

## Community Participation Reviewed From Perceptions on Government Health Protocol Policy in Covid-19 Prevention

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### Abstract

*The corona-19 virus is a new disease that emerged in 2019 and is very dangerous for the health of the human body. To prevent the spread of the corona-19 virus in Indonesia, including in Central Sulawesi, the government implemented a health protocol policy. This study aims to determine the public's perception of health protocol policies by the government. The research uses qualitative methods. The informants consisted of the people of Nupabomba Village as a trans-Sulawesi route. Data collection techniques using observation and in-depth interviews. Data analysis consists of data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing. The results of the study show that the public can provide positive perceptions related to policies regarding the prevention of the corona virus-19. This perception is marked by a responsibility to comply with health rules and be able to explain well to fellow people related to the dangers of covid-19 so that habit patterns must be changed by using masks, washing hands in running water, maintaining distance, reducing mobility, and staying away from crowds.*

### Keywords

community participation;  
health protocol; covid-19  
prevention



## I. Introduction

The corona-19 virus is a new disease that emerged in 2019 and is very dangerous for human health. This virus causes people to not be able to live productively, the range of human work activities is very limited, and social interactions that are carried out must of course be distanced according to government policy rules. It was explained that the clinical symptoms obtained by humans when confirmed positive for the corona-19 virus were like the flu which also contained coughs, runny noses, sore throats, muscle aches, headaches, and more fatally, attacking all elements of disease complications in the human body. Covid-19 was first discovered in Wuhan, China at the end of 2019 last year. Nearly 200 countries around the world have reported cases of COVID-19. For the first time in Indonesia, the people who were infected with the COVID-19 virus were two Depok residents at the beginning of March 2020 ago, (Susanto and Budi, 2020:236)

Of the two Depok residents who contracted COVID-19, then it spread and was increasing day by day. Seeing such problems, the Indonesian government has designated this virus as a non-natural Covid-19 disaster (Zahrotunnimah, 2020). To prevent the increasing spread of COVID-19, the initial step taken by the government of the Republic of Indonesia was to establish a Task Force for the Acceleration of Handling Corona Virus Disease 2019 with the issuance of Presidential Decree Number 7 of 2020 concerning the Task Force for the Acceleration of Handling Covid-19 on March 13, 2020, which was later amended by Presidential Decree No. 9 of 2020, (Saputra, 2020:409)

The Corona-19 virus is referred to as a national disaster on April 13, 2020, with the signing of Presidential Decree No. 12 of 2020 concerning the Determination of Non-Natural National Disasters for the Spread of Covid-19 as a National Disaster by the president. This decision was taken considering the increasing number of the spread of the

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coronavirus in Indonesia, it was recorded that as of April 12, 2020, 4,241 positive cases of the Coronavirus, 3,509 people were being treated and 373 died, (Saputra, 2020: 409-410). The president made four points in Presidential Decree No. 12 of 2020, namely:

1. To declare a non-natural disaster caused by the spread of Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) as a national disaster.
2. National disaster management caused by the spread of Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is carried out by the Task Force for the Acceleration of Handling Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) following Presidential Decree Number 7 of 2020 concerning the Task Force for the Acceleration of Handling Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) as amended by Presidential Decree Number 9 Year 2020 concerning Amendments to Presidential Decree Number 7 Year 2020 concerning the Task Force for the Acceleration of Handling Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) through synergy between ministries/agencies and local governments.
3. Governors, regents, and mayors as Chair of the Task Force for the Acceleration of Handling Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in the regions, in setting policies in their respective regions must pay attention to the policies of the central government.
4. This Presidential Decree shall come into force on the date of stipulation.

The president's decision in handling the coronavirus aims to slow down the spread of the virus because if this is not done, COVID-19 can hamper all human activities when outside the home which in turn has an impact on the economic, socio-cultural, and tourism sectors which have drastically decreased in number tourists and various other impacts. The advantage of the tourism sector lies in its ability to increase foreign exchange and to drive various other business sectors such as the home industry. Thus, developed countries and developing countries continue to develop and improve the quality of their country's tourism (Amin et al, 2019). Sustainable tourism development can be completed by creating opportunities through networking and cooperation with service providers, where stakeholder engagement, the development of locally oriented codes of conduct, and local government participation are crucial factors for sustainable tourism success (Welford & Ytterhus in Nurlina, 2020). Considering that many Indonesians have been infected with COVID-19. Based on national data that the development of COVID-19 in Indonesia as of January 21, 2021, namely positive patients 951,651, recovered 772,790 and 27,203 died, (Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia, 2021). Furthermore, at the regional level of Central Sulawesi Province as of January 21, 2021, the confirmation of positive patients was 6011, 3754 recovered and 156 people died, (Central Sulawesi Provincial Health Office, 2021).

To assist the central government in preventing the occurrence of COVID-19, the regional government of Central Sulawesi Province made Central Sulawesi Governor Regulation Number 32 of 2020 Article 1 Number 7 explaining that health protocols are a series of health rules/standards established to prevent and transmit Covid-19 disease. . The health protocols include the use of masks, social distancing, and washing hands in running water. Furthermore, in other areas such as Palu City, it is mandatory to use a RAPID TEST letter for migrants entering Palu City. Various policies that have been determined by the central government and local governments must of course be implemented properly, in this case, it requires community participation in the form of actions and perceptions whose aim is to be able to determine the effectiveness of the policies made. Perception is a response based on the stimulus received by the community regarding health protocol policies from the government.

### III. Review of Literature

#### 2.1 Policy

According to Frederock (in Wahab, 1991: 13) policy is defined as an action that leads to the goals proposed by a person, group, or government in a certain environment in connection with the existence of certain obstacles while looking for opportunities to achieve goals or realize stated goals. This definition means that the government must have a reliable ability in any form to respond to and overcome the problems faced, by paying attention to the resources it has and accepting input or suggestions from a person/group so that there is the best solution, produced through a fair process. Thomas R. Dye (1995:1) states "whatever government chooses to do or not to do", meaning whatever the government chooses to do or not to do. The government plays an important role instead of taking certain actions to do something or establish policies to implement something program in overcoming problems, but the government just stands still and does not carry out any activities, and even then it can be said that such government policies take the form.

According to Litjan Poltak Sinambella, et al (2011: 5) "the world public has been accepted as standard Indonesian to become public which means general, many people, crowded". Public policy according to James E Anderson (in Islamy, 1994) are policies built by government agencies and officials, the implications of this understanding of public policy are: 1) That public policy always has certain goals or has actions. goal-oriented; 2) That the policy contains government actions; 3) That the policy is what the government is doing, so it is not what it is still intended to do; 4) That public policy can be positive in the sense that it is a government action regarding certain issues, or negative in the sense that it is a government official's decision not to do something; 5) That government policies, at least in a positive sense, are based on coercive (authoritative) laws and regulations.

#### 2.2 Policy Implementation

Udoji (1981: 32) says that "the execution of policies is as important if not more important than policy-making. Policies will remain dreams or blueprints file jackets unless they are implemented". Meter and Horn (1975: 6) defines policy implementation as an action taken by the public or private sector either individually or in groups aimed at achieving the goals set in policy decisions. This definition implies an effort to transform decisions into operational activities, and achieve changes as formulated by policy decisions.

Implementation is a functional equation of policy, formator, implementor, initiator, and time (Sabatier, 1986: 21-48). The main emphasis of these two functions is on the policy itself, then the results achieved and implemented by the implementor within a certain period. Policy implementation links the policy objectives and their realization with the results of government activities. This is under the views of Van Meter and van Horn (Grindle, 1980: 6) that the task of implementation is to build a network that allows public policy objectives to be realized through the activities of government agencies involving various interested parties.

According to Hogwood and Gunn (Wahab, 1997: 71-81), to be able to implement policies perfectly, several requirements are needed, including (1) external conditions faced by implementing agencies/agencies; (2) available time and resources; (3) the integration of the required resources; (4) implementation is based on a reliable causality relationship; (5) causality is direct and there are few links; (6) dependency relationships must be minimized; (7) common perception and agreement on goals; (8) tasks are detailed and sequenced systematically; (9) good communication and coordination; (10) The authorities may demand the compliance of the other party.

## 2.3 Perception

According to (Permadi, et al. 2018: 522), perception is a process of organizing and interpreting stimuli concerning the relationship between humans and their environment that are obtained by sensing, thus giving rise to interpretations of the stimuli that hit them, thus giving rise to meaning about the object. In essence, perception begins with stimuli and is then interpreted. The sensory input received by humans is the initial (raw) data which is then processed and processed and then interpreted into a perception.

Prasetijo (2005:67) explains that perception is a process in which the sensations received by a person are selected and selected, then arranged, and then interpreted. Alex Sobur (2003:446) divides the perception process into 3 stages, namely:

1. Selection, is the process of filtering by the senses against external stimuli, the intensity and type can be a lot or a little.
2. Interpretation, namely the process of organizing information so that it has meaning for someone.

Reaction, namely behavior after the selection and interpretation process takes place.

## III. Research Methods

This study uses a qualitative method that aims to reveal certain social situations by describing reality correctly, formed by words based on relevant data collection and analysis techniques obtained from natural situations. The type of data used is primary data and secondary data. For data collection techniques using observation and in-depth interviews. The informants are the people of Nupabomba Village as a trans-Sulawesi route. Data analysis is based on the views of Miles and Huberman (1992) which consists of data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing.

## IV. Results and Discussion

### 4.1 Results

Prevention of the spread of COVID-19 has always been intensively carried out by the government by implementing various policies regarding rules for complying with health protocols by the entire community, as happened in the area of the trans Sulawesi route, Nupabomba Village. The following is the delivery from Ms. Pita as a resident of Nupabomba Village:

Honestly, Covid-19 is very dangerous, because it not only makes people sick but can make people lose their lives. I've seen a lot of people on the news who died from Covid, but most of them died in hospitals. Maybe because they are no longer able to deal with this virus. (Results of the interview, 15 July 2021)

The interview above explains that the corona-19 virus spreads to the human body through other humans who interact directly with each other. Individuals infected with the coronavirus (covid-19) do not only feel physical pain, but the most dangerous thing is death. Many of the victims were found dead based on data provided by the government. This of course can be taken into consideration by the community to conduct social interactions so as not to be excessive, meaning that they continue to follow government regulations related to policies on using masks, washing hands, and keeping a distance from other individuals.

Ms. Ati:

This Covid-19 should not be taken lightly because many victims have died after being exposed to this virus. Shortness of breath, restlessness to sleep at night, loss of smell, tasteless tongue for consuming any food, drinking water tastes bitter, and many other things that make you uncomfortable. So we, as citizens, must remain vigilant. (Results of the interview, 13 July 2021)

The danger of covid-19 is very real in front of our eyes and very close to us who often have unlimited social interactions. The perceived danger can lead to death or just physical pain but makes each individual tormented because he feels several symptoms including shortness of breath, restlessness for sleeping at night, loss of smell, tasteless tongue for consuming any food, drinking water tastes bitter, and so on. other. If we don't want to feel the symptoms experienced by other sufferers, then the efforts made are to remain vigilant by following the Health protocol from the government.

Ms. Novi:

Stay alert with covid-19. Strengthen health protocols from the government. We as honest health workers are very overwhelmed with the surge in Covid victims because there are many people out there who don't want to care about their health and continue to do social interactions with anyone so that they are exposed to the virus. (Results of the interview, 14 July 2021)

Alert behavior is needed by every individual during a pandemic like today. Increased vigilance indicates that people care about health, but on the other hand, lack of vigilance will result in them being exposed to the corona-19 virus which of course requires special handling from health workers. The surge in COVID-19 victims has made it difficult for health workers to handle it. Health workers, apart from being tasked with rescuing victims, also have to be careful at work because the virus could easily attack their bodies.

The following is the delivery from Ms. Fira:

Health is important and very important. Especially during a pandemic like today, body health must be maintained properly, for example exercising and eating nutritious foods. Don't let our immunity go down, because the coronavirus can enter so quickly that not only makes us sick but can kill anyone's life without exception. (Results of the interview, 16 July 2021)

To maintain a healthy body, many things must be done, such as eating nutritious foods and exercising regularly. During a pandemic like today, a healthy body is highly expected by anyone, because no one wants to suffer from illness to the point of sacrificing their lives. In the process of its development, the corona-19 virus has killed many people and taken away the happiness of the families of the victims who were left behind as well as cut off work activities carried out by humans to earn income to meet their daily needs.

Adit expressed his opinion:

As a police officer, I strongly support government policies related to health protocols. Because this virus is very dangerous and can hamper all work activities and we have to live with full limitations and not like before. So the process must be carried out well. (Results of the interview, 16 July 2021)

The interview above explains that the participation of many people in Nupabomba Village, from residents to the police, is very supportive of government policies related to preventing the corona virus-19 in Donggala Regency and Palu City. This participation is



part of the community's awareness of healthy living both for oneself as an individual and for many people in the social environment where they live. Healthy living certainly provides many benefits, especially in completing various jobs both to serve the community from the police and to stay in touch with each other in building social relations between local communities.

Ms. Novi:

As nurses, my friends and health workers do not stop informing the public to always comply with health protocols, such as wearing masks, maintaining distance, washing hands in clean water, reducing mobility, and avoiding crowds. And one thing that is also most important is to increase faith. I respond well to this government policy. (Results of the interview, 14 July 2021)

Health protocols should be followed properly such as wearing masks, maintaining distance, washing hands in clean water, reducing mobility, and avoiding crowds. As a nurse, government policies regarding health regulations are always conveyed to the public, both those who already understand and do not understand. Because reminding others would be better for that person to be aware and able to behave healthily, not only to take care of himself but also to protect others around him. During a pandemic like today, health becomes the main priority for every human being, trying to consume nutritious food, maintain sleep patterns, exercise and others.

Febri:

I am a resident of Nupabomba Village but work in Palu City, so I have to be strict about procedures, if I want to go to work, I have a shift schedule at the office, so when I want to go, I have to wear a mask and put it in my bag for backup, when I arrive at the office. Offices must wash their hands before carrying out work. The point is that this government policy is very good in preventing the spread of the coronavirus. (Results of the interview, 14 July 2021)

It was explained that having a job far enough from home would certainly result in a very high risk of spreading the coronavirus. Because the activities carried out will require us to meet directly with other people who could be carrying the virus. Therefore, in preventing the spread of the corona-19 virus, it is required to comply with the health protocols implemented by the government, namely using masks and washing hands in running water. This must be done continuously as a form of self-awareness to maintain a healthy body, not only for ourselves but for others around us. Government policies are very good to be implemented so that the number of fatalities does not increase.

## 4.2 Discussion

COVID-19 has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO) which certainly threatens all countries on this earth without exception. In current conditions, the coronavirus is not an epidemic that can be ignored. When viewed from the symptoms, ordinary people will think it is only limited to ordinary influenza, but for medical analysis, this virus is quite dangerous and deadly. Currently, in 2020, the development of the transmission of this virus is quite significant because it has spread worldwide and all countries feel the impact, including Indonesia, (Yunus and Annissa Rezki, 2020: 228)

The spread that is very significant and threatens the life of every individual must of course be handled quickly by the government, namely making public policies regarding health protocols such as using masks, maintaining distance, washing hands in running

water, reducing mobility, and staying away from crowds. But the most important thing is to increase faith. All must be lived well by the whole community without exception. Individuals who comply with the policy not only maintain their health but also maintain the safety of the lives of the people around them. Furthermore, policy violators will of course experience the risk of health problems and strict sanctions from the government. According to Frederock (in Wahab, 1991: 13) policy is defined as an action that leads to the goals proposed by a person, group, or government in a certain environment in connection with the existence of certain obstacles, while looking for opportunities to achieve goals or realize stated goals.

The policy-making process aims to solve problems related to the spread of the corona-19 virus in Indonesia, including in Central Sulawesi Province. To be able to get the best solution, policies made by the government must be able to accept input or suggestions from a person/group, so that there is the best solution, produced through a fair process. The policies that are made can be useful for the whole community without exception.

Policies on health protocols made by the government certainly present various kinds of perceptions from the public. Based on the results of a scientific study that the perception of the people of Nupabomba Village which is an area of the trans Sulawesi route, they explained that they responded very well to the policy, such as keeping their distance when interacting with other people, especially for those who work outside the home or in the office, use and distribute masks. as well as hand sanitizers for people in need, reducing mobility in activities, and using smartphones and social media to complete work, next is to avoid crowds where many people gather.

The positive perception generated by the community related to the health protocol policy indicates that the regulation is useful and able to make them implement new habits during the pandemic. Based on the concept that perception according to Permadi, et al (2018: 522) is a process of organizing and interpreting stimuli concerning the relationship between humans and their environment that are obtained by sensing, thus giving rise to an interpretation of the stimulus that hits them, thus giving rise to meaning about the object. In essence, perception begins with stimuli and is then interpreted. The sensory input received by humans is the initial (raw) data which is then processed and processed and then interpreted into a perception.

## V. Conclusion

From the results of research on public perceptions of government policies in implementing health protocol rules, it was concluded that the public was able to provide positive perceptions related to policies regarding the prevention of the corona virus-19. This perception is marked by a responsibility to comply with health rules and be able to explain well to fellow people related to the dangers of Covid-19 so that habit patterns must be changed by using masks, washing hands in running water, maintaining distance, reducing mobility, and staying away from crowds.

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