ABSTRACT

As a country that has experienced economic progress, South Korea has also experienced an increase in gender equality issues starting from affirmative policies, representation of women in politics, and the feminism movement. However, the social changes that occur show resistance with the emergence of an anti-feminist movement that is getting stronger in society. The reversal of the narrative that men are victims of discrimination hinders the achievement of gender equality in South Korea. This study aims to analyze how the dynamics of the anti-feminist movement as resistance to gender equality in South Korea.

Using a qualitative approach and literature study, this research explores the narratives developed in online forums, social media, along with political statements representing anti-feminist groups. Through this approach, it was found that resistance to gender equality in South Korea is a reaction to perceived social and economic injustice. In addition, it is also caused by the persistence of patriarchal cultural structures. By using this approach, it is hoped that it can provide a comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by South Korea in achieving gender equality.

The results of this study show that resistance occurs due to the view that gender equality policies harm men. Not only that, the politicization of gender issues by public figures participates in strengthening polarization in society. the anti-feminist movement also causes women to be excluded from the public sphere because of the stigmatization of women. Where, women who actively voice the issue of gender equality will get insults and even threats from feminist groups.

Not only that, the anti-feminist movement also hinders legal reforms that can protect rape victims. This research concludes that the anti-feminist movement in South Korea is a serious challenge in efforts to achieve gender equality. Where, the anti-feminist movement not only hinders the achievement of gender equality but also becomes a setback for improving gender equality in South Korea.

Keywords: Anti-feminist movement, Patriarchy, Gender equality