

ABSTRACT

Islamic microfinance has been established to provide business development and community empowerment services through financing to micro-scale businesses and community members. Despite a multitude research is devoted to the topic, the effect of Islamic microfinance interventions on empowering women are still largely unexplored in Indonesia. The aims of this study was to assess the role of Islamic Microfinance on women empowerment in Semarang, Indonesia. This study focused on two specific objectives including to assess the effect of Islamic microfinance services on women empowerment and to determine the differences in women income before and after joining Islamic microfinance. The method used in this research was a quantitative method using primary data collection. Primary data was collected by distributing 63 members of Islamic microfinance in the Misykat program from Daarut Tauhid (DT) Peduli Semarang through a questionnaire containing a five-point Likert scale. This study analyzed through multiple linear regression analysis techniques performed on SPSS .23.0. The results of the research shows the financing had a positive and significant effect on women empowerment. Training had a positive and significant effect on women empowerment. Savings had a positive and significant effect on women empowerment. Islamic Religiosity had a positive and significant effect on women empowerment. The analysis also showed that there was a significant difference in women's income before and after joining Islamic microfinance.

Keywords: Women Empowerment, Islamic Microfinance, Financing, Training, Savings, Islamic Religiosity, Income