

# The Attitudes of Sriwijaya University and Omdurman Islamic University Students Towards Social Issues

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## ABSTRACT

This study to explore how the attitudes of Faculty of Teacher Training and Education (FTTE), Sriwijaya University (Unsri) students, Indonesia and Omdurman Islamic University (OIU), Sudan students towards social issues based cultural problem in their respective countries. This study used descriptive quantitative research with survey method and the questionnaire was designed and used to collect data from around 250 students from Unsri Indonesia about social issues in Indonesia and 150 students from Omdurman Islamic University (OIU) Sudan toward social issues in Omdurman, Sudan. It can be concluded that there are differences attitudes of Indonesian and Sudanese students towards social problems that occur in the two countries. Most Indonesian students have the attitude that the level of seriousness of crime has various indicators, one of which is crimes against life, while Sudanese students have an attitude that strongly agrees that the social problems that occur in their country are closely related to the high number of breakups of marital relations. However, it is interesting that students in both countries have almost the same attitude that the high crime rate is an indicator of social problems in an area.

**Keywords:** Attitude, Social Issues, Unsri, OIU.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Sriwijaya University (called Unsri) is a large university in South Sumatera. As a large university, Unsri has a long history (established in 1960), it has, is and continues to carry out Tri Dharma Perguruan Tinggi, such as Education and Teaching, Research and Community Service. Specifically in the field of research, Unsri has established a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on September 5th, 2018 and a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Faculty of Teacher Training and Education on September 5th, 2018 with various parties, both domestic and foreign. One of them is with Omdurman Islamic University (OIU), Sudan in the form of collaborative research. This research collaboration has been going on for two years for the faculty level (Faculty of Teacher Training and Education/FTTE) Unsri such as 2018 and 2019, while for the Social Sciences Department it has been carried out since 2019. This year, in 2020 is the second year of collaboration with the Faculty of Education (FE) Omdurman Islamic University.

Omdurman Islamic University (OIU) is one of the leading universities in the country of Sudan, with eight faculties, namely the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, the Faculty of Science and Technology, the Faculty of Technology, the Faculty of Pharmacy, the Faculty of Medical Laboratories, the Faculty of Agriculture, the Faculty of Sharia and Law, and the Faculty of Economics. In that country there are also several other universities, namely the International University of Africa, University of Khartoum, University of Holy Quran and Islamic Science, University of Gezira, Madani, Sudan University of Science and Technology and others.

Collaboration with Sudan, especially in the field of research becomes essential, because the two countries that are also members of the United Nations (UN) and various Islamic organizations, of course, establish and strengthen relations into strategic issues that need to be followed up, even further enhanced. Therefore, according to the existing MOU, the Teacher Training and Education Faculty (FKIP) has collaborated research

for two years in a row with Faculty of Education the Omdurman Islamic University (OIU).

Indonesia and Sudan are developing countries. This condition will certainly cause various social problems in the community. When talking about the state of Sudan, it indeed cannot be released by the significant event that occurred last year, the "Sudan Crisis," which caused the cessation of some educational activities for about a year. This event certainly also had an impact on various fields of life, causing social problems. What is meant by social issues, in this case, is a condition that is not following what is expected by the community, an "abnormality" that occurs in the community, which is contrary to the "values" that apply to the local community. Many theories discuss these social issues. In general, it can be identified in the form of demographic challenges (increase and decrease of the population), ecology (environment), and culture. These problems are caused by various factors, including economic, biological, psychological, and cultural factors.

The focus of this research is students' attitudes towards social issues both in their closest environment (residence and campus) as well as the scope of the country and even the international world. So, in this joint research, the research team agreed to conduct a more in-depth study of the social problems that occur in both countries, and relate them to the attitudes of students from both universities (Unsri and OIU) towards social issues that exist or occur. To what extent? how their "views" towards undesirable things occur in their respective countries.

The reason why the focus is on students' attitudes towards social issues, because students in universities are an educated person, students should be sensitive to the surrounding environment, their country, and even the international world, because students are already at an adult age as the next generation of the nation. Students who have always been a hope for the general public to determine the direction of community development, now instead become individuals who separate themselves from the problems of society and as if they do not want to know about the problems faced by the community.

In the current era, students' concern for their environment is in the spotlight. Besides because students in universities are always a hope for the general public to determine the direction of community development, students who bear a great responsibility in responding to community problems as individuals have a high level of intelligence compared to ordinary people students as agents of change and agents of control.

Students are also required to be sensitive to social problems such as natural disasters or the demands of the reform movement. Here students are required in their care and contribution. Students are a transition period before entering the community professionally [1].

As reported in several surveys, it shows that the understanding of ideology and nationalism in Indonesian society, especially students, is currently weak. Their concern for the environment is also low. "The impact is very worrying for this nation," Director of National Ideology, Character and National Insights Director-General of Politics and Public Administration, Ministry of Home Affairs Prabowo Eka Susanta said in the National Seminar on Student Executive Board (BEM) DIY with the theme of Pancasila, the Law on Organizations and Our Democracy, in the Yogyakarta UAD Auditorium, Saturday (20/1). Fifty-five universities in DIY attended this activity.

In connection with the description above, this study is entitled: Attitudes of Sriwijaya University and Omdurman Islamic University Students Towards Social Issues: A Study in Indonesia and Sudan.

## **2. METHOD**

This research using a descriptive quantitative research, which is used survey method. Descriptive is one type of research whose aim is to present a complete picture of social settings or intended for exploration and clarification of a phenomenon or social reality, by describing a number of variables relating to the problem and the unit under study between the phenomena tested. Survey research method or called survey method is research whose primary source of data and information is obtained from respondents as research samples using questionnaires or questionnaires as data collection instruments. The survey method is an investigation conducted to obtain facts from the symptoms that exist and look for facts factually, both about the attitude of students of Sriwijaya University (Unsri) Indonesia and Omdurman Islamic University (OIU) Sudan to social issues that occur in each country.

An attitude can be defined as an individual's tendency to evaluate an object as positive or negative. An attitude refers to a set of emotions, beliefs, and behaviors toward a particular object, person, thing, or event. Attitudes are often the result of experience or upbringing, and they can have a powerful influence over behavior [2]. While attitudes are enduring, they can also change. Attitudes as a learned tendency to evaluate things in a certain way. This can include evaluations of people, issues, objects, or events. Such evaluations are often positive or negative, but they can also be uncertain at times. For example, you might have mixed feelings about a particular person or issue [3].

These social problems are usually experienced by individuals, groups, communities, and countries. Therefore this social problem occurs in the local,

national and international scope. Examples of social problems in the local sphere, poverty, crime or crime, family problems, unemployment, violations of community norms. Social problems in the national sphere, poverty, unemployment, population problems, environmental problems, social conflict. Social problems in the international sphere, environmental problems, terrorism. In essence social problems in the local, national and international scope cannot be separated. These problems are interrelated with one another. So the problem in the local sphere can be a national problem, the problem in the national sphere can be an international problem [4].

The second factor is the external (external) factor governing the two principles that shape attitudes humans, namely: 1) interacting groups, when individuals are in interaction will occur in a group. Each individual in this group has behavioral characteristics. Various the difference then provides information or example which is taken to form an attitude. 2) Communication, through communication, will provide information. Information can give suggestions, motivation, and trust. Information that was rejected will form a negative attitude, while information motivating and fun will bring about change formation of a positive attitude. So, it can be concluded that the attitude setting depends on various factors, namely, internal and external factors. Internal factor is a personal experience and emotional situation. Experience an object that gives a pleasant or good impression will form a positive attitude, less experience fun will form a negative attitude. While the factors emotional, more on a person's psychological condition, feelings of attraction, pleasure, and feelings of need will form a positive attitude, while feelings of hate, indifference, and distrust will form a negative attitude. While the external factors were forming attitudes Related to the influence of communication, group interaction, and influence culture.

These social problems are also based on social theories namely, Structuralism theory and Conflict theory. Theory of Structural Functionalism explains the changes that occur in society. Society is seen as a system consisting of many institutions, each of which has its own function, but which are interrelated and interact with each other, so that people's lives are always in balance. On the other hand, Conflict Theory views society as an arena in which one group and another group scramble to get something they want. The clash between one group and another group will cause conflict, because they see the community not as a system in which there is a balance, interdependence, and mutual cooperation.

The data that will be analyzed are part of several factors of social problems caused by culture, from several indicators of questions that have been answered by several students from these two universities which have been summarized in the form of google form.

To answer the research questions, this study will involve a number representative Unsri and OIU students. From Unsri, the students are from Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Faculty of Agriculture, Faculty of Economics, Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Computer Science, Faculty of Medicine, School of Public Health, Faculty of Engineering. Whereas from OIU are from Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Faculty of Sciences and Technology, Faculty of Engineering Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, Faculty of Pharmacy, Faculty of Sharia and Law, Faculty of Medical Laboratories Sciences, Faculty of Economics Faculty of Media, Faculty of Education, Faculty of Computer and Information Technology.

**Table 1** .Social problems caused by culture

NO	Question	Alternative Answers	Answer (%)	
			Sriwijaya University	Omdurman University
1	The high number of breakups of marital relations is one of the social problems.	Totally Agree	24,8	67,3
		Agree	64,30	30,8
		Not Agree	10,2	0
		Totally Not Agree		1,9
2	One of the causes of social problems is	Totally Agree	29,7	48,1

	family disorganization (breaking up of marital relations due to divorce).	Agree	60,9	50
		Not Agree	9	1,9
		Totally Not Agree		
3	The high crime rate is an indicator of social problems in an area.	Totally Agree	58,6	57,7
		Agree	40,6	40,4
		Not Agree		1,9
		Totally Not Agree		
4	One indicator of crime is the time interval, meaning that the shorter the time interval for crime occurs, which means the lower the level of security in an area.	Totally Agree	32,3	50
		Agree	54,9	40,4
		Not Agree	11,7	9,5
		Totally Not Agree	0	0
5	The crime indicator can be calculated from the crime rate, that is. The higher the crime rate, the lower the security of an area.	Totally Agree	57,9	67,3
		Agree	37,6	30,8
		Not Agree	4,5	0
		Totally Not Agree		1,9
6	Not using excessive jewelry when leaving the house is an effort to avoid becoming a target of crime.	Totally Agree	68	59,6
		Agree	30,5	32,7
		Not Agree	1,5	7,7
		Totally Not Agree	0	0
7	The level of seriousness of crime has various indicators, one of which is crimes against life.	Totally Agree	60,2	32,7
		Agree	39,1	65,4
		Not Agree	0	5,8
		Totally Not Agree	0	0
8	Teens who are naughty are less able to take into account the behavior of others, causing social problems.	Totally Agree	27,8	40,4
		Agree	65	50
		Not Agree	6,9	11,5
		Totally Not Agree	0	0

9	A strong body and being aggressive are the characteristics of a naughty teenager.	Totally Agree	3,6	30,8
		Agree	21,8	51,9
		Not Agree	64,7	17,3
		Totally Not Agree	9,8	0
10	Having fun and not thinking about the future are indicators of juvenile delinquency.	Totally Agree	27,8	55,8
		Agree	54,9	40,4
		Not Agree	15,8	5,8
		Totally Not Agree	1,4	0

Type of questionnaires is mixquestionnaire. Mixed questionnaires is a combination of closed and open questionnaires. Closed questionnaire using likert scale. Questionnaire is a list of detailed and complete written questions that must be answered by students about their attitude towards social issues in their country. The questionnaire was designed and used to collect data from around 250 students from Sriwijaya University (Unsri) Indonesia about social issues in Indonesia and 150 students from Omdurman Islamic University (OIU) Sudan about their attitudes toward social issues in Omdurman, Sudan. It consisted of 10 item focusing on the purpose of the study. The researchers used closed-ended Likert scale statements for responses to questionnaire items. To test validity and reliability, the questionnaire was given to experts from various departement, who then provided written feedback, in response to which the researchers modified some items to fulfill the purpose of the study. The reliability of the questionnaire was also determined using Cronbach's Alpha. Data Analysis Measures A five-dimensional Likert scale is adopted as follows: very high (5), high (4), moderate (3), small (2) and very little (1), as shown in Table 5 with the options used to evaluate counting periods. Whereas open questionnaire using open questionnaires are used to ask for clarification of some question items that are considered important or need explanation from respondents.

### 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Indonesia and Sudan are developing countries. This condition will certainly cause various social problems in the community. When talking about the state of Sudan, it indeed cannot be released by the significant event that occurred last year, the "Sudan Crisis," which caused the cessation of some educational activities for about a year. This event certainly also had an impact on various fields of life, causing social problems. What is meant by social

issues, in this case, is a condition that is not following what is expected by the community, an "abnormality" that occurs in the community, which is contrary to the "values" that apply to the local community. Many theories discuss this social issues

Attitude includes one's knowledge, values, feelings, motivation and self-esteem shaping an individual's outlook on a specific subject [5] and can be described with in three components [6]: a cognitive, an affective and a behavioral component. For example, one's attitude towards science includes one's knowledge about what science involves (cognition), how one feels about science (affect), and how one would be willing to display specific behavior towards science. An attitude can be defined as an individual's tendency to evaluate an object as positive or negative. an attitude refers to a set of emotions, beliefs, and behaviors toward a particular object, person, thing, or event. Attitudes are often the result of experience or upbringing, and they can have a powerful influence over behavior. While attitudes are enduring, they can also change. Attitudes as a learned tendency to evaluate things in a certain way. This can include evaluations of people, issues, objects, or events. Such evaluations are often positive or negative, but they can also be uncertain at times. For example, you might have mixed feelings about a particular person or issue.

An attitude can be defined as an individual's tendency to evaluate an object as positive or negative. An attitude refers to a set of emotions, beliefs, and behaviors toward a particular object, person, thing, or event. An individual's attitude is formed through interactions with complex processes. According to Gerungan (2004) [7] there are several factors that influence a person's attitude is a factor that comes from within and from outside. Forming factors from within (internal), namely the tendency towards objects which will be addressed by individuals, not all objects. The surroundings were addressed. The object provided is

object that is inherent in the individual. Individual before already get information and experience about attractions, or is something that is needed, liked by individuals, then it can be determined attitude that appears, positive or negative [8].

The second factor is the external (external) factor governing the two principles that shape attitudes humans, namely: 1) interacting groups, when individuals are in interaction will occur in a group. Each individual in this group has behavioral characteristics. Various the difference then provides information or example which is taken to form an attitude. 2) Communication, through communication, will provide information. Information can give suggestions, motivation, and trust. Information that was rejected will form a negative attitude, while information motivating and fun will bring about change formation of a positive attitude. So, it can be concluded that the attitude setting depends on various factors, namely, internal and external factors. Internal factor is a personal experience and emotional situation. Experience an object that gives a pleasant or good impression will form a positive attitude, less experience fun will form a negative attitude. While the factors emotional, more on a person's psychological condition, feelings of attraction, pleasure, and feelings of need will form a positive attitude, while feelings of hate, indifference, and distrust will form a negative attitude. While the external factors were forming attitudes Related to the influence of communication, group interaction, and influence culture [9].

A social issue or social problem is a condition that is manifested in a society based on attitudes that lead to chaos in the overall social environment. Social problems can also be interpreted as an undesirable condition of existence [10] , because social problems have elements that can have a negative impact on the entire definition of society. Social issue as a mismatch of cultural elements that can endanger the lives of a social group. Social issues themselves can occur because of social interaction in the midst of society in meeting their needs, it can be between individuals, between groups, or between individuals and groups. Besides, social issues or social problems are an undesirable condition for most citizens. Added that people who do not want social problems agree that action is needed to change it [11]. So it can be concluded that social problems are circumstances that occur due to discrepancies experienced by the community due to deviations committed by individuals [12].

Social problems are problems that arise in people's lives, are social and are closely related to social values and social institutions. Phenomenon or symptom of life is said to be: first, social problem, something done by someone that has violated has violated or is not in accordance with the values that are held in high esteem

by the group. Second, something done by individuals or groups has led to the disintegration of life in groups, and third something that individuals or groups have done has caused anxiety, unhappiness of other individuals in the group [13] .

According Based on table 1, it can be seen that the responses of students in Indonesia and Sudan regarding how and what affects social problems that are influenced by culture, the results of these 10 questions, there are several that become a benchmark that the most serious problems faced by students are criminal problems and also an appearance that triggers the high crime rate and social problems faced by students of these two countries. This is directly related to the attitudes or attitudes that exist in students of both countries concluded that there are differences between the attitudes of Indonesian and Sudanese students towards social problems that occur in the two countries. Most Indonesian students have the attitude that the level of seriousness of crime has various indicators, one of which is crimes against life, while Sudanese students have an attitude that strongly agrees that the social problems that occur in their country are related to problems, social events in Sudan are closely related to the high number of breakups of marital relations is one of the social problems. However, it is interesting that students in both countries have almost the same attitude that the high crime rate is an indicator of social problems in an area.

In general, it can be identified in the form of demographic challenges (increase and decrease of the population), ecology (environment), and culture. These problems are caused by culture Issue

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

Based on the analysis and discussion results, it can be concluded that there are differences based on the analysis and discussion results, it can be

Based on the analysis and discussion results, it can be concluded that there are differences between the attitudes of Indonesian and Sudanese students towards social problems that occur in the two countries. Most Indonesian students have the attitude that the level of seriousness of crime has various indicators, one of which is crimes against life, while Sudanese students have an attitude that strongly agrees that the social problems that occur in their country are related to problems, social events in Sudan are closely related to the high number of breakups of marital relations is one of the social problems. However, it is interesting that students in both countries have almost the same attitude that the high crime rate is an indicator of social problems in an area.

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