

The role of working time on the management of work and life among the copreneurship community Sabah

ABSTRACT

Copreneurship refers to a family business where the husband and wife work on a business together. Normally, the copreneurs business aims to harmonize their job demands and their household matters at the same time. Working time elements are perceived as crucial for copreneurs couples to carry out both work and life domains in order to minimize work and life conflicts with their own working time rather than working with the other people. Nonetheless, how far the role of copreneurs' working time affects the work and life issue in Mabul Island remains unanswerable. This is because last studies have found that copreneurs men dominate working hours longer than women. The role of long working hours contributed to the over workflow and negative lives of the men copreneurs. Therefore, this study aims to identify the role of working time that affects the work and life issues of both men and women copreneurs as well as the pattern of their work and life in Mabul Island, Sabah. This study adopts qualitative methods where the researcher carried out in-depth interviews on 14 copreneurs. The findings show that the role of working time on both domains is more focused on women copreneurs. This is because women copreneurs are available for a longer time at the workplace and work at home moderately with a home-based business. The research findings discovered that copreneurs have flexible working hours despite their full-time business that helped to ease the burden of the two domains. Indirectly, the copreneurs community in Mabul Island have found work and life patterns that are integral to their work and life despite facing internal conflicts. The contribution of this study serves as an eye-opener to the discipline on the work and life issues that are shared by the copreneurship even in rural areas.