An Efective Learning Method During the COVID-19 Pandemic

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Abstract—**As an effort to prevent and break the chain of spread of the covid-19 virus, the Indonesian government has implemented a large-scale distancing policy, which regulates a number of activities of residents in areas suspected of contracting COVID-19. The impact of this large-scale social distancing effect has changed various aspects of human life, including in the field of education. The Karawang Regency Government has taken a policy so that face-to-face activities in schools will be stopped during the pandemic. The aim of this study was to obtain information about effective learning methods during the pandemic. This research uses a qualitative method with the phenomenon approach. The data technique was carried out through interviews, observation and documentation. The results showed that the distance learning system through online media was an effective solution for staying active in the classroom during the pandemic. However, this learning model needs to be evaluated according to local conditions considering that not all parents are able to provide the facilities needed.**

Keywords—*Covid-19, learning effectiveness, online learning, pandemic*

I. INTRODUCTION

Today the world is shocked by the outbreak of a disease caused by a virus called Corona Virus Disease 19 (COVID-19). Covid-19 is a diseases caused by a new strain of coronavirus. The Covid-19 virus is a new virus linked to the same family of viruses as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and some types of common cold. Corona Virus Disease 2019 (Covid 19) was first discovered in the city of Wuhan, China at the end of December 2019. This virus spreads quickly and in a short time has spread to almost all countries, including Indonesia, so that on March 1, 2020 World Health Organization designated this outbreak as global pandemic [1]. According to WHO, a pandemic is defined as an epidemic occurring worldwide or over a very wide area, crossing international boundaries and usually affecting a large number of people [2]. Several countries set lockdowns in order to prevent the spread of the corona virus. Based on data obtained from WHO, there are around 32,730,945 confirmed positive cases in 216 countries around the world with 298,773 new cases and 991,224 deaths (Update: 27 September 2020). The

Corona virus has also been endemic in Indonesia since early March until September 27, 2020, there are reported to be around 275,213 people who have been confirmed positive for Covid-19, with 10,386 deaths and 203,014 others declared cured. Positive cases confirmed spread in 34 provinces and 415 districts / cities.

Since the first case of Covid-19 was announced by the President of the Republic of Indonesia in early March 2020, Indonesia was then faced with a pandemic. Almost all sectors of life were paralyzed, including in the field of education. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has changed various aspects of human life. The story of this outbreak can have a different ending for each country [3] depending on the policies implemented and the responsiveness of the government to minimize its spread.Various policies have been issued by the Indonesian government to reduce the level of the spread of the corona virus by imposing social distancing, physical distancing to the enactment of large-scale social restrictions in several areas. Large-scale social restrictions covers the limitation of a number of activities certain residents in an area suspected of being infected with COVID-19. Restrictions this includes school and work vacations, restrictions on religious activities, restrictions on activities in public places or facilities, restrictions on socio-cultural activities, restrictions on transportation modes. Criteria for areas that implement large-scale social restrictions is to have a significant increase in the number of cases and deaths from the COVID-19 and has epidemiological links with similar incidents in the region or country. This policy of course has an impact on learning activities. To reduce the spread of this virus, all activities carried out outside the home must be stopped until this pandemic has subsided. Some local governments have decided to implement a policy of dismissing students and starting to apply distance learning methods. The Distance Learning System is a learning system where students are separated from educators and learning through information and communication technology and other media. According to Dede distance learning is the instructional delivery included an instructor who was physically located in a different place from the learner, as well as possibly providing the instruction at disparate times [4]. Distance learning is done through online

learning. Online learning is described by most authors as access to learning experiences via the use of some technology [4]. Basilaia & Kvavaze defined Online learning as experience of transferring knowledge using Video, Audio, Images, text communication software and with the support of internet networks [3]. Online learning refers to the experienced through the internet in either a synchronous or asynchronous environment where students engage with instructors and other students at their designated time and place [5]. Online learning is carried out to transfer knowledge using video, audio, images, communication, software [3] and with internet network support [3]. This is a modification of knowledge transfer through forum websites [3] and digital technology trends as a hallmark of the 4.0 industrial revolution to support learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, the most important thing is the readiness of educators and students to interact online. Infrastructure that supports free online learning through various discussion rooms such as Google Classroom, WhatsApp [3] .WhatsApp features include WhatsApp Group which can be used to send text messages, images, videos and files in various formats to all members [3]. This is a determining factor for the quality of learning, but subject design determines the effectiveness of learning. One of the reasons for choosing a learning strategy is to promote meaningful learning. So whether or not learning is effective or not can be identified through behaviors between teachers and learners.

Learning effectiveness means that learners who complete receive educations that represent the distinctive quality of the institution [9], Meanwhile, according to Gaff in Miarso effective learning includes how to help students achieve learning goals. The goal is that online learning is at least equivalent to learning through the institution's other delivery modes, in particular through its traditional face to face, classroom based instruction, interaction key. The effectiveness of learning can be seen from the activities of students during the learning process, Student responses to learning and mastery of concepts or teaching materials .In addition, the facilities and infrastructure as well as appropriate learning media play a major role in supporting the effectiveness of teaching and learning

Gunawan stated Online learning can take advantage of platforms in the form of applications, websites, social networks and learning management systems [3]. Benson and Conrad identify online learning as a more recent version of distance learning which improves access to educational opportunities for learners described as both nontraditional and disenfranchised [4]. Not only the accessibility of online learning but also its connectivity,flexibility, and ability to promote varied interactions in particular not only elude relation to online learnings relationship with distance learning and traditional delivery system [6].

This is in accordance with the direction of the Minister of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia regarding Circular No. 4 of 2020 concerning the implementation of education policies in the emergency period of the spread of Covid-19. This government policy has begun to be effective in

several provinces in Indonesia on Monday, 16 March 2020 which later followed by other provinces. This step is taken to break the chain the spread of the covid-19 virus through social distancing restrictions.

The Ministry of Education and Culture then made a number of policies. Starting from budget reallocation to collaborating with private partners in the fields of edutech and telecommunications. In mid-April 2020, the Ministry of Education and Culture also broadcasts a home learning program broadcast on TVRI. This program is filled with various educational and fun shows as an alternative to learning for students, parents and teachers. Another policy is in the form of flexibility for school principals in utilizing School Operational Assistance funds to support learning during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Ministry of Education and Culture has also issued Circular Letter Number 4 of 2020 and Circular of the Secretary General of the Ministry of Education and Culture number 15 of 2020. The two circular letters contain the implementation of educational policies and guidelines for organizing learning from home in the emergency period of the spread of covid-19. Based on the circular of the Minister of Education and Culture Number 4 of 2020, the learning process from home implemented with the following conditions:

- Learning from home through online / distance learning is carried out to provide a meaningful learning experience for students. Without being burdened with demands to complete all curriculum achievements for class promotion and graduation.

- Learning from home can be focused on life skills education, among others regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Learning activities and tasks Learning from home can vary between students according to their respective interests and talents, including considering gaps in access / learning facilities at home.

- Evidence or learning products from home are given qualitative feedback and are useful for the teacher, without being required to give a quantitative score.

In the distance learning process through an online system, students need supporting facilities and infrastructure so that learning can take place and have a better quality of learning [7]. These facilities and infrastructure are smartphones, laptops, applications, internet quota and good internet network.But not all parents are able to provide the facilities needed, for that the Karawang regency government through the youth education and sports office lists several schools that have problems like the one above and then takes a policy to minimize obstacles in the learning process, including by providing a cellphone inventory and providing quotas free internet by utilizing School Operational Assistance funds affiliate. This online learning activity applies to all schools in Karawang district, even though there are areas with zero cases, it is still not allowed for fear of schools with many cases participating in opening learning activities at school. The purpose of this study is to obtain

information about effective learning policies to be applied during the pandemic at the level of elementary school education units in Karawang Regency. This research is divided into several things which are used as a discussion to focus the research results.

II. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study uses a qualitative method with a phenomenological approach. This research begins by paying attention and examining the focus of the phenomena to be studied and looking at various subjective aspects of the object's behavior. Furthermore, the researcher conducts data mining by conducting in-depth interviews with objects or informants in the study and by making direct observations about how the research object interprets its experience to other people.According to Johnson, Phenomenology is a form of qualitative research in which the researcher attempts to understand how one or more individuals experience a phenomenon [8].

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this study, data was obtained from the results of survey of a number of respondents related to the effectiveness of learning applied in the Karawang district during the pandemic period.

A. Agree or Disagree with Online Learning

TABLE I.   AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH ONLINE LEARNING

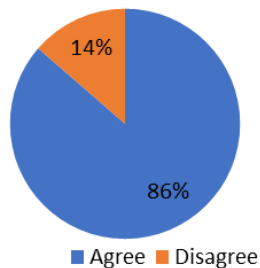| Agree	57	86,4%
Disagree	9	13,6%
Sum	66	100%

Fig. 1.   Agree or disagree with online learning.

From the results of a survey of 66 parents of elementary school students, the following data were obtained:

B. Knowledge About the Use of Online Learning Media

TABLE II.   KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE USE OF ONLINE LEARNING MEDIA

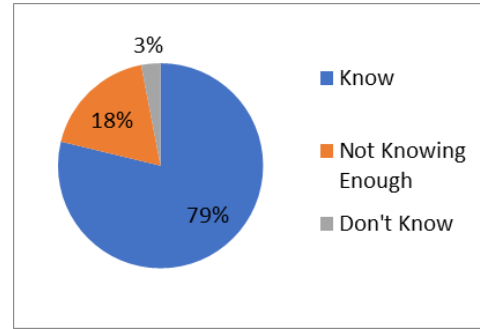| Know	52	79
Not Knowing Enough	12	18
Don't Know	2	3
Sum	66	100%

Fig. 2.   Knowledge about the use of online learning media.

C. Ability to Provide the Facilities Needed for Online Learning

TABLE III.   ABILITY TO PROVIDE THE FACILITIES NEEDED FOR ONLINE LEARNING

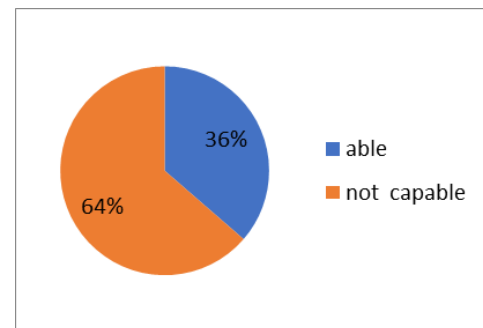| Able	24	36 %
Not Capable	42	64 %
		100 %

Fig. 3.   Ability to provide the facilities needed for online learning.

Based on the data above, it can be conclude that:

- Most Parents agreed with distance learning during the pandemic

- Most parents have a fairly good knowledge of information technology.

- Not all parents are able to provide the facilities needed in online learning.

Based on the findings the problem above, the author conducted an interview with one of the Karawang district education officials in the field of basic education related to constraints in the provision of learning media,

This statement is field evidence related to the research theme.

TABLE IV. INTERVIEW RESULT (RESOURCE PERSONS : ONE OF THE OFFICIALS OF THE KARAWANG DISTRICT YOUTH AND SPORTS EDUCATION OFFICE IN THE FIELD OF PRIMARY EDUCATION).

NO	Question	Answer
1	How many elementary schools are there in Karawang district?	There are 890 elementary schools spread across 30 sub-districts (karawangkab.bps.go.id)
2	How was the learning system at the elementary education unit level in Karawang district during the Covid-19 pandemic?	By implementing learning methods such as Offline (Learn from home),Home visit and Online learning (Online)
3	Which the most effective learning systems in the pandemic period?	The Distance Learning system , because the health and safety of students, educators, families and communities are the top priority in determining learning policies.
4	What are the constraints of the distance learning system?	Not all parents are able to provide facilities that support online learning systems related to learning media such as cellphones, laptops, signals and internet quotas.
5	What is the Karawang regency government doing in supporting this distance learning system? (Regarding the obstacles faced by some parents as described in point no 4)	1) By utilizing the School Operational Assistance funds affiliate to support learning media (there are about 40 elementary schools in Karawang district that are assisted in providing cellphones / gadgets, in each school 40 cell phones are provided to help students who do not have a communication tool (Smart phone) to supports the learning process.
		2) Free internet quota distribution by listing cell phone numbers used for online learning (starting September 2020)

Based on the interview result, it can be concluded that:

1) There are three learning systems implemented in Karawang district during the pandemic period, namely off the network, home visit and online learning:

a) Off the network: The activities undertaken carried out are learning from home by watching educational programs on TVRI and doing assignments on student worksheets.

b) Home visit: The activities undertaken through the teacher visits students homes to conduct lessons.

Fig. 4. Home visit activity.

c) Online learning: The Learning activities undertaken through various discussion rooms such as Ghoogle Classroom and Whatsapp.
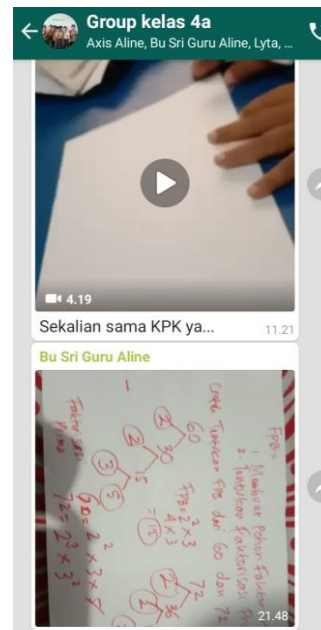

Fig. 5. Online learning activities through whatsapp video.

MATERI PAIBP DARING
_____

1. Simaklah vidio dilink youtube yang ada dibawah
2. sambungkanlah huruf hijaiyah yg ada digambar
3. Batas pengumpulan sampai jam19.00 silakan
tugasnya dikirimkan ke wa saya (0895326887383)
tolong sertakan nama dan kelasnya

MATERI 1 MAPEL PAIBP

12 Agt 2020 10.54.43.jpeg

Fig. 6.   Online learning activities through Google Classroom.

2) Distance learning through Online Learning is an effective solution in activating classes while schools are closed during the pandemic, where the learning process can still take place without having to congregate in one location.This is done to prevent and break the chain of spread of the virus.

3) Online Learning is an educational innovation to answer the challenges in the era of the industrial revolution 4.0.

4) The success of a model or learning media depending on the characteristics of the students.

5) Many online learning applications that can be applied in the world of education such as google class room,whatsapp, zoom meeting, etc.

6) Most Parents agreed with distance learning during the pandemic.

7) most parents have a fairly good knowledge of information technology.

8) But, not all parents are able to provide the facilities needed in online learning.

9) The government has adopted a policy of flexibility in the budget for school operational assistance funds to support online learning, such as providing smartphones for several schools with low economic levels in the community (it is recorded that around 40 schools have these facilities) and the distribution of free internet quotas to support learning activities for all school students basic.

IV. Conclusion

Distance learning is an effective solution in activating classrooms during this pandemic, where the learning process can still take place without having to congregate in one location.

This is done to prevent and break the chain of spread of the Covid-19 virus through large-scale social distancing restrictions. Although there are some Obstacles related to this distance learning system include the uneven economic level of the community making some parents unable to provide the facilities needed for this online learning process, such as smartphones and internet quotas, this has been addressed by the Karawang regency government with the policy of providing smartphones in several schools as well as the distribution of free internet quota for all elementary school students by utilizing BOS Affiliate funds to support the learning media needed.

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