



The Role of The “Front Mahasiswa Nasional” Through The People Serve Program in Providing Alternative Education to The Community of Medan City

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Abstract. *This study aims to analyze the role of the Front Mahasiswa Nasional branch of Medan in providing alternative education through the Serve of the People program and to analyze the obstacles faced by the FMN in providing alternative education through the Serve the People program. data analyzed uses theories and concepts related to the data collected including the conception of education and the concept of youth. The data presented in this study are the results of various databases that are primary and secondary. The data is obtained through direct interviews, to literature studies conducted on books, journals, newspapers, internet sites, organizational documents and various other related literature. Front Mahasiswa Nasional Branch of Medan plays a role as social control by raising awareness of their responsibilities, rights and obligations as citizens. However, conflicts that occur at the leadership level also become one of the major obstacles that affect the decline in the work of the organization.*

Keywords: *Alternative Education, Front Mahasiswa Nasional, Medan, Serve the People*

Abstrak. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis peran Front Mahasiswa Nasional cabang Medan dalam memberikan pendidikan alternatif melalui program Pelayanan masyarakat dan menganalisis hambatan yang dihadapi oleh FMN dalam memberikan pendidikan alternatif melalui program Pelayanan Masyarakat (Serve of the People program). Data dianalisis menggunakan teori dan konsep yang berkaitan dengan data yang dikumpulkan termasuk konsepsi pendidikan dan konsep pemuda. Data yang disajikan dalam penelitian ini adalah hasil dari berbagai database yang bersifat primer dan sekunder. Data diperoleh melalui wawancara langsung, dengan studi literatur yang dilakukan pada buku, jurnal, surat kabar, situs internet, dokumen organisasi dan berbagai literatur terkait lainnya. Front Mahasiswa Nasional Cabang Medan berperan sebagai kontrol sosial dengan meningkatkan kesadaran akan tanggung jawab, hak, dan kewajiban mereka sebagai warga negara. Namun, konflik yang terjadi pada level kepemimpinan menjadi salah satu kendala utama yang mempengaruhi penurunan kinerja organisasi.

Kata Kunci: Front Mahasiswa Nasional, Medan, Pelayanan Masyarakat, Pendidikan Alternatif

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1. Introduction

Education is one of the keys that is essential in human life. In the context and scope of the life of a nation, education has a very important and strategic role to ensure the continuity and development of the life of the nation. Because from and with education all aspects of humans can be enlightened. Education must be able to prepare citizens to face their future which is then implanted with thousands of hopes of progress and welfare of life for human children [1].

Indonesia as a country understands the issues described above, so that important matters regarding education are contained in the country's foundation; in the opening of the 1945 Constitution which clearly wrote the ideals of this country to educate the nation. Furthermore, in Article 31 of the 1945 Constitution reiterated the right of the people to get access to education, "every citizen has the right to education". This illustrates to us how important the position of education is in Indonesia.

Indonesia has been 73 years more independent but in general we can see that what this country aspires in the aspect of education has not yet occurred. Liberalization, privatization, and commercialization in the world of education fade the state's responsibility in organizing and distributing education to all people. Then the mandate of the 1945 Constitution Article 31 Paragraph 4 regarding the education budget which is at least 20% is then broken by the Constitutional Court Decision Number 24 / PUU-V / 2007. This is what has further distanced the country's ideals of the education perspective, because if the 20% budget involves other things such as teacher salaries, 70 percent of the budget must be distributed to regions in the context of salary payments as well as teacher professional allowances and also to pay for official education managed by other ministries or institutions.

The impact of the scheme mentioned above is the increasingly narrow access of children and youth to education. Children aged 7-13 years (elementary level) totaled 46 million. Middle school age (14-16 years) as many as 25 million. While the age of high school (16-18 years) as many as 17 million. However, based on 2016 UNICEF data quoted on the Indonesian CNN website, as many as 2.5 million Indonesian children who are supposed to go to school cannot enjoy education: 600,000 primary school-age children and 1.9 million junior high school-age children (13-15 years). Provincial and district level statistics show that there are certain groups of children who are most affected. Nearly half of the children from poor families are unable to continue their education to junior high school. Children who come from the poorest households are 4 times more likely to drop out than those from well-off households. Nearly 3 percent of elementary school-age children in villages do not attend school, compared to just over 1 percent in urban areas. Of

those studying in elementary school, almost 1 in 5 children cannot continue to junior high school [2].

Various problems in the world of education were responded by the community, activists, and also various youth groups and students. Some community groups are responding to the current state of education by providing alternative education, one of which is the Front Mahasiswa Nasional. The Front Mahasiswa Nasional, which became known as FMN, was one of the student organizations that had been concerned in responding to various kinds of educational problems. With the jargon "realize education that is scientific, democratic, and serves the people", FMN is consistently carrying out mass actions, campaigns, advocacy, and various other activities related to educational issues and other social issues of the community.

FMN considers that there must be concrete steps that can make concrete contributions and improvements to the community, especially in improving human resources. This prompted the Front Mahasiswa Nasional to open educational services that were focused on areas that lacked educational facilities and the high dropout rates, as a form of student concern for the nation's problems (processed from the official website pp-frontmahasiswaanasional.org).

Based on what is explained above that education is one of the keys that is very essential in human life, education also has a very important and strategic role to ensure the continuity and development of national life. However, the condition of education today is far from ideal.

Therefore, it is necessary to further analyze how the Front Mahasiswa Nasional Branch of Medan plays a role in providing alternative education through the serve the people program.

1. Methodology

2.1 Types of Research

This research was conducted using qualitative methods in viewing and analyzing how the Front Mahasiswa Nasional Branch of Medan played a role in providing alternative education through the serve the people program. In addition, qualitative methods are used to find out and analyze the objectives and constraints of FMN Branch of Medan in providing alternative education through the Serve the People program.

2.2 Research Sites

Research related to the role of student mass organizations conducted by a student organization took place in Medan, North Sumatra. This research was conducted at the Front Mahasiswa Nasional Branch of Medan Student Organization located at Bunga Cempaka Street, No.10, Medan. In addition, the location of the study was also conducted at the place of learning studio as

an alternative form of education carried out by the FMN Branch of Medan. The location of the learning studio is located in Sei Mencirim Village and Medan II Industrial Estate.

2.3 Data Source

Sources of data in this study consisted of primary data sources and secondary data sources. Primary data were obtained from interviews with key informants from the FMN Branch of Medan management and additional informants from community leaders at the FMN people's learning studio location. secondary data used are organizational documents of the Front Mahasiswa Nasional.

2.4 Data Collection Technique

The data in this study were collected by interview, observation and document observation techniques. Interviews, observations, and observations of documents in this study are efforts to attend and descend directly into various activities carried out by the Front Mahasiswa Nasional Branch of Medan in conducting alternative educational activities.

2.5 Data Interpretation and Analysis Techniques

Data analysis is the process of systematically searching for and compiling data obtained from interviews, field notes, and documentation, by organizing data into categories, breaking down into units, synthesizing, organizing into patterns, choosing what is important and that will be studied, and make conclusions so that they are easily understood by themselves and others.

2. Results and Discussion

3.1 The Role of The Front Mahasiswa Nasional in Providing Alternative Education

The initial idea for FMN in providing alternative education to the public was a critique of the current state of education which was overall not being okay. This is an illustration of FMN's efforts to contribute congress to the problem as well as criticism of non-liberating educational orientations. Alternative education was born as a critique of conventional education in schools. Education in schools is too monotonous, does not liberate or even fool. Therefore, there have been many criticisms made for education at the school. But for FMN, the program on providing alternative education to the community was not only born as a criticism of conventional education in schools but was born as a criticism of all the problematic educational conditions which include the education curriculum to access to education.

FMN Branch of Medan incorporates the things described above into the community service program or serve the people. Then determined how the planning, implementation process, stages,

methods, to the target of alternative education. After that the form of its activities was determined, namely the people's learning studio and the women's movement school.

The background of the people's learning studio is not far from the FMN struggle program itself, which is to realize a scientific, democratic and community-based education. This explains the existence of a very clear link between the activities of FMN with its struggle program, so that the learning studio activities that were initially spearheaded by the FMN Branch of Medan were then run nationally by FMN.

Determination of location and method of activities is a way of applying the role of FMN Branch of Medan in the activities of the people's learning studio. Through location determination and learning studio methods it can be seen how the efforts of the FMN Branch of Medan carry out their role in providing alternative education through the serve the people program and see how the people's learning studio activities translate the political lines held by FMN.

In determining the location of learning studios, the people must investigate and consider the distance that is easily accessible in its implementation, and look at the target politically and organizationally. FMN Branch of Medan determined the location of the learning studio in accordance with this matter, if at the beginning the location of the community learning center was in the Village of Durin Tonggal, one year after that the location of the learning studio moved to Namoriam Village. After that in 2014 the location of the learning studio moved to Sei Send Village. In 2016, it increased in the Medan II Industrial Estate, in the Tandem area, and in the Jamin Ginting Fly Over area.

FMN Branch of Medan collaborated with various organizations in the location in the initial stages of the formation of learning studios. In Sei Sendirim Village, the learning center activities in collaboration with the Kelompok Tani Maju Jaya (KTMJ). While in Medan II Industrial Estate in collaboration with the Gabungan Serikat Buruh Indonesia (GSBI). The organization is an FMN peer organization, which means it is an organization with the same political line. The organization helps learning studio activities by facilitating locations to facilitate the FMN Branch of Medan to find participants learning studio people.

The method of FMN people's learning studios is different from the methods applied in formal schools. Building active interaction between instructors and participants is a method that is run. In addition, the ratio of the number of teaching staff to the number of participants which is only one to two also illustrates the method of the activities of the community learning studio that is different from the methods applied in formal schools. Reference [3] argues that "what is called alternative education is not just a method that is different from schools in general, but what should be fundamental is its educational ideology which is different (alternative) from the existing

education mainstream. Ideology can be translated in the purpose of organizing education, how the choice of learning methods, how the relationship between the organizer with parents, students as well, and the surrounding community".

In connection with some of the explanations above, the activities of the people's learning studio carried out by the FMN Branch of Medan is a role that must be taken by students. As we know that students are young people whose role as social control is to raise awareness of their responsibilities, rights and obligations as citizens. (Law No.40 of 2009 concerning Youth) Especially looking at the fairly complicated educational conditions as described previously, the concrete steps taken by the FMN Branch of Medan are a step forward from the role that youth can give to education. The role taken by the FMN Branch of Medan is in accordance with what was explained by Reference [4] about some of the roles that youth can play in education, one of these roles is to build alternative non-formal schools to help children who drop out of school due to cost issues education.

FMN Branch of Medan not only runs a community learning center as an alternative form of education, there are also other activities namely the women's movement school. The women's movement school as an alternative education is important, there are at least three reasons why alternative education for women is important. First, because the gender factor makes women's access to education very low. Second, alternative education is important because the curriculum in Indonesia is still gender biased. As a result, women are disadvantaged by the stereotype images. Third, formal education in Indonesia at this time, has not answered the specific needs of women. For example, an understanding of women's reproductive rights at work, trafficking, domestic violence and so on [5]. Alternative education referred to here is an educational concept that contains a vision, mission, methods and all activities that contain participatory, democratic, personal is political value, transparency, and are in favor of women.

The women's movement school was held in April 2017 with the theme Goodbye Gender Inequality, Let's Fight for Equality. The activity was carried out with five meetings, four thematic classes, and once an investigation of the problems of women workers. The material discussed in the women's movement school included (1) roots and forms of female oppression. (2) history and variants of the women's movement. (3) women organize. (4) social investigation of women's issues. (5) social investigation of the problems of women workers.

The method used in the women's movement school is to conduct open discussion, beginning with the presentation of the material by the discussion igniter then proceed with discussion by all participants in each class. The school activity of the women's movement was carried out because of concerns about the lack of education related to women's issues, not to mention the condition of women who were still trapped in patriarchal snares. In addition, the women's movement's school

activities are a means of giving birth to women's organizations which are partners with FMN, namely SERUNI.

3.2 The Alternative Educational Objectives of the Front Mahasiswa Nasional Branch of Medan Through the Serve the People Program

FMN Branch of Medan has a clear purpose for alternative education. Not only so that the benefits can be felt by students or the community and contain the values and needs of the community, this activity also aims to broaden the struggle of FMN in a wide range of matters. Both the community learning center and the women's movement school are used as a medium for the recruitment of FMN members and building other organizations that also fight for community rights. Alternative education and non-formal education must have clear goals, goals are something that is felt to be beneficial by students or the community. Contains the values, aspirations, and needs of the community as participants [6].

The goals of the women's movement school also aim to raise awareness about various things concerning women. While the purpose of learning studio activities is to facilitate students to play a role through the Tri Dharma of higher education. In addition, so that youth and students can explore the lives of the people and know how oppression is felt by the people so that the awareness of youth and students to fight together with the people against various oppressions also increases. Reference [7] explained that education as a basis liberation aims to awaken human consciousness that humans have dignity and freedom and do not surrender to various types of oppression. So education is the path to permanent liberation and consists of two stages. The first stage is the period in which humans become aware of their deliverance and through a praxis changes the situation. The second stage builds on the first stage and is a process of liberating cultural action.

The objective in terms of organizational development is something that has been supported by the FMN Branch of Medan. This has a big impact with the FMN struggle program that is to create a scientific education, revision, and serve the people. The issue of education has to do with the community's context related to access to land ownership received by farmers and access to employment and wages received by laborers. Like the development of AGRA, GSBI, and SERUNI is an education that aims to realize education, science, integration, and serve the people. Regarding what was conveyed by Kurniawan Sabar as the Director of INDIES said, "the future of students is complemented by people's struggles, as well as their struggles" (quoted via the flyer, remarks of the 19th FMN).

3.3 Constraints of the Front Mahasiswa Nasional Branch of Medan in Alternative Education Programs Through Serving the People

One of the obstacles of the FMN Branch of Medan in providing alternative education to the community is the constraints of accommodation and transportation. These constraints are due to the limited number of vehicles and the distance of the location of the people's learning studio. The distance between USU Campus and Sei Send Village is around 18 km. The distance can be said to be quite far because the travel time needed is also about one hour. That requires a motorized vehicle as a means of accommodation to the location of the study studio. However, these obstacles should not be the main problems that have an impact on the decline in these activities. Because, remote location is a consequence of the determination of the location in advance FMN has been determined through planning or program activities. The process of mobilization and coaching should be emphasized on the process of raising awareness of members and leaders of the FMN who are members of the team organizing community learning activities. Because, members will only want to do work or learning studio activities when the members are aware of the importance of these activities, so that all elements of the FMN Branch of Medan realize that the activities of the people's learning studio is an activity that must be done.

Organizational education becomes one of the supports in every work of the organization including the work of serving the people. Organizational education which not only aims to increase the awareness of FMN members but also aims to improve the work capability of the organization which in FMN terms is called comprehensive mass work ability. The decline in quality and quantity of organizational education becomes an obstacle in carrying out activities that lead to the cessation of FMN learning activities in various locations.

Based on DPC FMN Medan's job report data in 2017, it was explained that the obstacle in the decreasing educational work of FMN Branch of Medan organization was the lack of instructors in providing organizational education. This is caused by the inadequacy of regeneration and recruitment which is a matter of one interconnected whole. Because, the procedures for recruitment and regeneration are in the material of FMN organization education, precisely in the organization's Secondary Education material with sub material on Comprehensive Mass Work. However, the real problem began with the conflict that occurred within the leadership of the FMN Branch of Medan itself. Reference [8] explained that a discrepancy between two or more members or groups of organizations that arise due to the fact that they have to share limited resources or work activities and / or due to the fact that they have different status, goals, value, or perception.

The causes of conflict are various things, starting from simple things to the principle ones. But what commonly causes conflict is the absence of collective leadership. Collective leadership based on FMN special educational material is the decision and responsibility of all FMN organizations in the hands of all its leaders. That is the basis of upholding democracy in the FMN

that must be held. So that in making policies or decisions in the organization of FMN, it is not taken by a chairperson or any of the other committees but by all leaders. When the collective leadership does not work, there will be an overlap in the division of work of the organization and the strengthening of subjectivity between leaders, triggering conflicts. Reference [9] said substantive conflicts are disputes relating to group goals, allocation of resources within an organization, distribution of policies and procedures, and division of job titles.

3.4 Human Resource Development Through Alternative Education Front Mahasiswa Nasional Branch of Medan

The alternative education provided by the FMN Branch of Medan to the community was welcomed by the community because it had succeeded in making some participants of the learning studio activities of people who previously could not read to be able to read, who previously were not very good at counting could become able to count. This is one example of human resource development that occurs through alternative education provided by FMN Branch of Medan through the serve the people program. The development of human resources is a process of increasing the knowledge, skills and capacity of all residents of a society [10].

Human resource development through alternative education FMN Branch of Medan, in addition to the activities of the people's learning studio also occurs through the women's movement school which is also one of the alternative forms of education FMN Branch of Medan. Similar to the activities of the people's learning studio, the development of human resources through the women's movement school also occurred in the women's movement school participants. The development of human resources that occurred was not limited to increasing the understanding of the school movement participants of women on the theme of the activity concerning gender.

Based on data previously presented that from the school the women's movement succeeded in establishing a women's organization called the Indonesian Women's Union (SERUNI). In the process of establishing the SERUNI organization, Dessy Maya Sari, a participant in the women's movement school, was one of the founders of SERUNI in Medan, who was later elected as Chairperson of USU's SERUNI Branch and became a member of the SERUNI National Committee. In this case the author sees that what happened to Dessy Maya Sari was caused by the provision of knowledge and expertise not only about understanding gender but also about building women's organizations. Because, which is one of the classes in the women's movement school is the Variant and Women's Movement, which is one of the materials in the class is the need to build women's organizations as tools for women's struggle. The author clearly understands this because the writer is one of the speakers in the class.

4. Conclusion

Front Mahasiswa Nasional Branch of Medan plays a role in the aspect of education is through alternative education provided through the serve the people program. The role of the Front Mahasiswa Nasional Branch of Medan was illustrated through the activities of the people's learning studio and the women's movement school. This role is a picture of youth who have a role as social control by raising awareness of their responsibilities, rights and obligations as citizens

The purpose of the FMN Branch of Medan alternative education is an effort to realize a democratic scientific education and serve the people as the great goal of the FMN organization itself. In addition, it is also to broaden the struggle for national democracy through the development of peer organizations in terms of expanding the struggle for national democracy because the issue of education is closely related to other people's problems such as issues of access to land ownership and issues of access to employment and wages. So that the development of AGRA, GSBI, and SERUNI is a necessity so that the struggle to create a scientific, democratic, and dedicated service to the people can be carried out more. Because, the future of student youth is not separate from the suffering of the people, as well as its struggle.

The obstacle experienced by the Front Mahasiswa Nasional Branch of Medan was the reluctance of the leadership to be responsible for various program activities, including alternative education programs. These constraints are greatly influenced by the declining quality of the organization's work, which is generally caused by the non-functioning of the organization's education as the main support of members' awareness of the importance of carrying out the service, especially in

the form of learning studios. Conflicts that occur at the leadership level also become one of the major obstacles that affect the decline in the work of the organization.

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