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Book Review 'Health Research Methods' (Indonesian Version)

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1. Introduction

Written by Dr. H. Miftahul Munir, Dwi Kurnia PS, Suhartono, S.Kep., Nurus Safaah, SSt. and Aris Puji Utami, SST, this book is intended as reference material for students, health workers and health researchers. This book is written concisely but can fulfills the reader's need to understand the study process. It is hoped that this book will be of practical use by students and health practitioners in becoming more interested to conduct research in the health sector. This reference book contains information about methods, procedures and techniques that can be applied in research. The presentation of the flow section and application examples in this book is helpful to explain complex concepts to make them easier understood by student readers as researchers. Writing order that is tailored to the steps in the research process also makes it easier for readers to study the book. As time goes by, the philosophy of knowledge has made enormous contributions in various life fields. Development itself cannot be separated from the involvement of humans and science in their role.

Science philosophy develops with a way or pattern of thinking that causes a problem to arise regarding things that exist in this world. Then the problem is answered and becomes new knowledge. Every aspect of life, we will not be separated from anything which is called knowledge and education as well technology. The educational process requires a person to understand each field of scientific study more broadly and deeply. This learning or education process will leads someone to practice scientific, logical and critical thinking. Philosophy is needed to support someone to understand knowledge in more depth. Ethics comes from the Greek ethos. When viewed from an etymological aspect, the term ethics means

habits and rules of behavior that apply in society. According to Sastrapratedja (2004), ethics in the context of philosophy is a philosophical reflection on the morality of society so that ethics is also called moral philosophy. Ethics includes norms for behavior, separating what should be done and what should not be done. Ethics helps humans to look critically at the morality lived by society, ethics also helps us to formulate more adequate ethical guidelines and new norms that are needed because of the changes that occur dynamic in the order of social life. Research is basically an activity or process systematically to solve problems carried out by applies the scientific method. Therefore, before discussion the nature of research needs to be explained first using scientific methods. The goal of all scientific endeavors is to explain, predict or control phenomenon. This goal is based on the assumption that all behavior and events are orderly and that all consequences has a known cause. Progress towards these goals relate to the acquisition of knowledge and developing and testing theories. Compared with other sources of knowledge such as experience, authority, inductive reasoning and deductive reasoning, application of scientifically methods undoubted, the most efficient and the most reliable. Health research is a step in the scientific method which is oriented or focuses its activities on problems arising in the health sector [1]. Health itself consists of two main sub-fields, namely first clinically oriented individual health and treatment. The second subfield is group-oriented or community which is preventative in nature. This health subfield also consists of various scientific disciplines such as medicine, nursing, epidemiology, health education, environmental health, health service management, nutrition etc. These subfields are interrelated and affect the health conditions of society

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in general. Based on this background, health research can be interpreted as an effort to understand the problems faced in health sector, whether promotive, preventive, curative or rehabilitative and problems related to the elements; by looking for evidence and carrying out these certain steps that are scientific, systematic and logical (Notoatmodjo, 1993). The formation of a conceptual framework and operational definitions begins when the research topic is determined. After the researcher obtains a research topic, the next step is to look for a theoretical basis or background concepts to it. These theories when combined and summarized in one chart will produce a theoretical framework. From this theoretical framework, researchers determine the types of variables that will be researched. These variables are then determined relationships in a concept framework so that it can be operationalized in a research. These variables are defined in a chart/table that is called an operational definition.

As a conclusion, the research report is a piece of scientific knowledge written work that is used as the result of a study activity. Therefore, research reports must be able to describe a series of research processes. Research report format usually follows certain rules or conventions in accordance with the agency or educational institution. Although the format varies, the pattern of research reports built by three main elements namely description, analysis and interpretation. Like other scientific papers, research reports also require the skills of the writer to determine the main thought or main idea. The point idea must be supported by established facts experienced or observed. In research reports, facts, data and information are a means to prove the hypothesis. If the hypothesis is proven with the facts, data and information collected, then hypothesis becomes a conclusion or a thesis. This conclusion and thesis will be the main thought if analogous to the term paragraph.

Reference

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