

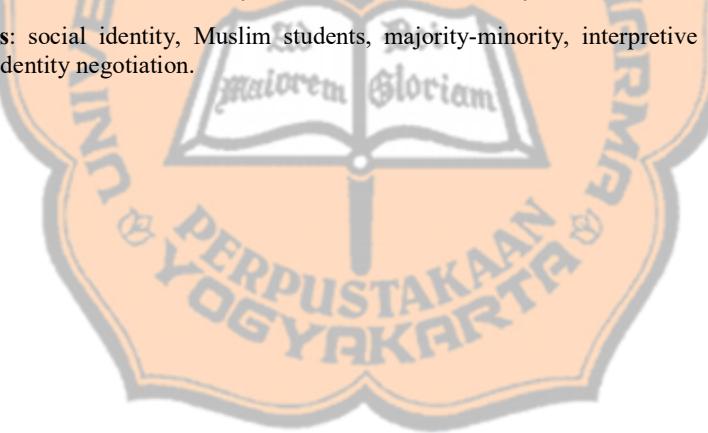
AFFIRMING AND RESPECTING DIVERSITY: THE DYNAMICS OF SOCIAL IDENTITY OF MUSLIM STUDENTS AT X UNIVERSITY

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ABSTRACT

This study aims at delineating the dynamics of the social identity of Muslim students at X University. This study uses a qualitative method with semi-structured interviews. Half of the interviews were conducted using the dyadic method. The result was then analyzed using interpretive phenomenological analysis (IPA). Five X University students who are members of the Muslim Family Forum acted as the informants in this study. While Muslims are the majority in Indonesia, they become a minority at X University. The different principles and ideals as Muslims and as X University students had caused the informants to undergo and experience a constant change between the majority and minority identity. At the beginning of the university year, the informants experienced anxiety due to their lack of experience in non-Muslim majority institutions, and there was prejudice from their groups. However, the experience at X University prompted the informants to negotiate their identity as a Muslim with their identity as a student at X University. As a Muslim, the informants still practice their beliefs even though they negotiate their identity so that their Muslim identity remains more prominent. In the end, the informants are proud when they could blend in and maintain their identity as Muslims at X University.

Keywords: social identity, Muslim students, majority-minority, interpretive phenomenological analysis, identity negotiation.



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