



Empowerment as Core Ethical Value

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1 Empowerment: Definition

1 English Empowerment

Indonesian?

German: Stärkung der Selbstkompetenz,
Ermächtigung

2 Empowerment:

- Strengthening self competence,
- being able (enabled) to act with one owns capacities and capabilities,
- take life in own hands
- self-reliance?



2 Empowerment: Historical

- 1 Civil rights movement USA 1960ties ML King
- 2 Feminist movement 1970ties
- 3 educational movement Paulo Freire 70ties
- 4 Social policy, Psychology, pedagogy since 70ties
- 5 Development cooperation since 70ties: development as liberation
- 6 Amartia Sen: Freedom as motor of development
- 7 Gender Justice: World Womens conference 1995



3 Empowerment: Biblical

- 1 God's power: he created the whole creation, liberates all human beings, enables all to act in his spirit. Trinitarian understanding of power.
- 2 God's power limits all human power
- 3 God's self-limitation (Kenosis, Phil 2:5-11) empowers
- 4 God Creator: all human beings built in the image of God
God Liberator: in Jesus Christ no more slaves, but friends (John 15:15), empowers the weak (Luke 1:52)
God Holy Spirit: every human being is empowered to get God's spirit (if he/she is ready to accept it)
- 5 God is on the side of the poor and empowers them especially
- 6 Empowered to serve the community.



4 Empowerment: Gender

- 1 God empowers all human beings: man, women and children and gives human dignity to all.
- 2 God empowers especially the voiceless and oppressed. Insofar these are women, he/she empowers women in a specific way.
- 3 Men and women are ethically screened how and for what goals they use this empowerment: for own power and to oppress others or to better serve the community and establish social justice.
- 4 Women empowerment also needs men's liberation: to be set free from patriarchal mechanisms. Men's empowerment (empower to develop partnership attitude) is part of the effort for womens empowerment.