

## Comprehending Manipulative Tactics In Elections

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### ABSTRACT

*General elections (Pemilu) are a strong foundation of democracy, but are often affected by various manipulative tactics used by political actors. This article aims to present a literature review of manipulative tactics that often appear in the context of general elections. We analyze various empirical and theoretical studies that highlight manipulative practices such as duping the masses, spreading fake news, money politics, voter intimidation, and gerrymandering. Through a synthesis of the literature, we identify the factors that drive the use of manipulative tactics and their impact on democratic integrity. Additionally, we explore efforts to address manipulative tactics, including stricter regulations, voter education, and the role of media and civil society in combating practices that undermine democratic processes. This analysis provides a deeper understanding of political dynamics in general elections and their relevance in the context of sustainable democratic development.*

*Keywords: Tactics, Manipulative, Election*

### I. INTRODUCTION

The simultaneous regional election regime that has been in place since 2015 gives institutional strength to the Election Supervisory Body, especially Panwaslu. They are given the authority to handle administrative violations (Article 138 Law 1 of 2015) as well as disputes between participants and election organizers and other administrative violations. Panwaslu's decision is final and valid (Articles 141-144 of Law 1 of 2015). In addition, this contributed to the transformation of the Panwaslu, which initially only managed and supervised the selection stages. Additionally, it serves as a venue for electoral disputes (Electoral Supervisory) during stage elections and as a way to voice the sadness and grief caused by stage elections. (Surbakti & Fitrianto, 2015:8).

Minimizing election violations at every stage of the process is one of the characteristics of democratic elections and integrity. Apart from that, there are two important elements needed to hold elections with integrity and democracy. First, election laws must be applied consistently to protect the political rights of voters and election participants. Second, election organizers must act based on professionalism, independence, integrity, transparency and honesty. (Wall et al, 2006).

Election integrity is one of the six parameters of the process of holding democratic elections; this means the integrity of the election process and the integrity of the election results. Research on election integrity will focus on the vote counting and voting process. Not only because this process is the most important part of the election process, but because groups who want to get seats or positions use it in any way. (Surbakti et al, 2011).

Election organizers are one of the many parties who have the opportunity to commit election violations. Ad hoc committees (PPK, PPS, and KPPS) serve in their respective administrative areas and function as election organizers at a level below the KPU. They do significant work, and the quality of democracy is affected by it. However, a large number of officers at the ad hoc level were reported to DKPP for abusing their authority, opposing election participants, and even cheating. (Jamaludin, 2016).

## II. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research uses a literature review. The purpose of a literature review is a problem-solving tool based on a thorough and critical examination of relevant literary sources. The library research analysis technique is carried out by collecting information from various sources which is needed as a source of ideas to explore new ideas and then using it as material to draw conclusions from existing information, the latest theoretical framework or basic problem solving can be developed. Theoretical sources obtained through library research are used as the basis and main instrument of subject research practice. Literary research is a method of collecting information or sources about a research topic. Literature studies can be obtained from various sources, journals, documentary books, the internet and libraries.

## III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### *Factors Causing Vote Manipulation at the Ad Hoc Committee Level*

The research results show that the following factors can cause changes in votes at the ad hoc committee level in Pesawaran:

1. The honesty of election organizers is the problem. This is the reason why votes can be changed at the ad hoc committee level. If the integrity of election organizers is weak, outside parties can easily influence them. To win in an election, voters can do anything to get votes, including approaching election organizers by trying to shake their integrity by giving them the impression that if their integrity is weak, the votes can be manipulated. During voting, vote counting and vote recapitulation, fraud must be anticipated. This stage is very important because the integrity of the ad hoc election organizers is tested. Because the integrity of election organizers is correlated with public confidence in election results, the final results of C1 must be strictly monitored from the bottom to the top.
2. Honorarium is money given for services provided in certain activities. The amount of work of the ad hoc committee is not commensurate with the compensation. The KPU thanked the ad hoc committee that conducted the elections. The salaries of ad hoc committees, namely PPK, PPS and KPPS, are determined based on a letter from the Ministry of Finance Number S-118/MK.02/2016 dated 19 February 2016. For the implementation of the 2019 Election, it is considered that the honorarium for ad hoc committees, especially KPPS, is insufficient. adequate. The PPS honorarium is IDR 900,000/person/month for the Chair and IDR 850,000/person/month for Members, while the KPPS honorarium is IDR 550,000/person/month for the Chair and IDR 500,000/person/month for Members. Because their responsibilities are disproportionate to their honor, election organizers may want to earn more money than their honorarium.
3. Honorarium is money given for services provided in certain activities. The accuracy of BA and HPS certificates or C1 forms can lead to vote manipulation at the ad hoc committee level, especially in KPPS. Errors in writing numbers can cause inaccuracies in BA documents and HPS certificates or C1 forms. Errors in writing numbers can come from fatigue, negligence, or lack of understanding. The honorarium is not commensurate with Due to inaccuracies in this Official Report and the Vote Count Results certificate, (2018) He stated in his research journal that this could also lead to signs of vote manipulation. According to Surbakti et al. (2011), The integrity of the election process and results is closely related to the function of the Minutes and certificates of Vote Count Results. Therefore, systems that prevent fraud are necessary to ensure that vote counting and voting are carried out accurately, error-free and not manipulated. The minutes and certificates of the tiered vote counting results are followed up to the national level and decided by the KPU.
4. Accurate recruitment of election officials. An inadequate hiring process for ad hoc

committee employees can lead to vote manipulation and violations of legislation. According to interviews with several sources, the process of appointing the ad hoc committee for the 2019 elections in Pesawaran was in accordance with the established rules and criteria.

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