

# THE ROLE OF READING LIBRARY COMMUNITY AS MEDIA OF LITERATE EDUCATION

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## A B C T R A C T

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The research is investigating about *The Role of Reading Library Community as Media of Literate Education*. By using method of *Participatory Rural Appraisal* and collecting data through the interview, observation, FGD and library studying the research's purpose are to know the role of reading library community as media of literate education, the problem which exist during the development of reading library community, planning about literate information. The source is taken from PKK participants, POSYANDU participants and people who involve in children preschool education, and important figure in the community. The research's result shows that the reading library community have the important role as a media where the community can learn especially to make them realize how important the education and the interest of reading are, the biggest problem in developing the reading library community is the development of the location and resources, the planning program of literate information still have problem in applying literate cycle. The problem can be overcome by doing the proper arrangement and involved the whole level in the community.

KEYWORDS : Reading Library, Literacy, media's role, media literate

## I N T R O D U C T I O N

Narawita village is one of 12 village in Cicalengka subdistrict in Bandung regency in west Java . Narawita village has 5.595 people. They are 2723 women, 2876 men with the village total area 302 Ha. Beside that the total population based on their age consist of 0-14-1.677 people, 14-64-3.795 people and 65+127 people. Observating from those total population and the wide location, Narawita village becomes the potential village in supporting the development program in Cicalengka subdistrict. Although its location

is far enough from the capital district, but it is bordered with Nagreg and Cikancung subdistricts. Beside that, Narawita village become the connector through land transportation between those three subdistricts.

The community in Narawita village in cicalengka subdistrict, Bandung regency of west java province most of them work as a traditional farmer, especially ricefield and their land as the main land for their farm. The ricefield in this village do not increase in fact become fewer because of the population's growth who live here.

Yet, not all of the farmers in Narawita village have their own land or ricefield for supporting their living. About one third from population in the village only become the workers. They only work for the ricefield's owner. Mean while another population work as a merchant, take care of the chicken traditionally and so on. Therefore part of them still considered being poor.

Therefore, most of the children from poor family as mentioned above have no chance to enter pre school whether formal education (kindergarden) or in formal (Bambim, Paud non formal). Even there are many of them can not complete 9 years compulsory education. This is because they do not have money for school fee. ( buy school uniform, book etc) which are considered expensive for them. In fact based on the total population of children, there are about 30%, 1.677 people.

Whereas, education for pre school is very important to become basic education for the next education. Educating children is very important, because of that early education for children is thought important. This is because education can not be implemented instantly when they are older. It is obvious when the children still young the education need to be planned well. Because education in early ages is the process to put basic and fondation, education at high level only continue what they get when they still young or small. Education in form of habitual, giving values, also basic aspects happened when the children are still young. For that purpose every pre school education institution must have strong basic and comprehensive.

The age under 5 years (BALITA) is the age which has a very critic or become the indication in forming someone's character and their personalities. Including intelligence child's development almost happen under the age of five years. The children under five years old have the amazing latent intelligence (potential intelligence). But in general teachers and parents only teach them a little. Commonly we always blame their behavior if it does not like we want to. This is because we lack of their knowledge and understanding through theirselves development so that we treat them not properly right.

But the concepts about increasing the children's intelligence at their early ages, is hard to be implemented in Narawita village. This is because the the financial problem become one of the problem which make them postpone their education. Less income and highly primer needs force their mother to work to full fill their daily needs. This made them ignore the early ages of education.

*Taman Bacaan Masyarakat* which next is called TBM is a place or room that made for keeping, maintaining, using book's collection, magazine, newspaper, and other multimedia to read, learn, discuss, and use by the community whether personal, group, or institution. (the community education directorate, directorate PNFI Depdiknas, Jakarta 2009). The definition shows that TBM must have good facilities. From the implementation of PPM Ib program 2016 shows that there is problem in place or room for keeping or storing books. That become one of the aspects of reading library Permata Hati not maximally be organized and run well. Especially in giving services.

Agus M Irkham (2011:72) stated that "maximalizing room and facilities are the effort to strengthen and increasing the quality of TBM in order to increase the community's interest in reading and make more literate activity". The small area made reading library in Permata hati not interesting and has a limitation in servicing the readers. It needs a good solution or real effort to organize the library. Beside that Agus M Irkham (2011:411) also stated that "*Taman Bacaan Masyarakat* will last longer if it use a strategic location which supported by storage room for books, it's better if it is comfortable and large."

Whereas according to rule of National Education No,48 th 2010 the strengthen and enlargement is stimulant, it means that attracting the culture of reading through the supply of *Taman Bacaan Masyarakat*, reading materials can motivate or support and ask the community ti participate actively and another information source which are easy, cheap and balance and also the facilities in developing culture of reading through TBM. The definition shows that the place is important for activity and for literacy, and this is also realized by the organizer

This research's purpose is to know about the function of reading library community as media literate educating information, the problems facing during the development of reading library community, planning program literate information.

Method or Technic of PRA (*Participatory Rural Appraisal*) technically are used in this research. The concept of *Participatory Rural Appraisal* is basicly a frame conceptual, principles, ideology value, vision which is going to reach, and also the method which can used to applicate the ideas about participation and the community involvement. As methodology, *Participatory Rural Appraisal* is a frame work which have theoritical back ground which used a certain paradigm. In the implementation, *Participatory Rural Appraisal* method is the equipments for developing processes of community participation in structuring. (Rianingsih, 2003)

The selection of *Participatory Rural Appraisal* (PRA) method or the understanding participation of rural condition (PRA) gives the chance for the community to analyze life problem together in order to make planning and decision in real. And this is suitable with the purpose of the implementation

of *Participatory Rural Appraisal* that is developing the program together with the community, the implementation is due to the development cycle of approaching and technique of *Participatory Rural Appraisal* can give more big chance and more direct involving the community. Beside that, through this approaching will be reached balancing and the suitable program with the community's need so it will be continued (sustainability) the program can be guaranteed.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### The role of Reading Library Community as Media Literate Educating Information

Nowdays, the information technology development can not be stopped. This technology spread out to all level in community including the children. In daily life, children always keep in touch with the media such as television, radio, and internet. Mass media such as television can not be separated from children's life. Sometimes when they are drinking and eating also when they are studying they always close to it.

The existence of mass media especially television has brought many changes in community's life, nation and the way we do our religion and how to implement it. All level in the community have been affected and also the early ages children. It happen because the strongest interest of media, their planning program with the interesting combination of audio visual. The strick competition make the mass media try to attract their consumer, so it often consideration of profit become number one compare with the education program and its quality content.

Central statistic institution or *Badan Pusat Statistik* (BPS) in 2006 published that reading has not become the facility of finding information. To find the information, they prefer to watch tv or listen to the radio. It shows that the people who watch tv (85,9%), and listen to the radio (40,3%) better than reading (23,5%). The Data shows that reading to find the information only 23,5% from the total Indonesian people.

Another data from UNESCO (United Nations Educational scientific and Cultural Organization) stated that the lowest interest of reading in community in ASEAN (Association of South east Asia Nations) is in Indonesia. This matter is proved by Indonesian reading index which only about 0,001. It means that from a thousand people, only one person who is highly interested in reading.

Lack of interest in reading because the people have lack of self conscious how important reading to increase their ability and their prosperity. Beside that verbal culture has not been decreased yet. More over the development of information technology of communication is growing rapidly and giving them interesting programs. For example there are many electronic media

(television and internet) which give entertainment program that make them far away from reading activity.

Another aspect which caused lack of interest in reading is the condition of community financial. Economic conditions cause the community access to buy books with high qualities become more difficult. Not only to buy books, or buy newspaper, but also its difficult to buy their daily needs. Meanwhile the government commitment to supply books with good quality and cheap through public library is also still low.

Its also said that lack of reading interest is caused by many aspect such as : (1) habitual which is dominated by culture of listening or saying. Now people still use verbally culture, so they find information through what people say from one to another not from material printed. That also been stated by Venayaksa (2014) that in general Indonesia become a nation which still hold continuously the culture of verbally/ saying. (2) organizing the community central study activity which has reading library in it has not been supplied yet. (3) there are another media competitor especially television which gives many entertainment programs that make them spent their time much on it.

Therefore understanding about media or media literacy is very important. Media literate is about the ability to understand, analyze, and deconstruction media image. The ability to do this is given to the audiences as consumers of mass media -including children- to make them realize how media is produced and accessed. Media literate should be developed in the community because there is no body born in this world with the condition of aware of having media, “ No one is born media Literate”.

Based on those mention above, literate information especially media literate is really needed for having the ability in choosing the information which consist in certain media. In simple way media literate is a skill which is needed in interaction smartly with the media, especially television. It becomes very important so that we cannot effected negatively by television. Media literate ask us to evaluate the program and think critically of what television program message for. Are they appropriate, logic, have moral value or not.

In curriculum 2013 has already consisted about the ability of choosing media for the teacher and student. Media literate has already implemented in curriculum 2013. People can get many information in many forms in every time. Even everybody can get it without limit. To handle this explotion of information which now continuously develop, we should have a literate strategy that is information literacy skill. This strategy means the ability to recognize the need of information and able to locate, evaluate and use the information effectively.

Information literacy is needed to increase self quality in learning for the rest of our life. If someone wants to increase his earn for a living , he will need something more than he has, it is self development whether his skill, education, or a better job. In the process of learning someone need to have

the correct and right information. For the people, the ability will determine how much information they can get, many more the people will be able to solve the problem critically, logically and can not be easily influenced by the information they get without evaluating.

Teaching media literate to the early ages children is strategic, because they are still growing rapidly biologically and physically. They like to imitate, without criticize first. Parents and teachers are persons who are close to them. Therefore it is compulsory for the parents and teachers to stay beside them and guide them during interaction with the media. the most important thing is that those children at their age still obey the teacher's advise.

To increase the interest of reading in the community as the form of continuously learning program, support is needed from family, the society figure, the community in general, the government, and the institution of social community. With the integration of many elements in the community, is hoped there are formed the community institutions from education to supply the media for reading. For example there are library, house of reading, or reading library for the community or Taman Bacaan Masyarakat (TBM). In the guidance technic of submission and management of TBM 2012 mentioned that reading library for the community is an institution which shares the interest of reading that supplies and gives services in the materials of reading such as books, magazines, tabloid, newspapers, comics and other multimedia materials which are completed with room for reading, discussion, books review, writing, and another literate activities which is supported by the organizer as the motivator.

The activity of extended and strengthen TBM are the effort from the government to increase the service quality and the result of alphabet education through Taman Bacaan Masyarakat . These activities can be accessed by the organizer of the community education which can fulfill the conditions. In order to get the extended and strengthen help for reading library. These purposes are (1) increasing the ability of alphabetically and skill in reading, (2) increasing the interest of reading, (3) building the community to read and learn, (4) to support there are the community who eager to learn for the rest of their life, (5) to grant the quality and independent community who have knowledge, skill, modern culture and civilized.

The function of Taman Bacaan Masyarakat are (1) source of reading, (2) source of information, (3) facilities of recreation- education. As the source of learning, Taman Bacaan Masyarakat supplies material reading especially books. Book is the learning source that can support the community to learn for the rest of their life, for example knowledge book to open their knowledge, and also there are many practical skill which can be practiced after reading, such as cooking practice, fish cultivation, planting chili, and many others. As the source information, Taman Bacaan Masyarakat supplies reading materials such as newspaper, tabloid, reference, booklet-leaflet, and



/or internet access can be used by the community to search many kinds of information. As the place for recreation-education there are nonfiction books which entertain, teach and fun. More over TBM with its facilities able to make the community more mature in behaviour and communication in their surroundings.

From the purposes and the function mentioned above, we can conclude that the existance of Taman Bacaan Masyarakat can increase the community knowledge and skill in many field and able to find the best product in their area. By increasing knowledge and skill, we hope that the human resources in this area able to compete to find job so they also can increase their income and at last they can change from poor community become the prosperous community in this area.

Services which give by Taman Bacaan Masyarakat are (1) read there, by giving reading room for children and support with the variety of good books quality suitable with the reader's need especially children. (2) lend the book, means the book can be taken home to read at home in certain time and they must return the book, (3) learning, especially accompanying to learn reading and writing by using many kind of approaches. There are several approaching are used . for example (a) guide technical reading, (b) write word and sentence, (c) learn how to read effectively. (4) hold competitions such as reading ability, question and answer and so on.

In implementing the task and the function, Taman Bacaan Masyarakat need physical source, human resources, financial source. (1) physical resources, physical source reading library can divided by two. There are the main physical resources and supporting physical resources. The main physical resources is reading materials such as book, magazine, tabloid, newspaper etc. supporting source is many things which support the success of Taman Bacaan Masyarakat services. Supporting resources such as shelf/cupboard. New book display, magazine's shelf, newapaper hanger, desk, and the relevan electronic device.(2) Human resources, the main factor in organizing Taman Bacaan Masyarakat is a person as a human resource, at least there are four people in Taman Bacaan Masyarakat organization. 1 person as the chief, 1 person who handles administration and maintenance, 2 persons who give service to the community. (3) financial resources. To fulfill reading library's need, the person who organize it must be creative to find the fund from many sources whether from the community, sponsor, or other sides. And if possible the organizer must do business suitable with the potential surroundings. This potential which related with agriculture, farm, or many others.

Developing this reading library can involve the member. The community involvement is very important. By involving them in implementation, will make a stonger relation between the community and reading library. The community involvement will support them to find their self potential and their surrounding continuously through reading activity. In conceptual

way, things that can support the community to read are (1) recognize the community's need so we can ask them to read in reading library. (2) socialize and explain to them how important TBM as a library. (3) form target group based on their reading ability/the need is meant to make its easy approaching and guiding.

For example form a target group for (a) student, (b) university student, (c) farmer/fisherman, (d) merchant/businessman, (e) religious, (f) employee/worker, (4) guide and teach reading to the target group, the ability to read means able understand the content of the text, can interpret the text or combine the text one another. (5) held useful activities so that TBM can do its job and its function, the organizer is needed to be creative creating the activity to attract the community to visit and use TBM. Several activities which can combined with reading materials are (a) practicing contain of the book (skill), such as cooking and planting, (b) discuss new book's contain, (c) held competitions.

From the explanation above, we can conclude that Taman Bacaan Masyarakat is very useful for the community because it gives them the opportunity to increase their knowledge and skill and also hope for increasing their living. If they manage their knowledge and skill well, it will make them a great human resources who can compete in work field,

Beside that the excellent competition opens their opportunity to enter business especially their best area product. With guiding and supporting from many sides, the community is hoped can do business suitable with their ability. And by doing this business they can also get stable income and no more jobless. Through cooperative synergy with all sides TBM is hoped can role the community intelligent and prosperity. Especially for poor community so they do not as a poverty Community but turn into prosperous community.

### **Planning information literate program**

Below are steps of planning information literate program which are adopted from work sheet Stern for (UNESCO).

1. Make analyzing and early studying about how program literate information will be designed "suitable" (fit) with the school need. Design and apply program literate information at some place which do not need literate information will potentially get failure. There is early studying about necessity is very important before continuing to the next steps.
2. Identify and classify the necessity of specific literate information, and also identify the "strengthen" from target group. The developer program literate information needs to know correctly kinds of learning method suitable with the target group. Learning sytem which oriented to the teacher (teacher centred learning system) must be changed into learning



method which oriented to the students ( student centred learning system). Instructional design which are effective should be begun with the basic questions such as :

- a. What have student already known ?
  - b. What do the student need (to know) ?
  - c. What kind of sources ready for connecting a and b mentioned above?
3. Place clearly the purpose, target, and the result expected from the applying program literate information. Program developer should definite clearly “plus value” short term and long term which the student will get.
  4. Design every step and level of the program systematically with the clearly language, easy understood and not ambiguous. In general program literate information consist of several packages/modules, begin from basic level up to the expert, suitable with their need.
  5. Settled series of standard value and evaluate from the beginning process of producing the program literate information. Make criteria of student’s work after following the program literate information, and is needed to definite in the early program.
  6. Make sure there is environment and system that guarantee the process of learning and strengthen literate information continuously. Literate program is a process which should continuously run and for them who have already got the information should always use Their competency in their daily activity. The student will be easily forgot their new knowledge which they got if they do not use it continuously, and if this happen, investation for learning, cost and energy are useless.
  7. Distributing program literate information with the suitable media (and already exist) with the purpose and target program. For the school librarian and the teacher as developers of program literate information at schools which have not owned appropriate learning and teaching facilities, it become a significant challenge. However program developers should use their creativity to design the effective instructional media.
  8. Evaluating the result of giving program literate information based on the purpose and the target had planned. After the program literate information is running, it is necessity to learn/evaluate if the purpose and the target run well as had planned before at the beginning. The developer of this program should be able to give objectively values whether this program has already done effectively.

9. Reviewing development instructional design program literate information and revising the program if necessary refer to the ideas and evaluation result.

Decision of locating the appropriate model of literate information at school based on the right plan, and the steps above can be used as clues. But it is also important from appropriate planning is a strong and continuously support from school's organizers (headmaster and the chairman of education institution). From early planning at the beginning, team developer program literate information should involve the head master, the chairman institution and tutor/teacher to get the support ("buy-in") from them. Team developer should be led by one of the chairmans. And also the teacher involvement in the team is a must.

## C O N C L U S I O N

Based on the result of data research management about The Role of The Community Reading Library as Media Literate Education shows that Taman Bacaan Masyarakat (TBM) has the important role as a learning media for the community especially to make them realize about how important education and interest of reading. The biggest problem in developing the community reading library is developing the location of TBM and resources, planning about program literate information still have problem in applying literate cycle. The problem can be solved by arranging the planning correctly and involving all the community elements.

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