

The Role of Bina Satria Youth Organization in Building Civic Engagement in Young Generation

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Abstract

The young generation is the nation's successor, so that the values of the nation's personality must be instilled in the younger generation so that they do not lose their identity. Indonesia is a country that is synonymous with mutual cooperation and thick with eastern culture. Strengthening Civic engagement in youth is needed in order to grow awareness to participate in all areas of activities that bring better change in accordance with the national identity. The purpose of this study was to determine the role of youth organizations in building civic engagement among the younger generation. This study used qualitative approach descriptive, data collection techniques were carried out using interview, observation, and documentation techniques. From the research results obtained in this study, Karang Taruna Bina Satria has a work program that can strengthen the cultivation of civic engagement in the younger generation, especially among its members, such as monthly routine events, community service, sinoman or laden, and August events.

Keywords: youth organization; civic engagement; young generation.

Introduction

The young generation plays an important role in the survival of the country. The younger generation should have the spirit to defend cultural values, love the country and be committed to bringing about good changes for the benefit of the country. A quality young generation will encourage the progress of the

country. Therefore, the cultivation of character values that support the formation of *smart and good citizenship* must be carried out to various levels of society, one of which is the younger generation. This is because the younger generation has an important role, even in the history of the Indonesian nation it cannot be separated from the role of youth.

According to Law Number 40 of 2009 regarding Youth in Article 16 states that youth play an active role as a moral force, social control, and agents of change in all aspects of national development. In relation to the role of youth as agents of change, Law Number 40 of 2009 regarding youth article 17 paragraph (3) also explains that one of the roles of youth is to play an active role in developing awareness of society.

If you look at the role of youth above, youth should have high social awareness and be able to actively participate in social life. Civic engagement in the younger generation needs to be built so that youth can play their role as a moral force, social control, and agents of change in all aspects of national development in accordance with the law.

However, at this time the younger generation tends to be apathetic and individualistic, causing a lack of care for the younger generation to their surroundings. According to Muhamadi & Hasanah (2019) in this era of globalization the values of social care continue to degrade, especially among the younger generation or among students. In addition, other research states that first, students are forced to have social sensitivity because of the encouragement of their surrounding friends who invite them to care. Second, students only care about everything that is in the same form as themselves, meaning that students do not understand that caring must be with everything, both living things and non-living things. Ignorance of inanimate objects will also have an impact on living things, namely

humans, plants and animals (Pitoewas et al., 2020).

From some of these studies, it was concluded that related to social awareness of the younger generation, it was still low, even if social sensitivity arose it was due to certain factors, such as invitations from friends. Many factors influence this social concern, for example the use of the internet and social media which tends to make people, especially the younger generation, become individualistic because the use of social media causes reduced social interaction.

At this time society cannot be separated from technology. The ease of obtaining information is one of the impacts of technological advances. People tend to search for information via the internet. In addition, the communication process is getting easier with the internet. One can exchange news without having to meet face to face so that with all the conveniences and advances in technology this reduces the intensity of direct interaction. According to Sofita et al. (2019) the internet has a very big influence on student social interactions because with the internet, students are too ignorant of direct communication with their classmates.

Especially during a pandemic like today, where community mobilization is limited. So a lot of time is spent indoors, because this is also a recommendation from the government. To eliminate boredom, people tend to surf in cyberspace so that the intensity of internet use is increasing. Based on research conducted by the Head of the Department of Mental Health,

RSCM FK Universitas Indonesia (UI) Kristina Siste Kurniasanti, internet dependence on adults has increased 5 times during the pandemic (Puspa, 2020).

Then in another study conducted by Pratama (2019), it was stated that when adolescents with high levels of social media use, their social interactions are indirect or through media, their sociability tends to be low, their social sensitivity tends to be low, tends to be aggressive and prioritizes content rather than internal relations in communicate. The higher the intensity level of social media use, the more apathetic the adolescent will have. Apathy results in low social awareness in adolescents. Teens do not care about their surroundings and tend to be individualistic.

The younger generation should have an attitude of social concern and high social sensitivity, and have the spirit to defend values of culture so that the distinctive characteristics of Indonesian culture are maintained. If the younger generation has low social awareness and tends to be individualistic and apathetic in social life, the cultural values that are characteristic of the Indonesian nation will fade away and cause national identity to fade.

This research was made because it looks at the current conditions where the younger generation tends to be apathetic and individualistic, one of which is due to the use of the internet. Even when they get together, today's younger generation is still more focused on gadgets than the people they are with. If this kind of habit continues, the awareness and sensitivity of the younger generation

to problems in their environment will continue to decline.

One of the efforts to increase social awareness and social sensitivity in the younger generation can be seen from the role of youth organizations in encouraging their members to be involved in various activities in their neighborhood. This involvement can also be called civic engagement.

The purpose of this study was to see the role of the youth organization Bina Satria, Janglot village, Pelem village, Pringkuku sub-district in building civic engagement among the younger generation, especially among its members through various activities held by the organization.

Literature Review

Youth

According to the Regulation of the Minister of Social Affairs No. 25 of 2019 states that Youth Organization is an organization formed by the community as a forum for young people to develop themselves, grow, and thrive on the basis of consciousness and social responsibility of, by, and for the younger generation, which is oriented towards achieving social welfare for the community.

According to Arief & Adi (2014), Karang Taruna is a youth organization that is no stranger to it because it is a forum that has a mission to foster the younger generation, especially in rural areas.

From some of the above definitions, it can be understood that Karang Taruna is an organization that accommodates rural young people in

developing themselves that are oriented towards social welfare for the community.

Civic Engagement

According to Fitrayadi & Rahman (2020) *civic engagement* is citizen engagement which means young people who feel empowered to advocate for themselves and their communities and work with others to try and implement their vision of the future.

According to Syaifullah (2016) *civic engagement is defined as the collective and individual actions undertaken to identify and demonstrate public interest issues. Referring to this definition. The concept of civic engagement (hereafter CE) has close links with the democratic government.* That is, in this sense *civic engagement* is an individual or group action in identifying public problems, thus civic engagement is related to democratic governance.

Meanwhile, Adler & Goggin in Setiawan et al., (2021) provide an example of a definition of *civic engagement* based on the existing fields and types of activities, namely: (1) *Civic engagement as community service, the involvement of citizens to actively participate individually, or as part of groups for voluntary service activities to strengthen the surrounding community;* (2) *Civic engagement as a collective action, the role of citizens that is realized by individuals through collective actions to improve the wider community;* (3) *Civic engagement as political involvement, where individuals, through collective actions, aim to*

solve the problem in a political way involving the government; (4) *Civic engagement as social change, with the active participation of citizens in people's lives to help shape the future through social change.* Indefinition, it is stated that *civic engagement* is related to community service, collective action to advance the wider community, political involvement and involvement in shaping the future through social change.

Method

This research uses a qualitative approach with methods descriptive.

Setting and Participant

The research subject is the person being asked or the person who provides information about a fact that we want to examine. The determination of research subjects or informants in this study was carried out by means of *purposive sampling*. Subjects in this study amounted to 3 people consisting of the head of the youth organization and 2 members of the youth organization. The location of this research is located in Janglot Hamlet, Pelem Village, Pringkuku District, Pacitan Regency with a research focus on the role of youth organizations in building civic engagement among the younger generation.

Data Collection

Observation

Researchers make observations by being involved in activities

carried out by youth organizations in an effort to build character. In the observation activity, the researcher made observations related to the activities carried out by the youth organization in order to find out how the youth organization's efforts in carrying out its function.

Interview

In this study, interviews were conducted with the head of the youth organization and 2 members of the youth organization. In this case the interviews conducted by researchers were related to what activities of the youth organization were carried out to build character and how the impact was felt by members organization of the youth after becoming members of the youth organization.

Documentation

In this study, researchers took documentation related to activities carried out by youth organizations in an effort to increase civic engagement, such as how information is followed up in youth groups and community service activities so that the observed documents are pictures of posts in youth groups.

Result and Discussion

According to Handayani (2013), national identity is reflected in Pancasila which is the embodiment of the concepts of religiosity, humanity, nationality, sovereignty and sociality. National identity is manifested in cultural heritage from

ancestors such as mutual cooperation, deliberation, mutual respect and others. Nowadays, the younger generation tends to be apathetic and far from the national identity, for that it is necessary to foster civic engagement in the younger generation to reflect the national identity in the form of concern for surrounding problems. The development of civic engagement for the younger generation in hamlet, Janglot Pelem village, Pringkuku sub-district is carried out through various activities held by the Bina Satria youth organization.

Based on the results of the interview, to become a member of the Bina Satria Youth Organization does not require certain requirements. All youth in Janglot Hamlet, Pelem Village can become members of the youth organization as long as they are old enough and can be responsible for carrying out their role as members of the youth organization. Usually, the youth in Janglot Village become members of the youth organization since they are at the junior high school level. When viewed from the membership side, the target to develop civic engagement from an early age has been achieved because members of the youth organization have been members since Junior High School.

According to Pamungkas (2013) Role is the behavior expected of a person or group that has status. When a person exercises his rights and obligations according to his position, it means that he is playing a role. Karang Taruna plays its role in efforts to build civic engagement, which is reflected in the various

activities carried out. These activities involve members according to the abilities of their members. These activities are manifested in the form of Monthly Routine Events, Community Service, Sinoman and Laden, and Agustusan Events.

Monthly Routine

This event is an agenda that is routinely held every month by Karang Taruna. In each of these regular meetings there is a social gathering. The function of this activity is to raise funds to finance youth activities that require funds. In addition, this event is also a forum for conducting deliberations every time certain activities or discussions will be held that require the aspirations of all members of the youth organization. For example, when the youth organization will make improvements to the volleyball field, after the routine arisan event is over, it will continue with deliberations to discuss the steps that will be taken to improve the field. Besides being used to discuss current issues in society. For example, the issue of security where when theft is rife, youth through the youth organization take part in maintaining security at certain posts.

According to Sari et al., (2016) efforts to increase social awareness on indicators of cooperative attitudes towards others can be done by familiarizing yourself with deliberation and deliberation with the entire village community or with the village head if you are going to carry out an activity of a general nature. From the description above, it can be seen that efforts to cultivate civic

engagement are carried out by practicing in engaging in deliberations for decision-making, as well as efforts to foster social awareness through participating in maintaining the security of the hamlet when there are issues that threaten public order and peace.

Community Service

In this activity all members must be involved and participate, both men and women. Women members usually have the task of providing drinks or sweeping and other lighter activities. The voluntary work carried out is usually community service cleaning the field, clearing roads and other public facilities.

From this description, the effort made to build civic engagement is the division of tasks according to the ability of members and how the management of the division of tasks is so that all are involved in community service activities. If all members are accustomed to being involved in activities together like this, it is hoped that in the future they will also be accustomed to social activities in a larger scope. So that concern for being involved in community activities is -oriented goodness also high.

Sinoman or Laden

According to Nasrikin & Setyowati (2016) Sinoman activities are activities that help if one of the villagers has a celebration. In Janglot hamlet, Pelem village itself, sinoman is a waitress activity or serving food when someone has a celebration. For example in weddings and

circumcisions. Sinoman is the responsibility of the youth organization. Where young men and women who are assigned to be waiters are based on their environment. Karang Taruna Bina Satria itself consists of 3 RTs so that the Sinoman is carried out based on the environment in which the person lives. For example, someone who has a celebration comes from RT 3, then the members of the youth organization who are in charge of *nyinom* or *laden* also come from RT 3. This is done so that people in the immediate neighborhood are involved first. *Nyinom* requires male and female members of the youth. The male are usually in charge of bringing the food to be served, while the *laden* females are in charge of serving the food. To be able to become *laden*, one must have a strong responsibility and mentality, therefore the people who are appointed to be *laden* minimal are those who have been in high school. *Laden* will usually be arranged by the head of the *laden*, to be directed to which guests will be given the dishes first. For *laden* females, they also have to stay a little longer when the food served has run out but the invited guests have not received all of the food, the goal is to indicate if the group where the *laden* is female standing has not received food and must take precedence. This information will then be captured by the head of the *laden* who will then direct the *laden* male to deliver the food to the *laden* who was standing.

From the description above, it can be concluded that to be a *laden* one must have a high responsibility attitude and a strong mentality

because he has to serve guests. The effort to cultivate civic engagement through activities *laden* is very pronounced.

According to Sari et al. (2016) efforts that can be made to build social awareness on the indicators of cooperation are by changing the way of thinking that helping each other and helping each other in life in society is very important. When someone is willing to be *laden*, he already has social awareness and sensitivity. *Laden* can also be said to be a mutual cooperation effort carried out by youth so that *laden* this is the right activity to instill civic engagement in the younger generation, especially in Janglot hamlet, Pelem Village.

August Event

According to F. F. Pratama & Rahmat (2018) in their research states that youth role organizations are very good in empowering youth and fostering a sense of youth social responsibility. At Karang Taruna Bina Satria, youth empowerment and fostering an attitude of social responsibility can be seen and trained through the provision of volleyball activities to commemorate independence day, usually by holding volleyball tournaments. This volleyball tournament can be said to be the biggest agenda carried out by the Bina Satria Youth Organization. In a series of preparations for the procurement of volleyball activities, it usually begins with deliberations on the technicalities of the implementation of this tournament, including the preparation of the committee, which hamlets will be

invited to the volleyball tournament, the funds used for these activities and the promotional strategies that will be carried out. In this initial deliberation all members of the youth organization are involved to solve problems and share ideas that will be used. Furthermore, it will be followed up with voluntary work to clean the volleyball field, repair the field and prepare everything for the implementation of the tournament. Until the day of implementation, all members have their respective duties according to their capacities and abilities.

The holding of a volleyball tournament to commemorate the Independence Day of the Republic of Indonesia is not only able to strengthen solidarity between members of the youth organization as well as to increase youth solidarity between hamlets. Because usually if other hamlet's lack a committee in the activities held, they will ask each other for help from youth outside their organizations hamlet.

When viewed from the above description it can be seen that the growing efforts of *civic engagement* is through involving all the participants in decision-making, then in voluntary work, to the next when the implementation of the tournament. Someone who is accustomed to being involved in active activities like this will have a higher sense of belonging and concern for the environment because they are accustomed to facing problems and then trying to find solutions.

Based on the results of the interview, the level of youth participation is higher when actively

participating in the youth organization compared to being passive in all activities of the youth organization. This is because the more often someone is involved in an activity, the ability to read situations and sensitivity to situations is also high.

Youth in Janglot hamlet who are members of the youth organization will usually be more beneficial to the surrounding community. The community relies more on active members for help.

There is a difference that can be felt for members who are active in participating in youth activities with those who are passive. Active members have more maturity to think, are more creative and are more sensitive to environmental problems, so usually active members are asked to be involved when a community needs help.

In addition to the habituation carried out internally, Karang Taruna Bina Satria also has a WhatsApp group which is used to share information. In addition to information related to youth activities, this group is also active in providing information related to community unrest. For example, when there is a case of thieves from a neighboring village, the information will immediately be forwarded to the youth group. Then members will respond responsively, for example with these issues, members will decide to guard on certain posts. Another example that illustrates the concern of members of youth organizations in responding to community unrest is that when the Covid-19 pandemic occurs, the youth take turns maintaining the portal for

security if people from outside the hamlet enter the Janglot hamlet area.

In carrying out its activities, there are obstacles faced in the effort to instill civic engagement through the Bina Satria youth organization, among them, the number of male members is greater than female members. This causes when in an activity that requires more women's roles, it will be difficult.

The next problem is related to the limited time and energy of members of the youth organization. Most of the members of the youth organization are students so that when activities are held on weekdays, there will be fewer members who participate. However, this can be overcome by choosing the timing of the activities on holidays so that all can participate. Then, to encourage member activeness, Karang Taruna Bina Satria applies social sanctions to inactive members, namely in the form of exclusion sanctions and if the person concerned has a celebration that requires energy from the youth organization, it will be more difficult for other members to ask for his help.

Conclusion

Karang taruna as a forum for the younger generation to develop themselves, especially in rural areas. Youth organizations can be used as a means to build civic engagement in youth. The efforts to build civic engagement through the Bina Satria Youth Organization can be seen from the various activities held aimed at building the participation of its members. The effort to build civic engagement at youth organizations is

also evident from the effort to involve all participants in these activities, as well as habituation within the internal scope of the organization which encourages members to be more sensitive and care about social problems in their surroundings. These activities include monthly routine events, community service, sinoman, and Indonesian Independence Day commemoration events which are usually manifested in the form of volleyball tournaments. There are several obstacles experienced by the Bina Satria Youth Organization, including the proportion of male and female unbalanced members and the limited time and energy of the members to participate actively in Karang Taruna activities

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