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## EVALUATION OF DISTANCE LEARNING DURING THE COVID-19

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### A. Introduction

The people of Wuhan (China) experienced an event that shocked the world, namely the emergence of a virus called the Corona Virus which occurred in November 2019 then become Corona Virus outbreak but Wuhan residents initially thought this was the common cold experienced by its people. Therefore, Wuhan residents carry out activities in a reasonable way, such as going to school or college, to shopping centers, offices, field trips, fitness centers, and going to busy centers in the city of Wuhan, Hubei Province, China (Ruaida, P, 2020).

Residents of Wuhan, China, walked out of the city and abroad to carry out other training activities, so that people can carry out activities as they usually do various activities in various sectors of life. The occurrence of mutual relations between them has resulted in the Corona Virus spreading rapidly to humans from Wuhan with people in various countries, which causes this disease quickly spread abroad. (Agus Kurnayat, 2020). Shortly after, Wuhan residents experienced fever, flu, cough with phlegm, and other symptoms that quickly spread in China and even throughout the world. Many hospitals are full of sufferers infected with this Corona Virus. The development of the Corona Virus is very fast, as a result, many victims have been attacked by the Corona Virus. Hospitals and medics are not yet available with the tools and infrastructure they have to cope with and cure Corona Virus sufferers.

The Coronavirus spreads very quickly, (Widiyani, 2020) by having close contact and contact with people who have this disease so that it can bring someone with this disease. As the result, health experts recommend implementing social distancing, physical distancing, and staying at home. The spreading of this disease to various places in various countries requires to be able to adapt to this atmosphere. This has led many rulers in various countries to carry out actions such as implementing quarantine, social isolation, orders to stay at home, worship at home, closing offices, closing schools, and learning from home (Fajrian, 2020) unless several sectors remain open namely hospitals, pharmacies and markets or supermarkets to meet people's needs.

The Indonesian government instructs the public to carry out social distancing, physical distancing, work from home, (Ruaida. p. 2020), and dismiss all activities ranging from learning, economics, socio-culture, and activities from the crowd for some time which cannot be determined and seen from the situation and conditions at the moment. Indonesia does not practice such lockdowns in Wuhan, China, Malaysia, Singapore, and other countries. The government closed all Learning activities but these activities were replaced by distance learning or online. However, the government applies learning technology at all levels of education to use distance learning applications or online. This aims to reduce the spread of the Corona Virus.

This matter is not a problem for some universities who have an academic system using an online learning system. However, the opposite is a problem for educational institutions that have not implemented an online or remote learning system. Applications in online learning that are used by educators and students are different. Like someone using the Zoom application, Google Meet, Google Classroom, WhatSapp, Moodle, Microsoft team YouTube, (Ruaida, P, 2020) and other applications. Online learning is one of the solutions needed by teachers and students in this pandemic era. How to learn online by using a zoom, Google Meet, or other applications as a substitute for learning and an alternative substitute for educators face-to-face to deliver learning material to students.

However, some universities that have implemented face-to-face learning must carry out online learning activities. There are various obstacles experienced by teachers or students and students throughout the application of online learning, for example, the weak internet signal to take part in online learning, there is a lot of confusion among students and educators because of their lack of understanding in using online and online learning applications. Moreover, with the implementation of a full learning system, learning from home causes anxiety, mental stress on students, and obstacles and obstacles in participating in learning remotely. The problems experienced by students and teachers need to find solutions.

Some cases that arise are related to the online learning system, whether it is in the form of student readiness, the ability to use technology, other obstacles that are felt while using the learning system during this pandemic, these need to be studied and evaluated by the author so that in the future the application of learning online this will be improved and in the use of learning applications will be better and better and be successful in advancing education in Indonesia.

## B. DISCUSSION

It has been almost a year that the world community is still experiencing the outbreak of Covid -19. Indonesian President Joko Widodo in his speech instructed the Indonesian people to reduce unnecessary activities outside the home. Implementing work from home and school from home, using online distance learning (PJJ). This step is a strategic step taken by the government to prevent the coronavirus outbreak which is increasingly widespread in Indonesia today. With the Covid-19 pandemic, we are required to maintain social distancing from other people by staying at home for an undetermined time limit. (Ruaida, 2020).

Policies issued by the government reap pros and cons, both for workers and students. For workers, work from home, in some areas of work, cannot be done, moreover, the readiness of the company does not mean that all of them are ready with the WFH system. And for students implementing distance learning (PJJ) which is carried out online have difficulties, such as inadequate facilities, not all students and teaching staff have adequate learning support tools or media such as computers, laptops, tablets, or smartphones, also the readiness of telecommunication proponents in preparing the strong internet signal throughout Indonesia and the limited pulses owned by students are not ready yet. Online learning activities cannot be carried out optimally and this become the biggest obstacles faced by almost all smartphone users to participate in online learning.

Whether these system can be accepted or unaccepted by people, everybody whom involved in this distance learning activity must have an understanding of technology. In undergoing this distance learning, we need good internet access so that the work from home and school from home that we do run smoothly without a hitch.

Based on the Regulation of the Minister of Education and Culture Number 109 or 2013 article 2, it says that the purpose of distance learning is a major learning service for groups of citizens who cannot participate in face-to-face learning and expand access and facilitate large learning services in learning. Thus it can be meant that PJJ is a learning system that has an open character, learns independently, and learns using technology, Dabbagh and Ritland (in Arnesi and Hamid, 2015) Data and Communication (ICT) or using other technologies in the form of learning. integrated colleges.

However, in implementing distant learning (PJJ) there are challenges experienced during the Covid-19 pandemic era such as:

### 1. *Facilities are not equals.*

Some of the complaints students face in learning from home are not having a computer or laptop, tablet or smartphone, limited pulse quota, and unstable signal networks. So that online learning activities cannot run smoothly. The solution to overcome this, students learn in groups, so that they can do activities together, learn through video calls, What sup, zoom applications, Google meet, Google classroom, to be connected with other students. educators, to attend via voice notes available on What Sapp or using Google form. Learning materials can be provided in the form of videos or PPT sent via What Sapp or via Google classroom. This method is actually to avoid the crowd that has been going on at school. Activities that have been carried out at school can be carried out in their respective homes, the study-at-home policy is aimed at avoiding crowds because the occurrence of crowds can accelerate the spread of this Corona Virus.

### 2. *Lack of teacher creativity.*

Not all teachers are literate in the use of information technology. Therefore, the teacher's creativity is needed in managing the media for the learning methods to be used. The online learning policy is unfriendly to educators and students who do not have the tools to facilitate learning and have limited ability to master technology. As a result, learning from home is reduced to educators giving assignments, students who do, students are declared to be present if they actively participate in online learning, then educational institutions report these activities to the relevant department of education.

### 3. *Saturated or bored*

Saturation is not only experienced by students but also by educators. Especially if distance learning lasts a long time. If this saturation is not resolved immediately, it will cause the teaching and learning process to be not optimal, which leads to unsatisfactory learning outcomes. Therefore, there need to be breakthrough steps to overcome this saturation, so that distance learning is fun for all learners. To eliminate boredom in online learning, other learning models can be used by teaching staff as a medium for delivering knowledge, namely mixed learning (a combination of two learning methods, namely face-to-face and online learning). Full online learning is considered insufficient to accommodate all learning needs (Tuncay et al, 2011), so blended learning is an alternative that is quite in demand by the teaching staff. But the application of blended learning, for now, cannot be done because there are still high cases of corona cases, especially in Indonesia.

Online learning methods do not require students to be present in class. Because it can access learning through internet media. According to Lashley (2014) the use of technology that is available around us, if it is balanced with discussion and guidance, will become a tool for developing higher-

order thinking skills. This technological development makes it easier to use the internet to access learning materials, interact with content, instructors, and other students; and gain support during the learning process, acquire knowledge, construct personal meanings, and grow out of the learning experience.

Material evaluation The implementation of online learning is somewhat stuttering in some areas, educators also admit that distance learning with this online system is less effective and causes boredom in students and gets unsatisfactory learning results, especially in exact and practical learning which requires direction and guidance from a teacher. In addition to the lack of facilities, there are also complaints from students that in the end, they cannot take part in online learning, this is based on the results of observations.

The readiness of the world of education in facing government policies that use distance learning methods is also an important thing to reconsider. However, because the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak has not ended, whether we like it or not, the world of Education is required to adjust. Not to mention that there has been a misunderstanding of the teachers regarding the Distance Learning method provided by educational institutions. In this learning, it should stay in the environment such as lectures, discussions, dialogues, question and answer, and making quizzes that can be carried out via What Sapp. It is also endeavored for the teachers not to always give a pile of assignments, every day for each subject. Then attendance is monitored from online activeness or not, of course, online concepts like this are a burden on students because the purpose of distance education is to provide lightening and ease of learning.

#### 4. The Covid-19 Pandemic

Covid-19 (Corona-Virus disease 2019) is a disease caused by a new type of Corona-Virus, namely Sars-CoV-2, which was first reported in Wuhan China on December 31, 2019. COVID-19 can cause respiratory symptoms acute such as fever above 38 ° C, cough, and shortness of breath for humans. Besides, it can be accompanied by weakness, muscle pain, and diarrhea. In people with severe Covid-19, it can cause pneumonia, acute respiratory syndrome, kidney failure, and even death. Covid-19 can spread from humans through close contact and droplets (splashes of liquid when sneezing and coughing), not through the air. Covid-19 when viewed through an electron microscope (respiratory fluid/throat swab) and redraws the shape of Covid-19 as a virus that has a crown.

The spread of Covid-19 is increasingly widespread, so the World Health Organization (WHO) announced the status of a global pandemic for the Covid-19 outbreak. According to KBBI, a pandemic is an epidemic that occurs simultaneously everywhere, covering a wide geographical area. In health terms, a pandemic means an outbreak of a disease that attacks many victims, simultaneously occurring in various countries. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), a pandemic is declared when a new disease spreads across the globe beyond borders. In the most classical sense, when an epidemic spreads to several countries or regions of the world. Disease outbreaks that fall into the pandemic category are contagious and have a continuous line of infection. So, if a case occurs in several countries other than the country of origin, it will still be classified as a pandemic.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had a major impact on various sectors, such as the most impacted sectors are education and the economy, as well as the tourism sector. (Silpa Hanoatubun, 2020), the educator sector must ensure that teaching and learning activities continue, even with limitations, even though students are at home. The solution to deal with this, educators are required to design learning media as an innovation by utilizing online or distance learning.

Minister of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia regarding Circular Number 4 of 2020 concerning Implementation of Education Policies in an Emergency Period for the Spread of Corona Virus Disease (Covid-19). The learning system is implemented through a personal computer (PC) or laptop connected to an internet network connection. Educators can learn together at the same time using groups on social media such as What Sapp (WA), telegram, Instagram, zoom applications, Microsoft team, Google meet, Google classroom, and other media as learning media.

Expenditures for decisions are felt heavy by the instructors and students and most importantly felt by the teachers, they are required to be innovative in delivering modules or materials through online learning media. This must also be matched with the stages of the learning level and according to needs. As a result, distance learning can create quality learning outcomes. Learning at home using technological tools wants parents as the role of forms in children's learning assistance, which are expected to experience changes in attitudes and behavior and cognitive changes.

Evaluation of learning during a pandemic Based on a survey conducted by the author and reading from several references and related research results, basically the implementation of distance learning has experienced an increase in the learning system (distancing learning), this means that most students can use technological devices, especially in the teaching and learning process. , as has been done several years ago at open universities in Indonesia, they have been using a distance learning system for a long time so that now they have almost no problems in implementing distance learning.

Based on the survey there are several difficulties experienced by students including:

1. Difficulties felt while carrying out Distance Learning (PJJ).

In carrying out remote learning, students do not understand what is explained by the teacher or lecturer. Some are constrained by the signal, the microphone is not connected, the instructors only provide material without explaining, and some are difficult to consult regarding materials or assignments that are not clearly understood because some lecturers are difficult to contact, and may be related to the signal each time. a place or area with a different internet connection speed. And the obstacle from parents, not all parents can replace the position of the teacher who has to teach their children, maybe only the ablest to assist children in learning, and not all parents understand technology so they cannot help their children to connect when online learning takes place. Many parents are afraid to use video call applications that are used in learning because of outstanding issues. As a teacher, it becomes difficult for them to monitor the development of their students because they cannot meet in person.

2. During the implementation of the distance learning system, expenditure and income decreased.

During the implementation of large-scale social restrictions (PSPB) by the government, community activities were very limited so that it greatly affected the income or financial income of each family, which made it difficult for the community to meet their daily needs. Moreover, people who have a very weak economy as a result of this pandemic, according to a survey found that some people feel that during this pandemic, spending is very wasteful because it is to meet the internet quota needs used in online learning. And some people say that spending is more efficient during this pandemic because they do not need transport and pocket money for students with the application of the work and learning from home system. (Silpa Hanoatubun, 2020)

Most of the Indonesian people have felt the impact of Covid-19, not only in Indonesia, but almost all countries in the world have experienced the downturn in the economy in all sectors including the education sector. The application of distance learning requires a large internet quota for students. especially for parents who experience a lack of financial income who are very burdened by purchasing internet quota, it is hoped that the government will provide internet cotta subsidies for students, who have entered several stages of distribution of internet kofta specifically for students, teachers, and lecturers. online runs optimally.

With Distance Learning, the students' economy remains stable because the income they receive from their parent's decreases, so they save more on expenses so that they can still meet their daily needs

## Conclusions

The Corona Covid-19 virus which is currently sweeping the world, including Indonesia, the corona covid-19 virus is also affecting the world of education where the teaching and learning process is usually carried out face-to-face in classrooms but due to the coronavirus pandemic the learning process must be done through distance learning, online learning, or online, this is done to support the government in reducing the spread of the coronavirus.

During the pandemic, the government implemented school from home by implementing distance learning. Distance learning is an educational system that has the characteristics of open, independent learning, and thorough learning by utilizing Technology, Information and Communication (ICT) using learning technology with a variety of applications that can be used in online learning, such as zoom applications, Google meet, Google Classroom, What sap, Microsoft Team, and other applications. However, in the application of distance learning, there are many obstacles experienced by students and teaching staff, one of which is the not maximum available internet network, and the wasteful use of Internet quota, it is hoped that the government can improve the distance education system in a better direction, and by providing support. internet quota to students and educators, so that distance education will not have any more obstacles and get maximum learning results.

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