Realizing Social Capital Gain through Civic Engagement: Lessons for Indonesia’s Decentralization

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Introduction

- same COVID-19 policies but different implementation effectiveness
- In past crises, effectiveness strongly influenced by the level of social capital in society
- Capital gained should be realized through civic engagement
- **Aims**: elaborate the importance of social capital in handling the COVID-19 pandemic
- responds to the recommendations of further research given by Pitas and Ehmer (2020)
Research Question

1. what aspects of social capital are important for fostering civic engagement

2. how the government uses civic engagement to deal with crises

3. what communities are targeted by the government to encourage civic engagement,

4. map issues of social capital and civic engagement in handling the pandemic that can be adopted and adapted into Indonesia’s decentralization policies
Method

- Qualitative Research
- Integrative Literature Review
- Resources: Scientific articles from academic journal, searched using Google Scholar
- Apply data triangulation from different journals to ensure data validity
Finding & Discussion

RQ 1: What are S.C. Aspect

RQ 2: How Gov Using C.E.

RQ 3: Comnty Target

Subjective well-being
Reciprocity
Confidence in institutions
Trust
Volunteerism
Solidarity

provide the community basic needs
Community compliance
pandemic management

Neighbourhoods
Religious communities
Volunteer organizations
Families
Indigenous people
Diaspora
Result
RQ 4: LESSONS FOR INDONESIA’S DECENTRALIZATION POLICIES

- difficult to implement civic engagement in decentralization
  - the mentality of public officials: paradigm shifting from OPA to NPS
  - the mentality of citizen: believe in insiders rather than follow the prevailing system.
- it is obligatory for the government to carry out a mental revolution for public officials in order to foster social capital in society, to improve civic engagement.
- Decentralization should not be used to benefit a few parties by eliminating civic engagement.
Conclusion

- Social capital is agnostic that it can have a good or bad impact on policy implementation depending on how it is utilized through civic engagement.
- Like a circle, good long-term civic engagement will increase the social capital.
- This principle must be applied in Indonesia’s decentralization policy. Decentralization should not use to benefit certain parties by taking advantage of the loss of civic engagement.


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