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The Students and the Ability to Verificate a Hoax Through the Application of Hoax Buster Tools (HBT)

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ABSTRACT

Hate speech and hoaxes through social media, become an educational challenge for young people. Advances in digital technology that provides a variety of chat application (mobile chat applications) such as telegram, line, WhatsApp, and social media such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Path, YouTube, making gadget users comfortable surfing and exchanging information in cyberspace. Data shows that adolescents in junior and senior high school age (13-18 years) are the largest internet users in Indonesia which is 75.50%. Digital literacy must continue to be carried out on a massive scale through collaboration between government, educational institutions, religious leaders, volunteer communities, and the community. UNESCO states Digital Literacy is the ability to use ICTs to discover, evaluate, utilize, create, and communicate content/information with cognitive, ethical, social-emotional skills, and technical/technological aspects. The 21st Century Competency Curriculum Development Framework for media literacy has been included in the 2013 curriculum from elementary to the high school level. The role of universities as partner schools is in collaboration with schools to build synergy with the relevant government, as well as the community through the anti-hoax volunteer community in providing education with the main target of media users. Providing education is expected to be able to familiarize students with clarification in responding to social media accounts. Makassar State University as one of the leading universities in Eastern Indonesia, which has a wide enough partnership, both in the community, public and private institutions, especially schools, will carry out community collaboration programs in the form of technical guidance to verify hoax news through the fact-checking media for high school students in Makassar City. Its partners in the implementation of the Community Partnership Program (PKM) are the South Sulawesi Provincial Education Office, Regional Education Offices I and II. The target is high school students who are representatives of 15 districts in Makassar City. Technical guidance on PKM activities will result in 1) integration of digital literacy content in schools, especially at the senior high school level in Makassar City, 2) increasing understanding and digital ethics in activities and packaging that are more interesting, up-to-date, and easily understood, 3) improvement students' skills in checking facts, especially fake news (hoaxes) through the hoax buster tools (HBT) application and google check fact. This article provides an overview of the interests of high school students who are both representatives and those visited directly, to work with HBT tools.

Keywords: Literacy, digital, high school, hoax, fact

1. INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, the internet is an important part of the education world in Indonesia. The results of an Indonesian Poll study in collaboration with the Association of Indonesian Internet Service Providers (IISP) [1] showed that youth aged 15-19 years have the high penetration (91%), and adult aged 20-24 years, with 88.5% penetration. These children and adolescents mostly use the internet for three purposes, namely seeking information and learning materials, friendship,

and entertainment [2]. Hootsuite [3] stated that the most popular applications are Google, Youtube, Whatsapp, Facebook, and Instagram.

One of Indonesian Poll studies in collaboration with the Association of Indonesian Internet Service Providers (IISP) stated that [1], the number of internet users in Indonesia grew by 10.12 percent, out of a total population of 264 million people in Indonesia. There were 171.17 million people or around 64.8 percent are already connected to the internet. Here is Figure 1,

which shows the website data that is the most often used by internet users in Indonesia in 2019. Search engines (Google) and social media are ranked on the first place of the websites that are most visited by internet users in Indonesia.

Figure 1 The most accessed websites in Indonesia in 2019 [3]

From IISP data [1], there were 171.7 million Indonesian internet users aged 15-19 years had the highest penetration (reached 91%), then aged 20-24 years with a penetration of 88.5%. Then in underneath, there is the age group of 25-29 years with a penetration of 82.7%, the age group of 30-34 years with a penetration of 76.5%, and the age group of 35-39 years with a penetration of 68.5%. The data is described by IISP in figure 2.

Figure 2 Internet users based on ages [1]

Data from UNICEF shows a number of children and adolescents of internet users that even greater reached more than 30 million users [2]. Furthermore, according to the results of the study, these children and adolescents most use the internet for three main purposes, namely, first to look for information in connection with school work and learning materials, second for friendship, and third for entertainment.

We Are Social [3] stated based on surveys, social media is the most often used application after the search engine (Google), Youtube: 88%, Whatsapp: 83%, Facebook: 81%, and Instagram: 80%, completely, We Are Social released in following figure 3:
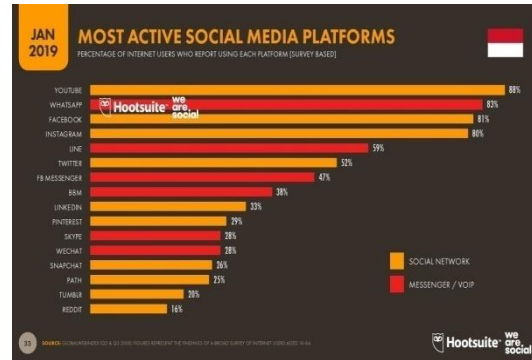

Figure 3. The most often used social media in Indonesia in 2019 [3]

This shows that the group of children and adolescents are the most often to access social media. Children and adolescents are indeed difficult to be separated from technological development. Prensky [4] calls this generation as the digital natives, those who grow up surrounded and are accustomed to using computers, virtual/digital games, digital music players, mobile phones, and games and other digital equipment. They are also accustomed to processing information quickly. Because of the internet, these children and adolescents have the opportunity to obtain the learning material from more sources of information so that they can support academic development, creativity, and social networking, which can support the improvement of their quality of life.

Technology not only offers a positive side, but its negative effects also should not be underestimated. The ability to use technology must be balanced with the ability to use the internet safely, including anticipating hate speech, hoaxes, and deception. This requires the ability to check every piece of information that appears either through group chat or social media.

Livingstone & Haddon [5] outline several forms of risk that threaten teenagers when using the internet, 1) display / provide personal data, 2) view pornographic content, 3) view content of violence and hatred, 4) cyberbullying (harassment through the internet) 5) receiving sexual messages, and 6) meeting strangers after getting acquainted through social media. The IISP survey [1] reveals that 90 percent of children aged 15 to 19 years are using the internet. Regarding bullying on the internet, 49 percent had been bullied, but 31 percent let it go or said nothing. Pornographic content is still at the highest rate, 55 percent.

This association in the internet world can lead to legal issues, such as the ITE Law, and various other risks. Prohibiting or limiting actions is certainly not appropriate to use, considering that they are a native generation, who were born with technology and later will be faced with more demands for information technology competencies. Therefore, the most appropriate step is to prepare these teenagers with

knowledge by introducing the HBT (Hoax Buster Tools). This tool is available on Playstore, a simple and fast way to be used by students when they need to know whether one information (text, image, or video) is a hoax or correct information. This ability is expected to be transmitted to the immediate environment, including the family environment. The educated generation must be well prepared to compete in the future workforce. The education world must play a major role in preparing this generation, with the support of the curriculum, human resources, and course facilities.

This article provides an overview of community services program that are conducted in several high schools in Makassar, by providing the technical guidance about how to check facts on any information in the form of text, images, and videos using the application of HBT (Hoax Buster Tools) that developed by Mafindo (Anti-Defamation Society and Hoax Indonesia).

High school students are expected to be able to sort out the information, accustomed to doing check and re-check, and dare to straighten out if there is a mistake in spreading one information based on data obtained through HBT or Fact Check.

2. METHOD

The program was carried out in two forms, first through lecture mode which is interspersed with discussion in a training conducted in the schools. The purpose is to make the students understand the importance of knowing how to test the validity of the information.

The second stage is the implementation. In this stage, the students are asked to download the HBT application on their gadgets directly. After that, the instructur taught how to use the application.

3. IMPLEMENTATION AND RESULTS OF ACTIVITIES

3.1. HBT

Hoax Buster Tools (HBT) is a free application developed by Mafindo. This application can be downloaded for free on Playstore. Hoax Buster Tools is similar to search engines like Google. This application allows users to search for news, images, or videos from sources that can be trusted. During the search, all content that is a hoax will not be displayed, so if the source of information is not displayed, it can be said, the information sought is not credible, can not be trusted, and most likely is a hoax.

Hoax Buster Tools can detect social media accounts that are considered spreading false news. This application uses an anti-hoax database from turn back

hoax.id. The official media featured have been recognized by the Peers Council, so they are official information. Currently, the MAFINDO fact-checking team is working with 15 official news media, including Facebook. That is why media that is not recognized by the Press Council will not appear in the search and can be classified that the truth of the news is in doubt. Not only as an application to check the truth of information, but Hoax Buster Tools can also be used as a place to report the spread of hoax. So, the users can participate in combating many lies that circulate on social media or other platforms.
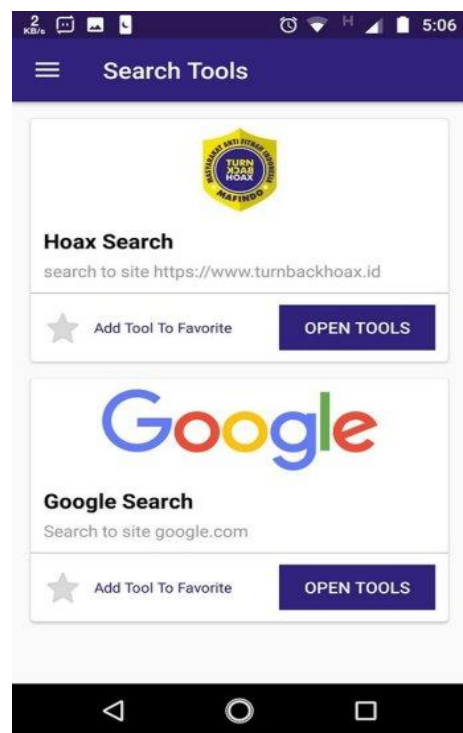

Figure 4 The HBT application on Playstore

3.2. Introduction HBT

Introducing HBT to the high school students who are Digital generation, is not a difficult thing. Gadgets are the most attached objects in their daily lives. Besides, they are very familiar with various tools that exist in an application.

Mastery of applications is also supported by their enthusiasm for the functions and abilities possessed by this HBT. The results of the discussion found that their daily life could not be separated from the rise of hate speech and hoaxes, especially those circulating on social media such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, or group chats. This phenomenon makes them eager to learn about the use of HBT because they often find information that disseminated but they do not know the truth, and often believe the truth of the information. Sometimes, they directly believed the story as the spreaders are people who they think are 'credible,' for

example, parents (in family groups), community leaders, or the account that have a large number of followers.

Figure 5 The atmosphere when introduced HBT to the representatives of 15 high school students at the Pinisi Theater

This activity took place in two stages; the first stage was conducted at the Pinisi theater attended by 5 students and 15 representatives of high school students in the Makassar district. The second stage took place at SMAN 9 Makassar.

Figure 6 After introducing the HBT

In the second stage, because of the smaller scope and longer time, students were briefly tested to examine several pictures and texts. The students also looked enthusiastic, trying the Hoax Buster Tools. Some of the images and text are shown by the speaker are quickly checked, and the original link is searched through the tools that have been downloaded previously.

Figure 7 Practice to look for facts at SMAN 9

The enthusiasm illustrates that the level of concern of high school students towards a text/picture/video is quite high, and needs to get special appreciation.

4. CONCLUSION

The high school students need to get guidance on how to use this HBT, not only to be able to sort out which information is correct and which are misleading. Besides, these high school students can easily get used to check the validity of every news, and re-check everything, so they are not easily believe everything that they read and be affected by the wave of information in this digital era.

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