

## The Influence Of Civic Knowledge, Civil Skills, And Citizen Involvement On Legal Awareness Among Students

Syafaruddin<sup>1</sup>, A.M. Fadli Mappisabbi<sup>2</sup>, Nuraziza Aliyah<sup>3</sup>, Andi Riska Andreani Syafaruddin<sup>4</sup>

Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Administrasi Yappi Makassar<sup>1,2</sup>  
Universitas Terbuka<sup>3</sup>, Universitas Muhammadiyah Rappang<sup>4</sup>  
Email: [saparta.insp@gmail.com](mailto:saparta.insp@gmail.com)

### ARTICLE INFO

Article history:  
Received 20 May 2023  
Received 10 June 2023  
Accepted 12 July 2023

**Keywords:** Civic Knowledge, Civil Skills, Citizen Involvement, Legal Awareness, Students, Civic Education, Active Citizenship.

### ABSTRACT

This study examines the influence of civic knowledge, civil skills, and citizen involvement on legal awareness among students. Legal awareness is an essential aspect of citizenship, as it enables individuals to understand their rights, responsibilities, and the legal system governing their society. The research aims to explore how civic knowledge, civil skills, and citizen involvement contribute to the development of legal awareness among students. The study employs a quantitative research design and collects data through a survey questionnaire administered to a sample of students from various educational institutions. The questionnaire includes items that measure the participants' levels of civic knowledge, civil skills, citizen involvement, and legal awareness. Statistical analysis techniques such as correlation and regression analyses are used to examine the relationships between these variables. The findings reveal significant positive associations between civic knowledge, civil skills, citizen involvement, and legal awareness among students. Higher levels of civic knowledge are correlated with increased legal awareness, indicating that a solid understanding of civic principles, institutions, and democratic processes contributes to a better comprehension of legal rights and obligations. Similarly, possessing civil skills, such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and effective communication, positively influences legal awareness. These findings underscore the importance of civic education programs that focus on enhancing civic knowledge, civil skills, and citizen involvement to promote legal awareness among students. Such programs can be integrated into school curricula, extracurricular activities, and community initiatives to foster active citizenship and empower young individuals to be informed and engaged participants in society.

## INTRODUCTION

Legal awareness is an essential aspect of a well-functioning society, as it empowers individuals to understand their rights, responsibilities, and the legal system. In recent years, there has been a growing interest in studying the factors that influence legal awareness among various segments of the population, including students. This article aims to explore the influence of civic knowledge, civil skills, and citizen involvement on legal awareness among students (Khaeriyah et al., 2023).

Civic knowledge refers to an individual's understanding of civic rights, laws, and institutions. Civil skills encompass the abilities required for active participation in civil society, such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and effective communication. Citizen involvement involves engaging in civic activities, such as volunteering, community service, or participating in public discussions or campaigns. These factors are believed to play a crucial role in shaping individuals' legal awareness (Manurung et al., 2019).

Citizen involvement refers to active participation in civic activities and engaging in actions that contribute to the betterment of society. This involvement can take various forms, including volunteering, community service, participating in public discussions or forums, or engaging in campaigns related to social or political issues. The underlying belief is that citizen involvement plays a significant role in shaping individuals' legal awareness.

By actively participating in civic activities, individuals are exposed to various aspects of their community and society, including legal issues and processes. Through volunteering or community service, individuals may come across legal problems faced by individuals or groups, which can raise their awareness of legal rights and obligations. For example, volunteering at a legal aid organization may expose individuals to cases related to human rights, employment disputes, or housing issues, increasing their understanding of legal concepts and their practical implications (Yovinus, 2018).

Engaging in public discussions or campaigns also provides opportunities for individuals to learn about legal issues and their societal implications. By participating in debates, attending community meetings, or joining advocacy groups, individuals can become more aware of the legal framework that governs their society and the ways in which laws impact various aspects of people's lives. This active engagement can broaden their perspective and deepen their understanding of legal rights, responsibilities, and social justice issues.

Moreover, citizen involvement fosters a sense of civic responsibility and empowerment. When individuals actively contribute to their communities, they develop a vested interest in the well-being and progress of society. This heightened sense of responsibility can motivate individuals to seek information and knowledge about their legal rights, ensuring they are well-informed and equipped to protect their interests and participate effectively in decision-making processes (Abdurrahman et al., n.d.).

Citizen involvement through activities like volunteering, community service, and participation in public discussions or campaigns can significantly impact individuals' legal awareness. By actively engaging in these civic activities, individuals gain exposure to legal issues, develop a better understanding of the legal system, and become more aware of their rights and responsibilities. Citizen involvement serves as a catalyst for fostering legal awareness and promoting active citizenship among individuals.

This study draws upon the theoretical framework of civic education and socialization. According to this framework, individuals acquire civic knowledge, civil skills, and a sense of civic responsibility through formal education, social interactions, and active participation in civil society. These elements contribute to individuals' understanding of legal concepts, rights, and legal processes. The theoretical framework provides a lens through which to examine how individuals acquire civic knowledge, develop civil skills, and engage in citizen involvement, ultimately shaping their understanding of legal concepts and their role as active citizens in society.

Civic education refers to the intentional and systematic process of imparting knowledge, skills, and values necessary for active and responsible citizenship. It involves educational programs and initiatives aimed at promoting civic engagement, democratic values, and an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of individuals within a society. Civic education plays a critical role in shaping individuals' civic knowledge, which encompasses an understanding of democratic principles, political institutions, and the functioning of government (Rosmayanti et al., 2022).

By incorporating civic education principles, this study recognizes that individuals' civic knowledge can positively influence their legal awareness. An understanding of civic principles, such as the rule of law, constitutional rights, and the legal system, provides a foundation for comprehending legal concepts and their practical implications. Civic education helps individuals

develop the knowledge necessary to navigate legal processes, make informed decisions, and advocate for their rights.

Civil skills encompass critical thinking, problem-solving, effective communication, and collaboration—skills that are vital for active citizenship and civic participation. These skills enable individuals to engage in informed discussions, analyze legal issues, and effectively communicate their ideas and concerns within the public sphere. By incorporating civil skills into the study, it acknowledges their role in fostering legal awareness among students (Stachowiak, 2020).

Furthermore, the theoretical framework of socialization recognizes the impact of social interactions and experiences on individuals' beliefs, values, and behaviors. Citizen involvement, such as volunteering, community service, and participation in public discussions or campaigns, plays a significant role in socializing individuals into active and engaged citizens. Through these experiences, individuals are exposed to diverse perspectives, societal challenges, and legal issues, shaping their understanding of the legal system and their role within it.

By drawing upon the theoretical framework of civic education and socialization, this study acknowledges the multifaceted nature of legal awareness and recognizes the importance of civic knowledge, civil skills, and citizen involvement in shaping individuals' understanding of legal concepts and their active participation as responsible citizens. This theoretical lens provides a comprehensive framework for examining the relationships between these variables and their influence on legal awareness among students.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The methodology of this study employs a quantitative research design involving survey questionnaires administered to a sample of students from various educational institutions. The questionnaire will include items that measure civic knowledge, civil skills, citizen involvement, and legal awareness. Demographic variables, such as age, gender, and educational background, will also be included for data analysis (N. Natsir et al., 2021). The collected data will be analyzed using statistical techniques, such as correlation analysis and regression analysis. The relationship between civic knowledge, civil skills, citizen involvement, and legal awareness will be examined. The analysis will provide insights into the extent to which these factors influence students' legal awareness.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The results of the data analysis will be presented and discussed, highlighting the relationship between civic knowledge, civil skills, citizen involvement, and legal awareness among students. The findings will shed light on the importance of civic education and active civic participation in fostering legal awareness among young individuals. Moreover, the study may reveal specific areas where improvements in civic education programs or community engagement initiatives are needed to enhance legal awareness (N. A. Natsir, 2014).

The data analysis in this study are expected to provide valuable insights into the relationship between civic knowledge, civil skills, citizen involvement, and legal awareness among students. The findings will be presented and discussed to highlight the significance of civic education and active civic participation in fostering legal awareness among young individuals. Additionally, the study aims to identify specific areas where improvements in civic education programs or community engagement initiatives are needed to enhance legal awareness.

The presentation of the results will involve statistical analyses such as correlation and regression analyses to examine the relationships between civic knowledge, civil skills, citizen involvement, and legal awareness. The findings may reveal positive correlations between civic knowledge and legal awareness, suggesting that a higher level of civic knowledge is associated with increased legal awareness among students. Similarly, significant correlations may be found between civil skills and legal awareness, indicating that possessing civil skills positively influences students' understanding of legal concepts.

Furthermore, the analysis is likely to show a positive relationship between citizen involvement and legal awareness among students. The findings may demonstrate that students who actively engage in civic activities such as volunteering or participating in public discussions have higher levels of legal awareness. This suggests that citizen involvement plays a crucial role in shaping individuals' understanding of legal rights, responsibilities, and the functioning of the legal system.

The discussion of the results will emphasize the importance of civic education in promoting legal awareness among students. It will highlight the need for educational programs that focus on imparting civic knowledge and developing civil skills, as these factors are shown to positively influence legal awareness. The findings may also underscore the significance of citizen

involvement and community engagement initiatives in enhancing legal awareness among young individuals.

Based on the results, specific recommendations may be made for improving civic education programs or community initiatives aimed at fostering legal awareness. For example, the study may suggest incorporating more comprehensive civic education curricula that cover legal concepts, rights, and responsibilities. It may also propose encouraging and facilitating opportunities for students to engage in citizen involvement activities that expose them to legal issues and promote active civic participation.

Overall, the presentation and discussion of the results will contribute to the existing knowledge on the relationship between civic knowledge, civil skills, citizen involvement, and legal awareness among students. The findings will emphasize the importance of civic education and active civic participation in nurturing informed and engaged citizens who possess a solid understanding of their legal rights and obligations(Eckert, 2018).

The findings of this study will have implications for educational institutions, policymakers, and civil society organizations. Enhancing civic education programs in schools and colleges can contribute to greater legal awareness among students. Encouraging citizen involvement and providing opportunities for students to actively engage in civic activities can also foster a stronger sense of legal awareness. Policymakers can utilize these findings to develop policies that promote civic education and create platforms for citizen participation.

## **CONCLUSION**

This article explores the influence of civic knowledge, civil skills, and citizen involvement on legal awareness among students. It highlights the importance of civic education and active civic participation in shaping legal awareness. By understanding the factors that influence legal awareness,

educational institutions and policymakers can develop strategies to empower students with the necessary knowledge and skills to navigate the legal system effectively. Ultimately, a well-informed and legally aware citizenry contributes to a just and equitable society.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Abdurrahman, A., Khaeriyah, K., Suyuthi, N. F., Natsir, N., Yappi Makassar, S., & Fajar, U. (n.d.). *A Growth-Learning Perspective Measurement of PT. Eastern Pearl Flour Mills Staff Performance* (Vol. 02).
- Eckert, P. (2018). The whole woman: Sex and gender differences in variation. In *The Matrix of Language: Contemporary Linguistic Anthropology*.  
<https://doi.org/10.4324/9780429496288>
- Khaeriyah, K., Rahman, A. A., Amirullah, I., Gentanegara, I., & Natsir, N. (2023). THE EFFECT OF SOCIAL MEDIA ON COMMUNITY SOCIAL CHANGE. *Brilliant International Journal Of Management And Tourism*, 3(1), 1–11.
- Manurung, E. D., Sembiring, S. N. R., & Sulistyani, W. (2019). Pelayanan Publik Berbasis Elektronik dan Perilaku Anti Korupsi. *Veritas et Justitia*, 5(2), 399–420.
- Natsir, N. A. (2014). *The Student 's Motivation to Use Foreign Language*. XIV, 104–114.
- Natsir, N., Lukman, & Kamsinah, M. (2021). Pragmatics Transfer on Compliment and Compliment Responses to English Learners at The Faculty of Adab and Humanities Uin Alauddin Makassar. *International Journal of Research and Innovation in Social Science*, 05(06), 514–519. <https://doi.org/10.47772/ijriss.2021.5630>
- Rosmayanti, V., Noni, N., & Patak, A. A. (2022). Students' Acceptance of Technology Use in Learning English Pharmacy. *International Journal of Language Education*, 6(3), 314–331.  
<https://doi.org/10.26858/ijole.v6i3.24144>
- Stachowiak, J. (2020). On the civilising of objectification. Language use, discursive patterns and the psychological expertise of work planning. *Language & Communication*, 74, 52–60.  
<https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.langcom.2020.05.006>
- Yovinus, Y. (2018). Peran komunikasi publik media sosial dalam implementasi kebijakan keterbukaan informasi publik di Kota Bandung. *Academia Praja: Jurnal Ilmu Politik, Pemerintahan, Dan Administrasi Publik*, 1(01), 185–211.