



THE PHENOMENON OF MONEY POLITICS PRACTICES IN THE DIRECT ELECTION OF VILLAGE HEADS IN SUMBEREJEO VILLAGE, BONANG SUB-DISTRICT, DEMAK DISTRICT IN 2023

Muhammad Sarifudin

Faculty of law and Language Stikubank University Semarang Indonesia

syarifmuhammad4074@gmail.com

Safik Faozi

Faculty of law and Language Stikubank University Semarang Indonesia

safikfaozi@edu.unisbank.ac.id

ABSTRACT

The formulation of the problem in this study is "How does the process of the phenomenon of *money politics* practice occur in the election of the Village Head in Sumberejo Village, Bonang District, Demak Regency? and What are the factors that cause the phenomenon of *money politics* practices in the election of Village Heads in Sumberejo Village, Bonang District, Demak Regency?". The research method used in this study is Sociological Juridical, which is research that explains the phenomenon of *money politics* practice in the 2023 Sumberejo village head election with primary data and secondary data, namely primary data through interviews and secondary data through literature studies. The results of this study explain that the process of the phenomenon of *money politics* practice occurs during the candidacy or registration stage and during the campaign or election stage. Where at the registration or candidacy stage, it was found that money was given in the amount of Rp. 50,000 and at the campaign or election stage, it was found that the money giver was approximately in the range of Rp. 150,000 – Rp 200,000. Of the three candidates who registered, there were 2 candidates who practiced *money politics*. The factors that affect the cause of the practice of *money politics* are due to the educational factor, namely the lack of public understanding of the meaning of the village head election. In addition to education, there is also an economic factor because the average economy of the people of Sumberejo Village is lower class, where the election of the village head is used as a momentum to receive money from the village head candidate and there is also a cultural tradition or habit factor where the culture of *money politics* has become a habit and has been rooted since the time the village head election arrived.

Keywords: Village head election, Money politics

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is a democratic country. In simple terms, people understand democracy as a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. One form of democracy in

Indonesia is realized through general elections. In accordance with the provisions of Article 22E of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, general elections are held based on the principles of direct,

general, free, secret, honest, and fair. As with general elections, there are also village head elections (Pilkades) which are part of the democratic system in Indonesia. Pilkades is a form of democratic practice in the simplest sphere of life. Pilkades is attended by competent candidates who have undergone a previous selection process. This election is transparent, meaning that from the preparation stage of the village head election to the voting and vote counting, the public has the right to know about it. The process of electing the village head must also be direct, meaning that the village community directly participates in the election vote for the village head candidate without any intermediaries. The election of village heads is inseparable from community political participation. Therefore, the community can be directly involved in the process of village head election activities and participate in determining the direction of village government policies.

Money politics is a deliberate act by a group of parties by giving or promising a certain amount of money or other material to someone with the intention of influencing that person's voting rights in accordance with the wishes of a particular party. The use of the term money politics to describe the practice refers to the distribution of a sum of money (in cash and sometimes in kind) in the hope of attracting sympathy from a candidate to voters at the time of election. Money politics is seen as an act that deviates from the norms and values in the political process, where participants, cadres or success teams and parties supporting candidates take actions that violate

legal provisions by giving a certain amount of money or material and or other forms.

Money politics is an action that is prohibited in the constitution, among which the prohibition of money politics is discussed in Law No. 7 of 2017 article 280 Letter J concerning the institutional organization of elections, which states that "Implementers, participants, and election campaign teams are prohibited from promising or giving money or other materials to election campaign participants". Implementers, participants, and election campaign teams if they violate the provisions of article 280 Letter J above will be subject to criminal action as stated in Article 523 of Law No. 7 of 2017 "Paragraph 1 every implementer, participant, and /or election campaign team is prohibited from promising or giving money or other materials in return for election campaign participants directly or indirectly directly as mentioned in paragraph 280 letter J shall be punished with a maximum imprisonment of 2 years and a maximum fine of Rp 24,000,000.00 (twenty four million rupiah). Paragraph 2 any implementer, participant, and/or election campaign team who intentionally during the quiet period promises or gives money or other material rewards to voters directly or indirectly as mentioned in Article 278 paragraph 2 shall be punished with a maximum imprisonment of 4 years and a maximum fine of Rp.48,000,000.00 (forty-eight million rupiah). Paragraph 3: Any person who intentionally on the day of voting promises or gives money or other material to a voter not to exercise

his/her right to vote or to vote for a particular election participant shall be punished with imprisonment of 3 (three) years and a maximum fine of Rp.36,000,000.00 (thirty-six million rupiah)."

Money politics has a huge impact on people's lives because money politics can be used as a means of earning income from certain groups of people, and people do not care and are indifferent to democratic values against the prohibition of money politics in political practices, namely elections. They are only concerned with how to get the money. With this, it can lead to public assumptions about prospective leaders or representatives of the people, that they no longer believe in the existence of clean political practices that are in accordance with political principles and democratic values, only dirty politics carried out by a person or group of interests who want to control this country.

Freedom of choice based on conscience is no longer something sacred and a top priority, but the creation of political transactions by trading people's votes with the aim of winning regional political contestation. This greatly affects the structure of the government that will be run. As the bearer of the people's aspirations, leaders must be able to represent the people's conscience. If from the beginning there is no election made based on the choice of the people themselves, is it not a decision that ultimately does not match the expectations of the community. One of the causes of massive criminal acts in elections is due to the high interest in political contestation or competitors

who have the support of the community, giving rise to excessive fanaticism and strong ambition of candidates to achieve goals. The goal of victory in this six-year event. Without paying attention to the right way, so that violations always accompany every election event, including the practice of money politics. Election Crimes have different or specific characteristics when compared to crimes in general, because these events only occur during the five-year election period, criminal acts committed outside the stages of election activities are not categorized as election crimes.

MAIN PROBLEM

In the introduction described above, the author obtained 2 problem formulations:

1. How is the implementation of the process of the phenomenon of Money Politics in the Village Head Election in Sumberejo Village?
2. Factors Causing the occurrence of Money politics in the Election of the Village Head of Sumberejo in 2023?

METHOD OF RESEARCH

The research approach used in this writing is juridical sociological. Sociological juridical is carried out based on problems that occur in society, both actions taken by humans in the community, as well as the implementation of law by social institutions. By using a juridical sociological/sociology of law research approach, namely a research approach that studies the influence of society on law, the extent to which the symptoms that exist in society can

affect the law and vice versa and depart from the law empirical science paradigm. This type of juridical sociological research uses primary data, where the primary data is obtained by going directly to the field. Sociological Juridical Research pays attention to empirical aspects including aspects of implementation. In other words, this research is a type of research based on a study of the operation of law in society. This research is descriptive, descriptive method is a research method used to describe problems that occur in the present or are ongoing, aiming to describe what happened as it should be at the time the research was conducted.

He main data used in this research is primary data. Primary data is obtained from interviews and secondary data, namely data obtained from books related to the object of research so as to explore ideal things, then analyzed using the theory of crime as a phenomenon and the theory of the causes of crime. The data analysis method used in this research is descriptive-qualitative analysis method. Descriptive analysis is a research method to explain or describe the phenomenon in this case the phenomenon of the practice of money politics in the village head election in Sumberejo Village, Bonang Subdistrict, Demak Regency and Qualitative Analysis using the theory of crime as a phenomenon and the theory of the causes of crime. Qualitative research is research about research that is descriptive and tends to use analysis. The qualitative data collection process is generally focuses on interviews and observations and

analyzes the data in the form of textual analysis of transcripts or unstructured field notes.

RESEARCH RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. Implementation of the process of the phenomenon of Money Politics in the Village Head Election in Sumberejo Village

Based on the results of interviews conducted by the author, there are several processes or stages in the election of the Village Head, and in the process or stages of registration or nomination and election or before the election during the campaign period the most indications of the practice of Money Politics were found.

1. Registration or Nomination Process

At the stage of registration or nomination and taking serial numbers, there were indications of Money Politics Practices carried out by 2 Village Head Candidates, namely Junaidi and Siti Saadah. In the following, the author will explain the practice of Money Politics carried out by candidates for Village Head in the process of registering or taking serial numbers in the 2023 Sumberejo Village Head election.

A. Junaidi

In the process of registering and taking serial numbers carried out by Junaidi as a candidate for Sumberejo Village Head, the practice of Money Politics was found. At 08.00 WIB on September 6, 2023, people who supported Junaidi flocked to the Village Hall and followed the procession to escort and escort Junaidi in the process of taking the serial number of the Village Head candidate. The author interviewed one of the residents who followed the

procession to escort Junaidi in taking the serial number of the Village Head candidate. In the interview, the resident who followed the convoy by Junaidi admitted that he was given Rp 50,000 by Junaidi.

B. Siti Saadah

He process of registering or taking the serial number of the Village Head Candidate carried out by Siti Saadah was exactly the same as that carried out by Junaidi. Siti Saadah's supporters gathered at Siti Saadah's house. At 08.00 WIB, Siti Saadah's supporters flocked to follow the procession to escort and escort Siti Saadah in the process of taking serial numbers at the Sumberejo Village Hall. In an interview conducted by the author with one of the residents of Sumberejo, the practice of Money Politics by Siti Saadah as a Candidate for Village Head was found. From the confession of residents in interviews conducted by the author, Siti Saadah gave Rp 50,000 to all residents who followed the convoy to escort and escort Siti Saadah in the process of taking serial numbers. The process of giving this money was carried out by Siti Saadah before leaving for the Village Hall or when Siti Saadah's supporters gathered at Siti Saadah's residence.

2. Campaign or Election Process

The campaign that was conducted openly before the Village Head Election was used as an arena to show off the Candidates for Sumberejo Village Head. Basically, the community already knew the Sumberejo Head Candidates, as the three candidates came from the original area, namely Sumberejo Village. The campaign is carried out in

rotation based on the serial number and the schedule has been set, each candidate is given two days to campaign a week before the Village Head Election.

The day before the Village Head election, the success team of each Village Head Candidate mobilized their success team to distribute money as a weapon to gain the hearts and votes of the people of Sumberejo Village.

A. Junaidi

The process of Money Politics practices carried out by Junaidi and his Success Team, namely Abdur Rasyid as the Head of the success team, conducted a Money politics campaign at dawn after dawn, namely at 5 am. Abdur Rasyid as the Head of the Success Team from Junaidi gave cash per family head of Rp 150,000. The intent and purpose of Abdur Rasyid was none other than to lure the residents of Sumberejo Village to vote for Junaidi as the Village Head in the contestant of the 2023 Sumberejo Village Head General Election.

From Abdur Rasyid's confession as the Head of Junaidi's success team, Abdur Rasyid conducted and provided this Money politics practice to approximately 3000 Sumberejo villagers to vote for Junaidi in the 2023 Sumberejo Village Head Election.

B. Siti Saadah

The process of implementing Money Politics practices carried out by Siti Saadah and her Success Team took place behind closed doors, carried out at night before the day of the Sumberejo Village Head Election. Regarding the dawn attack, it seems quite inefficient among the people of Sumberejo, due to the busy activities

of residents in the morning. The majority of people in Sumberejo Village work as farmers, requiring them to go to the fields in the morning. For people who have such activities in general, there is no dawn attack on the day of the Village Head Election. Finally, Siti Saadah's success team carried out the giving of money on the night before the Village Head Election.

In the movement of the process of giving the Money Politics campaign carried out by the Siti Saadah Success Team, namely at night at 23.00 WIB the day before election day arrived. The head of the success team, Hisyam Asari and other entourage, visited one by one the houses of Sumberejo Village residents. Hisyam Asari as the head of the success team from Siti Saadah immediately gave cash amounting to Rp 200,000 to the residents of Sumberejo Village. From Hisyam Asari's recognition, the provision of Money Politics was given to approximately 5000 residents of Sumberejo Village. The purpose of Siti Saadah giving cash to the residents of Sumberejo Village is solely for her positive image to elect Siti Saadah as Head of Sumberejo Village in the General Election of Sumberejo Village Head.

2. Factors Causing the occurrence of Money politics in the Election of the Village Head of Sumberejo in 2023

A. Economy

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B. Education

The problem of education in rural areas must receive special attention from the government clearly, the lack of awareness of the rural community of the importance of education cannot be ignored. This can indirectly hinder the development and progress of the village. The low level of education in

rural areas is caused by the community itself, as rural communities generally prioritize work skills over intellectual abilities.

The results of the research show that the level of public awareness of Sumberejo Village residents in education is quite low, indicated by the community with elementary school graduates (SD) totaling 1872, and those who have never received education or did not graduate from elementary school as many as 956 people. Surely Sumberejo village community fewer citizens graduated from high school equivalent or college compared to residents who graduated from elementary school or residents who never received education though.

The most influential factor in Money Politics is the lack of education or quality human resources in the field of education, the lack of political education of the people of Sumberejo Village will perpetuate the practice of Money politics from the past to the present.

C. Culture or Habit

The culture of Money Politics in the Sumberejo Village Head Election is one of the factors that is strong enough to boost more votes, the concept of Village Head Election that already exists in the community of Sumberejo Village is "No money no one votes". The distribution of money is done behind closed doors, usually to influential people in the region, who are trusted by the success team to invite other people to vote for the village head candidates that have been determined. The variety of Money Politics has become an extra in every general election, Money Politics which is identical to distributing money

in the real form of money, it turns out that there are many other forms of money distribution.

The factors that underlie the practice of Money Politics are because Money Politics is ingrained, the practice has been going on for a long time. It will even continue until there is a strict law to regulate the practice of Money Politics. Buying people's votes by using money is one promising way. The community is unlikely to turn to other candidates for village head if they have been given a considerable amount of money, this is where a high sense of kinship between the community and candidates for Village Head is seen.

Based on the results of interviews conducted by the author, the phenomenon of the practice of Money Politics has become a habit or hereditary culture carried out by Village Head Candidates during the Village Head Election. In the previous period of Village Head Election, namely the 2017 Sumberejo Village Head Election, there were also indications of the practice of Money Politics. The effect of the strong culture of ingrained community habits if the Village Head Election is approaching, there must be a distribution of money or goods. This habit occurs because of the community's need for sufficient material rather than competent leaders. The culture of shame has disappeared from the moral values of the community. Community idealism is no longer realized because it is easily exchanged for money, this happens because it imitates the habits of previous cultures, thinking logically but

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D. Thirst for Power

The factor causing the large and massive number of Money Politics practices for Village Head Candidates is because of their thirst for power and fear of losing. Candidates for Village Heads will do anything to win, one of which is by practicing money politics and it does not matter how much money has been disbursed because the most important goal is to win the village head election. In addition, there is also a prestige factor because they feel that they are from a group of rich people or the children of former Village

Head officials in the previous edition. So to maintain the position or power of his family, the weapon of Money Politics is the most powerful weapon in winning the village head election.

CONCLUSION

The implementation of the process of the phenomenon of money politics in the 2023 Sumberejo village head election began in the registration or nomination stage process at the time of taking serial numbers, which amounted to Rp. 50,000 carried out by candidates for village head Junaidi and Siti Saadah. Then at the campaign or election stage with varying values where the village head candidate number 1, Junaidi, gave money politics amounting to Rp. 150,000 and Siti Saadah, the village head candidate number 3, gave money politics amounting to Rp. 200,000. In the process of the campaign or election stage, village head candidate number 1 Junaidi and Siti Saadah also practiced money politics, which was carried out the day before the village head election arrived. That is done at night at 23.00 WIB by Siti Saadah's Success Team. Siti Saadah gave money of Rp. 200,000 per person for people who wanted to vote for her. Meanwhile, Junaidi and his Success Team practiced Money Politics at dawn after dawn. Junaidi gave money of Rp. 150,000 per person for people who wanted to vote for him.

The factors causing the occurrence of money politics in the 2023 Sumberejo Village Head Election are none other than due to the low quality of education of the people of Sumberejo village, on the other hand,

economic factors are also a factor causing the rampant practice of money politics, namely the provision of a sum of money by candidates for Village Head and strengthened has become a cultural tradition or habit of the people of Sumberejo village when the General Election arrives. In addition, there are also political factors, namely thirst for power or fear of losing for candidates for village heads. And there is also a prestige factor because they feel they are from the rich class or the son of a former Village Head official from the previous edition. So they feel bad if they do not give money to the community to vote for themselves in the Village Head election.

Here are suggestions in this study according to the author are :

1. The Village Law should regulate the supervision of village head elections by institutions that have the competence to supervise village head elections.
2. There is a prohibition on money politics in the election of village heads, as Law No. 6 of 2014 concerning village regulations has no discussion of the prohibition of money politics.
3. The existence of education or socialization and regular guidance from the government regarding special training for administrators or community organizations to create an anti-money politics movement.
4. The nearest independent complaint post prepared by the government for Sumberejo village related to election violations.

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