Policy, Practice, and Challenges in the Implementation of Bilingual Education: A Case Study at an Elementary School in Bandung

A Thesis

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Policy, Practice, and Challenges in the Implementation of Bilingual Education: A Case Study at an Elementary School in Bandung

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ABSTRACT

Globalization has brought the world to educational reforms that prompt policy makers to improve and develop educational policies by implementing Bilingual Education. This study seeks to explore the educational policy in a private school which implement Bilingual Education: how the policy is implemented and what challenges are encountered. The study used a qualitative approach and the data were taken from classroom observations, interviews, and document analyses and involved a bilingual classroom and the teacher and the school’s policy makers. The findings revealed that to preserve school’s existence in private education, Bilingual Education is established as an innovative program offering content instruction through English. All subjects excluding Bahasa Indonesia were taught in English starting from first grade to fifth grade even though the school should cope with the challenges. The practice of Bilingual Education showed the teacher’ commitment and effort to use English at the Science class despite the challenges regarding the students’ diverse language competences and motivation; parental supports; and limited learning resources.

Keywords: bilingual education, language policy and practice
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