

Abstract submission

**Abstract reference:** ICCA2018-81343

---

Abstract submitted on: Sept. 24, 2017, 9:19 a.m. (Last updated on: Dec. 21, 2017, 10:58 a.m.)

Theme: **ICCA Sociology**

**Title:** Ethnic differences in dietary diversity among primary school-aged children: Evidence from the Indonesian Family Life Survey

**Resumo // Abstract::**

Previous studies on ethnic differences in dietary diversity have predominantly focused on explaining variance among adults of White, Black, and Hispanic origin, mostly within the North-American context. Although many low and middle-income countries comprise a wide range of ethnic groups, much less is known about ethnic differences in dietary diversity in such settings. Moreover, while previous research has primarily focused on adults, next to nothing is known about dietary diversity patterns among children. This study simultaneously addresses both knowledge gaps and analyses ethnic differences in dietary diversity of primary school-aged children of three indigenous ethnic groups in Indonesia: the Javanese who have a bilateral kinship system, the Batak with a more patrilineal system, and the traditionally matrilineal Minang (Ananta et al., 2015). Aside from examining the differences among these ethnic groups, disparities in dietary diversity within each ethnic group by children's gender, birth order, and family socioeconomic status are also examined. The analyses are based on data from the Indonesian Family Life Survey (IFLS) covering the period 2000 to 2015, and consisting of 6,711 observations of primary school-age children age 6 to 11 years old who were born in 4,457 families. The Berry-Index score for dietary diversity is used as the outcome variable (Drescher et al., 2007). This score was constructed from data on individual food consumption recording the number of days a child had consumed a certain type of food during the week before the interview. Multiple linear regression with clustered standard errors at the family level was used to estimate the models. Interaction effects of ethnicity with gender, birth order, and family socioeconomic status were included to analyse within-ethnic related disparities in dietary diversity. The validation step prior the main analyses indicated that the constructed Berry-Index positively correlated with children's nutritional status (height-for-age). The positive correlation means that consuming diverse food types leads to better health. The main results showed that the Javanese, which had the best overall nutritional status of the three ethnic groups, scored higher in dietary diversity than others. The interaction effects showed that dietary diversity was gender-related but not socioeconomic-status-related among the matrilineal Minang with Minang girls having a higher Berry-Index score than the boys. While among the patrilineal Batak, the dietary diversity was more socioeconomic-status-related as children who were born in a family with high socioeconomic status have a higher Berry-Index score even when compared to the affluent Javanese. There were no within-ethnic group differences in dietary diversity by birth order. Further analyses on consumption at food group level showed that Minang girls consumed vegetables more frequently than boys. The analyses also found that although the affluent Batak children consumed vegetables slightly less frequent, they almost triple the less-affluent Batak children in the number of days in a week consuming dairy products.

## 2nd International Conference on Childhood and Adolescence

Abstract submission

**Abstract reference:** ICCA2018-81343

---

**Keywords:**

ethnic, dietary diversity, nutrition, gender

**Authors:**

Yohanes Sondang Kunto<sup>1</sup>; Hilde Bras<sup>2</sup>;

1- Petra Christian University; 2- Wageningen University & Research

Abstract submitter personal information:

**Email address:** yohanes.kunto@wur.nl

**CV:**

No CV present

---

Notes:

- This abstract is finalized.