

## Medical Profession and the Politics of Health in Contemporary Indonesia

(A Chapter in my Dissertation Project) Radesa Guntur Budipramono ASIA-JAPAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE DITSUMEWAN UNIVERSITY

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#### **KOKUSAITEKI Research Trips (61 days total):**

- 1) 1st leg: 2019/8/8~2019/9/18 (41 days) in Jakarta, Banten and Bandung, aimed to find out the political interests and priorities of medical workers and medical associations vis-à-vis the National Health Insurance and other major health policies. Several respondents were interviewed, and archival research was conducted
- 2) 2nd leg: 2020/1/25~2020/2/15 (20 days) in Jakarta and Bandung, aimed to find out the interconnection between medical associations and pharmaceutical industry, and how the interactions between the two shapes the political voice of medical workers. This trip was conducted in conjunction with Asia-Japan Institute field research on Human Security Issues in Indonesia, specifically in Jakarta and Bali.

#### **Research Achievements:**

- Conference presentation: "The Political Economy of 'The End of AIDS' Discourse", at the 4th International Symposium on Health Research, Bali, Indonesia
- Conference presentation: "Contemporary Governance of HIV/AIDS Response: A Cautionary Tale from Indonesia", at the 17th Asia Pacific Conference, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Japan
- 3. Research paper: "Compromising Human Security: The Securitization of HIV/AIDS Response and Indonesia's Transition from Vertical to Horizontal Approach, in Ritsumeikan International Affairs journal

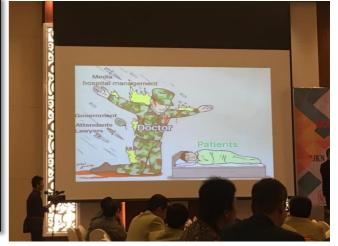
### **Research Findings (Dissertation)**

## How health reforms affect medical profession

- Changes in financing/diagnostic system under JKN: Clinical/diagnostic freedom and fee-for-service -> heavily regulated case-based groups and fixed-fee.
- Trickle down of the JKN's financial troubles.
- "Berobat gratis" and "health for all" as a mantra to justify short-charging the medical profession
- Long-persisting, bottom-line problems of financial shortages and poor distribution remains.

Wide-ranged "disturbance" to the medical profession





# Medical profession and their return to politics?

- Pressure to re-examine and re-interpret medical professions' pledge and code of ethics, and eventual 'return' to politics
- While medical profession do not rebuff health reform outright, they
  try to frame themselves as erstwhile "victims" of the consequences
  brought by health reforms and national political climate
- Disparity in political goals depending on profession, although there are common threads—typically in favor of solving JKN's deficit by increasing monthly premium.
- Impediment from "dokter sudab kaya" and "dokter ngapain berpolitik" discourse, although nurses and midwives are largely excluded

Return to politics propagated by dissatisfaction towards health reform



Health reforms (specifically JKN) changes the "business as usual" nature of health services...

JKN affecting medical workers

Backlash towards JKN from pharmaceutical industry

**Preliminary Findings:** 

- 1) Medical workers' return to politics
- Backroom dealings to affect JKN in medical workers' favor + framing of JKN
- 3) JKN pricing controversy turning into national issue

