

***THE EFFECT OF ALTRUISM BEHAVIOR ON SOCIAL LOAFING IN
PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS OF 17 AUGUST 1945 UNIVERSITY
SAMARINDA***

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Abstract: *Under certain conditions, quite a lot of students are less involved in group activities, especially those related to academic assignments which are a shared responsibility. This often happens because there is a belief that the task will be completed by other group members. This research was conducted with the aim to find out the effect of altruistic behavior on social loafing in students at the Faculty of Psychology, University of 17 August 1945 Samarinda. About 111 active students in even semester were involved in this research. Research data were obtained using two types of scales, The Altruism Behavior Scale and The Social Loafing Scale. Simple regression analysis was used using SPSS 20 for Windows. Based on the results from analysis shown that there is about 33% effect of altruistic behavior on social loafing on Psychology students from the 17 August 1945 University Samarinda.*

Keywords: *Altruism Behavior, Social Loafing, Psychology Faculty Students*

INTRODUCTION

Higher education from educational institution is believed to be able to help students to prepare them to have competitiveness to enter the world of industry. When entering the world of professional business environment, students are expected to adapt to their work environment in various social situations that required them to work together as a team (Fitriana & Saloom, 2018). Group assignments are instructional technique that aim to train students work as a team (Fitriana & Saloom, 2018). Group tasks are tasks that are not only completed by individuals themselves but also together with their peer groups (Putra & Pratama, 2022).

Generally, tasks carried out in groups would be easier and lighten the burden on students because it was done together. But not everything can go well, because sometimes various kinds of problems might arise and become ineffective because not all group members want to contribute fully and work with other members. Individuals tend to contribute less when in a group when they feel that other members could complete the given task. The phenomenon of decreased performance and contribution from individuals in this kind of groups in social psychology were called social loafing or social laziness.

According to Taylor, et al (in Agung, et al., 2019) social laziness is a situation where one's contribution to collective activities can't be evaluated, and individuals tend to work less actively in groups rather than working alone. Previous research conducted by Ying, Jiang, Peng & Lin (in Purwanalisia & Rinaldi, 2020) has shown that doing group assignments can demotivate and reduce the effort on doing tasks on given assignments. Individuals tend to rely on other group members to complete the task. Individuals might become passive when they are working in groups, resulting in a gap of responsibilities between group members because they think that there will be other members who might cover their shortcomings.

Various impacts might occur when

social loafing continues, including inhibiting oneself and other group members from achieving goals that should be achieved which leads to obtained not optimal results (Agung et al, 2019). Another impact of social loafing that occurs on students is that students couldn't develop their potential, especially in terms of cooperation or tasks that require teamwork because they are used to relying on other people and being passive (Pratama, et al, 2020).

Other past research on social loafing conducted by Piezon & Ferree (in Fitriana & Saloom, 2018) had shown that several individuals admitted to personally involved in social loafing behavior during their group activities with data taken from 227 respondents found that about 35.7% respondents indicates that they had been involved with groups that include members with social loafing behavior. Another research that can strengthen phenomenon on social loafing behavior in students at universities was conducted by Mello (in Pratama & Aulia, 2020), where students experienced unpleasant experiences when working in groups. There were several factors in the emergence of social loafing behavior namely gender. According to Karau and Williams (in Pratama & Wulanyani, 2018) showed that men tend to engage in social loafing behavior than women. This is because men can have a higher level of independence and self-confidence, while women are wiser and more caring about other people. In a preliminary study conducted by researchers in November (2022), several male respondents said that working in a group was a hassle because they had to interact with other people and felt that working with other people was complicated for them. Meanwhile, the majority of female respondents said that group assignments were not difficult, where it showed that women tend to adapt more quickly to other group members and felt that assignments could be easier and quicker to complete because they were done together. Forms of social loafing behavior can be various, ranging from apathy towards group tasks, behavior that destroys and inhibits this group, weak interpersonal

relationships, poor work quality and results, overdoing tasks and poor overall team performance (Atikah & Hariyadi, 2019).

There are two factors that determine social loafing, internal and external factors. Internal factors include motivation for achievements (Putra & Pratama, 2022), locus of control in students (Purwanalisia & Rinaldi, 2020), self-esteem, and self-confidence (Panjaitan et al, 2019). Another research were conducted by Atikah and Hariyadi (2019) where they used the dimensions of the Big Five Personality Traits, which includes extraversion, *Neuroticism*, *Openness*, *Agreeableness* and *Conscientiousness*.). The results of data processing showed that there are differences between social loafing in terms of the Big Five Personality Traits. The external factors of social loafing such as group cohesiveness (Panjaitan et al, 2019).

In a group task, the behavior of helping each other as members was necessary in order to achieve a common goal. According to Myers (in Pratama & Wulanyani, 2018) helping behavior or altruism is defined as the desire to help others above personal interests or without expecting anything in return. This happens because there is a widening of the responsibilities of group members when they are in a social environment or groups are formed in a behavior of helping each other among group members. The relationship between group members will make it easier to achieve group goals by being able to help each other, although they that the division of tasks received has been carried out individually, but they feel that they can help other group members who are experiencing difficulties.

According to Rutkwocki, et al (in Primary & Wulanyani, 2018) if bigger responsibilities were connected to groups, then altruistic behavior tends to decrease because exists other group members who are around the individual. The higher the level of group cohesiveness, the greater the helping behavior between group members and vice versa. The definition of group cohesiveness itself is the cohesiveness that exists in a group, so that it

can unite diversity within group members so that cooperation and cohesiveness are created with each other so that it is possible to achieve group goals (Agung et al., 2019). Based on the explanation above, we can conclude that if cohesiveness in the group is formed the higher altruistic behavior exist in a group can suppress the occurrence of social loafing in students, which increased the importance of this study, it can be detrimental to the various parties involved in a group assignment which can lead to impact on the process of student learning. This study aims to measure different social loafing and wants to see the extent of the influence of altruism and social loafing behavior on Psychology students at University of 17 August 1945 Samarinda.

METHOD

This research uses quantitative research methods which require a large population to obtain accurate research results in generalizing the final results. The population in this study were students of the psychology faculty at the University of 17 August 1945 Samarinda who were in the even semester 2022/2023, both men and women, totaling 155 students. The sample in this study used a purposive sampling technique and involved a sample of 111 students.

Data collection in this research used a questionnaire. The questionnaire used to measure altruism behavior uses an instrument from Rizki and Aulia (2019) which consists of 23 statement items after going through three validity tests and obtained from three aspects, namely: (1) giving attention to other people (10 statement items); (2) helping others (8 statement items); and (3) putting other people's interests above personal interests (5 statement items). The results of the reliability analysis of the tool for measuring the altruism behavior variable in this study were worth 0.817.

The social loafing variable in this study uses a scale that has been used great (2019) with items consisting of 18 statements after going through three validity tests. The social loafing scale statement items in this research

are based on four aspects, namely: (1) perception or effort (consisting of five statement items); (2) reducing effort (consisting of five statement items); (3) let others do more (consisting of three statement items); and (4) relying on other people (consisting of two statement items). The results of the reliability analysis of the social loafing variable measuring instrument in this study had a value of 0.925. The scoring for items uses a Likert scale with a range of 1 (strongly disagree) to 4 (strongly agree) for favorable statements and a range of 1 (strongly agree) to 4 (strongly disagree) for unfavorable statements.

RESULTS

The research data in this study was obtained through distributing a questionnaire in the form of a Google form which was distributed to Psychology students at University of 17 August 1945 Samarinda and it was found that 136 subjects participated in filling out the questionnaire. However, according to the sample calculation, the researchers then re-sorted the 136 subjects who met the requirements and selected 111 eligible subjects. The percentage of respondents who have participated based on gender is as follows:

Table 1. Percentage by gender

No	Gender	N.	%
1	Woman	71	64%
2	Man	40	36%
Total		111	100%

The subjects participating in this research were divided into three semesters which are explained in the following table:

Table 2. Percentage based on semester level

No.	Semester	N	%
1	2	36	32.4%
2	4	43	38.7%
3	6	32	28.8%
Total		111	100%

Based on the data that has been analyzed, from 111 sample answers three levels of categorization of social loafing were obtained which are explained in the following table:

Table 3. Categorization of social loafing

Score	Category	N	%
<29.01	Low	22	19.8
29.01 – 49.78	Currently	71	64
>49.78	Tall	18	16.2
Total		111	100

From table above, we can conclude that the level of social loafing among students at the Faculty of Psychology, University of 17 August 1945 Samarinda is in the medium category with a total of 71 respondents. This shows that many students are involved in social loafing behavior when working on group assignments even though they should be able to work together in order to achieve group goals optimally and this causes delays in work and being passive because there are other group members.

The results of the analysis on the altruism behavior variable are divided into three levels of categorization which can be seen in the following table:

Table 4. Categorization of altruism behavior

Score	Category	N	%
<95.10	Low	20	18
95.10 – 116.36	Medium	72	64.9
>116.36	High	19	17.1
Total		111	100

So it can be concluded that the level of altruistic behavior among students at the Faculty of Psychology, University of 17 August 1945 Samarinda is in the medium category with 101 respondents. From the explanation above, it can be seen that the majority of students have good altruism behavior and have the ability to help for the benefit of others. Students have the motivation to help others and the desire to do good selflessly.

Based on the results of the linearity test has done obtained significance

value (Sig) of 0.210. Because the significance value obtained is greater than 0.05, we can conclude that there is a significant linear relationship between the independent variable and the dependent variable.

From the results of a simple linear regression carried out on the altruism behavior variable (X) on the social loafing variable (Y), a hypothesis test can be carried out by comparing the significance value (Sig.) with a probability of 0.05.

Based on the data that has been processed, the level effect of altruistic behavior variable on the social loafing variable is known through a simple linear regression analysis which is explained in the table.

Table 5. Correlation Coefficient

R	0.575
R Square	0.330

Based on the determination efficiency value of R square of 0.330, it shows that 33% of the increase in social loafing is influenced by altruistic behavior, while the remaining 67% is influenced by other variables that was not measured in this research. It can be concluded that altruism behavior has a significant effect on social loafing in students.

Other factor that has influence is cultural background, whether person in question is an individualist or collectivistic culture. In collectivistic cultures, social loafing does not occur because this culture prioritizes the value of togetherness between group members rather than individualistic cultures. This was based on the idea that the common interest is above the personal interests of each group member, so that individuals tend to give their best efforts to achieve the interests of the group together. The existence of individual efforts in groups to achieve common goals means that the level of social loafing in collectivistic cultures is low.

Based on research that has been conducted and the results of statistical data analysis, this research proves that there is an influence of altruistic behavior towards social loafing on altruistic behavior towards social loafing. The influence shown in this research is

there is a negative influence between altruistic behavior and social loafing. In this research there are several weaknesses, the first data collection carried out by the researcher was distributing the research questionnaire online via Google Form so that the researcher could not directly supervise the filling in of the questionnaire carried out by the subjects. Second, the number of male and female respondents is unequal, where the female population is greater than the male population, so this also might influence on the research results.

DISCUSSION

This study aims to address the research problem concerning the effect of altruism behavior on social loafing among active even-semester students at the Faculty of Psychology, Universitas 17 Agustus 1945 Samarinda. Data was collected from 136 respondents, consisting of 49 male respondents (36%) and 87 female respondents (64%). Based on the distribution of respondents across different semesters, 60 respondents were in the 2nd semester (44.1%), 44 respondents were in the 4th semester (32.4%), and 32 respondents were in the 6th semester (23.5%).

The processed data revealed that social loafing in this study was predominantly at a moderate level, with 60.3% or 82 respondents falling into this category. The second most common level was low, with 29 respondents or 21.3%, and the third level was high, with 18.4% or 25 respondents. When breaking down the data by gender, among male respondents, 9 were in the low category, 29 were in the moderate category, and 11 were in the high category. Among female respondents, 20 were in the low category, 53 were in the moderate category, and 14 were in the high category. These findings indicate that the level of social loafing among female students was higher than among male students. This result contrasts with Karau and Williams' findings (Pratama & Wulanyani, 2018), which suggested that males are more likely to engage in social loafing than females.

Altruism behavior was the independent variable (X) in this study. It was found that 101 respondents, or approximately 74.3%, fell into the moderate category. The second category,

with 20 respondents or about 14.7%, was the high category, and the last category, with 15 respondents or about 11%, was the low category. Breaking down this data by gender, among male respondents, 33 were in the moderate category, 9 were in the low category, and 7 were in the high category. Among female respondents, 68 were in the moderate category, 13 were in the high category, and 6 were in the low category. These findings suggest that the level of altruism behavior among female students was higher than among male students.

Based on the data presented above, it can be observed that both social loafing and altruism behavior were predominantly categorized as moderate. This may be due to respondents tending to rate themselves more positively, creating a "faking good" effect. Additionally, some questionnaire items may have been too broadly worded, making it difficult for respondents to imagine the situations in each questionnaire.

The linearity test showed a significance value (sig.) of 0.253, which is greater than the probability value of 0.05, indicating a significant linear relationship between altruism behavior and social loafing. This is consistent with the F-value, where a study can be said to have a relationship if the calculated F-value is less than the table F-value. In this study, the calculated F-value was 1.183, and the table F-value was 1.609. Since the calculated F-value was smaller than the table F-value, it confirms a significant linear relationship.

The results of the simple linear regression analysis revealed that the significance value (Sig.) was 0.000, which is smaller than the probability value of 0.05, leading to the conclusion that altruism behavior (X) has an effect on social loafing (Y). This hypothesis was further supported by comparing the t-value with the table t-value. The calculated t-value was 13.854, while the table t-value was 1.656. Thus, it can be concluded that the calculated t-value of -8.384 is greater than the table t-value of 1.99. The negative calculated t-value suggests a negative influence, meaning that as social loafing increases among active even-semester students at the Faculty of Psychology, Universitas 17 Agustus 1945 Samarinda, the level of altruism behavior decreases. Therefore, the hypothesis proposed in this study is accepted. However, this finding contrasts with the research by

Pratama and Wulanyani (2018), which suggested that the influence of quantity, interpersonal communication ability, and altruism behavior positively correlated with social loafing by 17.6%.

The simple linear regression analysis also indicated that 65.6% of the variance in social loafing can be attributed to factors other than the predictor variables included in this study. One such factor is cultural influences, specifically the distinction between individualistic and collectivistic cultures. In collectivistic cultures, social loafing is less likely to occur because these cultures emphasize group cohesion and collective goals over individualistic pursuits. This perspective suggests that in collectivistic cultures, individuals are more likely to exert effort toward group objectives, resulting in lower levels of social loafing.

In conclusion, the statistical analysis of this study demonstrates that altruism behavior negatively influences social loafing. However, there were some limitations to the study. First, data collection was conducted online via Google Forms, which prevented the researchers from directly supervising the questionnaire completion process. Second, there was an imbalance in the gender distribution of respondents, with more female respondents than male respondents, which may have influenced the study's results.

CONCLUSION

Based on the data, to determine the hypothesis test in research, it is necessary to know the significant value in the research. In the ANOVA table for the simple linear regression test, it is known that the value is 0.00, which is smaller than the significant criterion value of 0.05, so we can conclude that the hypothesis test in this study is accepted, which means that there is an influence of altruistic behavior on social loafing in active Psychology even semester students at University of 17 August 1945 Samarinda.

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