

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

As time progresses, the government makes a new policy, which is the change of curriculum. The curriculum is an important part that cannot be separated from the education system, it even determines the success of education. When talking about curriculum changes, it will certainly attract a lot of attention, especially from people who are directly affected by the curriculum changes. Therefore, every curriculum modification will face many problems and challenges that come from various parties, both in planning, socialization and implementation. Curriculum turn is a very fundamental in the national education system and will change other components of education. Although, every transition curriculum needs to involve experts in various fields, such as subject matter experts, curriculum experts, educational technology experts, and linguists who will mix the curriculum based on clear competencies (Mulyasa, 2019). Independent Curriculum is a new curriculum that gives educators the freedom to create quality learning that suits the needs and learning environment of students.

Based on the decree of the minister of education, culture, research and technology of the Republic of Indonesia number 56/M /2022 concerning guidelines for implementing the curriculum in the context of restoring learning, specifically the implementation of the Independent Curriculum which came into effect in 2022 /2023, the government launched a platform on youtube about *Merdeka Belajar* on episode 15 by the minister of education, culture, research and technology on February 11, 2022. According to Mr. Nadiem Makariem as Minister of Education, Independent Curriculum is an option without force for education units, because schools that are not comfortable implementing the Independent Curriculum are still allowed to choose the option of using the 2013 curriculum. Certainly for schools, especially superior or public schools, the implementation of the new curriculum, namely the Independent Curriculum is not a surprise, especially for schools that

have prepared for the arrival of the new curriculum. But, the school has already prepared, it does not necessarily mean that the implementation of the Independent Curriculum will run smoothly and not experience problems or obstacles. New things trigger problems that will be faced in its future implementation (Ariana, 2016).

The implementation of an Independent Curriculum is a form of change, renewal, and development of the education system as an effort to realize the ideals of the state, namely educating the nation's children. From the several articles the researcher found 2 articles that researched in Senior High School and 3 articles that researched in Vocational High School. Vocational High School is a driving school and the focus to implement an Independent Curriculum, and more research is there, researchers chose to conduct research at Vocational High School to develop results and find changes from previous research. From preliminary studies that has been conducted at Vocational High School in Bojonegoro, English teachers at Bojonegoro state Vocational High School explained that the first time hear the Independent Curriculum is a curriculum that was free to determine anything. As time goes on, the assumptions turn out to be wrong, and many things need to be prepared carefully and gradually. The independent curriculum is rather complicated, considering that it is still new and needs to be adapted. Implementing an Independent Curriculum must also be more innovative because in the previous curriculum, some elements have been prepared by the government, while the Independent Curriculum determines itself. In addition, to conduct interviews with teachers, researchers also will observe students. Some students felt curious, confused, and happy about the Independent Curriculum. Many students felt a significant difference from the previous curriculum, starting from the methods, techniques, and tasks given by the teacher to students in teaching and learning. Some enjoy learning English lessons with the Independent Curriculum, although many students did not enjoy it.

Based on the description above, the researcher wants to explore and to seek deeper information related to the implementation of the Independent Curriculum, especially in the English class. The researcher can know that the Independent Curriculum provides a big puzzle and something that have to dig

deeper into. It is only natural that many people find it difficult to implement the Independent Curriculum in the classroom, both teachers and students.

In this study, the researcher want to dig deeper into the implementation of Independent Curriculum in English classes from the perspectives of teachers and students. Independent Curriculum is a new issue that certainly has not been studied by many other researchers, apart from that many people do not know about the impact when the Independent Curriculum was implemented, then the development of the Independent Curriculum is still not widely known such as its advantages, problems, and solutions. That is why researchers want to find new experiences and challenges that are different from other researchers. The research objective is to find out how effective and efficient the Independent Curriculum is compared to the previous curriculum. What kind of changes are presented by the Independent Curriculum in enchanting curriculum development in Indonesia and the advantages and disadvantages of the Independent Curriculum according to teachers and students. Therefore, the researcher will conduct this research with the title Independent Curriculum in English Classroom: Perspectives From Teachers and Students.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background described above, it can be concluded that the formulation of problem in this research is:

1. What are teachers' view on Independent Curriculum implementation in English class?
2. What are students' view on Independent Curriculum implementation in English class?

1.3 Objectives of Study

1. To analyse teachers' view on Independent Curriculum implementation in English class
2. To analyse students' view on Independent Curriculum implementation in English class

1.4 Significance of Study

The result of this study are expected to give benefit for:

1. The student

Hopefully, it can help solve learning problems experienced by students in the Independent Curriculum, after knowing the shortcomings of the independence curriculum students can learn comfortably

2. The teacher

Perhaps, it can evaluate deficiencies in the implementation of the Independent Curriculum so that by knowing the shortcomings the teacher can improve things that can trigger the successful implementation of the Independent Curriculum, especially in english classes, that way students will enjoy learning.

3. The school

Hopefully, it can find out students' interest in the learning process using the Independent Curriculum, can make new innovations that can develop an Independent Curriculum in schools.

4. The researcher

This research is expected to provide information, models, or references to be developed by further research which is stated in this research. this research is still rare or rarely researched, so the next research must be better than this research. Considering that there must be developments in the future, and it will become a new challenge for more amazing research in the future.

1.5 The Limitation of the Research

Based on the background that underlies research, so that this research is more directed and focused on the expected goals and targets. The researcher focuses on the limitations of the research as follows.

1. Teacher and student perspectives on the implementation of the Independent Curriculum, especially in english classroom in SMKN Bojonegoro.
2. The advantages and disadvantages of Independent Curriculum if implemented at SMKN Bojonegoro.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

In order to lead to reader to get the better understanding, the writer includes the definition of main terms those are:

1.6.1 Independent Curriculum

Curriculum is a set or a system of plans and regulations regarding learning materials that can be used as guidelines in teaching and learning activities. while the Independent Curriculum is a curriculum whose learning method refers to the talent-interest approach. The Independent Curriculum prioritizes what some students are interested in, so that students can choose what subjects they want to learn according to their passion.

1.6.2 English Classroom

English classroom is a learning class where students learn english, in this class students learn a lot of material including 4 skills in english namely reading, listening, writing, and speaking.

1.6.3 Teacher and Student Views

Perspective is a person's point of view or view in assessing or describing something. then it can be interpreted that the perspective of teachers and students is the point of view or views of teachers and students in assessing or describing something.

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