

**TRAINING ON POLITICAL 'HOAX' INFORMATION LITERACY FOR  
THE INDONESIAN COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION (PERMAI)  
PENANG ISLAND - MALAYSIA**

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**Abstrack**

The entire spectrum of the nation's colors is a media target that is carefully considered. News programs or political information are presented to audiences of all ages, including the youth. The fact is that news programs and political information also target the youth as an undeniable market. Furthermore, the youth serve as educators for their children. A competent successor generation is needed in various fields, and this also requires the role of parents, especially the youth.

The issue of the ability to use media is also one of the crucial aspects in the media literacy education process. To ensure this, it is not enough to only disseminate information but also to actively and continuously ensure the implementation of media literacy education to enhance the activities of citizens, both individually and collectively. The title of this community service is Information Literacy Training on Political "Hoax" for Youth in the Indonesian Community Organization (PERMAI) of Penang Island.

**Keyword:** Political Hoax , Information Literacy

## INTRODUCTION

The youth are a media target that is significantly considered. News programs or political information are presented to all age groups, including the youth. The fact is that news programs and political information also target the youth as an undeniable market. Furthermore, the youth serve as educators for their children. A competent successor generation is needed in various fields, and this also requires the role of parents, especially the youth.

Activities are needed to enhance the abilities of young people in discerning and choosing, as well as delving deeper into news or political information through mass media. Additionally, there is a need for an increase in nationalism and national awakening among the youth so that it can be channeled to their families, especially their children. The development of mass media and social media poses its own challenges. Moreover, the convergence of information and communication technology brings various information in front of the public, including political information.

Moreover, the high political contestation, the emergence of hoax news in the community is inevitable. Furthermore, the political information received by the youth is highly diverse, requiring specific knowledge and skills.

The convergence of information and communication technology today has resulted in the increasing variety of communication facilities and the sophistication of information technology products capable of integrating all media. Ironically, the dynamics of Indonesian society, which is still in the early stages of growing and developing as an industrial and information society, seem premature to accompany the development of such technology (Gunawan and Hutagol, 2000).

Indeed, in Indonesian society, the presence of information technology seems to occur simultaneously, even though the society is not fully aware of information technology. Some people still live in agrarian (even pre-agrarian) settings, some still live in industrial societies, and perhaps only a few are aware of information technology. Moreover, among the people who are aware of information technology, not everyone can use it to support more beneficial endeavors.

Undoubtedly, the availability of information, at present, is abundant, including information about the political reality in Indonesia. Therefore, the public, in any situation and anywhere, can transparently observe the reality presented through mass media. The rapid development of

information and communication technology also contributes to the increasingly open dissemination of information, including political realities.

Information plays a crucial role, especially in efforts to empower an informed society, enabling people to become active participants in various fields, including social, economic, political, cultural, and others (Bagdikian, 1997). This empowerment aims to free society from unnecessary state interventions and pressures of false consciousness from the market or capital interests (Habermas, 1992; Hidayat et al., 2000).

When talking about information, we must talk about the media. This is because information will only become known to people if we use the media to disseminate it. In our society, media literacy is still relatively low. This is evident from the lack of institutions engaged in information monitoring, the low government budget for information and communication, and public awareness of the pros and cons of information.

Translated with DeepL.com (free version)Based on of the information, we must talk about the media. Because information will only be known to people if we utilize the media to disseminate that information. In our society, media awareness (media literacy) is still relatively low. This is evident from the lack of institutions involved in information oversight, the low government budget for information and communication, and the public's awareness of the positive and negative impacts of information.

Therefore, the role of youth who are 'media literate' can serve as a counter to enhance the positive benefits of media. Hence, there is a need to cultivate awareness among the youth. It should be noted that the success of fostering this awareness is closely related to the motivation of each individual and community groups, particularly the youth, to use media to enhance their bargaining position against the "dominance" of media in daily life. It starts with the ability to analyze various aspects of media roles, as well as the capability to analyze necessary information and determine which information is important, beneficial, and which may be detrimental.

The issue of media literacy skills is also a crucial aspect in the media literacy education process. To ensure this, it is not enough to only disseminate information but also to actively and continuously ensure the implementation of media literacy education to enhance the activities of citizens, both individually and collectively.

The title of this community service is Information Literacy Training on Political "Hoaxes" for Youth in the Indonesian Community Organization (PERMAI) of Penang Island.

**PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS**

The high intensity of information in the current era requires the public to have the ability to sift through information, including political information. The youth are vulnerable to the exposure of political information through both mass media and social media.

As in the hypodermic needle theory, also known as the "concept of powerful mass media" by Elisabeth Noelle-Neumann, mass media has a strong influence on the media audience or the masses and can intentionally alter or control societal behavior. In this theory, the audience is depicted as the target of an information injection process fired by mass media, and the audience cannot avoid or reject the injections made by mass media.

Therefore, the ability to sift through mass media information is highly necessary. Especially for the youth, the presence of information can be significant in their lives. This is inseparable from the current information era. Moreover, the current political situation, especially the presidential elections from 2014 to the present 2019 presidential election, has divided the community into two camps.

The unstoppable surge of political information is unmistakable, marked by the high prevalence of circulating hoax information. Additionally, the current interests of mass media are inevitably intertwined with practical politics.

The referring to the hypodermic needle theory, then the effects of mass media and social media coverage can occur among the youth. The high intensity of political information during the political year is suspected to have an impact on the public, including the youth.

## **SOLUTION**

The targets of this activity include :

1. Providing knowledge and understanding of the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, and communicate political information to the youth in the Indonesian Community Organization (PERMAI) of Penang Island.
2. Providing political education to the youth in accessing, analyzing, evaluating, and communicating political information, especially "hoax" information from mass media and social media.

## **METHOD**

### **IMPLEMENTATION METHOD**

#### **Place and Time of Activity**

The implementation of the activity will take place online, involving the youth in the Indonesian Community Organization (PERMAI) of Penang Island.

#### **Target Audience**

The target audience for this activity is the youth in the Indonesian Community Organization (PERMAI) of Penang Island.

#### **Types of Activity**

The type of activity is training on political information literacy for the youth in the Indonesian Community Organization (PERMAI) of Penang Island.

#### **Techniques/Methods**

The technique/method of the activity is through a training program, designed to provide knowledge to the youth in developing the capacity to choose and sift through information, as well as the ability to process information related to politics. In this context, the developed concept is media literacy about politics, including the development of materials, delivery methods, and the evaluation of success in implementing media literacy activities about politics. Thus, the choice of activities that can be carried out in media literacy socialization. The provision of training material aims to provide comprehensive content, including:

Tabel 1

Material	Sub Material
Unveiling the Veil of Media	- Understanding Mass Media and Social Media
Smart Ways to Consume Political Information	- Diversity of Political Information - Political Events - Hoax News - Content Analysis of Political Information

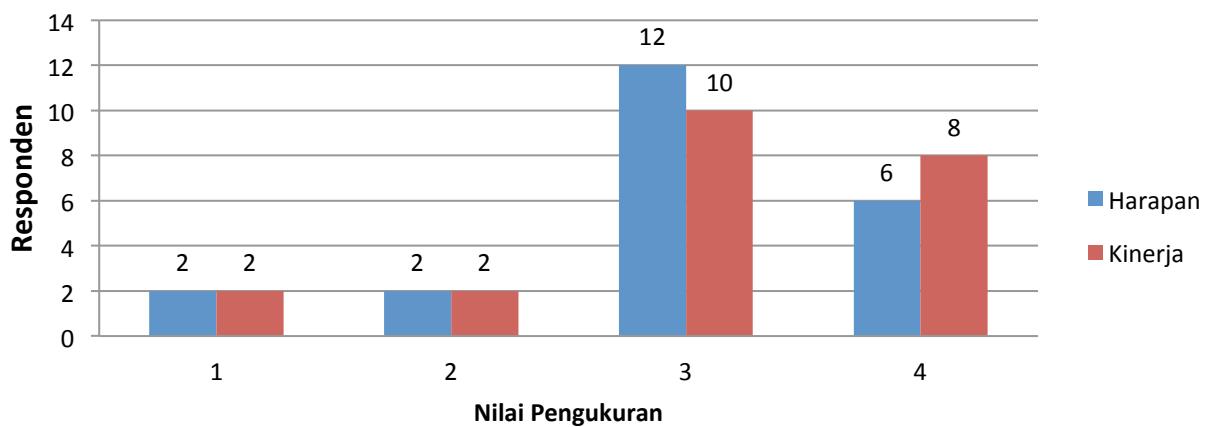
### Results of Activity Implementation

This community service activity was carried out face to face with the theme Training on Political Hoax Information Literacy for the Youth of the Indonesian Community Organization (PERMAI) in Penang Island. This activity is also linked to the political education that everyone must have in carrying out their political rights and obligations. Based on the results of the pre-test carried out on training participants.

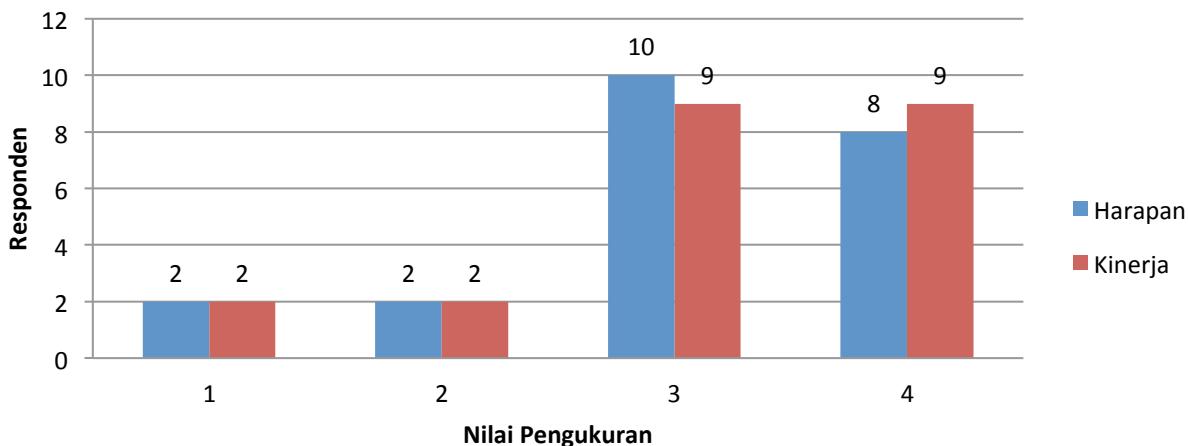
This is in order to provide political education to the Youth of the Indonesian Community Organization (PERMAI) in Penang Island, especially regarding political information hoaxes.

From the output of the activities carried out, the participants provided assessments as depicted in the table below:

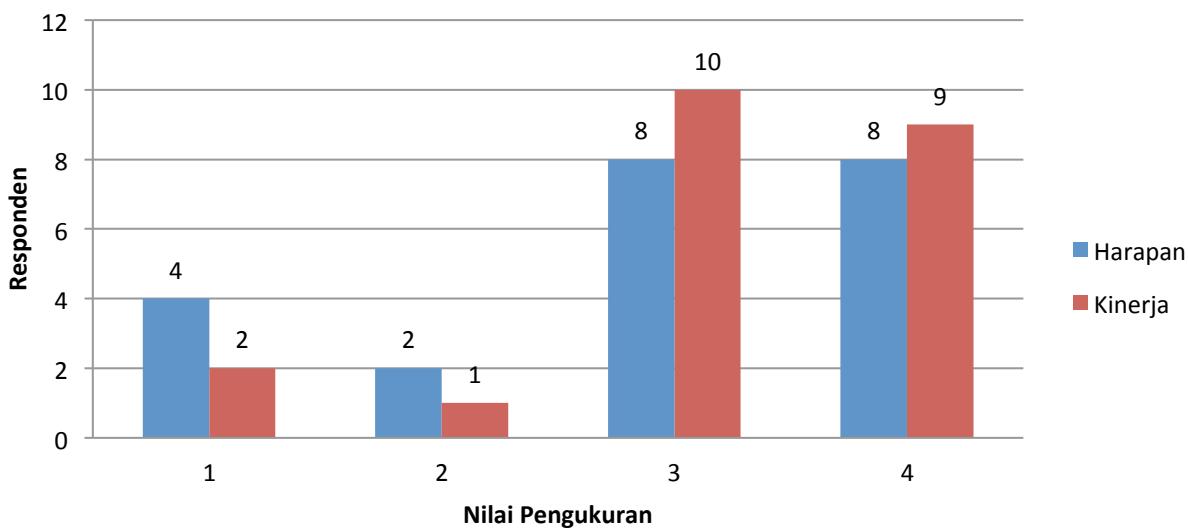
#### 1. Materi kegiatan pengabdian sesuai dengan permasalahan yang ada dimasyarakat



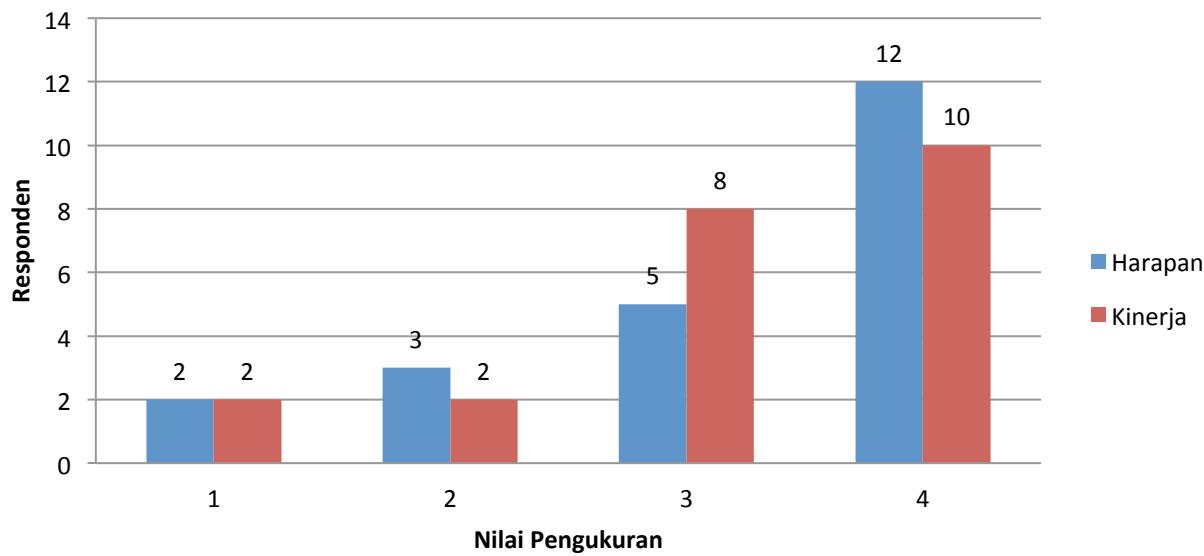
**2. Metode Pengabdian masyarakat yang digunakan sudah tepat dengan tema dan tujuan program pengabdian masyarakat.**



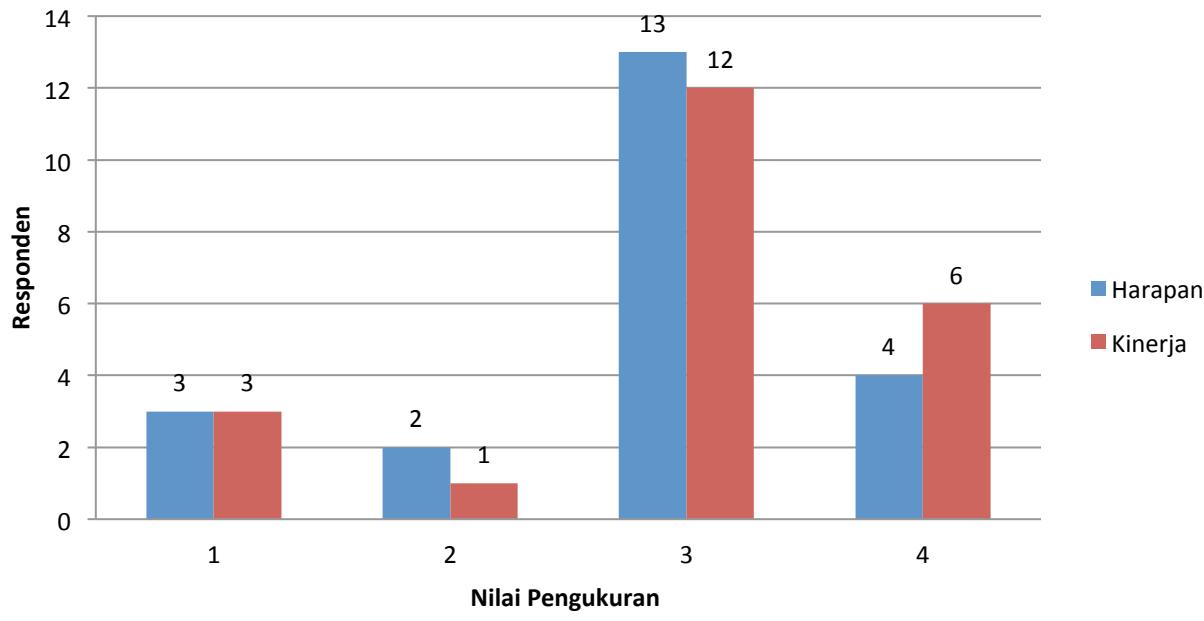
**3. Sarana dan prasarana pendukung kegiatan pengabdian, seperti tempat atau gedung kegiatan pengabdian, alat dan bahan, fasilitas penunjang lainnya, sudah memadai.**



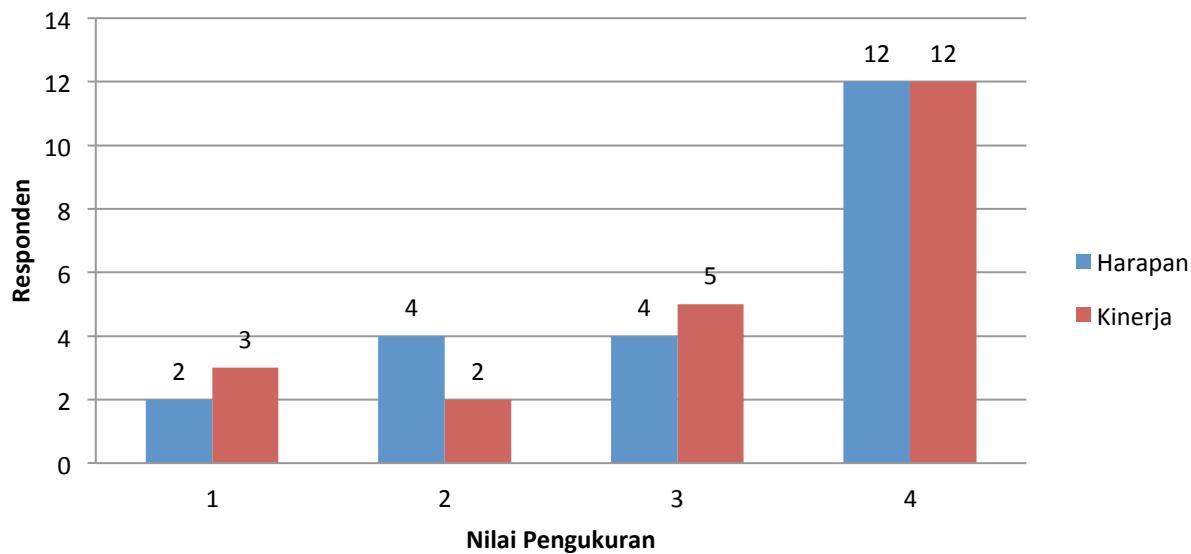
#### 4. Tim pelaksana program pengabdian terlihat kompak dalam melaksanakan kegiatan



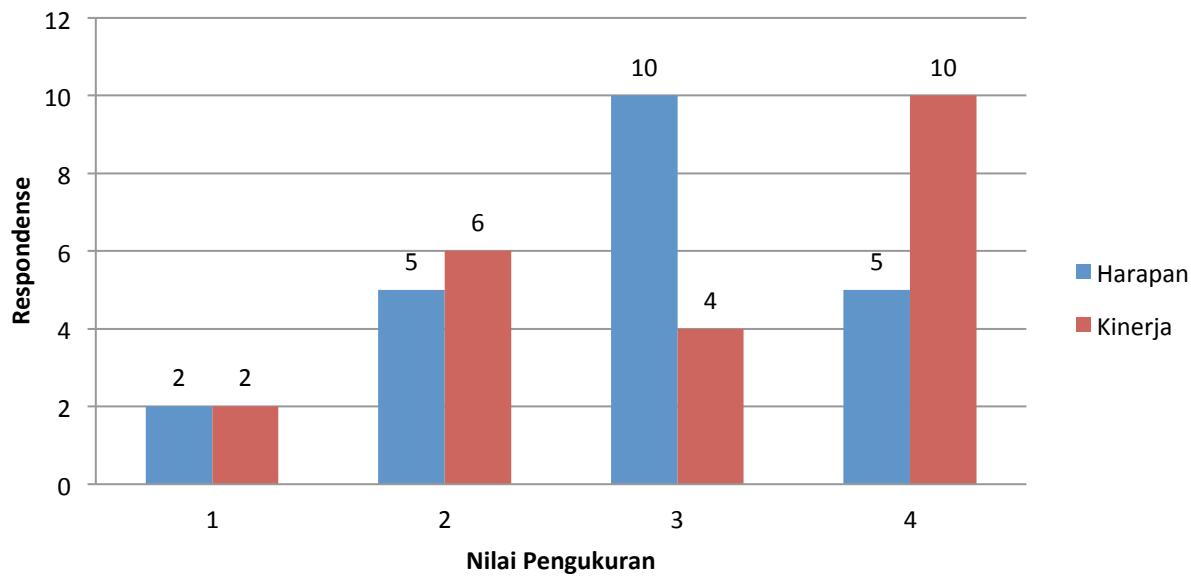
#### 5. Tim pelaksana program pengabdian memiliki kompetensi dengan materi yang diberikan.



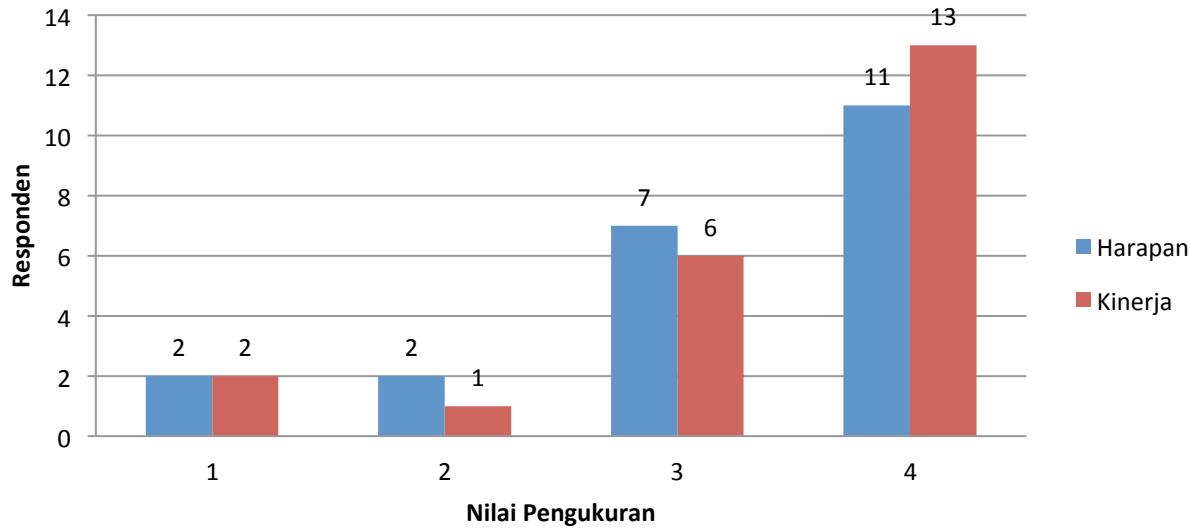
## 6. Tim Pelaksana sangat menarik dalam mengemas program pengabdian



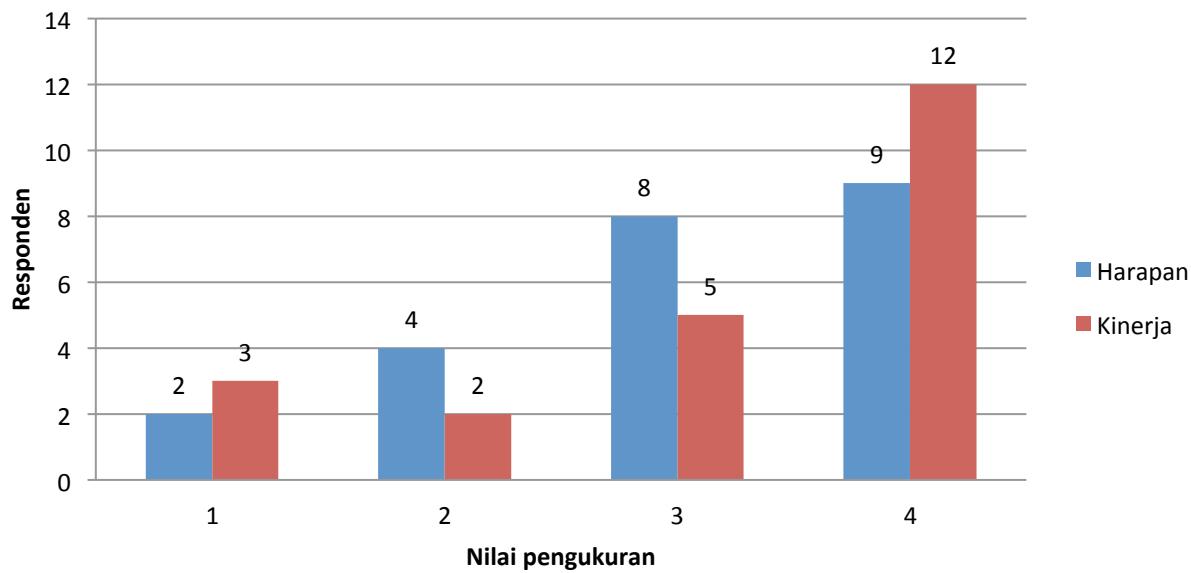
## 7. Masyarakat antusias berpartisipasi dalam kegiatan pengabdian



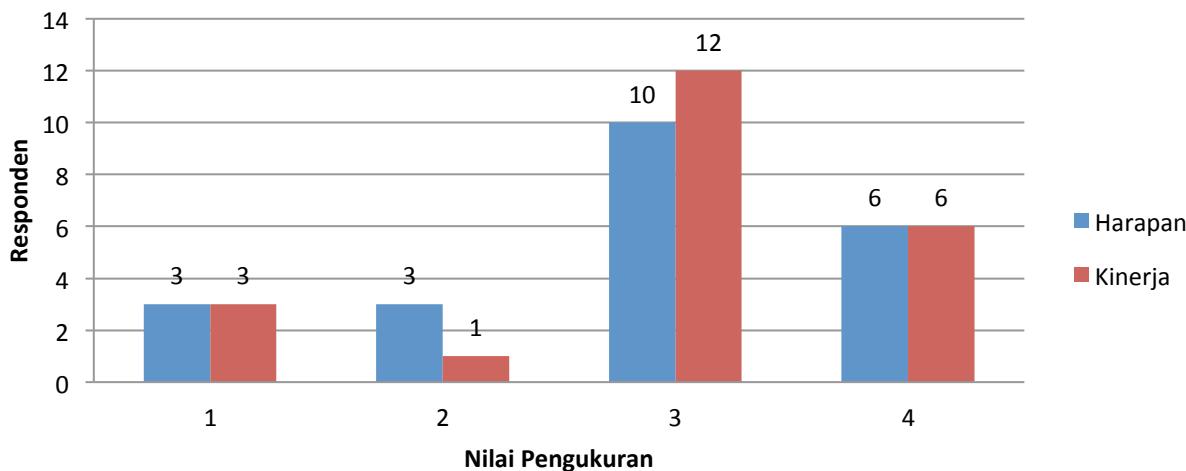
## 8. Masyarakat sangat merasakan manfaat dari program pengabdian yang diberikan



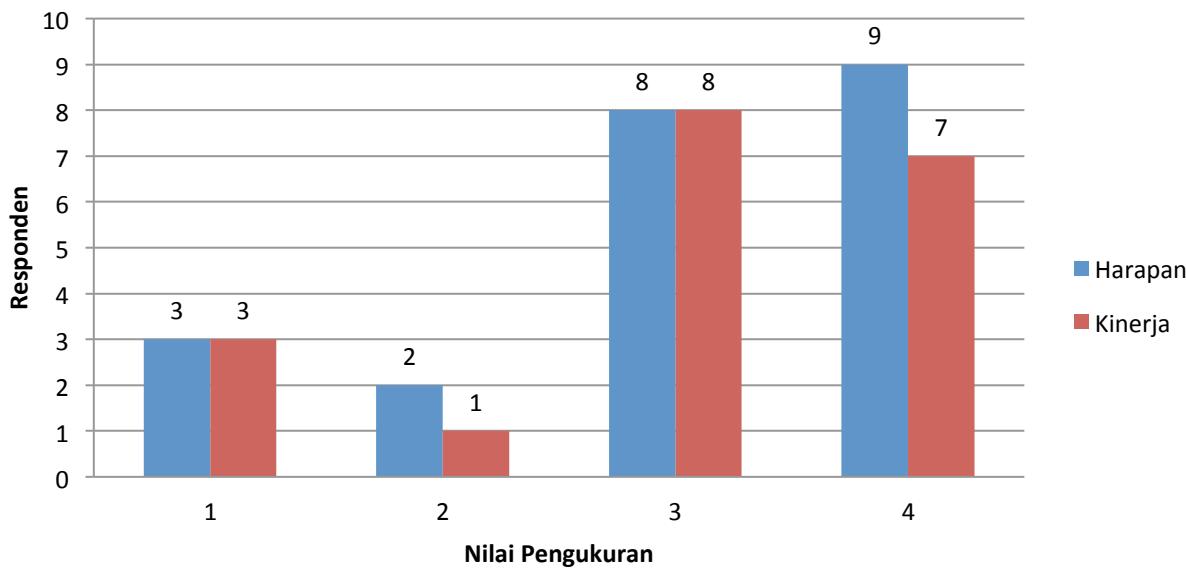
## 9. Masyarakat sangat berminat dan antusias terhadap kegiatan pengabdian



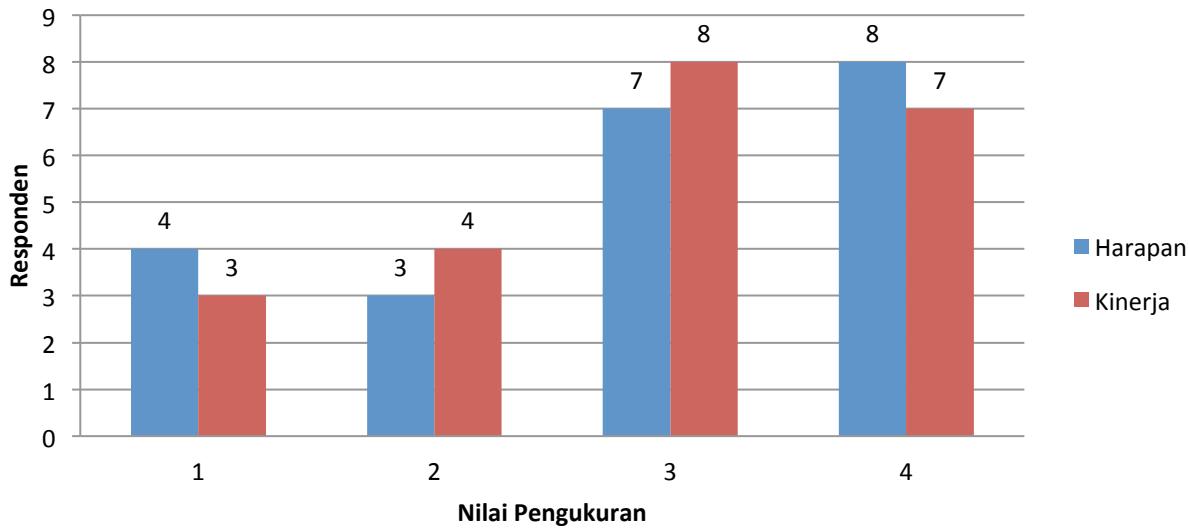
**10. Masyarakat secara keseluruhan merasa puas terhadap program pengabdian masyarakat yang dilakukan**



**11. Program pengabdian sesuai dengan yang diharapkan masyarakat**



## 12. Jangka waktu program pengabdian sesuai dengan yang diharapkan masyarakat



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