

Declined Voter Participation In The 2024 Elections Of Tulungagung District In The Tiudan Village Area

Akbar Karunia Ramadhani¹, Fadillah Agil Saputra², Muhammad Salman Alfarizy³

**Public Administration Study Program, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences
Tulungagung University**

**Akbarkarunia145@gmail.com¹, fadilahsaputra518@gmail.com²,
muhammadsalmanalfarizy22@gmail.com³**

Recieved: March, 14 2025

Revised: April, 8 2025

Published: May, 6 2025

Abstract:

This study aims to identify and analyze various factors that influence the level of voter participation in the 2024 Pilkada in Tiudan Village, Tulungagung Regency. The study was conducted using a qualitative approach through data collection including interviews, observations, and documentation. The results of the study revealed that low voter participation was caused by several main factors, including minimal political awareness among the community, disappointment with unfulfilled campaign promises, and limited access to relevant information. In addition, this study also highlights the importance of the active role of the community and the effectiveness of political socialization in increasing voter involvement. To support public understanding of their rights and obligations as part of the democratic process, this study recommends more comprehensive efforts, including intensive political education and providing better access to information. With these steps, it is hoped that voter participation in the upcoming Pilkada can increase significantly, so that it not only strengthens the legitimacy of the election results, but also contributes to improving the quality of local government.

Keywords:

Voter participation, regional elections, political awareness, socialization.

Author Correspondence:

(Akbar Karunia Ramadhani, Public Administration Study Program, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences Tulungagung University)
Email: Akbarkarunia145@gmail.com

Introduction

Indonesia adheres to a democratic system based on the principles of government from the people, by the people, and for the people. In this context, the Regional Head Election (Pilkada) plays a very important role and cannot be separated as part of the procedural process in a democratic government system. Regional elections are the main mechanism for the people to participate in determining policy direction and electing leaders, which reflects the sovereignty of the people in a democratic system (Ginting, 2018). Democracy is a system that puts sovereignty in the hands of the people, by guaranteeing their rights to be treated fairly. One of the implementations of democracy in Indonesia is the implementation of the direct election of Regional Heads and Representatives (Pilkada). This regional election serves as a means to ensure the active involvement of the community in the decision-making process at the regional level, which at the same time reflects the existence and participation of the public in determining regional leaders. According to the data we obtained in a field survey by looking at the percentage of the 2019 Regional Elections getting 75% of the votes and the percentage of the Regional Elections in 2024 decreased to 71% of the votes in the Tulungagung Regency area of Tiudan Village.

Regional elections are an important element in a democratic system that reflects the sovereignty of the people with the aim of forming a democratic government. In general, the implementation of the Regional Elections directly provides greater opportunities for the public to participate in the political process, because it is considered a form of restoring citizens' rights at the regional level. This mechanism allows the community to participate in decision-making as well as elect leaders who will manage their areas. Therefore, the direct election system has a very important role in determining the quality of democracy at the local level. To ensure the implementation of democratic elections, the central government stipulated Law Number 10 of 2016. This emphasizes that voters have the authority to determine the direction of regional policies. (Nasution, 2019).

The main essence of the Pilkada system does not only lie in providing legitimacy for the people in electing regional heads through votes in elections, but also in their role in directly influencing the political process. With active political participation, the Regional Elections directly become a means of political learning for the community

Declined Voter Participation In The 2024 Elections Of Tulungagung District In The Tiudan Village Area

through a transparent and open approach. The main goal is to increase people's political awareness of the importance of democracy, where the people play the role of active participants in the political process, not just as observers in the dynamics of government.

The 2024 Regional Head Election (Pilkada) in Tulungagung Regency, especially in the Tiudan Village area, faces major challenges related to the low level of voter participation. This decline in participation occurred in two main groups of voters, namely novice voters and old voters. Novice voters, who are expected to be active in the democratic process, also show a tendency to low participation. This is due to their inability to understand how important their voting rights are in influencing the direction of regional development. In addition, disillusionment with the existing political system and the perception that their votes will have no effect further exacerbate the phenomenon of low voter participation in the region.

On the other hand, old voters, who should have had experience in exercising their right to vote, also showed a tendency not to participate in the 2024 Regional Elections. One of the main factors that causes this is disappointment with the performance of the current government. Many long-time voters feel that the promises made by the candidate leaders in the previous elections were not well realized. As a result, they became apathetic to the political process and chose not to channel their voting rights. This condition also worsens the low level of participation in the Regional Elections, which should be an important momentum to determine the direction and future of regional development.

The decline in voter participation, both among first-time and long-time voters, is a significant issue and requires deep attention. This phenomenon not only reflects distrust of the existing political system, but can also have a negative impact on the quality of local democracy. Therefore, more comprehensive efforts are needed to increase public political awareness, improve the quality of campaign promises delivered by regional head candidates, and create opportunities for the community to be more involved in the regional development process. With a better understanding of their rights and obligations within the framework of democracy, it is hoped that the level of voter participation in the Tiudan Village area can increase in the upcoming elections.

Methodology

This research was conducted using qualitative methods. This method is a research procedure that aims to obtain descriptive data in the form of words, both verbal and written, sourced from individuals whose behavior can be observed. In addition to interviews with sources, this study also utilizes various documents as supporting instruments in data collection. The data sources used are divided into two types, namely primary data and secondary data. (*Qualitative Research Methodology - Dr. Rukin, S.Pd., M.Si. - Google Books*, n.d.)

This study applies data collection techniques using interviews, observations, and documentation methods. In the process, the researcher applied non-participatory observation because he was not directly involved as a perpetrator, but only observed case administration services through e-court at the Tulungagung Religious Court. This observation was carried out by interviewing relevant sources. At this stage, the results of interviews and observations are analyzed and processed into data that is easier to understand and read. In addition, the results of the interviews were used to answer the problems posed in this study. The results of the interviews that have been obtained are analyzed using the reduction of all the results of interviews and literature that has been collected, from the results of observations, *interviews*, and documentation and then processed by describing them in the form of sentences and clarifying the answers to each other in the form of narrative texts and closing with conclusions and verification. (*Communication Research Methods Book*, n.d.)

Result and discussion

The level of political participation is the main indicator in the implementation of legitimate government in the eyes of the people, which can be seen from the involvement of the community in the Regional Elections. Political participation is an activity carried out by individuals and groups in the political realm, which is realized through the election of leaders at the regional and national levels, both directly and indirectly, and has the potential to influence government policies. (Budiarjo, 2009). The higher the participation of the community, the more it shows that they understand and are involved in the process of statehood. Conversely, low participation rates indicate a lack of public appreciation or

Declined Voter Participation In The 2024 Elections Of Tulungagung District In The Tiudan Village Area

interest in political and government activities. The phenomenon of the white group (golput) in elections is one of the clear evidence of low public participation in politics. Michael Rush and Althoff, as quoted by Efriza, identify some of the political attitudes as follows:

1. **Apathy** refers to an attitude of apathy or lack of interest and concern for other individuals, situations, or phenomena.
2. **Sinesme** is defined as "deep suspicion of human beings," in which one views politics as dirty, untrustworthy, and considers that all forms of political participation are futile and fruitless.
3. **Alienation** refers to a person's feeling of alienation from politics and government, as well as the belief that policies and systems of government are made by and for the benefit of others unfairly.
4. **Anomie** describes a condition of loss of life values and moral uncertainty, in which individuals feel powerless, seeing the ruler act indifferently, which ultimately causes political goals to lose meaning and decreases motivation to act. (Zulfan et al, 2021)

According to data on the results of the 2019 regional elections in the Tulungagung Regency area, Tiudan Village recorded a vote acquisition rate of 75%. This figure shows that the majority of people in the village give significant support to a particular candidate pair, which reflects a fairly high level of political participation and trust in the candidate. This percentage is one of the important indicators in measuring the pattern of political preferences of the local community. However, in the 2024 Regional Elections, there will be a decrease in the percentage of votes obtained to 71%. This decline, although not too significant, shows a change in political dynamics or voter preferences in Tiudan Village. Factors such as changes in demographic composition, satisfaction with previous government policies, and the campaign strategy of candidate pairs can be the cause of fluctuations in the vote acquisition. The change in the percentage from 75% in 2019 to 71% in 2024 needs to be further examined through an in-depth academic study. Analysis of this phenomenon can provide clearer insights into the social, economic, and political factors that affect voter behavior in Tiudan Village. In addition, this data can be used as

a basis for policymakers to design more effective strategies to increase political participation and public trust in the democratic process in the future.

In the era of electoral democracy, every individual voice from different walks of life has a very important role. Every element of society has the right to vote with the same values and degrees. Because the legitimacy of leadership depends on the number and quality of voters' votes, all election organizers, including regional and national leaders, need to take strategic steps to increase public participation in elections. These efforts can be carried out through socialization, seminars, and election-related education. The fewer people who participate in the vote, the lower the level of legitimacy of the elected leader. On the other hand, the higher the number of voters, the stronger the legitimacy of the leadership. The legitimacy of the results of the Regional Elections is the main capital in the process of government and the exercise of power of a leader in the regions. The elected leader must gain the recognition of the public, as this will affect the policies of the future government. Therefore, the author is interested in researching how the implementation of the Regional Elections, especially in Tiudan Village, Tulungagung Regency, in encouraging increased community participation in the election process.

In the implementation of democracy, the International Commission of Jurists in its meeting in Bangkok in 1965 formulated that "the holding of free elections is one of the six basic principles in a representative democracy based on the rule of law." As a tangible form of democracy, the commission also explained that representation-based democratic government is a system in which every citizen has equal rights, but these rights are exercised through representatives that they freely choose. (Darna, N. (2019). General elections are the main pillar of democracy, general elections also have a meaning as an indicator of the country's democratic progress. General elections are a political responsibility that must be fulfilled by every citizen, so the active participation of the community is very important. According to Mirriam Budiarjo, the theory of political participation refers to the active involvement of individuals in political dynamics, such as electing state leaders and influencing public policy. This participation can be realized through various ways, such as attending public meetings, joining political parties or interest groups, and building communication with policy makers.

Declined Voter Participation In The 2024 Elections Of Tulungagung District In The Tiudan Village Area

Article 2 of Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections states that the implementation of elections must be guided by the principles of direct, public, free, confidential, honest, and fair. Meanwhile, Article 448 of the same law emphasizes that public involvement in elections must be carried out fairly, with the following provisions: (1) Elections must involve community participation, (2) Forms of community participation can be in the form of election socialization, political education for voters, surveys or polls related to elections, and quick counting of election results, (3) Community participation as referred to in point (2) must meet the following conditions: (a) Not showing partiality that can benefit or harm election participants, (b) Not hindering the process of holding election stages, (c) Aiming to increase public political participation at large, and (d) Encouraging the creation of conducive conditions to ensure that elections take place wisely, peacefully, orderly, and smoothly.

The implementation of the general election for regional heads (PILKADA) in Tiudan Village, Tulungagung Regency, as a whole has been carried out in accordance with applicable regulations. Each stage, from the implementation of regulations to the voting process at each Polling Station (TPS), took place well and in accordance with the provisions that have been set. This shows a high commitment to the implementation procedures and procedures that have been regulated. However, even though the election process can be carried out well, the level of community participation in Tiudan Village in the 2024 Regional Elections is relatively low. Various factors that are the reason for this lack of participation come from various circles of the village community, both from the social, economic, and psychological sides. Several opinions that have developed among the public say that the lack of understanding of the importance of the Regional Elections, apathy towards the candidates who are fighting, and the factors of distance and access to polling stations are some of the main reasons. In addition, the factor of distrust of the election results or even political fatigue after the previous election also affected the low participation rate. For this reason, further efforts are needed from the government and election organizers to increase public awareness and participation in the upcoming general elections, both through education and strengthening public trust in the existing democratic system. Thus, based on the description above, general elections are generally a means for the public to participate in electing leaders through a democratic mechanism that is

regulated in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. (J. Kristiadi (1997:18) further emphasized that elections act as a bridge between public interests and public policies, as well as function as a political instrument that allows conflict resolution, power distribution, and leadership change to take place in an orderly and peaceful manner.

According to Asshidqie (Asshiddiqie (2006: 176) there are four main objectives in the implementation of elections, namely: 1) ensuring that the change of government leadership takes place in an orderly and peaceful manner; 2) provide opportunities for the replacement of officials who will represent the interests of the people in representative institutions; 3) Establishing the principle of people's sovereignty in the system of government; and 4) ensure the exercise of the human rights of every citizen. The direct elections are seen as a mechanism to restore the "basic rights" of the community at the local level by providing full opportunities and authority in electing regional leaders, thus playing a role in maintaining the sustainability of democracy at the local level. However, various contradictions and weaknesses in its implementation have sparked debates that have attracted public attention. One of the aspects that is the main highlight is the high cost required in the implementation of the Regional Head Election or Regional Elections.

In 2014, the Government Regulation in Lieu of Law was issued Republic of Indonesia Number 1 of 2014 which regulates the Election of Governors, Regents, and Mayors. Then, in 2015, the regulation was passed by the House of Representatives to become Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 1 of 2015 concerning the Stipulation of Government Regulations in Lieu of Law Number 1 of 2014 as a law. Furthermore, this law has been amended through Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 10 of 2016, which is the second amendment to the Law of the Republic of Indonesia.

Law Number 1 of 2015 related to the stipulation of Government Regulation in Lieu of Law Number 1 of 2014 concerning the Election of Governors, Regents, and Mayors into law. Based on these regulations, the implementation of the Regional Head Election (Pilkada) is carried out simultaneously as a solution to various problems in the implementation of the Regional Elections. In addition, a crucial aspect in the implementation of direct and simultaneous Regional Elections is to adhere to the principles of direct, public, free, confidential, honest, and fair, so that this system can be considered as a legitimate public official recruitment mechanism. (A. Rahman H.I (2007:

Declined Voter Participation In The 2024 Elections Of Tulungagung District In The Tiudan Village Area

288) states that in general, the typology of participation as an activity is differentiated into:

1. Active participation is participation that is oriented towards input and output processes.
2. Passive participation is participation that is oriented only on output, in the sense that only obeying government regulations, accepting and implementing every government decision.
3. The white group (golput) or the apathy group, because they consider the existing political system to deviate from what is aspired to.

The results of interviews with people who chose not to use their voting rights or white votes (GOLPUT) in the Regional Elections revealed that disappointment with candidate pairs (paslon) was the main reason for their low participation. They admitted that they were disappointed with the candidate who only gave vision, mission, and sweet promises during the campaign period. When the candidate is elected, often these promises are not realized, so that the public feels that their votes are not valued. This situation makes them reluctant to participate in the next Regional Elections. This attitude reflects the low public trust in the political process and the political process, this condition can have an impact on declining voter participation and the quality of local democracy. Most people prefer to focus on daily activities that support the fulfillment of the needs of life rather than attending polling stations (TPS). They stated that although there was initially hope for the candidate they chose, the experience of the previous Regional Elections showed that the campaign promises were not realized as expected. This triggers a pragmatic attitude, where people prioritize personal interests and economic needs rather than following political processes that are perceived as having no real impact on their lives.

Judging from the implementation seen in the field, researchers can conclude several indicators that cause people to be reluctant to come to the polling station or participate in the 2024 PILKADA, namely there are five factors that are the reasons why people are reluctant to participate. The first factor that affects the decline in voter participation in Tiudan Village is the low level of political awareness of the community. Although direct elections are supposed to be a means to increase political participation, the reality is that

70 ' DINAMICALLY 1 (1), 2025

many citizens feel that they have no influence on the political decisions taken. This apathy often arises due to distrust of candidates for regional heads or political parties that are fighting. Some people in the region feel that the election results will not bring about significant changes to their socio-economic conditions. In addition, cultural factors also play a role in low participation. Village communities are often more focused on daily life and deep-rooted traditions, so that political activities, including the Regional Elections, are not a top priority. This resulted in many residents not being interested or feeling unimportant to participate in the election.

Judging from the second factor seen from the economic side, many voters in Tiudan Village face serious economic difficulties, such as poverty or dependence on the agricultural sector and home industry which are prone to weather changes and unpredictable market changes. Most of the residents of Tiudan Village have priority jobs as tile and red brick entrepreneurs and most rely on agriculture as their main source of livelihood. These activities not only provide jobs for local residents, but also contribute to the local economy through products that are marketed both inside and outside the region. Difficult economic conditions make them focus more on basic needs and daily work so that they do not pay enough attention to the political process. The large number of young voters who migrate to the city in search of better jobs has become a significant phenomenon in villages, including in Tiudan Village. Those who previously lived in their hometowns, now choose to settle abroad in the hope of getting more promising career opportunities and a better life. As a result, a large number of young voters no longer actively participate in social and political life in their home areas, including in the Regional Head Elections (PILKADA). Although they still have the right to vote to participate in the regional elections, many of them are no longer directly involved in other processes related to development and politics of their home regions. The choice to settle in the city and focus on work overseas often makes them feel less connected to local political dynamics. Which ultimately has an impact on the lack of voters present at the polling station (TPS). This creates its own challenges in an effort to increase the political participation of the young generation in their home areas.

For the third indicator in the election in the Tiudan village area, the lack of access to information and facilities that support political participation is often a limitation by the

Declined Voter Participation In The 2024 Elections Of Tulungagung District In The Tiudan Village Area

election organizers experienced by PPS and KPPS at the lower level. Although the use of information technology such as social media is quite widespread, there are still many villagers who do not have adequate internet access or devices to get information related to the Regional Elections. This makes it difficult for them to follow the development of political campaigns or gain a deeper understanding of the existing leadership candidates. In other infrastructure limitations, such as long distances between villages and lack of accessibility, are one of the significant obstacles in increasing voter participation, especially in rural areas. Elderly age factors and physical limitations in some voters, such as disabilities or less supportive health conditions, have also worsened this situation. In rural areas, people often face difficulties in reaching polling stations (TPS) that are located quite far from where they live. This condition makes it difficult for a number of residents to travel to the polling station which can ultimately reduce their participation rate in the election. It is important for election organizers to pay attention to the improvement of transportation infrastructure and other public facilities, so that all levels of society, especially those with mobility limitations, can easily participate in the democratic process.

In contrast to community groups who do not vote for golput in the PILKADA, they have a strong reason to continue to use their voting rights. They believe that participation in the Regional Elections is a tangible manifestation of responsibility as citizens who contribute to determining the direction of development and regional policies. This group argues that by using their voting rights, they have the opportunity to choose a leader candidate who best suits the needs and aspirations of the community. Although there are doubts about the integrity of some candidate pairs, they believe that change can only be achieved through active involvement in the democratic process. In addition, they view that voting rights are an important tool to fight for the interests of society, especially in ensuring sustainable development programs oriented towards shared welfare. Furthermore, the group argues that not using voting rights will actually increase the chances of candidates who are less worthy of being elected, which can ultimately harm society as a whole. They also consider that the PILKADA is a means of political education, where people can better understand the importance of democracy and how political decisions affect their lives. By participating, they hope to encourage the creation

of leaders who are more responsible and committed to the promises and vision of the mission during the campaign. This optimistic and responsible attitude is what encourages them to not only participate in the PILKADA, but also encourage others around them to do the same.

Trust in the election process at the local level is the fourth indicator which is also an important issue in declining voter participation. Many residents feel that the political process in their area is not transparent or fair, leading to distrust of the electoral system. Most people have a feeling that their choice will not have an impact on significant changes in local government which makes many people choose not to vote. Issues of corruption, injustice in the distribution of social assistance and many more arguments from the public about the government which finally give the impression that the candidate for regional head cannot bring real change also has the impact of worsening the perception of most people and declining the level of participation. People who feel marginalized or less cared for by candidates who fight in the PILKADA often do not feel encouraged to participate.

The last factor that plays a major role in the success of an activity is the level of voter participation in Tiudan Village, Tulungagung Regency, in the 2024 Election. This participation can be increased by involving influential figures, such as village officials, community leaders, religious leaders, and respected figures in the local environment. Their presence can make it easier to convey information and invitations to voters, because it is easier to be accepted and heard by the public than the delivery from election organizers, both at the top and lower levels such as PPK, PPS, and KPPS. The persuasion approach is carried out through socialization activities, which also involve democracy volunteers in attracting the attention of the public to actively participate and prevent golput in the implementation of the 2024 simultaneous elections in Tulungagung Regency.

Strategy is a step that must be taken to achieve the goals that have been set. For election organizers, the main focus of the strategy is to increase voter participation. Instead, for candidates, the focus of strategy is to win elections.

This goal must be achieved by the KPU, PPK, PPS, and KPPS together with the support of the community as the organizer of the general election. One example of such a strategy

Declined Voter Participation In The 2024 Elections Of Tulungagung District In The Tiudan Village Area

is political education, which provides theoretical and practical knowledge about elections. This strategy will enable the public to understand the importance of elections and exercise their right to vote in the Simultaneous Regional Elections.

In this situation, there are two conventional approaches that are still being applied to increase public awareness and encourage voter participation. The first approach is the *opinion leader strategy*, which is a method that involves religious leaders and the community in assisting election organizers at the village level. In a number of regions, fatwas, advice, and advice from religious leaders and the community are more heard and accepted by various community groups regardless of religious background. Therefore, their role is considered to be able to encourage increased voter participation, especially in the election process. The second approach is the pick-up strategy, which is generally applied by polling station officers in providing services for voters who experience limitations to come directly to the polling station. This strategy is also used to help voters who are reluctant to attend, those with special needs, and patients who are undergoing self-isolation. Technically, on voting day, polling station officers will move to carry out this ball pick-up service after 12.00.

Socialization is closely related to political communication, because it is a form of direct interaction between elites and society. Overall, the various conditional decisions that are set to achieve future political goals, strengthen political institutions, build a sense of community, and create consensus are known as political communication strategies. Proper decision-making in political communication is part of the strategic steps that must be taken. Therefore, to achieve a goal, a careful strategy, tactics, and planning are needed.

Milbarth (in Surbakti, 1992:143), mentions four main factors that encourage individuals to participate in political life:

1. Because of the stimulus, people want to participate in the world of politics.
2. Because of a person's characteristic factors, people with a social disposition who have a great concern for social, political, economic, and other problems.
3. Factors of a person's social character concern socioeconomic status, group perceptions, attitudes and behaviors of a person in the political field.

4. The factor of the situation or the political environment itself, the conducive political environment makes a person happy to participate in political life

Meanwhile, Kumorotomo (2005: 135-138), stated that citizen participation can be divided into four types, namely:

1. Participation in Elections
2. Group participation
3. Contact between citizens and the Government
4. Citizen participation directly within the Government.

The apathy type refers to individuals who are disinterested and stay away from political activities. Meanwhile, *the spectator type* includes those who have at least participated in a general election. The *gladiator type* consists of individuals who are actively involved in the political process, either as communicators in charge of establishing direct interactions, party activists, campaign workers, and activists in the community. The *type of critic* refers to individuals who participate in politics in an unconventional way.

It can be seen that there are many factors that cause the role and political participation of the community to emerge. Because the emergence of political participation in society does not occur instantaneously, an encouragement is needed that can foster individual awareness. The emergence of political participation must be based on political awareness. Therefore, political awareness affects people's political participation. Political awareness refers to a person's knowledge and awareness of rights and obligations related to the environment of society, and political activity determines how much and how much a person is involved in the process of political participation.

High political awareness allows individuals to understand the importance of their participation in the political process, both in the form of elections and other political activities. This includes an awareness of their role as part of society that has a responsibility to contribute to decision-making that affects collective life. In addition, knowledge of the political system, citizens' rights, and the impact of public policies on daily life are important elements in building political awareness. Thus, political participation is not just an act of voting, but also reflects an individual's commitment to

Declined Voter Participation In The 2024 Elections Of Tulungagung District In The Tiudan Village Area

strengthening democracy and efforts to create a more responsive and accountable government. It requires the synergy of all elements that are oriented towards the success of improvement and awareness of the importance of politics that will have an impact on increasing the prosperity of the community and the success of the government in all policies that can improve the local and state levels.

Conclusion

From research on declining voter participation in the 2024 Regional Elections in Tulungagung Regency, Tiudan Village, there are several findings of researchers that are the focus point on cases that occur in society in general which show that the lack of public political awareness is one of the main causes. People feel that their votes do not have a real impact on policies or socio-economic conditions faced on a daily basis. In addition, disappointment with unfulfilled campaign promises further worsens trust in the political process. This phenomenon shows the need for increased effective political education and socialization to rebuild public trust in the importance of their role in democracy.

The social and economic dynamics of the people of Tiudan Village, which prioritize daily needs, also have an impact on the low awareness to participate. The high level of dependence on local economic sectors, such as agriculture and household industries, causes people to tend to focus their energy and attention on trying to meet basic needs rather than engaging in political activities. This shows the need for a more flexible socialization strategy, which not only conveys political information but also integrates messages that are relevant to the social and economic conditions of the community.

The low voter participation rate, both from old and novice voters, is a major concern because it reflects distrust of the existing political system. Some of the factors that affect this low participation include a lack of public trust in the political process, disappointment with the government's performance, and a lack of understanding of the importance of voting rights. Therefore, comprehensive steps are needed to increase public political awareness, strengthen the commitment of regional head candidates in realizing their promises, visions and missions during the campaign, and open opportunities for the community to play an active role in regional development. Through this research, it is hoped that a deeper understanding of rights and obligations in the democratic system can

be obtained, so as to encourage increased voter participation in the upcoming Regional Head Election (Pilkada).

Acknowledgments

The authors would like to express their sincere gratitude to all parties who have supported the completion of this research entitled “*Declined Voter Participation in the 2024 Elections of Tulungagung District in the Tiudan Village Area.*” Special appreciation is addressed to the lecturers of the Public Administration Study Program, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Tulungagung University, for their guidance, constructive feedback, and academic support throughout the research process. The authors also thank the Government of Tiudan Village, all informants, and community members who willingly participated in interviews and provided valuable data for this study.

The authors also extend their deepest gratitude to their families and friends for their continuous prayers, encouragement, and moral support during the completion of this article. Without their support, this research would not have been completed properly.

Disclosure statement

The authors declare that this research was conducted independently based on field research, including interviews, observations, and documentation in Tiudan Village, Tulungagung Regency. The data, analysis, and findings presented in this article are the result of the authors’ academic work and have been properly cited where necessary, with no indication of plagiarism. The authors further declare that there is no conflict of interest, whether financial, personal, or institutional, that could influence the results, interpretation, or publication of this research.

References

- Anriani, S. (2018). Intelligence and regional elections. Gramedia Pustaka Utama.
- Asshiddiqie, Jimly. 2006. Introduction to Constitutional Law, Volume II. Constitution Press : Jakarta.
- Budiarjo, M. (2009). Fundamentals of Political Science. Jakarta: PT. Gramedia Pustaka Utama.
- Budiman, H. (2018). Indirect elections and false democracy. MediaPressindo.

Declined Voter Participation In The 2024 Elections Of Tulungagung District In The Tiudan Village Area

Communication Research Methods Book. (n.d.).

Cholisin. 2013. Civics. Waves : Yogyakarta.

Darna, N. (2019). Analysis of the level of community political participation in the 2018 Ciamis Regency Regional Elections.

Erb, M., & Sulistiyanto, P. (Eds.). (2009). Deepening democracy in Indonesia?: direct elections for local leaders (Pilkada). Institute of Southeast Asian Studies.

Faqih, M. I., Abdurrahma, A., & Zairudin, A. (2022). The Urgency of Political Education and Elections for Novice Voters. *Community Development Journal: Journal of Community Service*, 3(3), 1809-1815.

Ginting, F. P. . (2018Ginting, F. P. . . . (2018). The Illusion of Substantial Democracy in Indonesia: A Critique Against ParliamentaryTreshlod's Implementation. *POLITICS: Journal of Political Science*,

10(2), 79–90. <https://doi.org/10.32734/politeia.v10i2.630>). Illusion Democracy

Substantial in Indonesia: A Critique Against ParliamentaryTreshlod's Impement.

POLITICS: Journal Science Politics, 10(2), 79–90.
<https://doi.org/10.32734/politeia.v10i2.630>

Haryono, D. (2019). The KPU's strategy is to increase voter participation in the 2015 Samarinda Mayor and Deputy Mayor elections. *Journal of Administrative Reform*, 6(2), 67-73.

J., Kristiadi (Editor). 1997. Organizing Elections with a Broad and Fair Nature. CSIS: Jakarta.

Kelana, E. P. (2015). Participation in the election "Presence and absence of voters at polling stations in the election in the Central Aceh Regency area". *Lantera: Scientific Journal of Science and Technology*, 15(16), 145080.

Kumorotomo, Wahyudi, 2005. Realizing Good Governance Through Public Service, Gajah Mada University Press: Yogyakarta.

Qualitative Research Methodology - Dr. Rukin, S.Pd., M.Si. - Google Books. (n.d.). Retrieved

January 19 , 2024 , from
https://books.google.co.id/books?hl=id&lr=&id=GyWyDwAAQBAJ&oi=fnd&pg=PR4&dq=related:p30kUHsv1U4J:scholar.google.com/&ots=EattqOwqz6&sig=_fRLkGL i-W-TxD-JzjHmw8Qi6A4&redir_esc=y#v=onepage&q&f=false

Meyliana, I. F., & Edwards, D. (2020). Measuring the political participation of the people of Tana Toraja Regency in the 2020 Regional Head Election (Pilkada). *Academia*

- Praja: Journal of Political Science, Government, and Public Administration, 3(02), 168-181.
- Muchid, M., & Nurdiana, N. (2015). Decline in the Voter Participation Rate in the 2013 Riau Governor Election Second Round (Study in Rejosari Village and Kulim Village) (Doctoral dissertation, Riau University).
- Nasution, F. A. (2019). Political Participation of the Medan Maimun District Community in North Sumatra Governor Election in 2018. JPPUMA: Journal of Government Science and Social Politics HOUSE, 7(2), 227–235.
Retrieved from <https://ojs.uma.ac.id/index.php/jppuma/article/view/3015/2302>
- Nasution, F. A., Thamrin, M. H., & Ritonga, A. D. (2020). Measuring the political participation of the people of Medan City towards the 2020 Medan Mayor Election. Politeia: Journal of Political Science, 12(2), 97-113.
- Soebagio, H. (2008). The Implications of the White Group in the Perspective of Democratic Development in Indonesia. Source, 21(8).
- Surbakti, Ramlan, 1992. Understanding Political Science, Jakarta: PT. Gramedia Widisarana
Indonesia : Jakarta.
- Susanti, M. H. (2017). Political Dynasties in Regional Elections in Indonesia. Journal of Government and Civil Society, 1(2), 111-119.
- Suyatno, S. (2016). Regional head elections (pilkada) and challenges to local democracy in Indonesia. Indonesian Politics: Indonesian Political Science Review, 1(2), 212-230.
- Law Number 7 of 2017 concerning General Elections
- Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 10 of 2016 concerning the Second Amendment to Law Number 1 of 2015 concerning the Stipulation of Government Regulations in Lieu of Law Number 1 of 2014 concerning the Election of Governors, Regents and Mayors into Law.
- Zulfan, Z., Amin, M., & Saleh, A. (2022). The Strategy of the Independent Election Commission of Pidie Regency in Increasing the Participation Rate of Marginal Voters in the 2019 Elections. PERSPECTIVES, 11(2), 428-442.