The Influence of Political Trust on Public Participation in The Regional Head Elections during The Covid-19 Pandemic in Cijulang Village, Cineam District, Tasikmalaya Regency

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Abstract

This study examines the influence of political trust and the factors that influence the political participation of the Cijulang Village community in the 2020 regional head election during the pandemic. The theory used to solve the problem formulation is the theory of political belief and the theory of political participation and this research uses a political behavior approach or psychology. This research uses quantitative method. The data collection technique is through primary data obtained from questionnaires or questionnaires with a Likert scale and also from interviews with several sources. Sampling with Multistage Random Sampling stratified random with 5 regional heads. The data analysis technique was analyzed using the SPSS for Microsoft Window program with the Pearson correlation test to determine whether the hypothesis was significant or not. The results of this study, for the political trust variable based on the calculation of SPSS version 16, it is known that 0.913 is greater than 0.202, then the political trust variable instrument is said to be reliable and valid. And the Political Participation variable of 0.789 is greater than 0.202 then the political participation variable instrument is said to be reliable and valid. The results of the SPSS are known to be significant at 000 < 0.5, which is significant and t "count" is greater than t "table" which is 12.194>1.98525. SPSS output shows that the political trust of the community is in the very good category, namely 83.2% and political participation is in the very good category, namely 81.2% and the influence of political trust on political participation is 61%. So Ho is rejected and Hi is accepted. So the hypothesis is that there is a positive influence between political trust on people’s political participation. The influence of variable x on variable y is due to two factors, namely institutional and psychological factors. And the factors that influence the political participation of the Cijulang Village community are political awareness, political trust and political education as well as the change from substance to commercial agriculture and the rational choice of voters, namely social assistance from the government.

Keywords: Covid-19; Political Trust; Community Participation

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INTRODUCTION

Due to the outbreak of Covid-19, the General Elections Commission finally issued General Election Commission decision 179 / PL.02-kpt / 01 / KPU / III / 2020 which was delayed by various stages of the 2020 Presidential Election either positive or negative.

Although Government Regulation In lieu of Law No. 2 of 2020 contains an article that stipulates that the 2020 regional head elections can be postponed if the situation is impossible, this article is considered ineffective. Moreover, Government Regulation In lieu of Law No. 2 of 2020 also does not regulate budget issues and this Government Regulation in Lieu of Law also cannot be the basis for the general election commission to exercise discretion in assessing the Covid-19 pandemic situation in an area that can be considered to interfere with the implementation of regional head elections.

The looseness of regulation in the Government Regulation in Lieu of Law can actually trigger new problems. The problem is not only an uncertainty for the organizers because the level of possibility of holding the 2020 regional head elections is haunted by the Covid-19 pandemic situation. There is no doubt that the General Elections Commission will have difficulty making rules that can overcome the regional situation and health status of an area in holding the elections.

This tests community discipline, including public trust in the organizers in carrying out safe regional head elections in accordance with applicable health protocols. For example, the local elections are carried out according to health protocols and regulations, which are expected to not only ensure public safety, but also the quality of local elections.

Political awareness and public trust in the government are very influential in community participation in the election of regional heads. One of them is in the Cineam subdistrict community, Cijulang Village, Tasikmalaya Regency who held the regional head election on December 9, 2020. Where in the 2015 election in Cijulang Village, Cineam District, the percentage of community participation was low compared to another village located in Cineam District, with a percentage of 67.57% where the number of voting rights was 3,207 and the use of voting rights was only 2,167.

On the side of many parties who are pro and contra about the implementation of the Pilkada, the people of Cijulang Village, Cineam District have a fairly good level of community participation. One of them is in the Cineam subdistrict community, Cijulang Village, Tasikmalaya Regency who held the regional head election on December 9, 2020. Where in the 2015 election in Cijulang Village, Cineam District, the percentage of community participation was low compared to another village located in Cineam District, with a percentage of 67.57% where the number of voting rights was 3,207 and the use of voting rights was only 2,167.

The indicator of political trust is that Kim (in Aspinall, 2015) has given an explanation that integrity can be viewed from the perspective of “fairness, fulfillment, loyalty, honesty, dependability, and reliability”. The objective of the study is to find out the factors that influence the participation of the people of Cijulang Village?
2. Political participation

Political participation is the process by which community members can share views or opinions and participate in various planning activities, such as decision-making and activities sponsored by community leaders to influence government decisions.

According to Ramlan Surbati, there are two factors that influence political participation, namely, the first factor is actually about how much experience a person has with the surrounding community and politics.

The second factor is about how government policies and government implementation will be ultimately assessed and appreciated. Judgment is a set of beliefs about whether public authorities can be trusted or not and regardless of whether public authorities will be affected or not.

Indicators of political participation are, Voting (voting), Political Discussion, Passive membership of a pseudo-political organization (quasi political), Active membership of a pseudo-political organization (quasi political), Membership that does not play a role in an organization, Membership that plays a role in an organization, Pursuing political or administrative office.

RESEARCH METHODS

This research method is quantitative, with the type of survey research with the aim of knowing the relationship between the independent variable, namely political trust and the dependent variable, namely community political participation. This study uses data collection methods, namely observation, documentation, literature study, and questionnaires using a Likert scale with a score of 1-5. The population in this study were 3,728 voters who had legally exercised their right to vote in Cijulang Village, Cinemales District, Tasikmalaya Regency. With Multistage Random Sampling (stratified random sample) with a sample of 97 people.

The data analysis technique used in this study is quantitative and this study aims to reveal whether there is a relationship between the two variables. To analyze the two variables x and y, the analysis used is based on the average of each variable, with the Pearson simple linear regression test because there are only two variables and is analyzed using the SPSS Statistic16.0 program. The measurement scale in the variables studied is the ordinal scale or Likert scale.

DISCUSSION

1. Indicators of political confidence

Dasgupta (1988) states that trust is a person’s attitude to trust individuals and groups that are interconnected to a certain degree.

Based on 9 research instruments with questions on indicators of political trust in general, the community in Cijulang Village, Tasikmalaya Regency choose “Agree” and “strongly agree” where the public’s political trust in the government is quite strong. It is known that respondents’ answers about the influence of political belief get a total score of 3624 from 9 statement instruments and 97 respondents. The highest score for each statement is 5 and the lowest score is 1. For the maximum score of the political trust variable, we can see the calculation below;

\[
\text{Maximum Score} = \text{Highest Score} \times N \times \text{Statements total}
\]

\[
= 5 \times 97 \times 9 = 4,365
\]

From the results of the answers of 97 respondents about the political trust variable, the results of the assessment scores obtained in the questionnaire data collection were 4.365. So the percentage value of the score from 97 respondents who have given answers is as follows;

\[
\frac{\text{Gain Score}}{\text{Maximum Score}} \times 100\% = \frac{4,365}{4,365} \times 100\% = 83.2\%
\]

From the results of the calculation of the percentage of answers from 97 respondents to the political participation variable, it can be concluded that the answer criteria from 97 respondents to the political trust variable, namely 83.2%, are included in the very good category.

2. Political participation indicators

Political participation is a process where community members can share views or opinions and be part of various planning activities, such as the decision-making process and activities carried out by the community to influence government decisions.

Based on 10 Question Instruments on the Political Participation indicator, in general, the Cijulang Village community chose “Agree” and “strongly agree” where the public's political trust in the government is quite strong.

It is known that respondents’ answers about political participation got a total score of 3943 from 10 statement instruments and 97 respondents. The highest score for each statement is 5 and the lowest score is 1. For the maximum score of the political trust variable, we can see the calculation below;

\[
\text{Maximum Score} = \text{Highest Score} \times N \times \text{Number of Statements}
\]

\[
= 5 \times 97 \times 10 = 4,850
\]

From the results of the answers of 97 respondents about the political participation variable, the results of the assessment scores obtained in the questionnaire data collection were 4850. Then the percentage value of the score obtained from 97 respondents who had provided answers as follows;

\[
\frac{\text{Gain Score}}{\text{Maximum Score}} \times 100\% = \frac{3,943}{4,850} \times 100\% = 81.2\%
\]

From the results of the calculation of the percentage of 97 respondents' answers to the political participation variable, it can be concluded that the answer criteria of 97 respondents to the political participation variable, namely 81.2%, are included in the very good category.

3. Simple linear regression test

To find out the relationship between political trust and political participation, the researchers used a simple linear regression test as a data analysis technique in this study. The purpose of the simple linear regression test in SPSS 16 is to test the effect of one independent variable on the dependent variable.
Model Summary

| Model | R       | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate |
|-------|---------|----------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1     | .781a   | .610     | .606              | 2.41735                   |

a. Predictors: (Constant), Political Trust

Explanation

Second output (Model Summary)

The table above explains the magnitude of the correlation value (R) which is 0.781. From the output, the coefficient of determination (R Square) is 0.610 which means that the influence of the independent variable (political belief) on the dependent variable (political participation) is 61%, meaning that there are 39% of the variables bound to be influenced by other variables.

ANOVAb

| Model     | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F         | Sig. |
|-----------|----------------|----|-------------|-----------|------|
| 1         | Regression     | 1  | 868.944     | 148.701   | .000a |
|           | Residual       | 95 | 5.844       |           |      |
|           | Total          | 96 | 1424.082    |           |      |

a. Predictors: (Constant), Political Trust
b. Dependent Variable: Political Participation

Third output (ANOVAb)

From the output it is known that the calculated F value = 148.701 with a significant level of 000 <0.05, then the regression model can be used to predict the participation variable or in other words there is an effect of variable X on Variable Y.

Coefficientsa

| Model         | Unstandardized Coefficients | Standardized Coefficients | t     | Sig. |
|---------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------|------|
|               | B                          | Std. Error                | Beta  |      |
| 1             | (Constant)                 | 7.599                     | 2.721 | 2.792| .006 |
|               | Political Trust            | .885                      | .073  | 12.194| .000 |

a. Dependent Variable: Political Participation

Fourth Output (Coefficient)

It is known that the value of constant (a) is 7.599, while the value of political trust (b/regression coefficient 0 is 0.885, so the regression problem can be written:

\[ Y=a+bx \]

\[ Y=7.599+0.885 \]

The equation can be translated:

- Constant of 7.599, meaning that the consistent value of the participation variable is 7.599
- The regression coefficient x of 0.885 states that for every 1% addition to the value of political trust, the participation value increases by 0.885. The regression coefficient is positive, so it can be said that the direction of the influence of the X variable on the Y variable is positive.

Decision making on a simple regression test

- Based on the significant value of the table coefficient, a significant value of 000 <0.5 is obtained, so it can be concluded that the X variable has an effect on the Y variable.
- Based on the value of t: it is known that \( t_{count} \) is 12.194 >1.98525

Note: how to search ttable

\[ T_{table}=\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}; n-k-1\right) \]

\[ =\left(0.05/2; 97-1-1\right) \]

\[ =\left(0.025; 95\right) \]

(seen in the distribution of t table )=1.98525

So Ho is rejected and Hi is accepted. So the hypothesis is that there is a positive influence between political trust on people's political participation. After being tested for validity, the data above is valid because r arithmetic > r table = valid and reliable because Alpha > rtable = consistent.

And analyzed using a psychological approach or individual political behavior, which is a concept that explains behavior to vote in general disaggregation in the form of identification of existing political parties or officials or also emotional attachments between voters and certain parties. The political trust of the Cijulang Village community was formed because of the emotional attachment between voters and the government, namely the existence of social assistance such as money, basic necessities and clean water distribution provided by the government to the Cijulang village community and socialization provided by the government and Cijulang Village apparatus in the form of political education. Assistance in the midst of this pandemic has caused the Cijulang village community to believe that the government...
can be influenced so as to create community political participation.

4. Analysis of Factors Affecting Political Participation

The first factor that influences people's political participation is the public's political trust in the government. Where people believe that there must be a legitimate government to form a democratic country. On the theory of political trust according to Job (2005) and Putnam (in Tranter and Skribs, 2009)

According to Weimer, there are five things that affect political participation, namely modernization in all fields, one of which is commercial agriculture, namely the production produced exceeds the basic needs of life where the process of changing agricultural economic patterns from subsistence to commercial. It can be seen from the average score of political participation of respondents who work as farmers 37.78 which is included in the criteria High. This progress concerns the involvement of the population in influencing policies and requires them to participate in political power as a form of awareness that they can influence their own destiny.

According to Weimer also increased literacy, increased education and the development of a wider mass media as factors that influence political participation. Where in the interview, the researcher and the head of Cijulang Village, Mr. Amir, stated that the Cijulang Village community itself had political education carried out by the Village Apparatus and general election commissions officers in the form of socializing the implementation of the regional head election. The successful teams disseminate the vision and mission of their candidates in the mass media and door to door with volunteer teams in each area so that there are no large-scale crowds. And as evidenced by the political trust variable, the highest score is the 8th question "The government provides information services that make it easier for the public in the 2020 regional head election implementation system?" with a score of 440.

And another factor that affects community political participation is individual political awareness where in the political participation variable the highest score is the second question, namely "Are you using your voting rights in the 2020 of regional head election in Cijulang Village, Tasikmalaya Regency?" and to the eighth, namely "Are you interested in joining a petition for the government for the sake of the survival of the people?" with a score of 454, the political awareness of the community is another variable in influencing the political participation of the Cijulang community, namely the community is aware that exercising their right to vote is a citizen's obligation and consciously makes a petition to influence the government for the common welfare.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

From the results of the research on the Effect of Political Trust on Public Participation in the Regional Election in the Midst of the Covid-19 Pandemic in Cijulang Village, Tasikmalaya Regency, the following conclusions were drawn:

a. From the 19 items of research instrument statements, 9 items are statements of political belief variables and another 10 items are statements of political participation variables that have passed the validity test, because the T-Count value is greater than T-Table. Meanwhile, for the reliability test, the instruments of the political trust variable and the political participation variable were both declared to have passed the reliable test because the Cronbach's Alpha value was greater than 0.60. For the political trust variable based on the calculation of SPSS version 16, it is known that 0.913 is greater than 0.202, then the political trust variable instrument is said to be reliable. And the Political Participation variable of 0.789 is greater than 0.202 then the political participation variable instrument is said to be reliable. t "count" is 12.194>1.98525. So Ho is rejected and Hi is accepted. So the hypothesis is that there is an influence between political belief on people's political participation.

b. The factors that influence the political participation of the people of Cijulang Village are political belief that the influence of the independent variable (political trust) on the dependent variable (political participation) 615 means that 39% of the dependent variable is influenced by other variables. According to Ramlan Surbakti (1992; 140) the factors that influence political beliefs are analyzed using a psychological approach that investigates the functions and phenomena of human psychology and influences social and political behavior and activities. And the bond between voters and the government. The people of Cijulang village have a good emotional bond. Such as the government which provides social assistance in the form of money and other basic needs and socialization in the form of political education. So that the people of Cijulang Village have an emotional attachment so that their political trust is very high. There are two variables that influence the level of community participation, namely political awareness and the second variable, namely political trust where government policies and government implementation will be assessed and appreciated. Another factor that affects community political participation is individual political awareness where in the political participation variable with a score of 454, the political awareness of the community is another variable in influencing the political participation of the Cijulang community, namely the community is aware that exercising their right to vote is a citizen's obligation and consciously makes a petition to influence the government for the common good. Where in the interview, the researcher and the head of Cijulang Village, Mr. Amir, stated that the Cijulang Village community itself had political education carried out by the Village Apparatus and general election commissions officers in the form of socializing the implementation of the regional head election. The successful teams disseminate the vision and mission of their candidates in the mass media and door to door with volunteer teams in each area so that there are no large-scale crowds.

Based on the conclusions above, the author can convey suggestions as follows:

a. Further research is needed on this research.

b. It is necessary to make a comparison with other approaches regarding the public's political trust in the government or politicians on political participation.

c. It is expected that readers will continue to read Ramlan Surbakti's book “Understanding Political Science” because this research does not cover other scientific approaches or theories that have not been included in this study.
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