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# The Importance of Tax Education for the Community

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#### Abstrak

The significance of assess instruction for the community is one of the keys to victory in expanding assess mindfulness and citizen compliance. This article talks about the part of assess instruction as a key instrument to extend understanding of assess commitments and assess benefits for national advancement. The creator analyzes variables that impact the open understanding of tax collection, calculating negligible data, negligible proceeding instruction programs, and negative discernments of tax collection. In expansion, this article highlights the significance of collaboration between the government, educational education, and the media in dispersing compelling and easy-to-understand charge instruction to all levels of society. The most discoveries appear that organized charge instruction makes strides tax compliance, makes clarity, and increases open trust within the government. In this manner, making strides charge instruction programs is useful for the government not as it were in optimizing charge incomes but moreover in understanding the part of the community as citizens. In brief, comprehensive and ceaseless charge instruction is the most established for a reasonable, successful, and economical charge framework.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Tax is one of the sources of state revenue that plays an important role in supporting the progress and welfare of society. However, there are still many people who do not understand the importance of taxes and their obligations as citizens. This low tax awareness is caused by several factors, such as low educational capacity, limited access to information, and low recognition of the tax system. Various previous studies have shown that poorly organized tax education programs often fail to advance education and public welfare.

Various efforts have been made to address this issue, such as tax awareness campaigns and the integration of tax materials into formal education programs. However, these efforts still have limitations, including not being evenly distributed to all levels of society, being less effective in delivering complex materials, and minimal cooperation between related parties. Therefore, a more comprehensive, holistic, and feasible approach is needed to ensure a comprehensive understanding of taxes.

This reflection discusses points to investigate the importance of assessment instructions as an implication of increasing open awareness and adherence to assessment commitments. The strategies used in this reflection include writing investigations related to assessment instructions and assessments of various programs that have been implemented, to provide more effective solutions that can be widely actualized.

## 2. RESEARCH METHOD

This study uses a subjective graphic strategy with a case study approach to see the significance of cost instructions for the community. Information is collected through indepth interviews and surveys given to respondents selected with purposeful testing based on age, occupation, and education level criteria. Information investigations are conducted using a subjective expressive approach, where the results of interviews and surveys are analyzed to investigate the community's understanding of costs and the influence of cost instructions on their awareness. The triangulation method is used to ensure the validity of information by comparing results from various sources, such as interviews, surveys, and writings that are considered related to costs.

## 3. RESEARCH RESULT AND DISCUSSION

# Public Understanding of Taxes and Tax Obligations Applicable in This Country

Taxes can be an obligation that must be paid by the community to support the implementation of the state without getting a commensurate reward. Although taxes play an important role in supporting development, the understanding of Indonesian people about taxes is still very lacking. This is caused by various factors, ranging from the need for information about types of taxes, tax methods, to awareness of the importance of taxes for national development. One indicator of this lack of understanding is that there are still many people who are reluctant to pay taxes or do not even know their obligations as taxpayers.

Tax training is one effective way to improve public understanding. With a better understanding of taxes, people will be more aware of their obligations as citizens. This tax training can be done through various channels, such as tax counseling, mass media, and print media. Based on Law Number 28 of 2007 concerning General Provisions and Tax Procedures, tax training is expected to provide the public with an understanding of the importance of taxes for national development and how to fulfill tax obligations properly.

The government has a very crucial role in expanding public understanding of taxes. Through the Directorate General of Customs and Excise, the government organizes various education and socialization programs for the wider community, both through training, socialization, and through social media and mass media. In accordance with Law Number 28 of 2007 concerning General Provisions and Procedures for Customs and Excise, the government is obliged to provide the public with an understanding of tax rights and obligations and the right way to fulfill these obligations. The main objective of this movement is to foster public awareness and confidence in paying taxes.

Although the government has implemented various tax education programs, there are still many challenges to be faced in improving public understanding. One of them is the need for tax education in the community, especially in remote areas. Lack of access to information and limited education in some areas are major obstacles. In addition, negative perceptions of costs, such as the assumption that the costs charged are the same as the costs charged by the government for certain services, can also reduce the public's willingness to pay costs.

The low level of openness in understanding taxes can have a negative impact on the country's economy. When individuals do not carry out their obligations as citizens, the level of tax compliance will be low, which in turn will reduce state revenues from the tax sector. This has the potential to weaken the country's financial condition, especially in financing development programs and public services. In this context, Law Number 6 of 1983 concerning Joint Regulation and Tax Strategy states that tax obligations must be fulfilled by everyone fairly and justly, so that the country can achieve ideal national development goals.

In the future, efforts to realize openness in understanding taxes must involve various parties, including the government, the community, and the private sector. One effort that can be made is to strengthen education programs in schools and universities, so that the younger generation can gain an understanding of taxes from an early age. In addition, the government can utilize information technology to expand the reach of tax education, such as tax applications that can be accessed by all groups. In connection with the amendment to Law Number 11 of 2020 concerning Job Creation which also regulates the procedures for filling in, there needs to be an improvement in the assessment learning system so that it is more easily accessed and understood by the public.

## Factors Influencing the Low Level of Public Awareness of the Importance of Taxes

One of the variables that most influences open awareness of the importance of taxes is the social and community component. In Indonesia, a strong culture of mutual cooperation often leads to the emergence of the view that social obligations, such as paying taxes, are not something that is given serious attention. Many people focus more on coordinating social obligations, such as donations or assistance to neighbors and relatives, rather than seeing their obligations in a broader framework of obligations. In addition, some people also have the understanding that tax money is often misused by the government, which makes them reluctant to fulfill this obligation.

Another strong factor is the lack of comprehensive tax education in the community. Although the government has made various efforts to increase tax awareness, many people still do not have basic information about taxes, the types of taxes that exist, and how to pay taxes correctly. Education about the importance of taxes should start from the basic level, but in reality this has not been implemented optimally in many regions. This certainly hinders increasing public awareness of their tax obligations. The uncertainty and complexity of the assessment framework are other variables that make individuals less understanding and hesitant to pay contributions. Many individuals find it difficult to obtain a relevant assessment framework, especially for those with small or irregular salaries. The handling of complicated contribution organizations and the many prerequisites that must be met periodically have become obstacles for individuals to pay contributions on time. This will channel the image of contributions into the eyes of the public, which ultimately reduces their level of awareness.

Negative perceptions of the government also play a major role in the mood of assessing public awareness. Many individuals feel that the contributions they pay will not be used properly by the government, and there is even a suspicion that the contribution money will be misused or used for the personal interests of government officials. The need for clarity in the management of contribution savings by the government has encouraged the growth of awareness among the public. In cases that are usually not handled legally, the public will be more hesitant to pay contributions because they feel that their commitment does not have the same positive impact on their welfare.

The low level of education in most communities is also one of the factors that influences the low awareness of the importance of taxes. People who do not have adequate formal education tend not to have a good understanding of tax rights and obligations. Low education also makes them unable to access information about taxes, so they do not know how important taxes are for the progress of the nation. Therefore, to increase public awareness, there needs to be a better effort to increase the level of education of the community as a whole.

Most Indonesians work in the informal sector which is not included in the tax scheme. Because they do not have a fixed salary set by the state, they tend not to feel the need to pay taxes. Working in the informal sector is also often related to financial

problems, so many feel that paying taxes is not an important need. Furthermore, it is important to present a tax framework that is more accessible and realizable for workers in the informal sector so that they can also participate in national development through taxes. Limited access to information is also an obstacle in increasing awareness of paying taxes in the community. In remote areas, many people do not have adequate access to information about taxes. People in these areas often only know limited information and do not receive adequate counseling or socialization from the government or related agencies. Therefore, it is important for the government to utilize various communication media, such as radio, television, and the internet, to disseminate information more widely about the importance of taxes and how to carry out tax obligations properly.

Finally, the public's indifference to the benefits obtained from the levy is one of the factors that damages the awareness of paying the levy. Many people do not realize that the levy they pay is used to finance the development of systems, education, health, and other social programs. If the general public better understands how fees are used for the public interest, they may be more aware of the importance of paying fees. Therefore, an instructive campaign is needed that shows the real benefits of fees to change the public's understanding of fees.

## Factors Influencing the Low Level of Public Awareness of the Importance of Taxes

The Indonesian government has made various efforts to increase public awareness of the importance of taxes through tax education programs. These programs are usually organized by the Directorate General of Taxes through various channels, such as courses, workshops, socialization through mass media, and the use of electronic media. One approach to tax education that can be done is to organize tax education that teaches the public about tax rights and obligations. This program aims to provide an understanding to the public so that they better understand the important role of taxes in supporting national development and how to pay taxes properly.

The government also optimizes the use of social media and information technology in tax counseling. Sutrisno said that with the increasing development of information technology, tax counseling through media such as websites, applications, and social media can reach more people, especially the younger generation who are more active in the advanced world. Through tax applications and social media, people can easily obtain information about tax obligations, reporting methods, and the benefits of paying taxes. This is expected to increase public awareness of taxes, considering the increasing number of people who are connected to the internet and utilize technology in their daily lives.

However, although the government has implemented various tax education programs, there are still several obstacles that hinder their success. Rachmawati stated that one of the biggest challenges is the lack of public support for tax education programs. Many people are less interested or do not feel the relevance of tax courses because they do not see the benefits directly. In addition, several regions, especially remote areas, still need facilities or means to organize adequate tax education programs. Therefore, efforts need to be made to reach wider community groups, including in more remote areas.

However, some researchers see a positive impact from the tax education program implemented by the government. Hastuti and Ananda studied the impact of tax education programs on public awareness and found that people who participated in tax education programs had a higher level of understanding of their tax obligations. They also tended to be more likely to report taxes and comply with applicable provisions. Thus, the billing instruction program can increase the level of tax compliance and provide a positive commitment to state revenue from the tax segment.

Based on the results of the assessment conducted on the existing assessment learning program, Arianto proposed several improvements so that the assessment learning program can be more effective. One of them is to adjust the extension strategy according to the characteristics of the surrounding community, as well as expanding the use of innovation so that it can reach a wider community. Arianto also emphasized the importance of collaboration between the government, the private sector, and the community in creating an interesting and easy-to-understand learning activity. Through a more imaginative and participatory approach, the assessment learning program is expected to be more effective in expanding openness and compliance with the obligations imposed.

# Challenges Faced by the Community in Understanding and Carrying Out Tax Obligations

One of the biggest challenges faced by the community in understanding and carrying out their tax obligations is the need for information about the tax framework. Many individuals, especially those living in remote areas or working in the employment sector, do not understand the types of taxes that exist, how to calculate the taxes that must be paid, or even their obligations as citizens. The need for socialization or counseling on this matter causes them to feel confused or even not know how to fulfill their tax obligations. Therefore, expanding tax education among the community is very important so that they can legally assess their rights and obligations.

Another challenge that communities often face is the complexity of the very confusing collection strategy. Complicated authoritative forms, such as filling out collection forms and collection details, often become obstacles for communities to carry out their obligations. Especially for individuals who have uncertain livelihoods or jobs in the employment sector, they find it difficult to follow the relevant assessment method. This is often exacerbated by a lack of knowledge about how to get the right assessment administration, so they hesitate to report and pay their fees. Negative views on how the government monitors costs are also a major challenge. Many people feel that the costs they pay are not used directly and productively. They often hear news about the scope of cost retention by certain parties, which reduces public trust in the cost framework. This doubt makes many people hesitate to fulfill their assessment commitments, because they feel that there is no equal benefit that they will get from paying the fees. If the government cannot build clarity and accountability in the management of cost retention, this challenge will continue to be a barrier to expanding public cooperation in the cost framework.

For most individuals, especially those working in the informal sector or with an uncertain income, economic conditions are also an obstacle in understanding and implementing tax obligations. They often do not have a fixed salary, making it difficult to determine the amount of tax to be paid. In addition, the high cost of living and increasing economic growth make them focus more on daily needs than on tax obligations. Failure to pay taxes on time is often due to the financial burden faced by many individuals and families, causing them to neglect their tax obligations. The final challenge faced by the public in implementing their tax obligations is the need to obtain adequate data related to tax collection.

Many people, especially those living in remote areas or outside big cities, do not have clear and easily accessible data related to tax obligations and strategies. The large number of tax offices and counseling programs in these areas makes it difficult for people to get direction or assistance in carrying out their obligations. This causes many people to not know where to go to get the data they need, which ultimately causes them to not pay taxes or do so in the wrong way.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

Based on the description that has been presented, it can be concluded that open understanding of tax obligations and tax obligations in Indonesia is still relatively low, this is caused by several factors such as lack of important information about tax collection, strict collection methods, and doubts about the implementation of collection by the government. These obstacles are further exacerbated by social, community, and economic factors that hinder openness and attention in the collection framework. Although the government has implemented various collection training programs, their effectiveness is still constrained by minimal data access, limited resources, and problems of uncertainty in the collection framework.

The importance of more in-depth and comprehensive collection training across all levels of society, including remote and disadvantaged areas, is key to increasing taxpayer awareness and compliance. With a better understanding of the benefits of collection, more transparent payment handling, and clarity in managing tax savings, the public is expected to be more confident in fulfilling their tax obligations. A more comprehensive and technology-based approach needs to be presented to make it easier for the public to assess data and administration that suits their needs..

Overall, this reflection provides a clear picture of the challenges and barriers faced by communities in understanding and implementing assessment commitments. These findings illustrate the importance of collaboration between government, communities, and the private sector in making environmental assessments more effective, clear, and accountable, so that costs can more likely support national progress. With changes in cost training programs and community understanding, it is believed that the level of cost compliance can increase, which in turn will support the welfare of economic development in Indonesia.

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