

### Jurnal Umiah Mahasiswa RAUSHAN FIKR



Vol. 11 No. 1 Januari-Juni 2022

https://ejournal.uinsaizu.ac.id/index.php/raushanfikr

# ANALYSIS OF EDUCATION MINISTRY POLICY RELATED TO EDUCATION IN COVID-19 PERSPECTIVE OF THE POWER OF KNOWLEDGE MICHAEL FOUCAULT AND DAVID AUSUBEL'S MEANING LEARNING THEORY

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Received:	Reviewed:	Published:
3 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	February-June 2022	25 <sup>th</sup> July 2022

#### ABSTRACT

This paper aims to analyze the policies of the Ministry of Education and Culture regarding learning and the effectiveness of E-learning during the Covid-19 period by linking Michael Foucault's theory and ausubel theory in education during the Covid-19 period. The research method used is library research, where library techniques are carried out by studying, reading and recording various literature or reading materials that are in accordance with the subject matter. Then filtered and poured into a theoretical framework. The author also uses Michael Foucault's power of knowledge analysis and meaningful learning by David Ausubel on the policies of the Ministry of Education and Culture in education during the Covid-19 period. The results of this study are that when viewed from the analysis of Michel Foucault's theory, it is very clear that governmentality is a state that has the right to regulate an action or behavior of the community by internalizing an occupation so that it becomes an obedient or obedient population as a form of rationalization for the operation of a power. Meanwhile, in terms of David Ausubel's theory, the process of linking new information in relevant concepts is contained in a person's cognitive structure. Cognitive structure involves concepts, facts and generalizations that have been memorized and learned by students in the sense that this theory provides a meaningful learning for students.

**Keywords:** Policy, Ministry of Education and Culture, Education, Covid-19

#### **ABSTRAK**

Tulisan ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis kebijakan dari Kemendigbud mengenai pembelajaran dan keefektifan E-learning pada masa Covid-19 dengan mengkaitkan teori michael foucault dan teori ausubel dalam pendidikan di masa Covid-19. Metode penelitian yang digunakan yaitu library research (penelitian pustaka), dimana tekhnik kepustakaan yang dilakukan dengan yaitu dengan cara menelaah, membaca dan mencatat berbagai literatur atau bahan bacaan yang sesuai dengan pokok bahasan. Kemudian disaring dan dituangkan dalam kerangka pemikiran secara teoritis. Penulis juga menggunakan analisis kuasa pengetahuan Michael Foucault dan belajar bermakna david ausubel terhadap kebijakan Kemendikbud dalam pendidikan masa covid-19. Hasil penelitian ini adalah jika di tinjau analisis dari teori michel foucault sangat jelas bahwa governmentality ini Negara yang berhak mengatur suatu tindakan atau perilaku masyarakat dengan menginternalisasikan suatu pendudukan agar menjadi populasi yang taat atau patuh sebagai bentuk rasionalisasi atas beroperasinya suatu kekuasaan. Sedangkan ditinjau dari teori David Ausubel ini proses mengkaitkan suatu informasi baru dalam konsep-konsep yang relevan dimana terdapat pada struktur kognitif seseorang. Struktur kognitif menyangkut konsep, fakta dan generalisasi yang telah diingat serta dipelajari oleh siswa dalam artian teori ini memberikan sebuah pembelajaran yang bermakna bagi siswa.

Kata Kunci: Kebijakan, Kemendikbud, Pendidikan, Covid-19



#### **INTRODUCTION**

At this time the world is being shaken by natural phenomena that are very terrible in terms of human health. Namely with the emergence of a virus known as the corona virus or covid-19, where this virus originated in China, precisely in the Wuhan area. This virus then spread and even mutated to big countries, such as America, Russia, South Korea, Japan, and even Indonesia were also not spared from this virus outbreak. This virus attacks the human respiratory system with initial symptoms such as shortness of breath, cough, runny nose, fever, sore throat, and even death (Safira, 2020).

The Covid-19 pandemic began to enter Indonesia around March 2020. Entering the end of April 2020, the virus was growing rapidly in Jakarta, the capital city of Indonesia. Entering April, Covid-19 spread and infiltrated all 33 provinces in Indonesia. Kompas Daily and Merdeka people (28 April 2020) reported that 9,511 people were infected. 1,254 were declared cured, and 773 patients died. These two major media also reported that at least eight victims died every day in the country because of this one virus (Muhaemin et al., 2020).

Related to this, of course, the country is very devastated because of this

epidemic, a country that was initially peaceful, peaceful with normal activities, causing people in every country to become paranoid.

This Covid-19 is, in essence, a health crisis with its sudden onset, ready transmission and killing as well as the lack of vaccines to date to counteract its effects. However, the current global coronavirus crisis (GCC) has a wider impact on the economy, social, politics and the environment. From an economic point of view, it was very clearly affected in several countries. that SO unemployment increased drastically to the point of making some people depressed. Business closures were also constrained by policies made because of the Covid-19 pandemic. International trade value also fell. Both public and private debt increased, then to restore the economy is also very difficult for the community (Kusno, 2020).

In an effort to prevent the spread of Covid-19, the government issued various policies such as isolation, use of masks, washing hands, social distancing and physical distancing to large-scale social restrictions (PSBB). This condition requires people to stay at home, work, worship, study at home or reduce activities outside the home. Conditions like this then require educational institutions to

innovate in the learning process. One form of innovation is to do online or online learning. Then, on March 24, 2020, the Minister of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia issued Circular Letter Number 4 of 2020 concerning the Implementation of Educational Policies in the Emergency Period for the Spread of Covid-19, in which it was explained that the learning process was carried out at home through online/distance learning. provide meaningful learning experiences for students even in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic (Astini, 2020).

Seeing the development of the spread of Covid-19, the government does not just remain silent in an effort to handle or prevent the current outbreak, therefore the government provides policies such as isolation, maintaining distance, using masks, washing hands, social distancing and physical distancing. Besides that, he also urges the public to stay home so as not to be exposed to the Covid-19 virus and asks educational institutions to carry out online learning process activities or online from home.

Along with the development of technology and information, learning can be done online. So there are many terms such as E-learning, namely learning that uses electronic devices. Learning that is carried out using the internet network or

the world wide web is called online learning or online education. Education policy is a public policy in the field of education. Education policy is a tool made by the government in order to realize a change for the better. This policy was issued because the policy of implementing face-to-face education could not be implemented, so it was necessary to make a new policy in order to achieve a desired goal. The two policies of the Ministry of Education and Culture to follow up on Government Regulations in Lieu of Laws and Government Regulations related to the handling of Covid-19 are public policies in the education sector (Nurkolis & Muhdi, 2020).

Government policies that stipulate online learning or online E-learning learning using electronic devices. Because this education policy is a public policy in the field of education to realize a change for the better. Because this policy came out because face to face learning cannot be carried out in the learning process. Therefore, in this paper, we analyze a policy from the Ministry of Education and Culture in learning and the effectiveness of E-learning during the Covid-19 period by linking Michael Foucault's theory and Ausubel's theory in education during this Covid-19 period.

#### RESEARCH METHODS

The research method used is library research, library techniques carried out by reading, studying and recording various literature or reading materials that are in accordance with the subject matter. Then filtered and poured into a theoretical framework (Kartono, 1998).

This technique is carried out to strengthen the facts in order to compare the differences or similarities between theory and practice that the author is researching, namely qualitative. observe. Where the author also collects data from various sources who have researched, the author also uses an analysis of the power of knowledge of Michel Foucault and meaningful learning by David Ausubel on the policies of the Ministry of Education and Culture in education during the Covid-19 period.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Ministry of Education and Culture Policy on Online Learning (Michel Foucault's Theory)

The Ministry of Education and Culture's policy on online learning is a measure to prevent the spread of the Covid-19 virus. Minister of Education and Culture (Nadiem Anwar Marim) stated, "The basis for the issuance of educational policies during the Covid-19 period is to

prioritize the safety and health of students, workers, educators, and the community." Nadiem Anwar also emphasized that efforts to return a decision to start face-to-face learning for education units in each fog in the green zone were carried out very strictly as well as multiple requirements.

The existence of educational units in the green zone is a requirement, first, which must be met for all educational units that will carry out face-to-face learning. Second, there is a permit from a regional agency or regional office of the Ministry of Religion. Third, if you have fulfilled all the checklists and are ready to carry out face-to-face learning from the Fourth, education unit. each parent/guardian agrees Oπ the son/daughter to carry out face-to-face learning in the education unit. If one of the four conditions is not met, of course students will continue to do online learning from home in full (Pengelola WEB Kemdikbud, 2021).

According to the circular letter of the Ministry of Education and Culture (Kemendikbud) No. 4 of 2020 related to the implementation of education policies during the emergency period of the spread of the pandemic regarding the learning process, said that online learning from home/remotely is carried out in order to provide meaningful learning for the

smooth running of students (Wijoyo & Nyanasuryanadi, 2020). In Michael Foucault's view related to his theory, namely Governmentality, this can be called Conduct of Conduct. That is, the State has the right to regulate an action or behavior of the community internalizing an occupation so that it obedient or becomes an obedient population. As a form of rationalization operation of a power, geovermentality can also be seen as a legitimate way of regulating things properly, namely resources and population (Mudhoffir, 2014).

The researcher's analysis related to the Ministry of Education and Culture's Policy on Online Learning is a step to prevent the transmission of Covid-19. Minister of Education and Culture (Mendikbud) Nadiem Anwar Makarim said that the online learning process was carried out in order to maintain health and safety which was the main thing for students as well as parents and families as well as especially the community so that this epidemic would not have too much impact on society and the country.

Then in terms of the conditions described above, of course, if all these conditions have been met, then face to face learning will be allowed, but if one of these conditions is not met, of course there will be no permission to face to face and continue to carry out learning at home. Then from Michel Foucault's theory it is very clear that this governmentality of the state regulates the actions and behavior of the community by internalizing submission in order to become a submissive population. It is also seen as a right legitimate way of regulating things.

## The Effectiveness of E-Learning Policies in learning in schools (David Ausubel)

In terms of the objectives of the elearning policy as stated in the circular letter (SE) of the Minister of Education and Culture No. 4 of 2020 (Kemendikbud, 2020) and the Letter of the Director General of Islamic Education at the Ministry of Religion (Kemenag, 2020) have fulfilled a goal of both regulatory and deregulative provisions. Regulatory policies are restrictive and regulate, it is related to this e-learning policy so that learning activities are carried out online from home. Where this policy also regulates the learning process to be carried out online from home and provides meaningful learning for students, and is also focused on life skills education, one of which is related to covid-19. Where this policy is also deregulative because it is stated that e-learning "is not burdened

with demands to complete all curriculum achievements in the context of grade promotion and graduation". This policy loosened the rule that stated "homework assignments and activities may vary between students according to each student's interests". Teachers are asked to give feedback to students qualitatively without being required to give a quantitative score for student learning outcomes (Nurkolis & Muhdi, 2020).

The main problem that has become the emergence of an e-learning policy is the concern about the spread of covid-19 in the education environment, because this virus has also spread and developed in the community. Thus, the existence of this policy has fulfilled the elements of the case. This policy has fulfilled a scientific problem formulation, which is based on accurate and complete data because this policy was issued after observing the development or increase in Covid-19 sufferers in the community and seeing the availability of internet access in madrasas or schools. The purpose of this e-learning policy is to maintain the health of citizens, madrasas and schools from the threat of the covid virus and ensure the continuity of elearning. Then the three policies already have elements of achievement and clear goals (Nurkolis & Muhdi, 2020).

The Ministry of Education and Culture also provides freedom for each school to choose their online learning platform (Kemendikbud, 2020). However, to encourage a process of sharing knowledge, the Ministry of Education and Culture has also prepared a free online learning platform, namely the "learning house" and a sharing platform for teachers, namely the "Sharing teacher program". The learning house provides teaching materials and features communication for its users, in addition to the "sharing teacher program" in this case sharing related to the Implementation Plan (RPP) for teachers throughout Indonesia. For regions with connections, the poor government with TVRI, the cooperates State Television Station, in order to deliver the learning materials contained in the home study program for the next few months. (Astini, 2020).

Collaboration between teachers, children and parents in online learning during a pandemic is an acceleration towards the formation of skills in the 21st century. In addition, this collaboration is also an ideal learning composition, because the learning rules that are set are able to integrate skills, knowledge and attitudes in students themselves to create a work. The realization of dominant

character values in this study, such as discipline, creativity, religious attitudes, responsibility and independence which cannot be separated from the learning process carried out by developing the learning process by seeking several things: (1) problem solving and critical thinking skills, (2) creativity and innovation skills, skills, (3)collaboration and (4)skills communication (Purandina & Winaya, 2020).

The application of the online learning curriculum during the Pandemic-19 period made teachers and students feel 83% happy and there was a feeling of happiness to see students even though it was through online learning, which was 100%. This makes educators prepare teaching materials before teaching as much as 83%, and implement them according to the SMB curriculum as much as 83% and in accordance with thematic learning as much as 67%. Online learning certainly brings a different atmosphere when compared to offline, for that educators understand the psychology of student development as much as 100% and identify children's learning difficulties as much as 67%. And educators try to create a learning atmosphere that is fun and interesting as much as 100%. As well as being patient in dealing with students in online classes as much as 50%. For that

educators discuss the behavior of students to parents as much as 67%. Regarding the attendance rate of students in online classes as much as 50%, this indicates that each student is awkward in online SMB learning. Educators always start learning activities by reading the parita first as much as 83%. And only 33% of educators teach loving-kindness meditation to students, this is because it is difficult to do it online (Wijoyo & Nyanasuryanadi, 2020).

In the view of David Ausubel's theory, meaningful learning is the process of associating new information in relevant concepts which are contained in a person's cognitive structure. Cognitive structure concerns the concepts, facts generalizations that have been memorized and learned by students. The main factors that influence the meaningful learning process according to Ausubel are the existing cognitive system, clarity and stability of knowledge in a particular field of study and at a certain time. Meaningful learning occurs when someone learns by associating a recent fact into their knowledge system. In the learning process, a person associates experiences and constructs what he has learned, new facts and phenomena into their knowledge system (Kesumawati, 2015).

Analysis of research related to the effectiveness of e-learning policies in learning in schools, namely to break the chain of spread of COVID-19. Where in this discussion it is certainly very effective for students, because of the E-learning policy, learning is running but not as usual, only if viewed from the positive side that students are able to carry out online learning. In addition, when viewed from the health side of students, they can also provide a sense of security from the spread of Covid-19, besides that, through this E-Learning learning, it will have a good impact on students and teachers so that they know more about the world of technology that is developing every age, teachers are able to access or control students through online media. Although learning can be said to be effective, on the other hand, the government must still consider from an economic point of view, such as the ability of the community in online learning which has to pay twice the cost of internet quota financing, maybe even having to buy a cellphone. Because not necessarily their parents can meet the needs of online learning such as laptops, cellphones and internet connections for online learning then the government must pay attention to the facilities, because this is the media that will be used in the learning.

Then the analysis related to this ausubel theory is learning that provides a cognitive structure including facts, concepts, and generalizations that have been learned and remembered students. And the main factors that influence meaningful learning according to Ausubel are the existing cognitive stability structure, and clarity of knowledge in a particular field of study and at a certain time. In the sense that this theory provides a meaningful learning for students.

#### **CONCLUSION**

In accordance with the circular letter of the Ministry of Education and Culture (Kemendikbud) No. 4 of 2020 related to the implementation education policies during the emergency period of the spread of the pandemic regarding the learning process that online learning from home or distance is carried out in order to provide meaningful learning for the smooth running of students. From this policy, online learning is one of the steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The Ministry of Education and Culture Nadiem Anwar Makarim said that the online learning process is to maintain the health and safety of students, parents and families, especially people in Indonesia so that they are not affected by the Covid-19 virus. Then from Michael

Foucault's theory that the state has the right to regulate an education so that it becomes an obedient and obedient population.

Regarding the effectiveness of the E-Learning Policy in learning in schools, this is certainly very effective for students. Although learning can be said to be effective, on the other hand government must still consider from an economic point of view, such as the ability of the community in online learning which has to pay twice the cost of internet quota financing, maybe even having to buy a cellphone, because this is the medium that will be used in the learning. . Then from Ausubel's theory, learning that provides a cognitive structure includes concepts, and generalizations that have been learned and remembered students. In the sense that this theory provides a meaningful learning students.

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