Political view of youth voters in surabaya

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Abstract. In the study of political socialization, youth voters are one of the targets of political parties in obtaining constituents. This article will reveal the views of youth voters in interpreting politics. Youth voters who are the subject of the study are college students in the first year. In general, they have different social life backgrounds but are in the same environment, the life of urban people, where their involvement with information technology is high. Political knowledge of youth voters is widely gained through mass media, where information is produced based on market needs. It encourages inconsistency in the direction of thinking that develops by voters. On the one hand, politics is seen as an activity based on ideal democratic values, but on the other hand politics is also seen as a practice that focuses on winning the battle of interests. This suggests that the youth voter political views are oriented toward superficial knowledge directed more by the mass media, not from experience gained through the process of political socialization.

1. Introduction

Youth voters are categorization of young people who will use their voting right in elections for the first time. Beginner voters are very potential voters in voting in the election. Beginner voter behavior has characteristics that are usually still unstable and apathetic, lack of political knowledge, tend to follow the game group and they just studied politics, especially in the general election. The spaces where they study politics are usually not far from the space that is considered to provide a sense of comfort within them. Youth voters are the main target of political parties that follow the election in Indonesia. The number of novice voters is almost a third of all citizens with the right to vote. Among adult selectors with beginners have different characteristics. Characteristics of the novice select, among others, is marked with a political orientation not yet steady, so easily influenced. This is because they do not have sufficient experience and participatory skills. Therefore, the quality of political choice can be categorized as low. In this regard, it has been noted how an interest in politics at a young age constitutes a basis for subsequent civic engagement in adulthood[1].

According to Berger and Luckman[2], individuals interpret social reality not by a hollow conception. Someone always organizes events every day. The organized experience and reality become the reality experienced by a person. The spaces that are the place to learn politics are[3]: first, is family. In the family environment, they learn democracy first. Family factors greatly affect the perspective of the intricacies of life around him, including political education first gained from the family room. Families have the power to influence emotionally, so that parents' factors can shape their voter behavior. Second, peers or peer groups. The influence of peers or the game is a factor to consider, because these external factors can affect information and political education. Peers are believed to not only affect perceptions and positive actions but also affect perceptions and negative actions. So the tendency of political
behavior is potentially homogeneous with the political behavior of his close friends. Third, is the mass media. Mass media, especially television capable of presenting the source of political information to the audience effectively and efficiently. In this case, teenagers or novice voters in a day can spend hours in front of the television, (though not always watching programs related to politics).

In relation to the political orientation of individuals, Almond and Verba[4] reveal that the individual's orientation to the political system can be viewed from three aspects, namely cognitive orientation, affective orientation, and evaluative orientation. Cognitive Orientation is knowledge of the input and output mechanisms of political systems, including knowledge of rights and obligations as citizens. The Affective Orientation is the individual's feelings for the political system, including the role of actors (politicians) and political institutions (political parties, executive, legislative, and judiciary). The Evaluative Orientation of individual decisions and opinions about political objects that typically involve value standards, information and feel criteria.

Based on the preceding description, the theoretical framework used in the study of the political views of early voters is to understand the setting of social construction that develops into a beginner's political orientation. The theoretical framework can be described as follows:

**Figure 1. Theoretical Framework.**

### 2. Methods

The research method used Mixed methods research. Mixed methods research (MMR) is a broad definition referring to research that includes and integrates more than one paradigmatic or methodological approach, method of data collection, and/or type of analysis strategy, with a purpose that goes beyond what could be achieved with any one method alone[5][6]. The mixed method is a combination of quantitative methods and qualitative methods. It aims to research results can obtain data more comprehensive, valid, reliable and objective. The procedure is to develop samples of mixed methods with data collection techniques using self-report, which asks the self-information of the individual to be studied. Data analysis is done by: Data Transformation, Exploring Outlier-Outlier, Creating Instruments, Testing Multiple Levels, Creating Matrices or Tables.

### 3. Results and Discussion

Political behavior is determined by internal factors of the individual such as idealism, the level of intelligence, the will of the heart and external factors such as the family environment, diversity, social, political, economic life that surrounds the individual's political behavior and political authority to organize and influence his life. Judging from his political knowledge, respondents who understand about the general election and political process amounted to 40.5%. This indicates that 59.5% of beginner voters do not yet understand deeply the political process and elections. They tend to interpret politics only as an election. Their attention to politics focuses on electoral issues. According to them, the election is a means of implementing the sovereignty of the people directly, publicly, freely, secretly, honestly and fairly. The purpose of elections is not merely a matter of choosing and becoming elected, but is one of the political education rides for citizens. Each campaign period is a special period of political education, more than any other time. One of the goals of political education through the electoral process is fundamental to educate the nation. This suggests that even though novice voters understand politics...
in a limited sense of the elections, their political values represent normative politics when discussing the elections themselves.

In terms of the election practice, students argue that intelligence determines the choice, the willingness to know the track record of candidates becomes an important step in order that voters no longer fall into the shape of chameleon candidates who change to match conditions, sow empathy in every way to seek sympathy for reaping voters. The emergence of various activities conducted individually as well as groups of political parties ahead of elections that provide promises in ways that are sympathetic and provide material support for the community, but behind it there is interest to attract sympathy and seek support. Electoral parties and contestants are regarded as abandoning all means. Later if they are elected, it can be a pressing factor to commit acts of corruption in order to return the capital they have spent during the election campaign. In this case, News from the mass media is sufficient to create political opinions of students. Issues that have been raised in the media are believed to be true, thus raising political concerns. This is evident from the inconsistencies in the proposed statements. Mass media information is very varied and partial, where media dependence on the market has driven the mass media to have its own interests as a means of information as well as political communication tools of election candidates. The students are not aware of it, so the good and bad news in the mass media, is believed to be the truth. In relation to the possibility of using the right to vote, respondents who say they will not exercise their suffrage by 40% and 60% of respondents said they may use their voting right.

In the student's view, a legislative candidate is mostly chosen because it is known and publicly endeared. Voters are difficult to gauge the ability of legislative candidates because their knowledge and information are limited. Communities are largely insensitive to and wary of prospective representatives who are capital-rich due to their media construction and practical moves through the politicizing of seasonal, spontaneous and tendentious sympathetic activities. The popularity that makes most of the political parties take and include celebrities as candidates for the representatives of the people, because the presence of celebrities must be recognized has a high popularity and economic capital. They take the view, if you want to plunge into the world of politics, there are two capital you should prepare: money and popularity. Popularity can be boosted if you have money. This is supported by political realities, because the political constructions that exist in the mass media illustrate that politics is getting crowded by businessmen and celebrities.

| Social Construction | Political View |
|---------------------|---------------|
| **Cognitive**       | **Affective** | **Evaluative** |
| By Family           | politics focuses on electoral issues. | The election is a means of implementing the sovereignty of the people directly, publicly, freely, secretly, honestly and fairly | One of the goals of political education through the electoral process is fundamental to educate the nation |
| By Peer Group       | the willingness to know the track record of candidates becomes an important step in order that voters no longer fall into the shape of chameleon candidates | News from the mass media is sufficient to create political opinions. | Electoral parties and contestants are regarded as abandoning all means |

**Table 1. Map of student political views**
Beginner voters tend to have volatile characteristics. Voters like it may change views, depending on how emotionally, like "love monkeys". Based on the exposure of the study data and the Map of students' political views, such voters have a habit of migrating when providing support to political parties when the election is held. It depends on the emotions the voter is feeling. Often the emotion develops in accordance with the growing political opinion in the mass media. There are several things that cause voters in Indonesia to have volatile characteristics. Firstly, voters in Indonesia do not have ideological references that are generally present to novice voters and parochial voters in the regions. Second, the dominance of advertising and 'political branding' by political parties in a number of media, both printed media, electronic media, and social media. Third, the weak ideology of the political party itself. In addition, due to the information crisis and political knowledge of voters on the political parties to be elected, as well as the disappointment and saturation of the appearance of political parties and elites. For example due to un populist policies, political corruption and so on.

The perspective of novice voters on politics has two aspects of incentives: public distrust of political or political elites in general and low public interest in politics. In the discussion of the two matters, the study found that public distrust was based on the behavior of the political elite, the lack of the rule of law and the interference of media in the formation of public opinion. Whereas in the low points of public interest in politics, the authors find that the public interest in politics is influenced by the political image in society that is influenced by the public trust as a referential structure on the understanding of society. The general political image that lies in the understanding of society is that politics is a dirty game that leads to corruption. Milbrath and Goel classify political culture in three categories, namely; a) Apathy, is a person who withdraws from the political process; b) Spectator, is a person who at least participates in elections; c) Gladiators, people who are actively involved in unconventional forms. Student voters' views when viewed from the thoughts of Milbrath and Goel, show apathy and spectator attitude. Participatory political culture has not appeared strongly in the students' knowledge, attitude, or orientation. In order for the application of participative political culture can be done, it must first meet several things, among others; a) the ability and willingness to understand the intricacies of joint efforts that will / are being carried out; b) the willingness and ability to take part in one or more stages in a particular process of activity, in one or more particular aspects; c) willingness to participate in the burden and consequent activities / joint ventures, in the form of victim of material / material, energy, and mind also enjoy the results of joint activities. Ultimately, democratic societies depend on civic education and political commitment. It is clear that civic education plays a crucial role in the political culture of a modern democracy.

4. Conclusion

The political knowledge of novice voters indicates that the knowledge of novice voters to become politically savvy voters is inadequate. Politics is understood only as an election process. Students' knowledge tends to be based on information based on media opinion, not departing from proven information and can be used as a reference for truth. The political attitudes of early voters about politics and elections show a partisan-pragmatic attitude. Politics is identified with political parties and election contestation, so practical political practice is accepted as the main attitude reference. The confidence of novice voters has not led to collective values in creating a common good. The growing political rationality leads more to political pragmatism.
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