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## THE ROLE OF ACTORS IN POLICY FORMULATION EFFORTS: CASE OF POLICY ADVOCACY IN THE ESTABLISHMENT PROCESS OF CILONGOK STATE HIGH SCHOOL

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### ABSTRACT

The problem of establishing a State High School in Cilongok still has many weaknesses, it is proven that the number of school dropouts in Cilongok sub-district is increasing every year. Based on observations by researchers, the obstacles in establishing a State High School in Cilongok are due to weak human resources; institutional coordination; differences in perception and lack of understanding of the guidelines. According to James Anderson Charles Lindblom and James P. Lester and Joseph Stewart, Jr. actors or actors who participate in the policy formation process can be divided into two groups, namely cast and cast and official and unofficial. Which is owned by actors and is an agent of the official government (bureaucracy), president (executive), legislature and courts. While belonging to unofficial roles include interest groups, political parties and individual citizens. This research uses James E. Anderson's theory, policy is the behavior of a number of actors (employees, groups, government agencies) or a group of actors in a particular policy field. Talking about policy cannot be separated from the relationship between interest groups, both in government and society as a whole. Based on theory, actors cannot move alone without the collaboration of other actors, so a network diagram is needed to understand the role of each actor. The suggestion in this study is that similar views are needed from the actors to improve community welfare and transparency in the establishment of State High Schools in Cilongok.

**Keywords:** actor's role, policy advocacy, policy.

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### A. INTRODUCTION

Policy studies provide responses to critical issues raised that are systematic in nature. One of the things that must be understood by those who make public policy is that public policy is not about the policies of certain groups or people, but public policy is aimed at addressing public problems as a whole (Ayu Rizky & Mar'iyah, 2021). In the study of public policy we look not only at whether the policy is

implemented effectively to achieve goals. Public policy is a theoretical study that has stages and processes that must be carried out so that it becomes a result that becomes an agreement between various parties to resolve a public problem. Each stage of the public policy process is incorporated into an interrelated system called the public policy cycle (Besche-truthe et al., 2021).

The implementation of policy formulation in the public policy process certainly cannot be separated from how groups or individuals participate in the problem formulation process. So various channels are needed for groups or individuals in the policy formulation process (Fauzi & Dewi Rostyaningsih, 2018). Access channels in policy formulation are a political process directed at actors both within the government and outside the government to continue to try to jointly influence and take advantage of debated issues and the use of strategies (Andhika, 2019). Policy formulation becomes a fact related to the formulation or interpretation of issues that compete with each other for public attention. The process by which groups and governments prevent each other from getting to the bottom of each other's most important issues. Interaction occurs looking for solutions and alternatives in agenda-setting relationships (Li, Q., Ho, W. H., & Shi, Y. (2022).

Education is a field that is an integral part of national development in society. The survival and progress of the nation is indirectly determined by development in the quality education sector (Kemendikbud, & Setjen. 2018). The role of education is very important for a nation to achieve its goals of advancing and prospering society at large. Education is a right given to all the nation's children where the government is obliged to fulfill the rights of citizens to obtain and obtain quality educational services that can determine the future direction of a nation. Education has become one of the foundations and concerns along with the increasingly rapid development of the times so that there is a need for education as a material to follow wisely and can impact change in society, both in thought patterns and actions.

The existence of a zoning policy certainly allows for opposing views, such as children who have intelligence and quality not being able to develop it because of inadequate school services in their immediate environment. One of them happened in Banyumas Regency, where one of the sub-districts, namely Cilongok Sub-district,

did not have a State High School built in the sub-district as a target for implementing zoning. This makes it difficult for the community and children to reach the maximum level in the world of education in line with the existence of zoning policies that limit the community and children in developing education in the area. Indirectly, children in Cilongok District send their children to private schools as a basis for taking the government's mandatory education route. Due to this, the community is demanding the construction of a State High School in Cilongok District considering the absence of state-based education services. This requires policy formulation at the High School level in Banyumas Regency to follow up on existing problems in line with the aim of the zoning system to equalize quality. quality of education in various regions.

Cilongok District has 20 villages, Cilongok District which consists of 20 villages does not yet have a State High School located in Cilongok. As a consequence of the zoning route selection method which prioritizes the closest distance from the school, prospective students domiciled in Cilongok have a very small chance of being accepted at the nearest SMAN from Cilongok via the zoning route. State high schools have low fees, according to the Governor's statement that State High Schools in Central Java are free of tuition fees and there is an appeal to exempt students who cannot afford any form of donations. Where the existence of a State High School in Cilongok District really helps to relieve families whose economic status is lower.

Apart from the problems that occurred in the construction of the State High School in Cilongok, the problem of conflict over the roles of actors also occurred, especially in terms of determining the location and amount of budget needed for each policy to be implemented. This allegedly happened because the government did not really understand the specifications needed to support these policies. Based on the description of the problem, the author is interested in researching the Role of Actors in Policy Formulation Efforts: The Case of Policy Advocacy in the Establishment Process of the Cilongok State High School.

## **B. METHOD**

In this research, a qualitative descriptive research method was used, namely a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written words

from people and observed behavior (Bogdan and Taylor in Moleong, 2004: 3). The research location is Cilongok Village, Banyumas Regency. Meanwhile, the informants in this research included village officials and other communities. The data collection technique was carried out in three stages, first in-depth interviews, second observation, and third documentation. This research uses or takes the interactive analysis model from Miles, Huberman and Saldana (2014:13) with four analysis components, namely data collection, data condensation, data presentation. and draw conclusions (Conclusions Drawing).

### **C. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Cilongok District, apart from having the largest population, also has the largest number of Pre-Prosperous Families in Banyumas Regency. There are 4 Private Secondary Education Units in Cilongok; SMA MBS Zam-Zam, SMK Ma'arif NU 1, MA Ma'arif NU 1, MA Darussalam but in terms of costs it is still lower than SMAN fees. The factor that requires a secondary school in the form of a SMAN for prospective students is from various religious backgrounds. Where not all residents in Cilongok District adhere to Islam. The hope of all Cilongok people is to get the opportunity to receive education at SMAN and the capacity ratio of SMAN where the number of registrants for Cilongok District is at least almost the same as the Regency ratio.

With the presence of several actors in policy making efforts, it can have negative and positive impacts that can influence their role in determining policy. According to the author, the role of the actors involved in Cilongok District shows that there are phenomena which the author considers could influence the actors in formulating State High School Development policies in Cilongok, such as: Weak human resources, weak institutions, differences in perception, poor coordination. weak, Lack of understanding of guidelines.

In accordance with the theory of James E Anderson, the policy making actors for the development of State High Schools in Cilongok, are several actors drawn from both government and community elements; although in its implementation each actor does not yet have an accurate distribution of rights and responsibilities for roles in the development of State High Schools in Cilongok. According to Agustino, policy-

making officials are people who have legal authority to participate in the formulation and determination of policies public. It is very important in this context to distinguish between primary policy makers and complementary/secondary/supporting policy makers. Primary policy makers are actors or stakeholders who have direct constitutional authority to act. Meanwhile, supplementary/secondary/supporting policy makers must obtain authority to act from other institutions (primary policy makers) and therefore, at least potentially, they depend on or can be controlled by primary policy makers.

Based on the opinion of Walter J.M. Kickert, Erik-Hans Klijn and Joop F.M. Koppenjan in the context of writing carried out in Cilongok District, the sub-district head cannot move alone without help from volunteers, because each party has its own tasks which have been described in the Construction of State High Schools in Cilongok. Therefore, to carry out their duties in the development of State High Schools in Cilongok, they must have a network chart so that the role of each actor can be known.

Actor participation in agenda setting is by assessing the roles of related actors at the agenda setting stage. In determining actor participation in agenda setting, the actor who plays a major role in agenda setting is the Regent of Banyumas as a representative of all village heads in Cilongok District, while the task of the RT/RW is only to give advice, but the biggest decision remains with the Regent of Banyumas. In the context of this writing, it can be said that in Cilongok District a Caught Network applies, namely a network where community actors dominate the government.

Domination in government by the community is found in the various roles carried out by the MPPC (Cilongok Education Concern Community), starting from the stage of determining poverty criteria, reflecting on poverty to exploring the potential that exists in the community that can be developed. In fact, in networks determining policy cannot be done with a system of domination by one party, as expressed by Sri Suwitri (2011: 55), saying that the strength of a policy network lies in five things, namely the interests of network members, membership, dependency between members, isolation from the network. others, and distribution of resources among members. So in determining the development policy for State High Schools

in Cilongok, Cilongok District, there is no interdependence between one actor and another actor.

All formal and informal groups in society have access to the policy process. However, when a conflict occurs, it can be seen that not all of them have the same degree of access. If a conflict of interest occurs, you can find out who has what type of access and how much access. Understanding these two things is very helpful in formulating a policy.

Creating a network at a higher level in actor accessibility is not only at the implementation stage but starts from the preparation stage. Activities in the form of synchronizing development from the sub-district level to the sub-district and district levels can be started at the stage of a series of meetings starting from RT/RW, sub-district, sub-district and district level meetings.

In terms of the actor's perspective in efforts to solve public problems, the author refers to problem solving from Deborah Stone (in Solahuddin Kusumanegara, 2010), namely by emphasizing the type of rules, namely policy steps that are persuasive or pressure on the formation of rules in the form of regulations that must be obeyed by the public. public; Fact type, namely policy steps in the form of using information channels to persuade the target group to want to do something that is considered to solve the problem and rights, namely policy steps in the form of granting rights or duties to society. In the context of the writing carried out in Cilongok District, the rules are carried out by referring back to the plans that have been prepared, because these guidelines apply nationally and are equipped with work mechanisms for each actor so that they can facilitate the implementation of each activity in the planning. Meanwhile, the data type is also carried out by providing an explanation that so far Cilongok District has implemented the wrong implementation system. The purpose of this notification is to evaluate the failure of the construction of Cilongok State High School. This step was carried out by persuading the public to not only participate but be directly involved in the construction of Cilongok State High School, and provide a new picture of how construction activities for Cilongok State High School should be carried out by referring back to the construction of Cilongok State High School. This type of rights is implemented by giving rights and obligations to each actor with reference to the

construction of the Cilongok State High School that has been prepared. Thus, each actor has their own tasks that must be carried out with a good and transparent accountability system.

In carrying out your duties, you are certainly not free from shortcomings and imperfections. Therefore, the village head together with the community formed a community that cares about education, namely MPPC. MPPC was formed on the initiative of the Cilongok District Community to fight for this problem, by recruiting members from government elements, for example village officials and the community as volunteers. The MPPC's working mechanism is to wait for the public's response in the form of complaints which can be made verbally or in writing via letters, SMS, websites and other means. With this complaint, MPPC members will carry out an examination by collecting various evidence of abuse or violations of the particular matter being complained about and carry out an investigation, then facilitate problem solving which can be done from familial channels to legal channels.

In determining alternative programs or policies for the development of Cilongok State High School, there are still obstacles or shortcomings. These obstacles or shortcomings exist because each party or actor has their own perception in determining criteria, for example determining criteria for poverty, reflection on poverty and potential to be developed. This assistance can be realized through assistance, while financial assistance can be given to poor people according to local poverty criteria that have been agreed upon by residents, including those who have been poor for a long time, whose income has become meaningless due to inflation and people who have lost their source of income.

Given a series of problems, it is necessary to solve problems in creating alternative policies. The author will use an incremental policy formulation model. In this incremental model, public policy formulation is viewed as a continuation of activities carried out by the previous government with slight modifications. This is done by considering time, intelligence, costs and avoiding broad identification of policy alternatives and their consequences.

#### **D. CONCLUSION**

The role of actors in efforts to formulate policies in the establishment of Cilongok State High School was very influential, starting from the MPPC community which brought up the issue until it was blown up. And the results were very good, where the Regent of Banyumas made a policy to establish Cilongok State High School in 2023. The conclusions obtained from this writing include that in the policy formulation process the position of each actor must be explained, both actors from government elements and actors from society. In terms of accessibility for actors to realize their aspirations, this can be done by creating access to higher levels of government, for example sub-districts. In this case, the village head as a government actor can facilitate this by opening a network with the higher government, namely the sub-district and district. In terms of the actor's perspective in understanding the problem, this can be done by creating a Community Complaints Unit (UPM) facilitated by the local village head. In making a policy, an appropriate model is needed that can be used.

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