Dropout Cause of Elementary School Children in West Java, Indonesia: A Descriptive Study from The Academic-Economic Perspective, and Its Relation to The Pandemic

Hana Riana Permatasari
Badan Penelitian dan Pengembangan Daerah Provinsi Jawa Barat, Bandung, Indonesia

ABSTRACT

Objective: The objective of this study is to identify the dropout cause of elementary school children in West Java, Indonesia, especially from the academic and economic perspective. **Method:** The method used is descriptive study with distributing online questionnaire to the relation in schools having dropout children in elementary school and junior high school in West Java, Indonesia. **Results**: The study results show that the reason of dropouts are the pandemic condition, the environment, the laziness, and there is no budget for school, most of the children drop out of school during the pandemic, most of the children stated that learning during pandemic was not fun, most of the children have a desire to go back school, most of the dropout children are girls, and most of the dropout families are lower middle class economy. **Novelty**: The study explained the dropout cause of elementary school in West, Indonesia using primary data which contained the academic and economic factor, also its relation to the pandemic that has not been revealed by the other previous studies.

INTRODUCTION

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations member states in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future (https://sdgs.un.org/goals). Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has 17 goals in some sector which goal number 4 is *"Ensure inclusive and equitable education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all"*. Based on that goal, ideally all children could achieve the education until the higher education. In global perspective, it is an ascertained fact that the development of a nation is highly dependent on the their citizens' education which plays a central role and a cross cutting impact on all aspects of human life (Latif, 2015). The today education is crucial to enhance the ability of the tomorrow leaders to create innovations and find new paths for a better and more sustainable future (Wahyudin, 2018). Furthermore, individual abilty to access the education sustainability influences the ability to increase the better welfare positioning level, and when someone can afford his/her welfare, colectivelly, this welfare will influence the national development (Simanjuntak, 2018). Thus, either directly or indirectly, the contribution of education to the economy and development must be recognized (Widiansyah, 2017). Moreover, through education, a country has enormous power not only in the field of economic development but also global competition (Rokhmaniyah, 2021).

Regarding this matter, Indonesia as one of the development country is still struggling with human development issue. West Java as the province with the largest population in Indonesia, almost 50 million people (Badan Pusat Statistik Jawa Barat, 2022) also still

10._389-Article_Text-3458-1-15-20230828.doc