. Legal journals, legal books, opinions of legal experts, Wikipedia, and online newspapers.

This research utilizes data analysis techniques with descriptive statistics (Siyoto and Sodik, 2015). Descriptive statistics is a method of describing data that has been collected by the author simply without aiming to draw conclusions that are applicable to the general public or generalists. The reason is because the author uses qualitative research which tends to analyze and describe events that occurred in the field during the author was conducting research.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Representation of Female Legislative Candidates Who Passed the Tangerang City Electoral Commission Qualifications in the 2019 Election

Representation refers to numerical representation, such as the number of candidates are participating in an election. The representation of women as legislative candidates stems from their self-awareness and willingness to participate in the political field. Political participation is the active involvement of individuals or groups in government processes that have an impact on their lives, including involvement in decision making and opposition actions (Kollo Fredik Lambertus, 2017). In essence, political participation is a person's role, either individually or in a group, in the government in making or create policies that are useful for their lives.

Implementation of women's participation in politics can take the form of actively engaging in a political party. This role is crucial for establishing a democracy that does not foster discrimination. However, in its development, there have been problems regarding the lack of women's representation in the political field. The low interest of women in entering and participating in politics has prompted the

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government encouragement to create a policy. The aim is to ensure that women's political representation creates a gender-friendly democracy.

Thus, the affirmative policy was established by the government to provide special treatment to women with the goal of enhancing women's representation in politics. Not only that, this policy is designed to ensure women's rights to participate in the legislature, including involvement in policy making, both central and regional.

This policy confirms that women have equal rights to men in taking on political roles. It is stated in the articles that one of the requirements for election participants is the inclusion of women's representation in the management of a party at the central level, among others. One of the rules stipulating that women should make up at least 30% of party management is outlined in Article 177 Letter (d) of Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections. The rules for registering female legislative candidates require a minimum of 30% to be included as potential election participants (Suryawati, n.d., 2020). This regulation is also an effort by the government to prevent the perception of discrimination against women that occurs in Indonesian politics. Although it does not provide meaningful equality in representation compared to men.

Women's representation is evidenced by the inclusion of women in nominations by political parties. Women's representation refers to the right that women have to be able to nominate themselves or become candidates in the election nomination process, based on their right to vote. (Vanessa Ingka Putri, 2022). Women's involvement in politics must receive full support to achieve gender equality. Efforts must be made to increase women's participation in politics through political parties (Akhyar Anshori et al., 2021). Meanwhile, a political party is an institution that consists of both women and men, who have equal rights to express their ideas, thoughts, and views that are aspirational freely and democratically. Political parties are also the starting point for women to be able to participate in legislative elections.

As for the function of political parties in seeking and fighting for political aspirations, they have a juridical obligation to provide political education for citizens, especially women. Through political education, women gain insight into the importance of women's involvement in politics. Apart from that, there is an effort to empower female cadres at a time when female participation in politics is minimal, as part of the political education programs in society.

The tradition of electing members of the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council is held every five years simultaneously with the The House of Representatives and Regional Representatives Council elections. The City General Election Commission is the institution with the authority to organize legislative elections. The General Election Commission is an independent institution responsible for conducting general elections. It has the duty and authority to make decisions on political outcomes, specifically in selecting quality people's representatives. The General Election Commission exercises its authority during the stages of the qualifying process for legislative elections according to the following steps:

1. Registration Stages

This stage is within the authority and is carried out by political parties, which are election participants competing in the 2019 elections. The implementation mechanism requires political parties intending to compete to register at the Tangerang City Electoral Commission first, which is done no later than 14 (fourteen) months before the voting day.

2. Nomination stages

After the political party is officially registered, it proceeds to register and nominate the candidates or representatives who have been selected to represent the

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political party. Proven through the submission of prospective candidates and administrative verification of their required documents, such as diplomas.

If these requirements are not met, the Tangerang City Electoral Commission has the authority to return the administrative documents for prospective Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council candidates to political parties (election participants). Furthermore, the Tangerang City Electoral Commission provided political parties with an opportunity to submit revisions to the requirements for potential candidates in case there were any errors or deficiencies identified by the Tangerang City Electoral Commission 's analysis. Then, the Electoral Commission can determine that the candidate has passed administrative verification.

In the stages mentioned above, it is mandatory for political parties participating in elections to have a minimum of 30% female representation in the management of political parties at the central, city/district, and provincial levels. If the list of prospective candidates does not have a minimum of 30% female representation, the Tangerang City Electoral Commission has the authority to provide an opportunity for political parties to promptly enhance and ensure a minimum of 30% female representation in the list of prospective candidates. After completing all these stages, the Tangerang City Electoral Commission has the authority to determine legislative candidates who meet the qualifications set by the Tangerang City Electoral Commission, as evidenced by the determination of the provisional candidate list and permanent candidate list, and are designated as election participants.

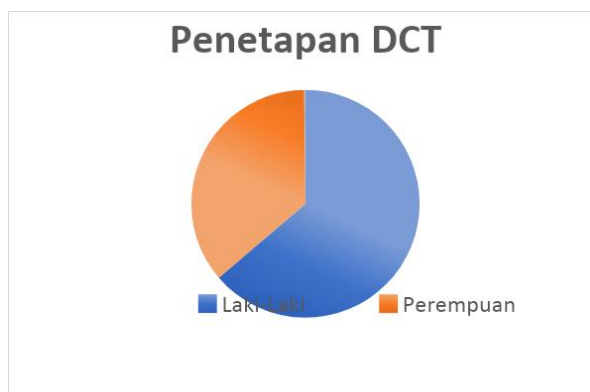
Table 1

Submission		Repair	
Woman	Man	Woman	Man

240	419	237	416
-----	-----	-----	-----

Based on the results of the Tangerang City Electoral Commission data detail, the 2019 legislative elections were held in 5 (five) electoral districts with details of the number of applications for registered candidates in the 2019 legislative elections of 659 people consisting of 419 male legislative candidates and 240 female legislative candidates with a representation of 36.42%, who came from 16 parties politics at that time. Then, the Tangerang City Electoral Commission made improvements in the nomination of prospective candidates to 653 people consisting of 416 male legislative candidates and 237 female legislative candidates with a representation of 36.29% with a fixed number of political parties participating. The reason for this improvement was because there were 2 electoral districts that failed at the stage of researching the candidate requirements documents. From these results, it can be seen that there is an imbalance in the number of female and male candidates. In that year, political parties still nominated more male candidates than female candidates.

Figure 1



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Based on the picture above, the Tangerang City Electoral Commission determined that 650 people, including 415 men and 235 women, with women representing 36.15%, passed the qualifications to become legislative candidates in establishing the provisional candidate list. In the 2019 election, it was discovered that all political parties participating had been verified to meet the minimum requirement of 30% female representation. If the minimum quota of 30% women's representation in the political party is not met, the Tangerang City Electoral Commission will make efforts to disqualify the political party from any electoral district that lacks women's representation and is not specified in the provisional candidate list and permanent candidate list Determination. These rules are contained in the Electoral Commission Regulations.

Paying attention to the results of the provisional candidate determination data above, in reality the representation of women in the legislative elections in Tangerang City in 2019 is that there is an imbalance in the number of legislative candidates who meet the Tangerang City Electoral Commission qualifications between men and women. The result is that the number of male candidates is twice as high as that of female candidates. Although the percentage of women's representation in the 2019 Tangerang City legislative election at the provisional candidate list stage has exceeded 36.15%. This proves that the provision of including a minimum of 30% of women in the legislature is less effective. The reality on the ground still does not reflect an equal number of female legislative candidates, hindering efforts to ensure women's representation in the Tangerang City Electoral Commission.

From a feminist perspective in politics, the focus tends to be on issues such as gender disparities in representation and political participation. Feminists express this in relation to the women's movement for the right to speak, vote, and be elected. (Daryono, Nulhaqim, and Fedryansyah, 2020). Feminism is a movement that has been developing for a long time, with the aim of demanding gender equality between

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women and men. According to Naomi Wolf, liberal feminism posits that the goal is to empower women by recognizing their complete and individual freedom. The core of this theory is based on freedom and equality of rationality (Retnani, 2017). Liberal feminism focuses on issues of gender equality, freedom, and struggle. The aim of this theory is often related to promoting equal rights between men and women concerning gender and women's issues.

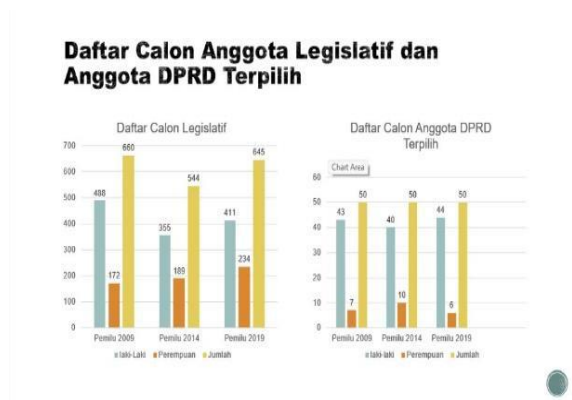
The emergence of discrimination against women causes everyone to become less, feminism is present in the context of reconstructing views that tend not to side with women. The existence of feminism aims to create a society without gender inequality (Fadhli 2014). Fighting for equal rights aims to empower women to possess the same qualities as men and to enter the realm of politics, which is typically dominated by men.

Referring to the theoretical concept above, it can be seen that there is an imbalance in the representation of female legislative candidates in Tangerang City who have met the qualifications set by the Tangerang City Electoral Commission, in comparison to male candidates. Starting from the stage of submitting prospective candidates, there were indications of inequality because the 234 female candidates were not equal to the 411 male candidates designated as permanent candidate list from a total of 16 participating political parties.

The description above illustrates that the requirement to include a minimum of 30% women does not necessarily promote an increase in liberal feminism (equal rights) for women's participation in nominating female legislative candidates to the Electoral Commission. This situation causes female legislative candidates in Tangerang City to struggle to compete on an equal footing with male legislative candidates.

Representation in the process of female legislative candidates who met the qualifications set by the Tangerang City Electoral Commission qualifications in the 2019 election has exceeded the minimum requirement of 30% as mandated by law, with 36.27% female representation. However, in order to achieve gender parity in legislative representation with male candidates, it must be acknowledged that this goal has not been reached yet.

Figure 2



The results are based on the picture above. The Tangerang City Electoral Commission determined the permanent candidate list of 648 people, consisting of 411 male legislative candidates and 234 female legislative candidates who came from 16 participating political parties. Based on the decree stipulated by the Tangerang City Electoral Commission Number 124/HK.03.01-Kpt/3671/KPU-Kot/VII/2019, 50 female members were elected and appointed as members of the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council. Consisting of 44 men and 6 women from 10 parties who managed to secure seats in parliament. When presented, women's representation only reaches 12%. If we consider equal rights for women with freedom and equal rationality, female legislative candidates are still not equally represented in occupying parliamentary seats. The reason is that women do not have freedom due to the

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political parties' tendency to only implement a 30% quota. Thus, from the start of the application process for prospective candidates, there has been inequality between female and male candidates.

This also proves that allocating fewer spots to female legislative candidates during candidate submissions has a smaller impact on their chances of securing a seat in parliament. Once again, the implementation of women's inclusion of at least 30% in the legislature is less effective. Despite efforts, the results obtained still do not provide an equal number of female legislative candidates in an effort to deliver women's representation as members of the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council in 2019.

Table 2

No	Fraction
Sumarti S IP M IP	PDI- Struggle
Anggraini Jatmika Ningsih	PDI- Struggle
Suparmi ST	PDI- Struggle
Epa Emilia	PDI- Struggle
bedtime	PKS (Prosperous Justice Party)
Theresia Megawati Wijaya	PSI (Indonesian Solidarity Party)

Based on the table above, four people who were successfully appointed as female members in the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council came from the PDIP-

Perjuangan party, one person came from PKS, and one person came from PSI who was successfully appointed in the 2019 legislative elections. The elections held that year were conducted using an open proportional system with upward counting. The open proportional system is an electoral system used to select Regional Legislative Council members based on the majority of votes. So the results of the most votes led to the success of the six female members in the 2019 Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council member election.

Apart from that, there are factors that pose obstacles to achieving equality for female legislative candidates in securing a place on the list of potential political party candidates in the 2019 elections. These obstacles include intense competition and the prevalence of more male candidates than female candidates within political parties. This is one of the obstacles to achieving gender parity among female candidates and male candidates in the 2019 legislative elections in Tangerang City.

Several other factors influence the small number of women representatives appointed to the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council. These factors are as follows:

1. Campaign Seriousness

Campaigning is an activity aimed at gaining sympathy from voters. This activity is crucial for legislative candidates to attract the attention of sympathetic voters and secure their votes. The commitment of female legislative candidates to conducting campaign activities is crucial for their success in securing seats in parliament. However, not being serious about carrying out campaign activities could also be a factor in failure in the 2019 legislative elections.

It is natural that the result of not being serious about carrying out campaign activities is one of the factors resulting in the small number of votes obtained and why

the representation of women who were appointed to the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council only amounted to 6 out of the 234 qualified women who passed the Electoral Commission qualifications in participating in the 2019 legislative elections.

2. Just meet the nomination requirements.

The existence of a provision to include a minimum of 30% representation of women as mandated in Article 177 Letter (d) of Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections could also be one of the factors why in determining the permanent candidate list as many as 234 women out of a total of 16 political parties were determined only 6 women were elected and appointed. In reality, this provision is only implemented as an administrative requirement that must be carried out by political parties wishing to take part in elections by including 30% representation of women in the management of their political parties.

The implementation of women's representation remains incomplete when female legislative candidates serve in parliament. Political parties only focus on meeting the requirements to pass the registration stage. In fact, political parties should strive to encourage women's interest and awareness to win elections as an integral function of the political party itself. Political parties are currently focusing on how to pass the Tangerang City Electoral Commission verification, which is also one of the factors in the small number of women representatives appointed to the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council. It is natural that special treatment in the minimum requirement of 30% female representation does not reach the target until the inauguration of members of parliament.

3. Using the SystemProportional Open

Open Proportional System is a system used in general elections based on the majority vote. The electoral system in Indonesia is based on three types, namely:

- 1) The House of Representatives and Regional Legislative Council elections using an open proportional system (majority vote)
- 2) District Representative Council (Regional Representatives Council) by using the multi-representative district system.
- 3) The President and Vice President are elected directly by the people through the Presidential and Vice Presidential Election.

In 2019, the legislative general elections held in Tangerang City still used a system based on the majority vote. A system based on majority vote is the primary obstacle preventing female legislative candidates from obtaining seats in parliament and having equal opportunities compared to male legislative candidates. If female legislative candidates receive few votes, there is automatically a reduced chance for women to become members of the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council.

The existence of this system causes female legislative candidates who receive a small number of votes to fail or lose their bid for seats in parliament. As a result, only six women managed to receive the most votes and occupy seats in the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council. Moreover, competition among female legislative candidates will be fierce as they will be competing against female candidates from other parties. It will be challenging to compete with male legislative candidates, especially when there are only a few seats available in the electoral district.

The efforts made by the Tangerang City Electoral Commission to increase women's representation in the 2019 legislative general elections are as follows:

1. Socializing

The Tangerang City Electoral Commission is very consistent in seeking and encouraging women's representation to participate in legislative elections. One form of effort is to engage in socialization. The socialization implemented by the Tangerang City Electoral Commission is implementing socialization to emphasize the importance of representation to political parties participating in the legislative elections. The Tangerang City Electoral Commission hopes that through this outreach, political parties registering and nominating candidates will be able to fulfill the minimum requirement of 30% female representation during the 2019 elections. A minimum of 30% female representation is crucial for political parties to pass the Tangerang City Electoral Commission verification.

2. Carrying out technical guidance

Bimtek is technical guidance for the nomination of members of The House of Representatives, Regional Representatives Council, and Regional People's Representative Council conducted by the Tangerang City Electoral Commission. Bimtek was conducted by the Electoral Commission as one of the initiatives to enhance women's representation in the 2019 elections in Tangerang City. This guidance pertains to the techniques offered to political parties and election participants at each stage of the election process, beginning from registration or candidacy. This effort is expected to encourage women's interest in playing an active role in elections and break the perception that women are only accessories.

3. Tim Helpdex

The Helpdesk Team is an initiative by the Tangerang City Electoral Commission to offer political parties a consultation platform during the election process. The Tangerang City Electoral Commission provides a Helpdesk Team to assist political parties with technical matters at each stage of the 2019 election. Political parties that encounter challenges or lack understanding of the election stages

can seek consultation at the Tangerang City Electoral Commission to address these issues.

In order for liberal feminism (equal rights) for female legislative candidates to be achieved, in addition to the efforts made by the Electoral Commission, changes to the provisions that must be followed up are needed. These changes may include requiring political parties to nominate at least 1 female candidate out of a total of 3 legislative candidates proposed in each electoral district, and imposing sanctions if this requirement is not met. By the supporting political party, political parties that do not meet these requirements are prohibited from participating in the elections in the electoral district in question. By ensuring that women have broad access to serve as administrators or functionaries at all levels of political party management, with a minimum representation of 40% of the total number of administrators, or up to the level of II regional administrators (Kurniawan 2016).

B. Contribution of Women in Parliament at the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council to Political Policy Making

Community participation in the process of forming legislative regulations is the right of every community. This participation is beneficial in the preparation, discussion, and ratification stages of legislative regulations that will be implemented (Dharmanto and Nalle 2023). However, women often still experience a lot of discrimination. This challenge is one that women must confront to achieve equality before the law. Because they are considered weak and underestimated individuals (Akmal, Pratiwi, and Sulistiani 2021).

The contribution of women in parliament to the political policy-making process is very important. This is to avoid all forms of discrimination in policies that do not favor women and to ensure that women's interests are protected in the policy making

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process. The issue of women's representation in politics is crucial for initiatives aimed at enhancing women's involvement in the political field.

The existence of provisions requiring at least 30% representation in general elections for members of the The House of Representatives, Regional Legislative Council, and Regional Representatives Council is a strengthening reason that the contribution of women in parliament is needed in making political policies at the center, city and district levels. However, the reality is that the low level of women's involvement stems from the small number of women's representation at the very core, namely the The House of Representatives. The limited number of women in the The House of Representatives results in a lack of representation in the Regional Legislative Council and Regional Representatives Council.

This is evidenced by the fact that the number of female legislative members in the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council does not reach 30% of the total composition of appointed members. The lack of representation in the political realm suggests that the space for participation or opportunities for women to enter politics is not yet balanced.

As explained in the author's interview with Mrs. Theresia Megawati Wijaya, she is a female member of the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council (Commission I) from the PSI (Indonesian Solidarity Party). The reason for participating in the legislative elections in 2019 is that he wants to play an active role in the elections and contribute to the parliament. Participation in parliament refers to the active involvement of women in making policies in the government. One of the functions of legislative members is to create legislative regulations. This is what motivated him to actively engage as a citizen of Tangerang City in the 2019 election. Due to the law stipulating that every political party participating in the election must have a minimum of 30% female representation.

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As for the goals she will achieve as a female member of the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council, she aims to carry out the principles of the party she supports. He explained that the aim of his party was to combat intolerance and corruption. This principle aims to encourage people to actively participate in society and promote unity, as reflected in Indonesia's motto, "Bhinneka Tunggal Ika." It is hoped that we can implement anti-intolerance policies, especially in Tangerang City, and promote special measures.

According to him, the 2019 legislative election was very competitive. He was fortunate to be in a party that nominated many women and valued the presence of women. Even in the The House of Representatives RI, his party is the only party that nominates the most women, at 60%. He explained that women in the 2019 election were not considered as supplementary or additional data to meet the Electoral Commission qualifications. However, women who participate in political parties enter legislative elections with the aim of achieving equality with men. They strive to win and have equal opportunities to hold office in parliament.

The requirement to include a minimum of 30% women as candidates, as mandated by law, was not the reason he participated in the 2019 elections. He continued to strive to win in the legislative elections in 2019. As a proactive measure, he actively participated in the elections and took part in parliamentary activities.

Starting from the reasons and goals. During this period, several results or policies were established. The results she has achieved as a female member of the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council include:

1. Policies related to public health services (KesTa). This service emphasizes that Tangerang City can provide comprehensive health protection. This policy guarantees the protection of health services for residents of Tangerang City. Female members of the Regional Legislative Council participate in the

Universal Health Coverage (UHC) program, which offers quality health services to the entire community of Tangerang City.

2. Program Socialization Women's Empowerment in the Women's Protection Service

Female members of the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council are actively involved in the Women's Empowerment Socialization program, offering specialized training to new candidates or women who wish to nominate or are interested in participating in politics. Aims to encourage the empowerment of women in Tangerang City to participate in politics and become members of parliament

3. Kapitein Oey Kiat Tjin Cultural Heritage Program

In terms of cultural elements, he explained that he appreciated and advocated for cultural heritage. One that has been proposed as a cultural heritage in Tangerang City is the Cultural Heritage of Captain Oey Kiat Tjin in Karawaci, Tangerang, which has been included in the list of cultural services. This is a form of anti-intolerance that has been implemented because the city of Tangerang has a significant presence of Chinese culture that needs to be preserved. As a female member of the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council, she contributed to the preservation of this culture. Not only that, there are several requests for new establishments in Tangerang City, including events that can be reinstated.

The representation of women in the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council is very low. Out of the 50 appointed members, only 6 are women, accounting for a mere 12%. As a member and one of the women in the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council, she certainly has a contribution to make in parliament. The contributions are:

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1. Special contribution from the side to women. A female legislative member, she has been a resource person several times at the Women's Protection Service. This activity aims to motivate new legislative candidates and foster their interest in becoming members of parliament. By explaining how women actively participate in decision making and policy formation in Tangerang City. So, the policies that will be developed and published by the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council can offer protection for women and children in Tangerang City.
2. Female legislative members make a general contribution by creating 9 to 10 regional regulations annually, showcasing diversity in policies and programs implemented by the Tangerang City government. In the process of formulating policies related to women's interests. In general, women members in the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council will strive to ensure that the policies issued incorporate maximum protection elements for both women and children in Tangerang City.

When a policy pertains to the general public or applies to all residents of Tangerang City, all members of the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council focus on achieving the interests of the people of Tangerang City without gender differences and strive to ensure its implementation is equitable.

From the explanation above, the author believes that women's contributions are differentiated based on the position of the female Regional Legislative Council members themselves, especially if they position themselves as women who play a role and motivate female legislative candidates who will contest to have a great interest in becoming members of parliament. Meanwhile, in general, there are 9 to 10 regional regulations made each year with a variety of policies and programs that prioritize the interests of women and children, regardless of gender considerations.

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As a female member of parliament, she personally contributed to the policy-making process. At the beginning of her term in parliament, she served on the regulation-making body for two years. This experience highlights the significance of being a woman. As a woman, she strives to be accountable for her responsibilities and aims to become a member of parliament. Literally, making policy is a function of being a member of the legislature. This principle is applied in every discussion where female members demonstrate greater diligence and thoroughness, aiming to uphold services provided by the Tangerang City government and advocate for the interests of Tangerang City residents, including women and children.

For a long time, women have been participating in decision-making and policy-making institutions. However, this involvement is considered not to reflect the government's strong desire to provide space for women to actively contribute, as it is perceived as merely fulfilling various demands (Emilda Sulasmi 2021). Equal status before the law (Equality before the law) is a fundamental legal principle that is applicable across all legal domains. The principle of equality before the law, also known as the principle of equality, expects that everyone is considered equal before the law. It ensures that fairness is achieved when everyone receives equal rights and equal treatment without any distinctions. Chosen as the basis for standards and protection for minority groups (Anugerah Putri Pamungkas, 2023).

The low number of female members in the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council does not hinder the voices of women in parliament. Parliament prioritizes equal rights and status among its members when delivering speeches about ideas and thoughts during the development of political policies. Although the small number does not imply that female members of parliament are silent. As legislative members who have been elected by the community, they must continue to play an active role. In order to advocate for and implement policies that do not discriminate against women and children.

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In carrying out gender roles, the concept of equality and justice should be prioritized to create harmony between men and women in social life. There are numerous reasons for the significance of women's engagement and representation in the political field. However, empirical evidence demonstrates that various factors impede women's participation in politics. The perceived obstacles indirectly stem from discrimination based on cultural factors.

This culture is called patriarchy culture, better known as a culture that upholds the position of men as higher than the position of women. This culture perpetuates the notion that men typically possess the authority to have the power to do something or have more power over something. In terms of politics, it suggests that men are more capable in political affairs compared to women, who are often seen as less capable (housewife matters).

The prevailing patriarchal culture poses obstacles for women to attain full equality, especially in the political sphere. This perspective portrays women as unworthy of leadership roles and gives the impression that the ideas put forth by women are unnecessary and unworthy of consideration. In fact, elements that protect women should be included in things related to the policy-making process. To ensure that women's interests are reflected in the policies created and published without any form of gender discrimination.

According to Mrs. Theresia Megawati Wijaya, a female member of the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council, the key to overcoming obstacles is to be confident and have the courage to speak up. If there is a difference of opinion with Regional Legislative Council members of a different gender, it is resolved through personal discussions regarding considerations and input. Every member has equal rights, regardless of gender, to express their ideas and arguments. All forms of ideas and arguments will always be accepted in parliament.

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Emphasizing gender equality involves ensuring equal rights for all individuals. Women can contribute to national life through government and politics. It is mandatory for the government to protect the rights that are inherently granted by society without any gender distinctions.

The 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia guarantees equality before the law in Article 28D, paragraph (1), which reads, "Everyone has the right to recognition, guarantees, protection, and fair legal certainty as well as equal treatment before the law." Paragraph (2) states, "Every citizen has the right to equal opportunities in government." The confirmation in this article proves that equality before the law has been normatively recognized.

Protection for the Indonesian people is considered important, based on the fact that every citizen has an equal position before the law (Equality Before the Law). So there should be no differences, especially discrimination based on race, ethnicity, religion, class, political understanding, or gender (Afiyanti et al. 2021). People certainly have the right to be treated equally before the law, regardless of gender. People, especially women, should not be discriminated against in their endeavors to participate actively in political life.

According to Ramly Hutabarat in the book "Equality Before the Law in Indonesia" in 1985, he explained that equality before the law is the principle of equal treatment under the law, establishing a connection between rights and obligations that necessitate individuals to act according to their legal status. (H. Amran Suadi (2005)). Equality before the law means that law enforcement officials and the government must treat every citizen fairly. Therefore, every government agency, especially legal officers, is constitutionally connected to aspects of justice that are realized in practice. The principle of equal treatment before the law is one of the human rights protected by the constitution as regulated in the Constitution. Likewise,

the contribution of women in the Tangerang City REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL parliament to political policy making

Referring to the theory above, in practice, the contribution of women from Tangerang City D in parliament to political policy making is indeed significant in terms of ensuring equality before the law. This includes equal consideration in terms of obligations and positions. This is evidenced by the equal standing in the policy-making process within the Tangerang City government. Female and male members have equal rights before the law and are on par when it comes to expressing their ideas and thoughts in making political policies, without any gender disparities.

However, the reality is that there is still an obstacle, namely, that there are many societal views equating political life solely with men. So, its implementation does not align with the goals that must be achieved as stated in the normative regulations. There are perceived obstacles to women being able to play an active role in the policy making process as representatives. Due to the prevailing cultural norms that undermine the leadership capabilities of women, it appears that this concept is not being taken into account.

In fact, a policy that is developed and implemented should consider the interests of all genders. This emphasizes the importance of women's contribution in parliament. The involvement of women in policy making will ensure that women's contributions are reflected in the policies created by the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council. Women will play an active role in the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council to create policies that incorporate women's perspectives and interests. There are still many women who are struggling to secure seats as members of parliament and fight for women's rights.

CONCLUSION

From the discussion above, it can be concluded that there is an imbalance in the representation of female legislative candidates in the City of Tangerang who have met the qualifications for the 2019 election according to the Tangerang City Electoral Commission. The gender representation imbalance is evident in the composition of candidates, with 411 male candidates and 234 female candidates from a total of 16 participating political parties. Meanwhile, 50 female members were elected and appointed as members of the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council. Consisting of 44 men and 6 women. Of course, ensuring equal rights for female and male legislative candidates to occupy parliamentary seats is still unequal.

There are several factors that hinder female legislative candidates from succeeding in the 2019 election, such as not taking campaigning seriously and parties that prioritize meeting registration requirements over supporting their candidates. Due to this, it remains challenging to achieve gender parity in the number of female legislative candidates compared to male candidates in legislative nominations in Tangerang City. Furthermore, the open proportional system utilized in the legislative elections at that time resulted in female legislative candidates with fewer votes failing to secure seats in parliament, as the system was founded on the principle of majority vote. The limited quota of 30% for women means that parties usually only focus on meeting this requirement. Compared to encouraging more women to participate as legislative candidates in the 2019 elections.

The contribution of the female member of the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council has been duly recognized. Specifically, the female legislative member has served as a resource person at the Women's Protection Service multiple times to offer motivation to new legislative candidates. She explains how women actively participate in decision making and policy formation in Tangerang City. The

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policies to be issued by the Tangerang City Regional Legislative Council aim to protect women and children. In general, female legislative members in Tangerang City make 9 to 10 regional regulations per year, covering a variety of policies and programs implemented by the city government. In formulating policies for the advancement of women in society, we will strive to enhance protection for women and children. However, if the policy is applied in the public interest, there will be no gender differences, and its implementation will be more equitable.

This is evidenced by the implementation of socialization programs at the Women's Protection Service, which offers specialized training to new candidates or women interested in participating in politics. Additionally, policies related to public health services (Kesta) have been issued, emphasizing that the City of Tangerang can provide comprehensive health protection for its residents.

SUGGESTION

Political parties should not only focus on meeting the minimum requirement of 30% women's representation. Political parties serve as the primary platform and provide the initial resources for women to engage as legislative candidates. Society's perception that women are incapable of leading or participating in politics should be shattered. This way, these barriers will not hinder women from actively engaging in elections as required by law. Political parties should offer opportunities and motivation to women to ensure that they receive their rights as they deserve. Gender differences are not an obstacle for women because women's participation is guaranteed in Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections.

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