

Implementation of Public Policy in Efforts to Achieve Social Justice for the Community

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Abstract

One of the state's most important priorities is to ensure its citizens' health and happiness. For this goal to be accomplished, it is necessary to put into place several different mechanisms, all of which should be reflected in the public policies that are ultimately adopted. The many obstacles that must be overcome to acquire riches through the implementation of public policy constitute a task in their own right. The topic of investigation for this line of inquiry will be how the application of public policies might reduce or do away with the illness that affects the well-being of individuals and bring about equality in the current world. Most people don't think of equality in terms of financial parity; rather, they focus on having equal access to opportunities to achieve it. It is necessary to connect to the idea of social justice while tackling the problem of inequality. In this essay, I will first review and critique the present literature on poverty, inequality, and social justice. Then I will propose a variety of unique techniques for eradicating inequality. Although political activities are necessary to achieve these goals, Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the public administrator to establish detailed plans or procedures for carrying them out. In this essay, we will investigate how public officials might work to advance equality and social justice.

Keywords

public policy; poverty; inequality; welfare; social justice.



I. Introduction

The life of the nation and the state can never be divorced from concerns about the state, including matters of law and public policy (Anggara, 2014). As one of the countries that are committed to the ideal of democracy, it is only natural that the existence of the State of Indonesia, in which laws are produced in the form of public policy as a means of regulating the state that the government runs to create prosperity and justice for its citizens, will become a topic of primary concern (Simatupang & Akib, 2011). The welfare of the people and the administration of justice are goals held in common by all components of the organization known as the state. Organization must have a goal to be achieved by the organizational members (Niati et al., 2021). The success of leadership is partly determined by the ability of leaders to develop their organizational culture. (Arif, 2019). As a result, the state's existence, which is the product of a political agreement between the people, ought to be able to render protection to the citizens of that state. Through various public policy tools, the state must be able to provide for the welfare of every one of its residents without exception (Jati, 2014).

The use of government policies in poverty alleviation initiatives is one of the intriguing topics to research while trying to understand better the relationship between the state, the law, and public policy (Aneta, 2012). Because the majority of Indonesia's

homework focuses on how to reduce poverty, unemployment, and the level of dependence of human resources on the state, the issue of poverty is a central and important issue for all policy programs that are implemented by both the central government and the local governments (Purwanto et al., 2013).

When determining a household's degree of welfare, poverty is one of the most crucial measures to consider. It is usual practice to use the amount of poverty in a region as an aggregate measurement to determine the level of welfare in that region (Hasan & Azis, 2018). As a result, alleviating poverty is one of the primary focuses of development. Changes in poverty rates are frequently used as yardsticks to evaluate the success or failure of a development project (Suryono, 2010).

One of the national development goals is to enhance economic performance to realize the welfare of the Indonesian population as a whole. This will create jobs and the organization of a good life for everyone (Paat et al., 2019). One of the goals for the nation's development is to reduce the poverty rate. Since poverty is one of the diseases that plague the economy, it must be treated or at the very least mitigated. The issue of poverty is, without a doubt, a complicated and multifaceted one (Solikatun et al., 2014). As a result, measures to alleviate poverty must be carried out comprehensively, with coverage extending to various facets of people's lives, and handled in an integrated fashion (Papilaya, 2020).

Equal treatment under the law is an important principle when making decisions. This is so that we can better grasp the thinking needed to mitigate the negative effects of poverty and inequality on specific groups of people in Indonesia and elsewhere. This is being done both in Indonesia and internationally. Because social justice has been discussed and practiced in various contexts throughout human history, we cannot consider this a purely theoretical premise or a paradigm shift of any kind (Ramdhani & Ramdhani, 2017; Suryono, 2014).

Poverty and inequality will be defined and explained as we move through this article. We will also talk about social justice and all its elements (e.g., who belongs to the classes covered by this definition). Next, the strategies likely to be utilized to alleviate some of the strains caused by these ideas will be discussed, along with how they will be applied to ongoing events. Alongside implementing this plan, we should have a conversation about how public authorities might address the market failures caused by inequality. In conclusion, it is important to point out that there is a variety of possible means by which policymakers might contribute to promoting equity and social justice.

II. Research Method

The method used in this research was descriptive analysis combined with a qualitative approach to data collection. The goal of the data collection was to describe the conditions and situations present in the field that was going to be studied. This was accomplished through interviews, observations, and documentation studies. Qualitative research is conducted to investigate the state of natural objects, with the researcher serving as the primary instrument of investigation (Sugiyono, 2011). According to Moloeng (2005), qualitative research intends to understand phenomena about what is experienced by research subjects, such as behavior, perceptions, motivations, actions, and so on, holistically and by employing descriptions in the form of words and language in a context. Natural and by utilizing a variety of natural methods. The objective of qualitative research is to explain a phenomenon as in-depth as reasonably possible by gathering the most in-

depth data. This highlights the significance of the depth and detail of the data that is being investigated.

In the study titled "Implementation of Public Policy in Efforts to Realize Social Justice for the Community," to collect correct data, researchers will need to use data collection techniques that conform to the features of a qualitative approach. Because of this, the type of research being conducted here is a descriptive narrative. Because of this, data collection is being carried out continually through cross-check, check and recheck, and data analysis to locate the facts. The purpose of data analysis is to give the information that has been gathered a deeper level of significance. In research, performing analysis is a challenging task that calls for a lot of effort, sincerity, and seriousness. Creative thinking and solid ability are both prerequisites for analysis. The process of compiling data to make it more interpretable and understandable is known as analysis.

III. Result and Discussion

Poverty has diverse meanings to different individuals in different countries across the globe. Everyone appears to have their concept of what true poverty is. According to a 2006 paper by Ehrenpreis, "the definition of poverty relies on who poses the question, how it is interpreted, and who responds." Suharto (2011) argues that poverty has multiple economic, political, and socio-psychological dimensions. Poverty is when a community's economic resources fall below a predetermined objective or norm. According to Kadji (2012), poverty is income plus money plus non-material advantages. In general, poverty is characterized by a lack of education, bad health, and the inability to access necessary transportation.

Another essay on the notion of poverty and its effects on persons is provided by Syawie (2011). According to his definition of poverty, an individual is impoverished if he or she does not have the ability to earn a living and is consequently deprived of the food, services, and other necessities that are typically available to people who fall well above the federal poverty line. It cuts them off from the obligations, contacts, and ties that are typical of those who are well-off in society. Further, he argues that bodily and social needs are intertwined, as was previously established.

The traditional definition of poverty consists of many variable income thresholds below which an individual or family is considered poor and unable to achieve the minimum criteria and requirements for a full life. Where is this boundary located? It differs in every culture. Even in these locations, it is difficult to establish a precise poverty criterion, as this is typically a matter of national agreement. This can lead to various complications as some locations may need more from their residents than others (Nurwati, 2008).

Next, it is essential to comprehend what inequality entails. Although both are frequently associated with poverty, there are notable distinctions between them (Svara & Brunet, 2005). There is a lot of literature on both subjects, with obvious distinctions between them that politicians and policymakers frequently neglect. For Kaplinsky (2013), the distinction between poverty and inequality is straightforward: "poverty is when people don't have much," whereas inequality occurs when some individuals have more than others. Inequality refers to the fact that some people in society have more resources than others or that people with diverse backgrounds have varying degrees of access to certain services.

In contrast, poverty is more of a personal concept applied to an individual or family (but can also refer to whether a country belongs to the first, second, or third world). Since

"wealth" can be understood in various ways, it is the focus here. As has been established, poverty is a state of affairs that hinders a person's potential to contribute positively to society. Some people can amass more wealth than others, which is what we mean when discussing inequality. With these two topics in mind, we can next discuss the need for social justice (Syawie, 2011).

Social justice was first brought to the subject of public administration by H. George Frederickson in 1990. Fairness and equity in the administration of all public institutions, fairness and equity in public service, fairness and equality in the development of public policy, and a dedication to promoting fairness and equality in the administration of public policy are all important to a just society (Frederickson, 1990). It has been considered the third pillar of public administration since its creation, alongside efficiency and economy. Because of the global nature of this problem, it is clear that improvements to public policy must be made to promote social equality in all countries. International rules exist to strike a balance in how people are treated, but in practice, no two people receive the same level of care (Hasanuddin, 2018).

If the literature is to aid in the search for and development of novel and original policies to combat poverty and injustice, which are tragically pervasive throughout the world, a clear definition of social justice is required. Those who belong to so-called "protected classes" get a say in how fair society is judged (or lack thereof). Despite legislation and programs intended to correct the disparities these communities encounter, individuals and families belonging to the protected lower classes are disproportionately affected by poverty (Anasiru, 2011). Thus, campaigns for the president, congress, governor, and even municipal office routinely highlight the need for more initiatives to combat poverty and inequality. This initiative prioritizes social justice, while politicians sometimes misinterpret the significance of issues like poverty and inequality in their talks and agendas. Worse, the candidates haven't even tried to solve the problem. Disparities in income, wealth, and education are all interconnected and exacerbated by race (Suyanto, 2005).

It's widely acknowledged that higher levels of education are associated with better quality of life results. Still, it's also generally established that urbanites have slightly easier access to better schools than their rural counterparts. Affirmative action programs have been in place for decades to ensure that all Indonesian students have an equal opportunity to succeed in Indonesia's academic institutions. However, inequality still exists in the open (Rahmida, 2012). The state's executive branch, including the President, Governor, Regent/Mayor, and the rest of the administration, is working to reduce economic inequality by implementing an affirmative action program. Sadly, they only address it when essential, such as when votes are needed for elections or laws to be approved. Inequality, poverty, and the guarantee of a good living for every citizen are frequently raised in political discourse, yet these concerns rarely seem to be addressed in concrete ways by elected official (Suyanto, 2005).

It's simple to make a case for this course of action. If, for example, registered residents from protected lower classes can have their concerns addressed by public policies generated from campaigns, leading to improved opportunities and a greater sense of well-being, then those citizens do not need to worry that their voices are not being heard. They won't go away thinking they don't matter because of this. For human dignity, it is crucial to address these two issues globally. However, doing so is also critical since many terrorist groups exploit the lives of the poor and the victims of inequity. It's terrible that certain people in power are taking advantage of this group, but this problem has continued throughout history. Thus, the answer rests in creating public policies that will help

members of marginalized groups rise in society and be treated more equally in cities and towns around the globe. In order to enable people from all walks of life get closer to and eventually pass the line where they can overcome poverty and lead far more productive and dignified lives, worldwide cooperation to find solutions is necessary (Khioron, 2017).

According to the BPS (2018) research findings, the growing wealth disparity is driving more households in metropolitan areas to fall into higher or lower income categories, with fewer remaining in the intermediate income group. Adults from lower socioeconomic backgrounds now constitute the majority in approximately one-fourth of urban areas. Many people in Indonesia now have the impression that different members of society are subject to varying degrees of access inequality because of the widening gap between different socioeconomic strata. The economic collapse brought on by the crisis in 2008 is a good illustration. No longer is it assumed that the average Indonesian will have the opportunity to earn sufficient money to purchase a home. The desire of most Indonesians has always been to one day be in a position where they may purchase a home of their own. The idea that every member of society should have the opportunity to purchase their property has been ingrained in our culture. The severe economic downturn in 2008 and the subsequent collapse of the housing market 2008 prompted residents to demand that the government take action to protect their right to own homes. The solution is for the government to devise policies that cater to the requirements of the people under its jurisdiction. It has been decided to create a program to refinance subsidized homes. After legislation and policies have been passed, public administrators must figure out how to put these policies into effect so that residents can reap their benefits.

Researchers are increasingly concerned that widening income gaps would slow economic growth and make it harder for people to advance in society. According to the findings of certain studies, children who grow up in households with low incomes have a lower likelihood of reaching the middle class when compared to children who are raised in neighborhoods with greater economic diversity (Jati, 2015).

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Lester Thurow (1987) defines the middle class as a group whose income is between 75% and 125% of the median (middle point) per capita. This income range is considered inside the "goldilocks zone." According to this definition, the minimum income required to be considered part of the middle class is 75% of the national median for per capita income. The top limit is set at 125 percent of the median income per capita. According to Easterly (2001), the middle class is defined by dividing the population from the most impoverished to the most prosperous into five categories with the same level of consumption spending (quintiles). According to Easterly, the middle class is obtained by distributing the lowest quintiles, which constitute twenty percent of the society's most disadvantaged group, and the highest quintiles, which constitute twenty percent of the society's most affluent group. Therefore, a group is considered middle class if their level of spending is located in the second, third, or fourth quintiles, respectively.

Asia Development Bank generally provides a more applicable definition for Indonesia and Asian nations (ADB). ADB (2010) identifies a middle class as having daily per capita expenditures between \$2 and \$20. This range is currently extensively used to determine the income level of Indonesia's middle class. The per capita expenditure range is divided into three categories: the lower middle class spends 2-4 dollars per person per day, the middle class spends 4-10 dollars per person per day, and the upper middle class spends 10-20 dollars per person per day (PPP 2005). In 2010, the middle class in Indonesia consisted of 134 million people who spent between \$2 and \$20 a day, or about 56% of the total population, which is a very large proportion.

Over the years, many people have proposed solutions to the global problems of poverty, inequality, and social equality. However, some administratively-created remedies that have helped close the gaps are only band-aids. There is a pressing need for these rules to evolve to reflect the ever-shifting conditions of a global economy. It's easier to insist that everyone be treated equally, regardless of skin color, gender, cultural upbringing, nationality, sexual orientation, etc. Public administration as a profession would be rendered unnecessary if this were feasible. Conversely, this prejudice has been around for quite some time. They are still around today and show no signs of going away very soon.

More people carry a social equity label, and the market needs to change to accommodate them. The vulnerable people suffering from poverty are subject to actual and lasting consequences. The poverty penalty is not the only example of injustice I can use to illustrate my point. Discrimination probably plays a role in the increased costs, rather than just poverty. Because of rising prosperity and the potential risks associated with it, the situation is only becoming worse. Knowledge of which markets are affected by which factors is necessary for developing both qualitative and quantitative indicators of poverty, inequality, and the reasons of market exclusion. Understanding the root causes of these problems can help guide policymakers toward solutions that will put individuals who have been harmed on a more level playing field with current market participants. Private firms' input can help create public policy regarding the information collected; thus, they should be included in policy talks.

In some cases, government agencies will be better able to accomplish their goals if they look to successful private businesses as examples. Even though the two markets are fundamentally different, some business models can be quite helpful. It will need time to investigate this possible remedy, which vulnerable groups may not have.

It is also essential to address the geographical variables contributing to the intensification of social injustice. Even in terms of fundamental geography, it is challenging to treat all areas the same. All regions have advantages and disadvantages, but persons in less-affluent regions (however that term is defined) must be treated equally concerning the products and services offered. To incorporate everyone, in the same manner requires several substantial policies. Public officials are just beginning to address this issue. Numerous improvements may be made in this area, particularly when considering policies that give openness and accountability, which should be more prominent in the legislation.

IV. Conclusion

The landscape in which public administrators operate has shifted significantly in recent years due to major reforms to the Public Administration system. Government officials are being asked to do more with fewer resources. Public managers, in addition to being experts in their traditional fields, must now also have the skills necessary to encourage collaboration between the many new actors involved in public policy's actualization. Public administrators are tasked with evaluating socioeconomic gaps and implementing solutions within the framework proposed by elected government officials.

As previously mentioned, whenever government officials decide on a policy, it is the public administrator's job to turn this excellent notion into concrete procedures. There are many aspects of the public administrator's role in combating inequality. Among the many duties of a public administrator are the formulation of rules and regulations, the creation of procedures, the rollout of programs and services meant to put these policies into effect, the creation of indicators for measuring program outputs and outcomes, and the conduct of

evaluations to ascertain whether or not the necessary steps have been taken. This is done so that everyone in the community has the same chances to succeed in life and reach their full potential in all areas of development, including but not limited to: education, health, money, employment, public safety, and self-actualization.

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