# Is Using Government Digital Media Platforms to Disseminate Regulations on Child Adoption Procedures Effective?

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**ABSTRACT:** Digital media has been used by government of most countries in the world to deliver information, including regulations, to their people. There are some platforms of digital media used by governments, such as X, Instagram, YouTube, and website. One of regulations that is important to be understood by society is regarding child adoption since the number of youths who consider not to have biological child, with slightly number has intention to have child through adoption, has been growing. Therefore, child adoption regulations and procedures are information that should be well disseminated to society. In relation to that matter, this work depicts and discusses: 1) which digital media platforms that the youngsters use to seek information and reasons on choosing that digital media platform? 2) have they ever watched video and/or read regulations or procedures concerning child adoption? and 3) Is digital media an effective media to educate society, particularly Gen Z? The research applies two ways in collecting data, they are focus group discussion and online questionnaire. The focus group discussion joined by 65 (sixty-five) participants, while there are 60 (sixty) respondents who fill out the questionnaire. They are university students in Central Java, Indonesia. Each respondent fills out a questionnaire via google form with open ended questions. The data also gathers from government digital media platform. The results are as follows: 1) three digital media platforms that mostly used by the respondents are X, TikTok, and Instagram, 2) there are 9 (nine) of the respondents who have learnt about child adoption and there are 3 (three) respondents who read the about child adoption but not from government official digital media platforms, and 3) in term of the effectiveness on using digital media platforms to disseminate regulations and procedures concerning child adoption, the result shows that there are 15 (fifteen) respondents who admit that government digital media platforms are effective to be used as media to disseminate regulations and procedures about child education to society (especially to gen Z).

**KEYWORDS:** digital media platforms, child adoption, regulations, gen Z.

## I.  INTRODUCTION

The application of digital technology to provide better services to society has become an issue studied in various countries since the beginning of the 21st century (Silcock, 2001; Medjahed, Rezgui, Bouguettaya, & Ouzzani, 2003; Aida & Majdi, 2014; Batara, Nurmandi, Warsito, & Pribadi, 2017; Sabani, Deng, & Thai, 2018; and Yera, Arbelaitz, Jauregui, & Muguerza, 2020). Discussions regarding the emergence of technology are still ongoing today. Burmaoglu, Sartenaer, & Porter (2019) stated that the emergence of technology is actually an uninterrupted process with increasing complexity. Danuri (2019) stated that advances in technology, especially digital technology, began with the discovery of computers around the 1950s. Until now, human life has been greatly influenced by digital technology. Some life activities that are greatly influenced by digital technology are communication and business. Apart from having a positive impact, digital technology also has a negative impact. Negative matters that have had an impact on human life are, for example, taking other people's data without rights. In fact, this is what makes some Indonesian people less comfortable using the services provided by the government through e-government (Alvedi Sabani, Hepu Deng, and Vinh Thai, 2018). However, even though there are negative impacts from the use of digital technology, half of Indonesia's population uses the internet in their daily lives. More than half of Indonesia's population owns and uses various social media platforms in their daily lives (Fuady, 2018). One of the urgencies of using digital technology is the possibility of providing and maintaining information from archives. Archives consist of dynamic active and dynamic inactive archives as well as archives static. Static archives containing important and historical information need to be transferred to the media using digital technology with procedures in accordance with statutory regulations (Laksono, 2017). In addition to that, it is found that responds from public on government social media can be considered as input that could assist government in policy making (Agung Budiono and Roy Valiant Salomo, 2022).

Ministry of Communication and Information of the Republic of Indonesia stated that data on numbers of Indonesian use internet in 2023 was 63 million and 95% of them accessed social media (kominfo, 2023). Interestingly, the Indonesian Internet Service

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Providers Association (Asosiasi Penyelenggara Jasa Internet Indonesia) stated that in 2024 the number has reached to more than 220 million with the highest number is gen Z (APJII, 2024). In addition to that, the number of internet users who actively use social media has reach to the number of 167 million users (RRI, 2024).

In the 21st century, many changes have occurred. One of them is a change in how society interprets child adoption. In the past, people who adopted children were usually based on the reason that they did not have children. With the intention of increase happiness in their household, they adopt children who are sometimes expected to become children as well. The meaning of an induced child is that by taking care of the adopted child they hope to be given a biological child by the Almighty. However, in recent years the perception and goals of adopting children have shifted. Raising a child is no longer with the main goal as stated previously but rather focuses on the interests of the child (DESA, 2009; Kasdi & Anwar, 2019).

Regarding child adoption (child adoption) is not accepted by all countries in the world. Some countries do not accept the concept of adoption according to Western law because it is seen as not being in accordance with the existing rules in the religion which is enforced by the country as its positive law. Apart from that, another reason is that it is not in accordance with the country's traditions. The main thing that is the basis for not accepting the concept of child adoption is the erasure of the child's lineage with his biological parents (DESA, 2009). Even with an increasingly globalized world, many child adoptions occur across jurisdictional boundaries. The number of intercountry child adoptions has increased since 1960. Usually, each country regulates stricter procedures for cross-border child adoptions (Unicef, n.d).

Recently, in Indonesia, there has been an increasing number of people who confirm to be child free. Statistic Center Bureau of Indonesia (Biro Pusat Statistik) stated that the number is around 8% of women at age 15to 49 years old by 2022 (BPS, 2023). Concerning child adoptions which follow procedures as stated in regulations, there is significantly a growing number also. The increasing number, data each year in 2020 to 2023, around 50% with the number in 2020 was 1,093; 1,225 in 2022; and 1,565 in 2023. Nevertheless, there are some cases that the applicant did not continue the process to adopt a child. One of the reasons is they decline to keep the blood lineage of the child to her/his biological parents and then stepped back from the adoption process (Kompas, 2023).

In Indonesia, there are some regulations established by the government to administer child adoption. The regulations are Law Number 35 Year 2014concerning Child Protection (Undang-Undang Nomor 35 Tahun 2014 tentang Perlindungan Anak), Government Regulation Number 54 Year 2007 concerning Implementation of Child Adoption (Peraturan Pemerintah Nomor 54 Tahun 2007 tentang Pelaksanaan Pengangkatan Anak), Social Ministry Regulation Number 110 Year 2009 concerning the Requirements on Child Adoption (Peraturan Menteri Sosial Nomor 110 Tahun 2009 tentang Persyaratan Pengangkatan Anak), and Regulation of Director General of Social Rehabilitation Number 02 Year 2012 concerning Technical Guidance on Child Adoption Procedures (Peraturan Direktur Jenderal Rehabilitasi Sosial Nomor 02 Tahun 2012 tentang Pedoman Teknis Prosedur Pengangkatan Anak) (kemensos, 2016). Since Indonesia consists of muslim as the majority of the people, thus it is urgent to clearly stated in the laws that an adopted child is not disconnected from his/her biological parents (especially the father). People or married couple who are willing to adopt a child should apply to Social Ministry. In addition to that, it is important to apply a record on the child adoption that falls as to area managed by the Directorate General of Population and Civil Registration (Dukcapil) which is under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The ministries that are mandated to administer on child adoption, each of them, has digital media platforms. On the official website of the Directorate General of Population and Civil Registration (Dukcapil), there is an explanation regarding the procedure for adopting a child in Indonesia. In Indonesia, the laws and regulations regarding adopted children are in accordance with Islamic rules, namely not eliminating the child's lineage. One of the legal bases for adoption in Indonesia which mandates safeguarding the nasab of adopted children is Presidential Decree Number 96 of 2018 concerning Requirements and Procedures for Population Registration and Civil Registration (Dukcapil, 2022). On the Ministry of Social Affairs website with the link https://kemensos.go.id/perbesaran-pengangkatan-anak, information regarding the requirements for adopting a child is found which is quite interesting, namely in the form of dynamic infographics. While on YouTube with the channel name Dukcapil Kemendagri, the Directorate General of Dukcapil KDN conveys regarding child adoption through court order. The rights and conditions for adopting a child are also explained, such as that the child must know his biological parents, when adopting a child, it does not sever the child's biological relationship with his biological parents. The requirements for making a deed for an adopted child are explained, the types of deeds, and how the child is recognized by the state. Through a video entitled "Cara Bikin Akta Anak Angkat dan Anak Adopsi (Making a Deed for Foster and Adopted Children)". Meanwhile, search results via Instagram social media found, among others, Instagram @dukcapilmendagri entitled "Salah satu Upaya melindungi anak-anak adalah dengan memberikan hak atas identitas anak melalui akta kelahiran (One of the efforts to protect children is by giving children the right to identity through birth certificates)." There are many other disseminations conducted by bodies under the two ministries.

There is previous research that discuss in term about the application of digital technology by the government of Indonesia, such as research conducted by Alvedi Sabani, Hepu Deng, and Vinh Thai (2018). While in area of child adoption in Indonesia is a work from Leonora Bakarbessy dan Dian Purnama Anugerah (2018). However, there has not been found research that examines the application of digital technology platforms by the government in providing effective information services regarding

regulations and procedures in terms of child adoption in Indonesia. Thus, the aims of this research are to depicts and discusses: 1) digital media platforms that the youngsters use to seek information and reasons on choosing that digital media platform, 2) whether the youngsters ever watched video and/or read regulations or procedures concerning child adoption from government digital media platform, and 3) the opinion from the youngsters regarding effectiveness on using government digital media to educate society, particularly Gen Z, concerning regulation and procedures on child adoption?

## II. METHOD

This research gathers data by applying two ways. The first way is through Focus Group Discussion (FGD) followed by 65 participants. FGD consists of 4 (four) sessions with around 15 participants in each session. The arrangement in every session is the chairwoman leads the discussion by delivering the aims of the FGD, followed by asking questions. There are two members of research team who take note of the FGD sessions. After discussing each question, before continuing to the next question, the chairwoman pauses to make sure that there is no more response from participants. The other way is through filling out online questionnaire via google form with open ended questions. The number of respondents who fill out the questionnaire is 60. The questions given in FGD, and the questionnaire are the same questions. The participants and respondents are university students from faculty of law in Semarang, Central Java. The research was conducted in August 2023. In addition to answering the last aim of this research, data are gathered from government digital media platform, that is Youtube with the channel name Dukcapil Kemendagri.

## III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results presented below are the data gathered through questionnaires that provide statistic data and the data gathered through FGD provides qualitative data. In addition to that, there are another data which gathered from government Youtube channel and related articles--they are employed to confirm the results gathered through questionnaire and FGD. The results are explained sequentially based on the aims of the research as follows:

1) Digital media platforms that the youngsters use to seek information and reasons on choosing that digital media platform

Based on the responses from the FGD participants, it can be stated that almost all participants have several ways of accessing information. Apart from that, almost all of them have more than 1 (one) social media account. The most common social media accounts by each of respondent are X, then Tik Tok and Instagram. However, some of them stated that the choice of seeking information depends on what type of information they need or want to know. Most of them stated that social media Meanwhile, TikTok is an option because this platform allows video uploaders to usually present interesting video, so they are not boring. The majority of participants stated that sites that provide information through pages are often boring because the majority contain interesting writing. Based on the overall response, it is not only long writing that makes participants less interested, even long and monotonous videos uploaded via YouTube are also boring and less interesting. Even if they ought to look for information through sites on the website, this is usually done because they are looking for material for college assignments.

A simple statistic data provided from the questionnaire filled out by 60 respondents. The number of respondents use X as the most frequent digital media platform to seek information. The result from this survey confirms the results of FGD.

| Website | Youtube | Instagram | X | TikTok | FB | Reddit | Others (such as Telegram) |
|---------|---------|-----------|-----|--------|-----|--------|----------------------------|
| 26 | 10 | 27 | 45 | 29 | 5 | 2 | 6 |

**Source: Primary Data**

The result shows that the most used Compared to results of previous research conducted by Cahyana Kumbul Widada (2018), the most social media platform used by her respondents were Facebook (29%), Youtube (22%), and Twitter (now X, 17%). before TikTok

2) Having watched video and/or read regulations and/ or procedures concerning child adoption via government digital media platform

| They have | They have not | From other digital media sources |
|-----------|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| 9 | 48 | 3 |

**Source: Primary Data**

Based on the participants' responses via google form questionnaires, there are only 9 participants had seen or read digital content regarding child adoption from the official government website. Apart from that, there were 3 participants who had read information about child adoption but not from official government digital media.

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3) The effectiveness on using digital media platforms to disseminate regulations and procedures concerning child adoption to society

Based on the results of responses from participants stated above, only 15 participants stated that government digital media was effective in educating the public. Based on quantitative results, this means that around 75% of participants think that government digital media is less effective/ineffective for use as a medium for educating the public. There were even participants who thought that the education delivered would have maximum impact if carried out offline or in person (conventionally). There are several opinions as to why the use of digital media is categorized as less/ineffective, namely because the delivery of content is not in a way that is acceptable to Gen Z (as previously stated, Gen Z likes information presented briefly - to the point - and with the video is also short.

| Effective | Less Effective | Ineffective | Suggests for other method |
|-----------|----------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| 15 | 35 | 10 | 1 |

**Source: Primary Data**

The above result is inline with the number of views of the video on Youtube only hit 4,100. The video was uploaded through Dukcapil Kemendagri channel two years ago.

## IV. CONCLUSIONS

Digital media platforms have been used to disseminate various information. There are some benefits using digital media platforms, among others, are it is easier to share and to update the information and people can easily access the information shared by the government. In addition to that, almost all digital media platforms allow people to interact by asking questions and/or delivering comment/suggestion to the platform administration.

Gen Z is the generation who are familiar with digital technology since they were born. Therefore, they tend to seek information through digital media platforms. In relation to information that they may need to be provided by the government is about child adoption since their generation are accustomed to perspective of child free or having child by adoption. Government of Indonesia has been using digital media platforms to disseminate information on regulations and procedures concerning child adoption.

This research reveals that Gen Z as respondents are habitual to use digital media platform in seeking information in their daily lives. The top three digital media platforms that they use are X, TikTok, and Instagram since they do not have to spend much time to read, watch, and/or digest the information. In relation to child adoption, about 10% (ten percent) has learnt about child adoption through government digital media platforms, while 0.5% (3 respondents) has learnt the topic through non-government digital media platforms. However, even though the respondents are Gen Z who are accustomed to digital media platforms, number of respondents who consider that using government digital media platforms to disseminate regulations and procedures about child adoption is effective is less (only one forth out of 60 respondents) compared to students who consider they are effective. Thus, it is recommended to conduct more research on how to elevate the effectiveness of using such platforms.

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