

Fruitful library effort to change the community

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Abstract

A library has been a place for community to get information and knowledge. People visit a library to read books, magazines, newspapers, even journals. At other times, people visit a library to study their own subjects, meet friends, discuss a project, and many others. There are various reasons behind the need to visit a library. However, the library can not only provide reading materials and spaces for community to gain knowledge; a library may also change the life of the community. Public Library of Gunung Kidul, Yogyakarta, for example, has played a role in developing the community by holding various activities to develop the community using local resources and supported by current available technology to support the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals 2030. This qualitative case study was conducted by in-depth unstructured interviews with the librarians in helping their community to develop local activities for the benefit of the community as suggested by United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals 2030.

The results show that, instead of sitting down behind the desk, the librarians both invite the community and visit them in the villages. The librarians help the community learn how to make batik and market the products online. The librarians also change the behavior of the lazy and jobless young people to learn what they like and they even won the prize for competition.

In short, the library supports and transform the community by persuading and inviting them to learn and practice their interests and then help them to make their own living.

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