

Responding To Beginner Voters In General Elections: Between Situational Aspects And Political Actualization

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Responding To Beginner Voters In General Elections: Between Situational Aspects And Political Actualization

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Abstract: Beginner voters are citizens who have an age range of 17 to 21 years old unless married. Beginner voters who reach the million mark are potential voters for the victory of candidates in the 2019 simultaneous elections, especially the simultaneous general election in 2019 is not only to elect legislators but also to determine the President and Vice President, so the participation of voters is very important for the running of the democratic process and the succession of national leadership. This study was conducted using a normative juridical approach, which uses legal materials as its main study and is supported by conceptual study studies as a complement to the analysis material. Many problems faced by beginner voters can actualize their voting rights. The issue is related to regulations relating to the administrative requirements of beginner voters, the external conditions of beginner voters who are faced with the wilderness of information which is not necessarily true and the conditions of internal voters who are immature and have no experience in determining their political choices. Minimize these conditions so that the election as a means of implementing people's sovereignty can guarantee the distribution of the voice of the people, especially the voters, for the continuity of a quality democratic process.

Keywords : beginner voters, potential, actualization, voting rights.

1. INTRODUCTION

THE April 2019 General Election is not only a matter of national leadership succession but the general election this time is a general election with new experience in the political field, because this election is the first time the election of the President and Vice President is held simultaneously with the election of members of the House of Representatives, Regional Representative Council and Regional Representative Council. With this simultaneous general election, it is hoped that the enthusiasm of citizens to exercise their voting rights will increase. This is due to the fact that the general election of the President and Vice President has received more attention from the public, so that the voters for the election of members of the DPR, DPD and DPRD will also increase. The expectation that citizens' enthusiasm for the election of the President and Vice-President will suppress the number of "abstentions" (designation for voters who do not exercise their right to vote) in the category of legislative elections is very likely to become a reality. But it is also possible that the opposite is true, namely apathy the election of legislative members will be stronger so that the election of the President and Vice President will be abandoned. This possibility can occur because there are people who have not been able to see politics as an integral part of all aspects of life, most of which are called electoral voters. The implementation of elections that can guarantee the creation of a democratic order requires a set of laws that regulate the conduct of elections in accordance with the established principles, namely direct secret free, honest and fair and open wide opportunities for the participation of eligible citizens as voters including beginner voters to can use their voting rights (Tyesta, 2009). Based on this background, the issues to be discussed are, how is the potential of first-time voters in the 2019

elections and the actualization of voting rights for voters in the 2019 general election.

2 RESEARCH METHODS

The research method used in this study is the doctrinal research method which is carried out by reviewing legal materials that include primary legal material, secondary legal materials, which are related to general elections either directly or indirectly or what is called the invitation law approach, so that it can be seen that there is no consistency, coherence and correspondence in the laws and regulations governing elections (Santoso et al., 2012). Then to sharpen the analysis of findings will be supported by a conceptual approach that is related to the beginner voters regarding the characteristics of the beginner voters and various conditions that affect the beginner voters in making choices.

2.1 Juridical Aspects of General Election

The holding of the General Election in 2019 is regulated by Law No. 7 of 2017 concerning General Election, General Election hereinafter referred to as Election is a means of people's sovereignty to elect members of the House of Representatives, members of the Regional Representative Council, President and Vice President, and members of the Regional People's Representative Council which are carried out directly, publicly, freely, secretly honest and fair in the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia based on Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. In principle, these laws are formed on the basis of simplifying and harmonizing and combining the General Election arrangements contained in 3 (three) Laws namely Law No. 42 of 2008 concerning the General Election of the President and Vice President, Law No. 15 of 2011 concerning General Election Organizers and Law No. 8 of 2012 concerning General Elections of Members of the People's Legislative Assembly, Regional Representative Council, Regional Representative Council. Considering the importance of General Elections in the implementation of democracy and the continuity of the existence of the State, all aspects that are important in the administration of elections must be optimally regulated and empowered. One of the most important elements in the general election is voters. Voters are

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Indonesian citizens who are even 17 (seventeen) years old or older, have married, or have been married. In addition, voters must be registered in the Final Voters List. Preparation of the Voters List is an important part of establishing a Voters List, which starts with the availability of Population Data, preparation of Voters List, Updating Voter Data, preparation of Temporary Voters List, Preparation of Permanent Voters List, Compilation of Voters List for Overseas Voters, Recapitulation of Voters List, Supervision and Settlement of Disputes in Updating Data and Determining Voters' Lists. In this case the accuracy of the voter list is an absolute necessity in the holding of general elections (Asy'ari, 2010).

2.2 Beginner Voter

Beginner voters are those who are the first time to obtain the right to vote, because in the general election they were not 17 years old or older or were not married, or had never married. Beginner voters can be citizens who have an age range of 17 years to 21 years unless married. Beginner Voters is a technical term in Election that describes those who have not been able to see politics as an integral part of all aspects of life, most of which are called electoral voters. The Potential of Beginner Voters, in terms of the number in the 2019 general election is very significant, reaching 7.4% of the total 196.5 voters or around 14 million people, with this number of new voters in the 2019 election the potential to win or pass candidates if the voters begin can actualize his voting rights in the 2019 general election. From the significant number of beginner voters, besides the potential in managing their "votes", novice voters as the younger generation can be involved in the election management process. The form of participation that is carried out is by the establishment of Democratic Volunteers who are the extension of the Indonesian Election Commission in the lower level. The task of the Democracy Volunteer is to provide education and socialization to the community, one of which is the Beginner Voters on all important matters relating to the general election so that they can boost the participation of citizens in general elections. Another thing that can be done by beginner voters is to become a participatory supervisor, in the sense that novice voters after exercising their voting rights, the voters must ensure and oversee their voices so that they are not manipulated. Thus beginner voters are not enough just to vote but can also participate in overseeing and ensuring that their voices are not manipulated or that fraud is committed by irresponsible parties. Beginner voters can be smart voters by carrying out the following steps, the first is to ensure that they are registered as voters, for those who are not registered, and they can report to be included in the Results Improvement Voters List (DPHP). Second, is to identify your candidate by seeing and studying the track record of each candidate to be chosen. Third, the General Election Commission made several other efforts, namely to neutralize the taglines and hashtags such as "Voice Your Voice" to invite voters to cast their votes.

2.3 Beginner Voters And Actualization Of Voting Rights

In several regions in Indonesia, in the two months leading up to the general election, there are still many new voters who have not yet recorded data on Electronic Identity Cards (eKTP), hereinafter the nomads also include residents who have not recorded eKTP data. Having eKTP or Suket (certificate) is a temporary substitute for eKTP which is a condition that must be shown by the voter to the Voting

Committee at the time of voting or voting. Even though novice voters already have eKTPs, there are also many beginner voters who become nomads whether they study in other cities or work in other places, so this novice voter must take care of Form A5 to be able to conduct voting in a place where they migrate, and this is considered a hassle for beginner voters, so they can be "abstentions". The existence of distortions in realizing the objectives of general election law, that in the implementation of the law there is always possible logical consequences of the application of general election law, and not the main goal expected (Rahardjo, 1980). In connection with the above, both the KPU and Bawaslu must play an active role in improving this system so that novice voters do not lose their voting rights. Voter behavior is determined by seven different and separate cognitive domains, in terms of political issues and policies, social images, emotional feelings, candidate images, recent events, personal events, and epistemic factors. Based on the cognitive domain, voter behavior can be grouped into four segments, namely rational voters, emotional voters, social voters, and situational voters. Rational voters are driven by hopes of their hopes and dreams through identification of issues and policies associated with their dreams. Emotional voters are driven by feelings created by the desire to achieve their dreams. Social voters are encouraged by the association of different groups of people and their ability to achieve dreams. Situational voters are driven by situation situations that can influence their choice to move to other candidate groups (Azwar, 2007). The internal conditions of beginner voters are immature and have not experienced in determining their political choices, so the beginner voters will experience confusion in making their choices. Beginner voters have a rapidly changing political perception and are greatly influenced by their environment, sometimes they are very enthusiastic and sometimes apathetic about the political process because they consider the political world unattractive and not too important to them. The external conditions of beginner voters who are faced with the wilderness of information are not necessarily the truth. A lot of hoax news, blasphemy and incitement among potential supporters also add to the confusion of the beginner voters. In this case, the competent parties such as the KPU, Bawaslu, political parties must play a major role in increasing the participation of first-time voters who can be regarded as groups that are still awkward in the political world by carrying out political education in a more practical and understandable way and not conventional. Based on these conditions, beginner election groups will tend to be trapped in emotional and situational voter groups, because the beginner voter group is prone to be politicized and utilized by certain groups for the sake of winning candidates and because of the unstable beginner voters who are easily influenced. The beginner voter group has no experience in general elections in the sense that they are involved and understand the purpose of the general election, beginner voters also have no experience in participating in election activities in the sense of voting (voting) at the polling station. This looks easy and simple, but it requires knowledge and understanding from beginner voters, especially in this 2019 simultaneous general election that there must be 5 (five) ballots to be punched, namely a ballot to elect the President and Vice President, ballots to vote members of national and local parliament as well as to elect the Senate. The real form of actualization of the voters' right is to take part in general elections in the sense

of voting by going to the polling station and casting ballots. However, to arrive at this stage many processes must be understood by beginner voters. An understanding of the meaning of democracy, about the importance of its involvement in determining the continuity of the life of the nation and state through the election of leaders and organizers of the "legitimate" state is the most important part that must be passed to lead new voters to the polling stations.

3 CONCLUSION

Beginner voters with large quantities are the potential that can give a candidate victory in general elections. However, far more important is how to actualize the voters' right to vote in general elections. In the actualization of potential and voter rights, there are still many problems encountered by the voters who are the obstacles. The problem in the actualization of beginner suffrage is the electoral technical administration factor. In addition, there are also internal factors from novice voters who are still rabbis and have no experience in politics. Another problem is the external factor in the form of incorrect information and the possibility of politicizing beginner voters by irresponsible parties who can influence the voters' political choice.

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