

The Active Role of Youth in Conservation of the Environment from the Perspective of Law No. 40 of 2009 in Sei Kera Hilir 2 Sub- District Medan Perjuangan Kota Medan

Hadi Wardhana^{1*}, Erika Revida², Sakhyah Asmara³

Universitas Sumatera Utara

Corresponding Author: Hadi Wardhana hadiwardhana@usu.ac.id

ARTICLE INFO

Keywords: Conservation,
Environment, Infrastructure
Resources

Received : 07 October

Revised : 17 October

Accepted: 23 October

©2022 Wardhana, Revida, Asmara :

This is an open-access article
distributed under the terms of the
[Creative Commons Atribusi 4.0
Internasional](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).



ABSTRACT

The environment is a space for life in all aspects whose natural nature is to provide the greatest benefit to humans. However, today's environmental conditions, especially in the city of Medan, are still not ideal. Various environmental problems that occur cause the benefits of the environment that should be obtained by the people of Medan City to be hampered. The contradiction between the ideal conditions of the environment and the objective conditions of the environment today requires the role of the community, especially youth, in environmental conservation, including the role of youth in environmental conservation in Sei Kera Hilir 2 Village, Medan Perjuangan District. This study aims to analyze the role of youth in environmental conservation efforts in Sei Kera Hilir 2 Subdistrict Medan Perjuangan based on Law No. 40 of 2009 Article 17 paragraph 1 regarding the active role of youth, to analyze what obstacles are experienced by youth in playing a role in environmental preservation in Sei Village. Kera Hilir 2, Medan Struggle District, to analyze the impact of the implementation of Law No. 40 of 2009 Article 17 on the role of youth in environmental conservation efforts in Sei Kera Hilir 2 Village, Medan Struggle District.

INTRODUCTION

The environment is one of the gifts of God Almighty to humans on earth. The environment is a space for life in all aspects whose natural nature is to provide the greatest benefit to humans. Environmental problems are a major phenomenon that requires special attention. Humans are one of the determining factors in efforts to preserve the environment, as well as having a role and responsibility to empower environmental wealth for the survival of the ecosystem. In reality, the great desire to fulfill life satisfaction is often a trigger for humans to dominate nature which tends to cause damage due to selfishness without regard to survival. The discovery of various technological instruments has even changed the natural environment according to human needs (Siahaan, 2007).

Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, Article 28H paragraph (1) states: "Everyone has the right to live in physical and spiritual prosperity, to live and to have a good and healthy environment and have the right to health services". The article implies that the right to a decent and clean life does not only refer to the physical environment, more than that, the right to a decent and clean life is the essence and existence of human beings to be guaranteed in order to fulfill the right to human life.

Environmental problems are also exacerbated by a government policy system that is less effective, efficient and on target in environmental management. Many government regulations are only written but are not serious in implementing these regulations so that many natural resources that should be protected have become industrial areas that are beyond the reach of the government. Many areas are seen to be increasingly critical and the soil arid to increasingly barren hills resulting in erosion and even floods are becoming more frequent. This situation will have an impact on public health. Many aspects of public health are influenced by the environment and many diseases can be initiated, supported and sustained or stimulated by environmental factors.

Environmental issues target various types of areas, including urban areas. Population density that continues to increase in urban areas will affect the quality of the city, namely the producer of waste and environmental pollution. This is the impact of a lifestyle that does not pay attention to the quality of lifestyle, such as the absence of greening the village, sorting waste, saving water use and changing lifestyles. Medan City is a city that has a fairly large population of 2,210,624 people (BPS, 2015). This proves that the city of Medan has a strategic position as a promising economic center. The very high activity of the city triggers the rapid development of the city, thus affecting the environmental quality of Medan City such as waste generation, availability of clean water, flooding to poor sanitation.

Data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) shows that the highest population density in Medan City is in the District of Medan Perjuangan, which is 23,443 people per km² with a population of 95,882 people and an area of 4.09 km². The increasing number of residents increasingly affects changes in the surrounding environment, buildings, shop houses, settlements, industry and other developments have a direct impact on the environment in the area.

Meanwhile, from the initial observations that in the Sei Kera Hilir 2 sub-district, Medan Perjuangan sub-district, environmental management and conservation is still very minimal. Therefore, the role of all parties, both the government and the community, is needed in terms of creating awareness of the importance of the environment.

Youth is one part of society that is categorized as very productive. Youth is one of the supporting factors to motivate all elements of society to continue to preserve the environment, which must be strengthened by policies and the role of the government. Youth basically have the soul and mental attitude that can create a climate of change for the better, have the ability to socialize in the midst of people's lives, are able to solve social polemics in the midst of life, are able to adapt to social life and are able to improve the nation's development to be better and even in accordance with aesthetic values.

In accordance with the function and role of youth as mandated in Law Number 40 of 2009, the role of youth includes as a moral force, social control and agent of change that must be carried out systematically to increase participation in all aspects of human life and pay attention to and involve the role of youth in environmental preservation. Youth as an important element of society must have a role in environmental conservation by carrying out social supervision, providing suggestions and criticisms, complaints, and submitting information and reports in accordance with what is stated in Law No. 32 of 2009.

THEORETICAL REVIEW

The environment is the unity of space with all objects and living things in it, including humans and their behavior that affects the sustainability of life and the welfare of humans and other living things. According to Law No. 23 of 1997, the definition of the environment is the unity of space with all objects, forces, conditions and living things, including humans and their behavior that affect the continuity of life and welfare of humans and other living things.

The environment can be divided into two groups, namely biotic and abiotic. The biotic and abiotic environment is an environment where we live in harmony, for example we are in a campus environment, the biotic environment is campus friends, lecturers, and employees who are on the nearest campus. While the abiotic environment is inanimate objects such as air, study desks, blackboards and all inanimate objects in the campus area.

The environment is a physical or physical environment that includes and includes all physical elements and physical factors contained in nature. In this sense, the animals and plants are seen and considered as mere physical manifestations (Soemartono : 1996). In this case the environment includes an environment in which there are humans, animals and plants. Juridically, the environment based on Law No. 32 of 2009 is defined as the unity of space with all objects, power, circumstances, and living things, including humans and their behavior that affect nature itself, the continuity of life, and the welfare of humans and other living things.

In environmental issues, the question is the changes caused by humans. With the increasing number of people who are chained to the increasing

individual needs so that the increasing ability of each human being to intervene in nature. Environmental problems basically arise due to: 1) Population dynamics; 2) Unwise use and management of resources; 3) Lack of control over the use of advanced science and technology; 4) Negative impacts that often arise from economic progress that should be positive; 5) Spatial conflicts.

METHODOLOGY

The research was conducted In this study the method used is descriptive method with a qualitative approach to present, describe descriptive data about the role of youth in environmental conservation efforts in Sei Kera Hilir 2 Subdistrict Medan Perjuangan based on Law No. 40 of 2009 Article 17 paragraph 1 regarding the active role of youth in order to provide real picture of the real situation.

Processing and data analysis is done by means of observation, interviews and documentation. Research data are interpreted to obtain broad and deep meaning, and the results are discussed using relevant theories. The data presented in this study is the result of various primary and secondary databases.

RESULTS

The results of the study show the role of youth in environmental conservation. From the perspective of Law No. 40 of 2009 in Sei Kera Hilir 2 Subdistrict, Medan Perjuangan District, Medan City reflects that the role of youth as moral strength, the role of youth as social control and the role of youth as agents of change. The role of youth as a moral force in question is that youth are expected to have the power of ecoliteracy, meaning that they have the ability to examine the relationship between household members in the universe and at the same time the relationship of all living things to the universe or the surrounding environment. But in reality, young people face obstacles so that they do not succeed in carrying out their roles. The role of youth as social control can be seen through the role of pioneer youth in preventing social deviations such as taking actions that can damage the environment. The role of youth as agents of change in environmental conservation can be seen with innovation efforts in unraveling environmental problems.

DISCUSSIONS

The role of youth as a moral force in question is that youth are expected to have the power of ecoliteracy, meaning that they have the ability to examine the relationship between household members in the universe and at the same time the relationship of all living things to the universe or the surrounding environment. But in reality, young people face obstacles so that they do not succeed in carrying out their roles. The role of youth as social control can be seen through the role of pioneer youth in preventing social deviations such as taking actions that can damage the environment. The role of youth as agents of change in environmental conservation can be seen with innovation efforts in unraveling environmental problems.

The driving factors for the role of youth in environmental conservation are environmental issues that occur in the Kelurahan by the government, communication that has an impact on the commitment of the various parties involved, and also the various resources available in Kelurahan Sei Kera Hilir 2, Medan Perjuangan District. Meanwhile, the inhibiting factor for the youth press in environmental conservation is the lack of motivation and guidance for youth. Because, it is through motivation and coaching that youth can avoid drug trafficking and an apathetic lifestyle so as to bring up volunteerism in carrying out their role in protecting and preserving the environment.

The impact of the role given by the youth of Sei Kera Hilir 2 in terms of environmental conservation is not optimal, because the role that is carried out is also not optimal. Although the roles given previously had an impact on the youth themselves in the form of leadership and organizational qualities, and also had an impact on youth groups in the form of a sense of solidarity between fellow youths, and the impact on society in the form of environmental cleanliness.

In the use of natural resources, it is necessary to maintain the balance of the ecosystem. Often the need for development projects increases, this balance can be disturbed, which can sometimes endanger the lives of the people. Losses and changes to the environment need to be taken into account, with the benefits expected to be derived from a development project. That is why in every development effort, the social costs of preserving the environment need to be taken into account. Of course, the goal is to preserve the environment. Things that can be considered in making such decisions include the quality and quantity of natural resources that are known and needed; the consequences of taking natural resources including biological wealth and the depletion of natural wealth deposits. How to manage it, whether traditional or using modern technology, including the financing and the impact of the project on the environment, to the deteriorating environment and to stop environmental destruction and calculate the costs and other alternatives.

What has been presented above is only part of the list of issues, or questions that should be considered in relation to any development project. Just to describe environmental problems that still have to be formulated into concrete questions that must be answered. After finding definite answers to these questions, clear working guidelines for various development activities in the form of industry or other fields that take into account environmental protection factors are drawn up.

In the context of development and utilization of renewable natural resources, the following should be kept in mind and considered (Supardi, 2003). 1) Future generations must continue to inherit a nature that is still full of sources of prosperity in order to be able to give life to them; 2) Maintain a dynamic balance between the elements found in nature; 3) In extracting natural resources, natural conservation must be guaranteed, meaning that the harvesting of products does not damage the auto regeneration of these natural resources; 4) Planning for human life should be consistent with the environment and create satisfaction for both physical, economic, social, and spiritual needs.

The use of non-replaceable natural resources must be as economical and efficient as possible. In line with this, environmental stewardship can be divided

into two important principles, namely the principle of conservation and reducing consumption. Environmental care is actually closely related to the principle of fulfilling human needs. Even if the damage is so severe it will threaten the existence of humans themselves. It is no exaggeration to say that the cause of pollution and environmental damage is a form of human rights violation (Hadi, 2001). Therefore, conservation is intended to protect the environment, the principle of reducing consumption is doubly meaningful. First, reducing consumption is aimed at developed countries due to the large pattern of energy consumption that causes pollution and decreases environmental quality. Second, the change in consumption patterns is a call addressed to anyone (some individuals) both in developed and developing countries to reduce the burden of the earth.

In the development of youth has become the hope of society, the State and the Nation. Many youths have given ideas and innovations to develop the region through communities that are considered to have participated in advancing the visions and missions of the local government. However, the youth referred to are not only members of the Indonesian Youth National Committee (KNPI), but are said to be adults who are gathered in student organizations, youth organizations, youth organizations and villages in each region in North Maluku. In a discussion about youth and the environment as released by Tempo.co on October 31, 2016, an organization "Walhi" has declared a youth movement to love the environment by conducting a declaration campaign with the theme "Caring for the Environment, Knitting Nationality, Reinforcing Diversity". Inspired by Fritof Capra, a physicist and philosopher of environmental literacy.

Thus, youth is an environmental identity that is able to influence nature by organizing all thoughts about ecoliteracy to others to influence the living systems of other organisms, so as not to bring harm to the surrounding nature. Youth as ecoliteracy is seen as "ecology" for Capra is seen as a science that examines the relationship between household members in the universe and at the same time the relationship of all living things with the universe or the environment around it. Literacy in English means literacy. This word describes the condition of people who are no longer illiterate, people who already know or read or write. Or in a broad sense, means a situation where people already understand or about something.

Ecoliteracy views youth as part of living things that need mutual awareness in developing knowledge. How to create a living environment based on innovation that comes from nature and is expressed in society to make it a sustainable culture. Thus, the youth themselves determine the direction of ecological principles in managing life or building new members, new communities and new places in order to create an environment that has no interest by other parties. This awareness of the environment guides young people to respond more to the dynamics of the universe which, Capra, a natural wisdom is the essence of ecoliteracy or environmental literacy. Capra also added that at the same time he predicted that, the future of mankind, the future of the human community, and the future of the planet earth is very dependent on this ecoliteracy, and on awareness of the importance of the environment, on our ability and seriousness to organize our behavior and our communities must be in harmony. with this

ecoliteracy. "While in the decades to come, the fate of humanity will depend on our ecological literacy, that is, our ability to understand the basic principles of ecology and live according to these ecological principles.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The role of youth in environmental preservation in Sei Kera Hilir 2 Subdistrict, Medan Perjuangan District is seen through three aspects, namely in the aspect of moral strength which is realized through counseling about the environment that was carried out by the Kelurahan to youth. However, the counseling did not have a significant impact on the role of youth, so that the role of youth was only limited to carrying out mutual cooperation on cleanliness. So it can be concluded that the role of youth in the aspect of social control and agents of change is also not running optimally.

FURTHER STUDY

Thus, youth is an environmental identity that is able to influence nature by organizing all thoughts about ecoliteracy to others to influence the living systems of other organisms, so as not to bring harm to the surrounding nature. Youth as ecoliteracy is seen as "ecology" for Capra is seen as a science that examines the relationship between household members in the universe and at the same time the relationship of all living things with the universe or the environment around it. Literacy in English means literacy. This word describes the condition of people who are no longer illiterate, people who already know or read or write. Or in a broad sense, means a situation where people already understand or about something.

REFERENCES

- Abdul Azis Wahab & Sapriya, 2011. Theory and Foundation of Citizenship Education. Bandung: CV Alfabeta.
- Achmad S. Ruky, 2001. Performance Management System. Jakarta: PT Gramedia.
- Adisendjaja, Yusuf Hilmi, 2003. Analysis of Development Impacts on the Environment (An Ecological Review). Bandung: Bio-UPI.
- Al-Qaradawi Yusuf, trans. Abdul Hayyie al-Kattani, et al, 2002. Contemporary Fatwas volume 3. Jakarta: Gema Insani Press.
- Ambar Teguh Sulistyani, 2004. Partnership and Empowerment Models. Yogyakarta: Graha Ilmu.
- Armin, Mansyur, 2019. Youth and the Environment accessed on 17 December 2019 via <https://jalamalut.com/2019/05/23/pemuda-danlingkungan-live/>
- Bertens, 2000. Ethics. Jakarta: Gramedia Pustaka Utama.
- Dicktus (2013) "Definition, Impact, Control of Niken Acid Rain", Accessed on May 2, 2020 via <http://www.scribd.com/search?query=definisi+impact>
- Eko Ariwidodo, 2014. "The Relevance of Public Knowledge About the Environment and Environmental Ethics With Their Participation in

- Environmental Conservation”, Nuansa, Vol. 11 No. January 1 –June 2014, p. 1-20.
- Fritjof, Capra, 2002. *The web of life: a new vision of epistemology and life*. Yogyakarta: the dawn of the New Library.
- Hamzah, Andi, 2008. *Enforcement of Environmental Law*. Jakarta: Sinar Grafiaka.
- Huky, Wila, 1986. *Introduction to Sociology*. Surabaya: National Effort
- Husein, Harun M, 1995. *Environmental Problems, Management and Law Enforcement*. Jakarta: Earth Literacy.
- Keraf, A. Sonny, 2006. *Environmental Ethics*. Yogyakarta: Kanisius.
- Lubis, M. Solly, 1983. *Legal Basis and Techniques*. Bandung: Alumni.
- Mangunhardjana. A. M, 1986. *Coaching: Its Meaning and Method*. Canisius: Yogyakarta.
- Mico, R, 2012. *The Role of Youth in Community Development*. The Role of Youth in Community Development. HTML
- Munandar, Utami, 2002. *Guiding Gifted Children: An Exploratory Study*. Jakarta: Rajawali Press.
- Nasution S, 1990. *Understanding Learning*. Bandung: Earth Literacy.
- Nurhadi, 2018. *Implementers of Development Must Pay Attention to Environmental Impacts*, accessed on May 2, 2020 via <https://ugm.ac.id/id/berita/16280-implementers-pembinaan-harus-harga-impak-lingungan-live>
- Siahaan, NHT., 2007. *Forests, Environment and Development Paradigms*, Jakarta: Publisher Pancuran Alam
- Supardi, Imam, 2003. *The Environment and Its Sustainability*. Bandung: Alumni.
- Soekanto, Soerjono, 1992. *Sociology Dictionary*, Jakarta: PT. King Grafindo Persada.
- Soemartono, Gatot P, 1996. *Indonesian Environmental Law*. Jakarta: Sinar Graphic.
- Soemarwoto, O, 1987. *Ecology, Environment and Development*. Jakarta: Bridge.
- Supardi, Imam, 2003. *The Environment and Its Sustainability*. Bandung: Alumni.
- Tumanggor, Rusmin, 2010. *Basic Social and Cultural Sciences*. Jakarta: Prenada Media
- Wibawa Lutfi, 2016. *Youth & Education*. Yogyakarta: Interlude.
- Widiatmaka, Pipit, 2016. *The Role of Youth Organizations in Building Youth Character and Its Implications for Youth Personal Resilience (Study on Branch Leaders of the Ansor Youth Movement in Sukoharjo Regency, Central Java Province)*. Yogyakarta: UGM Journal of National Resilience