

NEWS	BUSINESS	SE ASIA	OPINION	LIFESTYLE	TRAVEL	MULTIMEDIA	LONGFORM	PAPER EDITION	MORE
INDEX			INDEX		INDEX	INDEX	INDEX		JOBS
POLITICS			ACADEMIA		NEWS	VIDEO			EVENT
WORLD			COMMENTARY		DESTIN	PHOTO			WRITIN
INDONESIA			INSIGHT		JAKPO	LONGFORM			CENTE
JAKARTA			ANALYSIS		GUIDE				IMAGE
SPORTS			INTERVIEW		TO				MOBIL
POSTSCRIPT									APPS
LOGOUT									

ACADEMIA > OPINION

# Fake diploma: A tale of misconception on education



**Kunto Nurcahyoko**

Social activist and lecturer in Pamane Talino Teaching College

Landak / Thu, March 2, 2017 / 08:23 am



Schools seem to perpetuate this misconception of education by instructing students to overvalue academic

You have 6 free premium articles left this month

close x

Get 50% off for Premium Subscription

Subscribe today

Subscribe to get unlimited access



As an educator for several years, I have encountered countless experiences dealing with misconceptions in education. One is about the diploma. “The higher your diploma, the better your quality as a human”. Such a notion must be assessed very carefully; when the diploma is the final goal in pursuing education, everything will fall into pieces. We can expect mushrooming diploma forgery.

Document forgery and fake diploma are not new in Indonesia, notwithstanding regulations to mitigate the problems. Owners of fake education certificates have been identified as government officials, politicians, police officers, doctors and even university rectors.

The 2003 National Education System Law, for example, states that those who use fake degree and certificate of competency are subject to imprisonment for up to five years and/or fine up to Rp 500 million (US\$37.5 million).

To stop fake diploma circulation, the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education has implemented National Diploma Numbering and Electronic Diploma Verification since January. The Minister himself announced all titles of professors who illegally received their titles from unofficial procedures would be stripped.

In addition, several education institutions have been closed down for allegedly offering an online document forgery service.

The high demand for fake diploma basically reveals that the problem is partly caused by the recruitment system in employment. The diploma certificate is generally the very first requirement in competing within the job market. No matter how competent the candidates, without those diploma certificates, they will never get a call from the company.

The certificate has become a commodity, and is regarded as the only valid measurement of “competence and learning.” That being said, the meaning of

You have 6 free premium articles left this month close x

Get 50% off for Premium Subscription

Subscribe today

Subscribe to get unlimited access

grades, examinations become the main focus of most schools, and creativity is less appreciated, compared to mathematics or linguistics intelligence.

In his classic book *Deschooling Society*, Ivan Illich argues that schooling in general makes students confuse process and substance. The student is thereby “schooled” to confuse teaching with learning and grade advancement.

Yet education is the whole process for humans to be able to help students in participating within society --- not only for finding jobs, but also in helping students and graduates to positively contribute to their surroundings in a multicultural and democratic environment.

By taking into account the significance of work and family aspects, school is one of the most significant factors in shaping up students’ worldviews. School is basically a “mansion” where students seek enlightenment in regard to their future career and life in general.

School is mostly responsible in transferring the knowledge, information and behavior from teachers. Because schools are responsible for providing a safe and well-equipped environment to support learning, they must be able to provide safe environment where students can learn to be part of society.

Equally significant, all stakeholders in education must work hand in hand to create a better education system. The government is responsible for determining the long term education goals and a national curriculum which helps students develop as individuals with academic excellence and positive personality.

Parents and society are responsible for supporting the education when students are outside the school environment. Media should also educate people especially students, with their publication contents.. The job market and employee recruitment system must be revolutionized to prioritize candidates’ competence over diplomas.

Eventually, this is not only the job of schools and teachers to eradicate the misconception of diplomas. Everyone is responsible in creating an education system which respects individual creativity and uniqueness. This is because no matter how hard we put our efforts in education, when people still believe that grades and diplomas are everything, the tale of misconception on education will never end.

\*\*\*

*The writer is a social activist and lecturer in Pamane Talino Teaching College, Landak regency, West Kalimantan.*

-----

**We are looking for information, opinions, and in-depth analysis from experts or scholars in a variety of fields. We choose articles based on facts or opinions about**

You have 6 free premium articles left this month

close x

Get 50% off for Premium Subscription

Subscribe today

Subscribe to get unlimited access

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not reflect the official stance of The Jakarta Post.

TOPICS :

Education   fake-diploma   school

RELATED NEWS

Schools evacuated, subway services halted as quake rocks Taiwan

Students in Ciamis sleep over at school for exams

Jakarta provides free breakfasts for schoolkids

YOU MIGHT ALSO LIKE :



Concede defeat for peace



Ma'ruf factor and Indonesia's democracy



Macroeconomic management imperatives in Jokowi's second term



Slow days for netizens

You have 6 free premium articles left this month

close x


Get 50% off for Premium Subscription  
Subscribe to get unlimited access

Subscribe today

- MOST VIEWED
- MOST SHARED

1. People power is dead, long live people power
2. Jakarta riots death toll rises to eight, more than 700 injured
3. Post-election unrest grips Jakarta
4. Jakarta riot: Government temporarily limits access to social media, messaging apps
5. Violence begets violence
6. Six dead, 200 injured in Jakarta riot: Jakarta governor
7. World leaders react to President Joko 'Jokowi' Widodo's reelection
8. Jakarta riot: Protesters throw firecrackers at police in C. Jakarta
9. Photo: Jakarta in riots
10. Prabowo still 'messiah' for 68.7 million Indonesians

Subscribe or log in to get unlimited access to premium content

Premium Subscription

You have 6 free premium articles left this month

close x

Get 50% off for Premium Subscription

Subscribe to get unlimited access

Subscribe today



email address

SUBSCRIBE NEWSLETTER

NEWS

BUSINESS

POLITICS

WORLD

NATIONAL

CITY

TRAVEL

NEWS

DESTINATIONS

JAKPOST GUIDE TO

OPINION

ACADEMIA

COMMENTARY

INSIGHT

ANALYSIS

INTERVIEW

MULTIMEDIA

VIDEO

PHOTO

LONGFORM

LIFE

PAPER EDITION

TODAY'S PAPER

JOBS

TJP IMAGES

COMMUNITY

YOUTH

SOUTHEAST ASIA

OUR PARTNERS

You have 6 free premium articles left this month

close x

Get 50% off for Premium Subscription

Subscribe to get unlimited access

Subscribe today