The Indonesian National Program for Community Empowerment (PNPM)-Rural: Decentralization in the context of Neoliberalism and World Bank policies

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1. Indonesia’s PNPM Rural is a neoliberal project in the shape of poverty reduction and community empowerment (*This thesis*).

2. Institutional reform as part of neoliberal PNPM has led to power struggles at the national, district and village level (*This thesis*).

3. Institutional reform resulting from PNPM has opened a bigger space for elite capture at the village level (*This thesis*).

4. The facilitator plays a vital role in programs like PNPM (*This thesis*).

5. Decentralization in Indonesia has created opportunities for the predatory bureaucracy to hijack the implementation of PNPM (*This thesis*).

6. Infrastructure is the most dominant type of project in Indonesian rural development.

7. After more than twenty-years of reformation, Indonesia has hardly escaped from predatory politics.

8. The role of *musyawarah* as a public meeting space is vital for Indonesian development projects.

9. The village head continues to play a central role and to wield great power in Javanese society.

10. Due to the hierarchical and patriarchal social structure, women are still marginalized in Javanese society.

11. You never know whether Indonesian people are happy or sad because they are always smiling.