



Public Perception of the Dissemination of Information on Soppeng Regency Regional Regulation

Fitriani Sari Handayani Razak, Ahmad Amiruddin, Andi Fahri Faisal, Dewi Nuraliah, Nurfadilah Nasiruddin

Universitas Sulawesi Barat, Jalan Prof. Dr. Baharuddin Lopa, S.H, Talumung, Kabupaten Majene, Sulawesi Barat 91412, Indonesia

ARTICLE INFORMATION

Received: September 06, 2024
Revised: November 11, 2024
Available online: December 29, 2024

KEYWORDS

Regional Regulation, Public Perception, Socialization, Soppeng DPRD

CORRESPONDENCE

Name: Fitriani Sari Handayani Razak
E-mail: fitriani90@gmail.com

A B S T R A C T

This study aims to analyze public perception of the dissemination of information on Regional Regulations (Perda) passed by the Soppeng Regency DPRD together with the local government. Regional regulations are legal instruments that regulate various aspects of social and economic life in the regions, but their success is highly dependent on community understanding and participation. A quantitative descriptive method was used in this study, involving 100 respondents in Soppeng Regency. Respondents are selected purposively based on the criteria of having knowledge or experience related to the Regional Regulation. The results of the study show that 97% of the public understands the functions and duties of the DPRD, but only 43% feel that they receive information about the Regional Regulation clearly and comprehensively. Social media is the main source of information, while direct socialization by DPRD members is not optimal. The majority of people (96%) consider that the Regional Regulation is made for the benefit of the people, even though they state the need to increase the intensity of socialization. Community participation in socialization activities is still low, with 46% rarely participating in these activities. This study also found that age, education, and employment factors affect people's perception of the Regional Regulation. Respondents with higher education levels tend to have a better understanding. These findings highlight the need for intensification of socialization by the DPRD through a more inclusive strategy and the use of digital media to increase public understanding and their participation in the implementation of the Regional Regulation. Conclusion This study provides strategic recommendations to increase public involvement in the legislative process and the dissemination of legal information. Keywords: Community Perception, Information Distribution, Regional Regulation, Soppeng Regency, Community Participation.

INTRODUCTION

Regional Regulations (Perda) are legal instruments formed by the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) together with local governments with the aim of regulating the social and economic life of the people in the regions (Suprianto, et al., 2019). In Soppeng Regency, the Regional Regulation that has been passed covers various important aspects, including natural resource management, economic development, and local government supervision. However, the success of the Regional Regulation in achieving these goals is highly dependent on public understanding and perception of the content and objectives of the Regional Regulation (Asmawi, 2014; Cici, 2023).

As for Hidayat (2022), perception can be interpreted as a process that begins from the reception of the five human senses or a sensory process where the stimulation of the individual through sensory tools that produce a view or understanding of information. This understanding is certainly used for the common good, especially in reviewing government policies, especially related to the dissemination of information on Regional Regulations.

Public perception is urgently needed as an evaluation of the Regional Regulation, but in receiving this information there are challenges based on the study report on the performance of the Soppeng Regency DPRD in 2022. This can be measured based on perception indicators according to Egziabher and Edwards (in Dayani, 2017)), including:

a) Response

It is a mental picture of things recorded in memory based on observation and imagination. So that this response can also be categorized as an impression or memory of a person. Some cases of this response occur in the subconscious or preconscious space,

but for various reasons, the Kembali response reminds the event back to a person's subconscious.

b) Opinion or opinion

Individual opinions can be interpreted in everyday life as arguments, guesses that are subjective and influenced by feelings.

c) Valuation

This is based on our perspective to see something based on the process of knowledge and thought as well as the evaluation of the quality and circumstances that occur in a person.

Based on these three indicators, the dissemination of information related to the Regional Regulation to the public. Therefore, this research will focus on how the community receives, understands, and responds to the dissemination of information about Regional Regulations in Soppeng Regency. The dissemination of information is needed as a process of disseminating data, knowledge or messages from the first party to the other party. This can be done through several channels such as through direct conversations, the internet and social media (Omilion-Hodges & McClain, 2016; Spence et al., 2016). The dissemination of information plays an important role in communication between the government and the community so that it affects various aspects of life such as social, economic and political life of the people of Soppeng Regency.

This is supported by a previous study by Hidayat (2022) "Public Perception of the Plan for the Formation of a New Autonomous Region (DOB) of North Bangka Regency in 2021" looking at how public perception affects the plan to form a new autonomous region. The results of the study show that most people stated that the plan to form a new autonomous region of the North Bngka Islands was motivated by the interests of the wider community and aimed to bring the central government's

control range closer in providing services to the community. However, there is another perception that the plan to form a new autonomous region of North Bangka Regency is motivated by the interests of a handful of local political elites. In addition, the majority of the Belinyu-Riau Silip Community agreed to expand the New Autonomy area of North Bangka Islands Regency. This perception is caused by various reasons, including the formation of new districts will create new jobs, as well as lead to the acceleration of regional development which will lead to regional progress. In addition, the majority of the community also stated that the Belinyu and Riau Silip District Regions are appropriate to be used as new autonomous regions, and the expansion of North Bangka Regency will be realized if the requirements can be met and approved by the government. This paper shows the influence of public perception on the policies that will be taken by local governments related to regional expansion.

This is different from this article which focuses on the public's perception of the dissemination of information carried out by the local government, both through direct socialization to the community, the internet and mass media regarding local regulations in Soppeng Regency.

As we know that Regional Regulations (Perda) are legal instruments formed by the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) together with the Regional Government to regulate various aspects of life in the region, including social, economic, and political (Fandi, 2023; Gusmoi et al., 2023; Tuanaya & Rengifurwarin, 2023). The establishment of the Regional Regulation in Soppeng Regency is carried out with the aim of providing a legal basis in various policies implemented by the local government. However, the success of the implementation of the Regional Regulation depends on how well the public knows and understands the substance of the Regional Regulation. The dissemination of information about the Regional Regulation is crucial in ensuring that the public is not only aware of the existence of the Regional Regulation, but also understands how this regulation affects their lives (Tampemawa, 2022). Based on a previous study of the performance of the Soppeng Regency DPRD, it is known that the main challenges in the implementation of the Regional Regulation are the uneven dissemination of information and the low level of community participation. Therefore, this study aims to measure public perception of the dissemination of Regional Regulation information and the factors that affect it.

The dissemination of this information is considered very crucial considering that it is able to create a society that is aware and orderly of existing laws and policies and participates in the political realm as a form of democratization at the local level (Papadopoulos, 2021). In addition, Yazid & Pakpahan (2020), several factors that are considered important in the dissemination of information related to Regional Regulations (Perda) include: (1) Community Understanding: In order for people to understand their rights and obligations in accordance with the rules that apply in their regions, the dissemination of information about Regional Regulations is key. Without adequate understanding, the public may not be aware of their obligations or rights, which can lead to inconformities with existing rules; (2) Compliance with the Law: The dissemination of clear information about the Regional Regulation helps to encourage legal compliance. People who know the applicable rules will be more likely to comply with and follow the provisions that have been set, so that order is created in society; (3) Prevention of Violations: When the public

does not know about the existence or content of the Regional Regulation, the possibility of violations is even greater. Effective dissemination of information can reduce potential violations by providing the necessary knowledge so that the public can avoid behaviors that violate the rules; (4) Government Transparency and Accountability: The dissemination of information related to the Regional Regulation also shows that local governments are transparent and responsible in regulating and managing their regions. This gives the public a sense of confidence that the rules are made on a clear and accountable basis; (5) Public Participation: The process of making and enforcing local regulations often involves community participation. If information about the Regional Regulation is disseminated properly, it will be easier for the public to provide input, raise objections, or even participate in regional policy planning; (6) Effectiveness of the Implementation of Regional Regulations: Without the proper dissemination of information, the implementation of Regional Regulations will be less effective. People who are not aware of the new rules or changes in the Regional Regulation will have difficulty adapting, and this can reduce the desired positive impact of the implementation of the regulation; (7) Community Empowerment: By being given the right information, people will feel empowered and have more control over their own lives within the legal framework. The dissemination of information about the Regional Regulation can increase public awareness of social and environmental issues regulated by the Regional Regulation.

Research on public perception of the dissemination of information is very important because accurate and accurate information will affect compliance and community participation in the implementation of the Regional Regulation. In addition, negative perception or lack of understanding of regulations can reduce the effectiveness of these regulations. In the context of Soppeng Regency, the role of the DPRD in socializing the Regional Regulation is also important to be analyzed in order to find out the extent to which the representation and communication functions are carried out effectively.

METHOD

This study uses a quantitative descriptive method to get a clear picture of the public's perception of the dissemination of Regional Regulation information in Soppeng Regency. The quantitative method is called the traditional method, because this method has been used for a long time so that it has been traditionally used as a method for research. This method is called the positivistic method because it is based on the philosophy of positivism. This method is a scientific method because it has fulfilled the scientific principles, namely concrete/empirical, objective, measurable, rational, and systematic. This method is also called the discovery method, because with this method various new science and technology can be discovered and developed. This method is called the quantitative method because the research data is in the form of numbers and analysis using statistics. The population in this study are the people of Soppeng Regency. Population is a generalization area consisting of objects/subjects that have certain qualities and characteristics that are determined by the researcher to be studied and then drawn conclusions. Sample part of the number and characteristics possessed by the population. If the population is large or unknown, the study can use samples taken from that population (Sugiyono, 2015). The number of samples according to Fraenkel

et al., (2009), suggested a minimum sample size for descriptive research of 100. So based on this theory, the researcher took a sample of 100 respondents who knew and understood the performance of the Soppeng Regency DPRD. Sampling in this study uses the Non-Probability Sampling technique, which is a sampling technique that does not provide the same opportunity/opportunity for each element or member of the population to be selected as a sample. The determination of sample selection was carried out by Purposive Sampling where the sample determination technique was carried out based on certain considerations. So, in this study, the sample used with the following criteria: (1) People of Soppeng Regency who are 17 years old or older or married because they are considered adults. The researcher believes that at that age the respondents are very mature and have seriousness in filling out the questionnaire; and (2) The community or community leaders who have been in direct contact with the Soppeng DPRD and understand and know the performance of the Soppeng Regency DPRD.

This purposive sampling technique was chosen because respondents are expected to have knowledge or experience related to the performance of the DPRD and the Regional Regulation that was passed. The data collection instrument used is a closed questionnaire designed to measure public knowledge, perception, and participation related to the Regional Regulation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Public Knowledge about the Duties and Functions of the Soppeng Regency DPRD

The results of the study showed that 97% of respondents knew the function of the DPRD and their role in the formation of the Regional Regulation. However, only 43% of respondents stated that they received information about the Regional Regulation clearly and comprehensively. This shows that even though information about the Regional Regulation has been disseminated, many people still do not fully understand the substance of the regulations that have been passed. The main sources of information received by the public come from social media (Facebook, WhatsApp) and meetings held by local governments, while print media and direct dissemination by DPRD members only account for a small part of the total information received. In addition, the survey results show that 47% of the community is not involved in socialization activities organized by the DPRD and local governments. This indicates a lack of active community participation in the process of disseminating Perda information.

Furthermore, the findings also show that the public's perception of the benefits of the Regional Regulation is mostly positive, with 96% of respondents stating that the Regional Regulation was made for the benefit of the people. However, despite this positive perception, respondents also revealed that more intensive socialization is needed to improve their understanding. This study also found that age, education, and employment factors affect public perception of the dissemination of Regional Regulation information. Respondents who are more educated tend to have a better understanding of Regional Regulations than those with low education levels.

Most of the public considers that the Regional Regulation made by the Soppeng DPRD together with the local government is aimed at the interests of the people (96%). However, there are 3% who are of the view that the Regional Regulation is more in favor of the interests of certain groups, and the other 1% do not

give an answer. This finding provides important input for the DPRD to increase transparency in the legislation process.

The process of political socialization leads community members to obtain attitudes and orientations towards the political life that takes place in society. In terms of message delivery methods, political socialization is divided into two, namely political education which is a dialogical process between the giver and the recipient. Through this process, community members can understand the DPRD's tupoksi. So that if a problem occurs in the area, the community can understand where they are asking for a solution.

Various different but meaningful studies in this study are Akbar (2021), The Application of the Principle of Meaningful Community Participation in the Formation of Regional Regulations' provides comprehensive insight into the importance of community involvement in the legislation process at the regional level. This study highlights that although the legal framework has regulated community participation, its implementation is often not optimal due to limited socialization, lack of public understanding, and low awareness of participation. The concept of meaningful participation is explained by three prerequisites: the right to be heard, considered, and explained for the opinions expressed. This journal also criticized the adoption of this principle specifically in the formation of the Regional Regulation even though it is regulated in Law No. 13 of 2022. This study emphasizes the need for a more specific and transparent approach to increase the effectiveness of public participation.

On the other hand, there is a study that discusses public perception related to Yudi et al.'s research, 2019, examining public perceptions about the emergence of prospective DPRD members from among housewives in Sekincau Village, West Lampung, in the 2014 Election. Using descriptive methods and data collection through questionnaires, the study revealed that most people tend to disagree with this phenomenon. This is associated with the view that housewives are considered less competent in politics and are more suitable for carrying out domestic roles. However, women's representation is 30% in the legislation regulated by the legislature, making this phenomenon a form of democratic implementation and gender equality. A graph with blue bars Description automatically generated.

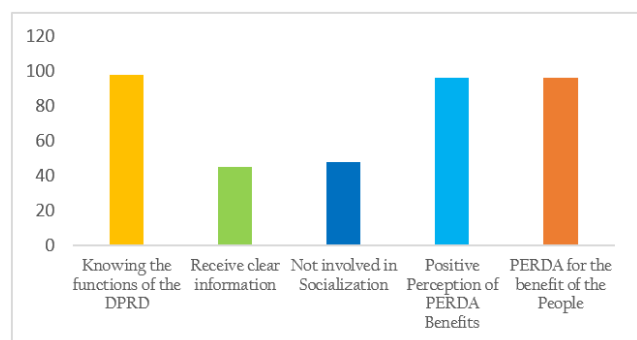


Figure 1. Public perception of PERDA

The public's view of the Regional Regulation that has been established shows that most people have good knowledge about the functions of the DPRD, especially in the formation of regional regulations. As many as 97% of respondents understand the role of the DPRD as a legislative institution tasked with designing, approving and supervising the implementation of the Regional Regulation. This reflects the success in disseminating basic information about the duties and functions of the DPRD through

various media, especially social media such as WhatsApp and Facebook. However, only 43% of the public feel that they receive information on the Regional Regulation clearly and comprehensively. The limitation of direct socialization by DPRD members and print media is a significant obstacle, indicating the need for a more interactive and transparent approach in disseminating information

In addition, most people (96%) have a positive perception of the benefits of the Regional Regulation, with the view that the regulation is made for the benefit of the people. However, the level of community participation in socialization activities is still low, namely 47% are not involved at all. Factors such as age, education level, and access to information technology also affect their understanding of the substance of the Regional Regulation. Respondents with higher education tended to have better understanding than those with lower education. This obstacle highlights the importance of intensifying socialization programs, both through dialogue forums, working visits, and seminars, to reach a wider group of people and increase their active participation.

Community Participation Follows the Dissemination of PERDA

The socialization of the PERDA is carried out to disseminate information on legal products that have been passed by the DPRD with the aim of realizing public legal awareness, especially of regional regulations, so that the public knows the rights and obligations as well as the things prohibited in the ratified PERDA (Fauzi, 2018).

The results obtained were that around 46.00% said that they still rarely participated in the socialization of PERDA, then the community said that it was quite frequent by 28.00%, it was not perneg by 22.00%, and 4.00% said that they always followed the socialization of PERDA carried out by the Soppeng Regency Government.

The Soppeng DPRD is considered quite good in carrying out its supervisory functions, including the implementation of the Regional Regulation and budget management by the local government. However, there are several complaints regarding the disclosure of information related to the results of supervision, which should be published more widely so that the public can assess the performance of the DPRD objectively.

Most of the respondents felt that the DPRD had fulfilled its role in preparing and determining the Regional Revenue and Expenditure Budget (APBD) optimally. This function is very important in ensuring that the budget allocation is in accordance with the needs of the community. However, public involvement in the public consultation process before the budget is set needs to be increased.

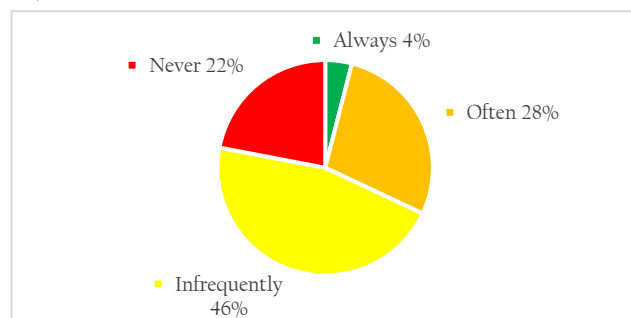


Figure 2: Community participation in the dissemination of PERDA

<https://doi.org/10.58835/jspi.v4i4.388>

From the graph, it can be concluded that the participation of the people of Soppeng Regency rarely participates in the socialization of the dissemination of the Regional Regulation in Soppeng Regency, and only a few always follow the socialization.

CONCLUSION

Most people understand the function of the DPRD and its role in the formation of Regional Regulations (PERDA), with 97% of respondents knowing the main tasks of the DPRD. However, only 43% of the public feel that they receive information about the PERDA clearly and comprehensively. Social media is the main source of information, while direct socialization and print media contribute little to the dissemination of information. However, 96% of the public believes that PERDA was created for the benefit of the people, showing a positive view of the existence of PERDA. However, the lack of transparency and intensity of information dissemination remain challenges that need to be addressed.

The level of community participation in the socialization of PERDA is still low. As many as 46% of people rarely participate in socialization activities, 22% are never involved, and only 4% always participate in these activities. This low participation indicates the need to intensify socialization programs, including more inclusive strategies and the use of digital media and interactive forums. In addition, the lack of awareness and access to information is an obstacle that must be addressed to increase public understanding of the substance of PERDA and its relevance to daily life.

REFERENCES

- Akbar, A. (2021). *Collaborative spatial learning for improving public participation practice in indonesia*. <https://research.utwente.nl/en/publications/collaborative-spatial-learning-for-improving-public-participation%0Ahttps://research.utwente.nl/files/267747149/akbar.pdf>
- Asmawi. (2014). Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat Daerah (DPRD) Dalam Perundang-Undangan Pemerintahan Daerah dan Lembaga Legislatif Daerah. *Jurnal Cita Hukum*, 2(1). <https://doi.org/10.15408/jch.v1i1.1443>
- Cici, R. (2023). Pembentukan Peraturan Daerah Polewali Mandar Oleh Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat Daerah (Dprd) Dalam Pandangan Asas-Asas Umum Pemerintahan Yang Baik (Aupb). *Res Publica: Jurnal Hukum Kebijakan Publik*, 7(3), 329. <https://doi.org/10.20961/respublica.v7i3.54103>
- Dayani, A. (2017). Africa's potential for the ecological intensification of agriculture. *Africa's Potential for the Ecological Intensification of Agriculture*, 53(9), 1689–1699.
- Fandi, M. (2023). Accountability of Institutional Performance of the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) of North Kalimantan Province in Forming Regional Legal Products. *KnE Social Sciences*. <https://doi.org/10.18502/kss.v8i17.14146>
- Fauzi, H. A. (2018). Peran Pengawasan Internal Dalam Mewujudkan Pemerintah Daerah Yang Baik. *Hukum Dan Dinamika Masyarakat*, 15(1). <https://doi.org/10.36356/hdm.v15i1.641>
- Fraenkel, Jack R., Wallen, N. E. (2009). How to Design and Evaluate Research in Education. In *McGraw-Hill Higher Education* (Issue 0).

- Gusmoi, Maha Shania Tara, Siti Soleha, Mardiana, G., & Regi Refian Garis. (2023). Peran Fungsi Pengawasan Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat Daerah Kabupaten Ciamis terhadap Peraturan Daerah. *Public Sphere Review*, 62–73. <https://doi.org/10.30649/psr.v2i2.88>
- Hidayat, W. (2022). Persepsi Masyarakat Terhadap Rencana Pembentukan Daerah Otonomi Baru (Dob) Kabupaten Bangka Utara Tahun 2021. *Publicio: Jurnal Ilmiah Politik, Kebijakan Dan Sosial*, 4(2), 125–137. <https://doi.org/10.51747/publicio.v4i2.1058>
- Omilion-Hodges, L. M., & McClain, K. L. (2016). University use of social media and the crisis lifecycle: Organizational messages, first information responders' reactions, reframed messages and dissemination patterns. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 54, 630–638. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2015.06.002>
- Papadopoulos, Y. (2021). Introduction. In *Accountability and European Governance* (pp. 11–27). Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315879390-6>
- Spence, P. R., Lachlan, K. A., & Raine, A. M. (2016). Social media and crisis research: Data collection and directions. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 54, 667–672. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2015.08.045>
- Sugiyono. (2015). *Metode Penelitian Kuantitatif, Kualitatif, dan R&D*. Alfabeta.
- Suprianto, Riwanto, A., & Firdaus, S. U. (2019). Implementasi Peraturan Pemerintah Nomor 18 Tahun 2016 Tentang Perangkat Daerah Terhadap Efektivitas Kinerja Pegawai Sekretariat Daerah Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat Daerah (Dprd) Di Kabupaten Ngawi. *Jurnal Hukum Dan Pembangunan Ekonomi*, 7(1), 134. <https://doi.org/10.20961/hpe.v7i1.29206>
- Tampemawa, R. B. E. (2022). the Existence of the Governor'S Supervision of Regional Regulations and Regional Head Regulations of Regency/City in the United State of the Republic of Indonesia. *Journal of the Community Development in Asia*, 5(3), 53–62. <https://doi.org/10.32535/jcda.v5i3.1797>
- Tuanaya, W., & Rengifurwarin, Z. A. (2023). The Role of Members of Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) in Making Regional Regulations (PERDA) in Eastern Seram Regency (Kabupaten Seram Bagian Timur) Maluku Province. *Journal of Governance and Public Policy*, 10(2), 129–146. <https://doi.org/10.18196/jgpp.v10i1.15700>
- Yazid, S., & K. Pakpahan, A. (2020). Democratization in Indonesia: Strong State and Vibrant Civil Society. *Asian Affairs(UK)*, 47(2), 71–96. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00927678.2019.1701284>