

## **Importance of Firm Family Education**

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The family is the smallest institution of a community. If a family is good, then it surrounding is good as well. "Although there is a reciprocal relationship between a family and its surrounding, the family should be able to affect its environment, and vice versa. Unfortunately at present the environment has a stronger effect on the family," said the lecturer of Department of Family and Consumer Sciences (IKK), Faculty of Human Ecology, Bogor Agricultural Institute (IPB), Dr. Ir. Euis Sunarti, Wednesday (4/7) in the radio broadcast "Aspirations of Red and White" held by Radio of the Republic of Indonesia (RRI) in collaboration with IPB. The radio broadcast which raised the theme "Role of IPB in Building a Tough Family" was to coincide with the commemoration of Family Day, which falls on June 29.

In this current global era, the development of information and technology is growing rapidly. the Information dissemination can hardly be prevented from entering private aspects within the family. It can affect the family integrity. Therefore, each family must pay attention to the importance of having a strong family. "Family is the first and foremost vehicle of developing human resources. When we talk about the character of the nation, it is actually born in the family because the foundation of good personality traits is in the early golden years (under five) in which the role of family is much larger than that of the other educational agencies. Therefore, it must have resilience so that its important roles could be carried on," added Dr. Euis.

Dr. Euis describes some characteristics of a resilient family. "First, a family is said to be resilient when it is capable of doing its function, role and duties. The second is the ability of families to manage resources in dealing with problems to achieve goals. Third, the family has the ability to prepare for something (well-prepared)." Further, she says that the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences is the only department focusing on the family studies.

Rachmat Abdul Saleh, Director of Analysis, Studies, and Public Studies (Lanskip) expressed concern over the breakdown of strong families. "BKKBN states that the breaking down of families has already started to appear. This is reflected from the problems of our community in various factors such as education, economy, environment and so on," he said.

Various issues on the field were also presented by Abdul. "A few months ago the number of divorces was estimated to be so high in Bogor town and Regency as well as other cities, as a result of several factors such as economy, infidelity, and third-party factor. This can lead to shock and cracks in the society. One solution is openness between parents, children and the environment. It is dependent on the family itself," said Abdul. (Mtd)