The Librarian Capability to Implement Information Literacy in Senior High School of Bantul District

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Abstract

This research is aimed to describe the school librarian capability to (1) find or collect information, (2) use or utilize information, (3) evaluate information, (4) communicate information, among the senior high schools of Bantul district. The librarian capability to implement information literacy is highly needed since the advancement of information technology and the abundant of information in various social media and other facilities that can support the school activities. It demands the librarian to have literacy capability. This study can be categorized as descriptive-qualitative research. The research population was the school librarian. The data was collected by using questionnaire. The data validity was tested through content validity test. The data analysis technique was descriptive data analysis with the percentage.

The research result showed that: (1) most respondents (77.70%) had good capability to find/collect information to complete the library collection, (2) 89.96% of the respondents were categorized to have “very good” capability to use/utilize library information. (3) 79.73% of them belonged to “good” capability to evaluate information and (4) 81.62% of respondents were proved to have “good” capability to communicate the obtained information.

Keywords: information literacy, school library

1. Introduction

The quality of education should be continuously enhanced because it is an important means to obtain knowledge through the learning activity which is supported by the adequate facility. Education is expected to create open-minded generation, especially young people. There are many factors that can support the youth to make their academic dreams coming true. One of them is by having clear, complete and accurate information. The information facility can support various activities at school, such as, about school management for the Principal. It can be in the form of learning material, learning strategy, professional competence for the teachers and to help students to finish their tasks and to gain deeper understanding of the learning materials.
The mastery of information literacy is so crucial in the learning process that becomes an essential part of the education program. In the wider scope, information literacy is actually intended as a human empowerment program related to information. Human resource capability plays an important role for the success of information literacy.

In 1980, information literacy was always associated with reading and writing. In the English dictionary, literate means able to read and write. Information literacy is related to information awareness. To be called as information literate person, it means that someone is able to access the needed information effectively and efficiently. Nowadays, information literacy is often connected to the use of library and information technology. It is an integral part of the current information era. In all education levels from primary, secondary until higher education, require learning through literacy and the information literacy can be the fundamental aspect for students, teachers, and principals. Information literacy is the ability to know when some information is needed to be identified, founded, evaluated, and effectively used to solve the faced problem. Various studies on information literacy were conducted to determine the competence, the perception, and the behavior of librarians in mastering information literacy.

Developing library is a challenge for librarians to provide excellent services for library users. In line with the advancement of information and communication technology, it requires library management (librarian and library staff) to actively obtain and disseminate information in their library. Librarians and library staff can offer information online through telephone, radio, television, and internet networks. Online information services have brought changes and developments in the demands for the right, fast, and accurate information needs. Institutions that administer school libraries must plan and implement information literacy programs in a good way for its visitors. The implementation of information literacy must be supported by the role and ability of library management and other involved parties, especially school librarians.

Today, school library begins to receive special attention from the government for its development and existence. Every educational institution is required to have a library. The library is the heart of education that provides life force for the sustainability and educational progress. The library is used as the main source of information to meet the needs of users to develop their mindset. The library is functioning as an educational tool to facilitate education activities, especially in providing information and services to library users. Implementation of information literacy can be categorized as the characteristic of librarian or library management and they must have information awareness and literacy. Information literacy programs for librarians consist of 1) referrals service, 2) help
for confused visitors, 3) giving explanation, 4) internal or personal discussion, 5) casual chat with students. However, there are many schools libraries do not perform these five activities, therefore it is necessary to investigate the capability of library managers to implement information literacy.

In reality as well as based on the results of previous research observations in the high schools library in Bantul District, it was found that information literacy had been conducted in several schools to prepare students to find and get the information they needed independently. However, the implementation it has not optimal yet and it meets many obstacles both internally and externally. It is indicated with the students’ difficulty to find the materials location in the library, the difficulty in using information technology devices to trace the information. Furthermore, some schools have not provided the facility that supports information literacy activities and the lack of ability and understanding among librarian managers towards information literacy, even in several schools, the students are not aware of information literacy. Therefore the librarian must have the ability to manage information with information literacy, the ability to trace information from various sources in order to find the relevant information quickly and easily.

This study is limited on the capability of librarian to implement information literacy, which is focused on the ability to search, use, evaluate, and communicate information effectively in the senior high schools of Bantul district.

2. Literature Review

2.1. Basic concept of school library

2.1.1. Definition of school library

Libraries in elementary and secondary schools have become an integral part as a center for learning resources to support the achievement of school education goals [1].

The library is a working unit with several activities of material sources management, provision of user services, as well as facilities and infrastructure maintenance that have been regulated by a particular system. All library activities are to support the achievement of educational goals.
2.1.2. Goal of school library

The goals of school library are to gain information, to realize an organized knowledge forum, to foster an ability of imaginative experiences excitement, to develop language and thinking skills, to educate students in using and maintaining materials efficiently, and to provide a foundation for independent learning [3]. It can be inferred that the role of library as a source of information to help students for being independent, creative, and capable to utilize library properly.

2.1.3. Function of school library

The function of a library is a further elaboration of all library tasks including education and learning, information, research, recreation, and preservation [4]. The library can be used as a place to store sources of information and knowledge that are used to support the learning and research as well as recreational facilities containing the value of education and teaching.

2.2. Basic concept of information literacy

2.2.1. Definition of information literacy

Information literacy is the ability to access, evaluate, and use information from various sources [5]. It is a set of abilities that a person needs to be aware of information necessity and able to find, evaluate, and utilize the information effectively [1]. Based on the definitions above, it can be concluded that information literacy is a set of abilities for information awareness and an ability to search, evaluate, use, and communicate information effectively.

2.2.2. Benefit of information literacy

Generally, the aim of developing information literacy in the library is as an effort to improve the user quality [1]. Information literacy can improve quality in knowledge development, recording, dissemination and access to information.
2.2.3. Procedure of information literacy implementation

a) problem awareness, b) accurate identification of information needs, c) determining information availability, if it does not exist then it must be created, d) Information gathering technique, e) new information creation, f) understanding the available information, g) organizing, evaluating, interpreting, and evaluating information, h) communicating and disseminating information to others [6]

2.3. Role of librarian in information literacy

1. Librarian as the main facilitator in literacy mastery for users, by creating some culture and maintaining the needed infrastructure to operate information literacy.

2. Librarian plays a role in taking advantage of the concept of information literacy to improve the library services quality.

3. Librarian must also attempt to identify explicit knowledge and to develop the systems for it by developing tacit knowledge.

4. Librarians must immediately take the initiative to explore the potential information and knowledge and to develop a management system [1].

2.4. Librarioan capability of information literacy

The capabilities of information literacy is described as follow,

1. Capability to search information by identifying user needs and knowing the type of information used.

2. Capability to trace information from various sources

3. Capability to use information, assess and sort information.

4. Capability to create information

5. Capability to organize information

6. Capability to disseminate information [1]

Based on the explanation above, it can conclude that the main ability of information literacy person includes activities of 1) searching, finding, accessing, 2) using, and 3) disseminating
3. Material & Methodology

1. This study is a quantitative descriptive research because the researchers want to find data about the ability of school librarian in implementing information literacy.

2. Research setting was the senior high school of Bantul district

3. Subject and research population involved 19 schools with the research subjects of 37 librarian consisting of librarians and library staff.

4. Instrument research used questionnaire and the instrument validity test employed content validity. The results of instrument validity were declared valid, and none of the questionnaire items were dropped.

5. The data were analyzed by percentage techniques. The percentage was to calculate each component of criteria, components, and instruments as an evaluation instrument was determined based on the frequency of respondents’ answers with the following formula [7]

\[ P = \frac{F}{N} \times 100\% \]

Explanation:
- P: Percentage score
- F: Obtained score
- N: Maximum score

Conversion of quantitative data based on categorization analysis is as follows.

| Interval Score | Criteria                |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| 81 – 100%      | Very High/Very Good     |
| 61 – 80%       | High/Good               |
| 41 – 60%       | Moderate                |
| 21 – 40%       | Low/Bad                 |
| 0 – 20%        | Very Low/Very Bad       |

4. Results and Discussion

4.1. Result

Description: The data on the information literacy implementation was obtained from the given questionnaires to the respondents, librarian management staff totaling 37
persons. Data from each aspect of the school information literacy implementation was
to describe the actual conditions in the field. In addition, the table of variable frequency
distribution for the literacy implementation in senior high schools throughout Bantul
district was presented and the description of each aspect in the variable and following
with the tendency of each aspect.

Based on the obtained data, it can be concluded that 82.25\% of librarian categorized
as “Very Good” and 17.75\% of them was “Bad” in case of information literacy imple-
mentation in high schools of Bantul Regency. It means that the most of senior high
schools in Bantul regency have already implemented school information literacy. Also,
the percentage of librarian perception on four aspects of school literacy implementation
were in “Good” category. The following is the table of the research results from the
overall implementation of school information literacy.

| NO | ASPECT                              | YES   | NO   |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|------|
| 1  | Searching/collecting information    | 77,70%| 22,30%|
| 2  | Using/ utilizing information        | 89,96%| 10,04%|
| 3  | Evaluating information              | 79,73%| 20,27%|
| 4  | Communicating information           | 81,62%| 18,38%|
|    | Mean                                | 82,25%| 17,75%|

4.2. Discussion

The good placement and arrangement of books with certain systems can make the
librarians’ become easier in performing their tasks, especially in re-arranging the written
or borrowed materials. By doing so, they can give fast services to the users, especially
students who completes their assignments. This excellent library service will impact on
the users’ satisfaction, such as teachers, students, others school staffs even people
around the school area who utilizing the library service. The information that has been
found should also be immediately processed according to the existing rules, so it can
be immediately presented and the users can obtain the benefit from it. In terms of
services, librarian should give assistance and guidance to provide an easy access for
the information.

1. Data description on the aspects of the librarian efforts in searching or collecting
information

Based on the research results on 37 librarians, it indicated the librarian efforts in
searching or collecting information were “Good” with the percentage of 77.70\% and
22.30% of them were “Low”. It means that most librarian make efforts to collect information in the implementation of information literacy by finding the type of needed information by users to help work on the students’ in finishing their and to arrange the information in the library for an easy access to users.

2. Data description on the aspects of the librarian efforts in utilizing information

Based on the research results on 37 librarians, it indicated the librarian efforts in using or utilizing information were “Very Good” with the percentage of 89.96% and 10.04% of them were “Low”. It implies that most librarian make efforts to utilize information in implementing information literacy of which the librarian performing activities of accessing, clarifying, sorting, classifying and concluding needed information for users.

3. Data description on the aspects of the librarian efforts in evaluating information

Based on the research results on 37 librarians, it indicated the librarian efforts in evaluating information were “Good” with the percentage of 79.73% and 20.27% of them were “Low”. It shows that most librarian make efforts to evaluate information in implementing information literacy, i.e. librarian provides input or response to users who have difficulty in finding information as well as evaluating information based on users’ input and visitor data analysis.

4. Data description on the aspects of the librarian efforts in communicating information

Based on the research results on 37 librarians, it indicated the librarian efforts in communicating information were “Good” with the percentage of 81.62% and 18.38% of them were “Low”. It means that most librarian make efforts to communicate the information to implement information literacy in the form of listening and giving feedback from other opinions, providing explanation of the obtained information from the visitors, and disseminating the evaluation results from the obtained information.

4.3. Conclusion

1. Based on the aspect of the librarian capability in searching/collecting information, most of schools in case of information literacy implementation can be categorized as “Good” with the percentage of 77.70%. The most frequent effort for this aspect is to find the type of needed information for users, especially to help the students with their tasks and to organize the information location in the library for an easy access to users.
access for the users. Both actions have been implemented by all schools for the school information literacy program.

2. Based on the aspect of the librarian capability in using/ utilizing information, most of schools in case of information literacy implementation can be categorized as “Very Good” with the percentage of 89.96%. It means that most librarian make efforts to utilize information in implementing information literacy of which the librarian performing activities of accessing, clarifying, sorting, classifying and concluding the needed information for users.

3. Based on the aspect of the librarian capability in using/ utilizing information, most of schools in case of information literacy implementation can be categorized as “Good” with the percentage of 79.93 %. The most frequent effort for this aspect is to give input or response to the users/ librarian visitor who have any difficulties in finding information, in this case with the percentage of 91.89%.

4. Based on the aspect of the librarian capability in communicating information, most of schools in case of information literacy implementation can be categorized as “Good” with the percentage of 81.62 %. The most frequent effort for this aspect is listening and giving response or feedback from the users/ librarian visitor’ opinion, in this case with the percentage of 94.59%.

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