

Indigenization of Social Work Education and Practice in Indonesia

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Introduction

Formal social work education in Indonesia starts in secondary level (Migley, 1981). Its established with decree Ministry of Education : No SK : 24/C, Date : 04-09-1946, the Ministry of Education and established the *Sekolah Pembimbing Kemasyarakatan* (SPK) in Solo, Central Java¹. Formal social work education in college level in Indonesia started in 1957 when the Ministry of Social Affairs (MSA) launched its *Kursus Dinas Sosial A (KDSA)*, a one year short-term course program and the *Kursus Dinas Sosial Menengah dan Atas (KSDA)* course extends to *Kursus Kejuruan Sosial Tingkat Menengah dan Tinggi (KKSMT)*, a two year training program². This course considered as early formal education and training center to improve the quality of human resource in the ministry (Sulaiman, 1985: Fahrudin, 1997).

The political, social and economic changes in Indonesia also influenced social work education. After the New Order Regime under General Soeharto, more changes and reforms occurred in the education system and social service delivery models (Fahrudin, 1999). The earthquakes and tsunami disaster in the year 2004 in Indonesia provided the opportunities to the higher education institutions to develop in cooperation with national and international agencies. For example, the State Islamic University (UIN) in Yogyakarta (this university is under the Ministry of Religious Affair), the McGill University and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) jointly in IAIN Indonesia Social Equity Project (IISEP) to setup and offered Postgraduate Interdisciplinary Islamic Studies focusing on Social Work without an undergraduate social work programme (Fatimah & Wildan, 2013³). This program

¹ Keputusan Menteri Pendidikan No: 24/C. Tanggal 04-09-1946

² Generally, in BSSW history public only known KKST, but in formal document *Kursus Kejuruan Sosial Tingkat Menengah dan Tinggi*.

³ Personal interview with Dr Fatimah Hussein & Dr Muhammad Wildan in UIN campus Jogjakarta on 23 January 2013