



Political Participation in Elections by New Voters in General

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Abstract

In Indonesia, elections are a visible example of democracy and a way for the populace to exercise their power over the state and government. Elections based on Pancasila and the Republic of Indonesia's Constitution from 1945. Within the State Unitary Republic of Indonesia (NKRI), elections were held on the principles of direct, general, free, secret, honest, and fair. Involvement in a democratic party (Election) is a sign that the people are exercising their highest lawful state authority, which is reflected in political participation in a democratic nation. In order to develop legislators and leaders who are aspirational, qualified, and accountable for the welfare of the people, general elections are one of the democratic processes that represent the wealth of the populace. The goal of this paper is to identify the ways in which new voters participate politically in elections, as well as the motivating and impeding reasons. This journal paper employs a literature review as its writing strategy, which is supported by pertinent research findings. By splitting their time between studying and participating in political activities, it is believed that inexperienced voters will engage in politics more actively.

Keywords: General elections; political engagement; new business owners.

1. Introduction

General Election (Election) is frequently used to describe a democratic party held by a nation. Elections are crucial to establishing democracy in a nation that adheres to the definition of democracy. Elections serve as a vehicle for the populace to assert their sovereignty over the state and government and serve as a concrete example of democracy in Indonesia. Elections based on Pancasila and the Republic of Indonesian Constitution of 1945. The Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia (NKRI) conducts elections in accordance with the ideals of direct, general, free, anonymity, honesty, and fairness (Sandbrook, 1996).

Indicators of political engagement in a democracy include participation in democratic parties and elections, which demonstrate the people's exercise of the greatest legitimacy of state power. The more involved a population is in politics, the more they are aware of and interested in the workings of government. On the other hand, a low level of political engagement typically reflects a lack of public understanding or interest in governmental affairs (Colby et al., 2010). The attitude of the white group (abstentions in elections) reflects the low degree of political participation among the populace. Because low or high participation is a significant signal and indicator of the direction of democracy and the exercise of sovereignty, it is crucial to pay close attention to the level of political involvement in general elections people.

To produce legislators and leaders who are aspirational, capable, and accountable for the welfare of the people, general elections can be seen as one of the instruments of democracy and a manifestation of the sovereignty of the people. First-time voters make for a very fascinating voter demographic to observe and further research (Turnbull-Dugarte et al., 2020). Voters who will cast their first ballot in an election are considered novices. Citizens who are planning to exercise their right to vote in General Election (Election) activities for the first time fall under the category

of Beginner Voters, as stated in the Election for Beginner Voters Module I of the General Election Commission (2013). They may be descended from Indonesian Citizens (WNI) who are even 17 years old or who have not yet reached their 17th birthday but have been married.

Young voters in general elections are members of a new generation who differ from voters in the preceding generation in terms of qualities, characteristics, backgrounds, experiences, and difficulties. Most of them are from well-to-do families, reside in cities or close by, and are from student backgrounds. The development of information technology has had a significant impact on this demographic, and they are adept users of high-end devices like tablets, laptops, and mobile phones. Additionally, they are quite adept at using social media platforms and networks like Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and others (Susila et al., 2020). They are very critical, autonomous, and eager to learn new things. Young voters are faced with a number of very severe issues, including pressures from globalization, free trade, terrorism, international intervention, and domestic issues that lack a clear path to settlement. In order to prepare young voters who are knowledgeable, critical, and focused on the future, it is important to fully comprehend the differences in nature and character, background, experience, and challenges of young voters in general elections.

Add to that the fact that the 2045 celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Indonesian Republic will be led by these young voters (Agus et al., 2020). At that time, the Republic of Indonesia will still exist (exist), and the election will be largely decided by young voters. Both the political parties running for office and their potential candidates have acknowledged the significant and important impact that young voters have on elections. Since the last two years' elections, many have begun to consider the votes of young voters in the campaign process, so it is common for different methods to be used to gather the votes of these young voters (Wattenberg, 2020). In fact, the hunt for young voters' votes started in the last two years' elections.

Education levels and low levels of political participation among young voters, commonly referred to as first-time voters, are two that require special attention. This group's lack of political education renders them susceptible to being singled out by certain interests for mobilisation. These young voters are frequently steered towards one candidate pair by conveying particular contents or vocabulary, either through advertising battles or social media, without having a clear grasp of why they should support that candidate pair, as in the case of past experience.

In this text, there are various symptoms in particular. Novice voters are still easily swayed by particular interests, especially those of those closest to them, such as family members ranging from parents to relatives, and there is still a lack of interest from novice voters to follow the explanations given by the General Election Commission as the organiser to stimulate novice voter participation. Novice voters still lack understanding of the election implementation process and do not exercise their voting rights in general elections. The word "participation" is derived from the English word "participation," which generally refers to a citizen's active involvement in a particular activity (Verba et al., 1993). Participation is defined as taking part, following, or participating in the Political Dictionary. This phrase is more frequently used to refer to someone or something participating in a single task or major plan (Rogoff, 2008).

Political involvement is the act of a person, group, or organisation taking an active part in politics. Participating in elections, influencing policy, and joining political parties are a few examples (Ekman & Amnå, 2012). Political participation, according to Zimmerman (2000) is a mental and emotional want to contribute to the objectives or values of the group or share accountability for it. First-time voters are defined as Indonesian citizens who on election day or voting are Indonesian citizens who are already 17 years of age or older or have/have been married who have the right to vote and who previously were not included as voters due to the provisions of the Election Law, according to Law No. 10 of 2008 in Chapter IV Articles 19 and 20.

2. Materials and Methods

This research was conducted based on a literature review supported by several previous studies. As well as based on the 1945 Law and Pancasila as the basis for organizing elections. Elections are held inside the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia (NKRI) according to the standards of direct, general, free, confidential, honest, and fair.

3. Results and Discussion

According to (Rogoff, 2008) political involvement is a citizen activity that is either directly (intentionally) or indirectly (unintentionally) related to governmental policies. It can be carried out by either individuals or groups

spontaneously or after being mobilised. On the other hand, it also states that political involvement refers to actions taken by people and groups to actively participate in political life, specifically by directly or indirectly electing state leaders and influencing public policy. Beginner voters in the political sphere refer to individuals or groups who are using their voting rights for the first time. New voters' political preferences are always fluid and subject to change depending on the environment and other influences. Apart from that, however, the presence of first-time voters in every general election event is unquestionably encouraging as a means of securing the strategic position that any candidate who progresses in the election desires. Anyone who can catch this group's attention will reap the rewards; on the other side, not getting this group's support will be damaging to achieving the electoral vote goals.

Beginner voters, who are students, students, or voters between the ages of 17 and 21, are a very distinctive sector that frequently causes shocks and, of course, is quite promising in terms of numbers. It is referred to as unique due to the unusually enthusiastic, rational, change-hungry, and low-pragmatism voting behaviour of new voters. Elections, according to Blair (2000) are the primary mechanism of bringing about democracy in a nation. The purpose of elections is to represent the will of the people in creating institutions of government that will administer the state. The right to elect representatives from among the available candidates is how the voice of the people is expressed through suffrage.

Elections are, nevertheless, the most effective means for individuals to take part in a contemporary representative democratic system (Hart, 2009). From the aforementioned viewpoint, it can be inferred that general elections are a democratic means of creating a system of state power that is born from the people and in accordance with the people's will, which is exercised in the form of representation and in which there is political competition that is conducted fairly and openly in its implementation. First-time voters engage in campaigns, which are activities undertaken to persuade, arouse sympathy from, and get as many votes from voters as possible in order for them to select a certain candidate and win the election. Activities leading up to the general election include campaigns. The majority of first-time voters are already aware of the campaign's main goal, which is to inform voters about the election and explain its vision and objective in order to persuade them to cast ballots.

Candidates can use a variety of techniques to win over voters during the election process, such as presenting entertainers like singers and celebrities in open campaigns, performing charitable deeds, and helping to build places of worship. to vote, especially new voters. First-time voters are hesitant to participate in campaign activities because they believe that doing so will take up their time and interfere with their everyday obligations. There are also inexperienced voters who believe that the reason they do not participate in the campaign is because they dislike the commotion of an open election. Apart from those who are not used to participating in campaign activities because they conflict with school activities, the attitudes of some of these first-time voters demonstrate the lack of interest among first-time voters to participate in campaign activities.

To fulfil the constitutional mandate, a five-year democratic party called the General Election is held. Nearly every day, if not every day, political problems and actions are discussed in print, on television, online, and in social media. Some of these discussions are positive, while others are critical of this election. Discussions and heated debates regarding political subjects are not limited to academics and political party elites in the run-up to the general election. New voters participate actively in political discourse. Politics is no longer a taboo subject among young people; many of them frequently discuss political concerns whether out with friends or just hanging out. Voting to increase public understanding of democracy's broader significance has had a profound impact on local and national political processes. The existence of community political engagement, which may be observed through various kinds of community political participation, is one sign of the functioning of democratic politics.

In relation to the election, the right to vote was distributed, as well as to the first-time voters who were enthusiastic about casting their ballots because, for the majority of them, this general election marked their first election and they didn't want to miss the opportunity. The following are some factors that encourage first-time voters to cast ballots in general elections: Milbrath provides four explanations for changing one's political activity (Milbrath, 1981). The acceptance of political incentives comes first. According to Milbrath, one's willingness to engage in political activity will depend on how open and receptive they are to political stimuli received through interpersonal relationships, organizations, and the media.

Someone will be more likely to become actively involved in politics if they are open and sensitive to receiving political stimulation through the media. A person will have an actual adequate reference to give a response and finally

serve as material in his political participation by actively monitoring political happenings through the media. However, a person's knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, experiences, and personality are undoubtedly influenced by their personality while responding to political stimuli. Because of the stimulus provided by the media or electronically, new voters are urged to cast ballots in the general election.

Milbrath (1981) claims that the second factor has to do with a person's social traits. A social factor that affects political participation is economic status, ethnic makeup, age, gender, and religion. Beginner voters differ in their social personality traits, yet despite these variances, many of them care about and are conscious of their society's political rights. According to the invitation they receive, they wish to take part in the election by traveling to the TPS where they currently reside. Third, it has to do with the political and party structures in which a person resides. People who live in democratic nations are more likely to get involved in politics since political parties there frequently seek out and defend the support of the general public. Beginner voters have a variety of social personality traits, yet despite these variances, many of them care about and are conscious of their political rights and their civic responsibility.

Regional variations serve as the fourth justification in the meantime. These regional variations are environmental factors that have an impact on human character and behavior, which in turn encourages variations in political behavior and participation. All people, including first-time voters, can participate in elections since almost every region is safe and welcoming. Beginner voters participate in elections of their own volition; they get no leadership from opposing parties or other authoritarian elements.

The busy daily schedules of first-time voters, who are mostly students, university students, and workers, are the elements that prevent them from participating in politics. For first-time voters who are generally, it comes extremely naturally. The busy daily schedules of first-time voters in general, students, and workers are the obstacles that prevent them from participating in politics. The ordinary beginner voter will find it to be fairly reasonable. This inferiority is typically brought on by poor socioeconomic standing, a lack of political experience, or a low degree of education. According to Mohtar Mas'ood, gender disparities have an impact on a person's active participation in politics in addition to education and the social economy. People with high social standing are more active than those with low social status, for instance, and men participate more actively than women (Bathmaker et al., 2016).

They believe that persons with a high socioeconomic standing and sufficient experience have more of a right to participate in political activities. They understand that the fact of society is that people with appropriate socioeconomic status and expertise are more entitled to positions in politics. For some new electors, the involvement of beginner voters in politics is something unique. Consequently, they believe that only wealthy, educated, or politically seasoned individuals have the right to participate in politics. A person's life is greatly influenced by their family. The actions of other family members may be encouraged or even violated by the family. If a person's family does not agree with their choice, this demotivates them further.

Political involvement is a set of actions that engage the community and try to directly or indirectly influence governmental decisions that affect the general welfare. It is intended that political education for students, who make up the community of first-time voters in elections, might be used as a learning process to comprehend national life. This group's lack of political education renders them susceptible to being influenced by particular interests. Voting, running for office, and discussing politics are all ways that new voters might get involved in politics. First, in terms of getting political incentives, is a factor that encourages new voters to participate in politics.

4. Conclusion

Because of the stimulus provided by the media or electronically, new voters are urged to cast ballots in the general election. The second has to do with a person's social traits. Beginner voters differ in their social personality traits, yet despite these variances, many of them care about and are conscious of their society's political rights. According to the invitation they receive, they wish to take part in the election by travelling to the TPS where they currently reside. Third, it has to do with the political and party structures in which a person resides. Beginner voters have a variety of social personality traits, yet despite these variances, many of them care about and are conscious of their political rights and their civic responsibility. The fourth is represented by regional variations. All people, including first-time voters, can participate in elections since almost every region is safe and welcoming. Beginner voters cast their ballots at their own discretion; there is no interference from opposing parties or other authoritarian elements. The busyness of

everyday tasks, feelings of inadequacy, and familial restrictions are barriers to new voters' political engagement in elections.

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