POLITICS AND EDUCATION: WHY DON'T WE LEAD AND CREATE LEADERSHIP?

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ABSTRACT

Leading a large and important organization such as politics and education is not an easy task. As we all know, these two areas are very important in developing a country. If the political and educational situation is complete and stable, the country will be in good shape. However, if the political situation is unstable, all harmony will be disrupted, including the educational aspect. Therefore, only qualified leaders should lead the leadership in politics and education. Quality leaders can make these two areas always preserved and highly praised. Nevertheless, the current situation is not too good to achieve the benefits it deserves. This brief study was conducted to explore the respondents' opinions related to the similarities between political leadership and educational leadership. This study was conducted with a qualitative approach. Respondents were interviewed and their statements were recorded. The recordings were transcribed and analyzed thematically to obtain a theme for the objectives of this study. The findings of this study are expected to provide a clear picture of political leadership and educational leadership.

Keywords: Political leadership, educational leadership, leadership theory

I. INTRODUCTION

The need to implement good management and leadership in organizations and the use of materials is expressed in many studies across various fields (Mohd Ali et al., 2021; Parimala et al., 2021; Siti Jamilah et al., 2021; Nor Fauziyana et al., 2021; Noel et al., 2021). Many researchers have stated that leadership in political scenes and education scenes can facilitate human daily work (Ahmad Shafarin et al., 2021; Junaidah et al., 2021; Farah Adibah et al., 2021; Ahmad Shakani et al., 2021; Muhamad Amin et al., 2021; Muhamad Amin et al., 2021). Therefore, everything that involved in politics and education, must be accompanied by efficient management nor leadership (Santibua et al., 2021; Nor Diana et al., 2021; Zarina et al., 2021; Khairul et al., 2021; Rohani et al., 2021).

Nevertheless, all aspects of management need to be handled well through effective leadership and management in politics or education (Abdul Jalil et al., 2021; Mohd Noh et al., 2021; Mustafa et al., 2021; Roszi et al., 2021; Tumisah et al., 2021). Efficient management and leadership can create a good atmosphere as well as be able to address this issue (Irma et al., 2021; Suzana et al., 2021; Rohanida et al., 2021; Nazrah et al., 2021; Shahrulliza et al., 2021). All available sources such as human resources and facilities should be utilized as much as possible in assisting good leadership (Mohd Arafat et al., 2021; Sumaiyah et al., 2021; Hifzan et al., 2021; Shahrul et al., 2021; Helme et al., 2021).
II. BACKGROUND STUDY

The researcher met with various strata of society involved with politics and education. They have certain views related to politics and education. There are some of them who are quite negative about politics and many label politics as a dirty field of power competition. Politics is also portrayed as a hotbed of corruption and amassing wealth in illegal ways. However, they have different perspectives when it comes to education. They describe education as the best way to change a political arena that is seen to have been badly tainted. Education is also seen as the best medium in the effort to develop the country. For them, leadership in both these areas has its own criteria in shaping competitiveness in the progress of the Nation.

However, in reality we need to realize that, politics is a way in determining all forms of human life in a country. Politics also plays a big role in determining our direction and survival because politics has the power in enacting the laws of the country. Therefore, we cannot deny that politics is important and needs to be given a new lease of life. This brief study was conducted to explore the similarities between leadership in politics and educational leadership that can lead to mutual benefits.

III. METHODOLOGY

This brief needs study uses a qualitative approach in collecting and analyzing data. Interviews were conducted with 11 special education teachers in Batu Pahat district. The interview sessions lasted for 15 to 30 minutes with discussions focused on the similarities of leadership in political and education. The sessions were recorded and then transcribed for data analysis purposes. Thematic analysis was conducted on the resulting transcripts. The themes derived from the analysis became the findings of this study. These themes are also indicators of the results of this study.

FINDINGS

Table 1: Similarities of Leadership in Political and Education

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<tr>
<th>Similarities of Leadership in Political and Education</th>
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<td>Diversity in leadership</td>
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Table 1 shows the distribution of respondents’ opinions related to the similarities of leadership in politics and education from the perspective of school teachers. If examined in depth, there are 5 similarities of leadership in politics and education, namely Importance and Priority, Involving Humans, Public Response, Diversity in leadership and Service to subordinates. In these findings, the indicator of attention is the leadership practices practiced by leaders for both fields. Interestingly, all 11 respondents agreed that there are three significant similarities in political leadership and education namely Involving Humans, Service to subordinates, Importance and Priority. While the other two similarities are Public Response, Diversity in leadership with each recording six statements of respondents.
IV. DISCUSSION

Based on the findings of this study, educators see politics and education can be on the same line. This is evidenced by the opinion stating that the aspects of Involving Humans, Service to subordinates, Importance and Priority in leadership as an important one. They agreed that the leadership needed in both scenes was in the interests of the people. Whether in politics or education, the interests of the people below should be the main focus. If in politics, the people are the main focus, while in education, students are the main focus besides the teachers. they also agree that, both political or educational scenes are a way of leading human beings. Therefore, leaders need to set a good example because their leadership is not tested if it does not involve people. Respondents also agreed that, political leadership and education should provide the best service for the people (politics) and teachers/students (education). They also assume that the diversity of the people (politics) and teachers/students (education) does not interfere too much with leadership.

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