



SOCIAL WELL-BEING

A COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

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Foreword: Iwan Gardono Sujatmiko



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Social Well-Being: A Comparative Perspective

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Foreword

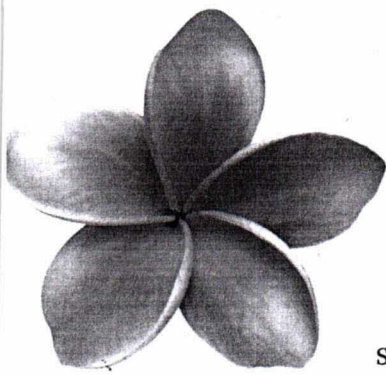
Social well-being: *A Comparative Perspective*, a book by Francisia S.S.E. Seda, et al., enriches our understanding of social well-being with the application of an integrative model which includes personal (micro), relational (meso) and societal (macro) dimensions. The articles in this book are based on research in Senshu Consortium for Social Well-being Studies and LabSosio University of Indonesia in various East and Southeast Asian countries. The phenomenon of social well-being is related to happiness and it serves as a central concept in human and society like justice, prosperity, freedom, tolerance, environment, and democracy. Specifically, it highlights the significance of the macro factors such as fair competition, equal opportunity, inclusive society, positive view on society's progress and institutional trust in social well-being. A bigger picture of social well-being and happiness is supported by various Happiness Indexes and reports at the global and national level. In Indonesia, the Government's Central Agency of Statistics has constructed a Happiness Index and national surveys to identify the level of happiness with age, gender, and regions as its variables. Moreover, at the global level, the SDGs 17 goals are also related to macro factors social well-being or the harmony of spiritual, ecological and people which is similar to the Balinese philosophy of *Tri Hita Karana* or Three Ways of Happiness.

In addition to the analysis of social well-being, the articles in Seda's book also discusses how social policy improves the context of societal well-being to complement the effort of individual and family, community, and workplace. The issue of social well-being and happiness can be stated at the constitutions such as in the USA, Bhutan, and United Arab Emirates. The United Arab Emirates has even appointed its country's first Minister of State for Happiness and has launched a National programme for happiness and well-being among other initiatives. In the case of Indonesia, the issue of happiness should be addressed in the long-term strategy, for instance,

in the Golden Indonesia (*Indonesia Emas*) in 2045. This national agenda and strategy calls for the inclusion of people's aspirations at the provincial and community level, rather than merely focusing on economic development or physical infrastructure.

Iwan Gardono Sujatmiko

Sociologist, University of Indonesia



In this work, a group of eminent academics and sociologists have come together to dissect critical issues surrounding social well-being in the context of social policies, social exclusion, religious capital, social advantages, and social inclusion.

THROUGH a profound interdisciplinary perspective, the authors delve into the impact of social policies on community well-being, investigate mechanisms of social exclusion, elucidate the role of religious capital, analyze social advantages, and detail strategies for social inclusion.

Social Well-Being: A Comparative Perspective not only provides a conceptual overview but also offers critical insights based on recent research and relevant case studies. Readers will be guided to comprehend the complexity of interactions between social policies, practices of exclusion, the role of religion in social capital, and inclusion strategies that promote sustainable social well-being.

This work serves as a crucial guide for readers seeking an in-depth understanding of the role of social policies in shaping community well-being, the impacts of social exclusion, the potential of religious capital, attainable social advantages, and strategies for social inclusion applicable in various social contexts. With contributions from experts in the field, this book becomes a valuable reference for academics, sociologists, and social policy practitioners aiming to gain a deeper understanding of the complex dynamics of social well-being.

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