

Research Article

The Impact of Digital Literacy on Millennials' Political Preferences Case on Wahdatul Ummah SD-IT Teacher Board Metro City, Lampung

Nadirsah Hawari^{1*}, Sri Haryani²¹Islamic State University of Raden Intan Lampung²Teacher of SD-IT Wahdatul Ummah**Abstract.**

This article discusses the impact of millennials' digital literacy on political choices in both national and local elections. This theme is considered important considering that political preferences are strongly influenced by paradigms built from a process of reading social phenomena both through classical literature and contemporary digital literacy. The problem is that social media as the main reading material for millennials is often filled with news that is almost without filters and comparisons, making it difficult to differentiate between black and white information. This was a field research with qualitative study pattern and questionnaires and interviews being the main data sources with research objects from the Wahdatul Ummah Metro Lampung Gru SD-IT Board. The selection of research objects was determined based on considerations where SD-IT Wahdatul Ummah, a superior Islamic school (SD Pengmobil), has a millennial teacher board, is social media literate, and understands social and political issues in society. The main problem formulation that will be studied in this research is the impact of the digital literacy of the Wahdatul Ummah SD-IT Teachers' Council on their political choice tendencies in election contestations. The results of the research found that the majority of the Wahdatul Ummah Metro City SD-IT Teacher Council is very active with social media, social media is used as a medium for educating students, and also for self-education, especially when dealing with socio-political issues in the election year. The research also found that the political preferences of the Wahdatul Ummah Metro City SD-IT Teachers' Council were greatly influenced by their maturity in digital integration on social media so that they do not easily accept news without a clarification process, and act moderately and are not carried away by issues of polarization due to the impact of the existing political process.

Keywords: digital literacy, impact, millennial, political preference

1. Introduction

In the Arabic proverb, it is said ' Fahmu al-Su'al Nishfu al-Jawab' (Understanding the Question is Half of the Answer). A very short sentence but full of deep meaning and philosophy of life, especially when related to a condition filled with various circumstances,

Corresponding Author: Nadirsah
Hawari; email: nadirsahhawari@
radenintan.ac.id**Published:** 4 April 2024Publishing services provided by
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information, culture, and sophisticated technology like today. When dealing with any situation or social phenomenon we still have to ask ourselves, including asking our intellectual abilities about what we are seeing and feeling in the field to determine the right steps and effective strategies so that we can take a wise attitude that goals can be achieved without many difficulties. A person's ability to read what is in front of him and what is in himself can be simplified by the term literacy skill or literacy behavior of a person.

Experts divide literacy from the perspective of processing methods and approaches into two parts, namely conventional classical literacy and contemporary virtual digital literacy. These two approaches certainly have many similarities, but there are also differences in terms of methods, forms, and the scope of their respective results and implications. For someone who is used to reading certain books or literature and then writing them down or conveying them to certain groups, listeners will certainly easily recognize the source of the reading so that they can easily balance, criticize, or even reject their conclusions with stronger evidence. On the other hand, for someone who reads reading sources in the form of text in digital media, not only is the source difficult to trace but the validity of the information and its truth are also difficult to account for. On the other hand, there is a saying that says finding God on the web or finding the truth on the internet can lead someone to the wrong way of thinking just because they only have social media and internet networks. Therefore, literacy does not only talk about individual abilities and skills in language which include reading, writing, speaking, calculating, and solving problems alone. However, literacy should reach a certain level of understanding and expertise so that a literacy activist can solve life problems well and correctly. Meanwhile, digital literacy is defined as the ability to understand, analyze, organize, assess, and evaluate information by using digital technology. This means knowing about various technologies and understanding how to use them, as well as having an awareness of their impact on individuals and society. Digital literacy empowers individuals to communicate with others, work more effectively, and increase one's productivity, especially with people who have the same skills and ability levels. (1)

On the other hand, talking about the long-term power of digital literacy is not only related to a person's reliability in collecting data, verifying, and analyzing it, but if you look at the research of Steve Wheeler, Beetham, Littlejohn, and McGill, then digital literacy includes many other abilities that must be possessed, for example how to maintain privacy in the online world, understanding cybercrime, recognizing the characteristics of fake sites (phishing), and email fraud. And the most important thing is a broader

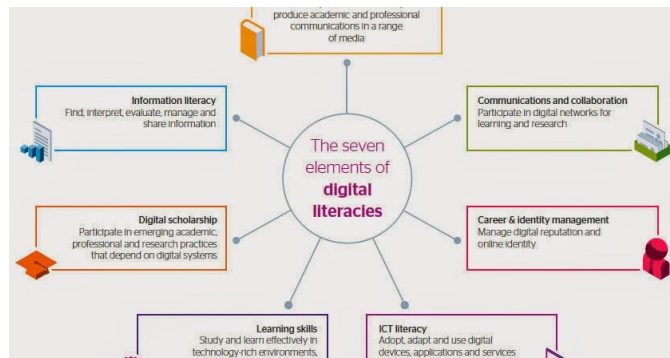


Figure 1:

concept, digital literacy also essentially includes how to maintain ethics in the use of information technology. One of the most obvious daily examples related to a good understanding of digital literacy is when a driver is driving while playing with his cell phone on a public road. If this is not educated about early on, it is possible that in the future this will become a common fact and will not be considered a mistake. This is different from Harjono, where according to him the word literacy can be interpreted as a person's ability to read and write and this is the main and fundamental meaning of the word literacy itself. However, in the future, the meaning of the word literacy has developed along with the development of technology and science itself. Furthermore. According to experts, literacy is not only related to reading and writing but also the entire ability to identify, understand, interpret, create, communicate, calculate, and use printed and written materials related to various contexts. Meanwhile, the word digital itself relates to a person's reliability in playing with technology and using it for positive things, bringing benefits and not harming other parties. With another meaning, digital literacy is given a new meaning which suggests an expansion of meaning towards a new literacy that is linked to the importance of networking, collaboration, interaction, and creativity supported by technology.

Digital literacy is not just defined as someone who can use computer machines to write and read as in the general literacy context but also has a set of basic skills in the use and production of digital media, processing and utilization of information, participation in social networks to create and share knowledge, and a variety of professional computing skills. Mastery of digital literacy in this context increases a person's 'selling value', 'added value', and competence in various dimensions of life. From the social dimension, for example, people who are technologically clueless today are likely to be isolated from their social interactions.(2)

Referring to the We report Are Social noted that the number of internet users in Indonesia had reached 212.9 million in January 2023. It is understood that around 77%

of Indonesia's population has used the internet. The number of internet users in January 2023 was 3.85% higher than a year earlier. In January 2022, the number of internet users in Indonesia was recorded at 205 million. Looking at the trend, the number of internet users in Indonesia continues to grow every year. Meanwhile, a spike in internet users in the country occurred in 2017. Furthermore, the average Indonesian uses the internet for 7 hours 42 minutes every day. Apart from that, 98.3% of internet users in Indonesia use mobile phones. However, Indonesia is one of the countries where many residents are not connected to the internet. We Are Social noted that there are 63.5 million people in the country who will not be connected to the internet at the beginning of 2023. This number is the eighth largest in the world. The first position is occupied by India with 730 million people not yet connected to the internet.

The large number of internet users in Indonesia with very extensive social networking capital has certainly provided a unique color and social style for Indonesian society. Apart from the positive impact in the form of extensive social relations and increasingly improving digital literacy sources, social media can also have quite a few negative impacts, starting from making a person egotistical and preoccupied with themselves, rarely greeting people, including the rise of fraudulent practices based on online media, which had never been found before. In the socio-political realm, apart from being able to open up broad horizons of thinking and access to socio-political information, social media as part of digital literacy can also be a trap to involve or trap someone in untrue news, mere rumors, or even fake news (hoaxes). Muhammad Ridha's research found that media literacy and political literacy can influence a person's level of participation both partially and simultaneously, including the reality of the choice itself. Active media literacy for the younger generation or millennials does not trigger a weak or strong relationship between political literacy and civic participation in the younger generation. The official release from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) of Lampung Province states that the average length of study for all city districts in Lampung Province places Metro City as the city with the longest learning hours from 2020-2022 (10,96,10,97,10, 98) topped Bandar Lampung which was in second place with achievements (10.93,10.95,10.96).(3)

So what is the formulation of the research problems and problems that will be studied in this research? The main issue that will be studied in this research is the extent of the impact of digital literacy on millennials represented by the Wahadatul Ummah Integrated Islamic Elementary School (SD-IT) Teachers' Council located at Jl. Koi Fish No.5, Yosorejo Village, East Metro District, Metro City, Lampung regarding their political tendencies, understanding, and choices during elections, both legislative and executive. The Teacher Council of SD-IT Wahdatul Ummah is considered interesting and urgent

to be used as a sample in this research considering that SDIT Wahdatul Ummah is a superior Islamic school, SD Pengmobil, the teacher council is relatively young (millennial) and has good social relationships and political insight. adequate. The school's location is very close to the Metro City DPRD building, it is often visited and receives assistance from regional heads and local political figures, and several of the students' parents are leaders and members of the Metro City DPRD council.

2. Methods

Research data was obtained through questionnaires, interviews, and other documentation reviews. The data will be analyzed using a qualitative analysis approach to see the relationship between the variables studied. This research is considered important to see the extent of the influence of good and correct digital literacy on the social and political patterns and behavior of certain groups, especially as Metro is considered by researchers and political observers as a city full of pragmatic politics.

Several researchers have discussed the issue of digital literacy and political literacy, including; an article written by Syaifurrohman and Faiz Albar Nasution with the title "Optimizing Political Education through Digital Literacy for Persons with Disabilities in Industry 4.0 in Indonesia" published by the Journal of Educational Communication, Vol.5, No.1 of 2021. In his writing, the author highlights a lot about The impact of political literacy on groups with special needs in society, namely people with disabilities, which is certainly different from the research object which uncovers educated groups with physical and intellectual advantages. Second, an article written by Fauzan Ali Rasyid with the title "Building Political Literacy Through Education for Dignified Elections" was published by *Siyasi: Jurnal Trias Politica* Vol. I, No. I, 2023. In his research, Rasyid examines the efforts of the organizers and related parties to present an intelligent democratic contest using various approaches, especially the classic approach, and does not touch the digital literacy side. Third, the article was written by Muhammad Candra Syahputra with the title "Nahdlatul Ulama Women's Political Literacy Movement in Welcoming the 2019-2020 General Election" published by *Jurnal Islam Nusantara* Vol. 04 No. 02 of 2020. In his study, Syahputra examined the extent of the efforts made by Banom NU to increase the political participation of women in this organization. The study focuses more on emotional cultural approaches and rationalist interactive dialogue in various NU Women's activities. Fourth, an article written by Bakhtiyar with the title "Dynamics of Political Literacy Approaching 2019: The Urgency of Understanding Millennial Voter Behavior" was published by the Journal of Sociology of Humanist

Education Vol 2, No 2, 2018. In this article, Bakhtiyar highlights many social media issues that were often used as a black campaign tool for candidates, especially regarding the issue of the presidential election at that time. Of course, this discussion also overlaps with what is being studied by researchers, but there is still a gap between the two, especially in terms of the central point of study and problems. Fifth, the article written by Arif Fajar with the title “The Influence of Political Literacy and Hoax Information on Student Political Participation” was published by the Journal of Civic Education, Volume 5 No. 1 of 2022. In his writing, Arif places greater emphasis on the aspect of political participation rather than understanding politics, which of course starts from two very different things. Finally, the article titled “ The Influence of Political Message on Social Media for Increasing the Political Literacy of Millennial Generation “ written by Bakhtiar Rosadi et al, was published by Jurnal Civicus Vol. 20 No. 1, June 2020. In this article, Bakhtiar examines the various efforts made by stakeholder groups to provide political education through social media without looking at the extent of the influence of these efforts on the rationality of millennial voters. From all the studies and reviews that have been carried out by predecessors, including Rosadi, Bakhtiyar, Arif, and Syahputra, it appears that there is space and a different scope that still requires further study, especially on the implications of rationality, especially on the empirical axiological aspects in the field when dealing with candidate’s name with all kinds of information and news on social media beforehand while at TPPS. From this, it appears that there is a novelty in the study that needs to be studied and tested further in a comprehensive study with the keywords digital literacy and the impact on the intellectual rationality of potential millennial voters represented by the Wahdatul Ummah Metro SD-IT Teachers Council.

3. Results and Discussion

Meaning of Media Literacy, Digital Literacy

In this discussion, there are at least two main variables that will be discussed related to the theme of literacy, namely media literacy and digital literacy. Understanding these two terms properly and correctly is the main key to getting the full meaning of the current digital literacy problem. Digital literacy is part of media literacy, while media literacy is an opening door to explore more deeply the meaning of literacy itself from various existing points of view and perspectives.

Talking about literacy is not just about discussing the ability to read and study texts contained in a manuscript or media, but it goes further than that where literacy also

concerns the issue of a person's academic behavior and intellectuality as a result of the reading process. Experts are even sharper and deeper when exploring the meaning of literacy, as emphasized by Potter, according to whom literacy is a set of perspectives obtained from a media object to interpret the meaning contained in that object according to the intellectual capacity of the person reading. It doesn't stop there, according to him, good literacy can make someone clever and aware of interacting with existing messages. Likewise Zacchetti, according to him, media literacy does not only focus on the issue of accessing content, understanding and evaluating it, but media literacy is also a person's ability to communicate between all existing content so that it can provide a holistic understanding of various forms of information media, especially digital ones.(4)

In a socio-political context, political information literacy is also a very interesting and relevant object of study, especially now that we, the Indonesian people, are starting the political year towards the 2024 succession with enthusiasm toward a more advanced Indonesia. Media and information literacy, including socio-political information, is urgent and fundamental considering past experiences that have taught us valuable lessons about the meaning of national solidarity when dealing with group and party interests during election contestations, including the 2014 and 2019 presidential elections. Our failure to carry out media literacy, political and electoral literacy has been the cause of the emergence of various kinds of social and political crises, including the spread of untrust (distrust), polarization, and wars of diction and political content narratives on social media which are still felt today.

It must be acknowledged that media literacy and digital literacy do not just talk about the process of studying content, but factually, literacy determines how a person actualizes what he thinks and reads, coupled with the conditions of the social environment that surrounds him. From this, it can be seen how big the role of literacy is in socio-political issues, both in the political year itself and afterward because both will have a significant impact, especially when political issues have led to SARA issues and are covered by other sentiment issues. (6)Bakhtiyar's conclusion was strengthened by Syahputra, according to whom Syahputra said that today's media is not just a medium for showing one's existence to other people, especially on social media, but is more than that. Media has now become a combat tool to attack enemies in a constellation of discourse and ideological battles. The temperature of the battle gets stronger when the momentum of general elections enters, as was felt in the 2014 presidential election, the 2017 Jakarta regional election, and the 2019 presidential election. (7)What's worse is when media content and political narratives are flavored with religious language, which can make some people think it is part of the religious teachings themselves.

Unfortunately, because the issue has been wrapped in a religious guise, anyone can bet and risk themselves in the name of their respective beliefs.

As a good citizen, every citizen is a participant in every national momentum, both obligatory and optional, both annual routines and five-yearly routines such as general elections. The activity of citizens in each of the above national moments, apart from being a symbol of obedience and submission, is also a benchmark for citizen participation in fulfilling independence and advancing the life of the nation and state as it is today. According to Hasyim, in the political and electoral context, political participation is a measure of the success of the election itself because election success is not just implementation but also maturity in viewing political issues themselves. For example, Hasyim conducted research in the Samin community where he found that good political and electoral literacy can change people's perceptions and outlook on the election itself and ultimately have a positive impact on community and nation development.

Hasyim's interesting experience should be an example and role model for other regions so that political and social issues and the media conveying them can become positive energy for the nation in the future. People are tired and tired of reading political narratives and contestation campaigns that are not as intellectual as those presented by the media. The development of technology and information media must be a source of goodness for the nation's children, whoever and wherever they are. The media must no longer be a mere means of entertainment or even a medium for releasing social desires such as bullying other people, a venue for immoral online transactions, pornography, and advertising for other pragmatic political candidates. According to Andiwi, political literacy must be a medium for learning and unifying the nation at every moment, including election momentum. Great elections should not be a time bomb that often sparks the flames of division and ongoing conflict. We need a media validation process, be it print, electronic, or even internet-based social media. Every citizen must have the same frame that information (news) can be true and false, so there needs to be a mirror for analysis and comparison so that everything can be combined and concluded with conclusions that are healthy and not harmful. What's worse, media activists, especially social media, are currently filled by the majority of the millennial generation, even the alpha generation.(9)

Social media users, both individually and in groups, can act as recipients and senders of messages when communicating on their social media. What's even more amazing is that communicants do not recognize any differences in social strata, everyone is free to express themselves and convey messages to whoever they want. (10)Not only that, communication via social media is almost without any verification process and validation

stages so that everything can reach the recipient, the good and bad of the information itself. So from here, it emerges how urgent and important the process of media literacy, and social and political literacy is towards a more advanced Indonesia.

From the explanation above, it can be concluded that media literacy is a serious effort and endeavor to read content, both written and visual, with adequate intellectual and rationality so that the news read can increase scientific insight and digital social intelligence and all the characteristics and uniqueness of existing communication. The massiveness of information technology cannot be contained with any device because it is like a flood in the middle of barren fields and barren trees that have long been longing for water. But our task is to channel the water according to its original needs and function, namely to fertilize the contents of the earth, including fertilizing the human way of thinking itself. If this can be done then there is no need to worry excessively about the emergence of new media variants in the current and future world of information technology. What needs to be thought about is how this information can generate positive energy for the nation and society, especially the current millennial generation.

Furthermore, what about political literacy as the main variable in the theoretical review of this research? Experts explain that political literacy is an individual's ability to understand, analyze, use, and participate effectively in the political process by prioritizing educational political principles. His intelligence in surfing the world of political literacy can be seen from the extent to which he understands the political system, and current political issues, studies political information, and his expertise in carrying out practical political activities when the moment comes. Political literacy involves the ability to critically analyze political information received, including identifying the source of the information, distinguishing between fact and opinion, and understanding the political bias that may exist in the information. Including the ability to participate actively in a political process such as general elections, political campaigns, or local elections, how to convey educational aspirations (demonstrations), and finally political literacy also concerns a person's expertise in conveying political messages to the public so that the aims and objectives of communication can be achieved effectively. Well, the hot and cold temperatures of political communication remain within the framework of the ingredients of brotherhood and the values of unity and moderation in all matters and circumstances.

More sharply, the Gita highlights the close relationship between political literacy and people's understanding of political dynamics itself. The main things in the realm of political studies such as the concept of the state, the way decisions are made, power, and state institutional policies are greatly influenced by the depth of each individual's

political literacy. According to him, if this does not go well it will have an impact on citizen participation in the political process itself.(13)

The impact of political literacy is not only limited to understanding politics but can also have an impact on the spirit of defense and mastery of national material that is combined in the Pancasila and Citizenship Education (PPKn) subjects. Pitoyo researched students in Classes XI and the 5.0% significance level is 1.980. This means there is a significant impact between the influence of policy information literacy and Civics learning outcomes.(14)

The function of literacy is to make the millennial generation more understanding and aware of how the validity of the information is the initial capital for determining further attitudes and behavior regarding the problems they face. According to Arif Fajar, invalid information can influence a person's political attitudes. It's even worse if the invalid information is then followed up with the development of news that is increasingly far from the facts, which also has an impact on the level of citizen participation in even the national political agenda.

From the explanation above, the researcher can conclude at the outset that political literacy through social media tools (digital literacy) has provided a very broad space for the young generation, especially millennials, to be able to develop socio-political academic potential which has so far been co-opted only in conventional spaces. The existing limitations also narrow the space for socialization so that it impacts existing political preferences. The frequency with which political information adorns social media broadcasts such as YouTube, Facebook, TikTok, Instagram, etc. is the extent of the impact that can be contributed to social and political responses in the real world.

The Wahdatul Ummah SD-IT Teachers' Council, which is a collection of teaching staff with an average educational background of Bachelor's Degree from both Islamic and general universities, certainly has sufficient intellectual capacity and national insight to be able to respond to social, cultural, community issues and even even minor political issues. This is not an empty message considering that they are teachers who are educated, certified, or have been trained with a lot of training, especially as driving elementary school teachers in Metro City. Wahdatul Ummah SD-IT is considered interesting to be used as a research object considering the school's location is close to the Metro politicians' building, several of the student parents are active board members, often visited by board members, either as special guests or assisting, the teachers are active in socializing and at least millennials can provide an illustration that the teacher council has a good understanding and literacy of politics, both digital and non-digital. From here it was deemed appropriate and adequate to be used as the object of this

field research. The unique and novel side is in the aspect of the research object where the initial hypothesis states that millennial teachers who are motivated by religious education and good legal norm doctrine will be able to become pioneers in social change in society.

The Impact of Political Literacy on Millennials

To answer the research questions in this research, researchers used questionnaire techniques as a medium for extracting primary data. The questionnaire was created by considering the main problem and also the characteristics of the existing research object. Considering that the object of the research is the teaching staff at an Islamic educational institution in East Metro District, Metro City, the researchers also tried to examine some of the uniqueness of the object which came to the top of the question in the form of the extent of their digital literacy, especially regarding socio-political issues leading up to the election which often adorn millennials' social media. At the moment.

Based on data obtained by researchers from the Principal of SD-IT Wahdatul Ummah, Metro City, it was stated that the number of teachers was 55 people and 10 educational staff, bringing the total to 65 people. From the questionnaire distributed to all teacher councils and education staff, 55 respondents (100%) answered the questionnaire.

Before the researcher gets into the core questions of the research questionnaire, he first begins by getting to know the identity of the questionnaire filler (teacher council) starting with gender. From the data entered, 83.6% of respondents were female and 16.4% were male. From this, it can be concluded that the majority of teachers and education staff at SD-IT Wahdatul Ummah are dominated by women.

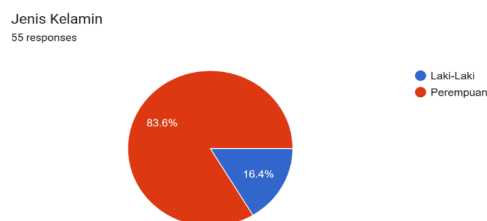


Figure 2: Gender of the Teacher Council.

If you look closely, this figure is much greater than the ratio of male and female teachers in other educational institutions as released by existing survey institutions. For Lampung Province alone, BPS data states that the teacher ratio between male and female teachers is 1:1.08. (16) This means that in general, the number of female teachers is much greater than male teachers, but the number is also not very significant. And for SD-IT Wahdatul Ummah itself, the interval between the two is quite significant and

very far. Teaching skills and abilities are not determined by gender, but if the majority of teachers are women who are still at a productive age, then to a greater or lesser extent it will also have an impact on the continuity of the learning process, especially when teachers have to go on maternity leave, etc.

Apart from the gender ratio aspect of the Wahdatul Ummah Metro Elementary School Teacher Council, the questionnaire also tried to map the Teacher Council in terms of educational background. In terms of education, the majority of Wahdatul Ummah SD-IT teachers are Strata 1 graduates from either religious or public universities. 88.5% hold a Bachelor’s degree, 7.3% have a Master’s degree 2.1% of the remainder have completed vocational school, and 1.8% have a D3.

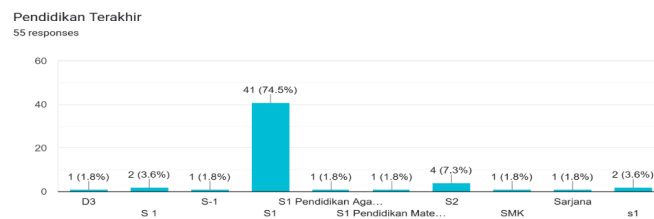


Figure 3:

The presentation of this data strengthens the position of the Wahdatull Ummah SD-IT Teacher Board, the majority of whom have bachelor’s degrees. This figure is very good when compared with the overall percentage for education in Lampung where the figure obtained in 2012 was still at 35%.(17)

SD-IT Wahdatul Ummah apart from being a school with an icon of the Koran and religious education that emphasizes behavior, is also managed and taught by teachers who are still relatively young and millennial. The researcher’s analysis of the data from the questionnaire distributed stated that: there were no vulnerable ages 57-75 (baby boomers) (0%), there were 10.9% vulnerable ages 41-56 (GX), and 10.9% vulnerable ages 20-40 (G- Millennials) as much as 89.1%.

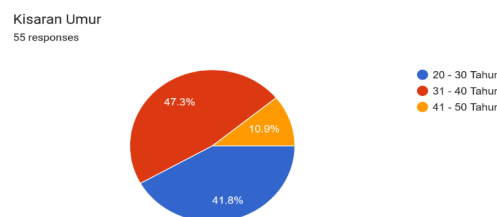


Figure 4:

SD-IT Wahdatul Ummah, apart from having millennial, highly educated teaching staff, also has quite a long tenure. Questionnaire data shows that as many as 21.9% of teachers have served in the range of 11-20 years and as many as 78.2% of teachers have served in the range of 21-30 years. This figure shows that on average the teachers who teach already have sufficient teaching experience so this also has an impact on the status of the institution which is currently believed to be a Driving Elementary School.

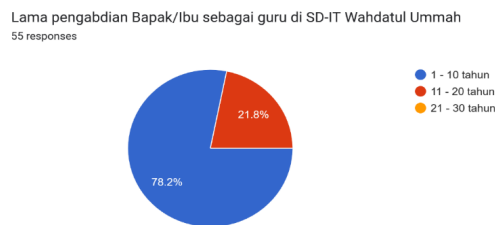


Figure 5:

One of the characteristics of millennials is their closeness to social media as a communication medium in this era of disruption. For the research object (SD-IT Wahdatul Ummah) it can be seen from the table below that they are a community that is very familiar with social media and online media networks. Whatsapp network media is still the main choice for Wahdatul Ummah SD-IT teachers as much as (100%), Instagram (87.3%), Facebook (74.5%), and YouTube media 63.6%), and the rest is spread across many social media applications.

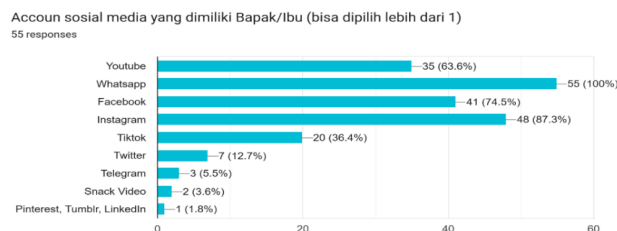


Figure 6:

From the data presented above, it can be concluded that the millennial nature of the Wahdatul Ummah SD-IT Teachers' Council is not only measured in terms of physical age but can also be seen from their closeness to technology and digital media. The majority of teachers are very familiar with Instagram, YouTube, Facebook, and TikTok.

For Wahdatul Ummah Metro SD-IT teachers, familiarity and skill in surfing social media is not just about enjoying information technology which makes them drift and have fun surfing without a definite goal. For them, being active on social media is part of the way to develop academic potential, which is their main task as teachers. According

to Sri Haryani, teachers were asked by school leaders to be active on social media to develop their potential as well as provide educational guidance, especially in the current pandemic era. This is confirmed by questionnaire data which states that as many as 98.2% of the Teacher Council felt helped by their proficiency with social media and the rest were those who were elderly and had difficulty with technology and even then the number was very small.

Apart from asking about their closeness to social media, researchers also asked about the types of media content that the Wahdatul Ummah Metro SD-IT Teacher Board usually accesses and enjoys. The results show that as many as 83.9% of respondents access educational content that supports their work at school and only 12.7% access entertainment content. However, when researchers asked about the type of content they often accessed in the lead-up to the election, 49.1% of respondents said they accessed political news more often, 25.5% accessed entertainment content and only 25.9% of respondents still frequently accessed content about education. and teaching. The results of this analysis are very unique and interesting, where the majority of Wahdatul Ummah SD-IT teachers are educators who are also literate and care about political issues and the development of democracy. Of course, this is not strange because for them taking part in political issues as a prospective voter and having voting rights has become part of the meaning of contributing to nation-building in the political and social fields as well as being active in the field of educating the nation's children through education.

Diantara konten yang paling seiring diakses oleh Bapak/Ibu menjelang pemilihan umum/pilkada adalah:
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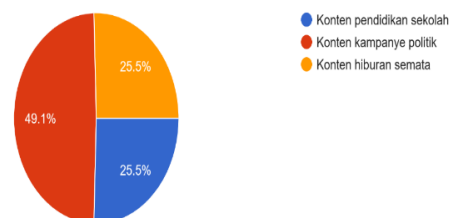


Figure 7:

Next, the researcher tried to investigate to what extent the forms of political content were often received and accessed by the Teachers' Council. As many as 67.3% said political content was educational and enlightening, 21.8% was black campaign content and 10.9% was just content about candidates that were merely entertaining and did not fall into the previous two categories.

Next, the researcher looked at the affective side of the Teachers’ Council when dealing with black campaign content about candidates in the election. The majority of respondents from the Wahdatul Ummah Metro SD-IT Teachers’ Council stated that they had seen and continued to search for information regarding the truth of the existing news, and the remaining 16.4% stated that they had only seen it and did not believe it without making efforts to validate the news.

The final question asked by the researchers to the respondents was the extent of the impact of their political literacy through social media on their tendency to take sides with existing candidates. Respondents’ firm answers showed that as many as 63.6% stated that the political literacy process they had carried out through social media could influence their political choices as long as the news they received was valid. Meanwhile, the remaining 36.4% stated that the validity of news on social media did not influence their political references during the election.

Diantara konten yang paling seiring diakses oleh Bapak/Ibu menjelang pemilihan umum/pilkada adalah:
55 responses

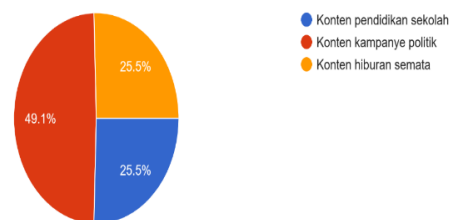


Figure 8:

The results of the researcher’s comprehensive analysis of all data from respondents are related to the impact of political literacy on millennials, represented by a group of educated people, the majority of whom are women and have bachelor’s degrees who have been serving at a private Islamic educational institution called SD-IT Wahdatul Ummah, Metro City. The address is Jl. Koi Fish, Yosrejo Village, East Metro District, and Metro City show that there is a strong correlation between the level of understanding and political preferences. The political understanding of the Teacher Council is mostly obtained from social media; Instagram, YouTube, Facebook, TikTok, etc. which they have been involved in all this time. The results of this analysis are clearer than what Rayhan had researched in the Batam Islands where he only concluded about the impact of political literacy through social media in increasing and increasing the political understanding and participation of millennials without touching on the essential aspects of political choices themselves. (18) This is different from Asep Setiawan in South

Tangerang, where the political literacy process carried out by Muhammadiyah High School students is not only about the aspect of impact on increasing understanding, but Rayhan also touches on aspects of how to counteract hoax news and tips on distinguishing it from true news.

To strengthen the foundations of democratic life and at the same time restore the identity of society and the nation which has always been known for its politeness, Saleh's big idea, which was produced from in-depth research, concluded that the key to success for this is to make efforts to improve literacy for the community, especially millennials. (20)Eni Hidayati also agrees with Asep's conclusion, according to her there must be pragmatic tactical efforts such as reviving the spirit of Pancasila through socializing the values of Pancasila moral education through Civics subjects at school and citizenship education for all levels of society. Likewise, Fajrin, the results his research showed that 6 out of 10 high school students studied did not follow viral political news, only heard and saw it without any effort to make any clarification. According to him, of course, this is very worrying for the future of millennials so literacy efforts, especially political literacy for millennials, are mandatory.

Nurul Farra Yashmid also confirmed the research results of previous researchers that the political literacy process greatly influences political participation which in turn will also influence a person's leadership style. (23)This got worse when Asep Hendrik and Endang became concerned that many political parties have failed to carry out the cadre formation process for the candidates nominated in the elections and regional elections so that the quality of the candidates is questioned, plus voters who are also not intelligent due to the lack of political literacy process.(24)

4. Conclusion

1. After reviewing all the data collected from respondents from a questionnaire distributed to 55 teachers who were actively teaching at SD-IT Wahdatul Ummah, Metro City, it was found that the Teachers' Council was a group of teachers whose majority were highly educated, millennials, had broad knowledge, good socio-cultural and political insight and active on social media.
2. The Board of Teachers at SD-IT Wahdatul Ummah Metro City apart from having a concern in the world of education as measured by their activeness and long years of service in the world of education is also marked by their activeness in nation-building in terms of culture, friendly communication, including being active in spreading literacy culture in society, especially among their students.

3. The Wahdatul Ummah Metro City Elementary School Teacher Council not only uses social media as a medium for friendship and public education, but they also use social media as a means of increasing educational insight for themselves, both for preparing teaching materials, strengthening academic competence, including as a means for them to add maturity in their behavior, including political attitudes, especially when entering the year of politics and contestation.

The results of the analysis of respondents' answers regarding the impact of political literacy on the Wahdatul Ummah Elementary School and IT Teachers in Metro City clearly and convincingly show that they were greatly helped by the political literacy process and tabbayun efforts towards every news regarding candidates in regional and general election contestations. On this basis, the researcher concludes that the political literacy process for Wahdatul Ummah SD-IT teachers does not just increase participation rates as concluded by previous researchers but also improves the quality of the democratic process itself. Of course, this is very important because currently our nation is faced with an immoderate, rather extreme attitude in responding to political news and leadership issues pre- and democratic process itself.

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