

# Club Goods and Group Identity: Evidence from Islamic Resurgence During the Indonesian Financial Crisis

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## Abstract

This paper exploits relative price shocks induced by the Indonesian financial crisis to demonstrate a causal relationship between economic distress and religious intensity and investigate why it exists. Rapid inflation favored growers of staple crops and disfavored sticky wage-earners. I use pre-crisis wetland hectares and government occupation as instruments and dryland hectares and service occupation as “placebo instruments” to estimate the impact of economic distress on religious intensity. Economic distress stimulates Koran study and Islamic school attendance but does not stimulate other social activities or secular school attendance. The results seem attributable to the role of religion as ex-post social insurance: credit availability reduces the effect of economic distress on religious intensity by roughly 80%, religious intensity alleviates needing alms or credit to meet basic needs at the peak of the crisis, and religious institutions facilitate consumption smoothing among villagers. I explain these findings in a model where religious intensity represents the degree of social insurance in which people participate and social sanctions facilitate religion’s function as ex-post insurance. Together, these results provide evidence that religious intensity responds to economic forces and suggest alleviating risk may mitigate fundamentalist tendencies. (*JEL* classification: D71, D74, E21, G22, H41, O17, Z1, Z12; *Keywords* Religion, Insurance, Club Goods, Group Identity, Fundamentalism)

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# 1 Introduction

Despite an explosion in policy interest in association with recent events, religious intensity appears poorly understood. Is there a causal relationship between economic distress and religious intensity? If so, why? Does religious intensity function as ex-post social insurance? Social scientists have long speculated on the connection between economic forces and religious intensity; answers to these questions may suggest appropriate policies to address ideological extremism.

This paper uses the Indonesian financial crisis to estimate the causal impact of economic distress on Koran study (Pengajian) and Islamic school attendance and provides evidence suggesting religious intensity functions as social insurance. Between 1997 and 1998, Indonesia's Rupiah fell dramatically from 2400 to the US dollar to 16000 to the US dollar and the CPI for food increased from 100 to 261. My research design exploits the fact that relative prices shocks induced by the crisis favored growers of staples, namely rice, and hurt sticky wage-earners, particularly government employees whose salaries are set by federal law. Because wetland hectares and government occupation are unlikely to be correlated with changes in religious intensity other than through economic distress, the interaction of the crisis and wetland hectares and the interaction of the crisis and government occupation creates exogenous variation in economic distress that can be used to estimate the causal impact of economic distress on religious intensity. Dryland hectares and service occupation serve as "placebo instruments" to test whether unobservables common with wetland and dryland hectares and with government and service occupations influence changes in religious intensity.

In the following sections, I present an analysis of data from the Hundred Villages Survey, a panel of 8,140 households, conducted by the Indonesian Census Bureau. Section 2 presents a model of religious intensity functioning as ex-post social insurance. Agents choose a proportion of income to put in Pengajian, a risk-sharing pool. This proportion represents their religious intensity. The pool is divided according to how much agents contribute as a fraction of their income, i.e. their relative religious intensity. The model has the empirical implications that those who are hit harder by economic distress will increase their religious intensity and those who are hit less hard will decrease their religious intensity. The effect should be mitigated when other forms of credit are available. Social sanctions against relative lack of intensity facilitate the stability of ex-post insurance by deterring agents who receive positive shocks from participating less, which in turn encourages agents who receive negative shocks to participate more because they can appropriate more of the positive shocks.

Section 3 establishes wetland hectares and government occupation are indeed related to economic distress during the crisis. The price of rice increased by up to 280% while in comparison, prices of non-staples increased by less or even fell during the crisis (Levinsohn et.al 2003). Therefore, the more wetland a household owns, the smaller the decrease in non-food expenditure. In contrast, real wages fell on the order of 40% (Smith et.al 2002), so households headed by a government employee, whose salaries tend to be inflexible in the short run (Knowles et.al 1999), report larger decreases in non-food expenditure.

The variety of evidence presented in Section 3 establishes that the financial crisis differentially impacted wetland owners and government employees during the crisis. In Section 4, I consider whether households suffering greater economic distress increase religious intensity. Two-stage least squares estimates using this variation suggests that households who suffer more economic distress significantly increase religious intensity while those who suffer less economic distress significantly decrease religious intensity relative to other households. The estimates indicate that households who suffer a \$1 decline in monthly non-food per-capita expenditures are roughly 2% more likely to increase Koran study. The average household suffered a \$4.70 decline in monthly non-food per-capita expenditures out of a pre-crisis average of \$7.34.

I also look at the effect of economic distress on the number of children that households send to Islamic schools. In spite of the fact that Islamic schools in my sample are substantially more expensive than non-Islamic schools (and have lower returns to education (Berman and Stepanyan 2003)), Islamic school attendance of affected households increase relative to the attendance of less affected households. These results are consistent with religious intensity, perhaps even intergenerational religious intensity, increasing with economic distress.

I then explore why economic distress stimulates religious intensity. I first show that economic distress does not stimulate participation in other social activities. To shed further light on whether Koran study is merely a leisure activity and households have more leisure, I investigate the effect of economic distress on labor supply. Households suffering more economic distress work slightly more hours per week. These results seem inconsistent with opportunity cost of time models of religion (Azzi and Ehrenberg 1975, Gruber 2003a) since falling wages do not increase participation in other social activities and households have less time for religious activity.

In Section 5, I turn to the evidence for religious intensity as a form of social insurance. Religious intensity during the peak of the crisis appears to alleviate the need for alms or credit in order to meet basic daily needs. Households that increase participation in Koran study during the crisis see a 50% reduction in likelihood to need alms or credit three months later whereas households that decrease participation see a 20% reduction in likelihood to need alms or credit three months later. Those who did not participate are only 5% less likely to need alms or credit three months later. Religious institutions also appear to facilitate consumption smoothing among villagers, measured by the standard deviation of consumption shocks in a village.

Importantly, the effect of economic distress on religious intensity essentially disappears in places where credit is available in the form of banks, microfinance institutions, or BRI loan products. The role of religion as a provider of insurance is broadly consistent with club goods theory (Buchanan 1965, Scotchmer 2002, Iannacone 1992, Berman 2000), which posits the existence of local public goods, such as mutual insurance that is excludable to non-group members.

Religious intensity provides a particularly apt context to study group identity as it is likely more of a choice than ethnicity. Several authors have found significantly negative impacts of ethnic-religious conflicts on economic outcomes (e.g. Abadie and Gardeazabal (2002) and Alesina, et.al (1999)). The opposite direction of causality has also begun to attract attention and spark debate

(e.g. Wolfensohn (2003) vs. Krueger and Maleckova (2002) on whether economic conditions cause terrorism). This paper also contributes to the literature on the determinants of religion, which has received a recent boost with the work of Barro and McCleary (2002), Glaeser and Sacerdote (2001), and Gruber (2003a, 2003b) and the literature on consumption smoothing (households can smooth through borrowing and lending, through storage, through transfers in family networks, or through religious participation) and insurance (Townsend 1994). Together with the finding that religious intensity is more strongly linked to social violence in regions that are more economically distressed (Chen 2004), these results suggest to the extent governments, international organizations, and NGOs are concerned about ideological extremism, increasing the provision of social insurance may mitigate fundamentalist tendencies.

## 2 Religion and Economics in Indonesia

### 2.1 Background<sup>1</sup>

87% of Indonesia's population of 230 million is Muslim, which makes it the country with the largest (Sunni) Muslim population in the world. The primary measure of religious intensity being studied is Pengajian, which specifically refers to Koran study. 61% of households in my sample report participating in Pengajian in August 1998 which increases to 71% in August 1999.

In most Islamic denominations, the Koran is kept in its strictest form, meaning that it cannot be translated. For Pengajian, usually a group gathers to read the Koran together in Arabic, discussing both the translation and the meaning. Sometimes, a leader or imam will be responsible for translating and applying the Koran to the real world in a lecture format. Lessons on how to live and perspectives on contemporary events are common material for discussion. The particular interpretation depends on the type of Islam—modern, radical, democratic, liberal, or “abangan”. Pengajian usually meet once a week but may meet more often depending on demand. Individuals can go to multiple Pengajians. Pengajian is more than just praying—participants believe they are learning more deeply from the Koran although some people may attend Pengajian just to show they are religious or avoid shame from their neighborhood. Pengajian can sometimes become politicized though it tends to be more concerned with general religious and social doctrine rather than specific political problems.

Geertz (1960) writes on one Pengajian meeting: During most of two hours, a speaker exhorts on the importance of attending and organizing, ridiculing those who only sit and pray, thinking about the next world and doing nothing else: “The Prophet not only prayed but prayed and acted.” Sloppy dress is criticized as are civil servants who think they are better than everyone else and people who worship stone and wood. Moral maxims, dramatized in pantomime, are strung together like ‘daisies on a chain’ with no organization or direction, yet still marvelously well done. Pengajian tends to be a kind of rally, where speakers exhort listeners in the most general terms to

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<sup>1</sup>The information in this section, except what is cited from Geertz (1960), is generously provided by Prima Fortunadewi and Julius Kusuma, who translated the survey.

rouse up and do something.

The typical number of participants depends on village size and number of Muslims and imams. Pengajian for children and teenagers usually number around 25-50 people. A separate Pengajian exists for children to teach them how to read Koran. Not every Muslim knows how to read Arabic nor does every participant need to be able to read Arabic since participants will be taught Arabic if necessary. Men and women may attend Pengajian together although there is typically a separate layer between them; women who are having their period are not allowed to attend.

Donations to the mosque typically occur during Pengajian, but Pengajians can be held in any public or private space. Donations can be used to build new mosques, upkeep current mosques, and pay salaries. Sometimes if people are particularly in need, people will give them money.

There is some qualitative evidence that religion provides social insurance in other countries. Berman (2000) argues the degree of mutual insurance (in the Ultra-Orthodox sect in Israel) probably exceeds that of traditional Indian villages studied by Townsend (1994). Berman writes, citing Landau (1993), that no sick members are without visitors and that free services for burial, mothers after childbirth, and the elderly as well as interest-free loans from hundreds to thousands of dollars are ubiquitous. The only condition is that members donate time and money. In a town near Accra in Ghana, a catechist<sup>2</sup> states that when any church member falls ill, the others contribute to a fund and the money is given to the sick. Similarly, when a church member dies, money is collected and given to the family members of the dead. These services are not available if you leave the church or go and join another church. Women may even expect to receive money from their church for newborn children. That religion provides transfers for consumption is a hypothesis suggested by the qualitative evidence and is tested quantitatively in Section 5.

## 2.2 Model

In the following sections, I present a model in which religious intensity functions as ex-post social insurance motivated in part by the previous discussion. Religious intensity represents the degree to which someone participates in social insurance. Religion is able to provide ex-post insurance (insurance after some but not all information is revealed) because social sanctions overcome the individual rationality constraints that would otherwise prevent ex-post insurance groups from forming. The model builds on the work of Iannaccone (1992) and Berman (2000), who theorize that religion provides local public goods such as mutual insurance. They formalize the important insight that religion requires outward displays of religious intensity and sacrifice as a tax on non-religious activities. The tax on alternative activities induces members to contribute more to the provision of local public goods. Participation and local public goods provision are complements. Displays of religious intensity and sacrifice also screen out potential free-riders of the local public goods, which have positive externalities for other group members.

The formulation below provides microfoundations for the provision of mutual insurance and highlights what makes ex-post social insurance self-sustaining. In addition to Iannaccone (1992)

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<sup>2</sup>I thank Zaki Wahhaj for these observations.

and Berman (2000), it also follows the work of Coate and Ravallion (1993), Kocherlakota (1996), Alvarez and Jermann (2000), Krueger and Perri (2002), and Genicot and Ray (2003): religion exists to help complete a missing market for credit. In these models, risk-sharing mechanisms are self-sustaining because people are punished with permanent autarky if they choose to defect. I instead model religion as a risk-sharing mechanism where people can increase or decrease their religious intensity, therefore their participation in mutual insurance, at any time. I focus on the ex-post aspect of mutual insurance for clarity, though in reality religion may provide ex-ante as well as ex-post insurance. I also depart from the literature by modelling the participation in risk-sharing as a continuous decision (degree of participation) rather than a binary one (participate or not).

People pool their resources and redistribute the resource pool according to each participant's relative religious intensity. The model has the empirical implications that those who are hit harder by economic distress increase their religious intensity and those who are hit less hard decrease their religious intensity. The effect is mitigated when other forms of credit or insurance are available.

The model is as follows. Agents receive a high or low shock (independently and identically distributed). After the shock is realized, agents choose religious intensity to smooth consumption. Agents choose a fraction of money to put in Pengajian and the rest to keep for themselves. The fraction put in Pengajian denotes an agent's religious intensity. The Pengajian budget is immediately divided according to agents' *relative* religious intensities. For example, if someone contributes 5% of his income to the pool and another person contributes 10% of his income to the pool, the second person will receive twice the share of the pool as the first person (even if the second person is poorer) because the second person is considered twice as religious as the first.

Because religious intensity can be chosen after agents realize their income shock, religious intensity functions as ex-post insurance. Most financial institutions only provide ex-ante insurance because there is no way to compel agents to donate after a positive shock. Hence, for ex-post insurance to be possible there must be something that deters agents from not participating, which in turn encourages agents who receive negative shocks to participate more because they can appropriate more of the positive shocks. A strong form of social sanction towards those who are of other religious organizations or less religiously intense, provided in the doctrine of many religions, facilitates religion's function as ex-post insurance by encouraging people who receive positive shocks to participate. Mutual insurance groups without such strong social sanctions such as rotating savings groups will be less stable.

### 2.3 Basic Assumptions

Agents receive a shock ( $L < H$ ):

$$x = \begin{cases} H & \text{with probability } \frac{1}{2} \\ L & \text{with probability } \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

There is a continuum of agents of unit measure. Agents have only one decision to make: the level of religious intensity  $Q \in [0, 1]$  after the shock  $x$  is realized. Religious intensity  $Q$  represents the fraction of income agents put in Pengajian,  $1 - Q$  represents the fraction agents keep separate from the risk-sharing pool. Agents divide the Pengajian budget in a manner proportionate to their relative religious intensity, which is  $Q/\bar{Q}$  where  $\bar{Q}$  denotes average religious intensity. Note that agents do not receive the same amount they put in: agents who receive negative shocks will get money from agents who receive positive shocks even if their religious intensities are the same.

Since agents who receive positive shocks would otherwise not participate, social sanction  $V(\cdot)$  ensures the stability of ex-post insurance. Social sanctions are greater for those who participate less and is captured by  $V(\frac{\bar{Q}}{Q})$  if  $Q < \bar{Q}$  and  $V(\cdot) = 0$  if  $Q \geq \bar{Q}$  (the religiously intense do not sanction themselves). Since displaying religious intensity involves attendance, I model the cost of displaying religious intensity with  $C(Q)$ , which is convex.<sup>3</sup> I assume  $V(\cdot)$  and  $C(\cdot)$  are smooth functions and such that optimal  $Q$  is never 1 or 0.<sup>4</sup>

Utility  $u(\cdot)$  is a standard increasing concave function of income. Let  $Q_x$  denote the choice of religious intensity, where  $x$  can be  $H$  or  $L$ . Let  $\bar{\mu}$  be the Pengajian budget. The payoff to an agent who realizes  $x$  is:

$$U_x = u[(1 - Q_x)x + \frac{Q_x}{\bar{Q}}(\bar{\mu})] - V(\frac{\bar{Q}}{Q_x}) - C(Q_x) \quad (1)$$

From the setup it follows that the Pengajian budget is  $\bar{\mu} = \frac{1}{2}(HQ_H + LQ_L)$  and average religious intensity is  $\bar{Q} = \frac{1}{2}(Q_H + Q_L)$ . For shorthand, I will call an agent who receives a high shock by  $H$  and an agent who receives a low shock by  $L$ . Agents take into account how the decision of others affects the Pengajian budget  $\bar{\mu}$  and optimize their religious intensity by equating marginal benefits to marginal costs in equation 1.

It can be immediately observed that agent  $L$  chooses a higher level of religious intensity than agent  $H$ ,  $Q_L^* > Q_H^*$ . The intuition is simply that the higher is  $Q_H$  the less agent  $H$  gets, whereas for agent  $L$ , the higher is  $Q_L$  the more he gets.

It is important to observe that  $H$ 's religious intensity is, in a sense, complementary for  $L$ 's religious intensity: those who are more religiously intense prefer others to be religiously intense as well in order to appropriate their high income draw: this captures the local public goods aspect of club goods theory (Buchanan 1965). Therefore, for  $L$ , there are positive externalities from others' participation.

However, those who are less religiously intense prefer others to be less religiously intense to prevent appropriation of their high income draw. So for  $H$ , there are negative externalities from others' participation.

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<sup>3</sup>The cost function prevents a corner solution where those who receive  $L$  choose maximum intensity.

<sup>4</sup>If optimal  $Q$  can be 0 or 1, all the propositions would still hold with weak inequality instead of strong inequality.

## 2.4 Crisis

I now consider what happens during a crisis. Those who realize a high income shock relative to others will decrease their religious intensity while those who realize a low income shock relative to others will increase their religious intensity. Social sanctions facilitate the stability of ex-post insurance by deterring those who receive positive shocks from not participating, which in turn encourages those who receive negative shocks to participate because they can appropriate more of the positive shocks.

**Proposition 1** : *Suppose income  $x$  drops by a large number  $M$ . Then the dispersion of religious intensity increases.  $\frac{\delta}{\delta M}(\frac{Q_L^*}{Q_H^*}) > 0$ . Social sanction  $V(\cdot)$  facilitates the stability of ex-post insurance. During crisis, groups without strong punishment will decline in participation.*

The intuition behind this result is as income  $x$  falls, the marginal utility increases, which tends to increase  $L$ 's desire for consumption smoothing but tends to increase  $H$ 's desire to keep money for himself.

This result does not depend on  $H$  and  $L$  falling by the same amount  $M$ . The result holds if the crisis weakly increases the spread between positive and negative shocks. The data suggests this is in fact the case: the sample mean of village standard deviation of consumption shocks is much higher during the crisis than during a non-crisis period. (Section 9, the consumption smoothing appendix, describes how these variables are constructed.) A weakly increasing spread,  $(H - L)$ , reinforces  $L$ 's desire for consumption smoothing and  $H$ 's desire to keep money for himself.

Mutual insurance groups may vary in degree of social sanctions against reducing participation or against non-group members. For instance, religious doctrine is missing in groups such as rotating savings clubs. Without sanctions for relative lack of intensity,  $H$  will decline in religious intensity. If  $H$  declines in intensity, then  $L$  will decline in intensity as well because the less  $H$  participates, the smaller is the Pengajian budget. Since both  $Q_H^*$  and  $Q_L^*$  tend to fall, this means insurance schemes without a strong form of social sanction, such as rotating savings groups, may tend to fail during crisis. Moreover, there should be little relative change in participation intensity in these groups for those who realize a low income shock vs. those who realize a high income shock.

If mutual insurance is less efficient, less is gained from decreasing intensity by  $H$  and less is gained from increasing intensity by  $L$ . Economic distress should be less stimulating of other social activities that provide less mutual insurance.

Proofs are in the mathematical appendix.

## 2.5 Credit Availability

I now consider what happens when credit is available. Credit institutions allow households to smooth across time, making religious intensity less necessary since it serves to smooth across space (i.e. people).

For simplicity, I assume an infinite-horizon model. The infinite-horizon model without credit gives the same comparative statics (Proposition 1) as the one-period setup since agents solve the



identical maximization problem in each period. To more starkly illustrate the intuition, I also assume credit is costless, although the discussion below will make clear it is only necessary that credit availability induces a discrete reduction in the marginal cost of credit.

**Proposition 2** : *If alternative credit is available, religious intensity does not need to increase. Credit availability reduces  $Q_L^*$  more than it reduces  $Q_H^*$  so that  $\frac{\delta}{\delta M}(\frac{Q_L^*}{Q_H^*})|_{Credit} < \frac{\delta}{\delta M}(\frac{Q_L^*}{Q_H^*})|_{NoCredit}$ .*

The intuition is that credit availability allows agents to smooth intertemporally by themselves and achieve their Pareto frontier. Smoothing via religious intensity, on the other hand, is constrained according to how much others contribute to  $\bar{\mu}$  and entails cost  $C(\cdot)$ . Since  $u(\cdot)$  is concave,  $L$ 's marginal utility is high so credit matters more for  $L$  than for  $H$ , which is why  $Q_L^*$  falls further than  $Q_H^*$  when credit is available. Convex costs,  $C(\cdot)$ , reinforces  $L$ 's desire to decrease religious intensity  $Q_L^*$  more than  $H$  decreases  $Q_H^*$  when credit is available.

In reality, the marginal cost of credit may vary and be greater than the marginal cost of Pengajian, in which case credit availability may not affect religious intensity. The appropriate interpretation of credit availability then is a discrete reduction in the marginal cost of credit (or interest rate), which, all else equal, tends to decrease  $Q_L^*$  (and would never increase  $Q_L^*$ ). As long as the marginal cost of credit is increasing,  $Q_L^*$  and  $Q_H^*$  will not go to zero. For example, if agents cannot borrow the large amount necessary in one period for whatever reason, then Pengajian picks up the slack.

I have assumed the mosque does not provide intertemporal smoothing; I only model interspatial smoothing among agents. Religious groups may also have foreign resources (or from organizations like Jemaah Islamiah) that they transfer to individuals with greater religious intensity. I also do not consider agents smoothing from a buffer-stock of wealth. Even if these means of intertemporal smoothing are available, they should not affect the comparative statics on credit availability, which should then be interpreted as a discrete reduction in the interest rate. The other comparative statics should also be unaffected. The model predicts religious intensity of those who receive negative shocks to increase and religious intensity of those who receive positive shocks to decrease whether or not interspatial motivations (peer effects) are strong relative to intertemporal motivations.

## 2.6 Summary

To summarize, the model has the following empirical predictions.

- Economic distress stimulates religious intensity; positive shocks reduce religious intensity.
- One falsification test of the effect of economic distress on religious intensity is whether economic distress stimulates participation in other social activities that provide less social insurance.
- Credit availability reduces the effect of economic distress on religious intensity.
- Participation in mutual insurance groups without strong social sanctions will decline during crisis.

## 3 Design of Study

### 3.1 Data

The empirical analysis draws from The Hundred Villages Survey, collected by the Indonesian Central Statistics Office. The panel dataset follows 8,140 households from May 1997 to August 1999, beginning before the crisis and continuing in four waves after the crisis (Figure 1). Religious intensity is measured using the response to “In the past 3 months, has your household increased, decreased, stayed the same, or not participated in the study of Koran (Pengajian)?” This question is asked after the crisis and is coded as +1/0/-1. Non-participation is coded along with staying the same as 0. In some specifications I also code separately increase vs. stay the same or decrease and decrease vs. stay the same or increase.

To verify Pengajian actually measures religious intensity, I examine the correlation between Pengajian participation and other measures of religious intensity and the correlation between these measures conditional on household characteristics and village fixed effects. Pengajian participation in August 1998 is conditionally correlated with number of children attending Islamic school at 0.043 with 5% significance. Pengajian is conditionally correlated with the number of adults who attended Islamic school as children at 0.071 with 1% significance. Pengajian is conditionally correlated with owning a Koran at 0.126 with 1% significance. Pengajian is conditionally correlated with worshipping in December 1998 at 0.192 with 1% significance.

To further verify Pengajian and Islamic school attendance capture religious intensity potentially associated with belief<sup>5</sup> in a literal interpretation of a religious text, I correlate Islamic school attendance with measures of beliefs in IFLS2 (Indonesian Family Life Survey). Whether a household has ever sent a child to Islamic school is correlated with fatalism in desired number of sons at 0.051 with 10% significance. Whether a household has ever sent a child to Islamic school is correlated with religious contraception opposition at 0.089 with 5% significance.<sup>6</sup>

Chen (2004) finds a relationship between religious intensity measures in the Hundred Villages Survey with communal violence in the Database on Social Violence in Indonesia 1990-2001. The paper exploits differences in religious intensity across Indonesia before and during the Indonesian financial crisis to identify the effect of religious intensity on social violence during economic distress. In high religious intensity areas, violence was more likely to arise. Stronger measures of religious intensity were more strongly associated with social violence. Social violence was negatively associated with other social activities. These results are unlikely to be driven by omitted environmental variables: social violence increased fastest where participation in Koran study also increased the fastest, and this is not true for state or industrial violence. Religious intensity was more strongly linked with social violence in regions that were more economically distressed and credit availability

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<sup>5</sup>Pengajian may be a better measure of religious intensity than answers from questions on attitude or belief. Answers to those questions may suffer from cognitive bias with unknown error distribution that may make causal interpretation difficult (Bertrand and Mullainathan 2001, Greenwald et.al. 1995).

<sup>6</sup>Fatalism is a dummy for answering, “It is up to God,” in response to “What is your ideal number of sons?” The answer, “It is up to God” is not prompted. Religious contraception opposition is a dummy for answering, without prompting, religious reasons for “Why do you not use contraception?”

mitigates this effect.

The measure of economic distress I focus on is change in monthly per-capita nonfood consumption expenditures. Change in total per-capita consumption expenditures is a poorer measure of distress because landowners may not need to pay market prices on food. For example, wetland owners may substitute towards consuming privately-grown agricultural products. In fact, wetland hectares is conditionally correlated with larger than average decreases in per-capita food expenditures even though it is conditionally correlated with smaller than average decreases in per-capita nonfood expenditures.<sup>7</sup> Government workers have larger decreases in per-capita nonfood expenditures as well as per-capita food expenditures. The results are qualitatively the same using the US/Rupiah exchange rate to normalize to dollars or with using a CPI index. The dataset and remaining variable construction is described in greater detail in the data appendix.

The measure for change in religious intensity comes from May 1998 to August 1998 since the Pengajian question refers to the past 3 months, whereas the measure for income shock comes from differencing expenditures in May 1997 and August 1998 (See Figure 1). However, as the time-series in Figure 1 suggests, half of the sharp increase in Rp/USD occurs in the 3 months before August 1998. The CPI index for foodstuff also sharply increases relative to the general CPI index during this time period. Therefore, the manner in which wetland owners and government workers are disproportionately affected by the relative price shocks should still apply for the 3 months before August 1998. If preferred, one can scale up the coefficients by a factor of two.

### 3.2 Identification Strategy and Specifications

The correlation between economic variables and religious intensity is generally difficult to interpret since the causality may run in both directions and the relationship may reflect omitted variables. For example, the religiously fervent may eschew adopting advantageous technologies because of fatalistic beliefs such as “why vaccinate the cow, the cow’s life is in God’s hands”.<sup>8</sup> I therefore use the financial crisis to identify a discontinuous change in economic conditions.

Consider the following linear specification for latent religiosity:

$$Q_{ijt}^* = \beta E_{ijt} + \alpha_{0t} + \alpha'_{1t} \mathbf{X}_{ij} + \delta_{jt} + u_i + \varepsilon_{ijt}, \text{ for } t = 1, 2, i = 1..N, \text{ and } j = 1..J \quad (2)$$

where  $Q_{ijt}^*$  represents religious intensity for individual  $i$  in village  $j$  at time  $t$ ,  $E_{ijt}$  represents monthly per-capita non-food expenditures,  $\mathbf{X}_{ij}$  represents a set of pre-crisis control variables (household head characteristics: age, education, gender, ever-married, literate, follows media (TV or radio) and household characteristics: size, modernity (index of owning a stove, radio, TV, refrigerator, satellite dish, motorbike, and car), farming dummy, service dummy, hectares of dryland owned, and pre-crisis monthly per-capita non-food expenditures)<sup>9</sup>,  $\delta_{jt}$  represents village time fixed effects, and  $u_i$  represents household fixed effects. The subscript  $t$  on  $\alpha_{1t}$  allows the effect of pre-crisis control

<sup>7</sup>The same is true for dryland hectares.

<sup>8</sup>Heard in Kenya.

<sup>9</sup>Construction of these variables is described in the data appendix.

variables  $\mathbf{X}_{ij}$  to vary over time.

Taking first differences (implicit individual fixed effects) results in:

$$\Delta Q_{ij}^* = \beta \Delta E_{ij} + (\alpha_{02} - \alpha_{01}) + (\alpha_{12} - \alpha_{11})' \mathbf{X}_{ij} + \gamma_j + \omega_{ij}, \text{ for } i = 1..N \text{ and } j = 1..J$$

where  $\Delta Q_{ij}^*$  represents changes in religious intensity for individual  $i$  in village  $j$ ,  $\Delta E_{ij}$  represents changes in monthly per-capita non-food expenditures,  $\gamma_j = \delta_{j2} - \delta_{j1}$  represents village fixed effects, and  $\omega_{ij} = \varepsilon_{ij2} - \varepsilon_{ij1}$ .

In practice,  $\Delta Q_{ij}^*$  is unobserved. Instead, I observe  $\Delta Q_{ij}$ , which denotes increase, decrease, or no change in Koran study. In particular, I first estimate the linear probability specification:

$$\Delta Q_{ij} = \beta \Delta E_{ij} + c + \alpha' \mathbf{X}_{ij} + \gamma_j + \varepsilon_{ij} \quad (3)$$

where  $\Delta Q_{ij}$  represents changes in Koran study for individual  $i$  in village  $j$ ,  $\gamma_j$  represent village fixed effects, and  $c$  is a constant. Because  $\Delta Q_{ij}$  has the following ordered structure:

$$\Delta Q_{ij} = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } \Delta Q_{ij}^* \leq \mu_1 \\ 0 & \text{if } \mu_1 \leq \Delta Q_{ij}^* \leq \mu_2 \\ 1 & \text{if } \Delta Q_{ij}^* \geq \mu_2 \end{cases}$$

I will also estimate the following ordered probit specification to test whether economic distress stimulates religious intensity:

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(\Delta Q_{ij} = -1 | \mathbf{I}_{ij}) &= F_{\omega_{ij}}(\mu_1 - \beta \Delta E_{ij} - (\alpha_{02} - \alpha_{01}) - (\alpha_{12} - \alpha_{11})' \mathbf{X}_{ij} - \gamma_j | \mathbf{I}_{ij}) \\ \Pr(\Delta Q_{ij} = 0 | \mathbf{I}_{ij}) &= F_{\omega_{ij}}(\mu_2 - \beta \Delta E_{ij} - (\alpha_{02} - \alpha_{01}) - (\alpha_{12} - \alpha_{11})' \mathbf{X}_{ij} - \gamma_j | \mathbf{I}_{ij}) - \\ &\quad F_{\omega_{ij}}(\mu_1 - \beta \Delta E_{ij} - (\alpha_{02} - \alpha_{01}) - (\alpha_{12} - \alpha_{11})' \mathbf{X}_{ij} - \gamma_j | \mathbf{I}_{ij}) \\ \Pr(\Delta Q_{ij} = 1 | \mathbf{I}_{ij}) &= 1 - F_{\omega_{ij}}(\mu_2 - \beta \Delta E_{ij} - (\alpha_{02} - \alpha_{01}) - (\alpha_{12} - \alpha_{11})' \mathbf{X}_{ij} - \gamma_j | \mathbf{I}_{ij}) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbf{I}_{ij} = (1, \mathbf{X}_{ij}, \gamma_j)$  and  $F_{\omega_{ij}}(\cdot | \mathbf{I}_{ijt})$  is normal. Equation 3 is the linear approximation of the ordered probit specification. I will estimate linear probability, ordered probit, and probit specifications (when comparing only increase vs. stay the same or decrease and decrease vs. stay the same or increase). The incidental parameters problem is mitigated because I have 100 villages and 8140 households, roughly an 80:1 ratio.

Table 4 Columns 1-2 presents OLS estimates of equation 3. However, the OLS regression of this specification is still insufficient. Omitted variables bias makes the estimates difficult to interpret and measurement error in expenditures, which may be exacerbated in differences, biases OLS estimates towards 0. In fact, the first row in Table 6 indicates the OLS estimates for most social activities are not statistically different from 0, suggesting measurement error in expenditures may be an issue.

To identify the causal impact of economic distress, I exploit the fact that during a period of

rapid inflation, demand for non-staples tends to fall more than demand for staples, so relative prices favor staple growers. The price of rice increased by up to 280% while in comparison, prices of non-staples increased by less or even depreciated during the crisis (Levinsohn et.al 2003). The more rice a household grows, the more cushioned it would be from the crisis. Therefore, the amount of wetland a household owns should be expected to cushion it from economic distress.

In addition, rapid inflation tends to disproportionately affect workers with sticky wages. In particular, government workers, whose wages are set by federal law, are likely to suffer greater economic distress. These relationships have been already documented by earlier studies of the Indonesian financial crisis: Knowles et.al (1999), Frankenberg et.al (1999), and Levinsohn et.al (2003), to name a few of many studies.

The first stage regression is:

$$\Delta E_{ij} = \pi_0 + \pi_1' \mathbf{Z}_{ij} + \pi_2' \mathbf{X}_{ij} + p_j + \eta_{ij} \quad (4)$$

where  $\mathbf{Z}_{ij}$  represents the instruments, pre-crisis hectares of wetland owned and pre-crisis government occupation dummy for individual  $i$  in village  $j$ . The corresponding reduced form regression is:

$$\Delta Q_{ij} = \beta' \mathbf{Z}_{ij} + c + \alpha' \mathbf{X}_{ij} + \gamma_j + \varepsilon_{ij} \quad (5)$$

The identification assumption is  $E(\varepsilon_{ij} \mathbf{Z}_{ij}) = 0$ . Robustness checks of the identification assumption are provided in Sections 4.2 and 4.3.

The basic idea behind the identification strategy can be illustrated in a differences-in-differences framework. In Table 1, I present summary statistics by group that outline the identification strategy. The results are imprecise, due to the fact that only a small part of the available information is used. Columns 1 and 2 show the mean monthly per-capita non-food expenditure before and after the crisis for different categories of wetland hectares (greater than or less than 0.3 hectares) and whether or not the household head works in government. Columns 3-5 show for each category of wetland and government occupation the means of changes in monthly per-capita non-food expenditure, Pengajian participation, and non-religious social activities participation. Two important features of the data can be observed. First, households owning more wetland—who, on average, suffered less economic distress—tend to decrease Pengajian relative to other households. Second, households in government occupation—who, on average, suffered greater economic distress—tend to increase Pengajian relative to other households. Column 5 shows the same pattern is not true for non-religious social activities. The Wald estimate (an imprecise instrumental variables estimator) of the impact of economic distress on religious intensity is the ratio of Pengajian change and economic distress and can be obtained by dividing -0.022 by 1.4 (-0.016) or 0.068 by -4.8 (-0.014).

### 3.3 First Stage: Relative Price Shocks and Differential Impact of Financial Crisis

Table 2 documents the relationship between wetland hectares and per-capita nonfood expenditure changes during the crisis using the specification in equation 4. On average, an additional hectare of wetland corresponds to a \$1.13 smaller decrease in per-capita nonfood expenditures relative to other households (Column 5). Being in government corresponds to roughly \$2.04 larger decrease in per-capita nonfood expenditures relative to other households (Column 5). The relationship holds with and without controlling for household characteristics and village fixed effects (Columns 1-4). These results corroborate earlier findings by Frankenberg et.al (1999) and Levinsohn et.al (2003) who find that those who were able to grow rice were less affected by the crisis as rice prices and spending on rice dramatically increased. The results also corroborate findings by Knowles et.al (1999) that indicate government workers were more affected by the crisis as their salaries tend to be inflexible in the short run.

Column 6 displays similar results when examining percentage changes in per-capita nonfood expenditures. For example, dividing the government expenditure change, \$2.04, by the baseline, \$12.9 (indicated in Column 1 of Table 1) gives roughly a 15% decline, the same percentage decline indicated in Column 6 in Table 2. Changes in log expenditures however, do not give a statistically significant first stage for wetland. Frankenberg et.al examine changes in log expenditures using the Indonesian Family Life Survey (IFLS2+) and find those whose main activity is agriculture were relatively better off. It is possible that the poor, who often do not collect wages in developing countries, report much poorly measured expenditure numbers. This non-classical measurement error may bias estimates using logs, which emphasize the poorer part of the distribution more. One must remain agnostic about exactly which form of economic distress stimulates religious intensity. Without additional instruments it is not possible to isolate the potentially different effects of actual changes (sticker shock) vs. percentage changes (relative changes) or per-capita changes vs. overall changes, etc.

## 4 Estimating the Impact of Economic Distress on Religious Intensity

### 4.1 Reduced Form Evidence

Do those who experience larger negative shocks relative to others increase their religious intensity? To examine whether wetland owners are less likely to increase religious intensity and whether government workers are more likely to increase religious intensity, I estimate equation 5. Panel A in Table 3 shows the main experiment. On average, a hectare of wetland is associated with 2% greater likelihood of decreasing Pengajian whereas government occupation is associated with 6% greater likelihood of increasing Pengajian (Columns 1 and 3), suggesting that economic distress stimulates religious intensity. This relationship holds controlling for household characteristics and

village fixed effects (Columns 2 and 4).

Column 5 displays the joint estimation and Column 6 displays the overall ordered probit marginal effect.<sup>10</sup> The estimates of marginal effects in Column 6 are very similar to the OLS estimates in Column 5. I then compute the probit marginal effect for increasing (+1 vs. 0/-1) in Column 7 and the probit marginal effect for decreasing (-1 vs. 0/+1) in Column 8. The difference between the marginal effects in Column 7 and the marginal effects in Column 8 are very similar to the OLS estimates in Column 5. Moreover, Columns 7 and 8 reveal that those who realize a high income shock relative to others decrease their religious intensity during crisis while those who realize a low income shock relative to others increase their religious intensity during crisis, as Proposition 1 suggests.

It is not clear whether Pengajian increases reflect changes on the intensive or extensive margin since pre-crisis Pengajian information is unavailable. Under the rough assumption that pre-crisis households participate in Pengajian if any adult or child attend Islamic school, government workers appear to have joined Pengajian studies while wetland owners decreased pre-existing Pengajian studies.

## 4.2 Placebo Experiment

In examining the causal impact of economics on religion, one identifying assumption is that religious organizations do not manipulate economic conditions for their advantage. Here, it is reasonable to think that imams do not dictate economic policy nor was the financial crisis an anticipation or consequence of religious fervor. However, several possibilities still threaten the identification assumption. The most important potential problem is that the instruments, wetland hectares and government occupation, may be correlated with omitted factors that drive changes in religious intensity. To test this possibility, I use dryland hectares and service occupation as “placebo instruments” for wetland hectares and government occupation.

(Other crops grown in Indonesia include corn, cassava, sweet potatoes, peanuts, and soybeans. 66% of households in the sample own dryland and 31% of households in the sample own wetland; 25% own both wetland and dryland. Wetland often refers to any land growing rice so households who grow more than just rice would report owning both types of land.)

To the extent dryland owners share unobservable characteristics with wetland owners, and service workers share unobservable characteristics with government workers, these serve as a check of the identification assumption. Wetland and dryland hectares are both strongly associated with larger family sizes and having fewer modern amenities. Government and service workers are significantly more likely to have graduated with 8 or more years of education, be able to read and write, and follow radio or newspapers. There is also no consistent pattern on whether government workers are more extreme than service workers relative to other households along observed household head and household characteristics or vice versa (the same is true for wetland and dryland

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<sup>10</sup>The overall marginal effect is calculated from:  $\frac{\delta}{\delta x} E(y|x) = \frac{\delta}{\delta x} P(y = 1|x) - \frac{\delta}{\delta x} P(y = -1|x)$  since  $E(y|x) = E(y = 1)P(y = 1|x) + E(y = 0)P(y = 0|x) + E(y = -1)P(y = -1|x) = P(y = 1|x) - P(y = -1|x)$ .

ownership). The relative price of rice increased much more than relative prices of other food items (Levinsohn et.al 2003) and service workers have more flexible wages than government workers, so these placebo groups should be less affected by economic distress relative to other households.

The pattern of economic distress is in fact much less pronounced for dryland hectares and service occupation. I estimate equation 4 for the “placebo instruments”. An additional hectare of dryland mitigates the decrease in per-capita nonfood expenditures by \$0.39 (Column 7 of Table 2), about a third of the effect (\$1.13) of an additional hectare of wetland owned (Column 5). Service workers are associated with much smaller and statistically insignificant \$0.19 smaller declines in per-capita nonfood expenditures, while government workers are associated with a \$2.04 larger decline (Columns 7 and 5).

Panel B of Table 3 displays the reduced form relationship, specified in equation 5, between the “placebo instruments” and Pengajian change during the crisis. The relationship between religious intensity changes and the “placebos” is almost nil in all specifications. The contrast is apparent between the coefficients in Column 5 for the true instruments vs. the “placebo instruments” in Panels A and B.

I also check whether the treatment and control groups differ in religious intensity prior to the crisis by examining whether pre-crisis religious intensity is conditionally orthogonal to the instruments. Appendix Table B display the results for conditional orthogonality between pre-crisis religious intensity and the instruments. Each cell represents a separate OLS regression of the corresponding measure of religious intensity (described in the data appendix) on each instrument, hectares of wetland owned, hectares of dryland owned, government occupation dummy, and service occupation dummy. All regressions are run at the individual level. Village religious intensity regressions control for clustering at the village level. The estimates suggest land ownership is slightly positively correlated with pre-treatment household religious intensity and government and service occupations are slightly negatively correlated with pre-treatment household religious intensity. There does not appear to be a consistent pattern between the instruments and village religious intensity. To the extent pre-crisis religiosity may drive changes in religious intensity during the crisis, that the “placebo instruments”, dryland hectares and service occupation, are much more correlated with pre-treatment household religious intensity than are the true instruments, suggest these “placebos” are a good choice.

### 4.3 Post Experiment

Wetland hectares and government occupation may also be associated with differential trends in religious intensity and economic change that coincide with the financial crisis. To explore whether the differential changes in religious intensity reflect differential trends, I examine whether one year after the crisis, between two periods without a crisis, the instruments are associated with either economic distress or changes in religious intensity. I use the change in Pengajian recorded in May



1999<sup>11</sup> and the difference between expenditures in May 1999 and December 1998. As can be seen in Figure 1, this period forms a natural control experiment since the Rp/USD exchange rate moves little.

If the crisis was indeed responsible for the differential performance of government workers and wetland owners, one should not expect the same pattern of economic distress a year after the crisis. I estimate equation 4 for this period after the crisis using the same pre-crisis controls. Wetland hectares are associated with a statistically insignificant \$0.32 relative decline (Column 8 of Table 2) compared to \$1.13 relative improvement during the crisis (Column 5). Government workers actually display a reverse pattern of distress as households recover from the financial crisis relative to others. They are associated with a \$3.38 relative improvement compared to other households (Columns 8 and 5). This does not necessarily imply government workers are recovering to pre-crisis levels. Their average monthly per-capita non-food expenditure in May 1999 is 8.3 compared to 12.9 in May 1997. Nor, are households as a whole recovering completely from the crisis. The crisis summary statistics at the bottom of Appendix Table A indicate only partial recovery on average.

Since government workers display a strong improvement relative to others, we should expect a relative decrease in Pengajian during this period. I estimate equation 5 for wetland hectares and government occupation a year after the crisis. Panel C of Table 3 indicates that after the crisis, neither the amount of wetland owned nor government occupation is strongly correlated with Pengajian change. However, as expected, government workers display a negative coefficient for Pengajian (Column 5).<sup>12</sup>

#### 4.4 2SLS Estimates

In what follows, I use the exhibited pattern of distress to calculate the impact of a dollar of per-capita nonfood expenditure change on changes in religious intensity. Table 4 estimates equation 3 for Pengajian in linear, ordered probit, and probit specifications. Columns 7 suggest a \$1 decline in per-capita nonfood expenditure stimulates a 2% increase in likelihood to increase Pengajian. Since the average household suffered a \$4.70 decline in per-capita nonfood expenditure (out of a pre-crisis average of \$7.33, as noted in Appendix Table A crisis summary statistics)<sup>13</sup>, this suggests the average household became 9% more likely to increase Pengajian due to economic distress. The consistency across controls suggests remaining omitted variables bias may be small (compare Columns 3 and 4 and Columns 5 and 6). The estimates of the linear probability model displayed in the first row are very similar to the overall ordered probit marginal effects displayed in the second row.

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<sup>11</sup>I am unable to use the panel wave that immediately follows the crisis wave because Pengajian is not recorded in December 1998.

<sup>12</sup>Dryland hectares is positively associated with Pengajian change and expenditure changes though the effects are small as they are for wetland during this period. Service workers like government workers display a small relative improvement and small relative decline in Pengajian during this period.

<sup>13</sup>The median household suffered a \$2.94 shock out of a pre-crisis median of \$4.75 monthly non-food per-capita expenditures.

Importantly, the estimates using wetland hectares and government occupation as separate instruments are very similar, which acts as an overidentification test (compare Columns 3-4 with Columns 5-6). The Sargan overidentification statistic is 0.299 and the p-value is 0.585, meaning the null hypothesis that both instruments are exogenous to changes in Pengajian cannot be rejected at the 10% level. Since instrumental variables estimates represent only the change in behavior for those most affected by the instrument, a priori, one could imagine an estimate based on government workers might represent only a small fraction of the population and thus be difficult to generalize. However, a marginal unit of wetland should benefit any household. Since the treatment effects for two very different populations are so similar, it suggests the estimated elasticity may be interpreted as one that represents the entire population. Moreover, it may be the case wetland owners and government workers follow different denominations of Islam. The overidentification test suggests that economic distress stimulating religious intensity is invariant to potentially different types of Islam.

Probit marginal effects for increasing (+1 vs. 0/-1) and decreasing (-1 vs. 0/+1) are displayed in the third row. As the model suggested, when the source of variation is from hectares of wetland, doing better off causes a decrease in Pengajian, as indicated by Columns 3 and 4. When the source of variation is from government workers, larger economic distress causes an increase in Pengajian, as indicated by Columns 5 and 6. The difference between the marginal effects for increasing and the marginal effects for decreasing are also similar to the estimates from the linear model in row 1.

## 4.5 Islamic Schools

One other measure of household Islamic activity is provided in the Hundred Villages Survey, Islamic school attendance. Investigating the impact of economic distress on the number of children sent to Islamic school serves as further evidence on changes in religious intensity that may even be intergenerational.

Under the direction of a Muslim scholar, Islamic schools are attended by young people who are taught a detailed understanding of the Koran, the Arabic language, the Sharia, and Muslim traditions and history. Students can enter and leave any time of the year and the studies are not organized as a progression of courses leading to graduation (LOC 2003, Jay 1969). Geertz (1960) writes of one Koran school, young men ages 6 to 25 spend part of every day chanting the Koran and part of it working in the leader's fields. Attendance is not mandatory and there is no fixed schedule as long as he earns his keep and creates no behavior problems. Children can learn as much or as little as they want. There are no grades and no classes.<sup>14</sup> Returns to schooling at Islamic schools are lower than at non-Islamic schools (Berman and Stepanyan 2003) and, in my sample, parents report paying substantially larger fees at Islamic schools than at non-Islamic schools.

I find that households suffering greater economic distress tend to increase the number of children sent to Islamic schools and decrease the number of children sent to secular schools. Only households

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<sup>14</sup>Not all Islamic schools are like this. One translator notes that especially in cities, Islamic schools may be for the elite, not unlike Catholic schools in some American cities.

who send children to school before the crisis are included in the sample, which reduces the sample size to 4,255 households. Islamic school attendance is defined as the number of children households send to Islamic schools. Secular school attendance is defined similarly. Estimates suggest households who experience a \$1 decline in per-capita nonfood expenditures are roughly 1% more likely to switch a child to Islamic school (Columns 3 and 4 of Table 5 Panel A) and roughly 1% more likely to switch a child from secular schools (Columns 3 and 4 of Table 5 Panel B). The estimates are not symmetric since households may also take children into and out of school. Islamic school attendance increases are statistically significant at the 10% level.

Identical results are obtained if I run the standard specification, analogous to equation 2:

$$M_{ijt} = \beta E_{ijt} + \alpha_{0t} + \alpha'_{1t} \mathbf{X}_{ij} + \delta_{jt} + u_i + \varepsilon_{ijt}$$

for  $t = 1, 2$ ,  $i = 1..N$ , and  $j = 1..J$  where  $M_{ijt}$  represents the number of children sent to Islamic school (Madrasah) by household  $i$  in village  $j$  in time  $t$  and per-capita non-food expenditures  $E_{ijt}$  are instrumented by  $\mathbf{Z}_{ij}Post_t$ .  $Post_t$  is a dummy variable indicating whether the time period is after the crisis. Household fixed effects are represented by  $u_i$ .

The consistency across controls suggests remaining omitted variables bias may be small (compare Columns 3 and 4). The Sargan overidentification statistic is 0.279 and the p-value is 0.597, meaning the null hypothesis that both instruments are exogenous to changes in Islamic schooling cannot be rejected at the 10% level. Replicating the placebo and post experiments for Islamic schools as in Table 3 indicate the point estimates are a small fraction of the point estimates for the main experiment. The results are qualitatively similar using percentage of children attending Islamic school.

Islamic schools also become relatively more expensive over the survey time frame: parents pay a relatively constant 45 cents per month (2% of total expenditures<sup>15</sup>) at non-Islamic schools while the fee of Islamic schools increased from being 35% higher in December 1998 to 80% higher in August 1999. This increase in Islamic school fees may reflect an increasing demand for Islamic schools. It may also reflect increases in voluntary payments to Islamic schools. In one religious school in a village in the survey, nominal minimal fees are set yet families can contribute any amount beyond the minimum. Moreover, children who cannot afford school fees may be provided scholarships, suggesting another form of mutual insurance provided by religious schools.

Consistent with an increasing demand, according to a 1992 Library of Congress report (LOC), an upper bound of 17% of the Muslim school-age population attended Islamic schools in 1992.<sup>16</sup> According to IFLS2 conducted in 1997, 18% of Muslim households with children attending school have sent children to an Islamic school. But according to a nation-wide poll conducted in 1999, 30% of Muslim households with school-aged children sent their children to a Mosque school (Wagner 1999). These snapshots of time suggest the financial crisis coincided with a sharp increase in

<sup>15</sup>Monthly per-capita expenditures in May 1997 was \$20.9.

<sup>16</sup>17% results from dividing 15%, the overall percentage of school-age population attending Islamic school, by 87%, the proportion of the population that is Muslim.

Islamic school attendance (consistent with Hartono and Ehrmann (2001)), which seems remarkable because of potential long-term effects on children’s beliefs.

#### 4.6 Opportunity Cost of Time

A question that naturally arises is whether Pengajian captures religious intensity or is just another social activity. Another immediate question is whether religious intensity increases only because the opportunity cost of time falls (Azzi and Ehrenberg 1975).

The existing literature often models religious intensity as a function of the opportunity cost of time. Suppose  $C(Q)$  in equation 1 is the opportunity cost of time. Then as wages fall, religious intensity increases but so do other social activities and labor supply may decrease. To see this, observe that the larger is  $Q$ , the more forgone earnings, i.e.  $C'(Q) = f(w)$  where  $f'(\cdot) > 0$ . As wages  $w$  fall, the opportunity cost falls, hence  $\frac{\delta}{\delta M}(\frac{Q_L^*}{Q_H^*}) > 0$  even if religious intensity provides no social insurance. Economic distress should stimulate other social activities at least as much as religious intensity.

Suppose further that the opportunity cost of time,  $C(Q) = Qf(w) = (1 - L)f(w)$ , where  $L$  is labor supply. Then  $\frac{\delta}{\delta M}(\frac{L_x^*}{L_H^*}) < 0$ , where  $L_x$  is labor supply for agent  $x$ . Economic distress should decrease labor supply.

On the other hand, the discussion of Proposition 1 suggests economic distress should be less stimulating of other social activities that provide less mutual insurance. In Table 6, I compare Pengajian with all the other social activities that are surveyed. Column 1 displays the earlier result (from Column 7 Table 4) that economic distress stimulates Pengajian. Columns 2 through 6 indicate that economic distress stimulates less participation in every other surveyed social activity: sports (Olahraga), burial society (Kematian), club for obtaining skills (Karang Taruna), family welfare movement (PKK and “occasional training for women”), and “10 helps for housing” (Dasawisma).

The information at the bottom of Table 6 indicates three of the activities are also free, suggesting their smaller increase is not because of activity fees. Sports, club for learning skills, and PKK are also available in 83%-96% of villages. In contrast, only 71% of villages have Islamic chapels and 82% have mosques (83% have Islamic chapels or mosques). So the small or no increase in other activities is not due to the lack of available facilities.

#### 4.7 Labor Supply

Next, to investigate whether Pengajian increases just because people have more leisure, I examine whether wetland owners supply more labor and government workers supply less labor than others during the crisis. Table 7 estimates the reduced form analog of equation 5. Instead of regressing

$$\Delta L_{ij} = \beta' \mathbf{Z}_{ij} + c + \alpha' \mathbf{X}_{ij} + \gamma_j + \varepsilon_{ij}$$

where  $\Delta L_{ij}$  indicates labor supply change for household  $i$  in village  $j$ , I estimate the equivalent specification:

$$L_{ijt} = \beta' \mathbf{Z}_{ij} Post_t + \alpha_{0t} + \alpha'_{1t} \mathbf{X}_{ij} + \delta_{jt} + u_i + \varepsilon_{ijt}, \text{ for } t = 1, 2, i = 1..N, \text{ and } j = 1..J$$

where  $Post_t$  is a dummy variable indicating whether the time period is after the crisis,  $L_{ijt}$  indicates labor supply for household  $i$  in village  $j$  in time  $t$ , and  $u_i$  represents household fixed effects (the notation is like that of equation 2). This specification highlights the overall labor supply change for the entire population, captured in  $\alpha_0$ . Previous regressions are not run this way because Pengajian data is only available in changes.

The coefficient on  $Post_t$  in Table 7 indicates all households increased labor supply, as measured by average household hours worked per week. The magnitudes suggest people coming out of home to work. This is consistent with Frankenberg et.al's (1999) finding that female employment increased during the crisis and that a large number of women joined family businesses (including working on the family farm). In fact, dividing 21 (coefficient on  $Post_t$  in Column 1) by 7 days/week and multiplying by the average number of working age household members (4.16 average household size - 1.79 average number of children in school = 2.37) gives just over 7 hours/day increase in labor supply, equivalent to perhaps one woman per household leaving home production and entering the workforce. Columns 1 and 3 indicate those who were hit harder by economic distress increased their labor supply relative to others (suggesting a backwards bending labor supply), inconsistent with the notion that Pengajian increases because people have more leisure. With controls, the coefficient for wetland remains significant but not for government workers.<sup>17</sup>

## 5 Does Religious Intensity Function as Ex-Post Social Insurance?

Sections 3 and 4 establish that economic distress stimulates religious intensity. But neither decrease in opportunity cost of time nor extra leisure time appear to explain increase in religious intensity: there is minimal corresponding increase in any other social activity and labor supply does not decrease for households more affected by the crisis. In fact, it is not that people on the margin reduce labor and increase religious intensity but that they increase labor and within non-labor allocation, they substitute towards religion.<sup>18</sup> Religious intensity functioning as ex-post social insurance may explain this puzzle. Qualitative evidence of social insurance was provided in Section 2.1. I now discuss some quantitative evidence that religious intensity functions as social insurance.

<sup>17</sup>Controlling for ownership of modern amenities and service occupation particularly affects the coefficient on government workers.

<sup>18</sup>While the survey does not allow finding out precisely what non-labor activity decreased, economic distress reducing TV ownership suggests economic distress may reduce television watching.

## 5.1 Do Religious Institutions Smooth Consumption Shocks?

Religious intensity during the peak of the crisis appears to alleviate the need for alms or credit in order to meet basic daily needs. Households that increase participation in Koran study during the crisis (during the three months previous August 1998) see a 50% reduction in likelihood to need alms or credit three months later (in December 1998) whereas households that decrease participation see a 20% reduction in likelihood to need alms or credit three months later.<sup>19</sup> Households that did not participate in Pengajian, are only 5% less likely to need alms or credit three months later. Since non-participating households display little mean reversion in this time frame (and rates of credit constraints are diverging after the crisis), mean reversion might not explain the differential reduction in needing alms or credit to meet basic daily needs.<sup>20</sup>

I also derive from the model a test of consumption smoothing among villagers and examine its empirical application in the appendix. The model suggests, if religious institutions provide social insurance, villagers will smooth more of their consumption shocks with each other. Since religious institutions are measured before the crisis, a test of consumption smoothing among villagers would examine whether the crisis had a smaller impact on standard deviation in consumption changes in places where there are more religious institutions.<sup>21</sup> To do this, I identify an exogenous component of the financial crisis based on the village-level version of the instrument, Gini coefficient of wetland hectares, and show that the exogenous crisis component interacted with pre-crisis number of worship buildings is negatively associated with the impact of the crisis on standard deviation of consumption shocks. The derivation and estimation are in the appendix.

## 5.2 Does Religious Intensity Increase Less Where Credit Is Available?

The model suggests religious intensity does not respond to economic distress if alternative forms of consumption smoothing are available. To investigate this hypothesis, I estimate

$$\Delta Q_{ij} = \beta_0 \Delta E_{ij} + \beta_1 (\Delta E_{ij} C_j) + \alpha_0 C_j + \alpha_1' \mathbf{X}_{ij} + \gamma_j + \varepsilon_{ij}$$

where  $C_j$  represents credit availability in village  $j$  and credit availability is defined as having banks, microfinance institutions, or BRI loan products. The BRI bank system is the backbone of the rural financial system in Indonesia (Holloh 2001) and BRI loan products are a special form of credit with low collateral requirements. In one village in the survey, BRI loan products were

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<sup>19</sup>An analogous result is found for non-food expenditures. Households that report constant Koran study are 24% less likely to need alms or credit three months later. Households that increase Islamic school attendance also report greater reductions in likelihood to need alms or credit than households who do not change or reduce Islamic school attendance.

<sup>20</sup>While only suggestive of social insurance translating into employment, households hit harder by the crisis yet increase Koran study report somewhat larger increases in labor supply than those hit harder but did not increase Koran study.

<sup>21</sup>It would be insufficient to examine a household's economic distress as the outcome variable since positive and negative shocks within a village would average each other out. Households in a village with greater insurance would have smaller absolute shocks but this would be undetectable in a household-level regression with economic distress as the outcome variable. Religious institutions do however mitigate the effect of wetland hectares and government occupation on relative economic distress and on household standard deviation of consumption shocks.

especially available during the crisis for government workers because they were considered to have "fixed" jobs. A feature of the BRI loan product that helps loan collection is the reduction of interest for timely repayments (Holloh 2001). Microfinance programs were also helpful for laid-off workers to start small businesses of their own (Akatiga 1999).

The coefficient of the interaction  $\Delta E_{ij}C_j$  indicates whether the effect of economic distress on religious intensity decreases with the availability of credit. The coefficient is negative and significant, confirming Proposition 2. The estimate is robust to specifications with and without controls, displayed in Columns 1 and 2 of Table 8. Dividing 0.30 by 0.37 in Column 2 or 0.32 by 0.35 in Column 3 suggests credit availability reduces the effect of economic distress on religious intensity by roughly 80%.<sup>22</sup>

To address the possibility credit availability proxies for general economic development, I include the interaction of economic distress with number of shops and the interaction of economic distress with an urban dummy. The standard errors of the coefficients of interest,  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ , increase (in Column 3) while the magnitudes remain unchanged. This suggests there is something particular about credit availability, not economic development, that influences how economic distress stimulates religious intensity. If economic distress is interacted with pre-crisis poverty levels, measured by own poverty or fraction of poor in the village, estimates suggest that all groups, not just the poor or those in less developed areas, increase religious intensity with economic distress (not displayed).

Moreover, Column 7 of Table 6 indicates that economic distress does not stimulate participation in another mutual insurance group, rotating savings clubs (Arisan), as the model suggests. Mean changes are indicated in the third row of Table 6. More people overall reported decreasing rotating savings club participation (Column 7) than reported increasing it, suggesting mutual insurance groups without strong social sanctions are in fact declining relative to Pengajian.

Religious intensity may have also increased most where insurance is lacking. Remarkably, and perhaps warningly, Pengajian participation rates increased from 47% to 73% from August 1998 to August 1999 where there were no Islamic chapels or mosques. Elsewhere, participation rates only increased from 64% to 71%.

### 5.3 Alternative Theories to Social Insurance

Does economic distress stimulate religious intensity because of poverty? The model in Section 2 predicts income *changes* to increase religious intensity but does not predict religious intensity to necessarily correspond to income *levels*.<sup>23</sup> The data provides some suggestive evidence this is the case. If religious intensity were strictly pegged to income, as economic conditions improve after the crisis, religious intensity should decrease. However, Pengajian participation rates continue to increase from 61% in August 1998 to 71% in August 1999 (Appendix Table A crisis summary sta-

<sup>22</sup>Credit availability also reduces the effect of economic distress on switching children from secular to Islamic schools.

<sup>23</sup>Religious intensity does not necessarily correspond to income levels if large but not arbitrarily small income changes stimulate religious intensity. If there are adjustment costs to choosing religious intensity then arbitrarily small shocks would not affect religious intensity and religious intensity would not necessarily correspond to income levels.

tistics). There is also no relation between Pengajian and monthly per-capita nonfood expenditures in the cross-section.

Instead, the increase in religious intensity after economic conditions improve is consistent with a model where agents update their beliefs on the underlying volatility after observing the crisis. A large shock would increase agents' posterior likelihood of volatile income distributions and increase expected volatility. There is some suggestive evidence that this occurred. During the crisis, religious dispersion increased, as indicated by the fact that 9% reported increasing Pengajian and 9% reported decreasing Pengajian (Appendix Table A). As noted above, after the crisis, Pengajian participate rates continue to increase during the Hundred Villages Survey panel, consistent with Pengajian providing some ex-ante insurance and an increase in expected uncertainty.<sup>24</sup> Recall too the discussion from Section 4.5 that religious schooling appears to be increasing in Indonesia overall. In October 1999, Indonesia also elected a Muslim cleric as president. And generally, the separation between mosque and state appears to be decreasing: new federal laws mandate all schools to provide Islamic prayer rooms and all children must be taught in their respective religion.

Variation in other kinds of distresses such as family deaths (infants) do not increase Pengajian. This suggests economic distress, not just any distress or religious intensity as a form of solace, is responsible for Pengajian increases. This may seem counter-intuitive to the common notion that bad times stimulate religious feeling, but there may be a self-selection problem in reports: the religiously intense may claim non-economic distress stimulates religiosity but the econometrician does not observe all people who suffer those types of distress.

An alternative explanation for some of these findings is that social activities are luxury goods and income effects outweigh substitution effects. However, this would imply Koran study is an inferior good and Islamic schools a Giffen good, if the relative price of Islamic schools has increased. Moreover, this would not explain the results on alleviation of credit constraints or consumption smoothing. Religious intensity being an inferior good is also somewhat inconsistent with the lack of correlation between income and religious intensity.

One other explanation for some of these findings is redistributive altruism. This would imply religious institutions smooth permanent as well as temporary shocks. But religious institutions do not appear associated with lower inequality of consumption<sup>25</sup>, which seems inconsistent with the notion of altruism that smooths permanent shocks.

The securitization of labor is yet another explanation for many of these findings. Religious organizations can bond labor, i.e. give money because they can commit to preventing individuals from leaving in a future period. Most other organizations cannot, so will not provide money during crisis. One prediction of this explanation is that labor supply will be less backwards-bending where there are more religious institutions since those in distress should be better able to sell future labor

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<sup>24</sup>Appendix Table A also indicates that Pengajian participation rates are increasing after the crisis while, in each subsequent survey wave, more people report decreasing Pengajian than report increasing it, which seems puzzling. However, households sometimes report "decreasing Pengajian" even if in the previous panel wave they reported not participating.

<sup>25</sup>In fact, the model allows the poor to transfer consumption to the rich because agents smooth shocks not levels.



to religious organizations. The opposite appears to be the case, labor supply is more backwards-bending where there are more religious institutions. The difference is sizeable (more than twice as backwards-bending in places with per-capita number of worship buildings above the median than below the median) but not statistically significant. Moreover, religion as securitization of labor does not at first glance explain why religious intensity continues to increase after the crisis.<sup>26</sup>

Ex-post social insurance is distinct from other commonly-held theories of religious intensity: that religious intensity is due to poverty, opportunity cost of time, general distress, redistributive altruism, or solace, or that religious intensity is an inferior good or the securitization of labor. That poverty does not stimulate fundamentalism is consistent with Krueger and Maleckova's (2002) finding that poverty does not stimulate terrorism. If intensity of identity is in fact a channel through which riots and violence occurs, these results are also consistent with DiPasquale and Glaeser's (1997) finding that poverty does not matter for US riots.

## 6 Conclusion

In this paper, I present a model of religious intensity functioning as ex-post social insurance. I model religion as a risk-sharing mechanism where people pool their resources and redistribute the pool according to their relative religious intensities. Agents choose a proportion of income to put in Pengajian. This proportion represents their religious intensity. The pool is divided according to how much agents contribute as a fraction of their income. The model has the empirical implications that those who are hit harder by economic distress will increase their religious intensity and those who are hit less hard will decrease their religious intensity. The effect should be mitigated when other forms of credit are available. Strong social sanctions against relative lack of intensity facilitate the stability of ex-post insurance by deterring agents who receive positive shocks from participating less, which in turn encourages agents who receive negative shocks to participate more because they can appropriate more of the positive shocks.

Empirically, I demonstrate economic distress stimulates religious intensity by exploiting the fact that rapid inflation caused relative prices to favor growers of staples, namely rice, and hurt sticky wage-earners, particularly government employees, whose salaries are set by federal law. I find that households experiencing a \$1 decline in monthly per-capita nonfood expenditures are 2% more likely to increase Koran study and 1% more likely to switch a child to Islamic school. Moreover, participation in other social activities did not increase while labor supply increased, which seems inconsistent with an opportunity cost view of religious intensity.

Instead, I find that religious intensity is associated with alleviation of need for alms or credit to meet basic daily needs during the peak of the crisis. The effect of economic distress on religious intensity essentially disappears in places where credit is available. And religious institutions appear

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<sup>26</sup>Another story involving labor securitization is that of increased migration onto land-owning households that stimulates landless households now with fewer employment opportunities for children to send their children to Islamic schools. However, hectares of land ownership is negatively associated with changes in household size.

to facilitate consumption smoothing among villagers, suggesting religious intensity functions as ex-post social insurance.

Religious intensity is linked more strongly to social violence in regions that are more economically distressed; alternative social insurance mitigates this effect (Chen 2004). To the extent governments, international organizations, and NGOs are concerned about ideological extremism, in particular because it may lead to religious conflict and violence, the results suggest increasing their role in social insurance may mitigate fundamentalist tendencies. Countries that inordinately depend on natural resources may be subject to greater fluctuations and may find reducing fundamentalist tendencies to be yet another reason to diversify. If it is the case globalization increases the risk individuals face, providing insurance against that risk may be important in preventing ethnic-religious conflicts. (Miguel (2003) and Miguel, Satyanath, and Sergenti (2003) find evidence that economic shocks increase conflicts.)

Social scientists increasingly view group identities like ethnicity as social constructs potentially affected by an individual's environment and economic conditions. Religious intensity provides a particularly apt context to study group identity as it is probably more of a choice than ethnicity.<sup>27</sup> The model suggests one explanation for why some religions and group identities replace others. In the long-run competition between social insurance groups, social insurance with punishment will be relatively successful, especially in a volatile environment. With volatility, religions with harsher punishment are more stable and successful. As volatility declines, groups or religions with reduced punishment or violence become relatively successful. Violence should also be interpreted broadly: the concept of hell common in many religions may substitute for violence towards non-group members. Variation in doctrine suggests the content of beliefs may in fact be subject to economic forces more generally.

These results also suggest one explanation for why fiscal and social conservatives come hand-in-hand. Some fundamentalists argue supporting or depending on the welfare state (e.g. unemployment insurance) is the same as worshipping the government as if it were God. Jost, et.al (2003) finds uncertainty aversion is correlated with political conservatism. Religious intensity as social insurance provides a simple solution: the religious right may be against welfare because it would compete away its constituents.<sup>28</sup> I have shown that availability of alternative forms of consumption smoothing reduces the effect of economic distress on religious intensity and there is some suggestive evidence that religious intensity is lower in places where there is greater public funding, particularly funding that provides social insurance.

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<sup>27</sup>Other group identities may also provide social insurance. For example, Fryer (2003) models blacks playing a repeated game to see if in-group members are willing to "watch your back".

<sup>28</sup>I find some evidence in the General Social Survey and in the political science literature that self-identified fundamentalists in the US are more against aspects of government spending particularly competitive with fundamentalism.

## 7 Mathematical Appendix

**Proof of Proposition 1** The structure of this proof is mainly an argument by continuity. Suppose  $f(x_0)$  is the incentive to change  $x_0$ . Consider a change in the environment to  $\tilde{f}$  such that  $\tilde{f}(x_0) > 0$ . Then there exists a  $\delta$  such that it is still the case  $\tilde{f}(x_0 + \delta) > 0$ . Therefore, the optimum in the new environment must be at least  $+\delta$  different than the optimum  $x_0$  in the old environment (if not, we have proof by contradiction).

It can be immediately observed that agent  $L$  chooses a higher level of religious intensity than agent  $H$ ,  $Q_L^* > Q_H^*$ . It is sufficient to show that  $\frac{\delta}{\delta Q_H} U_H|_{Q_H=Q_L} < \frac{\delta}{\delta Q_L} U_L|_{Q_H=Q_L}$ , which follows immediately from examining the derivative of the first term in equation 1. Since  $H > \frac{\bar{\mu}_1}{Q} > L$ ,  $u'[(1 - Q_H)H + \frac{Q_H}{Q}(\bar{\mu}_1)]\{-H + \frac{\bar{\mu}_1}{Q}\} < u'[(1 - Q_L)L + \frac{Q_L}{Q}(\bar{\mu}_1)]\{-L + \frac{\bar{\mu}_1}{Q}\}$ . The first term is negative while the second term is positive.

Let  $\Delta \equiv \frac{\delta}{\delta Q_L} U_L|_{Q_H=Q_L} - \frac{\delta}{\delta Q_H} U_H|_{Q_H=Q_L}$ . Let  $E(\cdot) \equiv u'[(1 - Q_L)L + \frac{Q_L}{Q}(\bar{\mu}_1)]\{-L + \frac{\bar{\mu}_1}{Q}\} - u'[(1 - Q_H)H + \frac{Q_H}{Q}(\bar{\mu}_1)]\{-H + \frac{\bar{\mu}_1}{Q}\}$ . By continuity, there exist  $\delta_1$ ,  $\delta_2$ , and  $\delta_3$  such that  $E(\cdot)|_{Q_L=Q_H} - E(\cdot)|_{Q_L=Q_H+\delta_1} < \frac{\Delta}{3}$ ,  $-\frac{\delta}{\delta Q_H} V(Q_H|Q_L)|_{Q_L=Q_H+\delta_2} < \frac{\Delta}{3}$ , and  $[\frac{\delta}{\delta Q_L} C(Q_L) - \frac{\delta}{\delta Q_H} C(Q_H)]|_{Q_L=Q_H+\delta_3} < \frac{\Delta}{3}$ . Let  $\delta = \min(\delta_1, \delta_2, \delta_3)$ . Then,  $\frac{\delta}{\delta Q_H} U_H|_{Q_H} < \frac{\delta}{\delta Q_L} U_L|_{Q_L=Q_H+\delta}$ . Thus,  $Q_L^* > Q_H^*$ .

To show that crisis increases the dispersion of religious intensity, i.e.  $\frac{\delta}{\delta M} (\frac{Q_L^*}{Q_H^*}) > 0$ , it is sufficient to show that  $\frac{\delta}{\delta M} [\frac{\delta}{\delta Q_L} U_L|_{Q_L=Q_L^*, M=0} - \frac{\delta}{\delta Q_H} U_H|_{Q_H=Q_H^*, M=0}] > 0$ , where  $Q_{x_1}^*, M=0$  denotes the equilibrium solution when  $M = 0$ . Again, the result follows from examining the derivative of the first term in equation 1. Let  $F(\cdot) \equiv \frac{\delta}{\delta Q_L} U_L|_{Q_L=Q_L^*, M=0} - \frac{\delta}{\delta Q_H} U_H|_{Q_H=Q_H^*, M=0}$ . Since no other term besides the first in equation 1 contains  $M$ ,  $\frac{\delta}{\delta M} F(\cdot) = \frac{\delta}{\delta M} E(\cdot)|_{Q_L=Q_L^*, M=0, Q_H=Q_H^*, M=0}$ , which in turn equals  $\{-L + \frac{\bar{\mu}_1}{Q}\} \frac{\delta}{\delta M} u'[(1 - Q_L^*, M=0)L + \frac{Q_L^*, M=0}{Q}(\bar{\mu}_1)] - \{-H + \frac{\bar{\mu}_1}{Q}\} \frac{\delta}{\delta M} u'[(1 - Q_H^*, M=0)H + \frac{Q_H^*, M=0}{Q}(\bar{\mu}_1)]$ . Concave utility implies  $\frac{\delta}{\delta M} E(\cdot)|_{Q_L=Q_L^*, M=0, Q_H=Q_H^*, M=0} > 0$ . This result holds relative to any reference point  $M = M_1$ , not just  $M = 0$ . Intuitively,  $F(\cdot)$  represents the tendency for dispersion of religious intensity to increase. If  $F(\cdot) > 0$ , then there is room either for  $Q_L$  to increase or  $Q_H$  to decrease. This is formally shown in the following.

Let  $\Delta \equiv F(\cdot)|_{M=M_2} - F(\cdot)|_{M=M_1}$  where  $M_2 > M_1$  and the reference point for  $F(\cdot)$  is  $M = M_1$ : that is, consider the equilibrium solution  $Q_{x_1}^*, M=M_1$  when  $M = M_1$ .  $\frac{\delta}{\delta M} F(\cdot) > 0$  implies  $\Delta > 0$  as well. It will be convenient to denote equation 1 as  $U_x = T_{x,1}(\cdot) + T_{x,2}(\cdot) + T_{x,3}(\cdot)$ . By continuity, there exist  $\delta_{1L}$ ,  $\delta_{1H}$ ,  $\delta_{2L}$ ,  $\delta_{2H}$ ,  $\delta_{3L}$ , and  $\delta_{3H}$  such that  $-\frac{\delta}{\delta Q_L} T_{L,p}(\cdot)|_{Q_L=Q_L^*, M=M_1, M=M_1} + \frac{\delta}{\delta Q_L} T_{L,p}(\cdot)|_{Q_L=Q_L^*, M=M_1+\delta_{pL}, M=M_2} < \frac{\Delta}{6}$ , where  $p = 1..3$ , and  $\frac{\delta}{\delta Q_H} T_{H,p}(\cdot)|_{Q_H=Q_H^*, M=M_1, M=M_1} - \frac{\delta}{\delta Q_H} T_{H,p}(\cdot)|_{Q_H=Q_H^*, M=M_1-\delta_{pH}, M=M_2} < \frac{\Delta}{6}$ , where  $p = 1..3$ . Let  $\delta = \min(\delta_{1L}, \delta_{1H}, \delta_{2L}, \delta_{2H}, \delta_{3L}, \delta_{3H})$ . Then  $[\frac{\delta}{\delta Q_L} U_L|_{Q_L=Q_L^*, M=M_1+\delta, M=M_2} - \frac{\delta}{\delta Q_H} U_H|_{Q_H=Q_H^*, M=M_1-\delta, M=M_2}] - [\frac{\delta}{\delta Q_L} U_L|_{Q_L=Q_L^*, M=M_1, M=M_1} - \frac{\delta}{\delta Q_H} U_H|_{Q_H=Q_H^*, M=M_1, M=M_1}] > 0$ . Thus  $\frac{Q_L^*}{Q_H^*}|_{M=M_2} > \frac{Q_L^*}{Q_H^*}|_{M=M_1}$ .

To show social sanctions facilitate the functioning of ex-post insurance, consider the extreme case when  $V(\cdot) = 0$ . It is easy to see the equilibrium  $Q_H^*$  drops,  $Q_H^*|_{V \neq 0} > Q_H^*|_{V=0}$ . If  $U_H|_{V \neq 0}$  is maximized at  $Q_H^*|_{V \neq 0}$ , then  $\frac{\delta}{\delta Q_H} U_H|_{V=0}(Q_H^*|_{V \neq 0}) < 0$ . Thus there exists a  $\delta$  such that  $\frac{\delta}{\delta Q_H} U_H|_{V=0}(Q_H = Q_H^*|_{V \neq 0} - \delta) < 0$ . Therefore  $Q_H^*|_{V \neq 0} > Q_H^*|_{V=0}$ .

But equilibrium  $Q_L^*$  drops as well:  $Q_L^*|_{V \neq 0} > Q_L^*|_{V=0}$ . If  $U_L|_{V \neq 0}$  is maximized at  $Q_L^*|_{V \neq 0}$  and  $Q_H^*|_{V \neq 0}$ , then  $\frac{\delta}{\delta Q_L} U_L|_{V=0}(Q_L^*|_{V \neq 0}, Q_H^*|_{V=0}) < 0$ . The only consideration for agent  $L$  when  $Q_H^*$  drops is how it affects income,  $(1 - Q_L)L + \frac{Q_L}{Q}(\bar{\mu}_1) = L + \frac{(Q_H Q_L)(H-L)}{(Q_H+Q_L)}$ . It is clear that for  $L$ , the more  $H$  participates, the larger is the Pengajian budget and the more  $L$  gains from participating. Formally,  $\frac{\delta}{\delta Q_H} \frac{\delta}{\delta Q_L} \{L + \frac{(Q_H Q_L)(H-L)}{(Q_H+Q_L)}\} = \frac{2(Q_H Q_L)(H-L)}{(Q_H+Q_L)^3} > 0$ . Thus there exists a  $\delta$  such that  $\frac{\delta}{\delta Q_L} U_L|_{V=0}(Q_L^* = Q_L^*|_{V \neq 0} - \delta, Q_H^*|_{V=0}) < 0$ . Therefore  $Q_L^*|_{V \neq 0} > Q_L^*|_{V=0}$ .

By continuity, the lower is  $\frac{\delta}{\delta Q_H} V(\cdot)$ , then the more  $Q_H^*$  and  $Q_L^*$  fall.

Note it cannot be the case  $Q_H^*$  increases taking into account the decline in  $Q_L^*$ . If  $Q_H^*$  increases then so will  $Q_L^*$  because  $H$ 's religious intensity is, in a sense, complementary for  $L$ 's religious intensity. Q.E.D.

**Proof of Proposition 2** Consider first the choice of  $Q_L^*$ . If  $L$  can smooth intertemporally by himself, he can achieve his Pareto frontier without having to pay the Pengajian cost  $C(Q_L^*)$ . The proof follows because both the choice set of  $L$  increases and, from inspecting equation 1, we know  $L$  was previously at a constrained optimum— $L$  would increase religious intensity  $Q_L$  more if it weren't for cost  $C(\cdot)$ . Observe that with credit,  $L$  can obtain  $\frac{L+H}{2}$  in every time period if he chooses. However the amount agent  $L$  receives from Pengajian is  $L + \frac{(Q_H Q_L)(H-L)}{(Q_H+Q_L)}$ .  $L$  receives the payoff  $\frac{L+H}{2}$  when  $\frac{Q_H Q_L}{Q_H+Q_L} = \frac{1}{2}$ . Examining  $Q_H = \frac{Q_L}{2Q_L-1}$  reveals that this can never be the case since  $Q_L, Q_H \in (0, 1)$ . Thus, with costless credit, one obtains a discrete fall in  $Q_L^*$  when credit is available relative to when credit is not available.

Credit availability affects  $Q_H^*$  in a similar fashion: If  $H$  can smooth intertemporally by himself, he can achieve his Pareto frontier without having to pay either the Pengajian cost  $C(Q_H^*)$  or the  $T_{H,1}$  cost of providing ex-post insurance for  $L$  agents. Moreover, with a discrete fall in  $Q_L^*$ , social sanction  $V(\frac{Q}{x_1})$  declines as well, meaning  $H$  no longer needs to keep  $Q_H^*$  as high to forestall social sanctions. Both forces tend to decrease  $Q_H^*$ . Taking into account the decline in  $Q_L^*$  on  $T_{H,1}$  is a force that tends to increase  $Q_H^*$ .

$Q_L^*$  falls further than  $Q_H^*$ , because  $u(\cdot)$  is concave and  $C(\cdot)$  is convex. Consider first only  $C(\cdot)$  relative to  $u(\cdot)$  in equation 1 when credit becomes available.  $C(\cdot)$  is convex so  $C'(Q_L^*) > C'(Q_H^*)$ . Since  $u(\cdot)$  is concave, then  $u'(\cdot)|_{Q_L^*, NoCredit} > u'(\cdot)|_{Q_H^*, NoCredit}$ .  $C'(Q_L^*)$  and  $u'(\cdot)|_{Q_L^*, NoCredit}$  both measure  $L$ 's tendency to reduce  $Q_L^*$  when credit becomes available.  $C'(Q_H^*)$  and  $u'(\cdot)|_{Q_H^*, NoCredit}$  measure  $H$ 's tendency to reduce  $Q_H^*$  when credit becomes available. So clearly  $Q_L^*$  will fall further than  $Q_H^*$  considering only  $C(\cdot)$  and  $u(\cdot)$ . Considering the first term in equation 1, the decline in  $Q_L$  puts upward pressure on  $Q_H$  while the decline in  $Q_H$  puts downward pressure on  $Q_L$ , which reinforces credit availability reducing  $Q_L^*$  more than it reduces  $Q_H^*$ . (Considering the social sanction term in equation 1, a sufficient additional condition is that  $C'(Q_L^*) + u'(\cdot)|_{Q_L^*, NoCredit} > C'(Q_H^*) + u'(\cdot)|_{Q_H^*, NoCredit} + V'(Q_H^*)$ .) Then  $\frac{\delta}{\delta M}(\frac{Q_L^*}{Q_H^*})|_{Credit} < \frac{\delta}{\delta M}(\frac{Q_L^*}{Q_H^*})|_{NoCredit}$ . Q.E.D.

## 8 Data Appendix

The empirical analysis draws from The Hundred Villages Survey, collected by the Indonesian Central Statistics Office. The panel dataset follows 8,140 households from May 1997 to August 1999, beginning before the crisis and continuing in four waves after the crisis (Figure 1). In the pre-crisis period, the survey observes 120 randomly selected households in each of 100 communities. However between 1997 and 1998, the number of village enumeration areas increases from 2 to 3, necessitating a replacement of about 40 randomly selected households per village. The partial replacement of pre-crisis households is why the panel contains 8,140 instead of 12,000 households.<sup>29</sup> The survey also collects village-level information in the first wave of 1997 and 1998. A more detailed description of the survey questions and variable construction used in the tables is provided below. The survey is in Indonesian and was translated with the help of two translators.

Wetland and dryland hectares information is taken from the question that asks for total area that is owned of each of wetland and dryland. Government occupation is taken from the question “Status of main job last week” where the choices are: work by ourselves without other’s help, working with other’s help from temporary worker, working with permanent worker, government staff, public staff, private worker, and family worker. Government and public staff were coded as government worker. In Indonesian, the answer choices for government worker are “Buruh/karyawan pemerintah” and “Buruh/karyawan BUMN/BUMD”. Service occupation is taken from the question, “Main job during last week,” where the choices are agriculture, mining, industry, electricity, construction, business, transportation, finance, service, and other.

I focus on two outcome measures for  $\Delta P_{ij}$ . One is the response to “In the past 3 months, has your household increased, decreased, stayed the same, or not participated in the study the Koran (Pengajian)?” More precisely, the phrase is “Pengajian/kegiatan agarna lainnya,” which translates to religious activity, however translators say the question would be interpreted by native Indonesians as specifically referring to Koran study; non-Muslims may interpret the question as referring to the equivalent in their respective religion. This question is asked after the crisis and is coded as -1/0/+1. The other is the number of children in the household attending Islamic school. Islamic school attendance is coded from the following. Individuals older than 5 are asked the question “level of highest education that have ever had”, which includes the responses, elementary, Ibtidaiyah (Islamic), secondary school, Tsanawiyah (Islamic), junior high/vocational, high school, aliyah (Islamic), diploma I/II, diploma III/Bachelor, and diploma IV/graduate.

The endogenous regressor,  $\Delta E_{ij}$ , is measured using per-capita monthly nonfood consumption expenditure change from May 1997 to August 1998. Monthly nonfood expenditures are obtained from the question “Total non-food expense last month”. Dividing this number by household size gives the per-capita information. Expenditures are normalized to US\$ to ease interpretation. Ex-

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<sup>29</sup>Reassuringly, roughly one-third of the treatment groups attrite during resampling, and the attrition rates are similar across treatment and placebo groups. 28% of those owning wetland and 28% of those owning dryland leave the sample. 34% of those not owning any wetland and 39% of those not owning any dryland leave the sample. 31% of government workers, 37% of service workers, 32% of non-government workers, and 32% of non-service workers leave the sample.

change rate data obtained from [www.oanda.com](http://www.oanda.com). The results are qualitatively the same using a CPI index, which is obtained from [www.bi.go.id/bank\\_indonesia\\_english/main/statistics](http://www.bi.go.id/bank_indonesia_english/main/statistics).

The controls,  $\mathbf{X}_{ij}$ , include pre-crisis May 1997 values of: household head characteristics—age, years of education (1-8 where 8=graduated), gender (1=male, 0=female), ever-married (1=married, divorced, or widowed, 0=not married yet), literate (able to read and write), and follows media (listened to radio or read newspaper last week); household characteristics—household size, modernity (Sum of dummy indicators for ownership of stove, radio, television, refrigerator, satellite dish, motorbike, and car), dryland hectares, farming dummy, service worker dummy, last month’s per-capita non-food expenditures; village characteristics—urban dummy, population, area, number of shops per 1000 population; geographic characteristics—dummies for flat, steep (the excluded topography dummy is slight angle), beach, forest, valley, river terrain (the excluded geography dummy is other); and fiscal characteristics—INPRES (Presidentially Instructed Program for Village Assistance, implemented during 1996-1997) funding received normalized to \$ per 1000 population, which divides into funds used for productive economic effort, for buildings and facilities, for offices and institutions, and for human resources, and total IDT (another village assistance program) funds received by the household between 1994-1996.

Participation in other social activities is asked alongside the question on Koran study. Each question follows the same format: “In the past 3 months, has your household increased, decreased, stayed the same, or not participated in \_\_?” is coded as -1/0/+1. Same and not participated are coded as 0. The questions are asked in the following order: Family Welfare Movement (occasional training for women), a program called 10 helps for housing (a form of rotating savings group of 10 households in the same neighborhood whose function is primarily social), a national club designed for common people with the purpose to obtain useful abilities (like a practical non-formal school for adults), burial society, sport, Koran study, and savings club (whose meetings are tea parties). Participation in Koran study, savings club, 10 helps for housing, Family Welfare Movement is free. Participation in sport, burial society, and club to obtain skills require fees. According to the village-level survey, 92% of villages have sport clubs, 83% have club for obtaining skills, 96% have Family Welfare Movement organizations, 71% have Islamic chapels, and 82% have mosques. Labor supply information is obtained by taking the mean of each household member’s “total hours of any work during last week” and computing the change of this mean between pre- and post-crisis periods.

Credit availability is defined as having a bank, microfinance institution (response to question on *lembaga keuangan*), or BRI loan product (response to question on *kupedes*) available in village. Standard deviation of village shock refers to the standard deviation of individual changes in non-food expenditures over the crisis. A household is considered as needing alms or credit to meet basic daily needs if they respond they do not have basic supplies (of “9 basic need”) for next week nor a supply of money, and so in order to get food, they are waiting for package, (trying to) borrow from someone else, or waiting for someone to give. This information is only asked after the crisis.

Village-level religiosity measures of per capita number of mosques, Islamic chapels, churches, Hindu temples, and Buddhist temples are taken from the 1997 PODES data (Potensial Desa/Village

Potential Statistics), which asks for 1996 information. The religiosity measures of per capita number of Islamic boarding schools, religious schools, and seminaries are taken from 1998 PODES. Since it is unlikely that new religious institutions were built during the crisis, I interpret these as pre-crisis numbers and divide by the 1997 PODES population accordingly (1998 PODES population numbers would be affected by crisis-induced migration).

I use the entire sample of 8,140 households. Appendix Table A presents some descriptive statistics.

## 9 Appendix: Further Consumption Smoothing Evidence

A test of consumption smoothing among villagers can be derived from the model. In the model, the crisis causes both  $H$  and  $L$  to fall to  $\tilde{H}$  and  $\tilde{L}$ . To be consistent with the notation in Proposition 1, let the decline for  $H$  be  $M_H = H - \tilde{H}$  and the decline for  $L$  be  $M_L = L - \tilde{L}$ . The variance of consumption shock is  $Stdev^2 = \frac{\frac{1}{2}(H-\mu)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(L-\mu)^2}{1}$ , where  $\mu = \frac{H+L}{2}$ . This simplifies to  $(\frac{H-L}{2})^2$ . So, the standard deviation  $Stdev = \frac{H-L}{2}$ . Hence,  $Crisis\_Stdev(\Delta E_{ij})_j - NonCrisis\_Stdev(\Delta E_{ij})_j = \frac{\tilde{H}-\tilde{L}}{2} - \frac{H-L}{2} = \frac{1}{2}[M_L - M_H]$ . The LHS variable is therefore the fall for  $L$  minus the fall for  $H$  due to the crisis. Recall from the discussion after Proposition 1 that the model assumes the crisis weakly increases the spread between positive and negative shocks, i.e. the fall for  $L$  is weakly greater than the fall for  $H$ . And, as stated then, the data suggests this is in fact the case: the sample mean of village standard deviation of consumption shocks is much higher during the crisis than during a non-crisis period. So,  $\frac{1}{2}[M_L - M_H] = Crisis\_Stdev(\Delta E_{ij})_j - NonCrisis\_Stdev(\Delta E_{ij})_j \equiv Y > 0$ .

Consider what happens when religious institutions, measured by worship buildings, are available. The fall for  $L$  is mitigated while the fall for  $H$  is exacerbated:  $H$  must share some of their money with  $L$ . Thus  $M_L$  falls while  $M_H$  rises so  $Y$  decreases, so religious institutions should be expected to reduce the standard deviation of consumption shock that is due to the financial crisis.

The theory therefore suggests the following reduced form specification:

$$Crisis\_Stdev(\Delta E_{ij})_j - NonCrisis\_Stdev(\Delta E_{ij})_j = \beta_0 I_j + \beta_1 I_j \mathbf{S}_j + \alpha'_0 \mathbf{S}_j + \alpha'_1 \mathbf{X}_j + \kappa_p + \eta_{jp}$$

where  $Stdev(\Delta E_{ij})_j$  is constructed by calculating each household's change in monthly per-capita nonfood consumption expenditures and then computing the village-level standard deviation of these consumption shocks.  $Crisis\_Stdev(\Delta E_{ij})_j$  is computed using the consumption shocks during the financial crisis.  $NonCrisis\_Stdev(\Delta E_{ij})_j$  is computed using consumption shocks during the post experiment described earlier. The standard deviation captures consumption smoothing among villagers. Differencing addresses potential fixed omitted variables associated with village consumption smoothing.  $I_j$  represents the village-level instrument, Gini coefficient of wetland hectares,  $\mathbf{S}_j$  represents potential social insurance institutions, total worship buildings per 1000 population, 1996-97 INPRES (Presidentially Instructed Program for Village Assistance) funds per 1000 population, and credit availability,  $\mathbf{X}_j$  represents village and geographic controls (urban dummy, population, area,

number of shops per 1000 population, mean pre-crisis monthly per-capita non-food expenditures, and dummies for geographic characteristics (flat, steep, beach, forest, valley, and river) and  $\kappa_p$  represents province fixed effects.

This methodology is like finding an exogenous component of the financial crisis based on the village-level version of the instrument, Gini coefficient of wetland hectares, and asking whether the exogenous crisis component interacted with pre-crisis number of worship buildings is negatively associated with the impact of the crisis, as measured by standard deviation of consumption shocks. If so, this would suggest worship buildings lower standard deviation of consumption shock that is due to the financial crisis. Columns 1 and 3 of Appendix Table C indicate that there is a strong reduced form relationship between Gini coefficient of wetland owned and the standard deviation of consumption shock due to the financial crisis.

The coefficients of interest,  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ , are displayed in Columns 2 and 4. The negative sign on the interaction of the wetland Gini coefficient and worship buildings suggest religious institutions facilitates consumption smoothing among villagers. The average religious worship buildings per 1000 population is 3.83 (Appendix Table A village summary statistics). Multiplying 3.83 by the coefficient 7.47 and dividing by 40.58 (Column 2) suggests the average number of religious worship buildings reduced the effect of the financial crisis on standard deviation of consumption shock by 70%. Comparing Columns 2 and 4 suggests the relationship is robust to adding village and geographic controls and province fixed effects. The relationship is not robust however to using the coefficient of variation or interquartile range of village consumption changes. This may be because the mean of consumption shocks during the non-crisis period is very small, and dividing by them makes the non-crisis numbers explode. With these caveats in mind, these results on consumption smoothing are merely suggestive.<sup>30</sup>

The large positive coefficient on credit availability in Column 4 suggests credit availability widens the spread of consumption shocks during the financial crisis. The intuition for this result is that those who lose little, lose even less when credit is available.<sup>31</sup> But those who lose little, lose instead more when their relative gain can be appropriated by those who lose more in religiously intense places.

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<sup>30</sup> Another test of consumption smoothing is whether economic distress stimulates religious intensity more when the dispersion of shocks increases. There is some evidence that economic distress stimulates more Koran study and Islamic school attendance in areas with high Gini coefficient of wetland than with low Gini coefficient of wetland but the point estimates are not statistically significantly different.

<sup>31</sup> Consider what happens when credit is available. The fall for  $L$  is still mitigated. But the fall for  $H$  may be mitigated too. That is,  $M_L$  falls and  $M_H$  falls, so credit availability should be expected to not reduce as much as religious institutions do, the standard deviation of consumption shock that is due to the financial crisis.

If  $M_H$  falls *more* than  $M_L$  falls when credit is available, then credit availability may widen the standard deviation of consumption shock that is due to the financial crisis. This would be the case if  $H$  smooths more of their crisis-shock  $M_H$  than  $L$  smooths of their crisis-shock  $M_L$ . Therefore, whether credit availability reduces or widens standard deviation during the crisis is a priori ambiguous.



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**Figure 1: Timing of 100 Villages and PODES Survey Waves and the Rp/USD Exchange Rate**

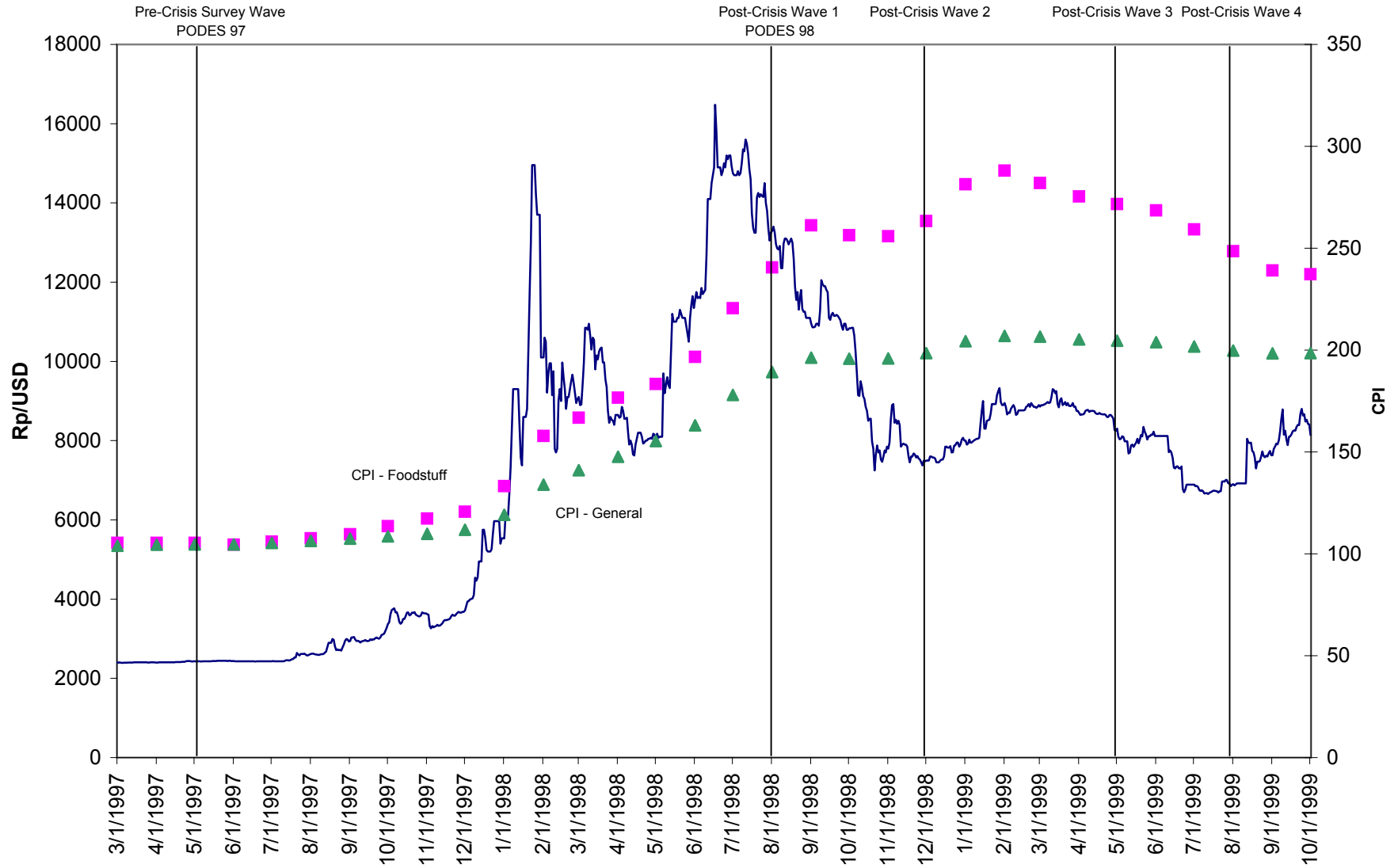


Table 1--Summary Statistics by Group

	Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure \$/mo		Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure Change	Penganjian Change	Average Non-Rel Social Change	N
	1997 May	1998 August				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
<= 0.3 Hectares Wetland	7.5 (0.2)	2.6 (0.1)	-4.9 (0.2)	0.007 (0.005)	-0.035 (0.002)	6742
> 0.3 Hectares Wetland	6.6 (0.2)	3.0 (0.6)	-3.5 (0.6)	-0.015 (0.013)	-0.037 (0.005)	1398
Difference	-0.9 (0.4)	0.5 (0.4)	1.4 (0.6)	-0.022 (0.013)	-0.002 (0.005)	
	Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure \$/mo		Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure Change	Penganjian Change	Average Non-Rel Social Change	N
	1997 May	1998 August				
Not Government	7.0 (0.2)	2.6 (0.2)	-4.4 (0.2)	-0.001 (0.005)	-0.037 (0.002)	7633
Government	12.9 (0.6)	3.8 (0.2)	-9.1 (0.6)	0.067 (0.020)	-0.009 (0.011)	507
Difference	5.9 (0.6)	1.2 (0.7)	-4.8 (0.9)	0.068 (0.020)	0.029 (0.008)	

Table 2--First Stage: Correlation of Instruments with Impact of Financial Crisis

	Change in Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure \$/mo (1998 August - 1997 May)					Percent Change	Placebo	Post
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Wetland Hectares	1.24*** (0.42)	1.12*** (0.36)			1.13*** (0.36)	0.036* (0.022)		-0.32 (0.46)
Government			-4.76*** (0.86)	-2.00** (0.97)	-2.04** (0.97)	-0.154*** (0.060)		3.38*** (1.25)
Dryland Hectares							0.39*** (0.15)	
Service							0.19 (0.58)	
Controls	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Fixed Effects	N	Village	N	Village	Village	Village	Village	Village

Standard errors are in parantheses. Coefficients represent OLS regressions.

Control variables are Household Head and Household Characteristics listed below.

Household Head Characteristics -- Age, Years of Education (8 = graduated), Gender, Ever-Married, Literate, Follows Media (tv or radio)

Household Characteristics -- Household Size, Modernity (Index of Stove, Radio, TV, Fridge, Satellite Dish, Motorbike, Car),

Farming Dummy, Service Dummy, Dryland Ownership (ha), Pre-Crisis Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure

Percent Change refers to Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure Percentage Change (1998 August - 1997 May)

Placebo refers to Correlation of "Placebo" Instruments with Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure Change (1998 August - 1997 May), Wetland replaces Dryland as Control

Post refers to Correlation of Instruments with Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure Change (1999 May - 1998 December)

Table 3--Reduced Form Relationship between Instruments and Pengajian Change

	Pengajian Change in Past 3 Months (Increase +1/Same 0/Decrease -1)					Increase vs 0/-1	Decrease vs +1/0	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
<b>Panel A -- Main Experiment: 1998 August</b>								
Wetland Hectares	-0.019** (0.009)	-0.019** (0.010)			-0.020** (0.010)	-0.017** (0.008)	-0.003 (0.008)	0.017*** (0.006)
Government			0.068*** (0.020)	0.057** (0.027)	0.057** (0.027)	0.048** (0.024)	0.037 (0.026)	-0.024 (0.016)
<b>Panel B -- Placebo Experiment: 1998 August</b>								
Dryland Hectares	-0.001 (0.004)	0.000 (0.004)			0.000 (0.004)	-0.003 (0.008)	-0.006 (0.004)	-0.005 (0.004)
Service			0.023 (0.016)	0.006 (0.016)	0.006 (0.016)	-0.008 (0.022)	-0.001 (0.012)	-0.011 (0.011)
<b>Panel C -- Post Experiment: 1999 May</b>								
Wetland Hectares	-0.000 (0.009)	-0.003 (0.009)			-0.003 (0.009)	0.000 (0.004)	0.000 (0.008)	0.005 (0.008)
Government			-0.029 (0.019)	-0.013 (0.026)	-0.013 (0.026)	0.006 (0.014)	-0.004 (0.018)	0.009 (0.022)
Controls	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Fixed Effects	N	Village	N	Village	Village	Village	Village	Village

Control variables are Household Head and Household Characteristics listed in Table 2. In Placebo Experiment, dryland control is replaced by wetland control.

Standard errors are in parentheses. Columns 1-5 display OLS estimates. Column 6 displays overall ordered probit marginal effects. Columns 7 and 8 display marginal effects for increasing and decreasing Pengajian which are computed from probits comparing increasing vs. same/decrease and probits comparing decreasing vs. same/increase.

Table 4--Impact of Economic Distress on Pengajian (2SLS)

	Pengajian Change in Past 3 Months (Increase +1/Same 0/Decrease -1)						
	OLS	OLS	IV	IV	IV	IV	IV
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure Change	0.0001 (0.0003)	-0.0003 (0.0003)	-0.016* (0.009)	-0.017* (0.010)	-0.014*** (0.005)	-0.028 (0.019)	-0.021** (0.009)
	OProbit	OProbit	OProbit-IV	OProbit-IV	OProbit-IV	OProbit-IV	OProbit-IV
Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure Change	0.0001 (0.0003)	-0.0001 (0.0001)	-0.015* (0.009)	-0.015* (0.009)	-0.014*** (0.005)	-0.024 (0.016)	-0.018** (0.008)
Marginal Effect for +1 vs 0/-1:	-0.0002 (0.0002)	0.0000 (0.0002)	0.004 (0.005)	-0.003 (0.009)	-0.009*** (0.003)	-0.016 (0.016)	-0.008 (0.008)
Marginal Effect for -1 vs 0/+1:	-0.0002 (0.0002)	0.0003 (0.0002)	0.015** (0.007)	0.015** (0.006)	0.005 (0.003)	0.014 (0.015)	0.014*** (0.005)
IV Controls	N	N	Wet	Wet	Govt	Govt	Both
Fixed Effects	N	Village	N	Village	N	Village	Village

Standard errors are in parantheses. Control variables are Household Head and Household Characteristics listed in Table 2.

Overall ordered probit marginal effects are displayed. Marginal effects for increasing and decreasing Pengajian are computed from probits comparing increasing vs. same/decrease and probits comparing decreasing vs. same/increase.



Table 5--Impact of Economic Distress on Islamic School Attendance (2SLS)

	OLS (1)	OLS (2)	IV (3)	IV (4)
<b>Panel A -- Islamic School Attendance Change</b>				
Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure Change	0.000 (0.000)	-0.000 (0.000)	-0.008* (0.004)	-0.010* (0.006)
<b>Panel B -- Secular School Attendance Change</b>				
Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure Change	0.000 (0.001)	-0.000 (0.001)	-0.005 (0.008)	0.007 (0.012)
IV	N	N	Both	Both
Controls	N	Y	N	Y
Fixed Effects	N	Village	N	Village

Standard errors are in parantheses. Control variables are Household Head and Household Characteristics listed in Table 2. Islamic school attendance is defined as the number of children households send to Islamic schools. Only households with children attending school before the crisis are included in the sample. Secular school attendance is defined similarly.

Table 6--Impact of Economic Distress on Other Activities (2SLS)

1998 August	Social Activities Participation Change in Past 3 Months (Increase +1/Same 0/Decrease -1)						
	Koran study Pengajian	Sports	Burial Society	Club for Learning Skills	Training for Women	10 Helps for Housing	Savings Club Tea Parties
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
	OLS	OLS	OLS	OLS	OLS	OLS	OLS
Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure Change	-0.0003 (0.0003)	-0.0001 (0.0002)	-0.0000 (0.0002)	0.0001 (0.0002)	0.0001 (0.0002)	0.0001 (0.0002)	0.0004* (0.0002)
	IV	IV	IV	IV	IV	IV	IV
Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure Change	-0.0207** (0.0091)	-0.0064 (0.0048)	-0.0060 (0.0055)	-0.0001 (0.0039)	-0.0009 (0.0051)	-0.0012 (0.0046)	-0.0043 (0.0052)
Mean Change	0.003	-0.043	-0.021	-0.032	-0.052	-0.037	-0.028
Controls	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Fixed Effects	Village	Village	Village	Village	Village	Village	Village
Cost	free/donation	fee	fee	small fee	usually free	free	free
% Available	no information	92%	no information	83%	96%	no information	no information
Islamic Chapels % Available	71%						
Mosques % Available	82%						

OLS and IV specifications include all controls and village fixed effects. Instruments are wetland ownership and government occupation. Control variables are Household Head and Household Characteristics listed in Table 2.

Table 7--Reduced Form Relationship between Instruments and Labor Supply Change

1997 May, 1998 August	Average Household Hours Worked/Week				
	OLS (1)	OLS (2)	OLS (3)	OLS (4)	OLS (5)
Wetland * Post	-0.95** (0.39)	-0.93** (0.39)			-0.92** (0.39)
Government * Post			3.19*** (0.81)	-1.13 (1.06)	-1.09 (1.06)
Post	21.21*** (0.21)	14.99*** (2.22)	20.83*** (0.21)	15.40*** (2.22)	15.00*** (2.22)
Controls	N	Y	N	Y	Y
Fixed Effects	Household	Household	Household	Household	Household

Control variables are interactions of a dummy for post-crisis with the previous controls, Household Head and Household Characteristics and Village Fixed Effects, listed in Table 2. Standard errors are in parantheses.

Table 8--Evidence Suggesting Religious Intensity Functions as Social Insurance: Credit

	Pengajian Change in Past 3 Months (Aug 1998)		
	IV (1)	IV (2)	IV (3)
Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure Change	-0.018*** (0.007)	-0.037*** (0.014)	-0.035* (0.020)
Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure Change * Credit Availability	0.021*** (0.008)	0.030** (0.013)	0.032* (0.019)
Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure Change * Number Shops Per 1000 Pop			0.037 (0.066)
Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure Change * Urban			-0.013 (0.025)
Controls	N	Y	Y
Fixed Effects	N	Village	Village

Standard errors are in parentheses.

Instruments are wetland ownership, government, and their interaction with credit availability.

Credit Availability is defined as having a Bank, Microfinance, or BRI Loan Product available in Village.

Control variables are Household Head and Household Characteristics listed in Table 2.

Appendix Table A--Descriptive Statistics

<b>Household Summary Statistics</b>		<b>Village Summary Statistics</b>	
Percentage Own Wetland	31%	Standard Deviation of Village Consumption Shock during Crisis (Aug 1998 - May 1997)	11.42 (1.56)
Percentage Own Dryland	66%	Standard Deviation of Village Consumption Shock Non-Crisis (May 1999 - Dec 1998)	9.22 (2.16)
Percentage in Farming	66%	Total Worship Buildings Per 1000 Pop	3.83 (0.28)
Wetland Ownership (Hectares)	0.17 (0.01)	Religious Schools per 1000 Pop	0.12 (0.04)
Dryland Ownership (Hectares)	0.72 (0.01)	Seminaries per 1000 Pop	0.01 (0.01)
Surname Indicates Haj Pilgrimage	1.0%	% Pengajian Participation in Village, August 1998	0.61 (0.03)
Number of Children attending Islamic School	0.15 (0.01)	Credit Available	0.34 (0.05)
Monthly Per-Capita Food Expenditure, May 1997	14.6 (0.1)	Number Shops Per 1000 Pop	0.07 (0.03)
Monthly Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure, May 1997	7.3 (0.2)	Urban	0.20 (0.04)
Household Size	4.16 (0.02)	1996-1997 INPRES Funds in \$/1000 Pop	0.91 (0.09)
Government worker	6%		
Service Worker	10%		
N	8140	N	99

**Crisis Summary Statistics**

	1998 Aug	1998 Dec	1999 May	1999 Aug
Monthly Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure, Change	-4.7 (0.2)	1.1 (0.2)	-0.1 (0.2)	0.2 (0.2)
Pengajian Participation Rate	61%	unavail.	67%	71%
Pengajian Increase in Last 3 Months	9%	unavail.	7%	7%
Pengajian Decrease in Last 3 Months	9%	unavail.	10%	11%

Appendix Table B--Correlation of Instruments and Pre-Crisis Religious Intensity

	Wetland (ha)	Dryland (ha)	Government	Service
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
<b>Panel A: Household Religious Intensity</b>				
Surname Indicates Haj Pilgrimage	0.001 (0.002)	0.006*** (0.001)	-0.003 (0.007)	-0.011*** (0.004)
Number of Children Attending Islamic School	0.013 (0.016)	0.007 (0.005)	-0.007 (0.036)	-0.021 (0.021)
Number of Adults who Attended Islamic School	0.021** (0.010)	0.010*** (0.004)	-0.039 (0.025)	-0.009 (0.015)
Controls	Y	Y	Y	Y
Fixed Effects	Village	Village	Village	Village
<b>Panel B: Village Religious Intensity</b>				
Mosques in Village Per 1000 Pop	0.036 (0.050)	0.039* (0.020)	0.172* (0.095)	0.028 (0.059)
Islamic Chapels Per 1000 Pop	-0.079 (0.145)	0.033 (0.065)	-0.136 (0.278)	0.112 (0.172)
Churches Per 1000 Pop	0.156 (0.110)	-0.009 (0.013)	-0.109 (0.067)	-0.032 (0.037)
Hindu Temples Per 1000 Pop	0.012* (0.007)	0.001 (0.002)	-0.004 (0.018)	-0.007 (0.006)
Buddhist Temples Per 1000 Pop	-0.002 (0.001)	0.001 (0.001)	-0.004 (0.006)	-0.004 (0.004)
Islamic Boarding Schools Per 1000 Pop	0.002 (0.009)	0.006 (0.004)	0.018 (0.020)	0.004 (0.012)
Religious Schools Per 1000 Pop	0.019 (0.024)	0.002 (0.008)	-0.021 (0.031)	0.034** (0.016)
Seminaries Per 1000 Pop	-0.002 (0.002)	0.002 (0.002)	0.004 (0.005)	0.006 (0.005)
Controls	Y	Y	Y	Y
Fixed Effects	Province	Province	Province	Province

Each coefficient represents separate OLS regressions on instrument, conditional on controls and fixed effects.

Standard errors in parentheses. All controls are pre-crisis May 1997 values.

Controls in Panel A are Household Head and Household Characteristics listed below.

Controls in Panel B are Household Head, Household, Village, Geography, and Fiscal Characteristics listed below. Measures in Panel B are collected at the village level so the corresponding regressions control for village-level clustering and have province fixed effects.

Household Head Characteristics -- Age, Years of Education (8 = graduated), Gender, Ever-Married, Literate, Follows Media (tv or radio)

Household Characteristics -- Household Size, Modernity (Index of Stove, Radio, TV, Fridge, Satellite Dish, Motorbike, Car),

Farming Dummy, Service Dummy, Dryland Ownership (ha), Pre-Crisis Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditure

Column 2 controls for Wetland Ownership (ha) instead of Dryland Ownership (ha). Ha: hectares

Village Characteristics -- Urban, Population, Size, Number of Shops, Mean Pre-Crisis Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditures

Geography Characteristics -- Flat, Steep, Beach, Forest, Valley, River

Fiscal Characteristics -- 1996-1997 INPRES Funds Per 1000 Pop for Economic Activity, Building and Facilities, Offices and Institutions, Human Resources, and IDT funds

Appendix Table C--Evidence Suggesting Religious Intensity Functions as Social Insurance: Consumption Smoothing Among Villagers

	Change in Standard Deviation of Consumption Shock			
	OLS (1)	OLS (2)	OLS (3)	OLS (4)
Wetland Gini	18.08** (7.97)	40.58*** (12.85)	24.35*** (8.43)	13.59 (18.18)
Wetland Gini * Worship Buildings per 1000 pop		-7.47** (3.75)		-7.53* (3.81)
Wetland Gini * 1996-97 INPRES Funds \$/1000 pop				7.25 (12.35)
Wetland Gini * Credit Availability				66.45*** (18.70)
Village, Geographic Controls	N	N	Y	Y
Fixed Effects	N	N	Province	Province

Village-level regressions. Controls are Village and Geographic characteristics listed below.

Wetland Gini refers to Gini Coefficient of Wetland Ownership.

Change in Standard Deviation of Consumption Shock is computed by considering the per-capita nonfood consumption expenditure shock households received between two periods over the crisis, and taking the standard deviation of those household shocks for each village.

Then the same standard deviation of consumption shocks is computed for two periods without an intervening crisis, the periods used for the Post Experiment earlier in the paper. The difference between the Crisis standard deviation and the non-Crisis standard deviation is the variable of interest. Standard deviation captures consumption smoothing in a village. Differencing addresses potential fixed omitted variables associated with consumption smoothing. Columns 1 and 3 show that Wetland Gini is strongly associated with a larger standard deviation of consumption shocks during the crisis. Columns 2 and 4 display the coefficients of interest.

Village Characteristics -- Urban, Population, Size, Number of Shops Per 1000 Pop, Mean Pre-Crisis Per-Capita Non-Food Expenditures

Geography Characteristics -- Flat, Steep, Beach, Forest, Valley, River