



Women and Family Based Voter Education Strategy to Increase Community Participation in Elections in Buton, Indonesia

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Abstract: This article discusses women and family-based voter education strategies to increase community participation in regional elections in Buton, Southeast Sulawesi, Indonesia. Voter education plays an important role in strengthening democracy and generating public interest, then women and families are important segments in the context of political participation in Indonesia. This study uses qualitative methods, analyzed with political participation theory. Data was collected by means of document study and interviews. The documents analyzed refer to articles, books, scientific reports and various studies related to the discussion, while the informants interviewed are women voters and their families. This study concludes that as an election organizer, the KPU at the district/city level can adopt the concept of a social learning framework to observe the configuration and dynamics in organizing elections. Social learning involves commissioners and the public in learning from peers, first-time voters, and available resources. Political education can also strengthen democratization efforts and overcome negative perceptions of politics. Voter education plans must consider the development of autonomy, open-mindedness, efficiency, transparency, and popular or non-formal education. To increase community participation in elections, women and their families must maximize their role as segments of voters who are close to the community. According to political participation theory, one effective strategy to increase political participation is elections that involve women and families so that people's voices can be meaningful in building democracy.

Keywords: Women and family, elections, public participation, voter education

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Abstrak: Artikel ini membahas strategi pendidikan pemilih berbasis perempuan dan keluarga untuk meningkatkan partisipasi masyarakat dalam pemilu tingkat daerah di Buton, Sulawesi Tenggara, Indonesia. Pendidikan pemilih memainkan peran penting dalam memperkuat demokrasi dan membangkitkan kepentingan public, kemudian perempuan dan keluarga merupakan segmen yang penting dalam konteks partisipasi politik di Indonesia. Kajian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif, dianalisis dengan teori partisipasi politik. Data dikumpulkan dengan cara studi dokumen dan wawancara. Dokumen yang dianalisis mengacu pada artikel, buku, laporan ilmiah dan berbagai kajian yang terkait dengan pembahasan, sedangkan informan yang diwawancarai adalah pemilih perempuan dan keluarga. Kajian ini menyimpulkan bahwa sebagai penyelenggara pemilu KPU tingkat kabupaten/kota dapat mengadopsi konsep kerangka pembelajaran sosial untuk mengamati konfigurasi dan dinamika dalam penyelenggaraan pemilu. Pembelajaran sosial melibatkan komisioner dan masyarakat dalam belajar dari rekan sejawat, pemilih pemula, dan sumber daya yang tersedia. Pendidikan politik juga dapat memperkuat upaya demokratisasi dan mengatasi persepsi negatif terhadap politik. Rancangan pendidikan pemilih harus mempertimbangkan pengembangan otonomi, keterbukaan pikiran, efisiensi, transparansi, dan pendidikan kerakyatan atau non-formal. Untuk meningkatkan partisipasi masyarakat dalam pemilu, maka perempuan dan keluarga harus dimaksimalkan perannya sebagai segmen pemilih yang dekat dengan masyarakat. Menurut teori partisipasi politik, salah satu strategi yang efektif untuk meningkatkan partisipasi politik adalah pemilihan yang melibatkan perempuan dan keluarga sehingga, suara masyarakat dapat bermakna dalam membangun demokrasi.

Kata Kunci: Perempuan dan keluarga, pemilu, partisipasi publik, pendidikan pemilih.

Introduction

Strengthening democracy can be done best if there is widespread public participation. To attract public interest in implementing democracy at the district/city level in Indonesia, it is necessary to implement appropriate voter education strategies. Voter education can create new, innovative and imaginative learning spaces that are oriented towards the future for a society that is able to manage itself.¹ Strengthening democracy can also be done by building interaction with voters, especially novice voters who can apply vocational education such as

¹ Jennifer Charteris, et.al., "Leadership in The Built Spaces of Innovative Learning Environments: Leading Change In People and Practices in The Perfectly Self-Managing Society," *Studies in Continuing Education* 44, No. 2 (2022), p. 212–231.

in the Netherlands regarding negotiation of meaning,² You can also go through the "Gallery Walk Seminar".³ Facilitation of inclusion-based voter education is important to ensure the availability of equal means of participation for voters with disabilities according to the concept developed by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).⁴

Regency/city general election commissions in Indonesia in realizing professional voter education can refer to the concept of the social learning dimension framework. This social learning dimension consists of practice, value creation and domain, collective identity and organization. This framework can be used to observe the social configuration in the implementation of elections and measure attitudes and behavior that encourage social learning for voters in districts/cities in Indonesia. Through social learning, commissioners can obtain concrete ideas that can be applied directly in society. Commissioners and the community not only learn through formal training or individual experience, but also through peers, first-time voters, information and resources around them,⁵ Commissioners must be prepared like teachers, with their students being the adult public, worthy of emulation and encouragement.⁶

The transfer of knowledge from election organizers to the voting public and vice versa is formed through voter education. This will become a mutually reinforcing mutual need, not just a one-sided responsibility. The learning in this article applies the concept of adult learning, because all the targets who will be given electoral knowledge are adults.⁷ However, in recent modern times the individual nature of society has strengthened, making it a challenge in itself in efforts to attract public participation in sustainable democratic development.⁸ Broad public involvement plays an important role in ensuring the healthy quality

² Harmen Schaap, et al., "Interactions in Vocational Education: Negotiation of Meaning of Students and Teaching Strategies," *Studies in Continuing Education* 39, No. 1 (2017), p. 52–70.

³ Rasmus Karlsson, "Gallery Walk Seminar: Visualizing the Future of Political Ideologies," *Journal of Political Science Education* 16, No. 1 (2020), p. 91–100.

⁴ Jan Grue, "Inclusive Marginalisation? A Critical Analysis of the Concept of Disability, Its Framings and Their Implications in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities," *Nordic Journal of Human Rights* 37, No. 1 (2019), p. 3–17.

⁵ Emmy Vrieling, et.al., "Facilitating Social Learning in Teacher Education: A Case Study," *Studies in Continuing Education* 41, No. 1 (2019), p. 76–93.

⁶ Claudia Schuchart, et.al., "Teacher Practice Under the Structural Challenges of Academic Second Chance Education," *Studies in Continuing Education* (2024), p. 1–23.

⁷ Andrew Jenkins, "Cumulative Advantage and Learning in Mid-Life," *Studies in Continuing Education* 46, No. 1 (2024), p. 121–138. Borut Mikulec, et.al., "The OECD Solutionism and Mythologies in Adult Education Policy: Skills Strategies in Portugal and Slovenia," *Studies in Continuing Education* 45, No. 3 (2023), p. 324–343.

⁸ Lucie Middlemiss, "Individualised or Participatory? Exploring Late-Modern Identity and Sustainable Development," *Environmental Politics* 23, No. 6 (2014), p. 929–946.

of democracy and strengthening political accountability.⁹ Therefore, the voter education strategy is based on women and families in increasing political participation in elections in Buton, Southeast Sulawesi.

This study uses qualitative methods explained by political participation theory.¹⁰ Data was collected by means of document studies and interviews. The documents described refer to articles, books, scientific reports and various studies related to the discussion, while the informants interviewed were women voters and their families.¹¹ Data collection techniques used interviews and documentation.¹² This research focuses on Buton Regency, Southeast Sulawesi Province, Indonesia by targeting 73,539 voters as voters in 2019.

Voter Education Concept

The concept of social learning can provide important insights in designing learning or educational strategies for the public or voters outside school education. Social learning emphasizes the importance of social interaction, exchange of ideas, collaboration, and mutual reflection.¹³ These principles can be applied in the context of public education or voter education to encourage active participation, better understanding, and ongoing knowledge development. The concept of voter education is to adopt effective strategies involving the formation of social networks, discussion groups or forums, interaction with experts or community leaders, as well as collaborative approaches in building better knowledge and understanding. The principles of social learning can be adapted to carry out effective learning or education strategies for the voting public.¹⁴ It is important to continue voter education, because it will reduce voter participation, as is the case in the Czech Republic, where elections without contestation will reduce the quality of democracy and erode public participation.¹⁵ Learning from the Czech case, we can develop voter education content that focuses on the

⁹ Karel Kouba, et. al., "The Return of Silent Elections: Democracy, Uncontested Elections and Citizen Participation in Czechia," *Democratization* 30, No. 8 (2023), p. 1527–1551.

¹⁰ Ramlan Surbakti, *Memahami Ilmu Politik*, Jakarta: Gramedia 2007, p 140. Miriam Budiarjo, *Dasar-dasar Ilmu Politik*, Jakarta: Gramedia 2008, p. 367.

¹¹ Norman K. Denzin and Yvonna S. Lincoln, *The Sage Handbook of Qualitative Research* (5th ed.), Sage Publications (2018). Tapiwa Muzari, et. al., "Qualitative Research Paradigm, a Key Research Design for Educational Researchers, Processes and Procedures: A Theoretical Overview," *Indiana Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences* 3, No. 1 (2022), p. 14–20.

¹² John W. Creswell and Cheryl N. Poth, *Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design: Choosing Among Five Approaches*, Sage Publications (2017).

¹³ Hanif Fudin, et. al. "The Communal Democracy of Yogyakarta Special Region's Government on the Islamic Law Eclecticism Perspective." *AL-IHKAM: Jurnal Hukum & Pranata Sosial* 18.1 (2023), p. 200-221.

¹⁴ Emmy Vrieling, et. al., "Facilitating Social Learning in Teacher Education....", p. 76–93.

¹⁵ Karel Kouba and Jan Lysek, "The Return of Silent Elections....", p. 1527–1551.

importance of healthy political competition, accountability, and active participation in the democratic process. This content can be used as a basis for encouraging greater public participation in elections and the political process in general.

Political education is expected to achieve several things, including: understanding political problems better, encouraging critical thinking, building democratic participation, strengthening democratization, and overcoming negative views about political audiences.¹⁶ This concept allows every citizen to be actively involved in understanding and studying politics, developing their own critical thinking in response to available political information, becoming a direct part of the democratization process and overcoming the traditional negative view of passive, uncritical and uninfluential political audiences.¹⁷ It is also important for the design of voter education concepts to adopt citizenship learning materials which must involve the development of autonomy and open thinking. This concept allows for diversity of views, the birth of their own critical thinking and the emergence of participation and solidarity. The design of the voter education concept should fulfill the elements of efficiency and transparency in the legislative process, so that it can arouse public enthusiasm.¹⁸

Voter education for the novice voter segment is important to be directed at developing understanding and participatory skills through true inclusion. This concept is that by involving them in the process of forming participatory programs and budgets, they can learn about democratic values, decision making and responsibilities as active citizens. True inclusion-based learning can develop a better understanding of societal issues, learn to collaborate with others, and experience their meaningful contribution in overcoming public problems.¹⁹ In Gana, attracting youth participation is carried out through an empowerment approach with a youth intervention program. This empowerment is directed at overcoming the problem of youth exclusion and enabling them to be involved in broader national policy making.²⁰ The concept of natural learning in school children from fishing and farming communities in Gana can be adopted in voter education, especially based on the local context and life experiences of students, encouraging active involvement in the learning process, emphasizing the

¹⁶ Muh Fathoni Hsyim, "Literasi Politik Komunitas Samin Di Bojonegoro Dalam Pemilu Perspektif Fiqih Siyasah." *Al-Manahij: Jurnal Kajian Hukum Islam* 14, No. 2 (2020), p. 225-238.

¹⁷ Andrea Felicetti, "Casting a New Light on the Democratic Spectator," *Democratization* 29, No. 7 (2022), p. 1291–1309.

¹⁸ Wim Voermans et al., "Combining Efficiency and Transparency in Legislative Processes," *Theory and Practice of Legislation* 3, No. 3 (2015), p. 279–294.

¹⁹ Paulina Lehtonen and Katarzyna Radzik-Maruszak, "Inclusion as Ownership in Participatory Budgeting: Facilitators' Interpretations of Public Engagement of Children and Youth," *Critical Policy Studies* (2023), p. 1–19.

²⁰ Isioma Ile and Evans Sakyi Boadu, "The Paradox of Youth Empowerment: Exploring Youth Intervention Programme in Ghana," *Cogent Social Sciences* 4, No. 1 (2018), p. 1–15.

relationship between classroom learning and students' real experiences in the classroom, and encourage cooperative and collaborative learning between students.²¹

Voter education must be able to touch voters who are currently in the workforce, respect the democratic processes that society has had before, recognize individual participation and involvement in politics, support management in appreciating and facilitating learning in the workplace.²² The role of institutions such as election management institutions in Indonesia in the individual socialization process is very important. Individual learning attitudes are sometimes influenced by educational and family background factors, so individuals in each institution need to be encouraged to participate in training and voter education activities.²³

Facilitating voter education for the disabled segment can provide a perspective on the need for equal inclusion and accessibility for all individuals, including people with disabilities, in the democratic process.²⁴ Voter education by providing dialogue with the community allows for information gathering, providing information and inclusion. This concept is a characteristic of public services in Sweden which provides space for participation for citizens as a solution to renew democracy and obtain legitimate input in decision making.²⁵ The concept of voter education can also adopt lobbying strategies and actively participate in the political process, as well as provide an understanding of the mechanisms of political decision making and the importance of citizens' voices in the process.²⁶

In the current era of information technology, it is also important to develop digital-based voter education designs in order to encourage participation. The concept takes into account financial and time resources, technical skills, age,

²¹ Shaibu Bukari, "Working Experience Among School-Going Children in the Ekumfi-Narkwa Fishing and Farming Community, Ghana," *Cogent Social Sciences* 8, No. 1 (2022), p. 1-23

²² Philipp Assinger, "Recognition of Prior Learning in Workplaces: Exploring Managerial Practice by the Means of a Heuristic Conceptual Framework," *Studies in Continuing Education* 45, No. 3 (2023), p. 378-395.

²³ Luc Benda, et.al., "Active Labour Market Policy as a Socialising Agent: A Cross-National Analysis of Learning Attitudes," *Studies in Continuing Education* 42, No. 1 (2020), p. 75-101.

²⁴ Jan Grue, "Inclusive Marginalisation? A Critical Analysis of the Concept of Disability...", p. 3-17.

²⁵ André Baltz, "Disseminating and Collecting Information: Municipalities' Communicative Practices and Deliberative Capacities," *Local Government Studies* 48, No. 1 (2022), p. 48-67.

²⁶ Ellis Aizenberg, et.al., "Helping Citizens to Lobby Themselves: Experimental Evidence on the Effects of Citizen Lobby Engagement on Internal Efficacy and Political Support," *Journal of European Public Policy* (2023), p. 1-30.

individual benefits, collective benefits, and effective communication strategies.²⁷ The use of digital technology in voter education can provide similar benefits. For example, the use of online platforms or social media can be used to provide information, educational material, and discussion space for voters who want to learn more about candidates, political issues, and the general election process. Digital technology can also be used to facilitate active voter participation through online surveys, election monitoring, or digital campaigns.²⁸ The concept of digitalization as in Germany can also be adapted to voter education. This concept guarantees to improve the principles of accessibility, effectiveness and participation in the educational process related to general elections.²⁹

The design of voter education materials must raise equality and justice as well as awareness of minority group issues,³⁰ Providing access to education for groups of women such as refugees in Syria can develop their careers in new workplaces.³¹ Women's leadership is also more prominent in the field than in the workroom, especially in inviting and caring for the elderly.³² The concept of voter education is expected to form: mind mapping, visual analysis, changing perspectives and increasing participation.³³ It is also important for voter education to be designed so that it can achieve several things, namely the formation of collaboration and partnerships, transformative learning, increased participation, problem solving and innovation, and increased social awareness.³⁴ The concept of voter education in the form of training needs to be designed by following the principles: basic knowledge, critical knowledge, active involvement,

²⁷ Marie Kluge, et.al., "Digital Co-Creation in Urban Mobility Planning: What Motivates People to Participate?" *Local Government Studies* (2024), p. 1–26.

²⁸ Anne Karhapää, et.al., "Digital Work Practices That Promote Informal Workplace Learning: Digital Ethnography in a Knowledge Work Context," *Studies in Continuing Education* (2023), p. 1–18.

²⁹ Felix Lukowski et al., "Technology, Tasks and Training: Evidence on the Provision of Employer-Provided Training in Times of Technological Change in Germany," *Studies in Continuing Education* 43, No. 2 (2021), p. 174–195.

³⁰ Nabil Khattab et al., "Human Capital and Labour Market Performance of Muslim Women in Australia," *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs* 40, No. 3 (2020), p. 410–428.

³¹ Linda Bradley, et.al., "Professional Development of Syrian Refugee Women: Proceeding with a Career within Education," *Studies in Continuing Education* 44, No. 1 (2022), p. 155–172.

³² Karin Wastesson, et.al., "First-Line Managers' Experience of Their Role and Gender in Elderly Care," *Studies in Continuing Education* (2023), p. 1–17.

³³ Irena Jirásek, et.al., "Experiential and Outdoor Education: The Participant Experience Shared through Mind Maps," *Studies in Continuing Education* 38, No. 3 (2016), p. 334–354.

³⁴ Maria Gustavsson and Anna Halvarsson Lundkvist, "Stakeholders' Learning and Transformative Action When Developing a Collaboration Platform to Provide Welfare Services," *Studies in Continuing Education* (2023), p. 1–16.

inclusiveness, partnerships with external parties.³⁵ The transformational learning and actions of stakeholders in developing a collaborative platform between Swedish regional authority organizations (RAO) and civil society to provide welfare services can also be adapted for the purposes of developing a voter education concept, especially in the aspects of collaboration between the public sector and civil society, conflict and collaboration, expansive learning, and agency transformation.³⁶ The important thing to note is that voters in Indonesia are voters who are 17 years of age or older or have previously been married, so voter education can be adapted from adult learning policies such as in Portugal and Slovenia.³⁷

Community Participation Concept

In the context of public participation, the concept of social learning strategies can be applied to develop people's knowledge, understanding and active participation in relevant issues. Through social learning, individuals can learn from each other, share perspectives, and contribute to collective decision-making processes.³⁸ Participation refers to the active involvement and contribution of community leaders in the ongoing development of ideas. This participation involves various target groups, including community leaders, first-time voters, citizen scholars, senior citizens, government officials, election stakeholders. The aim of this participation is to improve the quality of democracy in district/city level communities in the future. Community leaders are involved in problem analysis, cause analysis, selecting solutions, as well as formulating frameworks to address community needs. This participation also involves a mutually beneficial process of learning, knowledge exchange and evaluation between relevant stakeholders. Active and informed participation of the public is essential to ensure a healthy democratic process and elections that represent the will of the people.³⁹

Public participation can be defined as the active involvement of citizens in the political process, especially through participation in general elections and subnational elections. Public participation includes citizens' rights to elect political candidates, cast their votes in elections, and contribute to the formation

³⁵ Johanna Köpsén, "Demands-Based and Employer-Driven Curricula: Defining Knowledge in Higher Vocational Education and Training," *Studies in Continuing Education* 42, No. 3 (2020), p. 349–364.

³⁶ Maria Gustavsson and Agneta Halvarsson Lundkvist, "Stakeholders' Learning and Transformative Action...", p. 1–16.

³⁷ Borut Mikulec and Paula Guimarães, "The OECD Solutionism and Mythologies in Adult Education Policy...", p. 324–343.

³⁸ Emmy Vrieling et al., "Facilitating Social Learning in Teacher Education...", p. 76–93.

³⁹ Daycho Khaenamkhaew, et.al., "The Participation of Community Leaders for Sustainable Tourism Development: A Case Study in Phipun District, Nakhon Si Thammarat Province, Thailand," *Cogent Social Sciences* 9, No. 1 (2023).

of public policy through participation in broader political processes. In this context, public participation plays an important role in ensuring the healthy quality of democracy and strengthening political accountability.⁴⁰ In the context of elections, good interfaith dialogue can create a climate of inclusion and mutual respect among citizens with diverse religious backgrounds. This can strengthen cooperation, mutual understanding, and social cohesion between different religious groups, which in turn can encourage their participation in political processes, including elections.⁴¹

Expanding participation also needs to be accompanied by issues of access, and social exclusion also influences education policy and is a global challenge that is faced together. Expanded participation can be defined as increasing the participation of underrepresented groups by working to ensure that all people who have the potential to benefit from higher education and lifelong learning have the opportunity to do so, regardless of their background. These groups include: those from low socio-economic backgrounds, living in the most deprived areas, and people from ethnic minority groups.⁴² The concept of European Union civil society participation in elections includes 3 forms, namely openness and inclusiveness, the role of civil society, and participatory inclusiveness. Ensure that the election process is open to all citizens, takes into account the diversity of society and provides fair opportunities to all interest groups and individuals and does not prioritize the interests of elites or certain interests only.⁴³

Strengthening the participation of children and youth, as well as the potential for activism as a relatively new concept in fulfilling the rights of children and youth. The activism of these children and youth can explore the potential of their political identities and social movements in challenging adult power. This concept adopts the idea of an "ecology of participation" that involves intergenerational relationships in developing "critical social capital" for children and youth activism in various forms of participation, ranging from conventional to protest and transformation. The concept of public participation for youth can be developed through the experiences and insights of youth in coalitions. Through coalition practices it is important in shaping youth participation in dealing with political, social, economic and environmental affairs in Antarctica. The youth involved in the coalition were then analyzed for their motivations, the challenges

⁴⁰ Karel Kouba and Jakub Lysek, "The Return of Silent Elections...", p. 1527–1551.

⁴¹ Andrew Orton, "Interfaith Dialogue: Seven Key Questions for Theory, Policy and Practice," *Religion, State and Society* 44, No. 4 (2016), p. 349–365.

⁴² Ellen and Nalita James, "Special Issue: Advancing Theory and Research in Widening Participation," *Studies in Continuing Education* 39, no. 2 (2017), p. 117–119.

⁴³ Laura Landorff, "Serving One Client Only? Assessing the Openness and Inclusiveness of European Parliament's Intergroups," *European Politics and Society* 24, No. 5 (2023), p. 603–624.

they faced and the impact they created.⁴⁴ The concept of participation is not only used to attract young people, but can also be adopted by civil society organizations in elderly care in Sweden. This organization exists to provide information, advocacy and active participation in political campaigns and election activities for the elderly.⁴⁵

Voter Education Strategy

Appropriate voter education for each voter segment is expected to raise voter awareness. It is hoped that voter awareness can raise public participation in elections. Strong public support will produce strong democracy both in process and results. Strong legitimacy from the public will produce a government that is strong, clean and legal, honest and fair for all and strong in protecting the community, nation and state.

In the voter education strategy as shown in Table 1, there are various voter segments that are the focus, such as beginners, women, people with disabilities, families and the general public. Each strategy has different goals and approaches according to the target voter segment. These strategies are expected to increase voter awareness, knowledge and active participation in the democratic process.

Table 1: Voter Education Strategies in Buton Regency in the 2019 elections

No	Voter Education Strategy	Frequency	Segment
1	Face to face segment of first-time voters	28 act	Beginner
2	Face to face segment of female voters	9 act	Woman
3	Face to face segment of disabled voters	9 act	Marginal
4	Family-based community forum	4 act	Family
5	Go to campus	1 act	Beginner
6	Kursus kepemiluan	1 act	Beginner
7	RRI Baubau interactive talk show/dialogue	6 act	General
7	Socialization props	324 pie	General
8	Democracy volunteers	165 ppm	Beginner
9	Beginner voter art performance creation competition	1 act	Beginner
10	KPU RUN (One Goal Moving Together in the 2019 Simultaneous Elections)	1 act	General
11	Voting and Vote Counting Simulation	1 act	General
12	Selfie Contest at the Polling Place	1 act	General

⁴⁴ Juan Francisco Salazar, et.al., "The Antarctic Youth Coalition: An Experiment in Citizen Participation and South-South Cultural Diplomacy," *Polar Journal* 12, No. 1 (2022), p. 5–21.

⁴⁵ David Feltenius and Jessica Wide, "Business as Usual? Civil Society Organizations in a Marketized Swedish Welfare State," *Journal of Civil Society* 15, No. 3 (2019), p. 230–248.

13	Awarding Certificates of Award to 3 (three) District Governments and 5 (five) Village/District Governments with the highest participation in the 2018 Southeast Sulawesi Governor and Deputy Governor Election and the 2019 General Election	1 act	Sub-district officials and village heads
14	Buton Expo Takawa Exhibition 2019	1 act	General

Source: Buton Regency General Election Commission Office, 2019

1. New Voter Segment

Voter education for the beginner voter segment in this article (Table 1) takes the form of 28 face-to-face activities for the beginner voter segment. Face to face by visiting schools in 27 high schools of the same level spread across Buton Regency, Southeast Sulawesi, Indonesia and 1 activity in the form of an electoral seminar which was carried out in collaboration with the South Lasalimu Student Youth Association of Buton Regency who were conducting studies in the city Baubau, Southeast Sulawesi, Indonesia with the theme "Smart Voters in Quality Elections". In organizing activities, this student association is given ample opportunity to prepare the necessary budget requirements, as in the article Lehtonen & Radzik-Maruszak, (2023)⁴⁶ and the Buton Regency General Election Commission prepared the budget, design and activity materials (Charteris et al., 2022).⁴⁷ This strategy aims to provide basic understanding and knowledge about the election process to novice voters. This activity can be carried out through interactive face-to-face meetings, such as lectures, discussions or special workshops for first-time voters. This educational strategy adopts a model that has been developed by world experts, including: Ile & Boadu, (2018),⁴⁸ Karlsson, (2020),⁴⁹ Bukari, (2022).⁵⁰

Other forms of voter education for the beginner voter segment include going to campus, election courses, democracy volunteers and beginner voter art performance competitions. The go to campus voter education strategy is carried out by visiting the campus, namely holding face-to-face meetings with students at the Muhammadiyah University of Buton Rombel Pasarwajo to deliver voter education material to students and the academic community. These activities may involve discussions, seminars or workshops relevant to the general election. This

⁴⁶ Pauliina Lehtonen and Katarzyna Radzik-Maruszak, "Inclusion as Ownership in Participatory Budgeting: Facilitators' Interpretations of Public Engagement of Children and Youth," *Critical Policy Studies* 00, No. 00 (2023), p. 1–19.

⁴⁷ Jennifer Charteris, et al., "Leadership in the Built Spaces of Innovative Learning Environments...., p. 212–231.

⁴⁸ Isioma Ile and Evans Sakyi Boadu, "The Paradox of Youth Empowerment...., p. 1–15.

⁴⁹ Rasmus Karlsson, "Gallery Walk Seminar: Visualizing the Future of Political Ideologies...., p. 91–100.

⁵⁰ Shaibu Bukari, "Working Experience among School-Going Children...., p. 1-23

concept implemented is also similar to the model of Schuchart, et. al., (2024),⁵¹ Benda et al., (2020),⁵² Köpsén, (2020).⁵³

Voter education with the concept of electoral courses targeting the beginner voter segment. This strategy involves election organizers, which can be followed by first-time voters. This course can provide a deeper understanding of the democratic process, voters' rights and obligations, and the importance of participation in elections. This educational concept is in accordance with the educational strategy models used by other experts, including: Gustavsson & Halvarsson Lundkvist, (2023),⁵⁴ Jirásek et al., (2016),⁵⁵ Aizenberg et al., (2023).⁵⁶

The output from the next course can be optimized as a democracy volunteer. There are 55 democracy volunteers involved in participatory voter education and have a duty period of 3 months. This voter education can also be expressed as participatory volunteering in elections. This strategy involves volunteers who are specially educated and trained to disseminate voter information and education to the public. These volunteers can act as agents of change in their respective environments, by providing a more personal and in-depth understanding of the importance of participation in elections. Individually they must live independently and they must know who is participating in supporting them.⁵⁷

Voter education that is no less interesting in this article is the performing and artistic creation competition which was participated in by novice voter candidates spread across several high schools and equivalents in Buton Regency, Southeast Sulawesi, Indonesia. This strategy uses art as a medium to convey voter education messages to first-time voters. This competition can involve various forms of art, such as theater, music, dance or fine arts which have cultural significance and local wisdom in Buton. The creative dance competition that was staged consisted of creations of local dances from the Butonese people, namely *linda*, *mangaru* and *manca*. This dance is performed by a pair of young people or more in the *Linda* dance, a pair of opposite men in the *Mangaru* and *Manca* dances accompanied by the performance of traditional Buton musical instruments in the form of 1 large drum, 2 large gongs (a pair) and 3 small gongs played by 3 male local artists for the drum, 1 person for the large gong and 1 person for the small

⁵¹ Claudia Schuchart, et al., "Teacher Practice under the Structural Challenges...p. 1–23.

⁵² Luc Benda, et.al., "Active Labour Market Policy as a Socialising Agent..., p. 75–101.

⁵³ Johanna Köpsén, "Demands-Based and Employer-Driven Curricula: Defining Knowledge in Higher Vocational Education and Training," *Studies in Continuing Education* 42, No. 3 (2020), p. 349–364.

⁵⁴ Maria Gustavsson & Anna Halvarsson Lundkvist, "Stakeholders' Learning and Transformative Action..., p. 1–16.

⁵⁵ Irena Jirásek, et.al., "Experiential and Outdoor Education..., p. 334–354.

⁵⁶ Ellis Aizenberg, et.al., "Helping Citizens to Lobby Themselves..., p. 1–30.

⁵⁷ Nabil Khattab et al., "Human Capital and Labour Market Performance of Muslim Women in Australia..., p. 410–428.

gong. This concept is similar to inviting or promoting the tourist sector as proposed by Khaenamkhaew et al., (2023)⁵⁸ and different from experts Kouba & Lysek, (2023).⁵⁹

2. Disability Voter Segment

This strategy is aimed at the voter segment with disabilities. These activities must pay attention to accessibility and the special needs of voters with disabilities in delivering voter education materials, such as providing sign language translation, braille, or disability-friendly venue settings. Voter education for the disabled voter segment is carried out in 3 forms, namely 1) gathering disabled voters in one place for 1 activity, 2) directly visiting disabled voters for 7 activities, and 3) collaborating with the Disability Leadership Council of the Southeast Sulawesi Provincial Disability Access Election Center 1 (one) activity. The educational strategy for the disabled voter segment uses the concept of inclusivity (Boeren & James, 2017),⁶⁰ (Felicetti, 2022),⁶¹ (Grue, 2019)⁶² and (Landorff, 2023)⁶³ as well as the concept of inter and intrapersonal interaction between voters and organizers (Schaap et al., 2017).⁶⁴

3. District and Village Official Voter Segment

This strategy is a form of appreciation to the sub-district and village/kelurahan governments which have the highest participation in the elections. Providing this award certificate can be a motivation for the local government to continue to increase community participation in the election process. The sub-district government which had the highest participation of 1 to 3 of the 7 sub-districts in Buton Regency in the 2017 and 2018 elections was given a certificate of appreciation and likewise the village government which had the highest participation of 1 to 5 of the 95 villages/sub-districts in Buton Regency was given the same certificate of appreciation. Election organizers are at the forefront in educating voters. This idea is difficult to achieve if it does not involve public officials at sub-district and village levels. This concept is carried out by developing the concepts of experts such as Schuchart et al., (2024),⁶⁵ Gustavsson

⁵⁸ Daycho Khaenamkhaew, et.al., "The Participation of Community Leaders...", p. 1-13

⁵⁹ Karel Kouba and Jakub Lysek, "The Return of Silent Elections...", p. 1527-1551.

⁶⁰ Ellen Boeren and Nalita James, "Special Issue: Advancing Theory and Research in Widening Participation," *Studies in Continuing Education* 39, No. 2 (2017), p. 117-119.

⁶¹ Andrea Felicetti, "Casting a New Light on the Democratic Spectator...", p. 1291-1309.

⁶² Jan Grue, "Inclusive Marginalisation? A Critical Analysis of the Concept of Disability...", p. 3-17.

⁶³ Laura Landorff, "Serving One Client Only? Assessing the Openness...", p. 603-624.

⁶⁴ Harmen Schaap, et al., "Interactions in Vocational Education...", p. 52-70.

⁶⁵ Claudia Schuchart, et.al., "Teacher Practice Under the Structural Challenges...", p. 1-23.

& Halvarsson Lundkvist, (2023),⁶⁶ Charteris et al., (2022),⁶⁷ Benda et al., (2020)⁶⁸ and Boeren & James, (2017).⁶⁹

4. General Voter Segment

Voter education for the voter segment, which is open to all groups who can easily gain access to electoral knowledge, is designed in several forms, including: RRI Baubau interactive talk shows/dialogues (6 activities), socialization props (324 pieces), KPU RUN (One Stepping Goal). Together with the 2019 Simultaneous Elections (1 activity), Voting and Vote Counting Simulation (1 activity), Selfie Contest at TPS (1 activity), and the 2019 Buton Expo Takawa Exhibition (1 activity).

Voter education strategy involving the Indonesian Republic Radio (*Radio Republik Indonesia*/RRI) Baubau radio station in holding talk shows or interactive dialogues regarding important aspects of the election process. Through this media, information and knowledge can be conveyed to the general public at large. However, not all voters in Buton regularly access RRI Baubau broadcasts, so other alternatives need to be implemented. Voter education strategies use various visual aids, such as posters, billboards, banners, brochures and other visual media, to convey voter education messages to the general public. This visual aid can be installed in strategic places, such as highways, shopping centers or other public facilities, so that it can reach 95 villages/sub-districts in Buton Regency, Southeast Sulawesi, Indonesia. Educational content is developed in different ways from several experts such as: (Lukowski et al., 2021),⁷⁰ (Karhapää et al., 2023),⁷¹ (Kluge et al., 2024)⁷² and (Khattab et al., 2020).⁷³

Voter education that is open to the public is also carried out in Pasarwajo, the capital of Buton Regency in the form of KPU RUN (One Goal for Moving Together in the 2019 Simultaneous Elections). This strategy involves running together with the theme of the 2019 simultaneous elections. This activity can be participated in by the general public as a form of campaign as well as education about the importance of participation in elections and the importance of maintaining health by taking a moment to run or walk in the morning while

⁶⁶ Maria Gustavsson and Agneta Halvarsson Lundkvist, "Stakeholders' Learning and Transformative Action....", p. 1–16.

⁶⁷ Jennifer Charteris, et al., "Leadership in the Built Spaces of Innovative Learning Environments....", p. 212–231.

⁶⁸ Luc Benda, et.al., "Active Labour Market Policy as a Socialising Agent....", p. 75–101.

⁶⁹ Ellen Boeren and Nalita James, "Special Issue: Advancing Theory....", p. 117–119.

⁷⁰ Felix Lukowski, et.al., "Technology, Tasks and Training....", p. 174–195.

⁷¹ Anne Karhapää, et.al., "Digital Work Practices That Promote Informal Workplace Learning....", p. 1–18.

⁷² Marie Kluge, et.al., "Digital Co-Creation in Urban Mobility Planning....", p. 1–26.

⁷³ Nabil Khattab et al., "Human Capital and Labour Market Performance of Muslim Women in Australia....", p. 410–428.

enjoying the morning sun. This concept seems to invite voters to create a healthy life (Khaenamkhaew et al., 2023),⁷⁴ (Felicetti, 2022),⁷⁵ (Landorff, 2023),⁷⁶ (Assinger, 2023),⁷⁷ and (Gustavsson & Halvarsson Lundkvist, 2023).⁷⁸

Voter education strategy involving voters directly, free and confidential, through interactive voting and vote counting process simulations (Schaap et al., 2017)⁷⁹ and (Benda et al., 2020).⁸⁰ This activity aims to provide voters with a more practical and direct understanding of the election process (Assinger, 2023)⁸¹ and (Jirásek et al., 2016).⁸² Voters are not only asked to become voters, but from the voters the officers who work at the polling place are also selected (Karlsson, 2020)⁸³ and (Baltz, 2022).⁸⁴ One of the results of this simulation was information that it took between 3 and 7 minutes for each voter to use their voting rights in the voting booth to determine their choice in the 5 types of elections. Data was also obtained that the higher the voter's age, the longer it takes to complete the voting⁸⁵.

A voter education strategy that is open to the public is holding selfie competitions at polling places. This activity can encourage voters to actively come to the polling station and participate in the election, while spreading information and voter education messages through social media. Activities still have an educational nuance for voters, especially not announcing the choices that have been made to the public and not being allowed to look for each person's personal choices (Felicetti, 2022)⁸⁶ and (Lukowski et al., 2021).⁸⁷

Another voter education strategy is to involve oneself in exhibitions during the 2019 Buton Regency anniversary series which aims to convey voter information and education to the wider community. This exhibition can cover various aspects related to elections, such as election mechanisms, voters' rights and obligations, and the development of democracy. In this exhibition, the General Election Commission of Buton Regency created an exhibition design containing various electoral information which included a series of election

⁷⁴ Daycho Khaenamkhaew, et.al., "The Participation of Community Leaders...", p. 1-13

⁷⁵ Andrea Felicetti, "Casting a New Light on the Democratic Spectator...", p. 1291-1309.

⁷⁶ Laura Landorff, "Serving One Client Only? Assessing the Openness...", p. 603-624.

⁷⁷ Philipp Assinger, "Recognition of Prior Learning in Workplaces...", p. 378-395.

⁷⁸ Maria Gustavsson and Agneta Halvarsson Lundkvist, "Stakeholders' Learning and Transformative Action...", p. 1-16.

⁷⁹ Harmen Schaap, et al., "Interactions in Vocational Education...", p. 52-70.

⁸⁰ Luc Benda, et.al., "Active Labour Market Policy as a Socialising Agent...", p. 75-101.

⁸¹ Philipp Assinger, "Recognition of Prior Learning in Workplaces...", p. 378-395.

⁸² Irena Jirásek, et.al., "Experiential and Outdoor Education...", p. 334-354.

⁸³ Rasmus Karlsson, "Gallery Walk Seminar: Visualizing the Future of Political Ideologies...", p. 91-100.

⁸⁴ André Baltz, "Disseminating and Collecting Information...", p. 48-67.

⁸⁵ Interview with CCBS, one of the electoral administration support staff at the Buton Regency KPU who holds one of the echelon IV positions, Southeast Sulawesi, April 3, 2019.

⁸⁶ Andrea Felicetti, "Casting a New Light on the Democratic Spectator...", p. 1291-1309.

⁸⁷ Felix Lukowski, et.al., "Technology, Tasks and Training...", p. 174-195.

processes and election results in the form of printed media. The results that are also highlighted in this exhibition are profiles of members of the Buton Regency DPRD from the previous elections and political parties who elect seats in the Buton Regency DPRD (Karlsson, 2020)⁸⁸ and (Baltz, 2022).⁸⁹

Women and Family-based Voter Segment

1. Women Voter Segment

In Indonesia, women are an essential element that must be involved in politics, particularly in elections, both as organizers and as voters. This involvement is part of the fundamental rights or human rights that must be fulfilled as mandated by legal regulations or laws.⁹⁰ Their participation ensures that women's voices and perspectives are included in the decision-making processes, leading to more comprehensive and representative policies. Additionally, promoting gender equality in political participation empowers women and contributes to their overall socio-economic development.⁹¹

Voter education for the women voter segment is carried out in 3 forms, namely 1) targeting Family Welfare Empowerment (FWE) in Buton Regency with 4 activities. The FWE is a group whose entire management and members are women who are the wives of officials and ordinary people. The highest ranking official usually immediately assumes the position automatically as head of the FWE mobilization team in accordance with the scope of her supervision. For example, the regent's wife will automatically become the head of the district level FWE mobilization team, the subdistrict head's wife will automatically become the head of the subdistrict level FWE mobilization team, likewise the village head's wife will automatically become the head of the village level FWE mobilization team,⁹² 2) The target for the ta'lim assembly group is 4 activities. This ta'lim assembly group consists of groups of women, both married and unmarried, who regularly use their free time to gather together in mosques to take part in religious studies. This routine is usually carried out once a month for sub-district level Ta'lim assembly communities and once every week for village level Ta'lim

⁸⁸ Rasmus Karlsson, "Gallery Walk Seminar: Visualizing the Future of Political Ideologies...", p. 91–100.

⁸⁹ André Baltz, "Disseminating and Collecting Information...", p. 48–67.

⁹⁰ Nur Hidayah, "Islamic Law and Women's Rights in Indonesia: A Case of Regional Sharia Legislation," *Ahkam: Jurnal Ilmu Syariah* 19, No. 1 (2019), p. 19–38.

⁹¹ Saiin, Asrizal, et al. "Walking Together: Dynamics of Muslim Wives Dual Role in Rural Areas Pursuing Career and Household Responsibilities." *El-Mashlahah* 14.1 (2024), p. 127-148. Royan Utsany, et.al., "Women's Rights and Gender Equality: An Analysis of Jasser Auda's Thoughts and His Contribution to Renewal of Islamic Family Law in Indonesia," *Journal of Islamic Law* 3, No. 1 (2022).

⁹² Interview with Wa Sari, one of the leaders of the FWE movement in a village in Buton Regency, Southeast Sulawesi, October 5, 2019.

assembly groups,⁹³ and 3) Buton Police's dharma bhayangkari target is 1 (one) activity. Bhayangkari Buton is a women's group that from the administrators to the members come from the wives of police personnel in Buton Regency. If this group has civil status, it has the right to vote in accordance with election regulations in Indonesia. This group needs to be given voter education so that they can participate in elections⁹⁴ and they gave great enthusiasm in carrying out this activity.⁹⁵ The concept of voter education involving women can be explored in general terms as stated by Wastesson et al., (2023)⁹⁶; Bradley et al., (2022)⁹⁷; and Grue, (2019).⁹⁸

The involvement of women in voter education initiatives highlights the significance of their role in shaping democratic processes. These targeted educational efforts not only equip women with the knowledge and confidence to participate actively in elections but also foster a sense of community and collective responsibility.⁹⁹ By engaging groups like the Family Welfare Empowerment (FWE), ta'lim assemblies, and Bhayangkari Buton, the voter education programs can reach a broad and diverse segment of the female population. Such inclusivity ensures that women's voices are heard and their votes counted, reinforcing the democratic principles of equality and representation. Furthermore, ongoing support and follow-up activities can sustain the momentum and ensure that women continue to be active participants in the political landscape, thereby strengthening the overall democratic framework of the country.

2. Family-based Voter Segment

The family is one of the important segments that must be involved in elections, both legislative and local or presidential elections.¹⁰⁰ This is because

⁹³ Interview with Wa Lanta, one of the women participants in the ta'lim assembly in a village in Buton Regency, Southeast Sulawesi, February 8, 2019.

⁹⁴ Interview with MLMB, One of the Commissioners of the Buton Regency General Election Commission in charge of the Division of Socialization, Voter Education, Participation, Public Relations and Human Resources, March 9, 2019.

⁹⁵ Interview with IAH, Chairperson of Bhayangkari Buton, Southeast Sulawesi, March 9, 2019.

⁹⁶ Karin Wastesson, et.al., "First-Line Managers' Experience of Their Role....", p. 1–17.

⁹⁷ Linda Bradley, et.al., "Professional Development of Syrian Refugee Women....", p. 155–172.

⁹⁸ Jan Grue, "Inclusive Marginalisation? A Critical Analysis of the Concept of Disability....", p. 3–17.

⁹⁹ Norcahyono and Muhammad Arni. "Strategies of Career Women at Islamic Universities in Kalimantan in Carrying Out Household Obligations from the Perspective of Maqashid as-Syari'ah." *Syariah: Jurnal Hukum dan Pemikiran* 21.1 (2021), p. 88-102.

¹⁰⁰ Tateki Yoga Tursilarini, et al. "Examining Child Victims of Incest in Indonesia: Between the Legal System and Family Dysfunction." *Juris (Jurnal Ilmiah Syari'ah)* 23, No. 1 (2024).

elections that use the family as a basis will find it easier to carry out socialization processes and reach family members. Consequently, the level of participation in these elections will increase if the family is involved.¹⁰¹

This strategy focuses on the family as the smallest unit in society. Through family-based citizen forums, voter education can be delivered to all family members, including children and teenagers, thereby involving all family members in the election process. This strategy apart from targeting families includes several elements at once, such as community leaders, religious leaders and marginal voters. This concept has been put forward by several experts such as (Jenkins, 2022)¹⁰² for the Muslim country of Syria, (Gustavsson & Halvarsson Lundkvist, 2023)¹⁰³ which concerns the involvement of all parties in building collaboration, (Charteris et al., 2022)¹⁰⁴ which encourages the birth of leadership for the surrounding residents. Voter education for family-based citizen forums according to (Jirásek et al., 2016)¹⁰⁵ suitable for adopting outdoor education. Ensure open dialogue between its members (Orton, 2016),¹⁰⁶ learn to lobby each other when dialogue fails (Aizenberg et al., 2023),¹⁰⁷ even allowing for development to build progress together (Feltenius & Wide, 2019).¹⁰⁸

The National Medium Long Term Plan in Indonesia, especially for development and strengthening the quality of democracy, was determined by the Indonesian National Development Planning Agency that since 2017, public participation in national elections and regional elections must reach a minimum of 77.50%. Voter participation in elections and elections in Buton Regency has increased compared to voter participation in the 2014 election which only reached 64.52% spread across 21 sub-districts. In 2017 in the Election of Regent and Deputy Regent of Buton the voter participation rate reached 70.34% and in 2018 in the Election of Governor and Deputy Governor of Southeast Sulawesi the participation rate reached 70.49% spread across 7 sub-districts and in the 2019 General Election the community participation rate reached 79.84 % (Figure 1).

The voter participation rate in the 2014 elections in Buton was 64.52%. This figure shows the percentage of voters who took part in voting in that year's general election. Although voter participation is still above half of total registered

¹⁰¹ Camille D. Burge, et.al., "Family Matters? Exploring Media Coverage of Presidential Candidates' Families by Gender and Race," *Politics, Groups, and Identities* 8, No. 5 (2019), p. 1022–1042.

¹⁰² Andrew Jenkins, "Cumulative Advantage and Learning in Mid-Life...", p. 121–138.

¹⁰³ Maria Gustavsson and Agneta Halvarsson Lundkvist, "Stakeholders' Learning and Transformative Action...", p. 1–16.

¹⁰⁴ Jennifer Charteris, et al., "Leadership in the Built Spaces of Innovative Learning Environments...", p. 212–231.

¹⁰⁵ Irena Jirásek, et.al., "Experiential and Outdoor Education...", p. 334–354.

¹⁰⁶ Andrew Orton, "Interfaith Dialogue: Seven Key Questions...", p. 349–365.

¹⁰⁷ Ellis Aizenberg, et.al., "Helping Citizens to Lobby Themselves...", p. 1–30.

¹⁰⁸ David Feltenius and Jessica Wide, "Business as Usual? Civil Society...", p. 230–248.

voters, this figure shows the potential to increase voter participation in the future. In the 2017 Buton Regent and Deputy Regent Election, there was a significant increase in the voter participation rate to 70.34%. This increase shows that there is higher awareness and greater interest from the public in participating in regional head elections. This could be caused by increased political awareness and also more intensive campaigning in these elections. In the 2018 Southeast Sulawesi Governor and Deputy Governor Election in Buton, there was another increase in the voter participation rate to 70.49%. This increase shows that the community is increasingly active in participating in regional head elections. This increase in voter participation can be caused by various factors, including increased political awareness, more intensive campaigns, and also the active participation of various parties in increasing voter participation (Khaenamkhaew et al., 2023)¹⁰⁹ and (Vlcek & Parizek, 2022).¹¹⁰ In the 2019 election, the voter participation rate in Buton reached 79.84%. This figure shows a significant increase compared to the previous election. The 2019 election is a general election that involves voters in choosing legislative and presidential candidates. This increase in voter participation can be caused by increased political awareness (Lehtonen & Radzik-Maruszak, 2023),¹¹¹ increasing access to information (Karhapää et al., 2023),¹¹² more intensive campaigns, increased voter education, as well as a positive active role from various parties in increasing voter participation (Gustavsson & Halvarsson Lundkvist, 2023).¹¹³

¹⁰⁹ Daycho Khaenamkhaew, et.al., "The Participation of Community Leaders...", p. 1-13

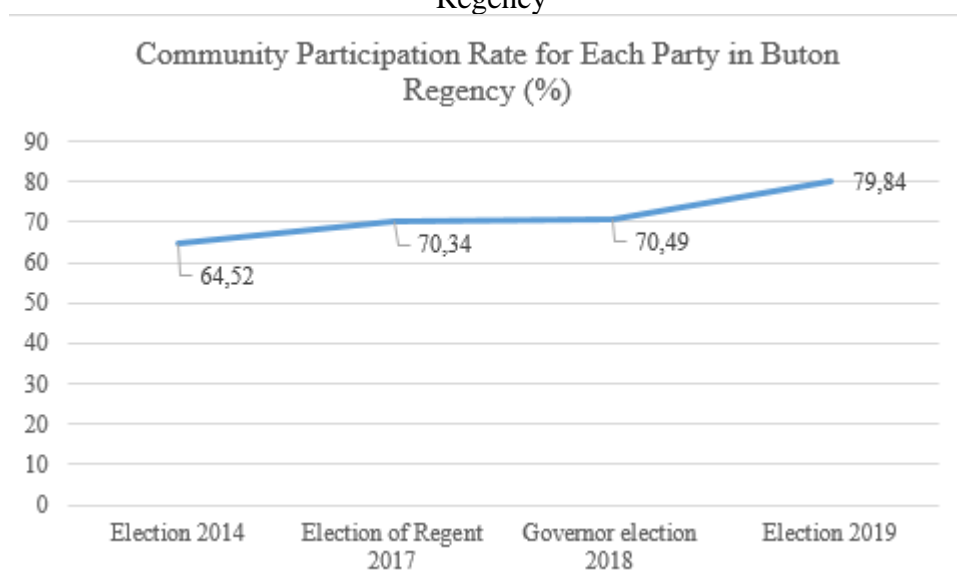
¹¹⁰ Vaclav Vlcek and Michal Parizek, "Participation of Ministers in Council of the EU Meetings: Variation Across Members and Decline Over Time," *Journal of European Integration* 44, No. 4 (2022), p. 493–509.

¹¹¹ Pauliina Lehtonen and Katarzyna Radzik-Maruszak, "Inclusion as Ownership in Participatory Budgeting...", p. 1–19.

¹¹² Anne Karhapää, et.al., "Digital Work Practices That Promote Informal Workplace Learning...", p. 1–18.

¹¹³ Maria Gustavsson and Agneta Halvarsson Lundkvist, "Stakeholders' Learning and Transformative Action...", p. 1–16.

Figure 1: Figures of community participation in each democratic party in Buton Regency



Source: Buton Regency KPUSource: Buton Regency General Election Commission Office 2019.

In general, the trend of voter participation in elections and general elections in Buton shows an increase over time. This can be interpreted as a sign of increasing political awareness and active participation of society in the democratic process. Increasing voter participation is important to strengthen democratic legitimacy and maintain the sustainability of the democratic process in the region.

In line with that, in the context of political participation, community involvement as a citizen's right in the general election process is part of their participation in building democracy, both directly and indirectly, which can influence state policy.¹¹⁴ Furthermore, political participation involving women and families is a strategic and effective step in an effort to increase public participation in elections both at the regional, regional and general elections. So, that the voices of women and the community can be accommodated in the policies that will be determined by the government.

¹¹⁴ Asrizal Saiin, "Partisipasi Politik Masyarakat Terhadap Pemilihan Umum Perspektif Good Governance," *Jurnal Bawaslu* 2, (2022).

Conclusion

Women and families are an important segment of political participation in Indonesia. Increasing political participation can be done with voter education, which plays an important role in increasing public participation in district/city general elections in Indonesia. The concept of voter education was developed to target all segments of voters by involving many parties, so that the concept of social learning can be used as an effective approach in voter education, which involves social interaction, exchange of ideas, collaboration and joint reflection. The transfer of knowledge between election organizers and the voting public occurs through voter education, which should be a shared responsibility. It is important to develop voter education content that focuses on the importance of healthy political competition, accountability, and active participation in the democratic process. Political education can play a role in understanding political issues better, encouraging critical thinking, building democratic participation, strengthening democratization, and overcoming negative views of political audiences. Regency/city KPUs in Indonesia should apply the social learning dimensions framework concept to observe and measure voters' attitudes and behavior in social learning. Voter education should adopt citizenship learning materials that involve developing autonomy and open thinking, as well as fulfilling elements of efficiency and transparency in the legislative process. To increase community participation in elections, women and their families must maximize their role as segments of voters who are close to the community. According to political participation theory, one effective strategy to increase political participation is elections that involve women and families so that people's voices can be meaningful in building democracy. Synergy is needed between election organizers, educational institutions and the community in implementing effective and sustainable voter education.

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Interviews

- Interview with CCBS, one of the electoral administration support staff at the Buton Regency KPU who holds one of the echelon IV positions, Southeast Sulawesi, April 3, 2019.
- Interview with IAH, Chairperson of Bhayangkari Buton, Southeast Sulawesi, March 9, 2019.
- Interview with MLMB, One of the commissioners of the Buton Regency General Election Commission in charge of the Division of Socialization, Voter Education, Participation, Public Relations and Human Resources, March 9, 2019.

Interview with Wa Lanta, one of the women participants in the ta'lim assembly in a village in Buton Regency, Southeast Sulawesi, February 8, 2019.

Interview with Wa Sari, one of the leaders of the FWE movement in a village in Buton Regency, Southeast Sulawesi, October 5, 2019.