

Factors of Political Participation of Beginner Voters Not Using Their Voting Rights in Elections in West Java

Arnia Fajarwati¹, Elvira Aprilla Anzani², Dian Susanti³, Alfian Ali Muhtadi⁴, Annisa⁵, Elin Nuryani⁶, Gema Sunda Gania⁷, Khailla Tavana Faisa⁸, Muhammad Luthfi Gunardie⁹, Risa Sophiana¹⁰

Ilmu Pemerintahan, Fakultas Ilmu Sosial dan Ilmu Politik, Universitas Langlangbuana

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Abstract

This study aims to examine the factors that influence the political participation of novice voters not using their voting rights in elections in West Java. The method used in this research is to use a qualitative approach, namely the descriptive method. This research will provide an opportunity for subjects (first-time voters) to answer the questions asked according to their own experiences, and not based on the benchmark answers that have been made by researchers. This means that first-time voters behave and act in such a way as to feel free to use their knowledge and experience of the topics offered. The conclusion of this research is that there are several factors that encourage students of Langlangbuana University to use their voting rights during elections. Some of the factors found are factors of political stimulation, in order to realize the importance of using voting rights. Then the second factor is the factor of the characteristics of the person, because those with a social character who have great social concern for social, political, economic, socio-cultural, and defense problems, usually want to be involved in political activities. The third is the factor of the social environment, and the last is the factor of political education that novice voters get. Most of the students of Langlangbuana University already have care and awareness about the importance of their voting rights in the election, and have desires and hopes for the people they will choose as leaders in this country.

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Corresponding Author:

Elin Nuryani

Ilmu pemerintahan, Universitas Langlangbuana

Email: elinrnryny@gmail.com

1. INTRODUCTION

To understand the meaning of elections today, etymologically elections represent one of the characteristics of a democratic country. The word democracy comes from the Greek demos which means people and Kratos or Kratein which means power or government. In simple terms, many people say that democracy means being governed by the people, ruling by the people, or governing. Democracy means a government led by the people directly or indirectly (through representatives) through direct, universal, free, secret, fair and equal elections. Popular: Abraham

General elections are a political means of carrying out the will of the people in connection with the election of their representatives in the legislative body, as well as the election of people who exercise executive power, whether president, vice president or regional leaders in a country. democratic context. Condition. instruments to guarantee the basic political rights of citizens. Therefore, general elections have the following importance:

- 1) Support or change the staff of the legislative body
- 2) Determining the support of the majority of society for the appointment of a person to exercise executive power for a certain period of time.
- 3) The people, through their representatives, can periodically correct or review executive power.

Of course, political participation does not only come from individuals but is included in a forum called a political party. It cannot be denied that they have had different political interests since the first election in Indonesia. These political interests are pursued by

individuals who are members of political parties. Political parties as pillars of democracy function as a forum for selecting leaders of the national political system at both national and regional levels. The experience of a series of events aimed at electing leaders at the national and regional levels through elections confirms the success of political parties as pillars of democracy. Based on this description, we can conclude that the national political system is gradually becoming more in harmony with the structure of national and state life, including the structure of political parties.

Elections that are considered a democratic party can actually bring their own losses in political dynamics, because the party's interests are actually more expressed than the party itself carrying out its functions as intended in the law. 11 paragraph 1 of Law Number 2 of 2008 concerning Political Parties. First, elections are a political education tool. In fact, election situations involving people who lack information make people choose only using their feelings, thus making people easy targets for direct political practices where their participation in the election is the result of political collusion in the form of distributing money to the people. various party cadres in order to get seats in the elections. This is an unhealthy policy. According to Law no. 28 of the 28 articles mentioned above, people with sound policies are able to play an active role in every political development of the country in a fair and reasonable manner, without any political interests. an instrument that allows an elite group to advance its own interests. It is not surprising that political participation today is pragmatic. The political participation required in this bill is generally healthy and intelligent political participation.

Unhealthy political education also creates obstacles in eradicating corruption, which if you pay attention is the main election slogan. Elections that are characterized by unhealthy political education processes inevitably become expensive elections. The next obstacle is the repatriation of capital from private pockets into the country. development process after the election is over.

Elections are an instrument of popular sovereignty for the election of members of the DPR, DPD, president and vice president as well as members of the DPRD, which takes place directly, publicly, freely, secretly, fairly and honestly in a unitary state. Republic. Indonesia is based on Pancasila and the Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia. Meanwhile, regional elections are basically the same as presidential elections. Both were held to elect leaders directly. Regional elections are held to elect regional heads. These regional heads include the Governor-deputy governor, the Regent-deputy regent, and the mayor-deputy mayor. Regional elections are held within a certain scope.

Elections and local elections take place every five years in Indonesia. To give students a better understanding of the election and regional election process, this is taught in elementary schools. Even if they can't choose, at least they know and understand it. What are elections and local elections, then after 17 years they already have basic knowledge, so they just have to practice it.

To take part in elections and local elections, you must meet the following requirements: Indonesian citizen, over 17 years old or married, in good physical and mental health, and not currently facing a criminal case. The implementation of elections includes several stages, namely: voter registration, registration of election participants, identification of election participants, implementation of the election campaign, and voting and counting of votes. From the conditions above, it is clear that the election participants have been identified, but there are still people who cannot take part in the election or are called "Abstentions". Golput or White groups always identify themselves as indifferent, apathetic or less interested in the political situation and ultimately decide not to go to the polling station to vote.

The term abstention became popular as the 1971 elections approached. On an afternoon, Thursday 3 June 1971, a group of students, youths and pupils roared at Balai Budaya Jakarta. They proclaimed the founding of the "White Party" as a moral movement. Among the figures who became the motor of this movement, such as Adnan Buyung Nasution and Arief Budiman. The number of abstentions in the 2019 election was among the lowest compared to the previous election since 2004.

The Central Statistics Agency noted that the number of people who abstained in 2019 was 34.75 million or around 18.02 percent of the total registered voters. Meanwhile, in 2014, the number of abstainers was 58.61 million people or 30.22 percent. In the 2024 election, registered voters are dominated by young voters. Based on KPU data, there are 56.4 percent of young voters eligible for the 2024 election, which means they have exceeded half of the total Permanent Voter List (DPT).

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses a descriptive method with a qualitative approach. This research provides the opportunity for respondents (first voters) to answer questions based on their own experiences, not based on standard answers made by researchers. This means that new voters behave and behave in such a way that they can freely use their knowledge and experience in the proposed topic area.

Based on this, researchers will use different strategies in this research. First, the data collected is soft data, namely data that details the background of new students at Langlangbuana University. This data is collected at other locations or during conversations. Second, all data obtained was then analyzed without using a static thinking framework. Third, research questions are not structured based on operational variables but are formulated to explore all the complexities that exist in the context of this research. Fourth, although the researcher used focus groups to collect voter data for the first time, he failed to address the problem by using hypothetical questions. Fifth, this research collects data through direct contact with new voters or other informants who are considered important in the research. Sixth, the data collection methods used include participant observation and in-depth interviews, but other techniques are also permitted.

To implement this strategy, research uses descriptive methods, meaning that the data collected is generally in the form of words, images and not numbers. In conducting this research, researchers will describe situations or events related to the participation of first-time voters at Langlangbuana University. The aim is to carry out systematic, comprehensive and accurate research, taking into account the facts and characteristics of the research object being observed.

This descriptive method is a type of qualitative approach and is not an experiment. Therefore, the research carried out does not require medication management and control and is not intended to test certain hypotheses, but only explain what is true about variables, symptoms, or conditions. Then Gay and Diehl stated that "descriptive research involves collecting data to test hypotheses or answer questions in a study." Descriptive research can be used to answer research questions for which there is no hypothesis. Thanks to knowledge or information about the symptoms observed in this research, the problem can be explained: what, who, when, where and how.

3. RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In discussing the research findings in this chapter, the researcher explains the identification of beginners carried out on students at Langlangbuana University, Bandung. Data was collected using research tools, secondary studies and fieldwork, including direct observation and interviews. The first approach focuses on the extent to which people accept

political incentives, and in this case their influence has a major impact on who becomes a voter. Anyone who actively participates in political events will understand media events better and be more open to them. Which in turn can sensitize and sensitize new voters to participate in political activities. In this case, interest in participating, for example, is influenced by the fact that one often participates in political discussions through the media or through formal or informal discussions. Most of the first-time voters at Langlangbuana University have received political incentives that can motivate them to exercise their right to vote.

The second approach emphasizes a person's idiosyncratic approach as far as their knowledge of political issues related to elections. In other words, someone who is actively involved in current issues and at the same time follows the information circulating about the election. Social communities who have a strong interest in social, political, economic, socio-cultural, defense and security issues generally want to get involved in the world of politics. The number of new voters at Langlangbuana University has different characteristics, but even though they are different, many new voters at Langlangbuana University are concerned and aware of their political rights as members of society.

The third approach focuses on approaching the characteristics of the social environment, but the social environment also influences people's perceptions, attitudes and behavior in the political realm. That's why they want to participate in politics. A supportive political situation or environment is one of the factors that determines political participation. A conducive political environment will encourage people to participate in politics. In a democratic political environment, people feel more comfortable and can participate in political activities more freely than in an authoritarian political environment. The political environment, which is often characterized by acts of violence and violence, of course keeps people away from the world of politics. At Langlangbuana University, almost all resource fields contribute to ensuring that everyone, including resource workers, can participate in elections.

The fourth approach emphasizes the education policy approach to political participation. Civic education is very important for society, especially for new voters, because new voters are the nation's next generation. The political education of the community, including new voters, can be seen from their political activities and can also be seen from their activities as administrators of political party members. Many new voters at Langlangbuana University received political education at school, university and in their home environment, which made them feel called to participate in the election.

Based on the results of research regarding the political participation factors of beginners who do not use their voting rights in elections in West Java, several factors can be identified that motivate Langlangbuana University students to use their voting rights in elections. Various factors, particularly political incentives, have been identified to increase awareness of the importance of exercising the right to vote. Interest in participating, for example, is influenced by frequently participating in political discussions through the media or in formal or informal discussions. The second factor then is the human nature factor, because people who have social tendencies and show high social interest in social, political economy, socio-cultural, defense and security issues usually want to participate in political activities. Third, factors related to the social environment and finally factors related to the political education received by beginners. Most Langlangbuana University students are aware of the importance of their right to vote and have desires and hopes for the person they choose to lead this country.

4. CONCLUSION

In discussing the research findings in this chapter, the researcher explains the identification of beginners carried out on students at Langlangbuana University, Bandung. The first approach focuses on the extent to which people accept political incentives, and in this case their influence has a major impact on who becomes a voter. The second approach emphasizes the special attitude of someone who has extensive knowledge of political issues related to the electoral process. New Voters at Langlangbuana University have different characteristics, but because of these differences, many New Voters at Langlangbuana University care about their political rights and are aware of their political rights as citizens. The third approach focuses on approaching the characteristics of the social environment, but the social environment also influences people's perceptions, attitudes and behavior in the political realm. New voters at Langlangbuana University have different social and personal characteristics, but because of these differences, many new voters at Langlangbuana University are aware of their political rights and role as members of society. Many new voters at Langlangbuana University have received political training at school, university or at home, which requires participation in elections.

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