

Information literacy on the dangers of Covid-19 in Serang City

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Received: November 2020; Accepted: February 2022; Published: June 2022

Abstract

The rapid spread of information on the dangers of Covid-19 through social media is not directly proportional to the accuracy of the truth of the current news. People believe in various categories of hoax news developed in the community that cannot be justified. The public must control information literacy in this uncertain condition. This study examined information literacy about the dangers of Covid-19 in the community in Serang City, Banten Province. Method research used a quantitative approach with survey methods and also field observations. The sample in this study was 100 respondents spread over six sub-districts in Serang City. The study results showed that 75% of the people of Serang City used social media, meaning that the people of Serang City had the characteristics of an information society and were technology literate. People as many as 42% stated that they obtained most of the news related to Covid-19 from Facebook. It also discovered that people of 10% of Serang City's people could not choose and analyze news related to Covid-19, whether it was a hoax or genuine. People tended to share the news they received without checking first. News related to the dangers of Covid-19, which the government spread on conventional media and social media, did not change people's patterns and attitudes much. People were more likely to believe in beliefs and cultural values that were considered correct. This condition concludes that information literacy about the dangers of Covid-19 in the people of Serang City still needs improvements.

Keywords: Information literacy; Social media; Covid-19

Literasi informasi tentang bahaya Covid-19 di Kota Serang

Abstrak

Cepatnya penyebaran informasi bahaya Covid-19 melalui media sosial tidak berbanding lurus dengan tingkat akurasi dari kebenaran berita yang ada. Banyak kategori berita hoaks berkembang di masyarakat yang tidak dapat dipertanggungjawabkan kebenarannya, akan tetapi dipercayai masyarakat. Masyarakat sangat penting menguasai literasi informasi pada kondisi yang serba tidak menentu ini. Penelitian ini mengkaji literasi informasi tentang bahaya Covid-19 pada masyarakat di Kota Serang, Provinsi Banten. Metode penelitian menggunakan pendekatan kuantitatif melalui metode survei dan observasi lapangan. Adapun sampel penelitian menggunakan sebanyak 100 responden yang tersebar pada enam Kecamatan di Kota Serang. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan 75% masyarakat Kota Serang menggunakan media sosial, artinya dapat dikatakan bahwa masyarakat Kota Serang memiliki ciri masyarakat informasi dan telah melek teknologi. Masyarakat sebanyak 42% menyatakan bahwa berita terkait Covid-19 banyak diperoleh dari Facebook. Diketahui pula bahwa masyarakat Kota Serang 10% cenderung belum dapat memilih dan menganalisis berita terkait Covid-19, apakah tergolong hoaks atau benar. Masyarakat cenderung menyebarkan berita yang diterima tanpa melakukan pengecekan terlebih dahulu. Pemberitaan terkait bahaya Covid-19 yang disebarkan pemerintah pada media konvensional dan media sosial, tidak banyak merubah pola dan sikap masyarakat. Masyarakat lebih cenderung memercayai nilai keyakinan dan budaya yang dianggap lebih benar. Kondisi ini membawa pada suatu kesimpulan bahwa literasi informasi akan bahaya Covid-19 pada masyarakat Kota Serang masih perlu ditingkatkan.

Kata Kunci: Literasi informasi; Media sosial; Covid-19

INTRODUCTION

The development of communication and information technology has changed human behavior. At this moment, every human being as a social object has a variety of choices of information channels, both through conventional media and new media or online media. The ease of accessing new media or online media influences the community. So it is common for opinions used as references about truth in society no longer depend on who the communicator or actor is but more to believe in posts in new media, primarily through social media. The influence of spreading news through the media has resulted from various studies and research, including those that state that exposure to information in messages in the media can result in changes in a person's attitude, behavior, and way of thinking, or perception of the media.

Internet use in Indonesia continues to grow from time to time. According to Putra, Sukaesih, Erwina, and Khoerunnisa (2021) Student or university respondents are the largest respondents that access the internet to find information globally. Respondents 78% from students, 14% from employee, 5% from self-employee, and other profession 3%. People who actively used the internet visited Instagram because of positive motives (Sheldon & Bryant, 2016).

People who use social media can spread information. Social media is not directly proportional to the accuracy of the news. Mufarida (2020) wrote that news related to Covid-19 classified as hoaxes continue to grow in the community. Hoax news, as many as 1,028, has been spread in various online media, even in August 2020. The dangerous news that cannot be accounted for and then trusted by the public contributes to misunderstandings

and is dangerous regarding news about Covid-19 information.

Ethically, social media is free media. It is free to use to fight for and believe in what is. The struggle for ideology, power, and relations, can all be written and conveyed through social media because social media is a public space. Therefore, social media has a significant role in shaping people's mindsets, including news about the information on the Covid-19 disease outbreak. If we observe, almost every day, both children, teenagers, and adults use most of their time opening social media. Not infrequently, news and posts on social media give rise to problems and misunderstandings of interpretation and opinion, which often result in the emergence of criminal acts because they are contrary to existing rules, for example, the Law on Information and Electronic Transactions (ITE). A lot of news produced and consumed by the public is misleading news. Still, sometimes the community must understand the truth of the information, and the community will avoid a hoax and dangerous information.

Until this writing, the spread of the Covid-19 virus in Indonesia has not shown a significant decline. Of course, this is part of the seriousness of all parties. A vaccine can kill or prevent the spread of this epidemic, and the Indonesian people do not take this outbreak lightly.

Based on data released by the government in April 2020, the number of positive Covid-19 patients in Indonesia has reached 9,511 people, the number of deaths is 773 cases, and the number of patients recovered is 1,254 people (Satuan Tugas Penanganan COVID-19, 2021). People who have tested positive for Covid-19 in Banten Province there are 382, including 211 men and 169 women. There were 40 cases of

death due to Covid-19, 33 people recovered, and 309 people in the treatment period.

Referring to data released by Disketapang Provinsi Banten (2022) stated that the spread of Covid-19 in the Serang City Area was 297 people with the status of People Under Monitoring (ODP), 4 Patients Under Supervision (PDP), 3 Positive people, and one person died. Although it is still relatively small, the fact is that there have been positive cases of the Covid-19 virus in Serang City, and it is likely that the number will continue to grow.

The number of confirmed Covid-19 patients in Serang City as of September 28, 2020, at 17.00, was 222 people, with details being treated for 29 people, isolated 86 people, recovered 97 people, and died nine people. This number could continue to grow if the people in Serang City do not comply with the programs and appeals from the government related to lifestyle in facing a period of adaptation to new habits in a New Normal life.

The people of Serang City ignore many factors and seem not to follow the government's rules and recommendations. The behavior is difficult to change someone. The people in Serang City are described in one of the articles on the online media www.rmolbanten.com which is related to how the people of Banten, especially in Serang City are still very relaxed and seem to be indifferent to the spread of the Covid-19 outbreak, it is illustrated that there are still many people who do not comply health protocols by keeping a distance, wearing masks, and washing hands or known as the 3M movement.

Although Serang City is still said to be an area under monitoring conditions, to anticipate, awareness is needed that the

spread of the virus must be stopped or the chain broke so that it does not spread to the entire community. One of the things that can be done to provide public understanding and obedience to the provisions set by the government is to promote healthy living and literacy education related to information on the dangers of Covid-19. Education can be done with light communication channels and styles that are easily accepted and understood by the public. The Covid-19 prevention campaign approach is carried out by considering social, cultural, and community beliefs/religions. The transfer of information needs to be packaged in a mature concept so that the information received by the community as a communicant can be absorbed and applied properly.

Related to this, Sutrisna (2020) stated that digital literacy (information) is essential in anticipating the spread of hoax news during the Covid-19 pandemic. People need to be careful in observing the word on social media. In addition, people must be wise in using social media to know the truth in disseminating information. The current phenomenon implies that the Indonesian people are no longer an information literate society. We are in an information society. It is just how each individual can consciously accept and analyze the truth of the information.

The essence of information literacy is finding the information needed, including having the ability to analyze and evaluate that information (Pattah, 2014). Information literacy is associated with the ability to properly access and utilize some available information through mass media or social media. In practice, the behavior of human life will depend on the information literacy they apply (Fitri & Prasetyawan, 2020). We

cannot say that there is a correlation between higher education. It will automatically impact how the individual will not get caught up in hoax news. We often see that hoax news spread and repeated in a chain or continuously by highly educated people. So, in this context, the role of information literacy, especially in digital media which is so widespread, must continue to be pursued and optimized for its application in society.

Mastery of information literacy is part of the process that accompanies the increasingly massive development of communication technology in the era of technology 4.0. Furthermore, information literacy can be one of the empowerment programs for the community, especially in the realm of applied information. Communication and information technology face massive development and impact, specific information in mass media and social media. Information literacy is also related to media literacy because they aim to avoid disinformation caused by media developments (Purwaningtyas, 2018).

Information literacy study learned a lot in other countries, including Indonesia (Livingstone, Papaioannou, Pérez, & Wijnen, 2012). Activities related to understanding and using media are strategic to protect audiences from various impressions in mass media, especially social media (Cappello, 2017). Information literacy can filter the negative impact of media on children and adolescents in Indonesia. So, the government can develop information literacy program to this group to increase information literacy skills and protect the negative media.

Livingstone, Papaioannou, Pérez, and Wijnen (2012) said that to measure information literacy skills, including those

related to the dangers of Covid-19 in the media, among others, by paying attention to the ability of accessibility, analysis, evaluation, and communication among the community. Accessibility is the ability of individuals or communities to collect and obtain information related to economic factors and geographical conditions in how each individual is able or has access to sources of information. Analytical ability is the ability of individuals or communities to understand the variety of incoming information by filtering the suitability and benefits of the messages they receive. Evaluation ability is the ability of individuals or communities to assess messages distributed by the media to make comparisons based on the value of subjectivity according to their abilities. Communication ability is the ability of individuals or groups to convey or disseminate the information they get.

Schramm (2021) said that how the sender and receiver of the message have similarities or similarities in the decoding and encoding process of the message in communication. In other side communication as a two-way process of meaning construction, in which two or more people construct new meanings together (Ruler, 2018). The information in online mass media can disseminate with different interpretations of decoding and encoding between individuals. This produce a variety of perceptions that lead to various possibilities for various human actions or behaviors.

According to Lasswell (2017), the communication model is who says what, to whom, in which channel, and with what effect. Describes that the communication process tries to reach a situation where there will be a space or what is known as the effect on other individuals after they

receive the message. The selection of media and channels used has a significant impact and influence.

Media and channels that are now widely used by people to communicate are digital. In this regard, digital literacy is necessary for every individual in society. Digital literacy is the ability of people to use computers, the internet, or other digital equipment (Shopova, 2014). In this regard, digital literacy describes the interest and attitude of the community in using media such as gadgets or what is known today as a smartphone (Juditha, 2017). Smartphones with social media have described and created the space needed by society in a new form of media. Social media platforms, particularly those platforms that achieve a great deal of popularity and profit. People used social media should be responsibility in their decisions (Bivens & Haimson, 2016).

In line with the description above, the uses and gratification theory from Blumer and Katz explains how media users play an active role in choosing and using it. In other words, media users try to find the best, most efficient, and complete media sources to meet their needs. There are five basic assumptions of the theory of use and gratification, namely, a) an active audience and the use of media is goal-oriented, b) the initiative in linking need satisfaction to specific media choices rests with audience members, c) the media compete with other sources for the satisfaction of needs, d) people have sufficient self-awareness of the media they use and are interested in, e) an assessment of the value of media content can help only asses (West & Turner, 2019).

If someone has trusted a media, or maybe we are currently developing it on social media, where someone is more comfortable getting information. The

implication is that they will believe what is trending in the media. It can be problematic if social media such as Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp, or Instagram present uniform news. It will confirm the perception of those who read or see it. The uniformity of information received from various kinds of social media creates a perception of truth in each perspective based on individual beliefs.

How a person performs an action related to attitudes and behavior is also very closely related to the knowledge or information received by the individual. According to Notoatmodjo (2012), a person's ability is divided into six levels: knowing, understanding, application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation. Meanwhile, attitudes are belief or faith in objects, emotional life or individual evaluation of the thing, meaning an assessment where it is possible to contain emotions in it, and the tendency to act, representing that attitude is a component that precedes open action or behavior (Jones & Splan, 2020).

Based on this literature, information on the dangers of Covid-19 for the people of Serang City has become essential knowledge regarding attitudes and behavior. Some information may become knowledge. Still, it is not used as an analytical tool implemented in people's attitudes and behavior because other beliefs influence them. So, for example, in this case, considering the information related to the dangers of Covid-19 is not a part that should not be feared and considered harmless. Referring to the description, a problem arises about how the information literacy skills of the people of Serang City are related to the information on the dangers of Covid-19, which spread in various media, both conventional media,

and new/online media. The purpose of this research is how information literacy on the dangers of Covid-19 in Serang City.

RESEARCH METHODS

Research used quantitative approach through research survey method, where in the context of this research to formulate and produce a generalization (Sugiyono, 2017). The research analysis based on the measurement results. This research conducted from April to November 2020. The research subjects are the people of Serang City from six sub-districts. The object of this research is the ability of information literacy among the public about the dangers of Covid-19.

Sugiyono (2017) states that the population is the total of all objects with various characteristics. In this case, the population has the same interests in integrating the same area according to the character the researcher needs. This study's population data were some Serang City residents in 2019. The sample is part of the population whose characteristics represent the entirety of the people that can describe the overall situation. The sampling technique used is random sampling clustered in each area in Serang City. The characteristics cluster determined the criteria needed in this study.

The number of samples in this study used the Yamane formula with an error rate of 10%. Based on the data mentioned in the Central Bureau of Statistics publication, namely "Serang City in Figures 2020", it is known that the population in Serang City in 2019 was 688,603 people, with the composition of the male population being 352.601 people, and the female population is 336.002. The distribution in the district described as follows.

Table 1

Distribution of population per district

District name	Men	Women	Total
Cipocok	60.690	57.897	118.587
Jaya			
Curug	26.623	24.852	51.475
Kasemen	50.611	46.982	97.593
Serang	117.108	113.088	230.196
Taktakan	48.445	45.629	94.074
Walantaka	49.124	47.554	96.678
Total	352.601	336.002	688.603

Source: Serang City BPS, 2019

Based on table 1, the population data of Serang City is 688.603, with a margin of error of 10%, and the number of samples is 100 samples/respondent. The researchers divided 100 respondents into various clusters according to the population distribution in each sub-district. The 100 respondents spread over several sub-districts, namely Cipocok Jaya sub-district, with as many as 17 respondents, Curug District with as many as eight respondents, Kasemen Subdistrict with as many as 14 respondents, Serang District with as many as 33 respondents, Taktakan sub-district with as many as 14 respondents, and Walantaka sub-district with as many as 14 respondents. The emphasis of the sampling is on those who belong to the criteria following the selection using a stratified random sampling technique. Therefore, this study provides limitations and standards used in the sample, which also pays attention to the distribution of the productive age of respondents. Rachmawati and Augustine (2021) said that social media users use information to reduce uncertainty. The more information provided, the less uncertain information can be. Users use health information for their own needs. The instrument used information literacy to find the problem

using digital media indicators regarding individual competence. The Information literacy framework in the European Commission Directorate-General Information Society and Media considers the level of Critical funding by measuring the ability to trust information and checking news (Kurniawati & Baroroh, 2016).

The data collection technique consists of two categories, primary and secondary data. Primary data is obtained directly from observation and questionnaires. Secondary data support research, such as notes, results of other studies, and reports from credible institutions (Muhajirin & Maya, 2017). The instrument research used a questionnaire method. The data analysis technique used descriptive analysis to provide systematic and accurate symptoms, facts, or events regarding the characteristics of a particular population or area.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the results, male respondents amount to 52 people (52%) and female respondents to 48 people (48%). Although the number of male respondents is greater than that of female respondents, the difference between the two is not too significant, with only 0.4% difference. This value means a balance between the two, so the validity of the respondents' answers has a balance of solutions that tend to be objective and have the exact representation (Sugiyono, 2017). The distribution of respondent data in this survey dominated a productive age range, between 17 to 50 years—the results this value the heterogeneity of respondents' answers to the questions asked.

The age range of respondents between 17-50 years in the data from this

study illustrates that people in that age range are pretty intensive in using social media. Every day, people in this age range do not separate from actively and passively using social media activities. It is explained in the survey results that respondents absorb a lot of information based on the information they receive from social media.

Table 2

Type of work

Work	f	%
Students	38	38%
Housewife	21	21%
Civil Servant	19	19%
Entrepreneur	15	15%
Others	7	7%
Total	100	100%

Source: Data processing result, 2020

Most of the student respondents dominated the representation of other types of work. With the respondent's position background, this research is relatively objective in photographing people's behavior on social media according to their respective life activities. The education level variable has a powerful correlation in determining how people take action. Based on the survey results, the majority are high school graduates as much as 47%. While the rest are D1-D3 graduates as much as 21%, S1 20%, S2 8%, and S3 4%.

In the descriptive analysis, several statement indicators tabulated and mapped, describing how the shape or pattern of the community's tendency to take action follows the types and needs of the data needed in this study. In the indicators of media selection, respondents provide an overview of the types and how the patterns of media consumption used by the community.

Table 3
Media selection

Media	f	%
Print	8	8%
Electronic	17	17%
Social Media	75	75%
Total	100	100%

Source: Data processing result, 2020

The selection of media consumed refers to in table 3. As many as 8% of respondents use print media, 17% use electronic media, and 75% use social media. Print and electronic media are conventional/mainstream media based on deep data and are not widely accessed. The respondents do not trust them, but more because of flexibility in media use other than these media. Thus, we can describe the majority of people in Serang City daily as accustomed to using and utilizing social media to meet their information needs.

The people of Serang City's interest in Covid-19 information through social media, based on this survey, shows the community's interest in finding and reading the news and factual information. The data findings presented in the following table.

Table 4
Interested information about Covid-19

Information	f	%
Very Interested	15	15%
Interested	32	32%
Quite Interested	40	40%
Not Interested	13	13%
Total	100	100%

Source: Data processing result, 2020

The public is quite interested and has a tendency to know about the conditions that occurred during this pandemic in table 4. The interest that is the basis for seeking information about the dangers of Covid-19

is because people are aware of their participation in determining actions to reduce. Covid-19 cases which they feel are still happening. Another reason people are interested in is that this pandemic's influence has changed people's lifestyles. This drastic change in pattern is not easy for them to accept because the pattern of life that has become a habit requires a process of re-adaptation to be changed. Information Covid-19 has indeed occurred in all parts of the world to reference for comparison and knowledge in the community.

The exciting thing based on the data obtained is that respondents who stated they were interested and quite interested had a difference of only 8%. From a positive perspective, the people of Serang City can say to be quite a media literate and fall into the category of an information society. The people of Serang City have a response and curiosity related to news related to the Covid-19 theme, both seeking information related to the development, handling, and the spread of Covid-19, which significantly changes the procedures, mindsets, and actions taken by the community itself.

Through this research, the average respondent spends four hours per day using the internet and social media. Thus, social media has a massive role in providing information intake. The social media most frequently used by respondents to find news and information about Covid-19 is Facebook.

The Facebook social media application is still the most preferred choice by the people of Serang City in getting information related to the dangers of Covid-19 from the data above in table 5. Facebook is relatively easier to use and displays a lot of information to be directly read by each account holder.

Table 5
Types of online media

Information	f	%
Facebook	42	42%
Twitter	32	32%
Instagram	12	12%
Telegram	3	3%
Line	11	11%
Total	100	100%

Source: Data processing result, 2020

Facebook has information to access friends on someone's Facebook account and other accounts that have no direct relationship with those who disseminate information or news posts. Exposure to communication or news on Facebook dramatically influences people's views and beliefs, including about information and handling the dangers of Covid-19. For most people in Serang City, the Facebook application is considered more flexible and easier to use. Facebook has become a medium that has an essential role for the community as a source of information. Based on the uses and gratification theory, the Facebook application can be said to have become proof that social media can provide a lot of space and meet its users' information needs.

Respondents who gave answers to this survey are people who are active on the internet and have the same opportunity to make choices regarding which media is the most appropriate and suitable for themselves in terms of fulfilling their need for information. If drawn more widely, social media dramatically influences meeting information needs compared to conventional (mass) media. In addition, all respondents stated that on their gadgets or smartphones, they already have and use this Facebook application so that whenever and wherever they can update and disseminate information. Through this

research, respondents trust the various media that spread information about the dangers of Covid-19 in table 6.

Table 6
Level of trust

Level of trust	f	%
Trust conventional Media	63	63%
Trust online media	37	37%
Total	100	100%

Source: Data processing result

A small part of the people in Serang City is known to have confidence in online media that disseminate information related to the dangers of Covid-19, which is only 37%, less than the level of trust in conventional media, which is 63%. The public believes that information from traditional media coverage that has selected can account for the truth of the information and news. Meanwhile, news circulating through social media is sometimes still confusing. People do not know the truth.

However, information from social media considered faster because it is easy for people to talk about it (often referred to as viral). The people of Serang City are sometimes confused and doubtful whether they should accept and believe what they receive in the news on social media or not. The constant exposure to information certainly gives the community its own worries. Is the news circulating is true or not. There are also many rebuttal news or those that have principles that are contrary to government policies related to Covid-19 information. Moreover, the information is conveyed and disseminated by leaders who have credibility in their fields such as religious, health, political, or ordinary people. They have arguments that are logically acceptable to most people's minds.

Information that now continues to flood the community through social media channels influences knowledge, especially for people in Serang City. Based on the survey results, respondents 93% stated that the information they received came from social media. People have a reasonably high tendency to use gadgets and always open social media applications in which they spread information related to Covid-19. This speed and convenience certainly affect the acquisition of public knowledge, especially about the dangers of Covid-19.

In this results study, the people of Serang City understand the function of media in the context of critical understanding. As much as 12% of respondents said they could sort out which information should be clarified, classified as correct information, or incorrect information related to Covid-19. Respondents 78% are in the category with a moderate level of understanding. The remaining 10% are in low comprehension. Respondents tend to immediately believe in the information they get regarding Covid-19 without making comparisons.

The people of Serang City, as respondents, have an understanding level in the medium category. Respondents who use social media tend to be untrained in distinguishing which information is correct and which news needs to clarify regarding Covid-19. However, how they use online media can be said to be quite good, meaning that they understand the rules about how to use online media. Social media use to read Covid-19 news and reference for information related to other news according to the community's needs, for example, about the news that is a topic at the local, national, and international levels.

Referring to the research results, internet use among the people of Serang

City has entered the high category. Accessibility and the ease of tools used to obtain information from various communication channels are not significant problems. The people of Serang City have entered the type of informative society. However, they cannot be said to be a society with a high level of information literacy but still relatively moderate. Most of the people of Serang City are still unable to filter, evaluate, or perform analyses related to the accuracy of the available information.

The factual information literacy ability is not because the people of Serang City are cognitively unqualified or their education level is not qualified, but because the sporadic circulation of information on social media causes a shaky stance among the people. This debate and understanding became hot on social media such as Facebook, Instagram, and Youtube, which continue in conversational media such as WhatsApp or Twitter. The public is divided again and doubts whether the decisions and policies taken by the government are the right ones or vice versa.

Based on the results of the data analysis above, what we need to pay attention to is that although the ability to analyze the numbers is small, which is only 10%, it shows that the ability to analyze information/news among the people of Serang City is still relatively low. People who cannot distinguish which news has verified that it is a hoax or not. People of Serang City are still reluctant to check, for example, by making comparisons or seeking further information regarding whether the news classifies as a hoax or not. So, what they receive is considered information that has a truth value. People tend to be indifferent to the rules on social media. They have received the news

without filters and checked the truth first. So it is not uncommon for Serang City people to get caught up in leading opinions on social media without prior clarification. First, about the validity of the news.

The community obtained the knowledge through education does not directly contribute significantly. They can analyze the truth of the information, whether the data justify or not. The public did not analyze news about the dangers of Covid-19. The people of Serang City still tend to disseminate what they have received out of hand. The weakness of the people of Serang City in analyzing the information they receive is what causes some of them to consume hoax news related to the dangers of Covid-19.

The observations show that the people of Serang City are quite reluctant to comply with the appeals of the central government and local governments. The people of Serang City have a strong influence on culture and beliefs. The news related to the dangers of Covid-19 that the government spreads through conventional media and social media does not make them act obediently but rather follow their respective beliefs, which sometimes have different attitudes and views from the government.

From a larger perspective, we can see that the communication patterns carried out by the central and local governments are still considered less effective. The government is still tricky to know, understand, and follow the recommendations to the public. The people of Serang City are aware that Covid-19 exists. They show in their daily lives are not many who want to follow the government's recommendations and invitations.

CONCLUSION

The people of Serang City's information literacy regarding the dangers of Covid-19 minimal considered. Only a tiny part of the community can select and analyze information from news related to Covid-19. They classified hoaxes as factual information. Almost half of the respondents used to find and get information about the dangers of Covid-19 from social media Facebook. The level of knowledge possessed in analyzing the truth of the news about the dangers of Covid-19. The government did not have much influence on the public regarding how to appropriately respond to the dangers of Covid-19. According to government recommendations, the dangers of Covid-19 spread through conventional and government-owned social media. The people of Serang City have trust, beliefs, and cultural values in the government's correct information, recommendations, and appeals. This condition concludes that the understanding of information literacy on the dangers of Covid-19 in Serang City is still relatively low. Therefore, the role of the government, local governments, academics from universities, and the community, including the profession of educators and librarians, is crucial in developing educational activities and community empowerment through collaboration in strengthening information literacy for the community. The campaign programs approach the local community through information literacy education and new/online media on the cultural and traditional. Dissemination of information quickly and in a chain through social media related to issues considered hoaxes is essential to be carried out by the

authorities, especially the government and local governments, with support from parties such as academics, the librarian profession, and prominent public figures. The researcher will create a device/application based on an integrated information system that detects the truth of news/information in recommendations for further research. All parties and the public can use it in their daily lives as an essential means of ensuring the truth of information.

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