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PUBLIC SERVICE POLICY STUDIES IN IMPROVING QUALITY SECONDARY EDUCATION IN INDONESIA

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Abstract

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Policy becomes one of the government's instruments to create order in carrying out duties and responsibilities. One form of Indonesian government policy is the policy in managing education as part of the national education policy UUSPN number 20 of 2003. The government's concern for education is also seen in the policy of allocating funds for education from the State Budget, especially secondary education as fulfilling the compulsory education law for the first year and twelve years. Any policy related to education will have an impact on decision making by stakeholders. Making these policies needs to pay attention to internal and external factors. The internal factors of learners are the condition of the economy and its geographical existence. It takes the Minister's policy to disburse a decent budget to build secondary education school facilities in areas for sub-districts and kelurahan. Currently, there are still uneven facilities and budgets to meet the learning needs of students, as well as the low economic ability of parents. This leads to low competence of students in technological and behavioral knowledge, especially with regard to the advancement of digitalized information.

Keywords: Education Policy , Public Service and Quality of Education



INTRODUCTION

Public policy studies seek to review the sharing of theories and processes that occur in public policy and it can be said that public policy cannot be separated from the process of policy formation itself. Thus, one of the objectives of public policy studies is to analyze how step by step the process of forming public policy so that a better public policy is realized. (Olsen, Mark, 2011). Improving the quality of education is one of the goals of the national education system. The achievement of the quality or quality of secondary education certainly requires the role of various interest groups. One of them is the role of educators or teachers. Article 4 of Law Number 14 of 2005 concerning Teachers and Education Personnel states that teachers, like students, strive to improve the quality of national education. To be able to carry out their duties properly, teachers must meet certain requirements, one of which is the qualification and certification of Law No.14 of 2005).

Some facts show that the quality of our human resources is quite far behind other developed countries. Indonesia must work hard to improve the quality of human resources that are still far behind even for the Asian region. The results of research a few years ago showed that among seven samples in Asia, it turned out that Indonesia was the country that had the lowest labor productivity (Sutrisno & Rusdi, 2007). Including Unesco research (2019), that the ability of teachers and the quality of education in Indonesia are ranked low.

Education is a tool or bridge for humans to develop their potential through the learning obtained. Article 31

paragraph (1) of the 1945 Constitution states that: "Every citizen has the right to education." So it is clear that education is becoming a right for the nation. With a quality educational organization can give birth to a nation with a creative and innovative next generation (Stepen, 2011). The quality in question is having the ability in terms of science and good behavior, and being able to play an active role in utilizing current global progress (Hoy & Charles, 2010). And also created a generation of good nationalities. There is also no progress without going through a quality education process. So education is very important and must be given to every citizen from an early age, namely in basic education. Education also determines to raise the status of developing countries (Developing countries), becoming developed countries (Developed countries). Developed countries are usually countries that prioritize the education of citizens for their country. With the hope that education can bring prosperity to citizens and live decently. According to (Fitri, 2021), and (Freser, Kym, 2015), education does not bring the same progress if the education system has not been managed properly, especially equity and facilities.

Education not only teaches and demands knowledge, but also. It has a very important role in the formation of the character of students with the aim of eventually forming the character of the nation, because the character of the Indonesian nation is currently in a bad rank (Minister of Education and Culture of Research and Technology, 2021). This is in line with the objectives of National Education as outlined in Law Number 20 of 2003 concerning the National Education





System Article 3, namely as follows: "National Education serves to develop the ability and shape the character and civilization of a dignified nation in order to educate the nation's life. It also aims to develop the individual potential of learners in terms of cognitive, affective and psychomotor. At least agar become a human being who believes and fears God Almighty, has a noble character, is healthy, knowledgeable, capable, creative, independent, and becomes a democratic and responsible citizen." (Ministry of Education, 2010:2). The phenomenon that occurs as seen from the Human Development Index shows Indonesia's ranking has decreased since 1995, namely 104th in 1995, 109th in 2000, 110th in 2002, 112th in 2003, and slightly improved at 111th in 2004 and 110th in 2005. The decline in this index was mostly caused by indicators of declining economic performance in Indonesia since the economic crisis in mid-1997, until 2004. Where statistical data shows that the average length of schooling for residents aged 15 years and over has only reached 7.2 years. Meanwhile, the literacy rate of the population aged 15 years and over is around 90.45%. (Susenas, BPS 2004). Therefore, education policies are needed in increasing literacy, as well as accelerating equity and expanding access to quality education. Including further intensifying the learning process and economic improvement in order to increase Indonesia's HDI at least to its pre-crisis position (Suryana, 2020). Policy is an effort to achieve predetermined goals and also as a form of solving problems using certain instruments and within a predetermined time. A policy is fundamental, because policies can be used

as a guide in achieving goals that have been set together (Olssen, Mark, 2004), and (Desrinelti et al., 2021). Public policy is a pattern of action set by the government and manifested in the form of laws and regulations in the context of good government administration (Amirudin et al., 2021). Public policy is essentially a form of activity or activity carried out by the government. And in this context, the government's action not to respond to existing problems is also included in the form of public policy, even though it is detrimental to the development and progress of the nation to achieve the goal of improving the lives of decent people and being able to improve the quality of students to be more developed and advanced, (Bush, Tony, 2013), and (Herdiana, 2018). The government always formulates policies in the field of education, both primary, middle and higher education. However, for equitable distribution of secondary education is prioritized at this time many programs made by the Minister of Education together with the government in overcoming problems of education including the quality of teachers such as independent learning policies, mobilizing teachers and certified apprentices. This policy has not helped much to improve the quality and equity of secondary education due to the increase in education facilities and budgets (Harsey, Paul, 2008), and (Jones, Jaff, 2016). Basically, public policy is launched by the government to improve the quality of secondary education and improve the welfare of the community in a better direction. In every policy making, the government must refer to the condition of public education because the object of public policy is the





interest of many people or the community (Hafidati, 2020).

In an educational institution, quality improvement is a means of realizing the achievement of goals. Quality is community satisfaction with the educational results achieved by educational institutions that are in accordance with the expectations of society in the present and the future. In the context of educational analysis, the quality of the educational process is determined by several factors, namely (1). Leadership, (2). Curriculum, (3). Teacher qualifications, (4). Facilities, and (5). Budgets (Thoyyib, 2012) and (Bush, Tony, 2013). It can be explained that what is meant by leadership is that the principal's leadership must be appointed an outstanding and superior person, assessed and seen his track record. For the curriculum related to content and composition which must be broad and large, related to science and technology that is relevant and needed. While teacher qualification means that a teacher must teach according to his field, must not be outside his field of study expertise and according to the training he has attended. Then the facility is a library study room and its contents are in the laboratory and its contents must be in accordance with minimum standards (SOP). While the budget relates to the welfare of teachers who are decent and includes school operational funds. If the standards of the five factors above are met, it can be believed that the quality of middle education desired by the community and the state will be obtained (Zainuddin, 2022). The quality of education in secondary education institutions is the result of a process carried out by an

educational institution and will have a major impact on the assessment of the community at the educational institution, if it is of high quality, it will have a significant impact on the institution being managed. The quality and quality of education can be seen from the achievements of science and technology and behavior for these students, teachers, principals and this is usually supported by assets such as economics, industry, agriculture and so on (Zulkarnain, 2021). Quality comes from the Latin word quality (property, quality, value, characteristics, features, abilities). In a highly competitive global world with increasing public demand for quality education, it is a key factor for survival in the global education market, profitability and development, not only for individual sectors and organizations, but also to improve people's welfare. Only a few industries and companies recognize the quality of education as a key factor to improve the quality of business and employment. Hence it is very important it to strengthen competitive advantage through the process of Education. Quality education is the ability of concepts that are dynamic and multi-dimensional in addition to developing a good educational model as a comparison, but also for the study of institutional missions and having quality standards, and good systems to build systems, facilities and programs (Aslami & Alfarisyi, 2023). Education is "a conscious and planned effort to create a pleasant learning and learning atmosphere so that students actively develop their potential to have religious spiritual strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble character, and skills needed by themselves and society".





Education includes the teaching of specific skills, as well as something that cannot be seen but is more in process according to the level in the concept of providing science, technology, behavior and wisdom (Pristiwanti et al., 2022),

RESEARCH METHODS

The method used in this study is the literature review method. Where the theories and opinions in this study are the results of a review of scientific articles and scientific journals relevant to this research. The sources used in this study come from the results of other relevant research, as well as relevant theoretical studies. The data collection uses how to find sources and construct from various relevant sources, such as books, journals and researches that have been done. The library materials obtained from these various references are analyzed critically and in depth in order to support their propositions and ideas (Adlini et al., 2022), (Basyaruddin, 2022) and (Taylor, 2014). The development and progress of a country is determined by the quality of human resources of the nation concerned (Hersey, 2008), (Bush, 2013), (Sujana, 1989), and (Syarifuddin, 2020). By obtaining education, it is expected to improve the quality of students to gain knowledge and shape the character of students. Indonesia, which is basically a developing country and to become a developed country, really needs government policies to try to improve education. Achieving to become a developed country is certainly not easy and requires important policies, namely prioritizing quality education (Hoy, Charles, 2010), and (Windari 2022). Then in the management of good education, policies and . However, in reality

education in Indonesia experiences many problems such as teacher shortages, low curriculum, inadequate facilities, and low budgets. This condition causes the quality of education in Indonesia to be at the lowest level lagging behind other countries. If we peel it thoroughly, many are the causes of the low quality of education in Indonesia, such as teacher competence, curriculum, infrastructure (Fitri, 2021) and (Obidike, 2016). Education is the main factor determining the quality of human *resources*. The higher the quality of education of a nation, the higher the quality of its human resources (Price, 2005). Therefore, the main focus in the management of education by the government from time to time must refer to the preparation of relevant regulations to improve the quality of education at all levels, especially Secondary Education. To realize these goals, the government has carried out various policies and management as well as innovations in the national education system and process.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The increasing number of students who do not get proper education services, especially in areas outside the capital city has reduced the interest of students to learn. Because of the limited availability of quality educational facilities and infrastructure. Until 2018, Indonesia has had 217,572 schools with a total number of students reaching 45,411,768 students at all levels of education. A number of students were divided according to the ratio of students per learning group, namely 23.58 for elementary level, 29.46 for junior high school level, 26.94 for high school level, and 26.49 for vocational level. If referring to Permendikbud





Number 22 of 2016, concerning the process standards of primary and secondary education. So the condition of the ratio is still below the maximum limit specified in the regulation. That is, the learning process can still be said to be effective because the number of students in each learning group does not exceed the maximum limit stated in the Minister of Education and Culture.

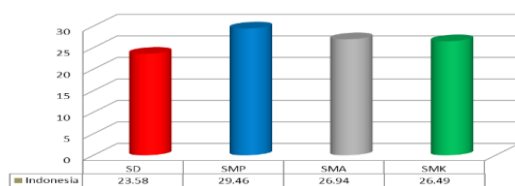


Figure 1. Ratio of Students per Study Group in Indonesia

The lack of completeness of facilities and infrastructure as well as funds to meet the needs of education has made the teaching and learning process not optimal. Because the continuity of the educational process is certainly supported by adequate infrastructure including sufficient funds to meet all the supporting needs of the learning process such as classrooms, laboratories, libraries, teaching staff, and others. As quoted from (Rahmiga, 2019) which explains that the lack of facilities and infrastructure in each school is a problem that can reduce the quality of education. Making learning in schools run less than optimal and not achieving the desired goals. For this reason, there needs to be a follow-up of government policies, for schools, educational institutions, and asking for parental support of students.

The cost of education is quite expensive, as quoted from the kumparan.com accessed on July 21, 2023, explaining that the high cost of education starting from

kindergarten, elementary, middle and up to higher education (PT) makes economically weak people have no other choice but not to go to school, even if they go to school, they often don't pay tuition fees . , due to the limited use of BOS in accordance with applicable government regulations. To enter as an elementary school student alone, currently it costs around Rp 500 thousand to Rp 1 million. Some even charge above Rp 1 million. While entering junior high school / high school can reach Rp 1 million to Rp 5 million. The increasing cost of education today cannot be separated from [government](#) policies that implement SBM (School Based Management). Because SBM in schools is more likely to be interpreted as an effort to mobilize funds. Quoted from kompasiana on November 15, 2023, explained that the learning results achieved by students are no longer suitable to meet the needs of the community and employment. Many education graduates cannot apply the knowledge they have gained when continuing their studies at a higher level. This is certainly related to the ability of school principals as managers, teachers as teaching staff, and curriculum as teaching materials, as well as facilities that on a national average still need improvement by 45 percent. Therefore, the government, in this case, the Ministry of Education and Culture must be able to see the needs of schools evenly and include the level of conditions that must receive serious attention. Because the improvement of quality education is needed in welcoming Golden Indonesia in 2045. Meanwhile, if you still see policies about small budgets and many inadequate facilities, teachers who still lack attention, it will be



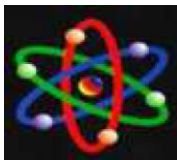
impossible for government policies to achieve advanced Indonesia in 2045 will be achieved. The education system that is run refers to the Law on National Education System Nomor 20 of 2003. Including Law Nomor 14 of 2005, concerning Teachers and Lecturers. That the wisdom already needs renewal and improvement, because there is a change in the situation of the educational process caused by the changing dynamics and culture of society. Therefore, an additional legal basis is needed, in managing education for the better. The results of Winda's dissertation research (2022), and Kompasiana on November 15, 2023 also explained that the current education system shows delays in meeting quality and needs in the era of digitalization that continues to grow. Therefore, there is a contradiction between the current education system and the growing needs. From some of the problems above, of course the causes of the problem, namely as follows: (a). Learning Approach Factors. All education problems that occur in Indonesian society are also influenced by the failure of the education system. Be it the failure of education in schools, home environments, in the community or lack of government attention in improving proper school facilities, (b). Including curriculum changes. That curriculum changes and teacher abilities must have four competencies, namely pedagogy, social, professional and personality. This is often the cause of the low quality of secondary education in various regions, especially areas far from the city center. The curriculum certainly needs to be updated, it's just that an in-depth and academic study must be carried out, lest

the replacement of the curriculum can slow down the achievement of the quality of education itself. Caused by not having adequate facilities and infrastructure.

CONCLUSION

Nationally, there are still relatively high rates of Middle Education age children dropping out of school. Especially in certain areas due to (a). Low interest in learning students, (b). Economic factors of parents, (c). geography that is less supportive to the location of the school because it is far away. Then in a way national is still relatively high children of secondary education age who do not continue to a higher level. Due to the low economic of parents and they work to help the elderly, and find it difficult to find a job after graduating from education. From the factor of school facilities and infrastructure, there are also many schools that are not feasible. Especially study buildings, libraries and laboratories. This finding is less supportive in the teaching and learning process to improve the competence of graduates. The factor of the number of teachers, is also still lacking, often schools have a small number of teachers and take care of two or three classes simultaneously. School dropouts are also triggered by long school distances from home, sexual violence, and crime. The solution, is to socialize to parents and the community. Improve the Ministry of Education and Culture and Research and Technology policy to improve the BSM (Poor Student Assistance) and KIP (Smart Indonesia Card) systems by evaluating the benefits and achievement of targets. Evaluate the use of BOS (School Operation Assistance) funds, which in their implementation are often also not





right on target use. As a result, PBM (teaching and learning process) is often disrupted due to late teacher salary payments and includes schools under private foundations whose finances are not sound. There are also many schools that cannot afford to pay teacher salaries on time. Therefore, it is necessary to review several Ministerial Decrees (Kepmen) of Education and Culture of Agriculture and Cuttings and Decrees of regional heads for secondary education whose implementation is not carried out in the field can be due to cultural differences and multicultural factors and also the absence of serious and serious supervision from the Education office..

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