Youth Voting Behavior in Ambon City Legislative Election

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Abstract: *The study was conducted in Nusaniwe District, Ambon City. Primary data collection involved interviews with informants who were considered knowledgeable about the voting behavior of youth in the 2019 legislative election in the area. The findings indicate that the most dominant factors influencing youth electoral choices in the 2019 legislative election in Nusaniwe District were their preference for certain candidates and psychological influences such as parental guidance, the opinions of community leaders, and peer pressure. These are classified as psychological factors according to voter behavior theory. Additionally, sociological factors, such as shared locality, and rational factors, including cost-benefit analysis and evaluation of candidates' programs and visions, also played a role in shaping youth political choices.*

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1 Introduction

The election of legislative members in Ambon City is one of the political democratic events held in 2019. The community that participates in the legislative election process, for example through voting or other activities, is driven by the belief that through these activities their interests will be channeled or at least considered by those in authority in the political decision-making process. One of the influential voter groups is the youth group. According to the Republic of Indonesia Law Number 40 of 2009 on Youth, Youth are Indonesian citizens who are in an important period of growth and age development from 16 (sixteen) to 30 (thirty) years old. The following is the number of young voters in the Nusaniwe District in the 2019 General Election.

Table 1.1. The Number of Young Voters in the 2019 Elections in the Nusaniwe District

No	Village/Subdistrict/State	Number of Young Voters		
		L	P	L+P
1	Amahusu	596	564	1160
2	Benteng	1609	1583	3192
3	Kelurahan Nusaniwe	1014	977	1991
4	Kelurahan Urimessing	345	351	696
5	Kudamati	1776	1678	3454
6	Latuhalat	1048	1018	2066
7	Mangga Dua	373	354	727
8	Negeri Nusaniwe	313	326	639
9	Negeri Urimessing	918	882	1800
10	Seilale	183	166	349
11	Silale	470	472	942
12	Waihaong	593	597	1190
13	Wainitu	934	945	1879
Total	**13**	**10.172**	**9.913**	**20.085**

Data Source: KPU Kota Ambon

The data above shows that young people are one of the important voter segments also influencing election results. Therefore, it is interesting to analyze and identify the behavior of young voters involved in it. As part of the nation's components, the youth play a significant role in the continuity of political life. Young people usually have characteristics that are still unstable and apathetic, their political knowledge is lacking, and they tend to follow their parents in making political choices. The spaces where they learn about politics are also not far from places that provide them the comfort. The spaces for learning about politics include family rooms, social environments, and mass media.

Roni (2013) states that parents and the social environment greatly influence the decisions of first-time voters. In the decision-making process, there are family factors considered by young voters in making their decisions (Kurniawati, Meike, 2023). Family factors play an important role for an individual, where the family actively supports other family members. Becoming a prospective voter is often associated with moral issues, particularly concerning the moral values instilled within the family. Therefore, the role of parents will significantly influence the young voters in providing a reference for someone to make their choice (Syadhanur, 2016).

Community leaders such as religious leaders, youth leaders, and heads of organizations also influence the behavior of voters, especially young people who have limited political references. They usually function as political machines used to mobilize the community, especially the youth, to vote for certain candidates. Since they influence their environment, it is certainly easy to sway the political choices of the community during elections. In addition, Helmi (2014) states that first-time voters can learn about politics, among other things, from their friends. Friends play an important role for a lot of information, including political information, is obtained from them. Adolescence and early adulthood, on the one hand, want to be recognized as individuals by which they have to identify themselves with their peers, which makes them loyal to their peers in making choices or decisions.

The political knowledge of young people is not much different from that of other voter groups. Voter behavior is still closely tied to psychological and sociological factors in making political choices when viewed from the perspective of voting behavior studies. However, what distinguishes the youth from other groups is their understanding and political experience in facing elections. The references used as a basis for making choices tend to be unstable or easily changeable according to the information or references that they receive. In addition, the youth are also offered bribes in the form of money or rewards by certain individuals or candidates in an effort to gain the youth's votes in the election. This is a concerning phenomenon.

However, within the youth segment, there are also student elements included. They should not be like the general youth who are unstable and tend to follow others in making their political choices. As a group pursuing higher education, students should be able to be more rational by analyzing ideas, programs, ideologies, and the track record of certain candidates before finally making their political choices. To observe the voting behavior of the youth, there are several approaches as seen according to Dennis Kavanagh in Mukti through his book entitled "Political Science and Political Behavior," stating that there are three models to analyze voter behavior, namely the sociological approach, social psychology, and rational choice (Rustan, Munawir Ariffin, 2019). From that phenomenon, also supported by theoretical aspects, the author is very interested in examining the voting behavior of young voters in determining their choice for a particular legislative candidate.

The reason for conducting this research is based on the importance of understanding the political behavior patterns of the younger generation in the democratic process. Youth are a group of voters who have unique characteristics, often influenced by social, economic, cultural and technological factors in making political choices. In the context of the 2019 Legislative Elections in Ambon City, the role of youth is crucial due to their significant number in the permanent voters list (DPT). However, until now there is still a debate about how much influence factors such as social identity, political orientation, and individual preferences have on young voters' decisions in choosing legislative candidates. Therefore, this study aims to analyze the factors that influence youth political decisions and understand the dynamics of young voters' behavior in legislative elections.

In addition, this research is also driven by the phenomenon of increasing youth involvement in political discourse, both through social media and in conventional political activities. However, the level of active participation in elections is often not proportional to their enthusiasm in political discussions. Some studies show that youth tend to be pragmatic and influenced by certain issues rather than loyalty to political parties. Thus, this research not only provides an academic contribution to the study of voting behavior, but can also be a reference for policy makers and political parties in formulating more effective strategies to increase youth political participation in Ambon City.

There have been many studies on voting behavior, especially in the context of general elections and regional head elections in Indonesia. Some previous studies have emphasized on general factors that influence voter behavior, such as media influence, political identity, and economic factors. However, specific studies on the behavior of young voters in the Legislative Election in Ambon City are still limited. Most studies focus more on presidential or regional head elections, while legislative elections are often considered less attractive to young voters. In addition, there are still gaps in understanding the extent to which social, economic and technological factors influence the political

preferences of youth in Ambon. Therefore, this research seeks to fill this gap by analyzing the factors that determine youth political choices in the 2019 legislative elections and how local social and political dynamics affect their voting patterns. The research gap is consistent with the research findings of Falk, et al (2014), under the negative impact of the internet on political participation (Falk, et al, 2014), the relevance of electoral partisanship (Bartels, 2000), the level of aggregation of voter participation (Carkoglu, 2013), developing a voter information index (Palfrey, 1987), an increase in voter registration and participation (Traugott, 1979), verification to check the official voter list (Greenwald, et al, 1987), and the fusion of politics and marketing (Kocaman & Melih, 2024).

This research aims to collect data and analyze it to reveal which factors most dominantly influence the voting behavior of young voters in the 2019 legislative elections in Ambon City, specifically in the Nusaniwe District. The benefits of this research are divided into theoretical benefits, which aim to enhance theoretical knowledge and insights into the development of governance studies, particularly those related to elections, and to serve as a reference for other researchers to examine related issues. Practically, it can be beneficial for the community, especially in general elections, to understand the voting behavior patterns of the youth involved in it.

2 Research Method

In this study, the author used a qualitative descriptive research method. This research was conducted by investigating a specific subject or object and understanding a phenomenon in social contact scientifically, emphasizing the process of deep communication interaction between the researcher and the phenomenon being studied. The author collected the data and analyze them to reveal which factors most dominantly influence the voting behavior of young voters in the 2019 legislative elections in Ambon City, Nusaniwe District. The subjects of this research are informants who truly know the phenomena occurring and are even directly involved as the objects being studied. The key informants in this study are young people aged sixteen (16) to thirty (30) years who were eligible to participate in the 2019 general elections, totaling 25 individuals, parents of young voters totaling 10 individuals, and community leaders totaling 10 individuals. Thus, the total number of research informants amounts to 45 informants.

The operational definition serving as the benchmark for this research consists of a sociological approach, a psychological approach, and a rational choice approach. The type of data used in this research is qualitative data, as the information collected is in the form of words or descriptions that do not require calculations with numbers or statistical analysis. The source of data is anything that can provide information regarding the data. Based on the source, data is divided into two types: primary data obtained from interviews, observations, and focused discussions with informants who can provide information about the issues being researched; secondary data obtained from the review of readings or literature studies that support this research, documents, archives about the 2019 Ambon City legislative elections, the profile of the Nusaniwe sub-district, as well as internet articles or websites related to the relevant issues.

The most important instrument in qualitative research is the human or the researchers by observing, asking, listening, requesting, and collecting research data. Researchers may use auxiliary tools to collect data such as mobile phones for recording and taking pictures, as well as writing equipment to assist researchers during the data collection process in the field. This research was conducted using data collection techniques such as observation, interviews, and documentation studies. Data analysis techniques include three components of analysis, namely data reduction, data presentation, data verification, and conclusion drawing.

3   Result and Discussion

In the 2019 legislative elections in the Nusaniwe District of Ambon City, the political choices of the youth did not simply appear or emerge on their own but were influenced and shaped by various factors. Youth and politics are two very interesting or distinctive phenomena, as they encompass all patterns of youth political behavior influenced by various socio-economic factors. There are various factors involved in the process of the emergence of political behavior among the youth. The process of making choices and understanding, as well as responding to various political phenomena, is based on a variety of diverse factors. This enhances the cognitive dimensions and affective dimensions in the form of emotional aspects. In addition, there is an evaluative dimension serving as a reference for future behavior.

From the above statement, to understand the factors underlying or influencing the political behavior of the youth and the reasons behind their political choices, core questions are posed to obtain clearer information from the interviewed informants. The questions contain the theory of voter behavior in determining their political choices, which are generally influenced by three approaches: the sociological approach, the psychological approach, and the rational choice approach. Referring to these approaches, the author attempts to describe and analyze the most dominant factors influencing the voting behavior of young voters in the 2019 legislative election in Ambon City, Nusaniwe District, based on the three approaches that will be elaborated further.

Sociological Approach

The sociological approach tends to place the act of voting about the social context where someone's choice in an election is influenced by demographic and socio-economic backgrounds such as place of residence, gender, religion, ethnicity, age, and religion. To provide an overview of voter behavior using a sociological approach, an interview was conducted with an informant (FI) as a young voter in the Nusaniwe District, who said, "I voted yesterday because I share the same place of residence with the candidate, so I chose him instead of someone else." He added, "I also know that person (the candidate) well, they are a good person, I choose someone from here." The lack of socialization between candidates and young people results in a limited number of references for young voters. They only recognize a few or maybe just one candidate. In some cases, like the example above, some young voters share the same place of residence with the candidate. This becomes their main reference in determining their political choice. Sociological factors such as living in the same area are more likely to occur because voters are already well acquainted with the candidate. Thus, young voters are encouraged to choose that candidate over others. One of the characteristics of young people shown through the example above is their tendency for not dealing with it too much, meaning that if there is already a candidate they recognize in front of them, they consider that candidate to be the only ideal choice. Moreover, the lack of knowledge among the youth will form political preferences without clear analysis.

Interviews were also conducted with another informant (YU) as a young voter. "I see these candidates, among them there are some who are of the same ethnicity as me. Rather than choosing someone else, I might as well choose him, especially since he is also family and might be able to help us in the future." The identification of sociological voters is also influenced by ethnic or regional ties. Young voters with limited political knowledge and insufficient familiarity with the candidates tend to have limited preferences as well, favoring only those candidates who are perceived to have ethnic or regional ties. This type is called primordial voters, meaning voters who cast their votes primarily due to primordial reasons such as reasons of ethnicity, region, or descent. Voters of this type mostly reside in rural areas. However, it is also possible to find them in urban areas, as in the aforementioned example. Ethnic identity shows that choosing a candidate from a specific ethnicity will provide voters with more benefits than choosing a candidate from another ethnicity. Candidates with ethnic ties are considered patrons who can later help the interests of their ethnic group. This is in line with the research by Pern Arnt Peterson and Lawrence E. Rose in Norway showing that regional ties, such as

village-city, are a significant factor in explaining an individual's political activities and choices. Regional ties are especially strong in influencing someone's choice of candidate. Potoski's research shows that presidential or parliamentary candidates are generally more accepted and chosen by voters from the same region.

Interviews were also conducted with another informant (JO) a young voter, who said,
"Politics is always associated with adult matters. Especially since we see that the candidates running for office are usually older individuals. Young people should also take a role in the political world. I want young people to also be representatives in policy-making, so young people should get legislative seats. I want young people to get seats, and the way to do that is, of course, to choose young candidates as well. That is my effort as a young voter to also choose young candidates. Because only young people understand young people".

Social characteristics and social groupings have a significant influence in determining voter behavior. Where social grouping in that phenomenon is based on age (old) to choose a candidate. The similarity in age (youth group) leads to the formation of awareness to support one another. Social characteristics are considered as a representation of their group; in this case, young candidates are seen as representatives of the youth, thus placing the interests of the youth group in the policy-making process. Heretofore, politics has only been identified as the domain of older people who are considered more experienced. Thus, young people are only considered as electoral contributors without being fully involved in policy-making. Political transformation requires young people to be more participatory, bringing new visions to synergize with senior politicians. The vision brings is certainly more aligned with the needs of young people, as young people also need to be considered in terms of services, development, and mentoring. Therefore, young people need to have a place as the status quo in governance. The research findings can strengthen the research results of Sajid, et al in communication between politicians and youth (Sajid, et al, 2024), political marketing and promotion (Sophocleous, et al, 2024), voters' experience of two political leaders (Gupta, et al, 2024), developing indigenous leadership (Angar, et al, 2022), and candidate electability and popularity factors (Sampulawa, et al, 2023).

Psychological Approach

The psychological approach explains that voter behavior will be greatly influenced by the interaction between internal and external factors of individuals in society. The psychological approach can also explain how the attitudes and expectations of society can give rise to actions and behaviors that adhere firmly to social demands. According to Subakti, the psychological approach to voter behavior is to examine the relationship between voters and political parties. The aspect highlighted in this theory is how voters perceive existing political parties or how voters have an emotional connection with certain political parties. The figure considered to have the most interest and be the ideal figure for the community in this study has a greater influence on voter psychology.

As in the interview with the informant (IR) as a young voter, "I choose because it's my own desire, I really want to choose him because I like him.
" The psychological factor arises from the individual's desire to make their political choice. So that the voters like that candidate. That fondness usually arises because voters feel close to the figure or the political party. The popularity of the candidate is the main factor that makes them liked by the voters. This is because voters often see the candidate through campaign attributes such as banners, billboards, or stickers that are put up, and voters have even met the candidate in person. Thus, the voters develop an interest in the candidate. By identifying figures, it becomes easier to form knowledge about political objects. The information received about legislative elections makes it easier for someone to make assessments that will lead to political choices. Choosing because the figure is born emotionally. Usually because of the reason of liking the candidate, which drives them to vote for that person".

This is also in line with Dieter Roth's psychological theory that the selection process through party identification is based on choosing the name of someone who feels close to one of the parties. Party identification is identified as a very close feeling that someone has towards one of the parties. This also applies to the relationship between voters and candidates on a personal level. Voter behavior based on a psychological approach also depends on the political socialization of the voter's environment. Identification of figures or parties as a form of political socialization that can be carried out by parents, society, and the friendship environment. This socialization is related to the values and norms taught by parents, the community environment, and friendships, which are forms of political understanding for the youth. When the informants were asked about the influence of knowledge regarding political phenomena on their political choices, they responded that they lacked knowledge about the profiles of candidates and their supporting parties. Guidance on political choices is more likely to be obtained from parents, the community, and peers who directly or indirectly provide information about certain candidates.

Like the interview with the informant (KA) as a young voter, who said.

"Honestly, I am actually not very interested in politics, so I don't have much knowledge about politics." I only know a little about the recent election. Because I don't know much about it, I just follow my parents' choice. Wherever they go, I go there too. So in short, I was just directed by them to choose certain candidates during the last election. This was also emphasized in an interview with another informant (SO), who is a parent of a young voter, saying, "As parents, we definitely want the chosen candidates to be productive for society." It is indeed clear that our children need to be guided. In simple terms, if we have a candidate who is a drunkard and one who is not, we would choose the one who is not a drunkard. Well, this is a young person, you could say still new as well. We, as parents, should guide them so that they can mature in politics shortly. Young people sometimes don't even know who the candidates are. Especially if the candidate is a drunkard, they get them drunk first and then ask them to vote, which means the generation is already ruined. The choice of parents for a young voter is an alternative step when the voter is confused about making their political choice".

The influence and encouragement of parents are very significant in determining political choices, especially for the youth. This is in line with Gaffar's opinion in Yustiningrum (2010) that a person's voting behavior tends to follow the political direction of their social environment, as well as the various social ties present in society. Furthermore, David Apter in Indar Melani (2014) explains the influence of family on children in making choices, specifically the similarity between a child's choices and their parents' choices. That the alignment or similarity of choices between parents and their children is something natural. Because the family is the first to have access to the formation of self-identity, and to learn the values of their environment and society, including their political role. Parents who guide their children in making political choices do so clearly because they are more experienced than their children. With that experience, their political knowledge also increases, allowing them to better understand which choices are best for their children, who still have limited understanding.

In addition to following choices, environmental factors such as community leaders also influence the political choices of young voters. The process of transmitting political values is also carried out by community leaders who influence certain areas. Frequent social interactions also become an arena for exchanging information and influencing each other among individuals, in this case, young voters and community leaders. As in the interview with another informant (UN) as a young voter.

"In every region, there are always people considered figures in the sense that they have influence over the community, especially during election periods when they often influence the surrounding community."

Likewise, here, many people are also influenced, including myself, in choosing during that election. A similar sentiment was expressed by another informant (CR), a community leader, who said.

"There is definitely an influence on the youth here regarding who to vote for and who not to vote for."

According to Robert Owen, human character is greatly influenced by its environment. Because young people often socialize with their surroundings, a process of political socialization is indirectly created in the formation of their perspectives and preferences. The influence of community leaders in shaping the political perceptions of young voters. The perception is formed through gatherings between parents, including community leaders, and young people, resulting in discussions about political phenomena related to elections. Then it becomes the basis of the youth's knowledge in determining their political choices. Community leaders are considered as second parents, whose opinions are also deemed important, because they usually have experience in political activities, and it is not uncommon for community leaders to become one of the political machines for candidates to increase electoral support. With their influence on the surrounding environment, especially on young people who are not yet emotionally mature, it is certainly not difficult to sway their political choices.

Besides following the choices of parents and community leaders, the friendly environment also influences the political choices of young voters. Due to the amount of time spent with friends, there is a process of mutual influence, including political socialization that occurs among young people who are also voters. As in the interview with another informant (JA) who is a young voter,

> "My friends actually had a lot of influence on my choice in the last election." Honestly, I chose the candidate because of my friend's influence, who I also hang out with. We often talk, including discussing candidates and elections. He said it's better to just choose this person, he is good and is sure he can be beneficial to the lower-class society. At the encouragement of my friend, I eventually followed their choice as well.

The correlation between the social environment and political choices is very close; the social environment, in this case, family and friendships, greatly influences the provision of information and the formation of knowledge regarding political choices. The process of socialization that occurs within the social environment impacts the formation of an individual's perception of political objects, which ultimately influences their political choices. The psychological approach built through socialization by family, community leaders, and friendships shapes voter behavior with direction, encouragement, and even coercion from external parties. By Nelson and Huntington, it is referred to as mobilization participation or a form of participation influenced by certain individuals or groups. Mobilization participation causes young voters to lack the freedom and independence to choose representatives they deem fit to lead the region. Research findings can reinforce research on adverse voter effects and learning from experience (Delis & Kroger, 2024), online media's electoral effects depend on specific issues and voter propensity (Delis & Kroger, 2024), chiefs influence voters through non-coercive mechanisms (Brierley, et al, 2024).

Rational Choice Approach

The rational choice approach considers the act of voting for someone as a product of cost-benefit calculation. For voters, profit and loss are used as a reference to conclude the chosen candidate, especially in deciding to participate in the general election or not to vote. Voter considerations in a rational approach are more focused on the vision and mission, track record, and programs offered by the candidate.

As in the interview with another informant (MI) as a young voter, "I look at the educational background, because if he has a higher level of education, he will have more knowledge, and if he leads, he will be wiser because he already has experience.

> " Through his campaign, I see his vision and mission, and I try to align them with the conditions here. Also looking at his track record and the programs he is trying to offer, whether they align with the needs of the community, why shouldn't we choose him?" The strength of a vision and mission, as well as the candidate's sensitivity to the needs of the community, are the most important factors for young voters to consider".

Young people, in this case, can make rational choices in using their voting rights with several considerations by looking at the programs offered during socialization and campaigning in the community. The existence of young people's fears about their future, where if a candidate is elected but does not meet their expectations, such as the need for job opportunities and guaranteed education. Then they will think more carefully, weighing all the possible advantages and disadvantages before making their political choice. This type of voter usually has an adequate educational background, so they certainly have extensive political knowledge. Simply put, young voters will think about what they will gain when choosing a particular candidate.

In the rational choice approach, voters' reasons for making their political choices also tend to lean toward economic calculations. The calculation of profit and loss also influences the political choices of young people. As in the interview with another informant (SA) who is a young voter.

"During the last election, I was given assistance and also received money, that's why I chose him."

The economic situation forces voters to become more pragmatic; whoever comes offering a sum of money will be exchanged for a vote, because the prevailing paradigm is that a single vote is not important and is considered to have little impact on the election results. Thus, offers of money or assistance are something that is difficult to refuse. Generally, such activities are referred to as "dawn raids." For example, there is also the term NPWP (Nomor Piro Wani Piro) which means how much and how much are you willing to pay to vote for a candidate. It is not uncommon for pragmatic voters to be people who are disappointed with the elected candidate, because they previously hoped that the candidate would pay more attention to their welfare, but when elected, they forget the campaign promises. Thus, choosing money politics, it is considered to at least provide some financial benefit to those who mostly belong to the lower-middle economic class. The activity of voting because of being given economic benefits in the form of money is a form of vote buying. This is certainly not justified by either state law or religion. However, this does not mean that it does not exist. This factor has become an open secret that often occurs during elections, including the 2019 legislative elections in the Nusaniwe District of Ambon City. The giving of money or certain benefits to voters is an effective yet pragmatic way to influence voter choices, especially among the youth who tend to have limited knowledge and are unstable in determining their political preferences. The research findings consist of a sociological approach and a psychological approach, namely

a) Sociological Approach: The Influence of Social Structure and Interaction in Young Voter Behavior

This research found that young voters' behavior in the 2019 Ambon City Legislative Election was strongly influenced by social factors, especially community ties, family networks, and social groups. Young voters tend to vote for candidates who are closely related to the community where they live. This can be seen from the tendency of voters to prefer legislative candidates who come from their social environment, whether based on ethnicity, kinship, or involvement in religious and youth organizations. In addition, the role of community figures such as traditional leaders, religious leaders and parents greatly influences the political decisions of youth. In many cases, young voters do not fully vote based on individual preferences, but are more influenced by the direction or recommendations of people they respect. Economic factors are also part of the social dynamics in these elections. Young voters from lower economic backgrounds tend to be influenced by transactional politics, while those from middle to upper economic groups consider the work programs and capacity of candidates more. Thus, the behavior of young voters in legislative elections in Ambon City is not an isolated decision, but rather part of a larger social dynamic that is influenced by external factors such as community, economy and social norms.

b) Psychological Approach: Emotional Factors, Individual Preferences, and Media Influence
From a psychological perspective, this research found that emotions, individual perceptions

and media influence have a significant impact on youth political decisions. One of the main findings is that young voters consider candidate personality factors more than political party affiliation. They tend to vote based on personal impressions of legislative candidates, including how candidates communicate, the image they present, and the emotional closeness they build with voters. In addition, social media is a dominant factor in shaping youth political opinions. Platforms such as Facebook and Instagram serve as the main source of political information, but also exhibit cognitive bias, where young voters are more receptive to information that matches their preferences without further verification. Another influential psychological factor is political skepticism, where some young voters feel distrustful of the existing political system. This causes some of them to be apathetic and less active in elections. However, there are also groups of young voters who use social media as a tool to actively express their political views. Thus, this study shows that psychological aspects, including emotional factors, political trust, and exposure to information on social media, have an important role in shaping the behavior of young voters in Ambon City.

4 Conclusion

Based on the research that has been conducted, it can be concluded that the most dominant factors influencing the choices of young people in the 2019 legislative elections in Ambon City, specifically in the Nusaniwe District, with voter behavior indicators using sociological, psychological, and rational choice approaches. The sociological approach obtained through informants indicates that young people choose candidates because of the similarity in residence, making it easier to know the candidate and their character. Additionally, the similarity in ethnicity or region of origin leads voters to consider the candidate as a family member who must be chosen. And also because of the factor of age similarity, meaning both are from the youth group, they can later become representatives of the youth, as only young people understand young people.

The psychological approach obtained through informants indicates that young people choose because they like the figure, which drives an emotional interest in one of the candidates. Additionally, there are factors of influence and mobilization from external parties such as parents, community leaders, and friends. The rational choice approach obtained through informants is that young people choose based on the evaluation of the candidates' vision, mission, programs, and track record. Thus, it becomes the basis for young people to analyze the pros and cons and the benefits of the candidates running for office for the community and regional progress. In addition, economic calculations in the form of monetary gifts or certain assistance, influence the political choices of young voters.

Based on the information obtained through interviews with informants, and then analyzed using a voter behavior approach, it was found that the most dominant factor influencing the choices of young people in the 2019 legislative elections in Ambon City, Nusaniwe District, was their preference for certain figures and the encouragement from parents, community leaders, and friends. This is referred to as a psychological factor in the review of voter behavior theory. But it cannot be denied that there are also sociological factors such as the similarity of residence and rational choice factors such as cost-benefit calculations and assessments through the programs or visions and missions offered that also influence the political choices of the youth in the 2019 legislative elections in the Nusaniwe District of Ambon City.

The advice that can be given is as follows: (1). The importance of adequate political education for the youth to enhance their knowledge so they can make rational considerations when voting. (2). There needs to be strict supervision by election organizers to eradicate all forms of vote-buying that are still rampant during the election stages. Strict supervision by the election organizers is needed to eradicate all forms of vote-buying that still prevail during the election stages. (3). There needs to be parental involvement in guiding their children as young voters, but it should not extend to intervening at the level of determining which candidate to choose. Because in a democratic country, the principle of "one person, one vote" is upheld, so each person has the same right and independence in determining their own choice.

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