Analysis of Educational Policy Against Distance Learning During a Pandemic

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ABSTRACT

Education policy is the subject of special attention by the government. This has become a matter of concern since the world was shocked by the outbreak of a virus called Corona or often referred to as Covid-19 (Corona Virus Diseases-19). This virus has led to the issuance of several government policies, especially in education, to prevent the spread of Covid-19. This study aims to analyze the educational policies that surround students in sustaining support in each of their learning processes so that the obstacles they face can be overcome through policies submitted by the government. This research uses a qualitative case study method through data sources taken from various relevant data sources, including journals and scientific papers on the case of the education policy raised, namely distance learning during the Covid-19 emergency. The study results indicate that the distance learning process currently being carried out cannot be called an ideal learning condition but an emergency condition that must be implemented. There are still various obstacles so that all learning can be optimal. The government is working with various related parties to make various efforts to overcome the problems that arise in the distance gaining knowledge, both in terms of regulations, increasing educator readiness, and expanding networks and get entry to studying sources, on the way to run effectively and efficiently.

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1.   INTRODUCTION

Public policy is a strategic use of resources in solving public or government problems. There is much evidence that policies have helped implementers in the government bureaucracy or politicians solve public problems. Public policy is a form of continuous intervention by the government for the benefit of the community so that people can live decently and contribute to all lines of development and society.

Two steps can be chosen to implement public policies, namely direct implementation in the form of programs, and you can also use derivative policies from these policies. To implement the policy, it is necessary to design a realistic program following the community's expectations to respond to the public interest. Programs are reduced to projects, then into activities, whether carried out by the government, the community, or in collaboration with the government (Sadiawati et al., 2019).

Coverage implementation is the implementation of essential policy selections, generally in the form of legal guidelines; however, it can also be inside the shape of govt orders or decisions or decisions of the judiciary, and those choices perceive the hassle to be addressed and honestly state the dreams or targets to be pursued, executed, and numerous approaches to prepare the implementation method (Muhlizi, 2017).

One of the policy implementations that are currently the subject of attention is policies in education. This has become a matter of concern since the world was shocked by the outbreak of a virus called Corona or often referred to as Covid-19 (Corona Virus Diseases-19). This virus became endemic in Wuhan, China, and spread very quickly throughout the world, including Indonesia, in just a few months. The Covid-19 outbreak has affected various sectors, ranging from the economic, social, and educational fields.

Due to the emergence of this virus in the education sector, the Minister of Education and Culture (Mendikbud) issued circular letter Number 4 of 2020 concerning the Implementation of Education Policies in the Emergency Period for the Spread of Corona Virus Diseases-19. In order to break the chain of the spread of this virus, the government recommends closing learning activities in schools and implementing Distance Learning (PJJ). In implementing education policies, the government faces several obstacles that arise in the implementation of PJJ, including first, the difficulty of teachers in managing PJJ and is still focused on completing the curriculum. Second, not all parents can optimally accompany their children to study at home because they have to work or are capable of being a child's learning companion. Third, the students also have difficulty concentrating on studying from home and an increased sense of boredom, which can cause mental health problems.

This is supported by the Saiful Mujani Research and Consulting (SMRC) survey, which launched facts from a survey conducted from five - to August 8, 2020, concerning online education at some point during the Covid-19 pandemic. The survey results showed that 92% of college students experienced many problems in online studying at some stage in the corona pandemic. SMRC Public policy supervisor Tati D. Wardi said that this survey changed observed by respondents aged 17 years and over. Of this amount, as much as 5% admitted still attending school or college. As many as 87% of the respondents said they did online learning, while those who did not study amounted to 13%. Based on the survey results, it can be seen that an analysis of educational policies is needed that includes students in sustaining support in each of their learning processes so that the obstacles they face can be overcome through policies submitted by the government(Dany & Habibah, 2021).

This study has several references, namely research by (Basar, 2021), which resulted in distance learning (PJJ) during the covid-19 pandemic, causing various responses and changes to the learning system that could affect the learning process and the level of development of students in responding to the material presented. Another relevant research is by (Subahan et al., 2021), which results. Based on the results of a literature review on basic education policies during the pandemic and their impact on learning, it can be concluded that from 15 articles published in 2019-2020, 3 articles were obtained that matched the existing variables. The implementation of basic education policies during the pandemic and its impact on learning can cause many problems at first, but slowly these problems can be resolved. The implementation of basic education policies during the pandemic needs to be supported by complete facilities so that the impact on learning can be handled effectively and efficiently.

Based on some of these references, it can be seen that a more detailed analysis of education policies is still needed, especially policies that continue to develop to this day. So that the policy can be used as a solution for other policy researchers in implementing policies so that they are more targeted.

2.   METHODS

This research uses qualitative research methods, namely descriptive case studies, and analyses. The population in this study were all residents of SMA IT Indah Medan, with a total student population of 50 students, 10 teachers, and 1 administrator. So that the sample was taken as much as 25% of the total population of each part of the population, namely 13 students, 3 teachers, and 1 administration. Data were obtained through questionnaires given online to students, teachers, and other stakeholders at SMA IT Indah Medan. The research approach is descriptive, inspecting the popularity of a group of humans, an object, a state of affairs, a gadget of thought, or a set of events inside the beyond now. The motive of this situation observing descriptive research is to make a scientific, authentic, and correct description, photograph, or painting of the information, traits, and relationships between the investigated phenomena and to gather data and records with the help of numerous existing substances. The results are used in various sources of journals or scientific works because they are the fundamental feature and foremost tool for studies practice in the discipline. Because it uses case study studies, it method that the facts assets are taken from various information resources applicable to the topic raised, precisely distance mastering for the duration of the Covid-19 emergency. The process of collecting data through case study studies at the research location and reviewing the analysis of distance learning policies implemented by the government, then the research results obtained are analyzed to obtain answers to whether the application of distance learning is ideal if implemented in the educational environment of SMA IT Indah Medan.

3.   FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The following shows the results of the policies implemented by the government to be implemented during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Table 1. Education Policy during the Pandemic

No.	Policy	About
1.	round of the Minister of education and tradition number 4 yr 2O2O	Implementation of schooling guidelines within the Emergency duration for the spread of Corona Virus ailment 2019 (COVID-19)
2.	round of the Secretary trendy of the Ministry of training and subculture wide variety 15 of 2020	suggestions for Organizing getting to know from domestic in an Emergency duration for the unfold of Corona Virus disorder 2019 (COVID-19)
3.	Decree of the Director fashionable of Islamic education number 2791 year 2O2O	Emergency Curriculum guide for Madrasahs
4.	Circular of the Director-General of Islamic Education Number 657 Year 2O2O	Efforts to save you from the unfolding of COVID-19

Based on the table, it can be seen that the community must implement policies to prevent the spread of Covid-19. This is a significant concern in determining each of the policies implemented. Data on the phenomenon of student perceptions were also obtained after the implementation of the policy, as shown in Table 2 below:

Table 2. Student Perception

No.	Students' perceptions of the effectiveness of learning from home	Strongly agree	Agree	Doubtful	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1	I can understand the subject matter while studying from home	6.90%	30.90%	29.20%	21.20%	11.80%
2	The teacher guides while studying from home	20.70%	50.40%	12.10%	9.90%	6.90%
3	School provides study guide from home	22.60%	49.30%	11.60%	10.20%	6.30%
4	Schools provide learning resources to support learning from home	23.40%	47.10%	13.20%	8.80%	7.40%
5	I don't find it difficult to use digital devices	10.50%	33.30%	30.30%	13.50%	12.40%
6	Studying from home does not make me miss lessons	9.60%	33.30%	22.90%	16.80%	17.40%
7	My parents accompany me when I study at home	13.80%	36.90%	19.30%	17.40%	12.70%
8	My parents accompany me when I study at home	13.80%	36.90%	19.30%	17.40%	12.70%
9	My parents have no trouble guiding me to study from home	8.00%	33.60%	23.10%	19.30%	16.00%
10	My parents support online learning	14.10%	31.80%	20.70%	14.40%	19.10%

Based on the results in Table 2 above, it can be seen that, in general, most students (53.3%) feel that the learning process from home is quite adequate, although not a few students are hesitant or think otherwise (46.7%). This is what needs to be used as a reference in discussing the analysis of education policy during the pandemic

The Urgency of Education Policy Analysis

Analysis of schooling rules is essential in determining the direction and guidelines for implementing education in a country. In the implementation of education, it is impossible to separate from the policies made by the government or the parties who have the authority in the place where the educational institution exists (there are public and private educational institutions). By conducting policy analysis, we will be able to accurately learn and understand government policies or related parties as education managers, including:

we can describe instructional policy—we can study what authorities are doing (and not doing) that is, welfare, protection, training, civil rights, health, energy, taxation, and so on; 2) we can inquire about the reasons or determinants of tutorial policy; 3) we can make inquiry approximately the outcomes, or impact of educational coverage (Williams et al., 2016)

Analysis of educational policies is fundamental in the intellectual life of the nation and state. Because education is a part of the dimensions of human life, that has a significant influence

on human life both individually and socially. Therefore, various efforts made by the government or the public who have a concern for education need to be observed, given the broad impact on human life in the short and long term. For this reason, the analysis of education policy needs to be based on an objective principle, not only to blame education policies by the government in power or other parties as education providers. However, it also provides a possible picture of improvement in education policies by the government or education providers. This, of course, requires an objective and accurate scientific approach. In this connection, education policy analysis becomes essential to understand and improve policy if the results of the analysis show consequences that have not been by the expected plan (Alpaydin, 2017).

According to Ali Taufik's opinion in his journal, in preparing the components of the process of the implementation of distance education is implemented, the implementing components of higher education with the local government put into effect a lively cooperation device thru the implementation of a stock of the desires for the manner of enhancing human resources in every area vicinity thru the application of the required mechanism additives. These additives consist of a stock of knowledgeable, professional, and trained human resources. From those input desires, the collaboration is continued by constructing a machine adapted to the components of the implementation manner. presentation framework learning activity implementer applied remotely optimized for building creativity and knowledge in the respective areas -masing with the specific process components support developing the area well within the scope of the development of knowledge and technology applied to accelerate the process of development in the surrounding communities create prosperity

Analysis of educational policy, several characteristics can be identified, among others:

1) A process or activity of synthesis of various information about education services. The education policy analysis combines various incoming information, including the results of research conducted by experts on educational services, so that conclusions are obtained in line with the research recommendations. This means the object of education policy analysis in formulating educational policies and packaging. The main activities of education policy analysis consist of collecting complete information and concluding with logical principles. With this rule, policy analysts can be categorized based on scientific principles,

2) information becomes the primary source of policy analysis studies, namely research outputs. The results of policy analysis research are the outputs of the research data processing process that are ready to assist in decision making and the design of educational policies. That counterpart, policy analysis into one form of dissemination of research results,

3) The output of policy analysts is in the form of recommendation (optional) decisions. It can also be in the form of policy designs. Other educational policy outputs are advice, standard operational, procedural, and technical instructions (SOP) in materials, flow, sequence, and targets for decision-making about education. By k that arena, policy analysis of education should be shown in the form of a report that is clear, concise, at t and complete, and thorough,

4) The client (user) analysis policy education is the decision-makers and interest group (*interest group*) to existing policies. Generally, clients (users) of educational policy analysis are specific (particular). The relationship is directly related to the output of education policy analysis in the form of advice, direction, guidelines about the policy itself,

5) Policy analysis orientation to the client (*client-oriented*).

This consideration implies the education policy analysis characteristics that produce decision advice. Without client orientation, educational policy analysis will not be ready for use. This means that education policy analysis must be based on, from, and for users (clients). Educational policies can be analyzed if there is a demand or reasonable suspicion that the users (clients) need it. So

that the presence of educational policy analysis is undoubtedly based on the encouragement of the user's urgent needs or the client's *need*

It is realized that granting a larger quota to regions to implement development in education has several impacts, such as planning, administration, finance, institutions, etc. Therefore, the regions' readiness to play a more significant role is central in implementing educational autonomy. Although educational autonomy is a must, the implementation appears to be a hasty and unprepared action. This can be seen in various problems of the human resources (HR) regions, facilities, and inadequate infrastructure, education management is not optimal da n Additional forth.

Among the problem faced by education in the area now concerns the quality of the graduates are still low, lack of a teacher and qualifications that are not appropriate, delivery of education, the problem of relevance, curriculum um and other things so, this is a heavy task for local governments in the framework of implementing regional autonomy. Understanding and strong commitment from the government area of education are necessary to answer problems. The national policies on the government's priority scale should receive attention from schools. Thus, expect schools to have high accountability to the public and the government because both are the executors of schooling.

Efforts to Improve the Quality of the Distance Learning Process

Reacting to specific court cases associated with net get to barriers and learning physical activities that burden teachers and understudies, the service of instruction and tradition asked to recognize critical instruction that facilities on scholarly or cognitive angles of feat. More indeed, the regulations that recognize the mastering management from domestic are directed in the round Letter of the Serve of guidance and way of life No. 4 of 2020 regarding the implementation of practice methods in the crisis length for the spread of Coronavirus malady (Covid-2019). Factor 2 of the round clarifies that the studying taken from a home is carried out with the following preparations. To begin with, it is achieved to deliver a substantial mastering stumble upon for understudies without being pressured with requests to total all educational modules accomplishments for assessment advancement and graduation. Second, it facilities on lifestyles aptitudes guidance, counting the Covid-19 sizable. Third, mastering activities and obligations may also vary between college students, in step with their interests and conditions, consisting of the space in getting entry to/gaining knowledge of facilities at home. Fourth, evidence or products of getting to know sports from domestic are given qualitative and valuable feedback from the teacher, without giving quantitative scores/values.

Harris Iskandar as Plt. The -General of Early Childhood Education at the Ministry of Education and Culture explained that teachers do not have to be fixated on online learning and assignments (Firman & Rahayu, 2020). Teachers are expected to be creative and innovative in exploring fun learning activities, primarily due to technology and internet connection limitations. For example, they are learning through the project of making hand sanitizers made from traditional spices that students can directly use. Teachers in the context of education have a significant and strategic role. This is because teachers are at the forefront of implementing education. As practitioners, teachers must be required to harmonize the changing times marked by technological sophistication with moral values. That way, schools can become a moral stronghold for children to grow together with technology and use it for positive things. As a profession, a teacher is required to have academic qualifications, competence, educator certification, be physically and mentally healthy, and can realize national education goals (Hayati, 2015)

In terms of increasing distance getting to know, the government bolsters and encourages the execution of online gaining knowledge more broadly, in collaboration with Kominfo and broadcast communications advantage providers. Much obliged to these endeavors, the open can get to an assortment of remove learning substances through different stages such as Rumah Belajar, Kelas Pintar, Quipper School, *Ruang Guru*, and Zenius for PAUD and Dikdasmen levels. As a form of support, the government encourages the priority of Learning Houses to work together with the Public Broadcasting Institute (LPP) TVRI and RRI so that this IT-based learning system can be utilized when

there are problems on the internet network. Since LPP TVRI began broadcasting on Monday, April 13, 2020, students can take advantage of many learning programs from home.

In education, the internet can be used as a lesson. This learning is in the form of *electronic learning* or what is known as *e-learning* (Munadi et al., 2010). Put forward, and *e-learning* can be interpreted as a learning material that allows the delivery of teaching materials to students using internet media.

When the COVID-19 pandemic has hit the world, including Indonesia, to date, the sophistication of information technology must be utilized as best as possible in the learning process by a teacher because it is a requirement for a professional teacher. According to Kusnandar that professional teachers are teachers who always master the material or subject matter that will be taught in teaching and learning interactions that are adapted to the times, and continuously develop their abilities in a sustainable manner, both in terms of their knowledge and experience (Kusnandar, 2011).

In order to improve the quality of PJJ sustainably, several essential things must be pursued, among others. First, colleges should start enhancing facilities and infrastructure to help online masterings, such as infrastructure for strengthening the net community and gaining knowledge of management Framework (LMS) and moment, expanding the ability of teachers who bolster the execution of PJJ, for case, increasing competence in making plans, media and network and overseeing studying by taking an interest in distinctive portions of preparing. 1/3, the nonstop extension of innovation level back to bolster PJJ.

The back of different innovation stages for learning exercises is anticipated to proceed after the Covid-19 widespread has finished. A few of these endeavors were made to prepare PJJ to be carried out ideally, not as it were in a widespread circumstance, but to make strides in the quality of instruction in fast, innovative improvements.

The advancement of information and communication technology today can bring the virtual world into reality in front of us. The world is no longer limited by distance, space, and time. Thus all activities will be easier and faster. The paradigm of the education system, which was initially conventional by relying on face-to-face, then with a touch of information technology, especially in the *cyber* world, has turned into a distance education system that is not limited by space, time, and distance so that the relationship between students and teachers can be done anytime and anywhere.

4.   CONCLUSION

The current distance learning process cannot be called an ideal learning condition but an emergency condition that must be implemented. There are still various obstacles so that all learning can be optimal. The government is working with various related parties to make various efforts to overcome the problems that occur in PJJ, both in terms of regulation, increasing educator readiness, and expanding networks and access to learning resources, so that they can run effectively and efficiently. However, these efforts need to be continuously improved so that the optimization of PJJ is not only for emergency conditions like today but also for everyday situations according to learning needs. The government continues to encourage the synergy of various related sectors so that efforts to improve the quality of education, both in the Covid-19 emergency period and the implementation of sustainability education in the future, can be optimized. This research has limitations in the research sample. It is hoped that further research can increase the number of research samples. This research is expected to be a guide for policymakers to determine policies that follow the conditions that occur in the education sector.

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