

Efforts of the Language Village Forum in Strengthening the Disciplinary Character of Course Participants During the Covid-19 Pandemic

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ABSTRACT

The Language Village Forum (FKB) as an organization that houses course institutions must be able to guarantee safety and security for the surrounding community and newcomers who come to English Village to take language courses during the Covid-19 pandemic. This study aims to describe the efforts of the Language Village Forum in strengthening the disciplinary character of course participants during the Covid-19 pandemic. This research used a descriptive qualitative method. This research is located in English Village, Tulungrejo Village, Pare District, Kediri Regency, East Java. The subjects of this study consisted of the FKB administrators, the Covid-19 task force, owners of course institutions, and Covid-19 volunteers. The techniques of data collection used were observation, in-depth interviews, and documentation. The research data were analyzed using the interactive analysis model from Miles and Huberman. The results of this study indicate that there are several efforts made by FKB in strengthening the disciplinary character of course participants and the community in complying with health protocols during this pandemic, namely: making health protocol rules, socialization about health protocols at each course institutions, limiting the number of course participants, limiting activities at night, imposing sanctions if someone breaks the rules and conduct routine supervision at each course institution. After making these efforts, both the migrants and the people in English Village have begun to show a disciplined attitude in complying the health protocols during this pandemic, which is done for mutual security and safety, even though violations are still found.

Keywords: *Efforts of Language Village Forum, disciplinary character, the Covid-19 pandemic.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Character education is something that must be given from an early age in order to form individuals with character in accordance with the values prevailing in society. According to Rockenbach character education includes self-understanding, moral development, spiritual growth, a sense of interdependence and openness to diversity [1]. The existence of character education strive for humans to develop superior virtues and values as the basis for living a life that is purposeful, productive and continues to develop [2]. In addition, character education has an important role in creating a more conducive environment because the systematic and sustainable implementation of character education will create someone who has emotional intelligence [3]. To create a society that is in accordance with the values and norms in the community, it is necessary to emphasize character education wherever and whenever, especially during the

Covid-19 pandemic. During this pandemic character education is not only carried out by teachers but also needs to collaborate with parents, families and communities.

The Covid-19 pandemic has been going on for one year in Indonesia and has not ended yet. There are several factor that have caused Covid-19 in Indonesia to remain unfinished, namely the lack of public awareness in the application of health protocol, the government that was less assertive in handling this pandemic when initial cases of Covid-19 appeared in Indonesia and the uneven distribution of vaccines to communities in various Indonesia area. To help the government performance in overcoming that pandemic in Indonesia, there is a need for the role of the community to be disciplined in implementing health protocol, especially in the public space. The new normal life when the pandemic is still ongoing, discipline needs to be applied by everyone in everyday life.

Discipline is the main key of efforts to resolve the Covid-19 pandemic, in order that people can return to their normal activities before this pandemic. Discipline character must be instilled and cultivated in a person, so that ultimately the sense of discipline will grow from the heart of oneself (self-discipline) [4]. The discipline that is prioritized to ending the Covid-19 pandemic is discipline on health protocol. Efforts to prevent and break the chain of circulation of Covid-19 in Indonesia require discipline in many aspects, especially in the social life of the community. In this pandemic situation requires a very strict disciplinary method for social life in the form of physical distancing [5]. That method is considered to be the most effective effort to prevent the spread of Covid-19, so strengthening the character of discipline in the life of this new normal era must be done by anyone start the government to the community.

Efforts to strengthen character are not only carried out by the teachers and students in school, but can also be carried out by institutions, organizations or communities to the general public. Character education is important for every educational institution because maximizing the cultivation of character education will affect the behavior of students in the future [6]. This also applies to non-formal educational institutions such as language course institutions in Kampung Inggris Pare which are assisted by the Language Village Forum to instill character education for course participants in order that they have a disciplinary character in following all the rules that have been determined in the course institution. The Language Village Forum is an organization that houses language course institutions in Kampung Inggris Pare so that the owners and managers of course institutions can more easily coordinate with each other.

There is one character that the Language Village Forum wants to strengthening for course participants and the community during the Covid-19 pandemic, namely the character of discipline in obeying and implementing all the regulations that have been set. In realizing a disciplined of the society order, it requires an institution or community that introduces disciplinary behavior by practicing and applying it in various social fields in social life [7]. Therefore, in order to create a safety, comfortable and clean environment in Kampung Inggris Pare, the management of the Language Village Forum never forgets to always remind and give example of disciplinary behaviour to the community and course participants, so that life in Kampung Inggris Pare can return to normal life.

Kampung Inggris Pare was vacuum in 2020 for approximately 6 months because the Covid-19 case in Pare District was first found in Tulungrejo Village and most of the language course institutions are located in Tulungrejo Village, so it cause the temporary suspension of all learning activities in Kampung Inggris Pare. The Language Village Forum must prioritize the safety and comfort of the course participants and community around the course institute, in order that positive cases of Covid-19 in Tulungrejo Village do not increase. Therefore, to minimize the increase of

Covid-19 cases in Tulungrejo Village due to the arrival of the course participants from various regions, it is necessary to strengthening the disciplinary character carried out by the Language Village Forum for owners of course institution, course participants and the community living around the course institutions. If the community applies disciplinary behaviour in all their activities, it will create an order in the behaviour of the surrounding environment that is useful for themselves and others [8].

2. METHOD

This study used a descriptive qualitative approach because the researcher wants to describe how the efforts made by the Language Village Forum during the Covid-19 pandemic in strengthening the disciplinary character of course participants from various regions in Indonesia. This research is located in Kampung Inggris Pare, Tulungrejo Village, Pare District, Kediri Regency, East Java. The subjects of this study consisted of the Village Language Forum administrators, the Covid-19 task force, owners of course institutions, and Covid-19 volunteers in Tulungrejo Village. The technique of choosing informants in this study used purposive sampling technique. The type of data used is through primary and secondary data sources. Primary data was obtained based on the results of interviews with several informants and direct observations in the field. Meanwhile, secondary data was obtained from documentation in the form of activity reports and articles related to the problem being studied. The techniques of data collection used in this study were observation, in-depth interviews and documentation. Data analysis of this research were used an interactive analysis model proposed by Miles and Huberman.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Disciplinary is a condition that is created and formed through a process with a series of behaviours that show the values of obedience, loyalty and orderliness [9]. Forming the individual who have a disciplined character requires several strategies, namely, good habituation and civilization, moral knowing, moral feeling and loving, moral acting and moral model [10]. Casciano's research explains that during the Covid-19 pandemic, people must behave in a disciplined manner and obey the rules that set by the government, such as spending time in their home, sharing daily activities and stay connected with family or friends via social media to replace face-to-face meetings [11]. These things are important to do during this pandemic for the common good.

Strengthening the disciplinary character of health protocol is an action that must be taken by everyone during the Covid-19 pandemic for mutual safety. Strengthening of character is a positive trait that reflects the thoughts, feelings and behaviours that are within oneself to achieve good morals [12]. Optimally strengthening of character is a way to achieve prosperity and life satisfaction in overcoming problems that exist in the surrounding environment. Based on results of the study, it is known that

there are several efforts that have been made by the Village Language Forum in strengthening the disciplinary character of course participants in complying with health protocol when participating in face-to-face learning activities in Kampung Inggris Pare during the Covid-19 pandemic. The following are some of efforts in strengthening the disciplinary character that have been made by the Village Language Forum.

3.1. Establishment the new rules and regulations

Since Kampung Inggris Pare was affected by Covid-19 pandemic and cannot continue to be vacuum from face-to-face learning, new regulation have been made for each owner of course institution who wants to open their language course institute during this Covid-19 pandemic with several conditions, namely having to register their language course institution to the department of education, village government, the Village Language Forum and the Covid -19 task force in the village and limit the quantity of course participants to 50% of the normal pre-pandemic quantity. In addition to the regulations for language course institutions, there are also new regulations for course participants who wish to take face-to-face learning activities at each course institution during the pandemic period, which must come from the territory of Indonesia, the age of course participantx must be over 17 years and bring health certificate, antigen swab or PCR swab that shows negative from the Covid-19 virus.

Discipline character will be formed to someone if there are elements of discipline, namely rules and regulation, norms and values and punishment [9]. The new regulations that were in effect during the pandemic were made and designed not only by the village government but also involving the Village Language Forum, public figure, traders and business owners in the Tulungrejo Village area, the Covid-19 task force and several representatives from the community. This needs to be done by involving various elements in the community, in order to these parties can become examples or role models for the community and course participants who are newcomers to Tulungrejo Village in increasing discipline to comply with all the rules and regulations that have been set. According to Santosa the process of development and character building is influenced by two factors, namely environmental factors and innate factors [13]. Therefore, the process of instilling discipline in someone is carried out through a process of habituation and exemplary shown by the surrounding environment, such as teachers, parents, family and society.

3.2. Socialization of health protocol

Before Kampung Inggris Pare was carried out face-to-face learning activities, the Village Language Forum first held a socialization on new regulations and the implementastion of health protocol to owners of language course institution that are member of the Village Language Forum. This socialization was carried out as one of the preventive measures in overcoming the Covid-19 case in the area of Kampung Inggris Pare, Tulungrejo Village. The owners of the course institute in that village said that before

Kampung Inggris Pare was officially reopened, the Village Language Forum gathered teh owners or managers of the course institute in the Tulungrejo Village consecutively in meeting hall. On the meeting discussed the implementation of strict health protocol and the provision of additional facilities in each course institution.

The socialization activities were not only carried out once but up to several meetings to just ensure that readiness of each course institution to accept course participants and hold face-to-face learning activities again. The socialization provided by the Village Language Forum administrators to course institution organizer will be forwarded to course participants and carried out before they carry out face-to-face learning activities with the tutor, because it is hoped that course participants will have a continuous discipline in implementing health protocol until their study period at the course institution ended. According to Purandina and Winaya the development of a disciplined attitude during the Covid-19 pandemic includes: 1) always using masks on face, 2) cultivating washing hands with soap or hand sanitizers, 3) maintaining a distance of 1 to 1,5 meters and 4) maintaining immunity by nutritious food and exercise regularly [14].

3.3. Restrictions on activities at night

Before the Covid-19 pandemic, the course participants were free to roam outside the house or dorm until late night, but when Kampung Inggris Pare, Tulungrejo Village opened again in this pandemic situation the Village Language Forum decided to impose restriction of activities outside the house at night, maximum at 8 pm. This was done in order to reduce the spread of the Covid-19 virus in the Kampung Inggris Pare area because at night is a crowded time for course participanta to gather together with participants from other course institutions in several places, such as cafe and restaurant. Therefore, the Village Language Forum imposes restrictions an activities at night, especially for course participants who come from various regions of Indonesia because it is feared that they could carry the Covid-19 virus from their hometown.

3.4. Supervise and control regularly in each course institution

Supervision and control at each language course institution in Tulungrejo Village is not only carried out by the Village Language Forum administrators but also involves other parties, such as the police, volunteers for the Covid-19 task force, village security officer and also members of youth organization. Accroding to Baehaqi and Murdiono, the strengthening of disciplinary character will be realized optimally if external control is exercised on attitude, communication or action [15]. Supervision of each course institution that carry out learning activities is also assisted by young people who are members of the Covid-19 task force volunteers and members of youth organization Tulungrejo Village.

The administrator of the Village Language Forum said that it was deliberately done to empower young people to

be able to actively participate in maintaining the security and safety of the community in their village. This action indirectly also provides character education for young people in order that they can share a social spirit and high enthusiasm to serve in the environment where they live. Character education must be focused on empowering young people to be able to organize themselves and get a good assessment of their environment, so that in the future they can live properly and well accepted as members of a community called society [16].

Volunteers of the Covid-19 task force in Tulungrejo Village said that supervision and control are routinely carried out once a week by seeing firsthand how the learning process between tutors and course participants, matching the number of course participants who attended learning activities with data on the number of course participants that had been previously given by the course institute to the Village Language Forum and check the health condition of tutors and course participants at that time. If during the supervision there are course participants who violate the rules, such as not wearing a mask they will be directly reprimanded by the officer who were on duty to supervise at that time. In addition, if there is a course institution that carry out face-to-face learning but the number of course participant who attend did not match the data provided, recoordination will be carried out between the course institution owner and the Village Language Forum.

3.5. Giving sanctions for offender the rules

In addition to making new regulation the Village Language Forum also giving sanctions if there are course participants that violate. These sanctions are not only intended for course participants but can also be given to course institution that are found to have violate. Sanctions for course participants who violate are carried out in order that the course participants who are newcomers cannot act arbitrarily and comply with the rules that are already set in that area. The Village Language Forum said that during this pandemic, the violations committed by course participants were still relatively small, so the sanction given were also small. Some of the violations that often occur among course participants are not wearing mask on face, not washing their hands before entering the course institution, not doing physical distancing and leaving the house passed the stipulated curfew time. However, there were some course participants who received medium sanctions because their age was under 17 years old, so the Village Language Forum had ordered them to return to their hometown even though their study period at the course institution had not ended.

Thus, after did these efforts, both of the course participants and the community in Tulungrejo Village have begun to show a disciplined attitude in complying with health protocol during this pandemic, which is still ongoing for the sake of mutual security and safety, although there are still several violators. This is because to form the character of discipline in each individual is not something

easy because this is due to several inhibiting factors. Siwi and Sari [17] explain that in the formation of disciplinary character, various obstacles will be encountered, both internal and external factors. The internal factors that inhibiting the formation of disciplinary character, various obstacles will be encountered, both internal and external factors. Internal factors inhibiting the formation of disciplinary character, such as innate nature and lack of awareness of each individual. Meanwhile, external factors that can cause the formation of disciplinary character to be hampered are family, friendship and surrounding community factor. Somebody who already have a disciplinary character within themselves will also show their disciplinary behaviour and attitudes when in a community environment. However, if someone does not have a good discipline character, they will find disciplinary problems in themselves.

4. CONCLUSION

The importance of strengthening the disciplinary character of course participants in Kampung Inggris Pare, Tulungrejo Village to prevent additional positive cases of Covid-19 in the area and face-to-face learning activities in Kampung Inggris Pare are also not vacuum such as when the Covid-19 virus first entered in Tulungrejo village. Some of the efforts that have been made by the Village Language Forum, such as establishment new regulation, providing supervision and giving sanction affect to the attitudes and character of course participants to be more disciplined than before the pandemic, although there are still some people who violate but most of the course participants have improve their discipline in adhering to health protocol.

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