

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 CONCLUSION

Based on the research that has been conducted and the analysis that has been presented in the previous chapters, the conclusions that can be drawn are as follows:

1. Fiscal decentralization as measured by the expenditures of family planning and special allocation fund of family planning is not contribute to decrease/increase women fertility in Indonesia. The possible reasons of why fiscal decentralization is not contribute to reduce women fertility is found in the qualitative data that shows the local government of Empat Lawang Regency is lacking in local fiscal capacity. The local government is mainly depends on the transfers from central government in funding family planning programs. The imbalance proportion of routines and community-oriented program expenditures shows that there is inefficiency in budget allocation.

2. Administrative decentralization as measured by the number of family planning fieldworkers (PLKB) has no association with decreasing/increasing women fertility. The possible reasons of why

administrative decentralization is not contribute to reduce women fertility is found in the qualitative data that shows more than 90% of Empat Lawang's PLKB are non civil servant with inadequate skills and knowledge. The highly limited number of civil-servant PLKB in Empat Lawang Regency shows that the capacity of local government is weak.

3. Political decentralization as measured by the age of local election has no association with decreasing/increasing women fertility. The possible reasons of why political decentralization is not contribute to reduce women fertility is found in the qualitative data that shows family planning programs in Empat Lawang Regency greatly depend on the Regent's political will.
4. The use of contraception is significant in decreasing women fertility. The qualitative data shows that providing family planning service especially in village level is vital in decreasing fertility.
5. Fertility is lower with the improvement of women's human capital. Women with higher education postpone marriage and have lower fertility levels. Better education also leads into better job opportunities, where women have options other than multiple child bearing.

5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the conclusions that have been stated previously, this study gave the following recommendations for the government:

1. The local governments in Indonesia should improve their local capacities, both fiscally and administratively. This improvement is required in order to achieve the ultimate goal of the decentralization, which is to increase the overall quality and effectiveness of the system of governance, while increasing the authority and capacities of sub-national levels. Better allocation policy and upgrading human resources are possibilities in improving local capacities.
2. In order to decrease fertility to the replacement level of 2.1 TFR, Indonesia government should revitalize the family planning programs by reformulate the institution's (BKKBN) values in order to adjust to the new government policies and reforms in decentralized Indonesia. The central government should reclaim its role in leading the family planning program in all levels of government.
3. From the socio-economic view, the more concern on women's human capital investment is needed. The government should

provide a better access to higher education as well as better job opportunities. By doing so, the women's values will increase and fertility will decrease.