



## School Community Empowerment as A Minority Group in Republic Gubuk Library

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### ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the form of empowerment of the dropout community as a minority group in Society-based Library Republik Gubuk. The method used in this research is qualitative data analysis with a case study approach. Data were collected using interview techniques and direct observation at Society-based Library Republik Gubuk. The results of the study showed that several work programs of Society-based Library Republik Gubuk in empowering minority groups, especially children who dropped out of school, by providing space to be creative and innovate according to their respective interests and talents as human resource management activities to have skills and be able to compete. Along with the times. The Society-based Library Republik Gubuk work program provides training in honing creativity as a provision in improving skills based on groups of interest. These activities are called "Preman Mengajar". Preman Mengajar is a work program that provides a forum for empowering school dropouts to develop their abilities and skills in the arts and culture, such as making the Jabung Malangan mask, the local culture of the Jabung area. Making the masks is aimed at preserving local culture and being used as a result of recycled waste materials in which to hone the skills of carving, design, creativity, and others. Apart from that, the Preman Mengajar activity program has also been developed by Society-based Library Republik Gubuk by collaborating with schools in the surrounding environment in the form of providing opportunities for these minority groups to get to know the educational background through the introduction of Jabung local culture to students in local content subjects. In addition to teaching activities in formal schools, these minority groups are also allowed to exchange opinions and provide learning guidance from one hut to another.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

A government program called the National Literacy Movement includes six basic literacy needs to be improved in schools, families, and communities in Indonesia (KEMENDIKBUD, 2017). So that it arouses the hearts of literacy observers and the literacy community to continue to form a forum in the form of Taman Bacaan Masyarakat (TBM), which is managed independently, in groups, or under the auspices of the local service. This is a form of community support for improving literacy within the scope of schools, families, and communities.

Empowerment strengthens the meaning and reality of the principles of inclusiveness, such as involving relevant parties in a process, transparency, and accountability. The central concept of empowerment is to provide equal opportunities for communities or groups to understand the surrounding environment, reflect on the factors that shape their environment, and determine steps to improve a decent life (Bacqué & Biewener, 2013; Drydyk, 2013; Suaib, 2017).

To be included in social inclusion, a person must have the resources, capacities, and opportunities to manage themselves to learn, work, be involved, and express opinions freely (Bernika et al., 2020; Koller et al., 2018; Silver, 2015). Social inclusion has the concept of protecting all levels of society indiscriminately. This social inclusion means building a more open and inclusive community through increased participation and opportunities, access to resources, and respect for them (Ryder et al., 2014; Panke & Harth, 2019; Warsilah, 2017).

Meanwhile, social inclusion according to the Regulation of the Head of the National Library of the Republic of Indonesia No. 21 yrs. 2017, explained that as an effort to place individual dignity and independence as the primary capital to achieve ideal quality of life. All elements of society get equal treatment and the same opportunities as citizens, regardless of differences.

Social inclusion is a process that allows specific individuals or groups to participate partially or wholly in their social life (Mervyn et al., 2014; Warburton et al., 2013; Zakaria & Simarmata, 2015). Social inclusion is an effort to encourage people to embrace and accept each other without differences in backgrounds, religions, views, and social status. There is no mutual exclusion and ostracism and begins to are differences between individuals and groups.

From some of these opinions, the concept of social inclusion can be concluded as equal acceptance and treatment to all levels of society without discriminating against social status, ethnicity, race, religion, education, physical condition, and so on so that there is no longer any difference between minority groups. With this concept, it is hoped that it will provide equal opportunities and opportunities in improving the standard of living through increasing knowledge and skills and using public facilities.

Taman Baca Masyarakat (TBM) is a place for information services like a library in general, it's just that it is more flexible and more able to blend in with the community. Usually, this Society- based Library is more frequent and more common in areas that lack access to complex information services such as libraries. The use of a Society-based Library is not much different from a library. It provides information like a library in general. Society-based Library are the primary means of realizing the concept of lifelong learning that was established and managed by the community and the government as a provider of access to services in the form of reading materials to support improving the quality of life of the surrounding community (Boyer et al., 2014; Misriyani & Mulyono, 2019; Weinmayr, 2016).

As a forum for empowering minority groups, Society-based Library can provide services and activities to be committed to improving the welfare of the community who play an

active role and prioritize community empowerment programs specifically for minority groups.

The presence of Society-based Library in the community is expected to be a means of independent learning, so in the Technical Guidelines for Assistance for the Implementation of the Society-based Library, TBM is defined as a place for organizing various activities aimed at developing and increasing interest in reading and developing community literacy by utilizing all the potential of human resources and resources. Natural resources follow the needs of local communities (Ministry of Education and Culture, 2018).

With the development of information literacy studies and analysis of needs in the community, the National Library of Indonesia has expanded the scope of information literacy by making the library not only a provider of information sources but also a forum for developing community abilities and skills as well as a place for problem-solving so that the concept known as "Social Inclusion-Based Library Service Transformation".

While the concept of social inclusion is often known as the concept of empowerment and enforcement of all components of the surrounding community without any differences from one another, especially for minorities in the community. Social inclusion is also often associated with community empowerment in various activities that can improve community skills and skills in improving welfare. Community activities in multiple regions, mainly for minority communities, are minimal, this is due to groupings that can be caused by various backgrounds such as ethnicity, race, religion, social status, education, persons with disabilities, and so on (Ningrum, 2019).

The concept of social inclusion is in line with the goals of Society-based Library and the literacy community, both pioneered by the government and individually. That's where the idea came to establish a TBM or literacy community known as Republik Gubuk, which can accommodate minority groups often underestimated as "scumbags".

There have been several studies have been conducted before, namely Social Inclusion and Community Empowerment in Village Library Development, where it was found that all library development and development processes are closely related to community efforts in developing themselves and improving the quality and quality of life (Prasetyawan & Suharso, 2015). Another study titled Taman Baca Pustaka as an Expansion of Special Library Services Based on Social Inclusion obtained the results that PUSTAKA, as a unique library met the minimum requirements for developing a library based on social inclusion, namely resources, capacity, and opportunities. In addition, PUSTAKA also organizes programs that actively involve the community as a response and support for social inclusion-based library policies to improve quality and welfare in line with the concept developed by Faulkner (Bernika et al., 2020).

From this background, the purpose of this research is to see how the role of Society-based Library Republik Gubuk is to become a forum for minority groups, especially those who drop out of school.

## **2. METHODS**

The method used in this study uses qualitative data analysis methods with a case study approach. A case study is a form of qualitative research that analyzes a case or problem in a real- life context (Creswell, 2015). The issue or problem referred to in this study is a form of acceptance of minority groups, in this case, the dropout community in Jabung District, which is then empowered through an activity at Society-based Library Republik Gubuk. The data used are primary and secondary data obtained from interviews, direct observation, and literature study.

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### 3.1. Gubuk Baca and Republik Gubuk

Gubuk baca is one form of Society-based Library spread throughout Jabung District, Malang Regency. Gubuk Baca was initially established on the initiative of a resident voluntarily to create a space that the local community could use to study, work and play. The industry emerged when seeing the life of the local community, especially youth and children spending more time just like that, and not a few of them dropped out of school as a result of this condition, so young people were known for their delinquency, but with persistence and good intentions in general. Slowly invites residents to join the community known as gubuk baca (Hasanah, 2020; Wijaya, 2020).

So far, the development of this community has established a number of reading huts scattered in the Jabung sub-district, Malang Regency, which were then made into one parenting management known as the Republic Gubuk. Republic Hut is a unifying place for several reading huts that have been formed. Each reading hut has its characteristics based on the background of its formation and the activities of the surrounding community so that the activities held are also different from each other but have the same goal, which is to become a forum for people to learn, work, play and preserve their culture. Local culture. Several services provided by Society-based Library or the literacy community have led to the concept of social inclusion, namely by offering training that can improve community skills such as batik training, marketing skills products, making masks, and increasing cultural literacy, especially the cultures that exist in the environment. Society-based Library and many other activities have been carried out.

#### 3.2. Society-based Library Republik Gubuk As a Place for Out-of-School Community Groups

The minority group referred to in Jabung District are those who do not have the same opportunities in formal education, so they are grouped into a minority group of dropouts in the surrounding community, considering that Jabung sub-district is one of the districts that becomes the center of education marked by the presence of various kinds of traditional schools from multiple levels (Wahyudi & Khannanah, 2021).

Because of these conditions, they formed a separate group where the group did not have a place to hone and channel their talents and interests in the surrounding community, so they preferred to carry out activities that disturbed the surrounding community. It is undeniable that many community groups need attention and have different limitations (Mahdi & Asari, 2020).

Along with the formation of a literacy forum or community in Jabung District by one of the literacy activists who care about these minority groups by providing space for minority groups, namely people who have dropped out of school to develop their skills and abilities and make the community a forum for meeting educational needs even as non-formal educational institutions.

Over time, these minority groups are no longer limited to the user community. Still, they can be used as a driver of progress, especially regarding socio-cultural literacy in the community. When resources, opportunities, and capacities are utilized appropriately and effectively, they can become an important supporter in social life.

Society-based Library Republik Gubuk is a Taman Baca Masyarakat located in the Sukolilo Village area, Jabung District, Malang Regency. The Gubuk Republik as a Society-based Library has a role in accommodating the positive activities of minority groups who have dropped out of school by helping them to hone the skills and creativity of youth as well as a source of

information in the Jabung area, Malang Regency, and its surroundings. This community also plays a role so that it can be a liaison for people who have dropped out of school in accessing sources of information and knowledge both in the scope of non-formal education and formal education. From here, Society-based Library Republik Gubuk has a role as a forum to empower minority groups, such as people who have dropped out of school to develop their abilities to become better individuals and more beneficial for the surrounding environment.

The role of Taman Baca Masyarakat Republik Gubuk As a forum to increase knowledge and literacy for the surrounding community, especially people who have dropped out of school and are considered a minority group by the surrounding community, of course, Society-based Library Republik Gubuk must have an activity program, one of the program activities that can improve the literacy of the surrounding community by providing a collection of books with various science and also a mobile library program that can reach other villages around Jabung. This activity makes people who drop out of school or minority groups gain knowledge by being literate both from book collections and activities such as training and discussion rooms.

The reading service provided by Society-based Library Republik Gubuk can be used by all circles of society, including dropouts or minority groups, if this literacy activity continues to be carried out with a variety of activities, the role of Society-based Library Republik Gubuk is successful in preparing dropout community groups to continue to gain knowledge even though not in formal educational institutions so that the surrounding community can accept them.

Another activity is introducing local cultures, commonly known as cultural literacy. (Darmawan et al., 2020; Wheaton, 2014). This activity is an introduction and a place to hone skills, especially in the arts.

In this activity, these minority groups can learn and teach local culture, manifested in the "Teaching Preman" program of activities (Afdellina, 2021; Ahmad et al., 2020). Preman Teaching is one of the programs carried out by the marginalized activists of the Republic of Gubuk, where the background comes from a "thug group" formed from school dropouts. One of Preman Mengajar is "Sambang Gubuk" is carried out by managers reading huts to visit other reading houses to increase knowledge and exchange information. For example, members of a reading hut teach about art to members and administrators of other places. The activity most often carried out by this community is the introduction and manufacture of Jabung Masks using media from waste paper which is then painted to form a mask. They make masks and teach the Jabung Mask dance to the younger siblings around the hut.

Not only limited to learning and teaching in the community, but the republic of the hut has also developed the Preman Mengajar program by collaborating with formal education institutions, in this case, the schools around Jabung, Malang Regency.

The form of activities carried out in this collaboration is to provide opportunities for minority groups, in this case, the dropout community, to introduce and teach Jabung local culture to students included in the Local Content subject. In addition to training and teaching culture, this minority group also has the opportunity to know the atmosphere of formal educational institutions indirectly to increase their knowledge of public speaking and improve relationships.

In addition to providing a learning space in improving literacy, Republik Gubuk is also a forum for minority groups and the general public to provide human resources that are prepared to develop the surrounding area by seeing the potential that we can create, one



example in the field of skills, cultural arts known as literacy Socio-cultural (Marjanovič-Umek et al., 2015; Saepudin, et al., 2017; Suroso et al., 2021).

Other forms of creativity continue to be developed, such as carving skills, skills in design, and other arts, such as dance training. This activity also produced works in the form of the Jabung Malangan mask. This typical Jabung batik cloth combines local culture and religious elements so that the unique products can indirectly improve the community's economy. This is in line with one of the studies conducted that the village library or TBM can be a forum for empowering rural communities to improve the economy (Anna et al., 2020; Rachman et al., 2019).

#### 4. CONCLUSION

With the concept of social inclusion-based services that provide equal treatment and opportunities without discriminating against differences in ethnicity, religion, and social status, Society-based Library Republik Gubuk has implemented the concept of social inclusion by providing opportunities for minority groups, especially those who have dropped out of school who are considered "garbage" community to be empowered through several program activities to become a better person and be accepted by the surrounding community. One form of exercise that accommodates these minority groups is the Preman Mengajar program. The Preman Teaching Program is one of the work programs of Society-based Library Republik Gubuk which provides a forum for empowering the dropout community to develop their abilities and skills in the arts and culture, such as making the Jabung Malangan mask which is the local culture of the Jabung area. The Preman Teaching activity program has also developed by collaborating with schools in the surrounding environment to provide opportunities for these minority groups to get to know the local culture of Jabung in the formal education environment. In addition, they also have the chance to become movers and caregivers of reading huts and actors in activities that come into contact with the community.

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