

The Influence Of Self-Perception On The Certainty Of Justice, Peace, And Strong Institutions In Indonesia

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Abstract

One aspect that determines individual behavior in society is an individual's perception of a given matter. Perception is essentially a cognitive process experienced by everyone in understanding information about their environment through sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell. Through perception, humans continually engage with their environment: relevant information captured by the five senses is organized in the mind, interpreted, experienced, and processed. This article uses a qualitative method based on library research, with journals and books as data sources, drawn from scientific studies or publicly accessible online literature, with a minimum of five references. In interacting, individuals consciously or unconsciously exchange information, which may introduce something new to their thinking. Through self-perception, the public can assess whether Indonesia has become a peaceful country and whether justice has been upheld to the fullest extent, and can critically evaluate the strength of government institutions: whether they are effective in carrying out their work programs, accountable in reporting their performance to the public, and whether the policies they produce include all segments of society.

Keywords: Interaction, Human, Perception

INTRODUCTION

One aspect that determines individual behavior in society is an individual's perception of a given matter. Perception is essentially a cognitive process experienced by everyone in understanding information about their environment through sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell. The concept of self-perception is not fixed and unchangeable; rather, it is a concept that can develop in response to new experiences, new feedback, and newer self-related information. Self-perception theory was first proposed by Daryl Bem (1972) and is derived from self-concept theory.

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IJEBIR, Volume 05 Issue 06, 2026



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Self-perception theory examines the relationship between our actions and our understanding of our own attitudes and goals. According to Bem, when we assess our own opinions, we take our behavior as a cue rather than analyzing ourselves in depth. Through perception, individuals can become aware of and understand the conditions of the environment around them as well as their own condition. In interacting, individuals consciously or unconsciously exchange information, which may introduce something new to their thinking. The social structures and social institutions that exist in a society greatly influence how new things or innovations spread within that social system.

Through perception, humans continually engage with their environment, a relationship conducted through the senses of sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell. It can therefore be concluded that perception is the process of conveying relevant information captured by the five senses from the environment, which the individual then organizes in the mind, interprets, experiences, and processes with respect to everything that happens in that environment. Everything in the environment, however, influences perception, because perception can be regarded as the first event in the sequence that turns a stimulus into action, or into a sensation that has meaning.

This is closely tied to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, a global development agreement officially adopted by world leaders on 25 September 2015 at the headquarters of the United Nations (UN). The SDGs comprise 17 goals and 169 targets that form a global plan of action to end poverty, reduce inequality, and protect the environment. The SDGs are founded on the principle of involving all actors, so that all parties, including the government, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), the private sector, academia, and youth, can contribute to achieving the goals and targets. In addition to the 17 goals, the SDGs are also organized into four pillars: the Social Development Pillar, the Economic Development Pillar, the Environmental Development Pillar, and the Law and Governance Pillar. Of these 17 goals and four pillars, this study focuses on Goal 16: "Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels."

In carrying out their lives, humans are social beings who are not free from weaknesses and shortcomings. These weaknesses and shortcomings are what make justice difficult to realize, because true justice belongs to God Almighty. As a plural nation, Indonesia is home to many ethnic groups, races, and religions. This makes it difficult to achieve the justice desired by a pluralistic nation such as Indonesia, because the meaning of justice is interpreted differently by one ethnic group than by another. Nevertheless, the Indonesian people live amid many cultures that give rise to customary legal norms, local wisdom, and traditions that serve as guidelines, or a foundation, for the realization of justice.



Based on these principles, the SDGs must be able to answer the extent to which all parties, especially those who are left behind, can be involved in the entire development process, and the extent to which substantive justice is achieved, that is, how far development policies and programs are able to address the problems of citizens, particularly disadvantaged groups. One of the UN's programs for guaranteeing legal justice worldwide is Goal 16, "Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions," which aims to realize peace, justice, and strong institutions: promoting peaceful societies, upholding justice by providing easy and equitable access to services for all, and building effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions across all segments of society. The background described comprehensively above gives rise to the following research questions:

1. How does self-perception exist in the implementation of SDG 16 in Indonesia?
2. What is the role of self-perception in the implementation of SDG 16 in Indonesia?
3. What are the benefits of self-perception in the implementation of SDG 16 in Indonesia?

RESEARCH METHOD

The method used in writing this article is a qualitative method, carried out by examining all of the references consulted. The author collected data through library research, using journals and books as research sources. The data may be sourced directly from scientific studies or from publicly accessible online material, compiled from the literature, with a minimum of five references.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. The Existence of Self-Perception in the Implementation of SDG 16

The purpose of SDG 16 is to implement peace and justice and to build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions across all segments of society. Self-perception exists in the implementation of SDG 16 because of external factors occurring around the community. These external factors are events that recur, or new events that attract attention and give rise to new perceptions in each individual.¹ One example is the perception that has emerged in society from a recurring event: church bombings carried out by radical Islamic groups, which have caused conflict between religious communities. Because this event has occurred repeatedly, some Christians perceive that Muslims hold negative doctrines toward other religions and that many Muslims lack nationalism. There is also a perception of injustice among religious communities, because people do not feel safe when practicing their worship.

Besides the negative perceptions that arose from this event, there were also constructive positive ones: activists and students were moved to carry out Community Service (*Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat*, PKM) activities focused on efforts that



members of society can make to achieve SDG 16. These included instilling a sense of nationalism in young children, limited to efforts in an urban residential area in South Jakarta, the Gateway Apartments. Instilling nationalist values through an engaging method, a themed painting competition, generated enthusiasm among the children for their nation and country. Fostering nationalism in this way is expected to serve as capital that helps children guard themselves against radicalism and grow in sensitivity and care for others.²

Thus, from the description above, the existence of self-perception in implementing the SDGs can be influenced by events that give rise to both positive and negative views on peace, justice, and the strength of institutions in Indonesia.

2. The Role of Self-Perception in the Implementation of SDG 16 in Indonesia

Perception is the process by which individuals select and interpret information in order to form a meaningful view. It is closely connected with the surrounding environment, so self-perception plays an important role in realizing peace, justice, and the development of effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions in Indonesia. Self-perception is important in the processes of assessing, understanding, and selecting information needed to achieve the goals of SDG 16.

The role of self-perception includes determining how far state institutions have developed in becoming accountable and inclusive in realizing peace and justice in Indonesia. Self-perception also plays a role in fulfilling the values of peace and justice and in developing accountable and effective institutions. The values of peace and justice can be achieved through regulations made by government institutions and implemented in national life; however, these values will be fulfilled only if the public has its own perception of what the government has done to create good national life in accordance with prevailing law.

Self-perception can significantly reduce all forms of violence in Indonesia, through the self-perception of both the public and the government, so that solutions can be found for resolving and avoiding future problems. This role of self-perception can influence the capability and performance of both society and government institutions in achieving the goals of SDG 16.

3. The Benefits of Self-Perception in the Implementation of SDG 16 in Indonesia

Within the SDGs, self-perception offers the benefit of serving as a yardstick for achieving the goals of SDG 16. As discussed earlier, the purpose of SDG 16 is to implement peace and justice and to build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions across all segments of society. Self-perception therefore serves as a benchmark for evaluating whether these goals have been met in Indonesia.

Self-perception enables people to think critically about issues of peace, justice, and institutional strength in Indonesia. Through it, the public can judge whether Indonesia

has become a peaceful country and whether justice has been upheld to the fullest extent, and can critically assess the strength of government institutions: whether they are effective in carrying out their work programs, accountable in reporting their performance to the public, and whether all the policies they make include every segment of society. To make Indonesia peaceful and just, the first thing that must be built is the strength of Indonesia's government institutions themselves, because, as an expression of the commitment to implement the performance accountability of government agencies, an effective and mutually coordinated system is needed, along with clear rules that serve as a reference for government agencies.³

It can be concluded that the benefit of self-perception in SDG 16 is that it serves as a tool for evaluating the achievement of the goals of SDG 16, an evaluation that arises from the public's ability to critically examine how the SDG targets are being pursued in Indonesia.

CONCLUSION

In interacting, individuals consciously or unconsciously exchange information, which may introduce something new to their thinking. Through perception, humans continually engage with their environment through the senses of sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell. It can therefore be concluded that perception is the process of conveying relevant information captured by the five senses from the environment, which is then organized in the mind, interpreted, experienced, and processed, in line with SDG 16, "Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions," which aims to make Indonesia a thriving developing country. The SDGs are global values that are fundamentally rooted in local values such as Pancasila (bottom-up). Cooperation among individuals, states, and international organizations is an absolute requirement for lasting peace. A more orderly world is not impossible when self-perception and the SDGs become guiding principles rooted in the spirit of society, inclusively at every level and layer. Synergy is therefore needed among stakeholders, namely society, the private sector, intellectuals, and a government that should be cooperative, lead, and stay committed to building sustainable development through socialization, policy oversight, and alignment and facilitation toward this end, so as to achieve social cohesion among people who care for one another and are responsive to changes in their environment. It is impossible to create a global state, but it is not impossible to build a global society (global citizens), and creating global citizens does not require abolishing the existence of states.

Through self-perception, the public can assess whether Indonesia has become a peaceful country and whether justice has been upheld to the fullest extent, and can critically evaluate the strength of government institutions: whether they are effective in carrying out their work programs, accountable in reporting their performance to the public,



and whether all the policies made include every segment of society. Thus, implementing self-perception in the realization of SDG 16 in Indonesia can influence the behavior of each individual: in making decisions or choices, individuals give more consideration to every matter so that the decisions taken are sound and help make Indonesia a better country, especially in implementing SDG 16.

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