

Political Participation of Beginner Voters in the 2020 Regional Head Election in Binjai City

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ABSTRACT

The level of political participation of beginners is worth knowing, given that the votes of novice voters can determine in an election, especially in the election of the Mayor of Binjai. All citizens of the city have the right to participate in the excitement of the mayoral election provided that they meet the requirements as novice voters in the election. Currently, the age of students in eleven (11) and twelve (12) high schools, whose age ranges from seventeen (17) to eighteen (18) years, has entered the category of novice voters in the mayoral election in accordance with the rules in Law (UU) No.1 of 2015 concerning the Stipulation of Government Regulations in Lieu of Law No.1 of 2014 concerning the Election of Governors, Regents and Mayors, become Laws. Beginner voters become the target of election contestants, both from political parties and personal, including their supporters. Beginner voters are highly influenced and will make other friends. A high sense of participation encourages novice voters to consider a necessity in voting in the General Election or Pilkada. This is their reason because it will be the first experience in their life in the people's democratic party.

ABSTRAK

Tingkat partisipasi politik pemula patut untuk diketahui, mengingat suara pemilih pemula dapat menentukan dalam suatu pemilu, khususnya pada pemilihan Walikota Binjai. Seluruh warga kota berhak mengikuti kemeriahan pemilihan walikota asalkan memenuhi syarat sebagai pemilih pemula dalam pemilihan tersebut. Saat ini usia siswa di SMA sebelas (11) dan dua belas (12) yang rentang usianya antara tujuh belas (17) sampai dengan delapan belas (18) tahun, sudah masuk kategori pemilih pemula dalam pemilihan walikota sesuai aturan. dalam Undang-Undang (UU) Nomor 1 Tahun 2015 tentang Penetapan Peraturan Pemerintah Pengganti Undang-Undang Nomor 1 Tahun 2014 tentang Pemilihan Gubernur, Bupati dan Walikota, menjadi Undang-Undang. Pemilih pemula menjadi incaran para kontestan pemilu, baik dari partai politik maupun pribadi, termasuk pendukungnya. Pemilih pemula sangat terpengaruh dan akan berteman dengan orang lain. Rasa partisipasi yang tinggi mendorong pemilih pemula untuk mempertimbangkan suatu keharusan dalam memilih dalam Pemilihan Umum atau Pilkada. Ini alasan mereka karena ini akan menjadi pengalaman pertama dalam hidup mereka di pesta demokrasi rakyat.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Political participation is an important part of a democratic state order and is a hallmark of political equality. Indonesia is one of the countries included in the category of a democratic country.

Participation is closely related to the existence of democratic relations, of course in terms of general elections or regional elections. Political participation is basically an activity carried out by citizens to be involved in the decision-making process with the aim of influencing decision-making by the government.

Political participation is the participation of ordinary citizens (who do not have the authority) in influencing the process of making and implementing political decisions. According to Miriam Budiardjo, political participation is the activity of a person or group of people to participate directly or indirectly in influencing government policies. Meanwhile, according to Kevin R. Hardwick in Deden Faturohman's book explains that political participation pays attention to the ways citizens interact with the government, conveying their interests to public officials in order to realize these interests.

Elections in Indonesia are a tangible manifestation of democracy and are a means for the people to declare their sovereignty over the State and government. Elections are based on Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia. Elections are held on the principle of direct public, free, confidential, honest and fair in the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia (NKRI). Political participation in a democratic state is an indicator of the implementation of the implementation of the highest state power from the people (sovereignty of the people) which is manifested through their involvement in the general election democratic party (Pemilu).

Elections can be regarded as one of the means of democracy and a form of embodiment of people's sovereignty to produce people's representatives and leaders who are aspirational, qualified, and responsible for the welfare of the people. A very interesting category of voter group to observe and study is the novice voters. Beginner voters are voters who will cast their ballot for the first time in an election.

Most of the novice voters are still students from the equivalent high school level or college students, so problems related to novice voters need to be taken care of or guarded more seriously. This is because they are considered the most at risk of negative influences, so that in their selection they must be very careful not to be underestimated, a more tangible approach must be taken.

Law No. 8 of 2015 concerning Amendments to Law No. 1 of 2015 concerning Stipulation of Government Regulations in Lieu of Law No. 1 of 2014 concerning the Election of Governors, Regents and Mayors into Law in Article 1 paragraph (6) states that voters are residents who are at least the age of majority. 17 (seventeen) years old or have/ever been married and registered in the election.

Participating in the process of organizing a democratic party is very important, because the leader who is elected in a democratic party will determine the fate of the people in the area where they are elected. Therefore, it is very unfortunate if in the implementation of the election many people do not want to vote so that their voting rights or voting rights are not used.

II. RESEARCH METHODS

Methodology is a way of doing something by using the mind carefully to achieve a goal. While research is an activity to find, record, formulate to analyze and compile the report. The type of research used is normative legal research with data processing carried out qualitatively, because normative legal research is based on existing regulations as well as positive legal norms. As a tool to analyze this research, two approaches were used (approach), namely the statutory approach and the comparative approach. The use of the two approaches in this research is to complement one another.

III. DISCUSSION RESULTS

It has become a common thing before the General Election (Election) or Regional Head Election (Pilkada) one of the themes or topics of discussion is the beginner voters. Beginner voters are

Indonesian citizens (WNI) who on election day or voting are Indonesian citizens who have reached the age of seventeen (17) or more. Or have/have been married who have the right to vote, and previously did not include voters because of the provisions of the election law. It has become a common thing before the general election or regional head election, one of the themes or topics of discussion is beginner voters.

In general, novice voters do not have adequate political literacy. The novice voters have high enthusiasm while the unanswered choice decisions actually place the novice voters as the real swing voters. Swing voters is a term for rational voters who can change their choices according to certain ideas or ideas. The dynamics of Indonesian democracy in the digital era are like two sides of a coin for swing voters, which can have positive and negative impacts.

The majority of swing voters are millennials who access the internet a lot, for that the millennial generation must be smart and wise in responding to information circulating on the internet. The digital era can make it easier to find information for reference for swing voters, but too noisy in the virtual world by negative content can make swing voters feel bored/bored and in the end they abstain or do not use their voting rights during elections or local elections.

The level of beginner political participation needs to be known considering that the votes of novice voters are very decisive in a general election and regional head election, especially the election of the mayor of Binjai. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the General Elections Commission (KPU) finally issued a KPU Decree Number 179/PL.02-kpt/KPU/III/2020 which among other things regulates the postponement of several stages of the 2020 regional elections, including the inauguration and the working period of the Committee. Voting (PPS), verification of support requirements for individual candidates, formation of Voter Data Update Officer (PPDP) and implementation of Matching and Research (Coklit), as well as updating and compiling voter lists. The postponement of several stages of the pilkada above can cause various impacts in its implementation, both positive and negative. The positive impact, for example, can provide space for independent candidates to prepare support requirements as individual candidates. Political parties can also experience relative relaxation in the process of recruiting regional head candidates. While the negative impact is on the recruitment of ad hoc officers for regional head elections. The impact could be that recruitment will be postponed and the performance of ad hoc officers temporarily suspended and no honorarium will be given because the task has not been carried out. The consequences of the postponement of the simultaneous local elections in 9 provinces, 224 regencies and 37 cities also have an impact on the budget that has been disbursed and the condition of human resources (HR) of the administration. Political parties can also experience relative relaxation in the process of recruiting regional head candidates. While the negative impact is on the recruitment of ad hoc officers for regional head elections. The impact could be that recruitment will be postponed and the performance of ad hoc officers temporarily suspended and no honorarium will be given because the task has not been carried out. The consequences of the postponement of the simultaneous local elections in 9 provinces, 224 regencies and 37 cities also have an impact on the budget that has been disbursed and the condition of human resources (HR) of the administration. Political parties can also experience relative relaxation in the process of recruiting regional head candidates. While the negative impact is on the recruitment of ad hoc officers for regional head elections. The impact could be that recruitment will be postponed and the performance of ad hoc officers temporarily suspended and no honorarium will be given because the task has not been carried out. The consequences of the postponement of the simultaneous local elections in 9 provinces, 224 regencies and 37 cities also have an impact on the budget that has been disbursed and the condition of human resources (HR) of the administration. The impact could be that recruitment will be postponed and the performance of ad hoc officers temporarily suspended and no honorarium will be given because the task has not been carried out. The consequences of the postponement of the simultaneous local elections in 9 provinces, 224 regencies and 37 cities also have an impact on the budget that has been disbursed and the condition of

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Elections are held to realize people's sovereignty, elections are carried out by adhering to the principles of direct, general, free, secret, honest and fair. Direct means free to directly vote without intermediaries. General means that all citizens who meet the requirements are entitled to vote in elections. Free means that every citizen has the right to choose freely to make his choice without pressure from anyone. Confidentiality means that the voter's vote in the ballot is guaranteed not to be known by any party in any way. This principle of secrecy no longer applies to voters who have left the polling station voluntarily willing to disclose their choice to any party. Honest means in the implementation of elections/implementation of the government, political parties, election participants, election supervisors and observers, voters and all parties involved must be honest in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. Fair means that every election organizer, voter and political party, election participant is treated equally, free from fraud by any party.

The legal basis for political participation for novice voters in Indonesia is guaranteed by the State, as stated in Article 28 of the 1945 Constitution, namely; Freedom of association and assembly, expressing thoughts verbally and so on is stipulated by law. Law No. 12 of 2005 concerning the guarantee of civil and political rights, namely the points of rights that must be protected by the State regarding the right to opinion, the right to associate, the right to vote and be elected, equal rights before the law and government, the right to get justice. Public participation in general elections is an example of political participation in Indonesia that reflects the value of freedom, namely that people are given full freedom to choose and support the desired candidate. based on the 1945 Constitution Article 1 paragraph (2) that those who exercise sovereignty are the representatives of the people who are determined by the people. Therefore, to determine who will be authorized to represent the people, a general election is held by electing people's representatives and one of the services of citizens' human rights in the political field.

The results of the plenary meeting held by the General Election Commission (KPU) of Binjai City, it was agreed that the Permanent Voters List (DPT) for the 2020 Regional Head Election was 179,560 people. There are 3 (three) candidates in the election for the mayor of Binjai. The meeting was attended by the Election Supervisory Body, the Population and Civil Registry Office, the Penitentiary and the liaison team of the three candidates. From the meeting, it was agreed that the number of DPT in Binjai City was 179,560 voters in 37 urban villages. This number increased, when it was still in the status of the Temporary Voter List, the results of the improvement were 178,609 voters.

There are 475 polling stations (TPS). Details of the DPT, Binjai City as many as 20,316 voters (9,771 men and 10,545 women), West Binjai as many as 31,484 voters (15,714 men and 15,770 women), East Binjai with 38,800 voters (18,586 men and 20,214 women), South Binjai with 35,152 voters (17,072 men and 20,214 women). 18,080 women) and North Binjai as many as 53,808 voters (26,056 men and 27,752 women) so that the number of DPT in Binjai City was 179,560 with details more women with 92,361 voters and 87,199 male voters.

Political participation is a form of participation of all ordinary citizens who do not have the authority or position in determining the political implementation process that involves and influences them in participating, especially for novice voters.

CONCLUSION

Political participation is an important aspect in democracy because political decisions taken by the government will involve and affect people's lives. The public has the right to participate in determining the content of these political decisions. Elections are one of the most basic human

rights, because it is a must for the government to implement them. In accordance with the principle that the sovereign people must be returned to the people to determine it.

The novice voter groups are usually those who are students, students, and young workers. Novice voters in democratic rituals (legislative elections, presidential elections, etc.) who have been the object of political activity, namely those who still need guidance and development towards the growth of their potential and abilities to an optimal level so that they can play a role in the political field in the coming year.

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