

Everyday Life of Women Workers in Badung Market (A Documentary Photography Study)

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Abstract: Capturing the everyday life of women workers in the badung market through documentary photography is a work that reveals the lives of women workers in the Badung Market in a powerful and effective way by using visual storytelling techniques. This technique involves using images and narration that complement each other to bring the audience into the story presented in images that can be used to present the lives of women workers in the Badung Market, while narration can be used to provide background on the lives of these women workers, as well as describe conflicts they face in carrying out their work. The purpose of creating this work is to provide a visual depiction of the daily life of female workers, to use documentary photography as a medium to reveal the beauty and dignity of the work of female laborers as porters at Badung Market, Bali. The research method used in this study is a qualitative method with a case study approach. Data analysis techniques used include descriptive analysis, qualitative analysis, and thematic analysis. The result of creating this work focuses on the lives of female laborers transporting goods at the Badung Market in raising awareness about social issues, able to describe the activities carried out by women workers in the Badung Market in each photo so that they can provide in-depth information.

Keywords: Badung Market, documentary photography, female labor, market, storytelling technique.

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Introduction

Pasar Badung is the largest traditional market in Bali, Indonesia. This market is a shopping center for daily needs for Balinese people and tourists visiting this island. Along with the development of tourism in Bali, the Badung Market has undergone significant changes, both in terms of size, structure and culture. However, even though the Badung Market has undergone significant changes, women workers are still an important element of this market. The female workers in the Badung Market are goods carriers. They work from morning to night, for very low wages. Even though they have an important role in the sustainability of the market, women workers in the Badung Market still experience discrimination and difficulties in obtaining their rights. In addition, they are also often ignored by society and the government.

The creation study was very important in bringing attention and awareness about the lives of women workers in Badung Market. Documentary photography

was chosen as a tool to capture the daily life of women workers in the Badung Market because of its ability to objectively record everyday life and allow observers to contemplate and appreciate the photographs. To ensure a successful creation, photographers need to gain a good understanding of Balinese social and cultural conditions, as well as the lives of women laborers in the Badung Market. Research and studies on women workers in the Badung Market and other traditional markets in Bali need to be carried out to gain deeper insight into their daily lives, the challenges and obstacles they face, and the efforts that can be made to improve their conditions as well as will help promote the preservation of local Balinese culture and the sustainability of the Badung Market as an important cultural heritage of Bali. Through the photographs resulting from this creation, the Balinese and the international community can gain a better understanding of the lives of women laborers in the Badung Market and their role in maintaining the sustainability of this traditional market.

In this context, documentary photography can be an effective tool for producing visual works that can give voice to women workers in the Badung Market. Documentary photography can objectively record the daily life of women workers and can give viewers a different perspective and touch the heart. These photos can also be a tool to raise awareness and understanding about the lives of women workers in the Badung Market and the challenges they face. The creation of this documentary photography can also be a tool to give voice to women workers in the Badung Market and encourage social change. In order to produce quality and effective documentary photography works, photographers need to carry out in-depth research and studies on Balinese social and cultural conditions, as well as the lives of women workers in the Badung Market. This could include visiting a Badung Market and talking to female workers, as well as learning about the history of the market and its role in Balinese life. Overall, this project has the potential to produce visual works that give voice to women workers in Badung Market, while also increasing awareness and understanding of the lives of women workers in Badung Market and their role in the sustainability of Balinese traditional markets.

In addition, this creation can also trigger broader discussion and dialogue on issues of employment and gender equality in Bali and Indonesia as a whole. In recent decades, the role and contribution of women in the social and economic life of Bali is increasingly recognized, but there are still challenges and gaps that need to be addressed. The working conditions of women workers in the Badung Market also often experience gender discrimination. They are seen as weaker and more vulnerable to harassment and violence, both at work and at home. In addition, women workers also face various challenges in maintaining health and safety in the workplace. Despite this, the women laborers in the Badung Market continue to work hard and struggle to make a living for their families. They often work more than 12 hours a day, and sometimes have to take their children to work because they don't have a babysitter. However, despite the challenges they face, women workers in the Badung Market also have extraordinary strength and endurance.

This project can be part of a larger movement to promote social change and women's empowerment. Through documentary photography, this creation can give a voice to women workers in the Badung Market, show their often overlooked stories, and raise awareness about the issues they face. This can also encourage the community and government to take action and provide the necessary support for women workers in the Badung Market. To achieve this goal, photographers must pay attention to the ethics of documentary photography, including respect for the privacy and dignity of the women workers who are photographed. Photographers must build a trusting relationship with their subjects and ensure that they are treated with respect and dignity. This creation must also include the participation of women workers as partners in the process of creating and distributing documentary photographic works. This can ensure that the voices and perspectives of women workers are taken in an authentic way, and can provide opportunities to empower and upgrade their skills. In order to achieve the desired goals, this creation will require support from various parties, including local organizations, the government, and the Balinese community as a whole. With good cooperation and collaboration, this creation has the potential to create a significant impact in driving social change and empowering women in Bali and Indonesia.

Based on the background that has been stated, it can be formulated that the problems to be discussed are first How can documentary photography be used to show the life of women workers in the Badung Market in a strong and effective way?, Second What are the benefits of a documentary or art photography project that focuses on life female freight forwarders at the Bali Badung Market in raising awareness about social and gender issues, fighting for the rights of women workers, and promoting responsible tourism and respecting cultural diversity in Bali? Third, how to visualize the daily life of women workers in Pasar Badung through documentary photography?

Many studies have been carried out on women workers in traditional markets, especially in Indonesia. Several studies reveal that hard working conditions, low wages, and the gender gap that still exists in traditional markets. However, not many studies have used documentary photography as a data collection method to describe the daily life of women workers in traditional markets, especially in Badung Market.

A study by Suastika (2016) revealed that working conditions in Pasar Badung were very hard for women workers. They have to work from morning to night, with minimal wages. Apart from that, they also have to face various problems, such as intense competition, changing consumer trends, and ever-increasing economic challenges. Other research by Sulasmiyati (2019) reveals that women workers in Badung Market experience a gender gap in recognition and appreciation for the work they do. The gender gap can be seen from the difference in wages between male and female workers who work in traditional markets. In addition, women workers also experience discrimination in terms of opportunities to obtain the necessary training and education to improve their work skills.

However, these studies used data collection methods such as interviews and direct observation. Not many studies have used documentary photography as a data collection method to document the daily life of women workers in traditional markets, particularly in Badung Market. One of the studies that used documentary photography as a data collection method was a study by Murniati (2015) which described the lives of fisherwomen in Karangasem Regency, Bali. In this research, Murniati uses photographs to show the daily activities of fisherwomen and the challenges they face in their work. This documentary photography method is very effective for describes daily life and provides a clear picture of the conditions faced by respondents. Therefore, this study uses the documentary photography method as a data collection method to document the daily life of women workers in Pasar Badung. It is hoped that this method will clearly show the working conditions of women workers in traditional markets, as well as provide a deeper understanding of the challenges they face in their daily lives.

Methodology

The research methodology was carried out using a qualitative descriptive research design with a case study approach. The data collection technique used Next, the researcher will apply for a permit to the Badung Market management to observe and take photos in the market. During the observation, researchers will take photographs of women workers at work, including photos of their interactions with customers, co-workers and families who come to visit. In addition, researchers will also obtain data by conducting structured interviews with a number of female workers in the Badung Market, to find out more about their daily lives, the challenges they face, and their hopes for the future.

After the data is collected, the researcher conducts data analysis using a qualitative approach, by identifying themes that emerge from the photos and interviews. Those themes will be used to answer the formulation of the problem and research objectives that have been proposed. The analysis techniques that will be used include descriptive analysis, qualitative analysis, and thematic analysis. As an additional data collection technique, the researcher will also conduct a literature study related to this research topic. The secondary data will be used to support the results of primary data analysis, so that a more complete conclusion can be drawn. This study will also use the triangulation method as an effort to obtain data validity. Data triangulation was carried out by comparing data obtained from various sources, namely photographs, interviews, and literature studies.

In terms of research ethics, researchers will maintain the confidentiality of the identities of the respondents and avoid manipulating photos or data that could harm other parties. Researchers will also obtain written consent from the respondents before conducting interviews and taking photos. In order to ensure research validity, researchers will obtain data validation from respondents and a number of experts related to this research topic. Data validation will strengthen research results and make them more reliable.

Like Diatmika, et al. (2022) and Gunawan, et al. (2022) do, the research method in this study is a qualitative method with a case study approach. The data triangulation method will be used to ensure the validity of the data. Data collection techniques used include observation, interviews, and literature studies. Data analysis techniques used include descriptive analysis, qualitative analysis, and thematic analysis.

Results and discussion

Documentary photography is an art form and photographic technique that aims to show real life in an objective way and maintain reality without excessive influence or manipulation. In the context of this research, documentary photography can be used to show the lives of women workers in the Badung Market in a powerful and effective way. One of the ways in which documentary photography can be used to show the lives of women workers in the Badung Market in a powerful and effective way is by using visual storytelling techniques. This technique involves using images and narration that complement each other to draw the audience into the story conveyed in the images. In the context of this research, pictures can be used to show the lives of women workers in the Badung Market, while narration can be used to provide background on the lives of these women workers, as well as describe the challenges they face in carrying out their work.

This documentary photography approach that uses visual storytelling techniques is also supported by documentary photography experts. According to the American documentary photographer, Wright Morris, good documentary images must be able to bring the audience into the story shown in the image. In addition, other documentary photography experts, such as Dorothea Lange and Lewis Hine, also emphasize the importance of using accurate and objective narration to strengthen the story to be conveyed through images.

In the context of this study, the opinion of the documentary photography experts can be applied by combining visual storytelling techniques with the use of accurate and objective narratives. Through the use of this technique, documentary photography can be used to show the lives of women workers in the Badung Market in a powerful and effective way. Images showing the lives of women workers in the Badung Market can provide in-depth insight into their conditions, while the narration conveyed in these images can provide a complete background on the lives of women workers in the Badung Market. However, apart from being a medium to show the lives of women workers, the creation of documentary or art photography can also provide other benefits in promoting awareness of social and gender issues, fighting for the rights of women workers, and promoting tourism that is responsible and respects cultural diversity in Indonesia. Bali which can act as a tool to educate the public about the lives of women workers and social issues related to their profession, and can see firsthand the lives of women workers, including the difficulties and challenges they face in carrying out their daily work. This can help increase public awareness of social and gender issues that are often overlooked.

The creation of documentary photography can also be a means to fight for the rights of women workers. By showing the lives of women workers through powerful media such as documentary photography, it can give voice to those who were previously marginalized. The presence of documentary photography can help arouse public and government attention on the importance of women's labor rights.

Chris Jordan, a famous documentary photographer, confirms that documentary photography can influence social change. Through works of art, photographers can show the lives of others and give voice to those who often do not have a voice. This can fight for social change and a better humanity.

In terms of tourism, a documentary photography project can also contribute to promoting responsible tourism and respecting cultural diversity in Bali which can help change tourists' perceptions of Bali, which is often seen only as a beach destination and cultural tourism destination. By showing the lives of women workers and cultural diversity in Pasar Badung Bali through documentary photography, it can help elevate the dignity of the female labor profession and provide a more authentic and sustainable tourism alternative.



[Source: Putra, 2023]

Figure 1. Rest for a While

The photo (Figure 1) shows a woman worker resting in the overhang of the Badung Market. The woman worker is very tired after several hours of working as a laborer transporting shopping goods in the Badung Market, carrying a bamboo basket that is usually placed on her head. The light used is available light with the direction of light from the side. The use of side light will form a contrast

between the parts that are exposed to the light directly (highlight) with the shadow area (shadow). In conditions like this it creates a dramatic impression and brings out a more realistic light.

The photo shooting is done using a selective focus technique. The focus of the photo is on the female worker by showing a female worker rest and background to show depth in the photo. The lens used for shooting is a 55-250mm zoom lens at a focal length of 89mm. This is done to be able to reach the object distance due to the crowded Badung Market conditions and the presence of market visitors passing by. So that the lens is used in order to get a sharp photo with a fairly far object distance.

The photo shoot was carried out at the Badung Market with the angle of taking photos using an eye level, the use of this angle can depict objects in their actual conditions. Using an aperture of f/4.5, ISO 2500, and a shutter speed of 1/200s aims to be able to record still objects. After shooting, proceed with the photo editing process using Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Lightroom to increase the brightness and contrast in order to sharpen the photo.



[Source: Putra, 2023]
Figure 2. Happy Smile

What makes this photo (Figure 2) interesting is the expression of a woman worker who looks very reel without any engineering by carrying a bamboo basket above her head. This photo using an eye level angle and placing women workers as a point of interest (POI) in the photo.

The photo shoot was carried out at the Badung Market by being right in front of the object and the angle of taking the photo was using an eye level, the

use of this angle can describe the object with the condition which is actually with the camera position parallel to the object in the photo and the light used is available light. The lens used to shoot the photo is a 55-250 mm zoom lens at a 220 mm focal length, this is done to be able to reach objects that are too far away. Use an aperture of f/4.5, ISO 800, and a shutter speed of 1/400s aims to be able to record moving objects after shooting. In addition, the editing stage also needs to be done to add sharpness to the photo by increasing the brightness and contrast using Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Lightroom.

This stage is passed before entering the stage of presenting the work.



[Source: Putra, 2023]

Figure 3. Transport

The photo (Figure 3) shows several female workers carrying bamboo baskets that are placed on their heads to deliver groceries to the lower parking lot which has been used by visitors to the Badung Market. The light used is available light with the direction of light from the side of the object. The use of side light will form a contrast between the parts that are exposed to the light directly (highlight) with the shadow area (shadow). In conditions like this creates a dramatic impression and bring out a more realistic light.

The photo shoot was carried out on the 3rd floor of the Badung Market to get an angle from above. The angle used is bird's eye, that is, the camera position is at a very high position, as if it were the point of view of a bird flying in the sky.

The lens used when shooting is a 55-250 mm lens at a focal length 55 mm is used for getting distant photos. Apart from that, the use of an aperture of f/4, ISO 100, and a shutter speed of 1/320s is done to get sharp photos and get light enough on the photo. In addition, the editing stage also needs to be done to add sharpness to the photo by increasing the brightness and contrast using Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Lightroom. This stage is passed before entering the stage of presenting the work.

Conclusion

Based on the discussion above, it can be concluded that a documentary photography project that focuses on the lives of female freight forwarders at Pasar Badung Bali has significant benefits in raising awareness of social and gender issues, fighting for the rights of women workers, and promoting sustainable tourism. responsibility and respect for cultural diversity in Bali.

Documentary photography has strong visual power and can convey messages effectively about the lives of women workers in Pasar Badung. Documentary photography can reveal the lives of women workers who may not be seen by the wider community and can trigger positive social change. In this case, documentary photography can be used as a tool to raise awareness about social and gender issues faced by female workers in Pasar Badung. Creating documentary photography can help fight for the rights of women workers in Pasar Badung. By producing clear and believable images of the lives of women workers, this project can help fight for their rights in terms of living wages, fair working hours, and safe and healthy working conditions. However, this creation needs to be supported and promoted in order to achieve better results and have a positive impact on the people of Pasar Badung and Bali in general.

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