

ABSTRACT

Waria or female-male is the term used by Indonesians for transgender or transwomen. Indonesia is one of the countries with a significant population of waria. From the distribution of the number of waria in West Jakarta, there is one location where the population is recorded to be dominated by waria who work as Commercial Sex Workers in the South Duri Area, namely Kampung Duri. This research explores how transgender sex workers in Kampung Duri use their identities in their social and personal lives by adopting Stella Ting Toomey's Identity Negotiation Theory. The purpose of this research is to find out the Communication Identity Negotiation of Jakarta's Waria Commercial Sex Workers (PSK) as an identity negotiation. The research method used in this study is a qualitative research method with a phenomenological approach. The data collection techniques used are in-depth interviews and observations to 4 informants. The results of this study indicate that transgender sex workers rely on symbolic communication to negotiate their identity and build relationships with customers. Transgender prostitutes also have a comfortable identity over their profession because it allows self-expression and sexual satisfaction. Despite facing stigma and discrimination, the stability of their identity strengthens their mental power and motivates them to avoid unsupportive social norms. This leads to avoiding their identity in order to avoid social norms in their environment. In addition, it also shows the existence of collaborating or cooperation between transgender prostitutes in negotiating identity communication. Community conflicts related to the existence of informants even resulted in forced evictions.

Keywords: Communication Identity Negotiation, Waria Commercial Sex Workers, Kampung Duri, Identity Negotiation Theory.