RESEARCH ARTICLE

POLITICAL EDUCATION AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OF MILLENNIAL GENERATION IN THE 2019 INDONESIAN ELECTIONS

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ARTICLE DETAILS

ABSTRACT

Democracy has broad consequences, not only the democratization of the person and the social structure, but the democratic system applied must also be directed to change the political attitude of the individual and contribute to the renewal of the political system and change the structure of his society. This began when the people were involved in the election which was built through education and political participation. The implementation of Indonesian political democracy through elections still leaves practical problems that demand analysis of critical thinking. The dynamics of political democracy in elections for the millennial generation as first-time voters revolve around trust and distrust of political contestants, thus affecting the level of political participation. This study aims to describe and analyze the dynamics of political democracy in the perspective of the relationship between political education and millennial generation participation in the 2019 elections in Bandung using descriptive survey methods. The results of the study concluded that the relationship between political education and political participation of the millennial generation in the 2019 Indonesian elections was quite strong and significant; this shows that political education is needed to reduce the number of abstentions and increase the political participation of citizens.

KEYWORDS

Democracy, millennial, political education, and political participation.

1. INTRODUCTION

Political dynamics in the democratic process often cause problems, such as poor ethical and moral behavior. Global information transactions and the pragmatic-materialism mindset have an impact on the erosion and marginalization of political ethics. Global information transactions and the pragmatic-materialism mindset have an impact on the erosion and marginalization of political ethics. This makes democracy in Indonesian elections loaded with the interests of power, conflict, and consensus played by political elites. Democracy as a means of political education for the people is a systematic educational effort to shape individuals who are politically aware and able to become politically responsible political actors in realizing political goals [1]. It is in this context that the young generation known as millennial generation is a component of the state that is demanded to be critical in responding to the dynamics of democratic politics, learn from political empiricism, choose, and develop ideal democratic principles so that democratic life can be realized for the better.

This shows that the younger generation is an important part of national life so their active role as social control and agents of change is needed in political development. Sociological facts show that not all Indonesian youth realize their important role as a major part of the life of the nation. Youth must also become a generation of political literacy that is characterized by the noble values of the nation so that democracy can be well developed. The fundamental problem that is a common symptom in millennials is often regarded as a generation that is not concerned with political issues and does not want to participate in elections. Millennials live in an era of digital information that is easily openly accessed via the internet.

Millennial potential reached 23% in the 2014 Indonesian elections. Millennial generation classified as rational and critical voters also increased to 34.2% [2]. Millennial political participation is very much needed. In this connection in Bandung in 2019 millennial generation reaches 30% of the permanent voter population of 1.7 million. An interesting challenge to study concerns education and political participation in the form of attitudes and behavior of this generation towards political activities [3]. The ideal political education given to formal and informal educational institutions is in fact different from the political reality and political behavior without ethics by offering lies and promises of elites that threaten democratic life. The implementation of Indonesian political democracy through elections still leaves practical problems that demand analysis of critical thinking. The dynamics of political democracy in elections for the millennial generation as first-time voters revolve around trust and distrust of political contestants, thus affecting the level of political participation. In this study the dynamics of Indonesia's democratic politics are revealed in the perspective of the relationship between political education and the political participation of millennials in the 2019 Indonesian Elections.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

In the practical setting, political education is correlated with participation, because political education is a function of political structure that aims to increase people's political knowledge so that they can participate in a political system. Political education can also be understood as a process of influencing individuals through the provision of information, insights, and political skills so that they can have a critical attitude and be able to reorient themselves and their environment.

A good and systematic political education process can foster democratic and positive forces, namely the critical forces against unhealthy conditions and situations. Instead indoctrinative political education makes attitudes and behaviors that are contrary to one's own conscience. The reality they face is against public will and aspirations, so it tends to be stiff, fanatical, narrow-minded, stupid, and chaotic. The process of achieving the goals of political education cannot be seen directly but requires a long time, because political education is related to aspects of one's attitudes and behaviour [4].

Furthermore, political participation is defined as the private activities of citizens carried out to influence government decisions. Every citizen who lives in a democratic country has the right to express their views and visions of everything that happens in the public sphere so that the government knows about it and then the government responds.

A broader typology of political participation was proposed which included five dimensions, are [5]:

1) Electoral Participation is citizen participation by voting including voting during elections;
2) Consumer participation which includes giving donations to charities, boycotting or signing petitions and political consumption. In other words consumer participation is an act of citizens as critical political consumers;
3) *Party activity*, yaitu tindakan menjadi anggota atau pendukung aktif partai politik, melakukan pekerjaan sukarela atau menyumbangkan uang untuk partai politik;
4) Protest activity, including actions such as participating in demonstration activities, strikes and other demonstration activities;
5) Contact activity, which is the act of contacting government organizations, politicians or government officials.

The concept of generation is a group of individuals who identify their groups based on similarity in birth years, age, location, and events in the life of the group of individuals who have a significant influence in their growth phase [6]. Whereas millennial generation is the generation that is also referred to as the Y generation or net generation, echo boomers, nexters, internet generation generation me, and digital natives, specifically stating that millennial generation is the generation born in the range of 1981-2000 [7,8].

Millennial generation is intimately connected with technological advancements. In addition to face-to-face meetings, they communicate through e-mail senders and social media, so that they have wide relationships with a variety of people from all over the world [9]. Millennials have high expectations, demand instant answers, prefer the distribution of sources of knowledge and information, are open-minded, have diverse skills, are able to do large amounts of work simultaneously, impatiently, and participatively. They also do not embrace a hierarchy or a level of power, which means that everyone has an equal level, so they behave the same both to superiors and colleagues, socialist, optimistic, talented, collaborative, and success-oriented [10].

3. METHODOLOGY

This is quantitative research which using a descriptive survey method. methods are used to answer questions that have been asked, to solve problems that have been raised or observed, to assess needs and set goals, to determine whether specific or not goals have been met, to build a baseline against which future comparisons can be made, to analyze cross-trend time, and generally to describe what is there, in what amount, and in what context [11]. The sampling technique used was Stratified Random Sampling and from the number of millennials population N = 510,000 people the sample size was set as n = 138 people. This research is limited to the millennial generation as a beginner voter in the 2019 Indonesian election in Bandung.

4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Political education for millennial generation is a necessity so that consciously and planned can understand and live the values contained in an ideal political system to be built. Based on the results of the study there

are twin ranks of the two variables namely Political Education and Millennial Generation Political Participation In the 2019 Indonesian elections in Bandung, found statistical data as follows:

To find the Spearman Rank, use the following formula:

$$rs = \frac{\sum x^2 + \sum y^2 - \sum di^2}{2\sqrt{\sum x^2 \sum y^2}}$$

With calculations to find prices $\sum x^2$ are as follows:

$$\sum x^2 = \frac{N^3 - N}{12} - \sum Tx$$

$$= \frac{138^3 - 138}{12} - 484,33$$

$$= \frac{2628072 - 138}{12} - 484,33$$

$$= \frac{2627934}{12} - 484,33$$

$$= 218994,5 - 484,33$$

$$= 218510,17$$

With calculations to find prices $\sum y^2$ are as follows:

$$\sum y^2 = \frac{N^3 - N}{12} - \sum Ty$$

$$= \frac{138^3 - 138}{12} - 892,00$$

$$= \frac{2627934 - 138}{12} - 892,00$$

$$= \frac{2627934}{12} - 892,00$$

$$= 218994,5 - 892,00$$

$$= 218102,5$$

With the above calculation results:

$$\sum Tx = 484,33$$

$$\sum Ty = 892,00$$

$$\sum di^2 = 150325$$

$$\sum x^2 = 218510,17$$

$$\sum y^2 = 218102,5$$

to find rs using the following formula:

$$rs = \frac{\sum x^2 + \sum y^2 - \sum di^2}{2\sqrt{\sum x^2 \sum y^2}}$$

$$rs = \frac{218510,17 + 218102,5 - 150325}{2\sqrt{(218510,17)(218102,5)}}$$

$$= \frac{286287,67}{436612,48}$$

$$= 0,65$$

With the results of the above calculations, it can be concluded that the coefficient of Rank Spearman (rs) for the variable of political education on Millennial Geneation Political Participation In the 2019 Indonesian elections in Bandung was 0.65 and this shows a fairly strong relationship between these variables. A good and systematic political education process can shape political personalities that are in line with political culture and foster political awareness, as well as the ability to actively participate in politics so as to solve common problems in society so that they are better.

Political education for millennial generation as seen in the political dynamics of the 2019 Indonesian elections has not been going well and systematically. The overloaded political content that is full of doctrination is prone to triggering apathy, so it lacks the knowledge and politeness of good political attitudes and can influence political participation in certain stratifications. Political learning through ideal political education forms political and ethical political conscience that is responsible for justice, goodness, truth, honesty and politeness. The dynamics of democratic politics through the 2019 elections both before and after the election according to millennial generation in Bandung are very counter-productive with the ideal of political education, because of the massive election violations, manipulative attitudes, coercion of wills and interests.

In this study also revealed that in the millennial generation in Bandung as heterogeneous city it becomes difficult to involve themselves in social-political relations due to:

1. Many millennial generations are unable to understand individual and socio-political dimensions.
2. As citizens, they act as political consumers who are passive, powerless, and apolitical.
3. Lack of ability to influence existing political structures
4. The development of information technology was responded dominantly to the aspect of non-political content.

The millennial generation in Bandung is aware that electoral participation is the right of every individual. There are various reasons for the use of rights responded in various ways. The political education perspective of respondent assessment (n = 138) shows that political socialization conducted by the election organizers is very limited (58%) while 48% of various political information is obtained from electronic media and social media outside of programs carried out by the organizers (Indonesian Election Commission, government, etc.). The weak structured and systemic political socialization has not yet touched the layers of society so that it becomes one of the triggers of the indifferent millennial generation's political attitude and does not care about political activities.

Criticism responds to political dynamics reaching 90% of respondents' answers which are appreciated through social media in the form of critical sentences in the form of an attitude to do and not do in political activities. Seventy percent of respondents said they were not interested in being involved in political organizations. This is interpreted that activeness in political organizations creates consequences that must be given due consideration, because politics is practically loaded with interests which often give birth to conflicts and must have financial capability (political capital).

5. CONCLUSION

From this study it can be concluded that, a good and systematic process of political education can shape and foster good political personality and foster political awareness and the ability to actively participate in politics, participate in solving common problems in society. This is an important dimension in the 2019 Indonesian Election.

The relationship between political education and the political participation of millennials in the 2019 Indonesian Elections in Bandung is quite strong and significant. This shows that political education is needed to reduce the number of abstentions and increase political participation of citizens. Political education can be done through families, educational institutions, governments, the Indonesian Election Commission, political parties, as well as mass and electronic media.

We also recommend that (1) rvery political party must optimize political education as one of its functions in a programmed, structured manner in every political hierarchy that touches all layers of society so that it can suggest the political participation of millennials in elections; (2) political education should be carried out optimally by political parties and election organizers (Indonesian Election Commission), and also early in the family environment and then strengthened by formal and informal educational institutions; (3) Political education should also be carried out with new innovations that can motivate and attract the support of millennials as potential voters who are responsive to the political dynamics that emerge through the media of information technology.

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