

THE OPTIMIZATION OF EDUCATION SERVICES IN PANDEMIC THROUGH THE LEARNING POST PROGRAM IN KEMARAS, PENGASIH, SIDOMULYO, KULON PROGO, YOGYAKARTA

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Abstract - *The Covid-19 pandemic, which is currently still engulfing Indonesia, has had a very significant impact on people's living conditions. This condition has an impact on various levels, including the education sector. There have been many changes caused by the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic. One of them is the closure of all educational institutions such as public schools and madrasas, so that the learning process must be carried out using an online method. Face-to-face learning had to be stopped for an indefinite period of time. However, the online learning method is not an easy thing, both for educators and students. There are various obstacles that must be faced such as, the lack of learning media that supports the online learning process itself, also the internet network which has always been an obstacle for students living in rural areas, making it difficult to access the material provided, and the lack of ability of parents to provide assistance during online learning due to busy work and lack of ability to teach their children. The online tutoring assistance through the study postage provided by students is expected to make it easier for students to learn. The method used is a method of discussion and sharing. The results of this activity are positive because of the good response from students.*

Keywords: *Online learning, tutoring assistance, study postage, Covid-19*

1. INTRODUCTION

The Covid-19 pandemic gives a serious impact not only on health, but also on the education sector, especially in elementary school and junior high school levels. All the educational institutions are closed as an effort to anticipate the spread of Covid-19. As the solution for that problem, the learning process is replaced with the online learning methods. This happens to prevent and break the chain of transmission of the virus. Online learning can be done to change the face-to-face meetings in class with the online meetings on the internet.

The implementation of micro-scale public activity restriction or PPKM requires the community to reduce the activities outdoor, especially for gathering masses in large groups of people. In that case, the government, especially the Ministry of Education and Culture, recommends closing the schools and obliging the students to study online from home to reduce the risk of spreading and transmitting the Covid-19 virus (Kristina et al., 2020, p.10). In conclusion, as an effort to limit community activities, the Indonesian government has limited the activities outdoor, including the educational activities from elementary school levels until universities to move online because of the Covid-19.

According to Molinda (as cited in Arizona, 2020, p.66), online learning is a form of distance learning or training by utilizing the information and communication technology, such as the internet, or CD-ROOM directly and indirectly. Online learning connects the students with the learning resources such as databases, experts or instructors, and libraries which are physically separated or even far apart but can communicate, interact or collaborate (directly or synchronously and indirectly or asynchronously) (Palimbong, 2020, p.3).

All schools in Indonesia are experiencing the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, and so far there is no evaluation regarding the learning online methods. Online learning has been carried out since the establishment of the Covid-19 pandemic, especially in Kulonprogo, Yogyakarta. Dewi stated that the learning process in elementary schools uses the online learning methods through parental guidance (as cited in Anugrahana, 2020, p.21). Meanwhile, the implementation of online learning in elementary schools has begun in Kulonprogo, Yogyakarta, but the implementation has not been evaluated. This research tries to find out what are the obstacles and the expectations in online learning during the Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, we offer a solution by creating a learning post for children in Kulonprogo, especially in Kemaras, Sidomulyo, Pengasih, Yogyakarta. The purpose of this learning post is to help the students regarding the online learning process, especially in understanding the material.

Various studies about educational services during the pandemic through the learning post program have been studied before. After the researchers conducted a review of several studies, there are studies related to this research. The following research is a previous study that discusses educational services during the pandemic.

First, the research conducted by Andi Wulandari, Hari Hartawan, Muhammad syakir, Nursafitri S, Nurul Natasya, Rafifah Salsabila Suwardi, Sahrul Paisal (2021) entitled "Increasing the Student Interest in Learning during the Pandemic by the Tutoring Classes for Children from the Teppo Village, Patampanua". This study explains the importance of learning motivation in students for a learning process. If there are obstacles, it must be minimized, so the result from the learning process can be achieved optimally. The purpose of this study is to make the children motivated while studying at home by interacting with them directly with a Covid-19 protocol.

Second, the research conducted by Baiq Elfa Zuhrufillah, Wahyu Lilatul Hikmah, Intan Dita Komalasari, Rega Anisa Theana (2020) entitled "Teaching Innovation to Raise the Spirit of Learning in the Community in the New Normal Era, Panji Sari Village, Praya District, Central Lombok Regency". This research explains about teaching innovation to raise the spirit of learning in society in the new normal era. The method used in this research is a qualitative descriptive method, and the problem of this research is the distance of the learning post in the northern far from the children in the southern to reach. The solution for this case is by dividing the place and time. The northern region is in the morning, and the south region is in the afternoon. The result of this research is the students that participate in the learning process are mostly from kindergarten and elementary school levels.

Third, the research conducted by Fawwaz Azmi Chandra Putra, Nida ul Haq Faisal, Rachmi Kris Nuraini, Tariq Falahuddin Ahmad, Viqri Khaikal Hidayattulloh (2020) entitled "The Tutoring as an Effort to Help the Elementary School Students to Learn during the Covid-19 Pandemic". The problem that exists during the pandemic is the problem of online learning, such as the information technology mastery by educators and students, inadequate facilities and infrastructure due to the expensive technology support devices, limited internet access, networks, etc. The purpose of this study is to obtain information about the impact of Covid-19 in elementary school level. Therefore, the solution of this problem is the researchers create a learning post. The results of the tutoring are that it can make students have the enthusiasm to take part in online learning process from schools, have the places to ask questions and learn, and feel helped in completing the tasks given by the educator. This research uses the library research, and the approach used in this research is a personal approach.

In conclusion, the previous research has the same object with this research that is elementary school students but with different places. This research also emphasizes an online learning method that is not effective for many students in Kemaras. The problems of the online learning method are such as the time management, the use of gadgets that are quite massive, and the difficulty of understanding the material from the teachers. Besides, the lack of interest in literature especially in reading becomes the main problem of this research. It is because many students in Kemaras are more interested in games online such as Free Fire than reading books, so the learning process is not optimal. The role of parents

is also important in this online learning process because with the lack of monitoring from parents, the students will not get the understanding from the material and the students will overlook the learning process.

The next problem is about connectivity and internet networks. Lack of internet connection makes the learning process become less effective. This problem can hamper the communication among students and teachers, and sometimes students are forced not to take lessons due to weak internet connection. Therefore, this research focuses on optimizing the educational services during pandemic through the learning post program in Kemaras, Pengasih District, Sidomulyo Village, Kulon Progo, Yogyakarta.

Based on the background and the framework that has been described previously, there are several problem formulations that need to be investigated in this research. With the implementation of online learning methods, it becomes important to see that there is a need for media that can help students to facilitate them in the learning process. In this case, the formation of a learning post is one of the steps that can be done. Therefore, in this study, the researchers will investigate what is the function of this learning post as a way to optimize the learning services for students in Kemaras. In addition, whether the formation of this learning post can show effectiveness and provide benefits in order to help students especially in Kemaras, Pengasih District, Sidomulyo Village, Kulon Progo. Based on the formulation of the problem that has been mentioned, the purpose of this study is to find out how the role of the learning post as a medium in assisting and optimizing the online learning process for students in Kemaras.

From the results of this study, it is expected that good benefits can be obtained for all parties, especially those related to the world of education, including the following: For Researchers: The results of this study can be used as a reference to find out the obstacles faced by students while working on assignments during online learning process through the learning post service activities, so that they can be developed optimally and also used as reference material in choosing a teaching method. For Teachers: The results of this study can be used as evaluation material and input for teachers in the teaching and learning process, so that they can improve the impression on learning and improve learning outcomes with the existence of learning post service activities during online learning. For Education: This study can determine the effectiveness of online learning by participating in learning post service activities. For other researchers: Used as a reference regarding the condition of education during the Covid-19 pandemic era to be continued for further research.

2. METHOD

In this study the researchers used a qualitative research approach. A qualitative approach is a research procedure that produces data from interviews and documentation in collecting the data to provide an overview of the form of presentation of research reports. The research data comes from discussions, sharing, field notes, photos, videos, personal notes, and other official documents.

The data obtained will reveal problems by observing and accompanying, supervising the subjects and objects that have been determined which will then be processed systematically.

The type used in this research is called a descriptive type, namely analyzing and presenting facts systematically so that they are easier to understand and conclude which aims to help the researchers in describing what is happening in the field clearly and in detail. In this study, the researchers only describe the problems of distance learning (online) during the Covid-19 pandemic and how to optimize education services during the pandemic through the learning post program. The application of this research is done by collecting, processing, and presenting the data objectively. Based on the problem formulations, this study discusses how to optimize education services in the pandemic period through the learning post program in Kemaras. While the data sources of this study were children ranging from elementary to junior high school from Kemaras.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

A. Online Learning

During the current Covid-19 pandemic, it has had many impacts on many sectors, especially the education sector. With these restrictions, teaching and learning activities in education are also hampered and make many countries decide to take online learning actions where there is no face-to-face interaction between teachers and students. Another impact that is felt is that many schools and regions, especially remote areas, are not ready for online-based learning due to insufficient facilities.

In terms of online or distance learning methods, teachers implement many different ways of learning. According to Heru Purnomo, the method of assigning assignments to students is considered effective in emergency conditions such as the current pandemic, assignments are usually done through WhatsApp groups. In addition, there are some teachers who prefer to use the lecture method, and there are others who continue to teach in class as usual (Ashari, 2020).

Putra Wijaya (via Suryawan, 2020) views that learning at home is effective and not a problem. According to him, because learning is done remotely, it can be done anytime and anywhere, such as at home, school or in the community. With supporting facilities such as the internet, online learning can be carried out properly.

The online learning post is one of the flagship work programs of the KKN 182 UIN Sunan Kalijaga group which was held in Kemaras, Pengasih District, Sidomulyo Village, Kulon Progo, Yogyakarta. This work program aims to assist learning activities by accompanying online learning as well as explaining some materials that need to be explained directly to the students. Against the background of the public's complaint that was conveyed by Mr. Setiawan as the head of Kemaras village, the children were more easily distracted by video games and felt bored with online learning, so we decided to carry out learning activities while playing.

B. Implementation of the Online Learning Post

The learning post program starts on Thursday, August 5, 2021. At the initial meeting, we presented material in the form of grouping animals such as carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. Then we combine the initial material by introducing the names of animals in English. After explaining the material for about 30 minutes, we continued individual tutoring, where each group member guided one to two students. Then for the closing, we repeat the material we have taught by doing fun games.



Figure 1 First Meeting of the Learning Post

In the second meeting, we learned new material about Javanese script. We introduced and taught Javanese script to students with the aim that students do not forget the traditional Javanese culture that has begun to fade. Like the previous meeting, we also continued the activity with tutoring activities, and repeated the material again by playing games and then giving rewards for the students as a form of appreciation.



Figure 2 Second Meeting of the Learning Post

At the last meeting, we did a Treasure Hunt activity. As for the implementation of this activity, we divided 15 children into four groups in which each group had a chancellor who would supervise and guide the children. Then the other KKN members guarded and assessed each of the four postal stops. Each postal stop presented the materials that had been studied at the previous learning post meetings, such as the classification of animals, Javanese script, and additional folk songs. Then we also gave challenges about general subjects such as Indonesian literature in the form of proverbs, science, and geography. After the treasure hunt was over, we gave rewards to each group as a form of appreciation.



Figure 3 and 4. Treasure Hunt Activity

C. Effectiveness of Learning Post Program

Many sectors have been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, including the education sector. Online learning is considered one of the most effective handlings of the virus spread for the education sector. However, there are still shortcomings or obstacles faced by students and teachers in Online Learning. The implementation of education in the pandemic era requires students and teaching staff to use technology assistance. The use of technology for students certainly cannot replace the role of educators and direct learning interactions between teachers and students. Education faces many challenges, one of which is how to ensure that learning is delivered properly. While in reality, the implementation of education during the pandemic uses self-directed learning methods or independent learning methods. (Hendayana, 2020) The independent learning method certainly requires special attention from the parents who are not necessarily able to accompany their children to study properly. Some parents in Kemaras Village are more concerned with their work than providing intensive learning assistance to their children. In addition, the children were not fully focused on learning activities. They tend to be more distracted by things such as a less conducive home environment, or other things that attract children's attention, for instance, playing video games. In addition, the self-directed learning method also makes children bored with their learning activities which are only about giving assignments without any material explanation.

Posko Belajar activities have a good impact on children. We collaborate between educational games and learning into one. This can increase children's enthusiasm for learning and also reduce their boredom doing schoolwork. With this method, children are also more focused on learning activities. Learning assistance is performed by KKN students and children, one by one so that they are more focused on their online learning assistance. However, there are shortcomings we had to face. The activities of learning post have limited space which is quite small. Sometimes there are some children who do not pay attention to what the teacher (the KKN student) says. In addition, due to the limitations of KKN members, which only consist of 12 people, sometimes there are several children who have to queue to be accompanied intensively one by one.

4. CONCLUSION

From the results of the study, it can be concluded that the learning post program implemented can optimize educational services in Kemaras, Pengasih District, Sidomulyo Village, Kulon Progo. With the play while learning method, the learning post program is considered effective and can help children understand and increase knowledge in learning. Therefore, with this research, it is hoped that it can be used as a reference and used to increase knowledge about the obstacles experienced by students in online learning, the effectiveness of online learning assistance, as well as an evaluation for educators to improve educational services for students. With limited research data due to the PPKM situation, it is hoped that further research can take samples of education service satisfaction data and optimize this research further in the future.

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