

## Community Perceptions of Social and Political Dynamics in Polewali Mandar Regency in 2023

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### ABSTRACT

The problem studied in this research is perception the company about Social and political dynamics in Polewali Mandar regency . This research uses a quantitative descriptive research design to explain qualitative research phenomena. For this reason, the research approach uses a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods for community perceptions of social and political dynamics in Polewali Mandar Regency . The data collection techniques used were surveys, interviews and observations. The research results show that, based on the research results, it can be concluded that perception the company about the social and political dynamics in Polewali Mandar Regency which includes social conditions, economic conditions, political conditions, security conditions, law enforcement conditions, regional government performance, general problems and special problems are good, this is marked by the greatest number of several evaluation indicators of The various conditions that occur in society are in good percentage . Meanwhile, the lowest value of the indicator is a bad rating. Community perception of social and political dynamics of residents of Polewali Mandar regency seen from the perspective of functionalism theory It is very diverse, there are some people who have positive perceptions and others who have negative perceptions accompanied by factors that influence it , but overall, in the socio-political dynamics that occur, the Polwali community Mandar has a positive response .

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## **INTRODUCTION**

One of the hopes behind decentralization and regional autonomy policies in Indonesia is the hope of increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of government in serving the public interest, increasing economic growth and achieving development progress equally in all regions. There is a general assumption that the success or failure of an organization in carrying out its duties to achieve a certain goal, whether a government or private organization, is largely determined by behavior human. Therefore, attention to human factors is a major prerequisite that cannot be ignored to support the improvement of an organization's performance towards achieving its stated goals. This means that the higher the quality of an organization's resources, the easier it is to achieve its goals. Bureaucracy is an institution born from a long and complex social process. Unlike organizations such as private companies whose birth process can be simple as long as there is capital and individual will, bureaucratic organizations arise from a series of complex procedures and involve almost universal social contexts in a society . Although the shape and form of bureaucratic organization is different in each country, in general, bureaucracy, wherever it is located, will be related to the phenomena of power, government, state, laws, leaders and policies.

Government bureaucracy is an organized and structured administrative system within the government of a country. It includes various government agencies, departments and agencies responsible for implementing policies, public services and other administrative tasks. Government bureaucracies often have hierarchies, rules, and procedures established to achieve government goals. Challenges that government bureaucracies may face include efficiency, accountability, and responding to and perceiving changes in society.

Public perception of bureaucracy can vary and is influenced by various factors. Some people may perceive bureaucracy as an efficient and stable institution, while others perceive it as slow, rigid, or less responsive. Factors such as transparency, accountability, the level of corruption and the quality of public services can influence how the public perceives bureaucracy. This then triggered a social and political dynamic. Increased public communication and engagement can often help improve negative perceptions of bureaucracy, while policy reforms and administrative practices can help increase public trust in government institutions.

Society's perception of social and political dynamics plays an important role in shaping the direction of a society. This perception is influenced by various factors such as historical and cultural context, political ideology and socio-economic status. This can have a significant impact on social and political dynamics, including the formation of interest groups, political participation and policymaking. However, analyzing public perceptions is not without its challenges, particularly due to the diversity of views within a community and the influence of external factors such as propaganda and misinformation.

People's perceptions of social and political dynamics are shaped by various factors, including historical and cultural context, political ideology and beliefs, and socioeconomic status. Historical and cultural contexts can have a

significant impact on how society perceives social and political dynamics. For example, people who have experienced oppression and discrimination tend to view social and political dynamics through the lens of social justice and equality. Likewise, ideology and political beliefs can shape how society perceives social and political dynamics. For example, communities that tend toward conservatism may view social and political dynamics through the lens of individualism and limited government intervention. Finally, socio-economic status can also influence how society perceives social and political dynamics. For example, economically disadvantaged communities may be more likely to view social and political dynamics through the lens of economic inequality and the need for government intervention.

People's perceptions of social and political dynamics can have a significant influence on social and political dynamics themselves. For example, societal perceptions can lead to the formation of interest groups and social movements that support specific social and political changes. These interest groups and social movements can then influence political participation, including voting and other forms of political engagement. Additionally, public perceptions can influence policy development and implementation. For example, if the public views a particular policy as unfair or ineffective, they may lobby for that policy to be changed or advocate for its repeal.

Analyzing people's perceptions of social and political dynamics is not without difficulties. One of the main challenges is the diversity of perspectives within a community. Different individuals within a community may have very different perceptions of social and political dynamics, making it difficult to draw meaningful conclusions about the perceptions of the community as a whole. Additionally, measuring and quantifying perception can be difficult, because perception is often subjective and difficult to measure. Finally, external factors such as propaganda and misinformation can also influence people's perceptions, making it difficult to distinguish between authentic perceptions and perceptions influenced by external factors.

Polewali Mandar, which is the subject of study in this research, is one of the 6 districts of West Sulawesi Province which is located along the west coast of Sulawesi Island and borders Majene District with mountainous physical conditions. And to the east, it borders P Inrang Regency , South Sulawesi Province.

The area of Polewali Mandar regency is approximately 2,022.30 km<sup>2</sup>. As one of the cities in West Sulawesi Province, Polewali Mandar Regency is the district with the largest population of approximately 400,000+. The Polewali Mandar community is a heterogeneous society with great diversity in terms of ethnicity, culture, religion, language and other characteristics. This is what can then trigger various perceptions that emerge regarding social and political dynamics. In this research, we will explore what people's perceptions are about the social and political dynamics that occur in society. Based on the background thinking, the formulation of the problem in this research is as follows: what is the social and political dynamics of the society in Polewali Mandar in 2023.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

According to Slamet Santoso (2009: 5), dynamics refers to the direct behavior of a citizen reciprocally influence other citizens, so the dynamic means that it exists interaction and interdependence between one group member and another other groups reciprocally and between members and the group in a sense entire. While obeying Munir (2001: 16), dynamic East something system bind Which each other relationship and mutual influence between these elements. If it's false If something in the system changes, that will also cause a change. on other elements.

Wildan Zulkarnain (2013: 25) himself said that dynamics is something contain meaning power strength, always move, develop And can adapt self in a sense adequate has circumstances. Dynamic Also means the existence of interactions and interdependencies between groups and groups in a sense entire. Circumstances This arrive Because during There is band, SO Spirit band (*Band Spirit*) will again and again There is In band That. The group is therefore dynamic, which means that at all times the group is active. concerned may change. Meanwhile, the group definition cannot be separated of the element of the existence of two or more people interacting to reach Common goals.

Social dynamics is one of the sociological studies discuss about changes Which arrive in the life social. Object discussion of dynamics social includes:

- a. Control social (*social controls*), Control social is a well-planned monitoring method or process neither Which No foreseen For invite, educate, even forcing community members to become community members obey standard And brand Which applies. In control social, social structures have control tools in the form of values And standard Which be equipped with element its establishments.
- b. Social deviation (*role expectation*), deviant behavior is the behavior of a large number of people considered inappropriate with nirma And brand Which applies so that DETOUR THE give rise to reactions certain as reproach, ridiculous, gossip public until incur punishment. Mobility Social (*social mobility*), social mobility is incident social Or individual Or band move or move class social A has layer social other GOOD movement That led on movement social Since layer social lower move to the top Or on the contrary, It is move to the top.
- c. Social change (*social change*), social change is change values, standards social, patterns behavior organization, arrangement institution social, coating social, power and authority, social interaction, etc. Change social called Also led on change Which nature Since patterns life Which traditional has direction modern but There is Also Which precisely offbeat Since patterns civilization Which progress towards traditional models or even suffer destruction. As for form of change Which can seen Since mechanism change That Alone, because There is change social Which intentional Or desired Or foreseen (*foreseen change*) And There is Also change Which No desired Or No foreseen Or No on purpose (*unforeseen change*).

Political dynamics are closely linked to questions of participation and democracy. The question of participation has been debated for a long time, but it remains problematic, particularly due to biased interpretations. When participation is interpreted as participation in the realization of government programs, then the only means available are bureaucratic means and planning mechanisms, collection of aspirations, etc. Leo Agustoni (2009: 62). On the one hand, the researcher witnessed the fragility of the means of participation which had to be managed in the context of the institutionalization of a democratic system of government. On the other hand, the researcher saw that the cultural capacity of the community to participate in the public arena had not been appreciated.

Political dynamics According to Dwiyanto (2002:110), it can be interpreted as a description of the extent to which the ongoing political process is capable of reflecting the values of democracy and accountability. The above definition concludes that it directly influences society in a reciprocal manner.

## **METHODOLOGY**

This research uses a quantitative descriptive research design to explain qualitative research phenomena. For this reason, the research approach uses a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods for community perceptions of social and political dynamics in Polewali Mandar Regency. The data collection techniques used were surveys, interviews and observations. Surveys are research involving collecting and analyzing a particular event or process by selecting data or researching a certain scope as a sample considered representative. This data collection technique uses a questionnaire instrument or questionnaire with the filling technique carried out by an interviewer based on the answer choices given by the respondent. By using functionalism theory in survey research, you can integrate this approach to understand how elements of society contribute to stability and balance, as well as how surveys can play a role in understanding and supporting of these functions. Then the second technique is interviews, interviews will explore information and data related to planning, activities, resource use, activity actors, results, and objectives and benefits services provided to the community. Additionally, non-participatory observation and data collection techniques are carried out using an observation matrix containing the results of observations at the research location related to activities or community service activities.

According to Sugiyono (2017), the data collection method is the most important step of research because the main objective of research is to obtain data. In this research, data collection techniques were used through field research. This field study means that the author directly carries out research in a predetermined place or object. The field studies were carried out using questionnaires, i.e. collecting data using a list of questions. Observation involves directly observing objects. This research was conducted in Polewali Mandar regency, specifically in Polewali Mandar community.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This research aims to reveal how perception is the company about social and political dynamics in Polewali Mandar regency including social conditions, economic conditions, political conditions, security conditions, law enforcement conditions, local government performance, general problems and special problems.

Table 1. Social conditions

<b>Social conditions</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>	<b>Valid %</b>	<b>Cumulative percentage</b>
Alright	72	18.0	18.0	18.0
GOOD	281	70.25	70.25	88.25
Neither good nor bad	44	11.0	11.0	99.25
Bad	1	0.25	0.25	99.5
I don't know/I didn't answer	2	0.5	0.5	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	

Based on Table 1 above, it can be seen that the characteristics of the respondents in terms of social conditions in Polewali Mandar are highest in good condition with a percentage of 70.25 % or a frequency of 281 out of 400 respondents. Meanwhile, the lowest social condition of Polewali Mandar residents was in poor condition with a percentage of 0.25 % or a frequency of 1 in 400 respondents.

In social conditions, functionalism sees the role of social functions in maintaining order and integration in society in Polewali Mandar. It can be seen that each element or institution in society plays a particular role that contributes to overall social continuity and stability.

Table 2 Political conditions

<b>Political conditions</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>	<b>Valid %</b>	<b>Cumulative percentage</b>
Alright	16	4.0	4.0	4.0
GOOD	250	62.50	62.50	66.50
Neither good nor bad	88	22.0	22.0	88.5
Bad	17	4.25	4.25	92.75
Very bad	1	0.25	0.25	93.0
I don't know/I didn't answer	28	7.0	7.0	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	

That the characteristics of the respondents regarding the political condition of the society in Polewali Mandar are the highest, with a percentage of 62.5% or a frequency of 250 out of 400 respondents. Meanwhile, the political situation of Polewali Mandar community is at the lowest level, in a very bad state with a percentage of 0.25 % or a frequency of 1 in 400 respondents.

In political conditions, functionalism views the political system of Polewali Mandar as an integral part of a larger social structure. Several

positions of functionalism theory in political conditions in Polewali Mandar from the above findings may include:

***Social Stability***

Functionalism tends to believe that the political system plays a role in maintaining social stability. Political institutions are seen as mechanisms that maintain balance and prevent conflicts that could threaten the social order.

***Social Integration***

This theory highlights the integrative role of political systems in uniting diverse social groups and interests. Political institutions are seen as a link between different parts of society.

***Adapting to Change***

Functionalism recognizes that society experiences changes over time and that the political system is seen as having the function of adapting to these changes in order to maintain stability and sustainability.

***Distribution of Power and Social Roles***

Functionalism can involve the idea that the distribution of power in a political system reflects the broader social structure. Various political institutions and political roles are seen as having certain functions in maintaining the balance of power.

***Maintaining Community Values***

The political system is seen as playing a role in maintaining the fundamental values of society. Policies and political decisions are supposed to reflect the values considered important by society.

Table 3. Economic Conditions

<b>Economic conditions</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>	<b>Valid %</b>	<b>Cumulative percentage</b>
Alright	6	1.50	1.50	1.50
GOOD	174	43.50	43.50	45.0
Neither good nor bad	162	40.50	40.50	85.5
Bad	38	9.50	9.50	95.0
Very bad	3	0.75	0.75	95.75
I don't know/I didn't answer	15	3.75	3.75	100.0
Total	400	100.0	100.0	

That the characteristics of the respondents in terms of economic condition of the Polewali Mandar community are in good condition with a percentage of 43.5% or a frequency of 174 out of 400 respondents. Meanwhile, the lowest economic status of the population of Polewali Mandar was in poor condition with a percentage of 0.75 %, which is a frequency of 3 out of 400 respondents.

The theory of functionalism, by examining the economic conditions of the Polewali Mandar community, tends to discover the role of the economic system in maintaining the stability and continuity of the society. Economic institutions, such as markets and financial institutions, are seen as factors that can create balance and prevent economic instability that could threaten society.

Table 4. Safety Conditions

Safety conditions	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Valid %	Cumulative percentage
Alright	50	12.50	12.50	12.50
GOOD	264	66	66	78.5
Neither good nor bad	75	6.75	6.75	97.25
Bad	ten	2.50	2.50	99.75
Very bad	1	0.25	0.25	100
Total	400	100.0	100.0	

Based on Table 4 above, it can be seen that the characteristics of the respondents in terms of community safety conditions in Polewali Mandar are highest in good condition with a percentage of 66% or has a frequency of 264 out of 400 respondents. Meanwhile, the lowest level of public security in Polewali Mandar is in very poor condition with a percentage of 0.25 %, or a frequency of 1 in 400 respondents.

The theory of functionalism, in examining the security conditions of Polewali Mandar society, can be seen with emphasis on the role of security system in maintaining the stability and continuity of society. This approach views security institutions as important elements of broader social structures. The existence of security institutions and law enforcement officers is considered essential to prevent conflicts and unrest that could threaten the stability of society. The security system is considered to have the function of protecting society against various threats, both internal and external. This involves the role of the TNI/POLRI and the local regional government. Apart from this, security conditions also include maintaining community norms and values. Security systems are seen as helping to protect the fundamental values recognized by society.

Table 5. Conditions of Application of the Law

Conditions of application of the law	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Valid %	Cumulative percentage
Alright	33	8.25	8.25	8.25
GOOD	241	60.25	60.25	68.25
Neither good nor bad	96	24.0	24.0	92.50
Bad	13	3.25	3.25	95.75
Very bad	2	0.50	0.50	96.25
I don't know/I didn't answer	15	3.75	3.75	100.0
Total	400	100.0	100.0	



Based on the table 5. above, it can be seen that the characteristics of the respondents in terms of community law enforcement condition in Polewali Mandar are in the highest condition in good condition with a percentage of 60.25 % or a frequency of 241 out of 400 respondents. . Meanwhile, the lowest state of law enforcement in Polewali Mandar is in very poor condition with a percentage of 0.50 % or a frequency of 2 out of 400 respondents. The state of the law enforcement agencies can be seen at the highest percentage, that they are in good condition and, if we stick to the theory of functionalism, this is due to the important role of law enforcement institutions in maintaining the stability and functioning of society.

Table 6. Regional Government Performance

Regional government performance	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Valid %	Cumulative percentage
Very satisfied	14	3.50	3.50	3.50
Satisfied	271	67.75	67.75	71.25
Just normal	96	24.0	24.0	95.25
Less satisfied	13	3.25	3.25	98.50
Very unsatisfied	1	0.25	0.25	98.75
I don't know/I didn't answer	5	1.25	1.25	100.0
Total	400	100.0	100.0	

Based on Table 5.14 above, it can be seen that the characteristics of the respondents in terms of perception of local government performance in Polewali Mandar are highest in satisfaction state with a percentage of 67.75 % or a frequency of 271 out of 400 respondents. . Meanwhile, looking at the performance status of the regional government in Polewali Mandar, the lowest is in a very dissatisfied state with a percentage of 0.25 % or a frequency of 1 in 400 respondents.

The theory of functionalism, which examines the performance of the regional government of the Polewali Mandar community, can be seen in the role of the regional government system in maintaining the stability and functioning of society. Several positions of functionalism theory in the performance of the regional government of Polewali Mandar include:

***Maintaining Order and Stability:***

Functionalism highlights the role of local government in maintaining order and stability at the local level. The regional government system is considered important in preventing conflicts and ensuring the sustainability of community life.

***Meet the Basic needs of the Community***

The theory of functionalism emphasizes the role of local government in meeting the basic needs of society at the local level, such as education, health, infrastructure and other public services. Meeting these needs is considered one of the important functions to ensure the well-being of society.

***Configuration and Management of Local Resources***

Local governments are seen as regulators and managers of local resources. Functionalism highlights the role of local governments in creating policies, regulations, and management actions that support sustainability and balanced use of resources.

***Maintaining Local Identity and Culture***

Functionalism can emphasize the role of local government in maintaining local identity and culture. The protection and development of cultural heritage is considered one of the functions that support the sustainability of communities.

***Community Participation and Social Integration***

Local governments are seen as mediators in social integration and community participation. Functionalism highlights the importance of local governments as agents facilitating coordination between different social groups and local interests.

Table 7. Priority Questions (General)

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>	<b>Valid %</b>	<b>Cumulative percentage</b>
Economy	160	40	40	40
Service to society	58	2.50	2.50	54.50
Social	51	12.75	12.75	67.25
Health	24	6	6	73.25
Security	13	3.25	3.25	76.50
Policy	12	3	3	79.50
Other	41	10.25	10.25	89.75
I don't know	41	10.25	10.25	100
Total	400	100.0	100.0	

Based on Table 7 above, it can be seen that the characteristics of the respondents in terms of perception of priority (general) problems in Polewali Mandar as highest are economic problems with a percentage of 40% or a frequency of 160 out of 400 respondents. The least priority (general) question is politics, with a percentage of 3 %, or a frequency of 12 out of 400 respondents.

In functionalism theory , the problem of (general) priorities can provide an understanding of how social structures and social institutions play a role in establishing and maintaining certain priorities. In priority (general) issues this is seen at the highest percentage, namely the economy.

Table 8. Priority (Special) Questions

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>	<b>Valid %</b>	<b>Cumulative percentage</b>
Lack of job opportunities	166	41.50	41.50	41.50

Infrastructure is still poor (roads, bridges and others)	57	2.25	2.25	55.75
The economy continues to deteriorate from year to year	24	6	6	61.75
Educational services are far from optimal	23	5.75	5.75	67.50
Health services are far from optimal	22	5.50	5.50	73:00
Mismanagement of agriculture and fishing by the government	17	4.25	4.25	77.25
Waste management and cleanliness	15	3.75	3.75	81.00
Lack of drinking water supply	15	3.75	3.75	84.75
Difficulty selling commercial products (garden products, fishing products, crafts, etc.)	13	3.25	3.25	88.00
A government far from free from corruption	12	3	3	91.00
Poor security (crime and crime still rampant)	3	0.75	0.75	91.75
Weak enforcement of law and human rights	3	0.75	0.75	92.50
Improvement of community administration services (KTP, KK, etc.)	1	0.25	0.25	92.75
Other	2	0.50	0.50	93.25
I don't know	27	6.75	6.75	100
Total	400	100.0	100.0	

Based on Table 8 above, it can be seen that the characteristics of the respondents in terms of perception of the highest priority (specific) problem in Polewali Mandar is the problem of lack of employment opportunities with a percentage of 41.50% or a frequency of 166 out of 400 respondents. At the same time, the least priority (general) problem is the improvement of community administration services (KTP, KK, etc.) with a percentage of 0.25 % or a frequency of 1 in 400 respondents.

In functionalism theory, the problem of (specific) priorities can provide an understanding of how social structures and social institutions play a role in establishing and maintaining certain priorities. In priority (special) problems, this is manifested by the highest percentage, namely the lack of employment opportunities.

## CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the research results, it can be concluded that perception the company about the social and political dynamics in Polewali Mandar Regency which includes social conditions, economic conditions, political conditions, security conditions, law enforcement conditions, regional government performance, general problems and special problems are good, this is marked by the greatest number of several evaluation indicators of The various conditions that occur in society are in good percentage . Meanwhile, the lowest value of the indicator is a bad rating.

An analysis of data on public perception of social and political dynamics of Polewali Mandar Regency community seen from the perspective of functionalism theory , the author can draw the conclusion that public perception of social dynamics and politics of Polewali Mandar Regency community It is very diverse, there are some people who have negative perceptions and others who have positive perceptions due to the factors that influence it , but overall the community has a positive response to the socio-political dynamics that occur.

## FUTHER STUDY

This research still has limitations so further research on the topic still needs to be carried out "Community Perceptions of Social and Political Dynamics."

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