



International Journal Pedagogy of Social Studies

Journal homepage: <http://ejournal.upi.edu/index.php/pips/index>



Youth, Electoral Politics, and Political Dynasties in Indonesia

M. Yunasri Ridhoh, Muhammad Nur, Andi Rizal, Randiawan, Muhammad Khoidir*

Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia, Bandung, Indonesia

Correspondence: E-mail: yunasri.ridhoh@unm.ac.id

ABSTRACT

The presence of young people in the arena of electoral politics is often regarded as a sign of hope and a pathway for leadership regeneration. However, a critical issue arises when these young political figures rely heavily on their familial ties to entrenched political elites—such as being the children, spouses, siblings, or nephews and nieces of influential figures. This article employs a literature review approach by analyzing empirical data drawn from 35 scholarly works discussing youth involvement in electoral politics. The findings indicate: 1) youth participation in politics often reflects the continuation of elite domination rather than its disruption, thereby reinforcing oligarchic structures, undermining meritocratic principles, and widening the gap between the elite and the general public; 2) while the public tends to view young politicians as symbols of hope, skepticism persists regarding their intentions, commitment, and capabilities—especially among those originating from political dynasties; 3) nonetheless, there remains enduring optimism about the potential of youth as catalysts and drivers of change, particularly through activism, social movements, and political engagement.

© 2025 IJPOSS

ARTICLE INFO

Article History:

Submitted/Received 1 May 2025

First Revised 15 May 2025

Accepted 20 May 2025

First Available online 10 Jun 2025

Publication Date 15 Jun 2025

Keyword:

*youth, electoral politics, political dynasties, oligarchy, Indonesia
Correspondence*

1. INTRODUCTION

The increasing presence of young people in Indonesia's electoral politics has recently become a topic of growing discussion. This is a phenomenon that was rarely seen in the past. (Randiawan, 2023) points out that while the growing political participation of youth is a promising development, it also raises concerns—even disappointment—because many of the young individuals emerging in politics are, in fact, relatives of established political elites. This situation has given rise to the term “pseudo-youth,” used to describe the pessimism and skepticism directed at young individuals who take center stage in Indonesia's electoral politics.

In many countries, according to Sloam, youth participation in politics is perceived as a refreshing force in governance. Their involvement is believed to offer a corrective to corrupt or ineffective systems, and is even seen as a means to introduce new approaches to decision-making and policy formulation (Sloam, Pickard and Henn, 2022).

Young people, driven by idealism, critical thinking, and creativity, tend to adopt more progressive and inclusive perspectives in addressing public issues. As such, they are often seen as reform-minded actors in governance, with the potential to enhance transparency, accountability, and meaningful participation in public administration.

In the context of electoral politics, youth participation is considered fundamental to building a more deliberative, inclusive, and responsive democracy. It is hoped that young political participants can offer fresh, progressive perspectives in tackling national challenges such as inequality, corruption, and policy stagnation (Mendrofa and Efriza, 2022). Political education becomes increasingly important in this regard, serving as a vehicle for instilling national values in the younger generation—who hold a vital role in shaping the nation's future (Hayatunnisa et al., 2024). In many countries, youth participation in politics is often associated with the aspiration to break the cycle of old political practices, which tend to be corrupt and driven by elite interests.

However, in Indonesia, youth participation in electoral politics often takes on different characteristics. While there is hope that young people will bring about political change, the reality is more complex—many of these young actors come from entrenched elite families, which often limits their willingness or capacity to pursue meaningful reform. Frequently, they are the children, sons-in-law, spouses, siblings, in-laws, or nephews and nieces of long-established political elites with significant influence at both local and national levels (Rahim et al., 2025; Tambunan, 2023).

This dominance of elites—an oligarchic structure—creates a state of democratic disequilibrium, undermining the prospects for substantive democracy (Komedi and Ferianto, 2023; Suyitno et al., 2024). Such elite dominance becomes fertile ground for the growth of oligarchy. As described by (Tambunan, 2023), oligarchy in Indonesian politics refers to the control of power by a small group of elites who have exclusive access to economic and political resources. Within this framework, political dynasties play a crucial role, as power is not only inherited but actively preserved within elite family circles.

These political dynasties rely not only on economic capital but also on expansive social networks and symbolic capital—such as reputation and status—to maintain their influence. In some cases, they even acquire educational or noble titles as a way to

enhance their prestige (Amrullah, 2024). This phenomenon has led to two major debates in political studies. First, whether the involvement of young people in politics can genuinely serve as a force for change capable of disrupting a corrupt and oligarchic system. As (Riniolo and Ortensi, 2021) argue, youth represent social agents with the potential to dismantle stagnant political structures and promote more transparent, accountable, and inclusive governance.

Second, this trend also sparks a broader discourse on the persistence of oligarchy and political dynasties within democratic systems. There is growing collective pessimism that democracy—which ideally ensures equal political representation and prevents power monopolies by a few elites—is increasingly undermined by political dynasties that, according to (Jati, 2022) in fact reinforce elite domination.

Thus, this study is deemed necessary to critically examine the phenomenon. It is important to analyze current trends in youth participation in electoral politics. This research aims to make a meaningful contribution to understanding the political dynamics involving youth and their implications for democracy and improved political governance.

2. METHOD

The research method employed in this article is a Systematic Literature Review (SLR), which aims to collect and analyze information from various relevant sources. Literature searches were conducted using three primary databases: Google Scholar, Taylor and Francis Online, and Science Direct. These sources were chosen for their access to accredited and reputable academic articles, books, and scholarly journals.

The data collection process involved identifying publications related to the research topic—namely, youth political participation in electoral politics. Each selected article was analyzed to identify key findings and conclusions that could provide deeper insight into the subject matter.

This literature study also aims to summarize and compare findings from previous research in order to build a solid conceptual foundation and to highlight existing research gaps.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The articles listed below were collected through literature searches using Google Scholar, Taylor and Francis Online, and Science Direct. This process identified 35 articles and books relevant to the themes of youth in electoral politics, elite domination in political processes, and the potential of youth as agents of change.

The table provides a summary of each article, including the title, author(s), year of publication, source, and key findings that support a deeper understanding of the topics under discussion that can be seen in the following **Table 1**.

Table 1. Reviewed Literature

NO	Article	Main Finding
1.	Tambunan, D. (2023). The intervention of oligarchy in the Indonesian legislative process. <i>Asian Journal of Comparative Politics</i> , 8(2), 637-653.	Political dynasties reinforce oligarchy and hinder democratic progress.

2. Hayati, N. N. (2021). Komunikasi politik inklusif muhammadiyah: Analisis teks pesan komunikasi muhammadiyah pada pemilihan umum serentak 2019. *Maarif Institute*, 141(161), 16-1. Muhammadiyah's inclusive politics contribute to a more participatory and just democracy.
3. Gurin, M. (2023). Forgotten concepts of Korea's welfare state: productivist welfare capitalism and confucianism revisited in family policy change. *Social Politics: International Studies in Gender, State and Society*, 30(4), 1211-1237. Elite families dominate the political arena, limiting access for those unaffiliated with them.
4. Huber, R. A., Jankowski, M., and Juen, C. M. (2023). Populist parties and the two-dimensional policy space. *European journal of political research*, 62(3), 989-1004. Political systems tend to be influenced by the existence of political dynasties.
5. Müllenmeister, C., Maersk, J. L., and Farias, L. (2023). Exploring doing activism as a means for political action and social transformation in Germany. *Journal of Occupational Science*, 30(3), 377-389. Youth political activism can become a force that changes political dynamics.
5. Myoung, E., and Liou, P. Y. (2022). Adolescents' political socialization at school, citizenship self-efficacy, and expected electoral participation. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 51(7), 1305-1316. Youth political activism can become a force that changes political dynamics.
6. Myoung, E., and Liou, P. Y. (2022). Adolescents' political socialization at school, citizenship self-efficacy, and expected electoral participation. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 51(7), 1305-1316. Youth participation in politics is significantly influenced by political elites.
7. Kostelka, F., and Blais, A. (2021). The generational and institutional sources of the global decline in voter turnout. *World politics*, 73(4), 629-667. Generational change in political representation is still constrained by old structures.
8. Putra, H. O. A., Taifur, W. D., Games, D., and Handra, H. (2022) Social capital, diffusion of innovation and political engagement: views of millennials. *International Journal of Sustainable Society*, 14(1), 1-16. In Indonesia, family connections heavily influence youth political involvement.
9. Willeck, C., and Mendelberg, T. (2022). Education and political participation. *Annual Review of Political Science*, 25(1), 89-110. Political socialization deeply shapes young voters' preferences.
10. Allaste, A. A., Beilmann, M., and Pirk, R. (2022). Non-formal and informal learning as citizenship education: The views of young people and youth Young voters play a vital role in driving dynamic political change.

-
- policymakers. *Journal of Applied Youth Studies*, 5(1), 19-35.
11. Amrullah, Z. A. (2024). Dinamika budaya politik kiai: studi pada politik kiai kampung di Tuban. *Besari: Journal of Social and Cultural Studies*, 2(1), 47-60.

Religious patronage still significantly influences local democracy.
 12. Binder, A., Heiss, R., Matthes, J., and Sander, D. (2021). Dealigned but mobilized? Insights from a citizen science study on youth political engagement. *Journal of Youth Studies*, 24(2), 232-249.

Young women's political involvement faces new challenges and opportunities.
 13. Bui, T. M. T., Turner, M., and Filipi, A. (2024). Including children's voice in family language policy: an exploration of the tensions between mothers' and children's language beliefs. *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*, 45(7), 2863-2879.

Party personalization increased after reform and affects party structures.
 14. Indainanto, Y. I. (2021). Masa depan media massa di era digital. *Jurnal Ilmiah Muqoddimah: Jurnal Ilmu Sosial, Politik, Dan Humaniora*, 5(1), 24-37.

Mass media supports oligarchic power in democracy.
 15. Renwarin, S. (2025). peran media sosial dalam membentuk opini publik selama pilkada 2024 di Kabupaten Merauke. *Jurnal Administrasi Karya Dharma*, 4(1), 32-40.

Political decentralization has led to the rise of local oligarchs controlling regional policy.
 16. Miranda, M., Lestari, A., and Sandi, A. (2025). Membedah demokrasi: tantangan, implikasi terhadap kualitas, dan harapan untuk masa depan. *LANCAH: Jurnal Inovasi Dan Tren*, 3(1), 77-88.

Democracy faces quality challenges due to transactional politics and weak institutions.
 17. Jati, W. R. (2022). Comparative analysis of clientelistic democracy in india and indonesia: outcomes and challenges. *Politik Indonesia: Indonesian Political Science Review*, 7(1), 69-82.

Young leaders are often still tied to existing elite structures.
 18. Rahim, A., Al Munawar, K., Riyadi, S., Hamdan, H., Shofi, A., Sohardono, H., ... and Fathoni, A. (2025). Sosialisasi nilai-nilai islam dalam mencegah politik identitas dan polarisasi sosial di desa Cipancuh, Gantar, Indramayu. *Jurnal Abdimas Bina Bangsa*, 6(1), 716-725.

Identity politics challenge social cohesion in democratic contexts.
 19. Riyanto, A., Fridiyanti, Y. N., and Prihatmoko, J. J. (2024). Praktek dinasti politik pada pilkada serentak jawa tengah tahun 2020. *Moderat: Jurnal Ilmiah Ilmu Pemerintahan*, 10(1), 35-46.

Political dynasties remain strong at the local level despite democratic development.
 20. Sloam, J., Pickard, S., and Henn, M. (2022). Young people and environmental

Youth activism can be a tool for broader political transformation.

-
- activism: The transformation of democratic politics. *Journal of Youth Studies*, 25(6), 683-691.
21. Syaefulloh, I. (2024). Strategi komunikasi politik pemilihan presiden 2024 pemilih pemula Di Kabupaten Bandung. *Al-Kalam: Jurnal Komunikasi, Bisnis Dan Manajemen*, 11(2), 122-141. First-time voters are influenced by their social environment in making political choices.
 22. Pradikta, H. P. (2024). Pengaruh kemiskinan terhadap praktik dinasti politik di Indonesia dan Filipina tahun 2017-2021. *Journal Global Focus*, 4(2), 203-229. Poverty contributes to the persistence of political dynasties in Indonesia and the Philippines.
 23. Riniolo, V., and Ortensi, L. E. (2021). Young generations' activism in Italy: Comparing political engagement and participation of native youths and youths from a migrant background. *Social Indicators Research*, 153(3), 923-955. Youth political engagement is associated with trust in political institutions.
 24. Permatasari, D., Nasution, K. A., Khairi, M. R., and Tambunan, F. F. (2025). Opini publik dalam sistem demokrasi. *Retorika: Jurnal Komunikasi, Sosial dan Ilmu Politik*, 2(1), 41-46. Modern politics demands a more participatory approach.
 25. Randiawan, R., Suryadi, K., and Bestari, P. (2023). Analysis of the construction of the meaning of political populism as phenomenology in the perspective of civic education. *JED (Jurnal Etika Demokrasi)*, 8(3), 419-430. Political education plays a role in shaping young leadership character.
 26. Djalil, N. A. (2025). Strategi komunikasi politik partai solidaritas indonesia pada pemilu 2024 di daerah pemilihan Sulawesi Selatan 1. *Journal Scientific of Mandalika (JSM)*, 6(2), 350-370. Political communication strategies are key to attracting young voters in the 2024 elections
 27. Suyitno, I., Ridhoh, M. Y., Aba, A., and Maryati, M. (2024). Towards a new balance: the role of the dpd in Indonesian democracy. *Jurnal Etika Demokrasi*, 9(3), 414-431. The DPD's role in Indonesia's democracy still faces structural challenges in representing regions.
 28. Rosalina, F., Apriani, T. T., Sari, R. P., Zelvina, M., and Pertiwi, R. D. (2024). Gaya kepemimpinan partai politik di indonesia. *Anuitas: Jurnal Ekonomi, Bisnis dan Manajemen*, 1(1), 43-56. Economic and political oligarchy remains a barrier to healthy democracy in Indonesia.
 29. Komedi, K., and Ferianto, J. (2023). Konsep dan terapan pengembangan sumber daya manusia sektor publik di Indonesia (eksistensi kelembagaan BPSDM). *Musamus Journal of Public Administration*, 6(1), 479-487. Professionalism and ethics in public HR management are essential to improving governance effectiveness.

-
- | | | |
|-----|--|---|
| 30. | Gurín, M. (2023). Forgotten concepts of Korea's welfare state: productivist welfare capitalism and confucianism revisited in family policy change. <i>Social Politics: International Studies in Gender, State and Society</i> , 30(4), 1211-1237 | Young politicians often reinforce oligarchy rather than challenge it. |
| 31. | Mendrofa, D., and Efriza, E. (2022). Analisis personalisasi partai politik di era reformasi. <i>Administratio</i> , 13(2), 205-219. | Youth activism can be a tool for greater political transformation. |
| 32. | Putra, B. K., and Hadi, K. (2022). State and community participation in the democratization process in Indonesia. <i>International Journal of Sustainable Society</i> , 14(1), 1–16. | Focusing on youth participation in Indonesia shows the continued influence of elites. |
| 33. | Myoung, E., and Liou, P. Y. (2022). Adolescents' political socialization at school, citizenship self-efficacy, and expected electoral participation. <i>Journal of Youth and Adolescence</i> , 51(7), 1305-1316. | Political socialization plays an important role in shaping youth political attitudes. |
| 34. | Bui, T. M. T., Turner, M., and Filipi, A. (2024). Including children's voice in family language policy: an exploration of the tensions between mothers' and children's language beliefs. <i>Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development</i> , 45(7), 2863-2879. | Social, economic, and cultural capital significantly influence individual political participation. |
| 35. | Hayatunnisa, A., Saepudin, E. A., Apriliyaningsih, S., Madina, L. U., Nurhasna, F., and Rosita, S. L. (2024). Analisis peran pemuda dalam ragam organisasi pada komite nasional pemuda indonesia (KNPI) demi mewujudkan budaya politik pancasila. <i>Journal of Multidisciplinary Inquiry in Science, Technology and Educational Research</i> , 1(3), 448-453. | Political education plays a strategic role in shaping the leadership character of the younger generation. |
-

3.1. Elite Domination in Electoral Politics

Elite domination in electoral politics is a common phenomenon in many countries, including Indonesia. Political dynasties often emerge as a means of consolidation and self-preservation through the intergenerational transfer of power within elite family circles (Bui, Turner and Filipi, 2024; Renwarin, 2025; Riyanto, Fridiyanti and Prihatmoko, 2024).

According to (Tambunan, 2023), oligarchy and political dynasties in Southeast Asia are two sides of the same coin—interconnected and mutually reinforcing. Oligarchs provide substantial economic resources and political influence to help dynasties win elections and maintain power, while political dynasties grant privileged access and

benefits to the oligarchs who support them, such as business concessions and favorable policies.

In Indonesia, for instance, the relationship between business actors and politicians is evident in the phenomenon of rent-seeking. Dynastic politics strengthens this condition by impeding healthy political regeneration, while oligarchic power ensures that elites continue to enjoy exclusive access to state resources and business opportunities (Indainanto, 2021; Rosalina et al., 2024). In the process of power transfer, money politics often becomes the primary instrument. The problem is that elites who are elected through vote buying intentionally maintain communities in poverty and ignorance, as such conditions make money politics more effective—guaranteeing continued electoral victories. (Gurín, 2023), in his study of welfare politics in Korea, revealed that elite families dominate the political sphere and tend to restrict access for those outside their networks. This situation is not unique to Korea but is also prevalent in many other countries. In Indonesia, youth involvement in politics is often overshadowed by the presence of political dynasties. As (Putra et al., 2022) found, family connections play a decisive role in determining who can participate in politics and who stands a real chance in electoral contests.

This elite dominance creates a political structure that is difficult to penetrate for those without ties to political elites. As a result, young people from outside elite families face significant barriers in accessing influential positions or standing as credible candidates in elections. (Huber, Jankowski and Juen, 2023) study supports this observation, showing that political systems are frequently influenced by the presence of dynasties that steer policymaking in favor of elite interests.

This phenomenon is evident in the context of Indonesian elections, where many young candidates are elected not solely because of their youth but because they are part of prominent political families or connected to high-ranking officials. This is often referred to as the "pseudo-youth" phenomenon, where young candidates merely continue the legacy of previous generations (Syaefulloh, 2024). It underscores the fact that genuine political regeneration has not yet been fully realized, as these young candidates remain bound to entrenched dynastic structures. (Bui, Turner and Filipi., 2024) theory of capital offers additional insight into this dynamic. Youth from dynastic political backgrounds often possess greater access to social capital that supports their presence in the political arena. They benefit from social networks established by their families, which ease their entry into power structures.

Furthermore, economic capital plays a significant role in sustaining political oligarchy. The wealth of elite families is not only used to finance political campaigns but also to cultivate economic dependency among voters (Miranda, Lestari and Sandi, 2025; Pradikta, 2024). By leveraging their financial resources, political dynasties can control information, influence public policy, and craft favorable public images that reinforce their dominance. In addition, symbolic capital—such as legitimacy, prestige, and social influence—further consolidates their power.

3.2. Public Perception of Youth and Political Dynasties

Public perception of youth involvement in politics—particularly those from political dynasties—is highly varied, and often ambivalent. On one hand, many view the presence

of young individuals in politics as a positive sign of regeneration and renewal in an otherwise stagnant political system. On the other hand, this perception is often diminished by the reality that many politically active youth are part of well-established political dynasties.

According to a study by (Kostelka and Blais, 2021), generational change in politics remains heavily constrained by entrenched structures controlled by elites. While young people entering politics often carry hopes of reform, their potential to drive change becomes significantly limited if they are bound by elite family ties. The public is increasingly aware that, despite the presence of young candidates, most of them remain extensions of dominant political families. (Myoung and Liou, 2022), in their research, show that youth participation in politics is frequently influenced by political elites. Young political actors often come from families with strong political affiliations, while those without such ties find it more difficult to gain entry into the political arena. This reinforces the perception that what appears to be political regeneration is, in fact, merely a generational transfer of power within the same elite circles.

In Indonesia, this phenomenon is especially evident across both local and national political contests. Children of prominent political figures often run in elections at various levels, whether legislative or executive. Despite their young age, the public increasingly questions whether they truly represent the aspirations of the younger generation or are simply continuing their family's legacy of power. A study by (Putra and Hadi, 2022) emphasizes that family connections significantly affect youth involvement in politics, reinforcing the perception that young political actors are often just representatives of existing dynasties (Hayati, 2021). Involvement in politics, reinforcing the perception that young political actors are often just representatives of existing dynasties (Hayati, 2021). However, not all public perceptions of youth from political dynasties are negative. Some segments of society still see their involvement as a source of hope for political renewal. (Willeck and Mendelberg, 2022) argues that political socialization plays a crucial role in shaping young people's political preferences. Their political education and life experiences can help them adopt more progressive views, even if they come from privileged political backgrounds. Nonetheless, the fundamental question remains: can they truly break free from the influence of the dynastic structures that shaped them?

3.3. The Potential of Youth as Dynamic Agents and Catalysts for Change

Despite the fact that youth involvement in politics is often constrained by political dynasties and prevailing social structures, young people still hold immense potential as dynamic agents and catalysts for change. (Müllenmeister, Maersk and Farias, 2023), in their study on political activism in Germany, demonstrate that youth activism can serve as a powerful force in transforming political dynamics. Young individuals tend to be more open to change and capable of thinking beyond established frameworks, making their participation in politics a key driver in breaking political stagnation and deadlock. (Allaste, Beilmann and Pirk, 2022) also emphasizes the crucial role of young voters in pushing for dynamic political change. Unlike older generations who are typically more conservative and attached to the status quo, younger voters often hold different political preferences. With their innovation and idealism, youth have the potential to disrupt long-standing power structures dominated by elites and political dynasties.

However, to realize this potential, youth must gain greater access to political education and opportunities for direct engagement in political processes. (Willeck and Mendelberg, 2022) argues that political socialization and education play a vital role in shaping young people's political preferences. Quality political education can equip youth with a deeper understanding of political issues and enhance their engagement in democratic practices. (Binder et al., 2021), in their study on the political involvement of young women, reveal that youth—particularly women—face unique challenges in political engagement. Nonetheless, they also have significant opportunities to advocate for pressing issues relevant to their generation, such as women's rights, environmental protection, and intergenerational justice. Youth political activism, especially when driven by technology and social media, can serve as an effective tool to campaign for change across a variety of domains.

In Indonesia, young people have already begun to demonstrate their potential as catalysts for change, both through social movements and direct political participation. Although they face many challenges, youth continue to possess the power to drive a more inclusive and just political transformation—provided they can overcome the structural barriers that exist. This is especially crucial considering that young voters in Indonesia—comprising Millennials and Gen Z—now account for 55–60% of registered voters (KPU, 2024). Millennials, born between 1981 and 1996, and Gen Z, born between 1997 and 2012 (aged 17–39), represent around 114 million people, making them a decisive segment in determining electoral outcomes.

Trends in youth voting behavior show a shift toward greater dynamism and responsiveness to political issues. There is increasing attention among young voters to candidates who are honest and anti-corruption—particularly given the widespread use of the internet and the dominance of social media, which have reshaped political communication among the younger generation.

In addition to being strategic voters, youth also bring new perspectives and approaches to policymaking—if they can be adequately represented in parliament. This is reflected in the evolving political preferences of young people, who are less tied to specific parties and more focused on the character and integrity of political candidates (Permatasari et al., 2025; Djalil, 2025).

Therefore, young people must demonstrate that they are not merely heirs to power, but rather a generation of successors determined to transform and renew the political system in a direction that is more inclusive, responsive, and meritocratic.

The participation of young people in politics—especially those from dynastic backgrounds—is met with mixed public perceptions. On one hand, youth are seen as symbols of hope and renewal, expected to bring fresh energy and innovation into a stagnant system. On the other hand, the public remains skeptical of their intentions, questioning whether they are truly committed to reforms that benefit society, or merely seeking to maintain the dominance of their elite families. As a result, young people face significant challenges in proving their capacity and integrity to bring about real change.

Despite being obstructed by entrenched elite structures, youth possess great potential to serve as dynamic drivers and catalysts for transformation. Through activism and involvement in social movements, they can build momentum for a shift toward a more inclusive and meritocratic political landscape. With appropriate support—such as

leadership training programs and access to political resources—they can strengthen their presence in politics and challenge the existing dominance of political dynasties. The opportunity to make a positive impact in the political arena is open to a new generation of leaders who are courageous, creative, and critical.

4. CONCLUSION

Elite families in Indonesia hold significant influence in the political sphere, constructing dynastic systems that deliberately hinder the participation of new political actors and deepen the gap between elites and non-elites. This condition leads to stagnation in social and political mobility and undermines the principle of meritocracy, in which individuals should be selected based on competence rather than family background. This phenomenon reflects the notion that youth involvement from political dynasties often represents “pseudo youth”—individuals who function more as inheritors of political legacy than as genuine agents of change.

The participation of young people in politics—especially those from dynastic backgrounds—is met with mixed public perceptions. On one hand, youth are seen as symbols of hope and renewal, expected to bring fresh energy and innovation into a stagnant system. On the other hand, the public remains skeptical of their intentions, questioning whether they are truly committed to reforms that benefit society, or merely seeking to maintain the dominance of their elite families. As a result, young people face significant challenges in proving their capacity and integrity to bring about real change.

Despite being obstructed by entrenched elite structures, youth possess great potential to serve as dynamic drivers and catalysts for transformation. Through activism and involvement in social movements, they can build momentum for a shift toward a more inclusive and meritocratic political landscape. With appropriate support—such as leadership training programs and access to political resources—they can strengthen their presence in politics and challenge the existing dominance of political dynasties. The opportunity to make a positive impact in the political arena is open to a new generation of leaders who are courageous, creative, and critical.

5. REFERENCES

- Allaste, A. A., Beilmann, M., and Pirk, R. (2022). Non-formal and informal learning as citizenship education: The views of young people and youth policymakers. *Journal of Applied Youth Studies*, 5(1), 19-35.
- Amrullah, Z. A. (2024). Dinamika budaya politik kiai: studi pada politik kiai kampung di Tuban. *Besari: Journal of Social and Cultural Studies*, 2(1), 47-60.
- Binder, A., Heiss, R., Matthes, J., and Sander, D. (2021). Dealigned but mobilized? Insights from a citizen science study on youth political engagement. *Journal of Youth Studies*, 24(2), 232-249.
- Bui, T. M. T., Turner, M., and Filipi, A. (2024). Including children's voice in family language policy: an exploration of the tensions between mothers' and children's language beliefs. *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*, 45(7), 2863-2879.

- Djalil, N. A. (2025). Strategi komunikasi politik partai solidaritas indonesia pada pemilu 2024 di daerah pemilihan Sulawesi Selatan 1. *Journal Scientific of Mandalika (JSM)*, 6(2), 350-370.
- Gurín, M. (2023). Forgotten concepts of Korea's welfare state: productivist welfare capitalism and confucianism revisited in family policy change. *Social Politics: International Studies in Gender, State and Society*, 30(4), 1211-1237.
- Hayati, N. N. (2021). Komunikasi politik inklusif muhammadiyah: analisis teks pesan komunikasi muhammadiyah pada pemilihan umum serentak 2019. *Maarif Institute*, 141(161), 16-24.
- Hayatunnisa, A., Saepudin, E. A., Apriliyaningsih, S., Madina, L. U., Nurhasna, F., and Rosita, S. L. (2024). Analisis peran pemuda dalam ragam organisasi pada komite nasional pemuda indonesia (KNPI) demi mewujudkan budaya politik Pancasila. *Journal of Multidisciplinary Inquiry in Science, Technology and Educational Research*, 1(3), 448-453.
- Huber, R. A., Jankowski, M., and Juen, C. M. (2023). Populist parties and the two-dimensional policy space. *European journal of political research*, 62(3), 989-1004.
- Indainanto, Y. I. (2021). Masa depan media massa di era digital. *Jurnal Ilmiah Muqoddimah: Jurnal Ilmu Sosial, Politik, Dan Humaniora*, 5(1), 24-37.
- Jati, W. R. (2022). Comparative analysis of clientelistic democracy in India and Indonesia: outcomes and challenges. *Politik Indonesia: Indonesian Political Science Review*, 7(1), 69-82.
- Komedi, K., and Ferianto, J. (2023). Konsep dan terapan pengembangan sumber daya manusia sektor publik di Indonesia (eksistensi kelembagaan BPSDM). *Musamus Journal of Public Administration*, 6(1), 479-487.
- Kostelka, F., and Blais, A. (2021). The generational and institutional sources of the global decline in voter turnout. *World politics*, 73(4), 629-667.
- Mendrofa, D., and Efriza, E. (2022). Analisis Personalisasi Partai Politik di Era Reformasi. *Administratio*, 13(2), 205-219.
- Miranda, M., Lestari, A., and Sandi, A. (2025). Membedah demokrasi: tantangan, implikasi terhadap kualitas, dan harapan untuk masa depan. *LANCAH: Jurnal Inovasi dan Tren*, 3(1), 77-88.
- Müllenmeister, C., Maersk, J. L., and Farias, L. (2023). Exploring doing activism as a means for political action and social transformation in Germany. *Journal of Occupational Science*, 30(3), 377-389.
- Myoung, E., and Liou, P. Y. (2022). Adolescents' political socialization at school, citizenship self-efficacy, and expected electoral participation. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 51(7), 1305-1316.

- Permatasari, D., Nasution, K. A., Khairi, M. R., and Tambunan, F. F. (2025). Opini publik dalam sistem demokrasi. *Retorika: Jurnal Komunikasi, Sosial dan Ilmu Politik*, 2(1), 41-46.
- Pradikta, H. P. (2024). Pengaruh kemiskinan terhadap praktik dinasti politik di Indonesia dan Filipina tahun 2017-2021. *Global Focus*, 4(02), 203-229.
- Putra, B. K., and Hadi, K. (2022). State and community participation in the democratization process in Indonesia. *International Journal of Education, Information Technology, and Others*, 5(5), 28-40.
- Putra, H. O. A., Taifur, W. D., Games, D., and Handra, H. (2022). Social capital, diffusion of innovation and political engagement: views of millennials. *International Journal of Sustainable Society*, 14(1), 1-16.
- Rahim, A., Al Munawar, K., Riyadi, S., Hamdan, H., Shofi, A., Sohardono, H., ... and Fathoni, A. (2025). sosialisasi nilai-nilai Islam dalam mencegah politik identitas dan polarisasi sosial di desa CIPANCUH, GANTAR, INDRAMAYU. *Jurnal Abdimas Bina Bangsa*, 6(1), 716-725.
- Randiawan, R., Suryadi, K., and Bestari, P. (2023). Analysis of the construction of the meaning of political populism as phenomenology in the perspective of civic education. *JED (Jurnal Etika Demokrasi)*, 8(3), 419–430.
- RENWARIN, S. (2025). Peran media sosial dalam membentuk opini publik selama pilkada 2024 di kabupaten Merauke. *Jurnal Administrasi Karya Dharma*, 4(1), 32-40.
- Riniolo, V., and Ortensi, L. E. (2021). Young generations' activism in Italy: Comparing political engagement and participation of native youths and youths from a migrant background. *Social Indicators Research*, 153(3), 923-955.
- Riyanto, A., Fridiyanti, Y. N., and Prihatmoko, J. J. (2024). Praktek dinasti politik pada pilkada serentak Jawa Tengah tahun 2020. *Moderat: Jurnal Ilmiah Ilmu Pemerintahan*, 10(1), 35-46.
- Rosalina, F., Apriani, T. T., Sari, R. P., Zelvia, M., and Pertiwi, R. D. (2024). Gaya kepemimpinan partai politik di Indonesia. *Anuitas: Jurnal Ekonomi, Bisnis dan Manajemen*, 1(1), 43-56.
- Sloam, J., Pickard, S., and Henn, M. (2022). Young people and environmental activism: The transformation of democratic politics. *Journal of Youth Studies*, 25(6), 683-691.
- Suyitno, I., Ridhoh, M. Y., Aba, A., and Maryati, M. (2024). Towards a new balance: the role of the dpd in indonesian democracy. *Jurnal Etika Demokrasi*, 9(3), 414–431.
- Syaefulloh, I. (2024). Strategi komunikasi politik pemilihan presiden 2024 pemilih pemula di kabupaten Bandung. *Al-Kalam: Jurnal Komunikasi, Bisnis Dan Manajemen*, 11(2), 122-141.

- Tambunan, D. (2023). The intervention of oligarchy in the Indonesian legislative process. *Asian Journal of Comparative Politics*, 8(2), 637-653.
- Willeck, C., and Mendelberg, T. (2022). Education and political participation. *Annual Review of Political Science*, 25(1), 89-110.