

Politics of Multicultural School at SMA Bopkri 2 and SMA Tumbuh Yogyakarta

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ABSTRACT

The democratic change that has been driving out the whole nation of Indonesia has demanded the accommodation of the internal diversity of the society; as later responded by the adoption and adaptation of multicultural education across schools in the country. Yet, there are actually a few number of schools have a serious commitment to adopt the policy and pursue in the formulation of school policies and programs due to some internal challenges. The Study focus on the two private schools in Yogyakarta, SMA Bopkri 2 dan SMA Tumbuh, that officially named as the multicultural schools as their primary policies and later informed their school programs.

The study had been conducted under the grounded theory approach within the qualitative research method tradition; involving principals, teachers and students of both schools. There were 17 informant taking parts with 10 from SMA Bopkri 2 dan another 7 persons from SMA Tumbuh. Data were gathered through observation, official documents and records of qualitative interviews with informants.

The study showed that the policy to name the school as a multicultural school both in SMA Bopkri 2 dan SMA Tumbuh had related to 3 (three) issues. *First*, both schools had a very unique background; in which SMA Bopkri 2 affiliated to a prominent minority religious group – Christian and SMA Tumbuh linked unofficially to the Sultanate Court of Yogyakarta; that seemed to influence their interests to promote diversities and multicultural ideas. *Second*, both the formulation of multicultural school was developed from the idea to recognize and accommodate diversities based on cultural dan religious one as the primary fabric of the Indonesian society. *Third*, yet each school had different understandings and ways to do so. For SMA Bopkri 2, the multicultural school was addressed to promote the cultural diversity of Indonesia and ensure students to know and understand it in very well ways. Whilst in SMA Tumbuh, the multicultural schools is not only to promote cultural and religious diversity but also to ensure students are familiar with the local tradition, the Javanese one; having a good knowledge about and and proudly used as their social identity.

Kata Kunci: *Multicultural Education, Multicultural School, Indonesian Diversity*