

# The Difference of Student Engagement between Javanese and Non-Javanese Students who are Studying in Malang

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*Abstract. Student engagement is characterized by the success or failure of students in learning. Student behavior in learning activities also shows student engagement on campus. Student engagement aspects consist of three dimensions namely behavioral engagement, emotional engagement, and cognitive engagement. The purpose of this study is to identify whether there will be a difference in student engagement between Javanese and non-Javanese students who study in Malang. This study used quantitative approach. Subjects involved in this study were 160 students from Javanese and Non-Javanese ethnicity who are studying in Malang. The criterion used in determining the subject is their status as students. The scale used to measure the student engagement level is the SESQ (Student Engagement Schools Questionnaire) scale. The result from independent sample t-test has a probability value of 0.908 which means  $p < 0.05$ , therefore, no difference in student engagement between Javanese and non-Javanese students who are studying in Malang.*

*Keywords: Student engagement, Javanese and non-Javanese culture.*

## Introduction

The Javanese community is well-known for its polite and refined society, but also known as a closed society and cannot easily be straightforward. These characteristics and attitudes make the Javanese people avoid conflict and prioritize to maintain harmony and tend not to argue if there are differences of opinion (Bratawidjaja, 2000). Javanese culture can broadly be divided into 3 parts and the culture is more conducive to be balance, harmony and togetherness in everyday life. The culture itself highly upholds the idea of politeness and simplicity. Javanese tend to be characterized by Polychromic which has the characteristics of doing many things together, very easily disturbed and disturbing (interrupting), assuming time commitment is something that must be achieved, if possible, High-context and already have information, committed to others and relationships between individuals, often easily changing plans, paying more attention to close relationships (family, friends and business partners) rather than privacy, often and easily borrowing items to one another, emphasizing relationships between individuals, having a strong tendency to build relationships for life .

One of the big cities in East Java is Malang. Astronomically, the city is located at 112.06° - 112.07° East Longitude and 7.07 ° - 8.02° South Latitude. Malang has a fixed population as much as 851,298 people (Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS), 2016). In addition to the dense population, Malang is also famous as a tourist city and education city, where the city itself becomes a place for various major universities with national standards such as

Malang State University, Brawijaya University, University of Muhammadiyah Malang, and others (Malang City, n.d.).

Student engagement can be characterized by the success or failure in learning (Siregar, 2016). The behavior in learning activities also shows student engagement on campus. Behaviors such as skipping classes, truant, chatting when the lecturer explained, doing things that were not related to learning activities and not following the rules that existed in the campus environment were categorized into the low involvement in learning (Fredrick, Blumenfield, 2004). Among the aspects of student engagement consist of three dimensions namely behavioral engagement, emotional engagement, and cognitive engagement. The purpose of this study is to identify the student's engagement between Javanese and non-Javanese students who study in Malang will be different.

## Review of Literature

Student engagement is the intensity of behavior, emotional quality, and personal effort from actively involved in the learning activities (Reeve, 2005). Student engagement is a display or manifestation of motivation which can be seen through emotional and cognitive behaviors shown by the students in academic activities. Directed and energized actions, and when getting into trouble they will persist in carrying out these actions (Connell, 2012). Student engagement is also the initiation of the actions, efforts, and persistence of students in doing their tasks and also their overall emotional state during learning activities (Skinner,Handelsman, 2005). Student

engagement as a whole can be seen from four factors, namely skill engagement, emotional engagement, participation/interaction engagement, and performance engagement. The hypothesis of this study is that there are difference between Javanese and non-Javanese student who study in Malang.

### Method

This research uses quantitative approach. Quantitative approach is a research method used to test a particular population or sample by using research instruments and will be analyzed through statistics to test hypotheses that have been made.

Subjects in this study were 160 students from Javanese and Non-Javanese ethnicity who are currently studying at the University of Muhammadiyah Malang. The criteria in determining the subject is their status as students. The sampling technique uses purposive random sampling, which is a sampling method carried out by setting specific characteristics that are in accordance with the research objectives in order to answer research problems (Sugiyono, 2011).

The variable used in this study is student engagement. Student Engagement scale used as the instrument. One of the student engagement scales is the Student Engagement Schools Questionnaire (SESQ) scale developed by Shalley R Hart et al. in 2011. There are 5 items in total, and each item has a 7 point scale that ranges from 7 (strongly agree) up to 1 (strongly disagree). This scale has a reliability value of 0.80.

The first procedure is the preparation stage. In this preparation stage, researchers prepared a scale that will be used as a basis for measurement. For student engagement variables, the researchers used SESQ scale developed by Shalley et al. The research was conducted by spreading the scale through Google form targeting the students at University of Muhammadiyah Malang. After that, the target was narrowed down to the Javanese and Non-Javanese students who are studying in Malang. Independent Sample T-test using Statistical Program for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 21.00 and Hayes software was performed for analyzing the data.

### Results

The results of this study indicated that the subjects used as many as 160 students had a maximum value of 110 and 44 have an average of 85.58.

The result of independent sample t-test measured a probability value as much as 0.908, whereas  $p < 0.05$ . That being said, there is no significant difference in student engagement between Javanese and Non-Javanese students who are studying in Malang.

### Discussion

From the obtained values above, that is 0.908 ( $> 0.05$ ), It concluded that there was no difference in student engagement between Javanese and non-Javanese students who study in Malang.

The same level of student engagement between Javanese and Non-Javanese students proved that there is no significant difference which means both students from different ethnicity involved in every internal and external campus activity. Overall, this study emphasized that students from Javanese and Non-Javanese ethnicity who are studying in Malang did not have differences in terms of student engagement.

The weaknesses of this study including the variables used are still minimal and the subjects used are quite few which did not represent the entire existing population very well. For further research, it is expected to increase the number of variables and subjects as well as to examine students in a broader context, such as students who came from other regions not only in Malang but beyond, and so on.

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