

Online Learning Communication During the Covid-19 Pandemic by Teachers and Elementary School Students in Minahasa Regency

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Abstract

The world of education is certainly experiencing severe problems related to the spread of covid-19, because the teaching and learning process certainly cannot be carried out optimally, due to very strict health protocol rules by the government. Various efforts have been made by the government to overcome the failure of the education process in Indonesia. Along with the development of information and communication technology, these problems can be overcome by online learning through various types of communication media nowadays. The purpose of this study was to find out how learning communication during the covid-19 pandemic was carried out by elementary school teachers in Minahasa district, the communication process, communication media, understanding and how to use online communication media, as well as obstacles in online learning. This research certainly uses qualitative methods, by utilizing research informants as the main data source. The results of the study found that the understanding of elementary school teachers in Minahasa Regency in utilizing communication media in carrying out online learning was still shallow. The ability of elementary school teachers in Minahasa district to use new media in learning communication has not been optimal and has not been able to fully explore the development of information technology and new media. Obstacles and obstacles for teachers in implementing online learning communication have not been fully supported by infrastructure and there is still a lack of support from the government and related parties to improve the ability of human resources in mastering information technology.

Keywords: Communication, Online Learning, Covid-19

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Introduction

The education sector has certainly been in a slump since the Covid-19 outbreak, this is because the mobility of people's movements is very limited, including the absence of activities in schools. This of course has an impact on the failure of the education process, learning for school children. This has also happened in Indonesia since the enactment of the PSBB rules, which must comply with the very poor Health protocol in order to break the chain of the spread of COVID-19.

In Syah (2020) explained that the temporary closure of educational institutions as an effort to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the world had an impact on millions of students, not least in Indonesia. Disturbances in the direct learning process between students and teachers and cancellation of learning assessments have an impact on the psychology of students and the decline in the quality of student skills. This burden is the responsibility of all elements of education, especially the state in facilitating the continuity of schools for all educational stakeholders to conduct distance learning. How should Indonesia plan, prepare,

and cope with the recovery of covid 19, to reduce the losses in the world of education in the future.

Various efforts have also been made by the government regarding the problem of not running face-to-face education or learning as a result of the spread of Covid-19. One of the ways taken by the government through the Minister of Education and Culture, is that learning is done online online, or school children can learn from home by utilizing various internet-based online communication media, such as the Zoom Meeting application, Teams, Google Meet, or can use the use of other social media. Online learning really needs to be done in an effort to implement education and also to prevent COVID-19 in Indonesia (Dewi, 2020). Learning with an online system is a way that needs to be taken to keep the student learning process, especially elementary schools running, even though there is the Covid-19 phenomenon (Fauzi et al., 2021).

On the one hand, of course, this is very good and efficient, and effective, because the learning process is carried out only at home. But on the other hand, there are problems that need attention, teachers and students are of course the main actors of the current online learning, but there are some problems that were found based on the results of initial observations of researchers in the field, among others, there are still many students. Elementary schools that do not intensively get lessons through online media, this is because there are still many teachers who have not optimally utilized these online-based communication media in learning in the current covid-19 pandemic era, in detail there are several problems that hinder the use of communication media. Based on online learning in elementary school students, there is still a lack of understanding and use of IT from elementary school teachers, then limited data quotas, locations that are not reached by a good internet network, and other problems. Students are bored with the material presented by the teacher when studying online, and there are still students who do not have a smartphone or laptop. Of course, with the less than optimal use of learning communication media in the special pandemic era by teachers and elementary school students in Minahasa Regency, it can hamper the education and learning process, and also hinder the improvement of human resources as the nation's successor.

Literature Review

The state of the art research is taken from several previous studies as a reference, guide or example for current research. In writing the state of the art of this research, it will also be seen the difference from previous studies with research conducted at this time. In this study with a discussion of the problem of how communication media in online learning in the midst of the covid-19 pandemic by teachers in the Minahasa district of North Sulawesi Province, with the focus to be studied is how to use and utilize effectively as well as barriers to communication media in online learning by school teachers base.

This research is certainly very appropriate to do because it refers to the strategic plan of Unsrat's research, especially in the field of excellence in social humanities and research topics that lead to the improvement of human resources. Currently, the learning process in the pandemic era can still be carried out even through online online learning by utilizing various applications. The problem of covid-19 is a strong reason for the world of education to be carried out using online communication media. Since the beginning of 2020, the world has been shocked by the outbreak of the Corona virus (COVID-19) which has infected almost all countries in the world. WHO since January 2020 has declared the world to be in a global emergency regarding this virus (Anugrahana, 2020). Since then the education sector has been very threatened, for that the government has made real efforts to overcome this problem by issuing a decision from the

Minister of Education and Culture to conduct online online learning for all levels of education from elementary, junior high, high school and university in Indonesia.

By using the internet and social media during the Covid-19 pandemic, apart from implementing SK number 15 of 2020 regarding guidelines for organizing learning from home in an emergency period for the spread of the corona virus (Covid-19), it is also for the safety and health of students, teachers, school principals. and all residents in the area of the educator unit (Giantika, 2020; Giantika, 2020). The use of online learning media has a higher influence on English learning outcomes when compared to the use of offline learning media (Arnesti & Hamid, 2015). The English learning outcomes of students who have open interpersonal communication are higher than the English learning outcomes of students who have communication closed interpersonal. There is an interaction between the use of learning media and interpersonal communication in influencing students' English learning outcomes. This is evident from the results of the follow-up test which concludes that groups of students who have open interpersonal communication get higher English learning outcomes if they are taught using media online learning rather than using offline learning media, while students who have closed interpersonal communication have higher learning outcomes if they are taught using offline learning media than using media. online learning.

Nuriansyah (2020) stated that every lecturer or teacher needs to master various kinds of online-based communication media, such as zoom meetings, google meet, youtube and others to maximize the online online learning process for students. Lecturers to be more active in updating or improving their ability to use online media. Not only face-to-face applications such as zoom meetings, or google meet, but other learning media must also be mastered. For example, learning videos are more interactive, the use of animated images is more interesting and the presentation of material is more contextual that can increase student motivation.

From several previous research results, compared to this research, of course, it is very visible that a very basic difference and can be used as part of the novelty of this research is the focus of research which looks more at how the understanding, use and ability of elementary school teachers in using learning media online/internet based, and what will be explored is not only one online learning media, but also various online learning media today, including zoom meeting, teams meeting, youtube, whatsapp, Instagram live, facebook live and messenger. In contrast to previous research, it only examines or measures one of the online learning media.

The concept of communication is an activity of delivering information, be it messages, ideas, and ideas, from one party to another. Usually this communication activity is carried out verbally or verbally, making it easier for both parties to understand each other. Communication is a behavioral activity or activity of delivering messages or information about thoughts or feelings (Roben 2008). Not far from Robben's understanding, John R. Schemerhorn in his book entitled *Managing Organizational Behavior* states that communication can be interpreted as a process between individuals in sending and receiving symbols that are meaningful in their interests Widjaja (1986). According to Dewi (2020) online learning is the use of the internet network in the learning process. With online learning, students have the flexibility of learning time, can study anytime and anywhere.

Communication media is a means used by communicators in conveying messages to communicants both orally and in writing. The use of appropriate communication channels makes communication effective. Communication channels using visual and non-visual aids (oral and written) facilitate the communication process within the organization (Minngkid, 2017). Digital communication media is very important in communicating today in the era of technology 4.0. will greatly assist the community in communicating regardless of distance and

time constraints (Prabowo & Irwansyah, 2018). According to McQuail in his book *Mass Communication Theory* (2011) the main characteristics of new media are their interconnectedness, their access to individual audiences as recipients and senders of messages, their interactivity, their diverse uses as an open character, and their ubiquitous nature.

The difference between new media and old media is that new media ignores the limitations of printing and broadcasting models by allowing conversations between many parties, allowing simultaneous reception, change and redistribution of cultural objects, interfering with communication actions from the important position of regional relations and modernity. , providing instant global contact, and inserting modern/late modern subjects into a networked apparatus machine (Poster, in McQuail, 2011). New media is a term used for all forms of mass communication media based on communication technology and information technology. The new media that has these characteristics is the internet. The internet is a network of cable and satellite telephones that connect computers (Mass Communication Theory, Vivian, 2008; 263).

New media theory in the book of communication theory (Little John & Karen A. Foss, 2009:413), explains that in 1990, Mark Poster launched his big book, *The Second Media Age*, which marked a new period in which interactive technology and network communication, especially the virtual world will change society. The idea of a second media era which has actually been developed from the 1980s to the present marks an important change in media theory. The use of new media theory in this study is quite reasonable because in the problems described in the background chapter, it is very clear that new media can be used as a communication solution for the implementation of online learning in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic by teachers and elementary school students.

Methods

The methodological approach in this study uses qualitative methods, research with qualitative design is descriptive, qualitative research uses humans as instruments, and is adapted to reasonable situations in relation to data collection which is generally qualitative in nature. Qualitative research deals with the ideas, perceptions, opinions, or beliefs of the people being studied; all of which cannot be measured by numbers (Basuki, 2006). In this study, informants will be determined consisting of basic informants and key informants. The primary informant is, of course, the person who can provide initial recommendations to be used as a source of research data. Informants in this study were teachers and elementary school students in Minahasa Regency, who carried out online online learning. Determination of informants will be done randomly during the research or called snowball sampling, considering the number of teachers and students are quite a lot in Minahasa district, informants will be taken at several schools located in several sub-districts in Minahasa district. The main focus of this research is on: understanding, use, abilities, benefits as well as, obstacles and barriers to the use of communication media in learning amidst Covid-19 by Elementary School Teachers.

Results and Discussion

Minahasa Regency is the oldest district in North Sulawesi Province. February 25, 2003 Minahasa Regency was divided into Minahasa Regency, South Minahasa Regency and Tomohon City based on Law No. 10/2003. On December 18, 2003, Minahasa Regency was divided again into Minahasa Regency and North Minahasa Regency based on Law no. 33/2003. The area of Minahasa Regency is 1,641.27 km² which consists of 1,094.88 km² of land area and 46.54 km² of lake waters and 599.85 km² of sea. Minahasa Regency consists of 23 sub-districts, of which the largest sub-district is Tombariri District (158.52 km²). Minahasa comes from the word MINAESA which means unity, which in ancient times Minahasa was known as

MALESUNG. The Minahasa people who were known as the descendants of Toar Lumimuut at that time were divided into three groups, namely Makarua Siow: the organizers of Worship and Customs, Makatelu Pitu: those who governed the government, and Pasiowan Telu: the people. Based on the investigation of Dr. J.P.G. Riedel, around the year 670 in Minahasa there was a deliberation at Watu Pinawetengan which was intended to enforce customs and the division of the Minahasa region. The division of the Minahasa region is divided into several tribal children, namely the Tontewoh (Tonsea) tribe: the area to the northeast, the Tombulu tribe: the area towards the north, the Toulour tribe: towards the east (atep). In Minahasa, since ancient times, there was no government ruled by a king. There are: Walian: religious/customary leaders and shamans, Tonaas: hard people, who are experts in agriculture, wanuaan, those who are chosen to be the head of walak. Forward : Warlord, Potuas : Advisor. In line with the development of autonomy, in 1919, the city of Manado, which was located on Minahasa land, was also granted autonomy to become the Manado City Region. Then due to the faster progress, the status of Bitung sub-district, based on government regulation number 4 of 1975, on April 10, 1975, was designated as Bitung Administrative City, and in 1982 it was designated as Bitung City.

In order to improve efficiency and effectiveness within the range of control of the administration of government tasks, the implementation of development as well as community development and services, the proposal for the establishment of South Minahasa Regency and Tomohon City is processed together with twenty-five Regency/City candidates throughout Indonesia, and after going through a process With the approval of the DPR-RI, South Minahasa Regency and Tomohon City were designated as Autonomous Regencies and Cities in Indonesia through Law Number 10 of 2003 dated February 25, 2003. On November 21, 2003 with Law Number 33 of 2003, North Minahasa Regency was designated as an autonomous region. the new one. Regency. South Minahasa on 23 May 2007 also divided Southeast Minahasa Regency. With the expansion, the Minahasa region became four regencies (Minahasa Regency, South Minahasa, North Minahasa, Southeast Minahasa) and three cities (Manado City, Bitung and Tomohon).

Minahasa Regency consists of twenty-three sub-districts, Minahasa has a total population of 014 people. Famous artists like JE. Tatengkeng, Mr. Dajoh, Yessy Wenas, Maya Rumantir, Chintya Maramis and Angel Karamoy. In the field of art, the Se-Minahasa Waraney and Wulan Minahasa male and female contests are held. This regional football club is called Persmin or Persmin Minahasa. Famous soccer players from Minahasa such as Ronny Pangemanan and Yopie Lumoindong (Tondano) at PSM Makassar and so on. Tourism Potential of Minahasa Regency: Touluan Beach, Kali Pineleng Waterfall, Lake Tondano, Fort Moraya Tondano, Bukit Kasih Kanonang, Makatete Hills, and others.

The presence of the internet as a medium of communication has a considerable impact on our lives. Almost all aspects of human life today depend on the internet, including the world of education (Keengwe & Georgina, 2012). Digital media, internet or new media have created a kind of bond that makes us closer to friends, relatives, or colleagues who are far away. Coupled with the state of the world that is being hit by the Covid-19 pandemic. The need for the internet is very important in supporting online learning. The pandemic forces us all to move and develop with technology ranging from work, teaching and learning programs to daily communication. The use of information technology is also very clearly visible in the world of education, because the learning process must be carried out via the internet, despite the Covid-19 phenomenon. Online learning is a way that the government needs to take so that education continues despite the challenges of the COVID-19, (Andarwulan et al., 2021).

The following is an overall discussion of the research results, with an emphasis on several research focuses. Online learning has become a trend during the Covid-19 outbreak, and indeed this method is considered quite effective in supporting learning, judging from the distance and shorter time compared to face-to-face learning methods. But the online learning method certainly has its drawbacks and obstacles. Some of the factors that are the focus of this research, among others, are the understanding of communication media in conducting online learning, the use of communication media, the ability to use online communication media, as well as the benefits and obstacles and obstacles in communicating online learning by teachers and students as if they were basic in Minahasa Regency.

Regarding the problem of understanding about communication media in online learning amidst Covid-19 by elementary school teachers. from the results of the study it was illustrated that their understanding was quite good, the teachers understood that the existence of information communication technology was able to support and facilitate the learning process with students during the covid-19 phenomenon. Furthermore, related to the problem of using communication media in online learning in the midst of covid-19 by elementary school teachers, from the results of the study it can be concluded that the use of communication media in learning. Online teaching by elementary school teachers in Minahasa district has not been optimal, because teachers have not been able to optimally utilize new media in online learning communication with students, (Fauzi et al., 2020). Most of them are only able to use new media such as What'up and zoom for learning activities and distributing assignments to students, while other new media such as the use of youtube, google forms, google classroom, google meet, email, and so on cannot be utilized.

The ability to use communication media in online learning in the midst of covid-19 by elementary school teachers, from the results of the study found that the ability to use new communication media or digital media in online learning by elementary school teachers is still at a low level, because the ability to optimize new digital media teachers has not been able to maximally explore the new communication media. Benefits of Communication Media in online learning in the midst of covid-19 by elementary school teachers. From the results of the study, it was found that online communication can cut time and carry out learning faster with students. The learning process is more flexible and can be done anytime and anywhere.

In the online learning process, of course, there are still many obstacles and obstacles that occur and there needs to be a solution (Putri et al., 2020). The results of the study obtained data that the main obstacles and obstacles in the use of new or digital communication media by teachers to carry out online learning are, supporting facilities that do not yet exist for every teacher, (laptops and pulses, data quota fees), not yet maximal support from the government and other parties. related to improving the ability of elementary school teachers in conducting online learning. Information technology supporting infrastructure is not equally present in all areas in Minahasa Regency. Another obstacle is that teacher supervision of students is not optimal when conducting online learning.

Conclusion

The understanding of elementary school teachers in Minahasa Regency in utilizing communication media in carrying out online learning is still shallow. The ability of elementary school teachers in Minahasa district to use new media in learning communication has not been optimal and has not been able to fully explore the development of information technology and new media. Benefits of Communication Media in online learning in the midst of covid-19 by elementary school teachers. From the results of the study, it was found that online communication can cut time and carry out learning faster with students. The learning process

is more flexible and can be done anytime and anywhere. Obstacles and obstacles for teachers in implementing online learning communication have not been fully supported by infrastructure and there is still a lack of support from the government and related parties to improve the ability of human resources in mastering information technology. The government and related parties need to provide assistance, training in improving the ability of elementary school teachers regarding the understanding, use and utilization of new media and information technology in supporting the implementation of online learning activities for elementary school students in Minahasa Regency. The government and related parties need to facilitate elementary school teachers in Minahasa district with adequate facilities and infrastructure and support the use of information technology in online learning communication activities.

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