**Voter Education: Strategy to Increase Voter Participation in Using Their Voting Rights**

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|  | ***Abstract*** |
| *Received:**Revised:**Accepted:* | *9 Agustus 2023**19 Agustus 2023**28 Agustus 2023* | *This article aims to find out strategies for increasing voter participation in exercising their voting rights. This topic is important and interesting, because the increase in voter participation has a great influence in conducting elections, especially when accompanied by socialization and voter education which become a strong foundation for building the level of voter participation in using their voting rights as well as possible. This research method is a type of research that uses a descriptive qualitative approach, where this method utilizes qualitative data and is described descriptively. Sources of data in the study were obtained through interviews, observation, and online media (Publish or Perish database, SINTA, and Goggle Scholar). Data collection and data analysis techniques in this study were using interview, observation, and online media techniques (Publish or Perish database, SINTA, and Goggle Scholar) which were carried out by researchers to collect, explore, and collect valid, complete, and relevant information related to the topic of the problem that is the object of research. The author finds that, related to this activity, it is very useful as a strategy to foster a high participatory attitude in using their voting rights as well as possible, because this activity is a step to encourage as an agent of change (agent of change), so that awareness of political rights, democracy, and community participation can be increased again.* |
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**INTRODUCTION**

Education is a conscious effort to develop the level of knowledge, ability, and personality as good students. Because, short term every educational process that is carried out means that it is said to be a process of learning and teaching in the classroom, in the medium term education means the development of students as a whole, and in the long term education is said to be as a phenomenon related to culture which involves various kinds of moral, aesthetic, and cultural values (Haryanti, 2016). Hayer in Kartini Kartono who argued that, in relation to the world of voter education which is used as one of the efforts to shape humans to become more responsible participants in the world of politics. Voter education must always be able to educate people as best as possible, so that they are literate in the world of politics, meaning that every human being is expected to remain aware of politics as the young generation to continue the hope of the nation at this time (Haerul, 2019). According to (Kantaprawira, 2006) also explained that, voter education is one of the steps taken in an effort to increase political knowledge for the people, so that they can participate actively and optimally in their political system in accordance with the notion of popular sovereignty or people's democracy to carry out their duties. and function as such participation.

The purpose of voter education is for students to have the ability to think critically, rationally and creatively in responding to various kinds of citizenship issues, participate actively and responsibly, act intelligently in community, national and state activities, anti- corruption, and form themselves based on the characters of the Indonesian people, so that they can live together with other nations (F. N. Affandi, 2019). Politics itself cannot be separated from the participation of the citizens themselves. The implementation of political participation is as contained in Law Number 12 of 2015 concerning guarantees and protection of the state for civil and political rights of citizens such as, the right to express opinions, the right to associate, the right to vote and be elected, equal rights before law and government, and the right to equal justice. One factor that is very supportive in general elections (elections) is the level of community participation and a large number of participation will show awareness from the public about the importance of the general election (election) itself (Putra et al., 2021). The participation of citizens is the breath in a democratic country (Teorell, 2006).

Apart from that, participation is not just for how people cast their voting rights when general elections take place (Farhaini et al., 2022). However, participation is also manifested in a broader form, namely how the public is actively involved in discussions related to their rights and obligations as citizens, how they are involved in the decision-making process, and how they control the implementation of policies and programs being implemented (Prayudi, 2018). Political participation is a term that can attract attention for further discussion, both by the government and society (Putra & Salahudin, 2022). Related to the phenomenon of community political participation which experiences quite varied dynamics. However, reality of political participation since the general elections in 2004 to 2015 is still far from the expectations planned from the start.

In fact, democracy really requires citizen participation in the maturing process of democratization (Putra, 2022). For example, during the 2004 general election, the voter turnout rate was only 84.1%, a decrease from the 1999 general election with a turnout rate of 92.6%. On the other hand, participation rate decreased in the 2009 general election to 70.9% which was accompanied by an increase in the number of white people or citizens who did not exercise their right to vote by 29.1%. Likewise, during the 2014 general election which only touched a turnout rate of 70% (Ramadhanil et al., 2015). The decline in the quality and quantity of people's political participation is influenced by a lack of understanding of various forms of political issues and boredom of the democratization process which has not fully had a significant effect on the quality of life of its citizens (Putra & Hadi, 2022).

In the end, accumulation of disappointment with the perceived political reality should at least encourage the formation of political apathy (Husna, 2019). Voter education or what is often referred to as "voters education" is an effort to involve citizens to create a culture of high participation (Istikharah & Asrinaldi, 2019). Through voter education, citizens are given information quickly and precisely, resulting in a process of transferring values and norms even though they do not join the associated political parties (Handoyo & Lestari, 2017). The goals and functions of voter education are to build awareness of the rights and obligations of citizens in the life of the nation and state, especially in social and political functions; forming and cultivating political personality and high political awareness; increase knowledge, insight, skills, responsibilities, and ethics about politics; and encourage an increase in the level of active political participation among the public (I. Affandi, 2011). Eventhough, if in the end the level of participation from the community is still recorded or is relatively low, it does not escape the possibility of canceling the results of the general election (election), but this can show the political awareness that exists within the community in positioning itself as a central element of a region itself.

Therefore, things behind this research plan are to see how voter education can increase people's participation in the upcoming 2024 general election. Apart from that, background for choosing this agency was that currently the general election will be held just a short time away, so this is very suitable when choosing the Malang Regency KPU agency as a place to carry out Government Research Internships. On the other hand, political participation of the people is used as one of the foundations on the basis of the form of the embodiment of a democratic state, in which the people are directly involved in the general election process (election). In this case, citizens play a very important role in selecting various forms of state officials who will later manage the government and the actions they will take in the future (Suryadi, 2007). Because, democracy is used as one of the very important foundations in relation to a political system that is able to provide space for justice and equality for all citizens (Solihah et al., 2018).

Therefore, fundamental feature of the existence of a democratic country is the existence of these general elections. General elections (elections) are one of the parties of citizen democracy to realize the political will of the people in selecting suitable candidates for leadership positions based on the mandate given previously (Muhammad et al., 2020). In a general election (election), for example political participation greatly influences the legitimacy of the community for the candidate pair that has been elected (Arniti, 2020). The urgency of this is how efforts to increase participation, understanding, and awareness in politics can be carried out with various parties, both from general election organizers (elections), political participants, and academics, especially from universities in carrying out the Tri Dharma College (Muhammad et al., 2020). On the other hand, one of the ways that can be taken to increase participation, understanding, and awareness in politics is through voter education which is an important issue to foster political awareness in the community itself.

Beginner voter is someone who is around 17-20 years of age or who is the first to take part in the general election (election) (Muhammad et al., 2020). The first-time voters themselves are citizens based on statutory provisions who have fulfilled the requirements as voters for the first time exercising their right to vote in a general election (national election or local election) (Islah et al., 2020). The term young voters emerged in general elections (elections) as one of the right steps for the younger generation for voters who have different traits and characteristics, backgrounds, experiences, and challenges from voters from the previous generation (Nur Wardhani, 2018). Because, voices of these novice voters really need to be directed as well as possible, so that they don't go wrong in channeling their aspirations, so that general elections (elections) must proceed in accordance with these democratic principles. Therefore, purpose of this article is to find out strategies to increase voter participation in exercising their right to vote.

**RESEARCH METHODS**

This type of research is a type of research that uses descriptive qualitative, where this method utilizes qualitative data and is described descriptively. Sources of data in this study were obtained through interviews, observation, and online media (Publish or Perish database, SINTA, Goggle Scholar). Data collection techniques in this study were interviews, observations, and online media (Publish or Perish, SINTA, and Goggle Scholar databases) conducted by researchers to collect, explore, and gather valid, complete, and relevant information related to the topic. problem which is the object of research. Data analysis techniques use analytical techniques through approaches carried out by (Nazir, 2014) and (Arikunto, 2013) as follows:

1. Read the various information contained in the research, whether information is available that is in accordance with the background of the research problem to be studied (Nazir, 2014).
2. Collect sources of study materials that are relevant to the problems in research (Arikunto, 2013).
3. Quoting the information contained in the reading can be in the form of quotations (quoting directly), paraphrasing (using your own words) (Nazir, 2014) and writing the results of the study into the cards provided (Arikunto, 2013).
4. Note things that are important by looking first, which ones are important and also studying the index on the back of the book to look for pages that are directly related to those recorded on the cards provided (Nazir, 2014).
5. Summing up the results that have been obtained (Arikunto, 2013).
6. Interpret the results obtained (Nazir, 2014).

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**General Elections: Means for Manifesting Democratic Values**

Being citizens in a democratic country are required to use their voting rights as well as possible (Budijanto, 2017). Through general elections, citizens give their voting rights to people they believe to be able to bring their aspirations into the policy-making process (Putra & Sihidi, 2022). The general election is a means for citizens to assess the vision, mission, and programs of which candidates are in accordance with the needs of the community. In addition, general election is a channel for people's aspirations to evaluate the performance of their representatives in the previous election. Level general elections should be used as best as possible by every citizen to choose the party or candidate according to their wishes (Sa’adawisna & Putra, 2022).

But in reality, trap of transactional politics actually takes root and keeps people trapped in the vortex of political pragmatism. Condition is allowed to continue, there will most likely be a decline in democratic values in Indonesia. In democratic country, elections have several functions, namely a means of granting and establishing legitimacy for power and government; means of establishing political representation for every citizen; renewal of the circulation of power-holding elites; means of educating the public to be aware of the world of politics; and means for citizen participation (Juditha & Darmawan, 2018). Agreed democracy in Indonesia is a presidential democracy, in which the President becomes the leader of the state and government. On the other hand, existence of a legislative body that carries out the functions of legislation, budgeting, and supervision of the running of government.

The general election process in Indonesia has direct, general, free, confidential, honest, and fair philosophical values (Kharisma, 2015). Principle is the goal of organizing general elections, even though every stage of general elections is always marked by dishonorable actions, whether committed by citizens or by party sympathizers or candidates who are contesting. It can be seen from Indonesia that has been recorded as having held 12 general elections, so that until now only the first general election in 1955 is believed to be a truly clean and fair general election. The citizen participation rate in this first general election was very high and the white group (abstentions) rate was below ten percent. Over time, level of public participation in general elections has decreased.

Citizens' distrust of political parties and contesting candidates is considered a contributing factor to the high number of abstentions. The reform era that was hailed as one of the democratization momentums in Indonesia was not fully able to restore the citizen participation rate in general elections to 90 percent. Moreover, in the last two general elections in 2014 and 2019, political divisions are increasingly felt. Condition is exacerbated by the presence of digital technology which is inversely proportional to the digital literacy level of citizens (Susilo et al., 2020). In the past, “negative campaigns and black campaigns” were homework that had to be completed by candidates fighting in the political arena (Sirait, 2020). Currently, confusion and false information are new problems for the sustainability of democracy in Indonesia (Utami, 2018).

Digital activism has a major influence on the image of a country's democracy (Lim, 2013). On the other hand, digital media has become a deliberative space for people to increase their knowledge and political awareness. However, on the other hand, low control over awareness when using digital media makes citizens trapped in an abundance of information, moreover it is still not known how to sort out correct information from wrong information (Lim & Kann, 2016). Wars on social media are common in Indonesia only to defend arguments that are not necessarily true (Utami, 2018). The characteristics of social media that allow people to create a large number of anonymous accounts is a factor that determines the magnitude of the information confusion. Therefore, existence of this general election is a strong indication in manifesting all forms of democratic values in Indonesia.

**Strategy in Socializing the General Election Smart House at KPU Malang Regency**

1. **Dissemination Through Social Media and Official Web of KPU Malang Regency**

In connection with socializing the general election smart house at the Malang Regency KPU, the general election smart house socialization is carried out by making the official website, namely <https://www.kpud-malangkab.go.id> to inform the public or first-time voters regarding various forms of activities conducted by the general election smart house. The official website is accompanied by ad hoc members who support it will produce the activities and information carried out by the Malang Regency KPU to the maximum later. There is data related to members of the Malang Regency KPU ad hoc body below.

**Table 1. Number of Malang Regency KPU Adhoc Board Members in 2020 Election**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Number of Districts** | **Number of Villages/Ward** | **TPS** | **PPK** | **PPS** | **PPDP** | **KPPS** | **Linmas** | **Total** |
| 33 | 390 | 4.999 | 165 | 1.170 | 4.9693 | 34.993 | 9.998 | 51.295 |

(Source: KPU Malang Regency, 2020)

This general election smart house is one of the pillars for a place for the community to obtain guaranteed information about elections and voter education. General election smart houses contain facilities to introduce and instill public awareness of democratic values (Putra & Dhanuarta, 2021). Malang Regency KPU has made the general election smart house a means of voter education through social media in the form of Twitter accounts, Instagram accounts, and YouTube accounts in conveying all forms of information to the public through the use of social networks in the Malang Regency KPU.

Political socialization is part of the socialization process that specifically shapes political values that show how each member of society should actively participate in their political system (Henry & Laila, 2021). Political socialization shows every process in forming political attitudes and patterns of behavior. Apart from that, political socialization is referred to as a medium for a generation to pass on instructions and political beliefs to the next generation. One of the indicators that attracts the attention of young people is to use social media as an agent of socialization through content or issues conveyed that are in accordance with the conditions of society faced by young people (Luthfia & Al, 2020). Remember, social media can be easily accepted by first-time voters, because there is an approach that is carried out directly through social media, such as content discussed on social media which is used as an issue that is directly related to first-time voters and current politics, so as to encourage first-time voters to be interested. Find out more about the issues that interest them. The approach taken can influence first-time voters to pay attention to the development of issues on social media.

Malang Regency KPU has carried out outreach to convey all forms of information to the public through intermediaries using social media networks as the information conveyed can be easily obtained directly by the public. Voter education is a conscious and systematic effort to mold humans into ethically responsible actors in order to achieve the nation's political goals, increase people's political awareness and nation's political values, and preserve culture (Putra & Hijri, 2022). Because, society must really understand and live up to the values contained in the ideal political system of a nation. Therefore, results of this appreciation will give birth to new attitudes and patterns of political behavior that support the ideal political system and will create a new political culture that is more democratic in the life of the nation and state.

1. **Direct Visit Service**

With regard to direct services, Malang Regency KPU has facilitated the general election smart house by receiving various visits directly from first-time voters who come to the general election smart house. Because, every form of material presented through film or video shows has a great impact on student motivation to participate directly in general elections and voter education. Service has the goal of disseminating all forms of information related to voter education to first-time voters and the public. The direct service of the General Election Smart House is visited by every high school student, university student, and the general public. In addition, Malang Regency Election Commission as a provider of services needed by all levels of society must be responsible for providing the best service in terms of obtaining various information regarding voter education.

The general election smart house can be analogized as a potential learning resource center as a means of continuing voter education. Service is an activity that occurs in direct interaction between one person and another and provides customer satisfaction (Salsabila et al., 2020). Referring to the opinions of the experts above, the form of direct service activities carried out by the KPU of Malang Regency is by increasing voter participation, both in quality and quantity in the entire process of holding general elections. Direct visits are carried out by the general election smart house by instilling awareness of political values for first-time voters. Because, Malang Regency Election Commission must provide more knowledge to novice voters regarding the presence of general election smart houses and election materials. Apart from that, it also shows screening of films related to national elections and local elections. Therefore, making local films with animation can be used as a means of voter education.

1. **KPU Goes to School or KPU Goes to Campus**

With regard to KPU Goes to Campus, it aims to provide voter education about the importance of general elections and democracy to first-time voters. The implementation was carried out by the KPU of Malang Regency by visiting various high school/equivalent schools and campuses in Malang Regency. Socialization and educational activities that are held face-to-face must be carried out as well as possible. KPU Malang Regency has made visits to several schools and universities in Malang Regency to provide outreach and education related to voter education to first-time voters. The socialization of the general election smart house was carried out by the KPU of Malang Regency by providing information, giving directions, and direct invitations on how to become a smart voter.

In addition, Malang Regency Election Commission facilitated schools in the election of OSIS Chair by providing equipment such as ballot boxes and ballot papers to support the implementation of the election. Activity was carried out according to how the actual election was assisted by the KPU of Malang Regency in its implementation. Dissemination and education on smart home elections at KPU Malang Regency by providing information, coaching, and direct invitations to become smart voters. Because, Malang Regency Election Commission also makes it easy for schools to elect the student council president by providing equipment such as ballot boxes and ballot papers that support the election for the student council president. Therefore, activity was carried out in accordance with the method of implementing general elections which was actually assisted directly by the KPU of Malang Regency in its implementation.

**Implementation of Voter Education Program to Increase Community Participation 2024 General Elections in Malang Regency**

The voter education program to increase community participation that is currently being carried out by the KPU of Malang Regency is in the form of socializing the 2018 simultaneous local elections, socializing the 2019 general election, family-based voter education, forming democracy volunteers, and forming a community that cares about elections and democracy (Aini et al., 2023). The implementation of the five programs above aims to increase community participation, where in general the material presented in the above activities can be said to have emphasized voter education to increase people's political literacy about the importance of rationality, independence and voluntarism in participating in general elections. The data below relates to the level of public participation in the 2019 general election for President and Vice President in Malang Regency.

**Table 2.**

**Level of Community Participation in the 2019 General Election of President and Vice President in Malang Regency**

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|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NO** | **KECAMATAN** | **DATA PEMILIH (DPT)** | **PENGGUNA HAK PILIH (DPT + DPTb + DPK)** | **TINGKAT PARMAS (%)** | **SUARA SAH DAN TIDAK SAH** |
| **L** | **P** | **JUMLAH** | **L** | **P** | **JUMLAH** | **L** | **P** | **TOTAL** | **SAH** | **TIDAK SAH** | **JUMLAH** | **RASIO****(%)** |
| 1 | DONOMULYO | 28.922 | 28.847 | 57.769 | 19.997 | 20.047 | 40.044 | 69,14% | 69,49% | 69,32% | 39.390 | 654 | 40.044 | 1,63% |
| 2 | PAGAK | 20.909 | 21.547 | 42.456 | 14.116 | 15.080 | 29.196 | 67,51% | 69,99% | 68,77% | 28.596 | 600 | 29.196 | 2,06% |
| 3 | BANTUR | 29.896 | 31.066 | 60.962 | 23.078 | 22.956 | 46.034 | 77,19% | 73,89% | 75,51% | 45.031 | 1.003 | 46.034 | 2,18% |
| 4 | SUMBERMANJING WETAN | 39.478 | 39.650 | 79.128 | 30.230 | 29.480 | 59.710 | 76,57% | 74,35% | 75,46% | 58.743 | 967 | 59.710 | 1,62% |
| 5 | DAMPIT | 52.384 | 52.783 | 105.167 | 38.480 | 39.534 | 78.014 | 73,46% | 74,90% | 74,18% | 76.548 | 1.466 | 78.014 | 1,88% |
| 6 | AMPELGADING | 23.498 | 23.347 | 46.845 | 17.529 | 17.420 | 34.949 | 74,60% | 74,61% | 74,61% | 34.120 | 829 | 34.949 | 2,37% |
| 7 | PONCOKUSUMO | 38.832 | 38.015 | 76.847 | 30.914 | 31.190 | 62.104 | 79,61% | 82,05% | 80,82% | 59.675 | 2.429 | 62.104 | 3,91% |
| 8 | WAJAK | 32.937 | 33.070 | 66.007 | 26.017 | 27.092 | 53.109 | 78,99% | 81,92% | 80,46% | 51.923 | 1.186 | 53.109 | 2,23% |
| 9 | TUREN | 45.600 | 45.494 | 91.094 | 36.094 | 37.463 | 73.557 | 79,15% | 82,35% | 80,75% | 71.986 | 1.571 | 73.557 | 2,14% |
| 10 | GONDANGLEGI | 31.625 | 32.621 | 64.246 | 25.842 | 26.622 | 52.464 | 81,71% | 81,61% | 81,66% | 50.975 | 1.489 | 52.464 | 2,84% |
| 11 | KALIPARE | 27.512 | 27.821 | 55.333 | 19.293 | 20.022 | 39.315 | 70,13% | 71,97% | 71,05% | 38.611 | 704 | 39.315 | 1,79% |
| 12 | SUMBERPUCUNG | 22.365 | 23.107 | 45.472 | 15.943 | 17.652 | 33.595 | 71,29% | 76,39% | 73,88% | 33.017 | 578 | 33.595 | 1,72% |
| 13 | KEPANJEN | 39.476 | 40.887 | 80.363 | 31.276 | 34.115 | 65.391 | 79,23% | 83,44% | 81,37% | 63.946 | 1.445 | 65.391 | 2,21% |
| 14 | BULULAWANG | 25.981 | 26.428 | 52.409 | 21.209 | 22.505 | 43.714 | 81,63% | 85,16% | 83,41% | 42.666 | 1.048 | 43.714 | 2,40% |
| 15 | TAJINAN | 21.030 | 20.979 | 42.009 | 17.033 | 17.827 | 34.860 | 80,99% | 84,98% | 82,98% | 33.960 | 900 | 34.860 | 2,58% |
| 16 | TUMPANG | 30.032 | 29.521 | 59.553 | 24.511 | 25.046 | 49.557 | 81,62% | 84,84% | 83,21% | 47.927 | 1.630 | 49.557 | 3,29% |
| 17 | JABUNG | 27.959 | 27.607 | 55.566 | 23.595 | 24.217 | 47.812 | 84,39% | 87,72% | 86,05% | 46.177 | 1.635 | 47.812 | 3,42% |
| 18 | PAKIS | 50.746 | 51.341 | 102.087 | 42.420 | 45.149 | 87.569 | 83,59% | 87,94% | 85,78% | 85.365 | 2.204 | 87.569 | 2,52% |
| 19 | PAKISAJI | 32.352 | 32.409 | 64.761 | 26.261 | 27.938 | 54.199 | 81,17% | 86,20% | 83,69% | 53.089 | 1.110 | 54.199 | 2,05% |
| 20 | NGAJUM | 19.839 | 19.616 | 39.455 | 15.493 | 16.093 | 31.586 | 78,09% | 82,04% | 80,06% | 30.983 | 603 | 31.586 | 1,91% |
| 21 | WAGIR | 31.729 | 30.740 | 62.469 | 26.433 | 26.867 | 53.300 | 83,31% | 87,40% | 85,32% | 52.170 | 1.130 | 53.300 | 2,12% |
| 22 | DAU | 25.038 | 24.900 | 49.938 | 20.888 | 21.892 | 42.780 | 83,43% | 87,92% | 85,67% | 41.929 | 851 | 42.780 | 1,99% |
| 23 | KARANGPLOSO | 28.012 | 27.999 | 56.011 | 23.784 | 24.781 | 48.565 | 84,91% | 88,51% | 86,71% | 47.668 | 897 | 48.565 | 1,85% |
| 24 | SINGOSARI | 61.713 | 63.908 | 125.621 | 48.784 | 53.509 | 102.293 | 79,05% | 83,73% | 81,43% | 99.620 | 2.673 | 102.293 | 2,61% |
| 25 | LAWANG | 38.571 | 39.688 | 78.259 | 32.051 | 34.810 | 66.861 | 83,10% | 87,71% | 85,44% | 65.288 | 1.573 | 66.861 | 2,35% |
| 26 | PUJON | 25.740 | 24.412 | 50.152 | 22.560 | 21.945 | 44.505 | 87,65% | 89,89% | 88,74% | 43.331 | 1.174 | 44.505 | 2,64% |
| 27 | NGANTANG | 22.833 | 22.286 | 45.119 | 18.706 | 18.704 | 37.410 | 81,93% | 83,93% | 82,91% | 36.471 | 939 | 37.410 | 2,51% |
| 28 | KASEMBON | 12.464 | 11.820 | 24.284 | 9.550 | 9.673 | 19.223 | 76,62% | 81,84% | 79,16% | 18.872 | 351 | 19.223 | 1,83% |
| 29 | GEDANGAN | 22.227 | 22.096 | 44.323 | 17.491 | 16.689 | 34.180 | 78,69% | 75,53% | 77,12% | 33.620 | 560 | 34.180 | 1,64% |
| 30 | TIRTOYUDO | 25.734 | 25.342 | 51.076 | 20.108 | 19.836 | 39.944 | 78,14% | 78,27% | 78,21% | 39.258 | 686 | 39.944 | 1,72% |
| 31 | KROMENGAN | 15.877 | 16.118 | 31.995 | 12.236 | 13.205 | 25.441 | 77,07% | 81,93% | 79,52% | 24.961 | 480 | 25.441 | 1,89% |
| 32 | WONOSARI | 17.838 | 17.789 | 35.627 | 12.742 | 13.780 | 26.522 | 71,43% | 77,46% | 74,44% | 26.041 | 481 | 26.522 | 1,81% |
| 33 | PAGELARAN | 27.102 | 27.352 | 54.454 | 22.071 | 22.189 | 44.260 | 81,44% | 81,12% | 81,28% | 43.285 | 975 | 44.260 | 2,20% |
|  | **JUMLAH** | **996.251** | **1.000.606** | **1.996.857** | **786.735** | **815.328** | **1.602.063** | **78,97%** | **81,48%** | **80,23%** | **1.565.242** | **36.821** | **1.602.063** | **2,30%** |

(Source: KPU Malang Regency, 2019)

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Based on the above data, 33 sub-districts included in the scope of Malang Regency are divided into four mechanisms, namely the voter data mechanism (DPT), voting rights users (DPT+DPTb+DPK), level of community participation (%), and valid votes as well as invalid. In terms of voter data (DPT), where voter data from men and women totaled 1,996,857.

Furthermore, from the suffrage users (DPT+DPTb+DPK) the number of male and female suffrage users totaled 1,602,063. In addition, in terms of the level of community participation, the participation of men and women totaled 80.23%. Finally, in terms of valid and invalid votes with a total of 1,602,063 with a ratio of 2.30%. From the existence of a high level of community participation, it will be an aspect of procedural and substantial democracy, so that these two aspects will be interrelated and cannot be separated. If, substantial aspects of democracy can be achieved without procedural aspects or vice versa, then the noble values of democracy cannot be achieved which can usually affect the fulfillment of human rights guarantees in the implementation process (Wahidah et al., 2023).

On the other hand, there is also data that shows the level of public participation in the general election for Members of the 6th East Java Provincial DPRD in 2019 in the following Malang Regency.

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**Table 3. Level of Community Participation in the 2019 General Election for Members of East Java Province DPRD in Malang Regency**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NO** | **DAPIL** | **KECAMATAN** | **DATA PEMILIH (DPT)** | **PENGGUNA HAKPILIH (DPT + DPTb + DPK)** | **TINGKAT PARMAS (%)** | **SUARA SAH DAN TIDAK SAH** |
| **L** | **P** | **JUMLAH** | **L** | **P** | **JUMLAH** | **L** | **P** | **TOTAL** | **SAH** | **TIDAK SAH** | **JUMLAH** | **RASIO** **(%)** |
| 1 | 6 | DONOMULYO | 28.922 | 28.847 | 57.769 | 19.988 | 20.042 | 40.030 | 69,11% | 69,48% | 69,29% | 36.033 | 3.997 | 40.030 | 9,99% |
| 2 | 6 | PAGAK | 20.909 | 21.547 | 42.456 | 14.115 | 15.079 | 29.194 | 67,51% | 69,98% | 68,76% | 25.184 | 4.010 | 29.194 | 13,74% |
| 3 | 6 | BANTUR | 29.896 | 31.066 | 60.962 | 23.076 | 22.951 | 46.027 | 77,19% | 73,88% | 75,50% | 39.558 | 6.469 | 46.027 | 14,05% |
| 4 | 6 | SUMBERMANJING WETAN | 39.478 | 39.650 | 79.128 | 30.229 | 29.479 | 59.708 | 76,57% | 74,35% | 75,46% | 54.894 | 4.814 | 59.708 | 8,06% |
| 5 | 6 | DAMPIT | 52.384 | 52.783 | 105.167 | 38.480 | 39.534 | 78.014 | 73,46% | 74,90% | 74,18% | 69.210 | 8.804 | 78.014 | 11,29% |
| 6 | 6 | AMPELGADING | 23.498 | 23.347 | 46.845 | 17.505 | 17.400 | 34.905 | 74,50% | 74,53% | 74,51% | 29.851 | 5.054 | 34.905 | 14,48% |
| 7 | 6 | PONCOKUSUMO | 38.832 | 38.015 | 76.847 | 30.908 | 31.166 | 62.074 | 79,59% | 81,98% | 80,78% | 52.641 | 9.433 | 62.074 | 15,20% |
| 8 | 6 | WAJAK | 32.937 | 33.070 | 66.007 | 26.010 | 27.087 | 53.097 | 78,97% | 81,91% | 80,44% | 47.618 | 5.479 | 53.097 | 10,32% |
| 9 | 6 | TUREN | 45.600 | 45.494 | 91.094 | 36.086 | 37.459 | 73.545 | 79,14% | 82,34% | 80,74% | 65.781 | 7.764 | 73.545 | 10,56% |
| 10 | 6 | GONDANGLEGI | 31.625 | 32.621 | 64.246 | 25.823 | 26.614 | 52.437 | 81,65% | 81,59% | 81,62% | 46.306 | 6.131 | 52.437 | 11,69% |
| 11 | 6 | KALIPARE | 27.512 | 27.821 | 55.333 | 19.290 | 20.020 | 39.310 | 70,11% | 71,96% | 71,04% | 34.548 | 4.762 | 39.310 | 12,11% |
| 12 | 6 | SUMBERPUCUNG | 22.365 | 23.107 | 45.472 | 15.935 | 17.644 | 33.579 | 71,25% | 76,36% | 73,85% | 29.757 | 3.822 | 33.579 | 11,38% |
| 13 | 6 | KEPANJEN | 39.476 | 40.887 | 80.363 | 31.221 | 34.047 | 65.268 | 79,09% | 83,27% | 81,22% | 56.293 | 8.975 | 65.268 | 13,75% |
| 14 | 6 | BULULAWANG | 25.981 | 26.428 | 52.409 | 21.145 | 22.427 | 43.572 | 81,39% | 84,86% | 83,14% | 36.962 | 6.610 | 43.572 | 15,17% |
| 15 | 6 | TAJINAN | 21.030 | 20.979 | 42.009 | 17.030 | 17.823 | 34.853 | 80,98% | 84,96% | 82,97% | 29.968 | 4.885 | 34.853 | 14,02% |
| 16 | 6 | TUMPANG | 30.032 | 29.521 | 59.553 | 24.504 | 25.038 | 49.542 | 81,59% | 84,81% | 83,19% | 42.361 | 7.181 | 49.542 | 14,49% |
| 17 | 6 | JABUNG | 27.959 | 27.607 | 55.566 | 23.595 | 24.215 | 47.810 | 84,39% | 87,71% | 86,04% | 42.184 | 5.626 | 47.810 | 11,77% |
| 18 | 6 | PAKIS | 50.746 | 51.341 | 102.087 | 42.255 | 45.016 | 87.271 | 83,27% | 87,68% | 85,49% | 75.960 | 11.311 | 87.271 | 12,96% |
| 19 | 6 | PAKISAJI | 32.352 | 32.409 | 64.761 | 26.245 | 27.921 | 54.166 | 81,12% | 86,15% | 83,64% | 47.002 | 7.164 | 54.166 | 13,23% |
| 20 | 6 | NGAJUM | 19.839 | 19.616 | 39.455 | 15.493 | 16.093 | 31.586 | 78,09% | 82,04% | 80,06% | 28.588 | 2.998 | 31.586 | 9,49% |
| 21 | 6 | WAGIR | 31.729 | 30.740 | 62.469 | 26.407 | 26.834 | 53.241 | 83,23% | 87,29% | 85,23% | 46.942 | 6.299 | 53.241 | 11,83% |
| 22 | 6 | DAU | 25.038 | 24.900 | 49.938 | 20.464 | 21.198 | 41.662 | 81,73% | 85,13% | 83,43% | 37.167 | 4.495 | 41.662 | 10,79% |
| 23 | 6 | KARANGPLOSO | 28.012 | 27.999 | 56.011 | 23.635 | 24.619 | 48.254 | 84,37% | 87,93% | 86,15% | 42.936 | 5.318 | 48.254 | 11,02% |
| 24 | 6 | SINGOSARI | 61.713 | 63.908 | 125.621 | 48.617 | 53.357 | 101.974 | 78,78% | 83,49% | 81,18% | 89.698 | 12.276 | 101.974 | 12,04% |
| 25 | 6 | LAWANG | 38.571 | 39.688 | 78.259 | 31.759 | 34.641 | 66.400 | 82,34% | 87,28% | 84,85% | 59.049 | 7.351 | 66.400 | 11,07% |
| 26 | 6 | PUJON | 25.740 | 24.412 | 50.152 | 22.556 | 21.939 | 44.495 | 87,63% | 89,87% | 88,72% | 39.590 | 4.905 | 44.495 | 11,02% |
| 27 | 6 | NGANTANG | 22.833 | 22.286 | 45.119 | 18.705 | 18.703 | 37.408 | 81,92% | 83,92% | 82,91% | 31.488 | 5.920 | 37.408 | 15,83% |
| 28 | 6 | KASEMBON | 12.464 | 11.820 | 24.284 | 9.505 | 9.640 | 19.145 | 76,26% | 81,56% | 78,84% | 16.639 | 2.506 | 19.145 | 13,09% |
| 29 | 6 | GEDANGAN | 22.227 | 22.096 | 44.323 | 17.486 | 16.686 | 34.172 | 78,67% | 75,52% | 77,10% | 30.899 | 3.273 | 34.172 | 9,58% |
| 30 | 6 | TIRTOYUDO | 25.734 | 25.342 | 51.076 | 20.107 | 19.833 | 39.940 | 78,13% | 78,26% | 78,20% | 35.613 | 4.327 | 39.940 | 10,83% |
| 31 | 6 | KROMENGAN | 15.877 | 16.118 | 31.995 | 12.233 | 13.203 | 25.436 | 77,05% | 81,91% | 79,50% | 22.678 | 2.758 | 25.436 | 10,84% |
| 32 | 6 | WONOSARI | 17.838 | 17.789 | 35.627 | 12.738 | 13.778 | 26.516 | 71,41% | 77,45% | 74,43% | 23.482 | 3.034 | 26.516 | 11,44% |
| 33 | 6 | PAGELARAN | 27.102 | 27.352 | 54.454 | 22.069 | 22.186 | 44.255 | 81,43% | 81,11% | 81,27% | 39.162 | 5.093 | 44.255 | 11,51% |
|  |  | **JUMLAH** | **996.251** | **1.000.606** | **1.996.857** | **785.214** | **813.672** | **1.598.886** | **78,82%** | **81,32%** | **80,07%** | **1.406.042** | **192.844** | **1.598.886** | **12,06%** |

 (Source: KPU Malang Regency, 2019)

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Based on the data above, of the 33 sub-districts included in the scope of Malang Regency, namely in terms of voter data (DPT), where the voter data from men and women totaled 1,996,857. Of the suffrage users (DPT+DPTb+DPK) there were 1,598,886 male and female suffrage users. Furthermore, in terms of the level of community participation from the community participation of men and women with a total of 80.07%. Finally, in terms of valid and invalid votes totaling 1,598,886 with a ratio of 12.06%. The purpose of community participation will increase the power of voter education aimed at encouraging the attainment of goals in a substantial democracy and is one of the steps in making it happen through the values and goals of procedural democracy.

Voter education must be carried out effectively and accepted by the community which will have an impact on strengthening community participation in government oversight. The concept of voter education stipulated in the regulation at least contains educational goals which instill values related to elections and democracy in the life of the nation and state to citizens who have met the requirements as voters in elections or have the potential to vote in a later period. The most basic values in democracy in the implementation of elections are the values of equality of political rights for every citizen. The equality of citizens' political rights is threatened in a democracy, if issues of primordialism, patronage practices, money politics, and transactional politics color the life of democracy. In fact, it would be nice if the concepts developed in voter education materials could also educate voters, so that they would be able to be actively involved in monitoring the tenure of elected officials through community participation in government.

The efforts of Malang Regency Election Commission in increasing the quantity of voter participation must at least be balanced with efforts to improve the quality of public participation in elections. The data below relates to the level of public participation in the 2019 general election for members of the Regency/City DPRD in Malang Regency.

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**Table 4. Level of Community Participation in the 2019 General Election of Regency/City DPRD Members in Malang Regency**

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|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NO** | **DAPIL** | **KECAMATAN** | **DATA PEMILIH (DPT)** | **PENGGUNA HAKPILIH (DPT + DPTb + DPK)** | **TINGKAT PARMAS (%)** | **SUARA SAH DAN TIDAK SAH** |
| **L** | **P** | **JUMLAH** | **L** | **P** | **JUMLAH** | **L** | **P** | **TOTAL** | **SAH** | **TIDAK SAH** | **JUMLAH** | **RASIO (%)** |
| 1 | 1 | GONDANGLEGI | 31.625 | 32.621 | 64.246 | 25.823 | 26.611 | 52.434 | 81,65% | 81,58% | 81,61% | 48.454 | 3.980 | 52.434 | 7,59% |
| 2 | 1 | KEPANJEN | 39.476 | 40.887 | 80.363 | 31.159 | 34.016 | 65.175 | 78,93% | 83,20% | 81,10% | 58.745 | 6.430 | 65.175 | 9,87% |
| 3 | 1 | BULULAWANG | 25.981 | 26.428 | 52.409 | 21.111 | 22.304 | 43.415 | 81,26% | 84,40% | 82,84% | 38.809 | 4.606 | 43.415 | 10,61% |
| 4 | 1 | PAGELARAN | 27.102 | 27.352 | 54.454 | 22.069 | 22.186 | 44.255 | 81,43% | 81,11% | 81,27% | 41.327 | 2.928 | 44.255 | 6,62% |
| 5 | 2 | DAMPIT | 52.384 | 52.783 | 105.167 | 38.480 | 39.534 | 78.014 | 73,46% | 74,90% | 74,18% | 73.019 | 4.995 | 78.014 | 6,40% |
| 6 | 2 | AMPELGADING | 23.498 | 23.347 | 46.845 | 17.505 | 17.400 | 34.905 | 74,50% | 74,53% | 74,51% | 31.790 | 3.115 | 34.905 | 8,92% |
| 7 | 2 | TUREN | 45.600 | 45.494 | 91.094 | 36.068 | 37.443 | 73.511 | 79,10% | 82,30% | 80,70% | 68.118 | 5.393 | 73.511 | 7,34% |
| 8 | 2 | TIRTOYUDO | 25.734 | 25.342 | 51.076 | 20.105 | 19.833 | 39.938 | 78,13% | 78,26% | 78,19% | 37.239 | 2.699 | 39.938 | 6,76% |
| 9 | 3 | DONOMULYO | 28.922 | 28.847 | 57.769 | 19.988 | 20.042 | 40.030 | 69,11% | 69,48% | 69,29% | 36.618 | 3.412 | 40.030 | 8,52% |
| 10 | 3 | PAGAK | 20.909 | 21.547 | 42.456 | 14.114 | 15.077 | 29.191 | 67,50% | 69,97% | 68,76% | 26.425 | 2.766 | 29.191 | 9,48% |
| 11 | 3 | BANTUR | 29.896 | 31.066 | 60.962 | 23.073 | 22.949 | 46.022 | 77,18% | 73,87% | 75,49% | 42.101 | 3.921 | 46.022 | 8,52% |
| 12 | 3 | SUMBERMANJING WETAN | 39.478 | 39.650 | 79.128 | 30.227 | 29.478 | 59.705 | 76,57% | 74,35% | 75,45% | 56.225 | 3.480 | 59.705 | 5,83% |
| 13 | 3 | GEDANGAN | 22.227 | 22.096 | 44.323 | 17.486 | 16.686 | 34.172 | 78,67% | 75,52% | 77,10% | 32.006 | 2.166 | 34.172 | 6,34% |
| 14 | 4 | KALIPARE | 27.512 | 27.821 | 55.333 | 19.290 | 20.014 | 39.304 | 70,11% | 71,94% | 71,03% | 35.447 | 3.857 | 39.304 | 9,81% |
| 15 | 4 | SUMBERPUCUNG | 22.365 | 23.107 | 45.472 | 15.932 | 17.643 | 33.575 | 71,24% | 76,35% | 73,84% | 30.644 | 2.931 | 33.575 | 8,73% |
| 16 | 4 | PAKISAJI | 32.352 | 32.409 | 64.761 | 26.234 | 27.921 | 54.155 | 81,09% | 86,15% | 83,62% | 47.937 | 6.218 | 54.155 | 11,48% |
| 17 | 4 | NGAJUM | 19.839 | 19.616 | 39.455 | 15.492 | 16.093 | 31.585 | 78,09% | 82,04% | 80,05% | 29.312 | 2.273 | 31.585 | 7,20% |
| 18 | 4 | KROMENGAN | 15.877 | 16.118 | 31.995 | 12.231 | 13.202 | 25.433 | 77,04% | 81,91% | 79,49% | 23.315 | 2.118 | 25.433 | 8,33% |
| 19 | 4 | WONOSARI | 17.838 | 17.789 | 35.627 | 12.738 | 13.778 | 26.516 | 71,41% | 77,45% | 74,43% | 24.673 | 1.843 | 26.516 | 6,95% |
| 20 | 5 | WAGIR | 31.729 | 30.740 | 62.469 | 26.401 | 26.827 | 53.228 | 83,21% | 87,27% | 85,21% | 47.272 | 5.956 | 53.228 | 11,19% |
| 21 | 5 | DAU | 25.038 | 24.900 | 49.938 | 20.453 | 21.137 | 41.590 | 81,69% | 84,89% | 83,28% | 37.309 | 4.281 | 41.590 | 10,29% |
| 22 | 5 | KARANGPLOSO | 28.012 | 27.999 | 56.011 | 23.603 | 24.551 | 48.154 | 84,26% | 87,69% | 85,97% | 43.860 | 4.294 | 48.154 | 8,92% |
| 23 | 5 | PUJON | 25.740 | 24.412 | 50.152 | 22.555 | 21.938 | 44.493 | 87,63% | 89,87% | 88,72% | 41.011 | 3.482 | 44.493 | 7,83% |
| 24 | 5 | NGANTANG | 22.833 | 22.286 | 45.119 | 18.704 | 18.703 | 37.407 | 81,92% | 83,92% | 82,91% | 33.387 | 4.020 | 37.407 | 10,75% |
| 25 | 5 | KASEMBON | 12.464 | 11.820 | 24.284 | 9.503 | 9.638 | 19.141 | 76,24% | 81,54% | 78,82% | 17.166 | 1.975 | 19.141 | 10,32% |
| 26 | 6 | PAKIS | 50.746 | 51.341 | 102.087 | 42.205 | 44.985 | 87.190 | 83,17% | 87,62% | 85,41% | 77.543 | 9.647 | 87.190 | 11,06% |
| 27 | 6 | SINGOSARI | 61.713 | 63.908 | 125.621 | 48.590 | 53.329 | 101.919 | 78,74% | 83,45% | 81,13% | 90.606 | 11.313 | 101.919 | 11,10% |
| 28 | 6 | LAWANG | 38.571 | 39.688 | 78.259 | 31.746 | 34.625 | 66.371 | 82,31% | 87,24% | 84,81% | 59.614 | 6.757 | 66.371 | 10,18% |
| 29 | 7 | PONCOKUSUMO | 38.832 | 38.015 | 76.847 | 30.900 | 31.165 | 62.065 | 79,57% | 81,98% | 80,76% | 54.541 | 7.524 | 62.065 | 12,12% |
| 30 | 7 | WAJAK | 32.937 | 33.070 | 66.007 | 26.007 | 27.085 | 53.092 | 78,96% | 81,90% | 80,43% | 49.184 | 3.908 | 53.092 | 7,36% |
| 31 | 7 | TAJINAN | 21.030 | 20.979 | 42.009 | 17.027 | 17.818 | 34.845 | 80,97% | 84,93% | 82,95% | 30.803 | 4.042 | 34.845 | 11,60% |
| 32 | 7 | TUMPANG | 30.032 | 29.521 | 59.553 | 24.501 | 25.035 | 49.536 | 81,58% | 84,80% | 83,18% | 44.035 | 5.501 | 49.536 | 11,11% |
| 33 | 7 | JABUNG | 27.959 | 27.607 | 55.566 | 23.591 | 24.184 | 47.775 | 84,38% | 87,60% | 85,98% | 43.149 | 4.626 | 47.775 | 9,68% |
|  |  | **JUMLAH** | **996.251** | **1.000.606** | **1.996.857** | **784.911** | **813.230** | **1.598.141** | **78,79%** | **81,27%** | **80,03%** | **1.451.684** | **146.457** | **1.598.141** | **9,16%** |

(Source: KPU Malang Regency, 2019)

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From data above, there are 33 sub-districts included in the scope of Malang Regency, namely in terms of voter data (DPT), where the voter data is from men and women with a total of 1,996,857. Furthermore, suffrage users (DPT+DPTb+DPK) the number of male and female suffrage users totaled 1,598,141. Apart from that, in terms of the level of community participation, the participation of men and women totaled 80.03%.

Finally, in terms of valid and invalid votes totaling 1,598,141 with a ratio of 9.16%. In fact, this actually makes improving the quality of community participation a priority program for the Malang Regency KPU which is more important, because increasing the quality of participation means increasing the quality of democracy, considering that the quantity of participation is the result of political mobilization or the mobilization of organizers who often do so, without being accompanied by volunteerism. voter. Sovereign voters are rational, intelligent and independent voters. With the concept of sovereign voters, voter education must be carried out with the same educational concept as other formal education goals, namely instilling positive values that can be implemented for the common good in the life of the nation and state and carried out continuously until the desired values can be embedded in voter attitudes and behavior (Sa’adawisna & Putra, 2023). Effective and efficient voter education program is a program that is carried out professionally and with legal considerations, so that this program can be implemented by many parties, such as political parties, the government, educational institutions, and community organizations with an orientation towards achieving the acceleration of Indonesian voters becoming voters. rational, intelligent, independent, and voluntary.

Apart from that, voter education programs must be implemented with concepts and strategies that can be measured for their level of success. On the other hand, voter education program is carried out in stages and continuously. Malang Regency KPU's commitment to participate in encouraging the implementation of a competent and capable government can be carried out with an effective and efficient voter education program. With voter education, practice of money politics that fosters a pragmatic voter attitude can be eradicated, clientelism and patronage that erode voter independence can be suppressed, able to ward off hoaxes and black campaigns, and able to increase public participation in government oversight. Therefore, community involvement in government oversight can prevent abuse of power, accelerate development programs, and assist the government in the process of making strategic decisions.

**CONCLUSION**

The author finds that, voter education currently has main objectives including people's political participation, partisanship in open public conflicts, and participation in determining public policy. Because, courage in self-determination autonomously must be prioritized in the world of voter education, because in voter education to determine the direction of the political struggle in the midst of many conflicts caused by differences in interests. Indirectly voter education has influenced individuals in the political struggle, in order to achieve conflict resolution that benefits all parties. To foster the participation of voters, it is absolutely necessary to carry out good and correct voter education as well as possible. Through the voter education program, it is a procedure or technique for instilling and forming political values that already exist within themselves.

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Therefore, the implementation of voter education can be carried out through socialization and education which is used as learning for every young generation in participating in the general election (election) activity. From this learning, generations are required so that each individual has full awareness and can give his rights and obligations as a citizen, namely by participating in politics by participating in the voting for the general election itself. Because, general elections (elections) are one part of the change of power which has an impact on policy changes related to issues such as development, education, health, crime, disasters, and so on. Socialization and political education provide general indications of the results of learning political behavior and groups that are directly related to knowledge, values, and certain political attitudes. The process of socialization and political education is the process of forming attitudes and political orientation of community members.

Through process of political socialization that voters acquire an attitude and orientation towards the political life that takes place in society. Because, with political education it is hoped that it can educate, increase a sense of nationalism, and patriotism towards state activities, both in terms of state administration, state systems, and matters relating to statehood. Voters can play an active role in general elections (elections), among others, by participating in general elections (elections), becoming rational voters, becoming independent monitors, overseeing the results of general elections (elections), and becoming the ruling moral force after general election activities. going on. From the description above there is an increase in political knowledge, understanding and awareness which is very significant in understanding the importance of political participation, both in the political process of general elections and so on. Voter participation is very good to do for the sake of ongoing political activities, but it needs education, understanding, and insight to vote, because usually as a voter can be the target of several political parties (political parties) who want to take advantage of votes from all walks of life. Therefore, it would be better for voters to hold socialization and education, so that the votes of each individual can be channeled properly and on target.

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