

Identification of Voting Behavior on Direct Election of Pilkada in Maritime Regions in South Sulawesi

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Abstract: Amid the facts difficulty organizing elections because demographic and social factors, Island communities which allow the lack of community participation in the elections. However, the cases of this research featuring facts to the contrary. District of Pangkep and Selayar displaying a high level of voter turnout in local leader elections than other districts in South Sulawesi. From these facts, the question arises what is causing the high level of voter participation in the area include: is the high level of participation is due to the mobilization of public awareness or because of candidates? This research about voting behavior in local leader elections in two districts in South Sulawesi. The purpose of this study to analyze how the implementation model of local elections in the Maritime area. The method in this research combines quantitative and qualitative methods or often referred to as mixed methods. Emphasis is given to the use of the methodology of the latter. Qualitative data analysis will be supplemented with quantitative data analysis and documentation thus be possible to achieve a quality in-depth interpretation. The results showed voter participation in the local leader elections in the two districts is dependent on the variant of the general election. The participation rate of the local leader election and other election (presidential election, legislative elections or gubernatorial election) are always different. A striking difference is caused by factors of emotional closeness and mobilization of voters to participate choose more intense. The most affecting the level of participation is the proximity to the candidates. Both the proximity of the village and the proximity of the family, either by the candidate directly as well as campaign team.

Key words: Voting behaviour, local election, voter participation, south sulawesi, organizing elections

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia made a new breakthrough in the election with the implementation of the local elections (Pilkada) simultaneously began in 2015. This Pilkada is based on Law 1/2015. In Article 3 of Law 1/2015 mentioned elections held every 5 years simultaneously throughout the territory of the Republic of Indonesia. Simultaneous local elections will be implemented gradually and will be implemented nationally in 2027 to come.

In 2015, direct elections held in 264 local governments. Generally, the election's implementation can be assessed simultaneously running quite well. It is seen from the implementation of the simultaneous election as scheduled on December 9, 2015. Another thing that is considered safe is not post-election social conflicts as happened in previous elections. Nevertheless, there are 128 areas were filed to the constitutional court related to dissatisfaction with the results. The main highlights of the shortage of direct election in 2015 of the most prominent is the level of community participation is insufficient. Of the 77% participation rate targeted by the commission, the

realization was only about 70%. The most worrying, there are two areas that participation levels of <50%. The low level of public participation occur either because of socialization and campaign that went massively by each candidate are taken over by election commission (KPU) so that the effectiveness is less than the maximum when compared to the previous election (Republika, 2015).

In South Sulawesi, there are 11 regions run the elections simultaneously in 2015. Those areas include: Selayar, Bulukumba, Gowa, Maros, Pangkep, Barru, Soppeng, Tana Toraja, North Toraja, East Luwu Timur and North Luwu. There are 35 candidates who berkontestasi as regional head in eleven districts in South Sulawesi. The level of community participation in South Sulawesi in direct elections recorded an average of 71.79%. Among the eleven regions, Selayar District is the region with the highest participation rate in the amount of 81.22% while the lowest was Bulukumba with the participation of 58.93%.

From the data of the local elections in 2015, revealed an interesting fact that Selayar District which is the area

with the geographical range of the island is the area with the highest voter participation rates in the direct elections in South Sulawesi. In Pangkep which is also the island regions have participation rates above the national average and the province. In fact, the islands has its own difficulty level in the process of election. One of the most severe is the problem distribusi election logistics. For the distribution of election supplies to the islands in Pangkep example it takes 6-18 h of travel (Okezone.Com, 2015). This condition would be more difficult if the election was held in the summer strong winds and high waves at Selayar as happened in 2013. Logistics were planned to be distributed through the sea forced diverted to the air line.

Besides the difficulty of distribution logistics, social conditions can also be inhibiting the process of the elections. Maritime community in general depend on economic sectors in the field of marine activities such as fishing, seafood processing or sale of marine products. The job requires fishermen to move or be at sea for a long time to catch fish. This can complicate the voters or the data collection can also be the cause of people not voting because it was not in place during the election.

Another thing that can increase the probability of citizens not to participate in local elections is a factor of poor people who live in coastal areas. There is a strong relationship between the ability of the economy to the level of political participation of the community. Communities whose basic needs have been met tend to already be berpartipasi political activity. Poor people can be assumed would prefer to make a living rather than participate in the elections unless election pragmatic short-term profit to them for example their political money (Aspinall and Sukmajati, 2015; Hidayat, 2009). Data released by the National Team to Accelerate Poverty in the year 2011 showed that in 2008 the number of poor people in coastal areas are at the number range 39-75% of people who live in coastal areas. The data shows that coastal areas are very prone to the condition of the lack of public participation in politics including elections.

Problem statement: Amid the facts difficulty organizing elections demographic and social factors island communities which allow the lack of community participation in the elections, Pangkep and Selayar District featuring facts to the contrary. From these facts, the question arises what is causing the high level of community participation in the area include: is the high level of participation is due to the mobilization of public awareness or because of candidates?

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The method in this research combines quantitative and qualitative methods or often referred to as mixed methods. Emphasis is given to the use of the methodology of the latter. Qualitative data analysis will be supplemented with quantitative data analysis and documentation thus be possible to achieve a quality in-depth interpretation.

Quantitative methods used to obtain quantitative data includes profiles of voters, the perception of the local elections simultaneously as well as a preference vote for a candidate. Quantitative method performed using an instrument with a face to face interview questionnaire to selected respondents (questionnaire attached). The results of quantitative research and then deepened with qualitative methods to examine more specifically the perception and preference of choosing the maritime community. Qualitative methods conducted with key informant interviews, observation and focus group discussion.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Voting behavior in maritime community: Voters tendency within the island as Selayar and Pangkep, more see figure than Political Parties. One of them, the system of Punggawa-Sawi is still thick. Usually this Punggawa has a lot of the servants (Sawi). In terms of political participation, the Sawi will normally follow the political choice of Punggawa (Pelras, 2000). By him, the candidates always make a successful team or the team's victory of the Punggawa. The main reason is as panners voters in the local area. Not much different, according to one of the candidates Pangkep regent in 2015, people in the islands in the activities of electoral participation is still there which is Punggawa-Sawi.

Punggawa-Sawi in these two regions, almost similar noken system in Papua. In Papua more for culture while in South Sulawesi is more on economic issues. For example, Punggawa forcing his men to follow the wishes of the political with the threat of fire. Easy understanding, "just hold his Punggawa, indirectly will get his Sawi".

The results of interviews also found several conclusions related to voting behavior in the 2015 local elections in these two districts. Some informants mentioned that the reality of democracy is still far from expectations. According to them, money politics is a very common thing. A local politician said that: this is not just a theory, I felt this phenomenon when I followed the legislative elections in 2014. And that money politics is still ongoing in Pilkada of 2015. People are more likely to

vote if there is money given. I'd rather not public, my immediate family, many who deviated from me. In fact, if seen from the level of socialization, I've felt very maximum (interview; November 8, 2016).

Once the case presented by one of the candidates Bupati Pangkep 2015 that cases of money politics in Pangkep is still very large. According to him: actually, it is not the people who ask but rather candidates who do not want to lose. So with no attitude gracefully with money politics is the one weapon to win. I separate the pragmatic character of the community and apathetic voters. Pragmatic society that is actually very smart. But this money is a factor of political culture has become a culture, so there is a slogan "you pay me, I chose you" (interview 10; November 2016).

Furthermore, Bupati candidate said that the political parties in Pangkep does not work optimally. Political parties do not transform its main function is supposed to be in political parties was a place to learn democracy. In short, the more influential figures in influencing voters. Especially in culture of Pangkep still recognize a system of strata of society. Through this gap hopefuls will take effect on such prominent figures to serve as panners voters and gather support.

In conclusion, voter behavior is more directed at the role character than political parties (Buehler, 2009). Political parties are only considered as a vehicle and a symbol as complementary requirements. In addition, many voters still influenced the politics of money. But the reality of it is precisely because the prospective candidate who uses the money so that it becomes a culture in every election.

Participation rate: Regarding the high level of voter participation in island communities in the two districts is interesting that while in theory it difficult to geographical reasons. There is some rationalization of the participation associated with the assumption that Pilkada more interesting and have high participation rates than the presidential election or gubernatorial election. This is because the prospective candidates are directly in contact with the people, both in the process of self-socialization, as well as exposure of the vision and mission if served later. It is also stated by another informant who said that the level of public participation in democracy has been good: the key is actually the dissemination, distribution and communication. Lodging in the islands, they usually communicate via walkie-talkies (ORARI). Faster than the facilities of other communication.

Different reasons related to the turnout in the 2015 local elections in Pangkep. According to one of the candidates regent who competed in the election saying that the exact time in the implementation of the elections

in Pangkep coincides with the summer monsoon which at that season the weather was not allowed to go to sea, so they are more concentrated in the mainland so they can focus in following the elections (interview; November 10, 2016).

Meanwhile, there are three reasons a high participation rate in the district of Selayar. Firstly, because Selayar is the district with the fewest number of voters in the province so it's certainly easier to be motivated to vote. Second, the local government of the district to village level big role in urging the community. In fact, there are incentives from the district government to villages and districts which is the highest level of participation of voters in the elections. Third of course this also can not be separated from a team effort successful in disseminating candidate. As for who did not come pick in general simply because they are not in Selayar at the election. But those who are on Selayar generally do not go to work during the elections were conducted.

CONCLUSION

In Indonesian local leader election voting behavior is more directed at the role personal figure than political parties. Political parties are only considered as a vehicle and a symbol as complementary requirements. In addition, many voters still influenced the politics of money. But, the reality of it is precisely because the prospective candidate who uses the money so that, it becomes a culture in every election.

Voter participation in the local leader elections in the two districts is dependent on the variant of the general election. The participation rate of the presidential election, gubernatorial election, regent elections and legislative elections are always different. For example, the participation rate is very low whereas the 2014 presidential election on the legislative elections and the election of the regent high level of participation. A striking difference is caused by factors of emotional closeness and mobilization of voters to participate to participate choose more intense. The most affecting the level of participation is the proximity to the candidates. Both the proximity of the village and the proximity of the family, either by the candidate directly as well as campaign team.

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