

Internalization of Ethics and Morals to Generate Quality and Integrity Elections in 2024

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Abstract

This study aims to find out what steps must be taken to produce elections with quality and integrity in 2024. The research method used is a type of qualitative research with a descriptive analysis approach. Data was obtained through primary and secondary data and analyzed in depth. Based on the data obtained through literacy studies and interviews, in producing quality and integrity elections, it is not only the organizers who internalize ethics and morals, but three important elements in it, namely: the community as voters with integrity, election organizers with integrity, and election participants who integrity. Through the ethical and moral internalization of these three elements, the hope that all parties desire is the presence of a quality leader by creating a healthy, democratic political environment through the 2024 election results.

Keywords: Ethics, Morale, Elections, Integrity.

A. INTRODUCTION

The role of ethics in modern life is marked by the development of science and technology, and the opening of information and communication so that various morals emerge from various groups, especially in the Indonesian context. Understanding ethics is not only understanding conceptually, but internalizing ethics in the life of society, nation, and state is an obligation to create order in every aspect of the life of every human being. Ethics is a branch of philosophy that has its position, ethics discusses what a person must do because it relates to what humans should and should not/may do in their lives (Fauzih, 2020). Ethics also discusses and questions human praxis as the responsibility and obligation of humans to direct their lives.

Ethics itself is divided into general ethics and special ethics, General ethics questions the basic principles that apply to all human actions, while special ethics discusses the basic principles of human obligations as individuals, especially in himself, through conscience towards the divine, and ethics. social. Social ethics has a broader scope than individuals, social ethics only touches on personal life but almost all human life coupled with the reality of humans as social beings, starting from human dignity as a social person in determining human action. Apart from the social environment, what is also important in the application of ethics is in political life, especially in the political ethics of administering the State. The ethics of national life

is enlightenment as well as the practice of social ethics and political ethics of national life for all Indonesian people who feel that they are experiencing setbacks resulting in a multidimensional crisis. Through ethics and morals, it is used as a reference for state administrators such as the executive, legislative judiciary, and other institutions as well as the entire Indonesian nation to save and improve the quality of national life, the source of the ethical formulation comes from religious teachings, of course, especially those that are universal and noble values. national culture as a basic reference in thinking, behaving and behaving in the life of the nation.

Political ethics refers to moral principles and values related to behavior and actions in a political context, for example The application of political ethics is that political ethics in state administration has a more complex scope, because it does not only talk about the state and its people but also the government which includes political elites, bureaucracy as public servants as well as leaders involved in government. In administering government and public services, truth and honesty are the most important things, whereas political ethics emphasizes the importance of truth and honesty in communicating and conveying political information to the public. The realist view competes with an alternative moral conception of leadership in the natural law and the Kantian tradition, which argues that leaders should follow the requirements of ethics (Beckett, 2007), especially in conveying accurate information is the basis for building trust and enabling healthy political discussion, including holding quality elections.

Approaching the 2024 elections is one of the most important moments in the history of Indonesian democracy, namely holding elections once every 5 years which will be held in the coming 2024. will take part in the celebration of Indonesian democracy as part of the political rights of every citizen. Therefore, the role of ethics and morals in the implementation of democracy is needed to produce elections with integrity and quality (Alakavuklar & Alamgir, 2018). Electoral ethics is critical to maintaining the integrity and credibility of the electoral process, as well as maintaining a healthy democracy. Respecting the ethical principles of elections can be an effective means of realizing the will of the people and strengthening a democratic political system. Therefore, the author is interested in conducting a study related to the internalization of ethics and morals in society, election organizers, and election participants facing the 2024 elections.

B. METHOD

The research method used is a type of qualitative research with a descriptive analysis approach. The purpose of this research is to find out and describe the results of the 2024 election through the application of ethical and moral internalization by all parties who play an important role in carrying out the election process, of course through reference material to the results of the previous elections in 2019 with an increase in cases of election violations, such as money politics which can harm the results of democracy. Data was obtained through literacy studies and some added

data through interviews with election organizers and political actors who will contest in the 2024 election.

C. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Politics refers to the basic rights given to individuals as citizens of the State to participate in the political process and government of the State. Political rights enable citizens to express their opinions, vote be elected in general elections, and engage in political activities. Through the rights granted as citizens, of course, what is no less important is the obligation as citizens, especially complying with all the rules regulated in the legislation. Talking about rules, of course, they are closer to the norms and what has been mutually agreed upon in the holding of elections, both as a society, election organizers, and election participants. Internalization of ethics and morals is needed to produce quality and integrity elections. Dynamics shape perceptions of election integrity is crucial because theoretically, this process is at the heart of democratic representation and because of a policy-making standpoint (Frank & Coma, 2017). Therefore, according to the author, 3 groups take an important role in it, namely:

1. Internalization of Community Ethics and Morals as Voters

The role of society is very important in producing quality elections. The following are some of the roles of the community in realizing quality elections:

- a. Political education: Communities can play a role in increasing political understanding and political awareness among the public. Good political education can help citizens understand the importance of elections, their political rights, and their duties and responsibilities as voters.
- b. Active participation: The public can play a role in active participation in the electoral process. This involves registering as a voter, participating in political campaigns, attending candidate debates, as well as voting on election day. Community active participation strengthens legitimacy and representation in the electoral process.
- c. Election oversight: Communities can act as election monitors to ensure that the electoral process is fair and transparent. This can be done through direct observation at the polling place, reporting irregularities or violations, or being part of an independent monitoring group.
- d. Advocacy and campaigning: Communities can play a role in advocating and campaigning for political issues they care about. This involves voicing opinions, mobilizing support, and advocating for policy changes or issues deemed important.
- e. Information critical: Citizens need to play an active role in evaluating the political information they receive. This involves being critical of fake news or manipulation of information, as well as seeking credible and verified sources of information. Through ethics and morals, the community can distinguish news or information that can be disseminated to minimize or eliminate fake news that can cause divisions among members of the public.

- f. Cooperation with electoral institutions: Communities can play a role in cooperating with electoral institutions, such as the General Elections Commission (KPU) or the Election Supervisory Body (Bawaslu), to improve the integrity and quality of elections. This can be done through providing input, participating in dialogue, or supporting programs launched by the electoral body (Hidayat, 2023).

Involving themselves actively in the electoral process, the public can play an important role in realizing quality, transparent, fair, and democratic elections. This societal contribution provides the necessary monitoring and control to ensure integrity and public confidence in the electoral system. Community participation in producing quality and integrity elections through ethical and moral references, so that all forms of fraud that occur in the election process become part of the community's responsibility to jointly oversee all forms of fraud in elections, such as the public no longer accepting bribes from election participants or buying and selling votes.

Understanding or internalizing the ethics and morals of society, of course, think rationally about the impact that is caused when there are elements who want to undermine democracy through the act of buying and selling votes, and rejecting anything that smells of bribery. This practice includes efforts to influence voters in illegitimate ways, such as spreading fake news, intimidation, money politics, or manipulation of election results. Fraud can undermine the integrity and public trust in the electoral process. This practice not only violates democratic principles but also violates the laws and regulations established by the EMB.

Therefore, to prevent fraud and maintain fair and free elections, there needs to be active participation from all parties involved in elections, including the public, political parties, candidates, election organizers, and oversight institutions. Good political education, strict supervision, strict law enforcement, and strong enforcement of political ethics can help prevent and overcome fraud that will occur. In addition, the public needs to remain critical of the information they receive and seek credible sources of information. Reporting suspected fraud or other violations to the election supervisory body is also an important step in maintaining the integrity of elections. It is important to remember that quality elections are the result of the hard work and collaboration of all parties involved. By maintaining the integrity of elections and rejecting unethical political practices, we can ensure elections that are fair, transparent, and represent the voice of the people.

2. Internalization of Ethics and Morals of Election Organizers

Ethical and moral internalization by election organizers is very important in maintaining the integrity and quality of elections. The following are several steps that can be taken to ensure the internalization of ethics and morals in holding elections:

- a. Formulation of a Code of Ethics: EMBs can develop and adopt a code of ethics that regulates the expected behavior of all parties involved in the election. The code of ethics must include the principles of integrity, neutrality, transparency, and fairness.

- b. Training and education: EMBs need to provide training and education to all EMB team members regarding the ethical and moral principles that must be adhered to. This training includes an understanding of rules and procedures, handling conflicts of interest, and applicable ethical principles.
- c. Internal oversight: EMBs must have a strong internal oversight mechanism to ensure that ethics and morals are properly implemented throughout the electoral process. This mechanism may include internal audits and oversight of disciplinary actions against ethical violations.
- d. Transparency and accountability in all decisions and actions taken. Information related to elections must be accessible to the public, including election rules, campaign financing policies, and the vote-counting process.
- e. Collaboration with Oversight Institutions: Election administrators must collaborate with election oversight institutions, such as the General Elections Commission (KPU), and the Election Supervisory Body (Bawaslu) to ensure that ethical and moral principles can be adhered to and violations are followed up strictly.
- f. Awareness of Impact: EMBs must be aware of the impact their actions have on the integrity and democracy of elections. They must be committed to prioritizing the public interest and maintaining public confidence in the electoral process (Rahmayanti, 2021).

Ethical and moral internalization by election administrators plays an important role in maintaining the integrity and credibility of elections. With a strong commitment to respect ethical and moral principles, election organizers can carry out their duties with integrity to produce quality and fair elections. Quality elections are an important aspect of maintaining a healthy democracy and ensuring that political power is the will of the people, thereby creating a healthy and inclusive political environment and representing the people effectively, and election organizers are free from the interests of political parties and political elites. Through ethical and moral internalization to ensure integrity, neutrality, and fairness in the election process. The independence of the election management body must have autonomous freedom in making decisions related to elections. Those involved must carry out their duties according to applicable laws and regulations without intervention or influence from political parties and political elites.

3. Internalization of Ethics and Morals of Election Contestants

Internalization of ethics and morals by-election participants is important in maintaining the integrity and quality of elections. The following are several aspects that need to be considered in the internalization of ethics and morals by-election participants: Compliance with rules and regulations:

- a. Election contestants must understand and comply with all rules and regulations set by the EMB. This includes rules regarding campaign financing, negative campaigning, use of public resources, and adherence to election timelines and procedures.

- b. Transparency in campaigning: Election contestants must commit to running a transparent, honest, and informative campaign. They must provide voters with accurate information about their vision, programs, and plans. The use of factual data and honest argumentation takes precedence over the spread of fake news or misleading rhetoric. A healthy campaign, of course, promotes debate of ideas. Politicians should engage in constructive debate of ideas with their political rivals. They must respect the views and opinions of others, and maintain civilized discussions. Healthy campaigns encourage dialogue and debate that focuses on solving problems, not attacking or pitting one another.
- c. Respect for democratic principles: Election contestants must respect democratic principles, such as recognizing people's right to vote, respecting freedom of speech, respecting freedom of the press, and supporting fair and transparent electoral processes. They must uphold the principle of fair competition and respect the voters' decisions.
- d. Maintain integrity and honesty: Election contestants must maintain integrity and honesty in all their activities during the campaign and election. They must avoid unethical political practices, such as money politics, spreading fake news, or negative campaigns that slander or denigrate political opponents. Honesty is a necessary trait to maintain integrity and bring positive change. The honesty of politicians creates a relationship of trust between leaders and the public. As well as strengthening the basis of a healthy democracy. Honest leaders can become more effective leaders. Reliability and honesty in communication and political action help build strong relationships with fellow politicians, government officials, and voters. Honest politicians will find it easier to get support and cooperation in achieving the desired political goals.
- e. Engagement with voters: Election contestants should strive to interact and connect with voters directly. They must listen to and understand the concerns, aspirations, and needs of voters, as well as provide relevant solutions to problems faced by the community.
- f. Obeying the election results: After the election, election participants must accept the election results fairly and respect the decisions of the voters. They must be willing to cooperate and participate in the process of transition of power peacefully and respectfully. Despite differences of opinion and interests within politics, it is important to respect the democratic process and election results. If there is a dispute or dissatisfaction regarding the election, it is better to express complaints through legitimate channels, such as through the legal system or election supervisory institutions, rather than undermining the integrity of elections or threatening the stability of the country (Riesfandi, 2023).

Political realism' in political theory, 'political moralists' such as Rawls and Dworkin misconstrue the political domain by assuming that morality has priority over

politics (Erman & Möller, 2013). Part of the internalization of ethics and morals by election participants is a commitment to act honestly, fairly, and responsibly in carrying out the political process. By implementing these ethical and moral values, election participants can help create quality elections, respect the will of the people, and strengthen democracy. Qualified election contestants are those who meet the standards of ethics, integrity, and competence in the political process.

The roles of these three elements, namely voters with integrity, organizers with integrity, and voters with integrity, are important elements in producing quality elections where people will be aware of the importance of prioritizing ethical and moral values, not just as voters who exercise their right to vote, but become rational voters who are free from the mobilization of certain parties that can harm democratic values. As election organizers, of course, uphold the election principles as stated in Law no. 7 of 2017 concerning general elections namely Luber Jurdil, direct, general, free, confidential, honest, and fair, as well as election participants, do not use economic capital to get votes from voters, as election participants rely more on capabilities with the ability of ideas to bring about change to a better way. The synergy of institutions, elites, and society will bring about change through the 2024 election results.

D. CONCLUSION

Elections with quality and integrity are the internalization of ethics and morals in the electoral process, three important elements play an important role in it, namely: the community as voters with integrity, intelligent voters, rational voters, election organizers who uphold the principles of elections, namely: Jurdil and luber as well as election participants or political elites who uphold the values of integrity.

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