

Growing the Spirit of Nationalism through Learning amid the Covid-19 Pandemic (Omicron)

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Abstract

The spirit of regenerating Indonesian youth nationalism aims to answer the challenges and obstacles due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Indonesia's young people who are classified as productive age are the key to the sustainability of Indonesia's economic growth which must not collapse due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. As a millennial generation, young people live in an atmosphere of using technology and digitization. Maximizing technology and digitalization will support the millennial group in giving birth to a demographic bonus.

Keywords: Nationalism, Indonesian Youth, Millennials, Covid-19 Pandemic

Introduction

During the current pandemic, people are required to stay at home and carry out all activities from home, both work and education. Because all activities must be done from home, online learning is chosen as an alternative in the world of education. Online learning takes place by utilizing technology in the Industrial Revolution 4.0 era. The ever-growing technology has led to new innovations in the world of education that allow students and teachers to meet face-to-face virtually whenever and wherever they are. Through online learning, students also become more creative because they are required to be active and look for learning resources on their own, not only by the teacher's explanation. So that indirectly online learning makes students think creatively and improve their intellectual abilities.

Behind all that, it turns out that online learning accompanied by technological developments causes students to have an individualistic nature, this learning is only done virtually and the interaction that occurs between each other is so low that it makes them feel they no longer need other people. In addition to the individualistic nature of today's young generation, they also tend to be arrogant because of their faded manners. One of them when commenting on social media. Children today comment without thinking first whether their comments are polite or not, contain sara or not, then hurt someone's feelings or not. In fact, many of them do not hesitate to issue swear words that do not reflect the culture of the Indonesian nation at all.

It is undeniable that today's society, especially millennials, tend to imitate western culture. The loss of love for domestic products clearly shows the fading sense of community nationalism. This is concerning, of course, it must be addressed immediately and triggers an attitude of radicalism. One way is to re-instill a sense of nationalism in the community, especially the younger generation (students). So that they as future successors of the nation do not lose their identity and identity as the Indonesian nation.

Online learning actually opens up wide opportunities for millennials to develop their potential and insights. However, the current of globalization makes them waver and gets carried

away by the current which makes them forget the identity of this nation. Therefore, a strong sense of nationalism is needed to survive in the midst of globalization. The spirit of nationalism will make a person not easily influenced by foreign cultures that are contrary to the values of Pancasila and the identity of our nation. Pancasila values that are embedded in us as a form of this sense of nationalism will filter the incoming foreign culture. Imitating foreign cultures is not a taboo subject, but with a record that the culture is positive and does not contradict the nation's ideology. It is undeniable that foreign cultures can also increase self-potential. Like a literacy culture that will open our horizons and bring Indonesia forward.

Method

The research method used in this study uses a qualitative approach with descriptive research based on a literature review which aims to find out how to grow the spirit of nationalism through learning in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic (Omicron). The data from this study were obtained from various electronic books, scientific journals, scientific articles and other websites whose accuracy has been confirmed. This research analysis technique is carried out by comparing and reviewing one by one e-books or related journals about the Spirit of Nationalism and Learning Amid the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Result and Discussion

Unlimited freedom in all areas of life that occurs in this country is thought to be a reflection of the fading spirit of nationalism which is the identity of the nation, the influence of technology which is increasingly triggering the fading of nationalism among the younger generation. Technological advances make people forget historical references, they are more based on the west with the slogan of globalization. The cultural values of the nation that underlie the attitude of nationalism are shifted to an attitude of loving western culture. As a result, cultural values as an adhesive for the unity of all national energy in the younger generation fade, further reducing concern for the existing socio-cultural background.

In this era of globalization, it has had a considerable impact on the Indonesian people. Social culture is also characterized by changes that are very fast and difficult to predict. Indonesian culture that meets the cultures of other nations called modern culture is a big challenge for this nation to maintain the nation's cultural character. Changes in technology and science which are modern products also bring about changes in the value system and new norms in Indonesian society. The system of freedom adopted by modern western culture without having any ideological or religious implications is a big challenge for this nation to become a formidable nation that will create public welfare and social justice.

The world of education needs its role in rebuilding the spirit of nationalism in the younger generation. The role of educators has a great influence in determining the fate of this nation. If an educator is also complacent with technological advances and forgets the noble values of the nation or values (local wisdom), it is not impossible that in the near future the younger generation will be destroyed. All elements must synergize in order to achieve a generation that has a great character and attitude of nationalism.

The Global Pandemic Outbreak has an impact on the world of education globally. Indonesia continues to improve in overcoming educational problems due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Educational policies by implementing communication in the network (online), are forced

to make it easier for teachers and students to carry out the learning process through indirect contact. Although Indonesia in some remote areas is not covered by a good internet network. Indonesian youth certainly do not want to be left behind in using technology, especially in this era of the digital revolution (4.0 Revolution).

Education is the most important element in a country. Education is one of the obligations for all citizens to improve the progress of thinking and improve the progress of the country. Education in a country is the spearhead to advance the country, because with education the State will create and produce generations of nations who are ready to continue the ideals of the Indonesian nation. The Indonesian nation is a nation consisting of various ethnic groups, races, religions, and cultural systems. We can know that the identity of the Indonesian nation cannot be separated from the existence of the diverse Indonesian nation. As a pluralistic nation, we must respect each other and be tolerant between tribes, religions and cultures.

Corona Virus Diseases 2019 (Covid-19) is the newest type of virus, found in humans with a very fast spread rate. According to WHO, there will be many emerging viruses that are a serious problem for global health (Zhou et al., 2020). According to Sahu (2020), "The Covid-19 pandemic is a global problem, one of which has an impact on aspects of the world of education, namely the decline in interest and work results in students". In this era, the offline learning process must be replaced with online learning so that the learning process runs more effectively (Sintema, 2020), so the learning patterns of teachers/lecturers must change and require the preparation of materials and readiness to teach virtually using technology media (Clark, 2020).

Online learning has the advantage that it allows students to learn flexibly, anytime and anywhere. In addition, students can communicate virtually with several social media applications, such as telephone or live chat, zoom, google classroom, and others. Nakayama, Mutsuura, and Yamamoto (2014) stated that all literature concluded that not all students could receive this online learning well, this could be due to the different atmospheres and learning environments and the characteristics of students. It all depends on the enthusiasm of the students and that is one of the successes in learning.

Motivation is defined as the spirit to achieve certain goals. In this discussion what is meant is motivation in learning. According to Brophy, 2004 motivation is a theoretical concept that explains the direction, persistence and quality of behavior in order to achieve certain goals. Motivation describes a strong desire to do something with a specific goal either physically or mentally (Lee and Martin, 2017). Motivation is very influential about our knowledge, when we choose to learn and how we learn (Ryan, 2012). Being motivated is one of the effects, it will lead to enthusiasm for learning.

One of the factors that cause students not to have a passion for learning during this pandemic is that students are less active in asking and expressing their opinions when interacting virtually or in class, students will be more confident in asking questions and can express opinions only to close friends. The causes of these problems are (1) Students experience misconceptions and principles; (2) learning activities are not optimal; (3) Students' learning interest is low; (4) Interaction between students is less than optimal. These problems lead to low student learning outcomes (Amir and Kurniawan, 2016).

Awakening the spirit of learning is not easy, considering the current pandemic period, a student can make various efforts to increase motivation to learn. The following are ways to raise the spirit of self-learning as students according to (Rusdiansyah, 2019) including:

1. Use a variety of methods and activities. Doing the same thing over and over again can lead to boredom and reduce enthusiasm for learning;
2. At a young age, it should be filled with creative activities, writing, adventure and creating something;
3. Do not be a passive student because this can reduce interest and reduce curiosity;
4. Use active learning methods by chatting or discussing with friends;
5. Regularly gather and exchange ideas.

Conclusion

Nationalism is a view or understanding that creates and maintains the sovereignty of a country by realizing national interests and nationalism as well as a sense of wanting to defend the country. Nationalism is an understanding or teaching to love the nation and state. Every Indonesian citizen must have the same ideals and goals.

In the current era of globalization, Indonesia's young generation is threatened with losing its nationalistic spirit. Because the era of globalization has two sides, namely the positive side and the negative side that can affect the attitude of each individual, but the impact of the current era of globalization tends to be negative, so that the sense of love for the homeland is fading. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused multiple problems in various aspects of life, including the cultivation of nationalism, especially in the younger generation, more specifically on students as a group that is vulnerable to being exposed to values and understanding from outside.

In building the spirit of nationalism, not only in learning but in society there are also values to build the spirit of nationalism in students. The learning and teaching process for the community participates in building the spirit of student nationalism, and students must also be able to teach and be an example for the people of the nation and state with the spirit of nationalism.

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