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Online Learning Platform Effectiveness in West Papua Campus During the Covid-19 Pandemic Period

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Abstract

The corona virus disease outbreak or more commonly known as Covid-19 is sweeping the world. The Emergency Period for the Spread of the Corona Virus Disease (Covid 19) imposes an online learning from home (BDR) rule that applies to all levels of education which is intended to provide a meaningful learning experience Regarding these rules, West Papua itself has issued a circular letter from the Head of the West Papua Provincial Education Office, Barnabas Dowansiba, which states that all learning activities must be carried out from home. student internet quota, including the unpreparedness of students and lecturers in conducting online learning itself. Therefore, the use of online platforms can vary from campus to campus, all of which lead to the objective of obtaining effective learning during the Covid-19 pandemic. The purpose of this study is to find out which online platforms were effective during the Covid-19 pandemic. Sampling using purposive sampling technique. The results of this study indicate that the recommended online platform is a zoom meeting on the grounds that it is easier to use.

Keywords: Online Platform, Effective, Online Learning.

1. Introduction

The corona virus disease outbreak or more commonly known as Covid-19 is sweeping the world. This very dangerous virus has changed the entire habits and way of life of the world community, including in Indonesia. Various efforts have been made to reduce and prevent the spread of the virus from becoming more widespread, among others by limiting community activities in public places and imposing strict health protocols if forced to carry out activities outside the home. In fact, some regions have implemented more stringent regulations, namely Large-Scale Social Restrictions (PSBB) to control the spread of Covid-19 (Government Regulation Number 21 of 2020, 2020)

The period of the Covid-19 pandemic in Indonesia, which has been going on since March until now, has made education one of the most affected sectors. In the field of education, the government has issued a policy to close educational institutions (Opan Arifudin, 2020). The national response in education is in the form of learning platforms and other tools that can be done online (Agus Purwanto, et al, 2020). Whereas in the Circular of the Minister of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia Number 4 of 2020 concerning the Implementation of Education Policies in an Emergency Period for the Spread of Corona Virus Disease (Covid 19), online learning from home (BDR) rules apply at all levels of education which are intended to provide experience meaningful learning in students (Kemendikbud RI, 2020). This rule requires all learning not to be done conventionally or face-to-face but must be done online (online). Regarding these regulations, in West Papua itself a Circular of the Head of the West Papua Provincial Education Office, Barnabas

Dowansiba, states that all learning activities must be carried out from home (online learning) to prevent the spread of Covid-19 (Media Indonesia, 2020). With the enactment of these rules, practically all face-to-face activities at schools including on campuses in West Papua cannot be done temporarily and switch to online learning activities.

Online learning is learning through applications that are done virtually (Albitar Septian Syarifudin, 2020). Online learning or learning "online" which means being connected to a computer network and using the internet network (Mokhammad Iklil Mustofa, et al, 2019). This relatively new online learning activity can actually be used as a way to make student learning more enjoyable, because it is not only learning through books but can also take part in learning via cellphones or computers (laptops). Thus, it is hoped that students can be more active in following the learning process (Sobron A. N. et al, 2019). In the online learning model itself, there are several commonly used platforms, including Zoom, Google Meet, WhatsApp Group (WAG), Webex, and others. The selection of the online platform model that is used adjusts to the situation and conditions because the model used in a lesson can affect students' ability to learn (Suhatono & Indramawan A, 2020). Therefore, the selection of the online platform used is very decisive in achieving learning effectiveness.

In the Manokwari area, there are several public and private campuses, namely one State campus (Papua University / UNIPA) and several private campuses, among others; STKIP Muhammadiyah Manokwari, STT Erickson Tritt, STIH Manokwari, Polbangtan Manokwari, STIE Maheisa and ISTI Manokwari, who during the Covid-19 pandemic had conducted online learning activities. In this activity, the connection in interacting is supported by internet facilities. This interaction ability and quality determines the sustainability of the system in online learning (Dwi Sulisworo & Sri Puji Agustin, 2017). The results of Maulana and Hamidi's research found that many educators still had difficulty using online learning technology (e-learning or other platforms from third parties such as Zoom, Google Classroom, and CloudX). This causes learning that takes place only to provide remote assignments without feedback or interaction with students (Hutomo Atman Maulana & Muhammad Hamidi, 2020).

In its implementation, each campus experiences various problems, ranging from limited cellular signal capture, limited student internet quota problems, including the unpreparedness of students and lecturers in conducting online learning itself. This has implications for the selection of online platforms to use in learning. Therefore, the use of online platforms can vary from campus to campus, all of which lead to the goal of getting effective learning during the Covid-19 pandemic. It is important to make adjustments to the needs related to the existing situations and conditions, whether the teacher, learner, or the location where the teaching and learning process occurs. Observation must be made first because it will determine the success of the learning objectives (Rina Husnaini Febriyanti & Hanna Sundari, 2020). This research was conducted with the aim of finding out which online platforms were effective in learning on campuses in the Manokwari area during the Covid-19 pandemic.

2. Methodology

This study used a descriptive qualitative approach with a survey method. With the target object, namely 21 state and private universities in West Papua. The focus in this research is on platforms that are effectively used in online learning during the Covid-19 pandemic. The sample in this study used a type of non-probably sampling with a purposive sampling technique, the sample in this study had to meet the inclusion criteria in the form of (1) students studying at universities in West Papua, (2) being active students, (3) have an android mobile phone, (4) conduct online learning at their respective

universities, and (5) get a link to fill out a questionnaire. So that the sample used in this study amounted to 67 people. The key instrument used in this study was the researcher himself and was assisted by another tool in the form of an online questionnaire. The data collection technique is in the form of a mixed questionnaire, which is a combination of open and closed questionnaires. The questionnaire was collected to find out the number of respondents who recommended the use of effective platforms in online learning during the Covid pandemic by students studying at universities in West Papua. Techniques in analyzing data use analysis techniques from (Matthew B. Miles & A. Michael Huberman, 2014) which consists of three stages, namely data reduction, data display, drawing conclusions and verification.

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│ Data Reduction │ ═════> │  Display Data  │ ═════> │   Withdrawal and   │
│                │        │                │        │    Verification    │
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Figure 1. Data Analysis Technique

3. Result and Discussion

Various efforts to reduce the chain of the spread of Covid-19 in the campus environment have been carried out by implementing online learning rules. Lectures are conducted using the internet, making it easier for lecturers and students to interact online. Lecturers can make teaching materials that can be accessed by students anywhere and anytime (Ali Sadikin, Afreni Hamidah, 2020). In West Papua itself, a Circular of the Head of the West Papua Provincial Education Office, Barnabas Dowansiba, stated that all learning activities must be carried out from home (online learning) to prevent the spread of Covid-19 (Media Indonesia, 2020)

Learning at the primary, junior high, senior secondary and tertiary school levels is carried out online (online) using a platform. (Rina Husnaini Febriyanti & Hanna Sundari, 2020) said that the platform can be used as a medium that can help teachers in the learning process. For the higher education level, all learning activities are carried out online by utilizing platforms available on Google and Playstore. Following are the results of the questionnaire responses by students at universities in West Papua.
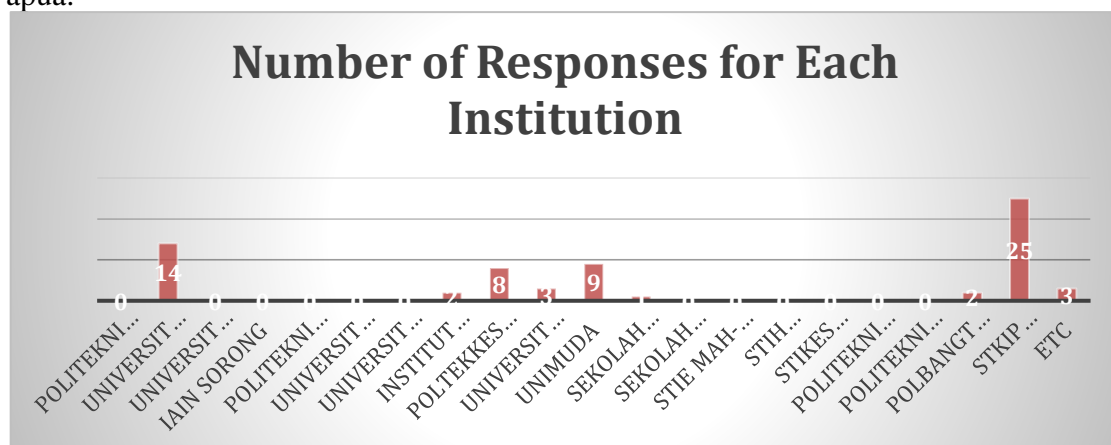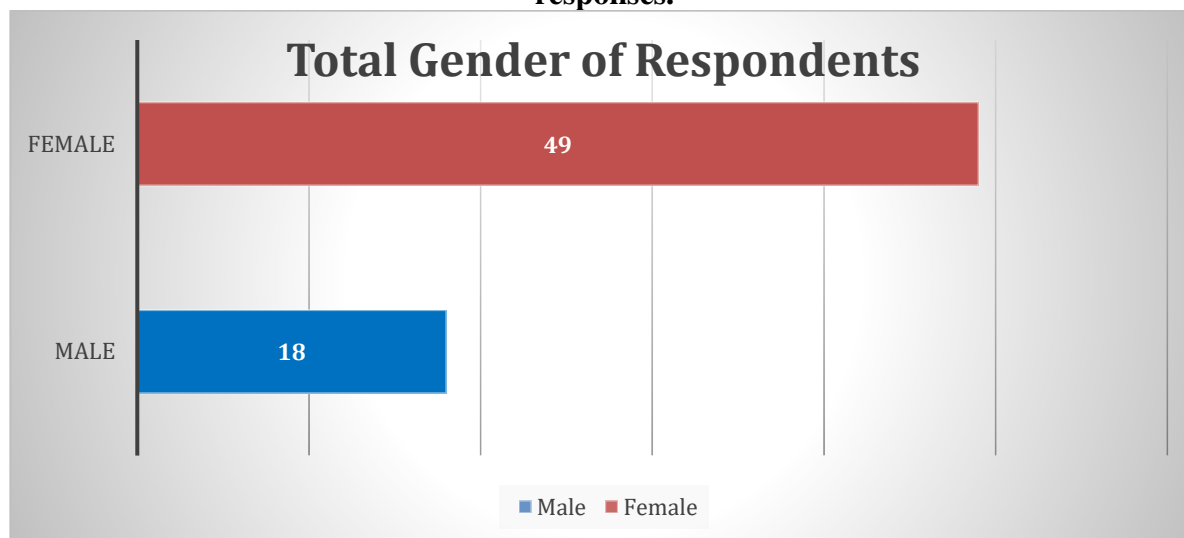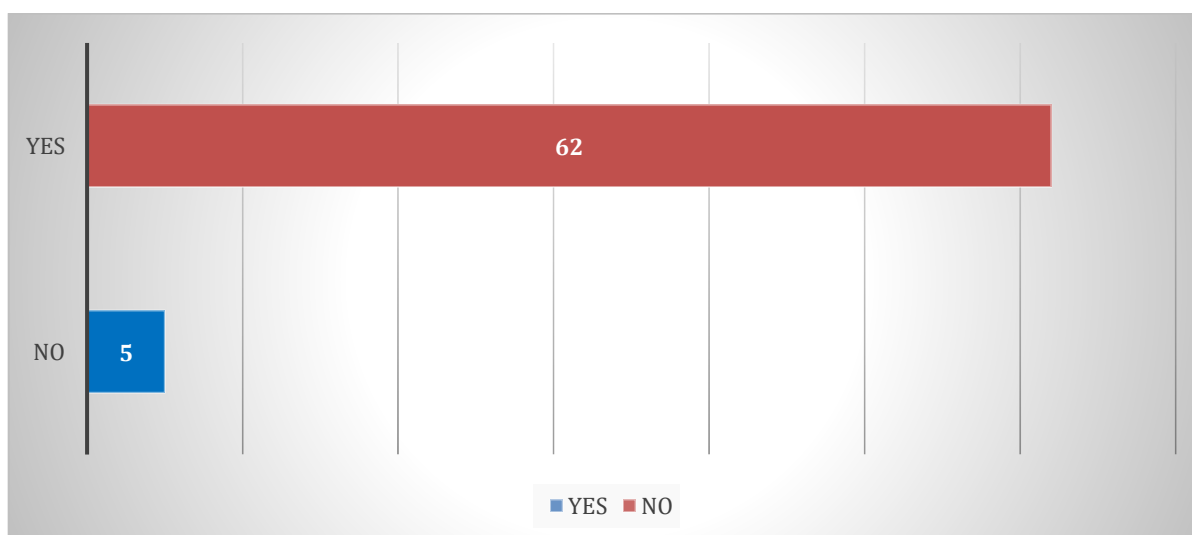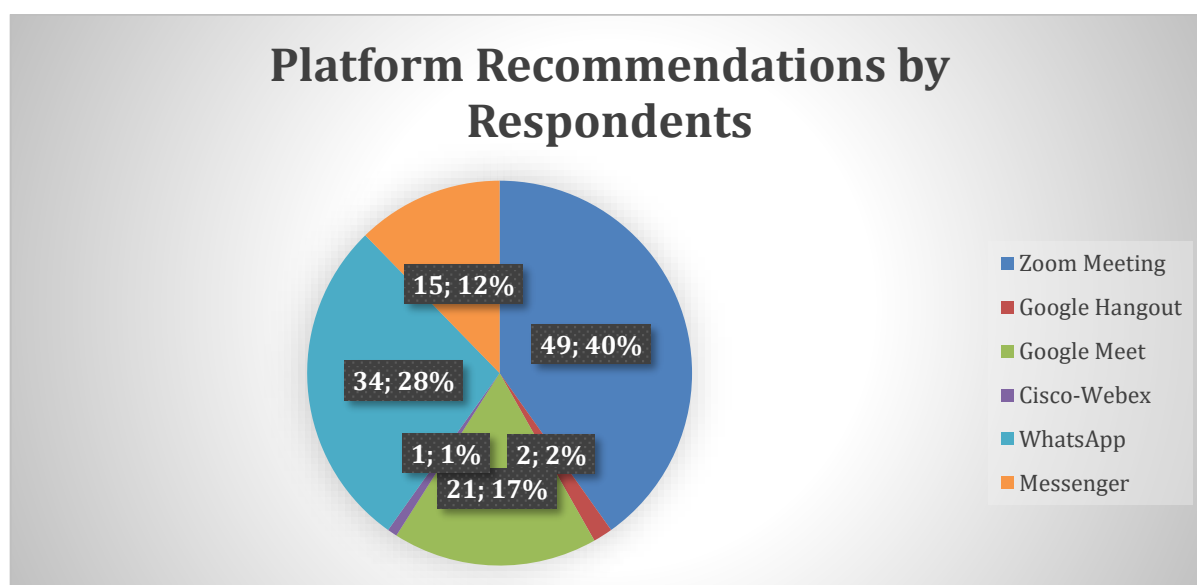
Figure 3. Form Response Diagram. Question title: Gender. Number of responses: 67 responses.

The diagram above shows that the distribution of the questionnaires was not evenly distributed, as evidenced by the number of samples that filled only 67 students, with 18 male and 49 females from 21 universities in West Papua. In addition, there are questions in the questionnaire which state students' understanding of the platforms used in implementing learning activities during the Covid-19 pandemic. From the results of the questionnaire distributed and filled in by a sample of 67 people, 62 people said they understood using applications such as WhatsApp Group, Zoom Meeting, Cisco-Webex, Google Meet, Mesenger and Google Hangout. The following is a diagram of the results of the research sample answers with the question, do you understand using an online platform / application?

Figure 4. Response Form diagram. Question title: Do you understand using the Online Platform / application. Number of responses: 67 responses.

The results of the sample answers to these questions show that in general, 92% of students who continue their education at universities in West Papua understand the use of online platforms / applications used during learning during the Covid-19 pandemic. But of the several platforms available, there is definitely one of the easiest and recommended platforms to use. So that the researcher also makes a question in the questionnaire which contains the applications recommended by students in doing online learning. This is done because those who feel the use of the application are students. So that students themselves will also know which applications are very good to use and do not make it difficult for students to understand the material presented. According to (Suhatono & Indramawan A, 2020), the selection of the online platform model used is adjusted to the situation and conditions because the model used in a lesson can affect students' ability to learn. Therefore, the selection of the online platform used is very decisive in achieving learning effectiveness. The following platforms were chosen and recommended by students studying at universities in West Papua.

Platform Recommendations by Respondents

- Zoom Meeting
- Google Hangout
- Google Meet
- Cisco-Webex
- WhatsApp
- Messenger

49; 40%
34; 28%
15; 12%
21; 17%
1; 1%
2; 2%

Figure 5. Form response diagram. Question title: The platform / app you recommend for online learning. Number of responses: 67 responses.

Based on the results of research on online learning platforms it is recommended that 49.40% of students choose to use Zoom Meeting media because it is easier to use and can display videos and materials through the share screen feature. This is in line with the results of research from (Suci Ferdiana, 2020) that media zoom is easier to understand the material because all senses function to see visual graphics and audio lectures from live lecturers, the material exposure is more detailed and clear because it is broadcast live, it is more interactive when discuss and ask and answer questions because they can do face-to-face like the conditions before the pandemic, can feel the presence of many friends in lectures and facilitate proof of attendance for each course. Indirectly, the completeness of these features makes students feel like they are in a typical classroom situation who stays face to face even though only through the video feature. In addition, 34.28% of students

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recommend WhatsApp Group on the grounds that WhatsApp Group is easier to understand and does not consume a lot of quota because only through chat features and material delivery only through chat and also sending some material in Pdf format in the chat room. This is considered to make it easier for students and does not use up a lot of quotas even though its effectiveness is not yet effective. Furthermore, according to (Suci Ferdiana, 2020) the WhatsApp Group media, there were too many chats coming from classmates so that the lecturer chats were piled up, not all students responded, some even did not open the group at all when the lecture was taking place, it was difficult to understand the material because it was not explained directly , prefers to listen to rather than read writings that are sometimes abbreviated, often misunderstand and confusion in doing assignments to make them sleepy. So that the use of WhatsApp Group media is easy to use but ineffective.

4. Conclusion

Based on the results of research and discussion, it is found that from 67 respondents from 21 State and Private Universities in West Papua stated that they prefer to use the zoom platform with a total referral of 49.40% or the equivalent of 33 meeting voters compared to the fifth Other platforms such as WhatsApp Group with a total voter turnout of 34.28% or 23 voters, Cisco Webex 1.1% or only 1 voter, Google Meet 21.17% or 14 voters, Google Hangout 2.2% or 2 voters, and Mesengger 15 , 12% or 10 voters on the grounds that the zoom meeting platform is easier to use and they were initially introduced to the zoom meeting first compared to the other five platforms and also other platforms such as WhatsApp Group being the second choice on the grounds that they save on data packages, but are not effective because only through the chat feature, so they are not too enthusiastic about opening and reading the material that has been sent via chat feature, sometimes chat also overlaps with other chats so that it makes them miss information or doesn't open it because there are many incoming chats. Other platforms actually have complete features like zoom meetings, but these platforms are not yet familiar to use among universities, especially in West Papua. So that the recommendation is the zoom meeting platform with the consideration of being introduced and used first than other platforms that actually have the same full features as zoom meetings.

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