

## The Impact of Money Politic in the Local Elections in Indonesia

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**ABSTRACT** - Indonesia is a state of law. In essence, everyone must follow the existing rules. It started off well small to large. Likewise, what is meant by the Indonesian state is a democratic country where the center of power is in the hands of the people. Elections are a form of progress to prioritize the community and create leaders with a high sense of unity and justice. Overall, elections are a sign of supreme power in the hands of the people. Through elections, the assertion of national power can be achieved with some of the powers and rights of the public over representatives of the government and parliament. But in fact, violations often occur both in the Pilkada process and in parliamentary elections. These violations included fraudulent campaign activities in the form of donations of money and goods to tempt the public to vote for a candidate during the election. In a democracy, the development of money politics slowly undermines the principle, because the people's voice can be redeemed with money.

*Keywords: Election, Campaign, Democracy, Money Politics*

### Introduction

The battle for election of regional head is often encountered with political problems, an example of which is money politics (HR & Harakan, 2017; Khaerah et al., 2021). While the elaboration of money politics is a form of treatment that is able to change the orientation of other people's choices (society) by providing a stimulus or it can also be mentioned by trading votes on political progress in order to get voters' votes (A'yun et al., 2022; Saidah et al., 2018). People's orientation in choosing a partner is low. However, the percentage of voters who choose candidates based on their conscience without being coerced by anyone is still high. Are all these problems the result of a lack of faith in God that is rooted in the hearts of all humans? Or because of the lack of education so far?

This action makes people blind to future work programs and the candidate's vision and mission. They only see what aspect has been given, without thinking about how the leader will lead this community to move forward, influencing executives who are only looking for existence, not being good servants for the community. Therefore, how to create good leaders by creating leaders who are interested in overcoming money politics. This has a major impact on the ongoing election process so as to realize the existence of democracy, especially in Indonesia. Moreover, we are talking about how the quality of a good campaign in the election process, how clean and effective it is, it affects the democratic process in Indonesia. The dirty and disgusting perspective on politics is sticking out because of the evidence in the field, as long as the person is still pursuing the world of politics by displaying political behavior modeled on Neocolonialism and secularism. People are tired of watching shows and news that politicians are being caught out of control by the authorities. Again in connection with the case of "corruption".

The scope of politics always ignores dynamics, especially when the socialization of the Regional Head Election takes place (Abrianti et al., 2021; Suharyanto, 2014). Political excitement is able to generate advantages and even weaknesses, an example of one weakness is the existence of money politics which has now become common practice in the current environment. In terms of formal law in Indonesia, money politics is something that is proven to be against the existing rules. Article 73 paragraph (4) of the Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 3 of 1999 concerning Political Parties which reads that when an election is held according to this law by giving or promising, bribes someone, either so that he does not exercise his right to vote or so that he exercise their rights in a certain way, shall be punished with a maximum imprisonment of 3 (three) years. This applies doubly to voters who accept bribes and those who commit this humiliating act (Anggraeni & Ramdhani, 2018).

ICW (Indonesia Corruption Watch) is a non-government organization that has the task of monitoring matters to be reported to the general public about money politics, the 2010 election events were higher than in the 2005 era and the survey results of the Indonesian Survey Institute in 2010 saw that money politics experienced a significant increase of 11.9 percent. The General Elections Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu) has also calculated that there were around 35 cases of money politics that occurred during the period of the elections in 171 regions that were held. This proves that the Pilkada which is directly related to money politics is a very big problem (Kbarek, 2019)

Elections often lead to actions that disrupt the democratic order, Elections held using fraud represent undemocratic elections, the emergence of money politics is one of the worrying frauds in elections. Money politics is a way for candidates to receive great sympathy from the owners of the right to vote by using political promises in return. The existence of political dowries and voting transactions, has a big impact. In the short term, this disease is capable of harming the momentum of the five-year Pilkada which should be a place where quality leaders emerge in the midst of today's society directly. Both in the political safari stage until the election stage takes place at the TPS. Money politics is an iceberg phenomenon, which looks a little above, but below looks very big (Hawing & Hartaman, 2021; Ubwarin, 2021)

Given the nature of traditional political and societal leadership which tends to be determined by a small number of ruling classes, citizen participation in influencing policy making and people's lives tends to be low. Citizens consisting of ordinary people tend to be underestimated in the political process. And it will be very detrimental to the life of the country and its homeland, because everyone who lives on the surface of the earth in Indonesia has the right to choose and make the best choice for each individual. The development of money politics is heavily influenced by people's self-concept, many are still indifferent, and public awareness of politics is still very low, so they do not consider this policy issue to be dangerous.

## **Method**

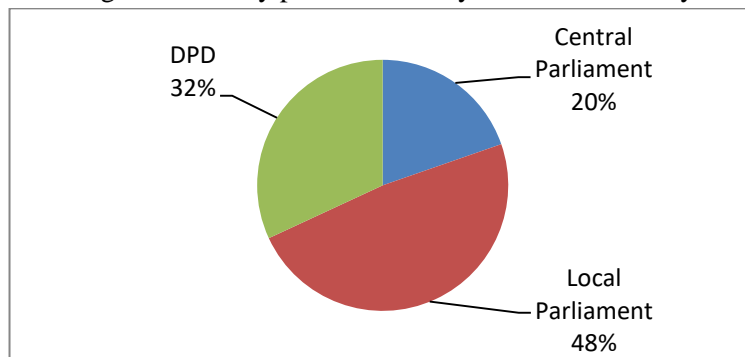
The observation technique used in this research is a qualitative research technique. This qualitative research technique is a type of research whose pattern of findings does not go through statistical procedures or other forms of calculation and seeks to understand and classify the meaning of an event of human behavior interaction in certain situations according to the pattern of the researcher's own view. Qualitative research is research in the form of descriptive and tends to lead to investigation. Process and meaning (subject perspective) are prioritized in qualitative research. The theoretical basis is used as a view so that the research focus is in accordance with the results in the field (Creswell, 2016).

A technique for collecting references from various journals and several articles. The data obtained by the researcher is presented in the form of papers and reference results from several journals which are summarized in a study on the influence of Money Politics in Local Election. The type used in this research is a case study. Case studies and symptoms that exist in the community are carried out thoroughly to investigate the background, situation, and interactions that occur. Case studies should not draw conclusions about the events being investigated, not about population phenomena. This research method has been carried out in various ways. Namely collecting references from several journals related to the research conducted. This technique uses other data collection techniques to check the accuracy of data collected from various data sources by checking the time at different times.

## Result and Discussion

Law Number 8 of 2012 concerning the general election of members of the DPR, DPD and DPRD. General elections are the forerunner to the implementation of popular sovereignty which is based on direct, general, free, confidential, honest, and fair in the Indonesian state based on the Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. and is the symbol of democracy. Democracy should provide space for freedom for every human being without discrimination, elections in this context, meaning that conflicts suspected by unscrupulous persons occurred during the election process are resolved through institutions that have pre-established authority. Money Politics is an act of fraud that ends in giving or bribing someone to ignore their nature as a voter. Money politics is no longer a foreign thing for a few politicians. Even ingrained or a shortcut to victory. Money politics is often encountered during political socialization.

Figure 1. Money politics cases by level of candidacy



Source : Report on Money Politics in the 2014 Election (Indonesia Corruption Watch)

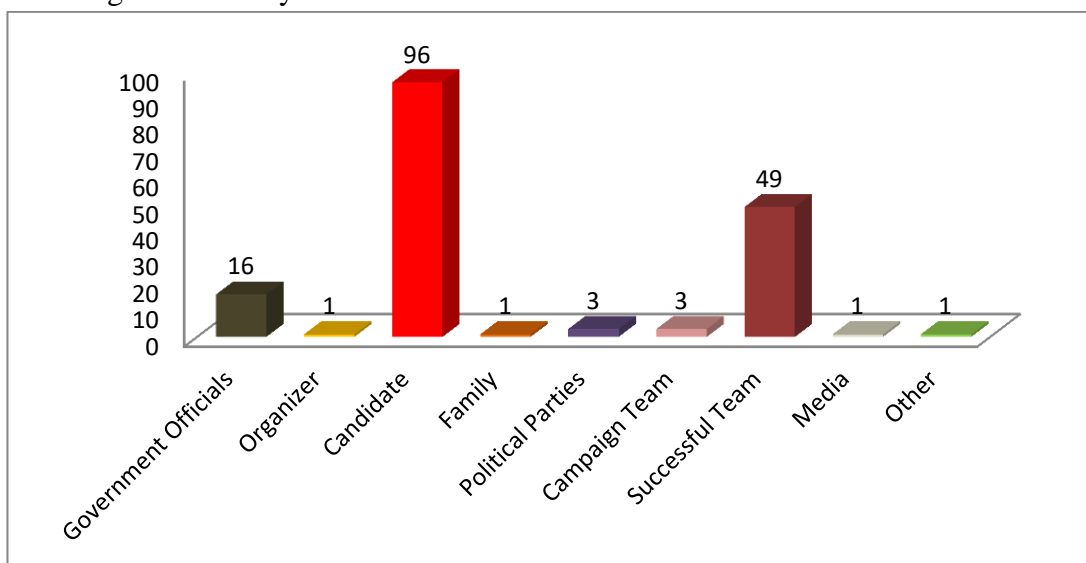
Money politics based on what is happening in Indonesia is very large at the local level, in the case of money politics for the nomination of local parliamentary candidates, the most found carrying out this forbidden practice is 48%, this indicates that money politics at the local level is very impressive. Money politics happens a lot because politicians who have strong economic capital take advantage of opportunities to increase interest in elections (Samuel et al., 2019). Money Politics generally occurs due to sympathizers who get something from the candidate during the procession of political socialization of the candidate (Dairani, 2021; Davies, 2021). Money politics is also related to the political recruitment of parties that are less democratic, the election of party leaders in order to become the successor of leaders in the internal area, the parties themselves are often found doing these actions to their members to make it easier for them to become new successors. The majority of legislative candidates who run for party leadership are said to have spent material/money to win the nomination.

Money politics can arise because of the mutually beneficial forms that occur between voters and the incumbent, why is that because each of them has the advantage over the other. In addition, another thing is the emergence of public apathy about the world of politics, and the decline in the prosperity rate is strongly suspected to be the factor behind individuals committing money politics. There are many accusations about the practice of money politics in elections, especially in parliamentary elections which are an open secret. From reports by regulators at various levels and the general public who have seen the incident, avoid committing crimes in the future so as not to deter criminals and others.

Money Politics has a double effect, not only for the people who have the right to speak but also for the authorities' leadership. This is what causes power to change hands through "nominal", so that sovereignty is not only for the people but for "owners of capital". Purchase of rights is an intolerable event with the aim of leading to democracy, while the promise of elections is not the case. Therefore, the purchase of rights must be blocked, with the promise of elections being fulfilled so that elections can realize the ideal democracy. In the absence of a promise in the election, supporters will not hesitate in making decisions in the midst of the candidate. Election promises have a central role in voters determining which Candidate to support. Candidates can prioritize political principles and their beliefs in terms of attracting votes and goals in politics to explore the opportunity for voters to make informed choices about how to take policies without making promises to the voting public (Habibi, 2021; Nugroho & Windyastuti, 2021).

The impact of the emergence of money politics is that it can damage the moral joints of the nation. As in the behavior of money politics which can injure the composition of democracy in Indonesia, this can lead to unstable democracy, democracy must be free to become not free due to the circulation of money in elections. Sovereignty is eternal private property, and what happens now is that sovereignty only applies to the owners of capital. The practice of money politics can also damage the morals of the human psyche, because people choose to be in a state of restraint or coercion not because of their leadership, not because their performance will be the main focus, not because of their vision and mission, but because of a bribe given to them to collect votes. in the interests of these individuals.

Figure 1. Money Politics Actors and Misuse of Position and State Facilities



Source: Report on Money Politics in the 2014 Election (Indonesia Corruption Watch)

Actors who play the role of money politics practice to achieve certain goals should have prepared a trap to put someone in an undemocratic circle. In the case of money politics in Indonesia,

most of the candidates who participated in the election were found to be practicing money politics followed by the successful team. The practice of money politics will increase poverty for the community and the environment, this will become a danger in the future for the nation and state. After the candidate reaches the desired position, the candidate pair will enjoy it alone along with the elements involved and forget the promises prioritized by the people from the candidate because within the next 5 years the candidate pair will occupy the position and will try to repatriate the candidate. all the capital that has been channeled into a political safari to gain so that all people vote for it. The problem of money politics should be resolved by the transparency of campaign costs and conducting open campaign fundraising (Akbar et al., 2021; Hrebenar, 2019). The open use of campaign funds will have a positive influence so that the practice of money politics can be overcome, because money politics is a form of dirty practice that destroys democracy as a building for general elections.

## Conclusion

The factors that arise in the practice of Money Politics are economic factors, political apathy, and pressure factors. Money politics based on what is happening in Indonesia is very big at the local level, money politics at the local level that is happening in Indonesia is very concerning, Money politics is happening a lot because politicians who have strong economic capital take advantage of opportunities to increase interest in elections. The actors who practice money politics the most are candidates, this should be overcome by using campaign funds openly because it has a positive influence in overcoming the practice of money politics, because money politics is a form of dirty practice that destroys democracy as a building for local elections.

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