



Accounting Students' Perceptions of Ethics in Financial Statement Preparation (Study on Accounting Students at PTNs in East Java)

Sutri Handayani¹, Abdul Ghofur²

^{1,2}Universitas Islam Lamongan Jetis, Kec. Lamongan, Kabupaten Lamongan, Jawa Timur

E-mail: ¹sutrihandayani@unisla.ac.id, ² abdulghofur1@gmail.com

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ABSTRACT

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The perception of male and female accounting students regarding the ethics of preparing financial statements can be measured in 5 aspects. These basic aspects are: misstate, cost and benefit, disclosure, responsibility, and earnings management to users of financial statements. The purpose of this study is to analyze whether or not there are differences in the perceptions of male and female accounting students about the ethics of preparing financial statements. The population in this study were 273 accounting students at PTN in East Java in semester 6. The questionnaires were randomly distributed to a sample of 73 students with details of 28 male accounting students and 45 female accounting students. This research is a quantitative research because the data to be used in this study is primary data obtained through questionnaires. The analytical tools used include validity testing, reliability testing and hypothesis testing with independent sample t-test. The results of this study indicate that male accounting students have better perceptions than female accounting students. While the results of the Independent Sample t-test on disclosure, responsibility, and earnings management, there are differences in perceptions between male and female accounting students. However, the tests on misstate and cost and benefit showed no difference in perception between male and female accounting students.

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1. Introduction

The financial statements issued by the company provide information about the company's financial condition to the readers of the financial statements. As for the owner of the company, it is a means of management accountability for the management of resources owned by the company. The components contained in the financial statements along with an explanation of the financial statements are expected to provide separate inputs for parties with an interest in the company. One of the most important parts and gets the attention of the readers of the financial statements is about the company's performance as reflected in the reported profit. Great attention to profit reporting often makes readers of financial statements not pay attention to the procedures or processes used to produce the report (Fitriani, 2010)

The process of preparing financial statements in Indonesia is based on the Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (PSAK), and this generally accepted PSAK provides an opportunity for management to perform and choose the accounting method to be applied within the company. This situation will support the statement that the choice of this method opens up opportunities for management to practice earnings management (Earnings Management).

According to Wyatt (2004) states that the weaknesses contained in accountants are the greed of individuals and corporations, providing services that reduce independence, being too soft on clients and participating in avoiding existing accounting rules. Wyatt (2004) also added that to avoid these things, educator accountants should focus on two things, namely appreciation of the accounting profession and appreciation of ethical dilemmas. This can be expressed in the form of subjects, teaching methods to the preparation of a curriculum based on ethical and moral values.

Accounting education in Indonesia aims to produce graduates with high ethics and morals. Various efforts were made to introduce the professional values and ethics of accountants to students.



The ethics of an accountant should be formed and studied begins when they are in education. Awareness the importance of ethical education and education in general is a problem creation of intelligent and moral resources. The International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) in 2003 has published 7 international education standards. Of the seven standards, namely standard number 7, professional values and ethics, it is stated that accounting education programs should provide a framework of values, ethics, and professional attitudes to train accountants' professional judgments so that they can act ethically in the midst of the interests of the profession and society. As we know that the purpose of accounting education, especially in Indonesia is to produce graduates who have high ethics and morals.

As a phenomenon that occurs in Indonesia, accounting ethics is a very interesting issue. Without ethics, the accounting profession will not exist because the accounting function is a provider of information for the business decision-making process by business people. Until now, the accounting profession has received sharp attention from the public. This is in line with the occurrence of several ethical violations committed by accountants. An example in Indonesia is the case of PT KAI's financial manipulation that occurred in 2005 in its annual financial performance report, PT KAI announced that a profit of Rp. 6.90 billion has been achieved. In fact, he was declared to have suffered a loss of Rp. 63 billion. This loss occurred because PT KAI was three years late in not being able to collect third party taxes. However, in the financial statements, third party taxes are stated as income. Whereas based on financial accounting standards, it cannot be grouped into assets or income groups (<http://www.antaraneews.com/>). differences in perceptions between male and female accounting students on the ethics of preparing financial statements which consist of misstate, cost and benefit, disclosure, responsibility, and earnings management. The purpose of this study is to examine the differences in perceptions of male and female accounting students about ethics preparation of financial statements consisting of misstate, cost and benefit, disclosure, responsibility, and earnings management.

2. Research Method

2.1 Research Type and Design

This research is a quantitative study whose data was obtained in the form of written information (questionnaires) from Accounting Students at State universities in East Java who had taken the Auditing I course to provide the information needed in this study.

2.2 Variable Operational Definition

Noor (2011: 97) says the operational definition is the part that defines a concept or variable so that it can be measured, by looking at the dimensions (indicators) of a concept or variable. Operational definitions are needed so that the concepts used can be measured empirically and avoid different misinterpretations.

3. Result and Discussion

3.1 Characteristics of Respondents

In this study, using quantitative research, namely data obtained simultaneously through filling out questionnaires for accounting students at PTN in East Java and already taking auditing courses. 1. Questionnaires were distributed as many as 16 questions. Consisting of misstate, cost stand benefit, disclosure, responsibility, and earnings management. The questionnaire was given directly to the respondent to be filled in and at that time the questionnaire was taken back by the researcher.

Table 1

Distribution Overview Table and Questionnaire Returns			
No	Information	amount Questionnaire	Perce ntage
1	Questionnaire distribution	100	100%
2	Questionnaire that did not return	22	22%
3	Returning Questionnaire	78	78%
4	Defective Questionnaire	5	5%



No	Information	amount Questionnaire	Perce ntage
5	Processable Questionnaire	73	73%
n samples = 73			
Responden Rate = (73/100) x 100% =73%			

Source: Primary Data

Questionnaires that can be processed as many as 73 people with details 28 (38%) male students and 45 (62%) female students.

3.2 Data Quality Test

a. Statistical Descriptive Results

The results of descriptive statistics will be presented in the following tables. The tabulation of the data will show the difference in the mean value of the two samples regarding the perception of accounting students on the Ethics of Financial Statement Preparation.

Table 2
Group Statistics

	Gender	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Accounting Student Perceptions of the Ethics of Financial Statement Preparation	Man	28	52,71	12,739	2,407
	girl	45	45,96	7,865	1,172

The table shows that the mean value of the perception of male accounting students on the ethics of preparing financial statements is 52.71, while the perception of female accounting students on the ethics of preparing financial statements has a mean value of 45.96. Based on the mean value, it shows that the perception of male accounting students on the ethics of preparing financial statements has a higher score than the perception of female accounting students on the ethics of preparing financial statements. From the results of the above data analysis, the overall perception of accounting students towards the ethics of preparing financial statements is classified as a good indicator of the ethics of preparing financial statements.

b. Data Validity Test

Content validity testing is done by calculating the correlation between the data in each question with a total score. The correlation coefficient value between the scores of each item and the total score is calculated by Pearson's Moment Correlation. An instrument is declared valid if the correlation coefficient rcount is greater than the correlation coefficient rtable at the significance level 5 %. Validity test can also be done by comparing the value of sig. Calculate with the value of = 0.05, if the value of sig. count < 0.05 then the instrument is declared valid (Sugiyono, 2010: 186).

This validity test uses an analytical tool in the form of Statistical Product and Service Solution 21 (SPSS 21). The results of the data validity test in this study can be seen in the following table.

Table 3
Table of Validity Test Results

No	Item Pertanyaan	Corrected Item-Total Correlation	r _{tabel}	Ket.
1	X1E1	0,819	0,227	Valid
2	X1E2	0,759	0,227	Valid
3	X1E3	0,808	0,227	Valid
4	X2E1	0,762	0,227	Valid
5	X2E2	0,737	0,227	Valid
6	X2E3	0,828	0,227	Valid
7	X3E1	0,758	0,227	Valid
8	X3E2	0,779	0,227	Valid
9	X3E3	0,768	0,227	Valid
10	X3E1	0,776	0,227	Valid
11	X1E2	0,773	0,227	Valid
12	X1E3	0,730	0,227	Valid
13	X1E4	0,669	0,227	Valid
14	X1E1	0,741	0,227	Valid
15	X1E2	0,841	0,227	Valid
16	X1E3	0,804	0,227	Valid

Source: Processing Results, SPSS 21

Based on the table of validity test results above, it is known that all of the question items used are valid, which is indicated by the value of each question item being greater than the r_{tabel} value.

c. Data Reliability Test

Reliability refers to the notion that an instrument is reliable enough to be used as a data measuring tool, because the instrument is already good (Arikunto, 2002). The data reliability test in this study aims to measure the consistency of respondents' answers to each question item in the questionnaire. By using the statistical test of Cronbach's Alpha Coefficient using SPSS 21, where the higher the coefficient means the better the measurement of an instrument. The results of the reliability test using the Cronbach's Alpha Coefficient technique can be seen in the table below.

d. Misstate (X1)

Table 4
Table of X1 . Variable Reliability Test Results
Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
0,709	3

The results of the reliability test in Table 4.3 show the calculated alpha coefficient for the X1 variable (Misstate) is 0.709 > 0.60.

e. Cost and Benefits (X2)

Table 5
Table of X2 . Variable Reliability Test Results
Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
0,666	3

The results of the reliability test in the table show the calculated alpha coefficient for the X2 variable (Cost and Benefit) is 0.666 > 0.60.

f. Disclosure (X3)

Table 6
Table of X2 . Variable Reliability Test Results
Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
0,719	4

The results of the reliability test in table 4.5 show the calculated alpha coefficient for the X2 variable (Disclosure) is 0.651 > 0.60.



g. Responsibilities (X4)

Table 7
Table of X2 . Variable Reliability Test Results
Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
0,719	4

The results of the reliability test in table 7 show the calculated alpha coefficient for the variable X2 (Responsibility) is $0.719 > 0.60$.

h. Earnings Management (X5)

Table 8
Table of X2 . Variable Reliability Test Results
Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
0,705	3

The results of the reliability test in table 4.7 show the calculated alpha coefficient for the X2 variable (earnings management) is $0.705 > 0.60$. So from the overall reliability test for variables misstate, cost and benefit, disclosure, responsibility, and earnings management are reliable.

3.3 Hypothesis testing

The test uses independent sample t-test because the two samples (male and female accounting students) are not related to each other. If the data variances are the same (homogeneous), then the results of the t-test use significance based on the assumption of equal variances assumed. On the other hand, if the significance value is (not homogeneous) then the results of the t-test are based on the assumption that the data variances are not equal (equal variances not assumed). The decision-making provisions for the average difference test are if the significance is > 0.05 then H_0 is accepted or H_a is rejected, which means that in this study there are no differences in the perceptions of accounting students regarding the ethics of preparing financial statements. On the other hand, if the significance is < 0.05 , then H_0 is rejected and H_a is accepted (Sugiyono, 2014).

To test the differences of the research variables based on the sample group the perceptions of male and female accounting students will be tested using a different test (independent sample t-test). The research hypothesis is stated as follows:

H_0 : There is no significant difference in perception between the perceptions of male and female accounting students on the ethics of preparing financial statements in 5 aspects, namely misstate, cost and benefit, disclosure, responsibility, earnings management.

H_a : There is a significant difference in perception between the perceptions of male and female accounting students on the ethics of preparing financial statements in 5 aspects, namely misstate, cost and benefit, disclosure, responsibility, earnings management.

3.4 Discussion

This study is intended to examine differences in accounting students' perceptions of the ethics of preparing financial statements. Based on the results of testing the hypothesis above, it is known that male accounting students have better perceptions than female accounting students. This can be seen from the mean value of male accounting students (52.71) which is greater than the mean value of female accounting students (45.96). Because women and men have psychological differences where women are more emotional than men and women are more easily offended, easily influenced, very sensitive, express feelings, and easily express feelings, while men are unemotional, very objective, not easily influenced, easily separate between thoughts and feelings. So from the results of the above data analysis, the overall perception of accounting students towards the ethics of preparing financial statements is classified as a good indicator of the ethics of preparing financial statements.

Based on the Independent Sample t-test, the results of the research on the Misstate aspect show a probability greater than 0.05, which is 0.175 according to the research conducted by Sri Sundari and Samsudin (2013), which means that there is no significant difference in perception between the perceptions of male and female accounting students. Women on the ethics of preparing financial statements. This is because male and female accounting students have the same view in the ethics of preparing financial statements that are generally applicable. The ethics of preparing financial statements, namely preparing

financial statements, must avoid intentional misstatements and avoid unintentional misstatements. The indicator in the ethical misstatement is that financial statements must be free from intentional misstatements and avoid unintentional misstatements.

The results of the research on the cost and benefit aspect also obtained that the probability is greater than 0.05, which is 0.145 in accordance with research conducted by Kurniawan (2014) which means that there is no significant difference in perception between the Perceptions of Male and Female Accounting Students on the ethics of preparing financial statements. However, when implementing the preparation of financial statements, there will definitely be differences in perceptions regarding the code of ethics and ethical principles in the preparation of financial statements which have been well perceived by male and female accounting students in PTNs in East Java. Accounting students as academics certainly have high hopes that the ethics of preparing financial statements can become guidelines and rules, both in practice and in teaching theory.

The results of the research on the disclosure aspect were also obtained that the probability was smaller than 0.05, which was 0.012 in accordance with the research conducted by Sri Sundari and Samsudin (2013), which means that there is a significant difference in perception between the perceptions of male and female accounting students on the ethics of preparing reports. finance. This is because conceptually disclosure is an integral part of financial reporting, and technically disclosure is the final step in the accounting process, namely the presentation of information in the form of a full set of financial statements.

The results of the research on the aspect of responsibility also obtained that the probability is smaller than 0.05, which is 0.012 in accordance with research conducted by Sri Sundari and Samsudin (2013) which means that there is a significant difference in perception between the perceptions of male and female accounting students on the ethics of preparing reports. This can be seen from the professionalism of managers in preparing financial reports. Responsibility requires management to be responsible for what is reported in the financial statements, meaning that management must make the report in accordance with the actual reality so that the financial statements provide reliable information for users.

The results of the study on the earnings management aspect showed that the probability of being smaller than 0.05 was 0.008 in accordance with research conducted by Setia Budi Arti (2012) which means that there is a significant difference in perception between the perceptions of male and female accounting students on the ethics of preparing financial statements. This is because management's shrewdness in managing earnings has a broad impact, because profit figures are the central information used by users of financial statements to assess the performance of a corporation.

4. Conclusions

Based on the results of the analysis of the data collected, it can be concluded that the research is as follows:

- a. Perceptions of Accounting students about the Ethics of Financial Statement Preparation based on the misstase aspect there is no difference between male and female accounting students.
- b. Perceptions of Accounting students about the Ethics of Financial Statement Preparation based on the Cost and Benefit aspect, there is no difference between male and female accounting students.
- c. Perceptions of Accounting students about the Ethics of Financial Statement Preparation based on the Disclosure aspect, there are differences between male and female accounting students.
- d. Accounting students' perceptions of the Ethics of Financial Statement Preparation based on the Responsibility aspect, there are differences between male and female accounting students.
- e. Perceptions of Accounting students about the Ethics of Financial Statement Preparation based on the aspect of Earnings Management There are differences between male and female accounting students. But overall it is known that the mean value of male accounting students is greater than the mean value of female accounting students. It is concluded that male accounting students have a better perception than female accounting students regarding the ethics of preparing financial statements.

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