

UNDERSTANDING SCHADENFREUDE IN POLITICS: THE ROLE OF BIG FIVE PERSONALITIES AND EMPATHY

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ABSTRACT

The euphoria of the Indonesian election has been replaced by an escalation of the conflict that is increasingly evident in society. The community seems to be looking for gaps in political figures and making jokes, both opponents and friends, even parties who are not part of the horizontal political conflict vortex. There is a phenomenon in a society where political events are used as material for good jokes and come from mistakes, politicians' mistakes become laughing stock, even being distributed as material for jokes together. The crisis of empathy is thought to make this phenomenon appear in society, but personality can also encourage the emergence of this behavior. This study aims to determine the role of empathy and personality in this case the big five personalities of voters against schadenfreude in election voters. Empathy is measured by the Interpersonal Reactivity Index scale, schadenfreude is measured by Schadenfreude, while the Big Five Inventory (BFI) scale is used to measure personality. 330 respondents were obtained in this study. This study uses a simple regression analysis and stepwise regression. The results of this study indicate that there is no role of empathy for schadenfreude in voters. Big Five Personality Traits have a stimulating role and a partial role towards schadenfreude, namely agreeableness, neuroticism, and openness traits. While the stimulant role between the Big Five Personality Traits on empathy was found in, there is a role partially between the traits agreeableness, neuroticism, conscientiousness, and openness to Schadenfreude to voters.

KEYWORDS

Big Five Personality, Empathy, Schadenfreude



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INTRODUCTION

Future leaders are motivated to run for office by the political rivalry that occurs during elections. The public responded to this in a variety of ways depending on how they felt about the competitors' efforts. However, in the digital age, people can more easily obtain and share political news on social media thanks to

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information technology and advanced social media applications. Social media hashtags are used to share jokes and reactions to other people's opinions. Individuals who lose their happiness when the other side misconstrues political statements, data, or the vote total. This splits people's lives and polarizes society into two camps, which can sow the seeds of conflict, especially among supporters and lead to schadenfreude. Schadenfreude is the happy feeling that results from someone else's harm (Crysel & Webster, 2018). Schadenfreude is a situation-specific emotion that changes according to the circumstances, the looks on people's faces when they experience it, and how they respond to it. People's enjoyment of other people's misfortunes varies. As Smith (2013) points out, while schadenfreude is a normal emotion, that doesn't mean it should be accepted, especially since it can lead to deeds that hurt other people. When a political opposition party faces a setback, for instance, it heightens the schadenfreude of other factions; each side rejoices and searches for errors, misfortune, or misfortune for the possible rival party. Schadenfreude, the experience of joy or pleasure in the misfortune of others, has become increasingly prevalent in the political landscape (Webster, Glynn, & Motta, 2024). This phenomenon, where individuals derive satisfaction from the suffering of their political opponents, has significant implications for political behavior and voter attitudes.

In their 2018 study, Crysel and Webster sought to determine whether the Schadenfreude scale was convergent with a number of related emotions, including humor, aggressive humor, aggression, envy, empathy, and the dark triad (narcissism, psychopathy, and Machiavellianism). The existing literature suggests that the intensity of political emotions, both positive and negative, can significantly impact individuals' well-being and political engagement (Ford & Feinberg, 2020). The tendency to experience schadenfreude, in particular, has been linked to the desire to maintain a positive social identity and the need to feel superior to outgroup members. (Peplak, Klemfuss, & Ditto, 2022) This emotion can be particularly pronounced in highly polarized political environments, where the lines between "us" and "them" are clearly drawn. Empathy, the ability to understand and share the feelings of others, has been identified as a key factor in regulating schadenfreude. Individuals with higher levels of empathy are less likely to experience schadenfreude, as they are better able to empathize with the suffering of their political opponents.

Schadenfreude is connected to the big five personality traits in both predictable and unexpected ways. The Big Five personality traits, which include Openness, Conscientiousness, Extraversion, Agreeableness, and Neuroticism, have also been found to play a significant role in shaping an individual's propensity for schadenfreude. For instance, individuals high in Neuroticism may be more prone to experiencing schadenfreude as a coping mechanism for their own negative emotions, while those high in Agreeableness may be less likely to engage in such behavior due to their tendency to be more cooperative and empathetic. The overall Schadenfreude scale did, as predicted, decline negatively with agreeableness and conscientiousness and positively with neuroticism. It was unexpected that the dangerous subscale correlated positively with extraversion and that schadenfreude had a negative effect on openness. Only Agreeableness and Conscientiousness, out

of the Big Five Personalities, surpass the threshold for substantive support; therefore, the effects of the other traits need to be interpreted cautiously. The subscales measuring conscientiousness and agreeableness did not score higher than necessary for meaningful support. Prior studies by (Crysel & Webster, 2018; Greenier, 2018) sought to examine how a person's personality, as determined by the Big Five Factors theory, contributes to their Schadenfreude. According to the Big Five Factors theory of personality, each person possesses five tendencies based on five primary personality domains, or as they are more commonly known, traits (McCrae & Costa in Cervone & Pervin, 2012). Extraversion (E), conscientiousness (C), neuroticism (N), agreeableness (A), and openness to new experiences (O) are the five traits.

According to Feist and Feist (2006), the extraversion trait characterizes a person's propensity to take pleasure in relating to and engaging with others. The inclination to cooperate, trust others, and stay out of conflict with others is known as agreeableness. The inclination to be cautious, in control, and organized is referred to as having a refined nature. The tendency toward emotional equilibrium and susceptibility to stress-related illnesses are characterized by the neuroticism trait. A person's interest in novel experiences is characterized by their openness to experience. Crysel & Webster's (2018) study explores the connection between schadenfreude and the propagation of political misfortune. According to the study's findings, people experience more schadenfreude when a member of the opposition political party fails than when a member of the party itself. Crysel & Webster's research explains that schadenfreude is built by empathy, envy, humor, aggression, humor, aggression, dark triad, personality, self-esteem, social desirability, and gratitude. People often fail to empathize with other people, and sometimes even experience schadenfreude (Cikara, Bruneau, & Saxe, 2011).

Empathy is defined by Davis (1996) as a set of constructs related to a person's response to other people's experiences. Empathy includes the affective capacity to feel feelings for another person and the cognitive capacity to understand another person's point of view. The capacity for empathy is one of the most important human abilities; it is a powerful motivator for social behavior and cooperation, the most valuable foundation of the interpretation of human sociality and responsibility (Batson, 2009). People are often motivated to enhance the positive experiences of others and alleviate the suffering of others. This tendency is to care for one another and helps form the foundation of human society, but when the target is a member of an outgroup, a person may have a strong motivation to ignore or help the "other." Empathetic responses are rare and fragile in such cases, it is easy to break the chain from perception of suffering to motivation to relieve suffering to actual help. This intergroup empathy bias is important because of the failure of empathy to respond to the predicted suffering of outgroup members. the absence of pro-social responses and lack of empathy towards outsiders can place them outside the bounds of clear ethical relevance (Cikara, 2013).

Based on the above phenomenon, this research will focus on the role of empathy for schadenfreude in voters. Based on the description above, the researcher aims to look at the role of the big five personalities and schadenfreude empathy in voters in the election.

RESEARCH METHOD

A correlational quantitative approach is used in this study. Two variables are used in this study: Schadenfreude is the dependent variable (y), and the Big Five Personality Trait (x1) is the independent variable. The purpose of this study is to ascertain how empathy and the Big Five Personality Traits relate to the schadenfreude that 2019 voters felt. All Indonesian citizens who are eligible to vote in the 2019 election make up the population under study. An application was used to assist in determining the sample size for this study. Using G * Power version 3.1, 89 samples are produced as the minimum number of subjects, with effect size = 0.3, $\alpha = 0.05$, and power 0.95. A sample of 330 people was used by the researchers. In this study, an accidental sampling technique was used as the sampling method. Anyone who happens to cross paths with the researcher by chance can be used as a sample in accidental sampling provided that person is judged appropriate to serve as a data source (Sugiyono, 2019). Members of this population are expected to have the characteristics needed to provide the information needed for this research because they are at least 18 years old, and Indonesian citizens.

Research Instrument

1. Schadenfreude Measure

Utilizing a Crysel and Webster (2018) scale. This scale categorizes Schadenfreude into two categories: benign and malicious, with a reliability value of 0.76. There are twelve items on this scale, six of which are favorites and six of which are dislikes. Each item has four possible responses: 1 (strongly disagree), 2 (disagree), and 3 (agree).

2. Empathy Measure

Davis (1980) developed the Interpersonal Reactivity Index (IRI), which is used by the Empathy Scale. According to Davis (1983), empathy is a person's response to the experiences that others have witnessed. There are 28 items on this scale, and responses are given on a 4-point Likert scale beginning at. There are four subscales in the measure, and each has seven distinct items. The following subscales are (exactly lifted from Davis, 1983): Perspective taking is the propensity to unintentionally take on the mental viewpoint of another person; The term "fantasy" refers to the inclination of participants to mentally adopt the emotions and behaviors of fictional characters found in novels, movies, and stage plays. Empathic Concern: evaluates sentiments of "sympathy and concern" that are directed toward others. Personal Distress is a measure of "self-oriented" anxiety and restlessness in highly social situations.

3. The Big Five Personality

Neila Ramadhani (2012) has adapted the Big Five Inventory (BFI; John & Srivastava, 1999) as a scale for measuring this variable. The reliability value of this scale ranges from 0.73 to 0.79. The Big Five Personality Inventory is divided into

five dimensions using this scale: neuroticism, agreeableness, extraversion, conscientiousness, and openness.

Table 1. Reliabilitas dari Big Five Inventory

Trait	Reliability
Openness	0.79
Conscientiousness	0.79
Extraversion	0.73
Agreeableness	0.76
Neuroticism	0.75

According to Davis (1983), these subscales are as follows: Viewpoint Taking: the inclination to unintentionally take on the mental viewpoint of another person; The concept of fantasy refers to the inclination of participants to mentally project their own emotions and behaviors onto fictional characters. With regard to this scale, there are 28 items total—25 positive and 3 negative. From strongly agree to strongly disagree, there are seven possible responses for each item. One score denotes strong disagreement with preferred statements, while seven denotes strong agreement with them. A negative score is assigned to statements that are not good. By sharing Google forms on social media platforms like Instagram, WhatsApp, and Line, researchers were able to conduct online research. 330 people responded to the survey after it was distributed.

Table 2. Kategorisasi Responden Penelitian

Variable	Value	Category	Σ	%
Tinggi	$X < 38$	Low	0	0
	$38 < X < 57$	Mid	2	0.606
	$57 < X$	High	328	99.39
<i>Schadenfreude</i>	$X < 20$	Low	15	4.55
	$20 < X < 30$	Mid	241	73.03
	$30 < X$	High	74	22.42

The data presented in Table 2 indicates that among the 330 research participants, 0.606% exhibited moderate empathy, while 99.39% exhibited high empathy. The results of classifying respondents according to the *Schadenfreude* variable are displayed in Table 11. It can be observed that 42 respondents, or 12.73% of the total, have a high tendency towards *Schadenfreude*, while 49 respondents, or 14.85% of the total, have a low tendency towards this variable. 239 respondents, or 72.42% of the total, have a medium tendency towards this variable. This demonstrates that a moderate tendency toward *Schadenfreude* is shared by the majority of respondents.

For testing hypothesis 1, a straightforward regression approach was used, and stepwise regression was used for testing hypotheses 2 and 3. The Big Five Personalities—agreeableness, neuroticism, extraversion, conscientiousness, and openness with *Schadenfreude*—were tested step-by-step to determine their roles in

empathy as well as their dimensions. The purpose of Hypothesis Test 1 is to determine how the independent variable, empathy, affects the dependent variable, Schadenfreude. The simple regression analysis's findings indicate that the significance value is $0.462 > 0.05$. This validates the hypothesis 1, which states that voters did not use empathy to their advantage. Examining the impact of the independent variable on the dependent variable: The impact of the independent variable on the dependent variable can be observed through the R squared value. An R squared value of 0.02 was obtained from the analysis's results. This number suggests that voters' empathy for schadenfreude played a very small (2%) role in the 2019 election. Stepwise regression analysis is used in Table 3 to test the second and third hypotheses.

Table 3. Correlation of Big Five and Schadenfreude

Correlations		
Schadenfreude		
Pearson	schadenfreude	1.000
Correlation	extraversion	-.163
	agreeableness	-.303
	conscientiousness	-.183
	neuroticism	.259
	openness	-.022
	schadenfreude	.
	Sig. (1-tailed)	extraversion
agreeableness		.000
conscientiousness		.000
neuroticism		.000
openness		.345

The empathy variable is influenced by all five of the big personality traits at the same time, as Table 3 demonstrates. According to test results, agreeableness, neuroticism, and openness are the three regression models that are most significant when it comes to Schadenfreude:

- With a 9.2% effect size (R Square 0.092), agreeableness influences Schadenfreude.
- With an effect size of 12.4% (R Square 0.124), neuroticism contributes to Schadenfreude.
- Openness has an effect size of 13.4% (R Square 0.134) on Schadenfreude. The Durbin-Watson value obtained was 1.929 ($-2 < dw < 2$), which means that it meets the requirement of no autocorrelation.

Tabel 4. Correlations Test from Big Five and Empathy

Correlations		
		Empathy
Pearson Correlation	.110*	.110*

Sig. (1-tailed)	.023	.045
N	330	330
Pearson Correlation	-.118*	-.118*
Sig. (1-tailed)	.016	.032
N	330	330
Pearson Correlation	-.097*	-.097
Sig. (1-tailed)	.039	.077
N	330	330
Pearson Correlation	.193**	.193**
Sig. (1-tailed)	.000	.000
N	330	330
Pearson Correlation	.397**	.397**
Sig. (1-tailed)	.000	.000
N	330	330

Tabel 5. Model Summary Big Five Personality - Schadenfreude.

Model	R Square	Durbin-Watson
1	.092	
2	.124	
3	.134	1.929
a. Predictors: (Constant), agreeableness		
b. Predictors: (Constant), agreeableness, neuroticism		
c. Predictors: (Constant), agreeableness, neuroticism, openness		
d. Dependent Variable: schadenfreude		

The research results show that there are three regression models, namely agreeableness, neuroticism, and openness, which are most significant with Schadenfreude:

- Agreeableness plays a role in Schadenfreude with an effect size of 9.2% (R Square 0.092)
- Neuroticism plays a role in Schadenfreude with an effect size of 12.4% (R Square 0.124)
- Openness plays a role in Schadenfreude with an effect size of 13.4% (R Square 0.134)

The Durbin-Watson value is obtained at 1.929 ($-2 < db < 2$), which means that it meets the requirements for no autocorrelation.

Tabel 6. Model Summary Big Five Personality and Emphaty

	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Durbin-Watson
1	.158	.155	6.880	
2	.261	.256	6.455	
3	.272	.265	6.416	
4	.289	.281	6.348	1.966
a. Predictors: (Constant), Neuroticism				

b. Predictors: (Constant), Neuroticism, Agreeableness

c. Predictors: (Constant), Neuroticism, Agreeableness, Conscientiousness

d. Predictors: (Constant), Neuroticism, Agreeableness, Conscientiousness, Openness

e. Dependent Variable: Emphaty

If the significance value (Sig.) is <0.05 , then there is a role of Schadenfreude based on the predictor variable. If the significance value (Sig.) > 0.05 , then there is no role of Schadenfreude based on the predictor variable.

- a. Obtained Sig value. 0.000 (<0.05), so it can be concluded that there is a role of Agreeableness in Schadenfreude.
- b. Obtained Sig value. 0.000 (<0.05), so it can be concluded that there is a simultaneous role of Agreeableness and Neuroticism in Schadenfreude.
- c. Obtained Sig value. 0.000 (<0.05), so it can be concluded that there is a simultaneous role of Agreeableness, Neuroticism, and Openness in Schadenfreude.

Table 7. Simultaneous Role of agreeableness, neuroticism, openness on schadenfreude

Model	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1 Regression	499.584	1	499.584	33.268	.000 ^b
Residual	4925.534	328	15.017		
Total	5425.118	329			
2 Regression	673.452	2	336.726	23.173	.000 ^c
Residual	4751.666	327	14.531		
Total	5425.118	329			
3 Regression	729.482	3	243.161	16.882	.000 ^d
Residual	4695.636	326	14.404		
Total	5425.118	329			

a. Dependent Variable: schadenfreude

b. Predictors: (Constant), agreeableness

c. Predictors: (Constant), agreeableness, neuroticism

d. Predictors: (Constant), agreeableness, neuroticism, openness

Table 8. Simultaneous Role of agreeableness, neuroticism, openness, on empathy

Model	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1 Regression	2902.759	1	2902.759	61.324	.000 ^b
Residual	15525.896	328	47.335		
Total	18428.655	329			
2 Regression	4801.713	2	2400.857	57.612	.000 ^c
Residual	13626.941	327	41.673		
Total	18428.655	329			

3	Regression	5008.233	3	1669.411	40.552	.000 ^d
	Residual	13420.421	326	41.167		
	Total	18428.655	329			
4	Regression	5333.790	4	1333.448	33.095	.000 ^e
	Residual	13094.864	325	40.292		
	Total	18428.655	329			
a. Dependent Variable: Emphaty						
b. Predictors: (Constant), Neuroticism						
c. Predictors: (Constant), Neuroticism, Agreeableness						
d. Predictors: (Constant), Neuroticism, Agreeableness, Conscientiousness						
e. Predictors: (Constant), Neuroticism, Agreeableness, Conscientiousness, Openness						

If the significance value (Sig.) is <0.05 , then there is a role for the predictor variable.

- a. Obtained Sig value. 0.000 (<0.05), then it can be concluded that there is a role of Neuroticism on Empathy
- b. Obtained Sig value. 0.000 (<0.05), so it can be concluded that there is a role for Neuroticism and Agreeableness on Empathy simultaneously.
- c. Obtained Sig value. 0.000 (<0.05), so it can be concluded that there is a role of Neuroticism, Agreeableness, and Conscientiousness on Empathy simultaneously.
- d. Obtained Sig value. 0.000 (<0.05), it can be concluded that there is a simultaneous role of Neuroticism, Agreeableness, Conscientiousness, and Openness to Empathy.

The independent variables (agreeableness, neuroticism, extraversion, conscientiousness, and openness) that had the highest partial correlation coefficient with the dependent variable (empathy) were entered step-by-step using a step-by-step method. According to the test results, there were four regression models: neuroticism, openness, agreeableness, and awareness, the latter of which was most strongly associated with empathy:

- a. Neuroticism plays a role in empathy with an effect size of 15.8% (R Square 0.158)
- b. Neuroticism and Agreeableness play a role in empathy with an effect size of 26.1% (R Square 0.261)
- c. Neuroticism, Agreeableness, and Conscientiousness play a role in empathy with an effect size of 27.2% (R Square 0.272)
- d. Neuroticism, Agreeableness, Conscientiousness, and Openness play a role in empathy with an effect size of 28.9% (R Square 0.289).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

According to the study's findings, there is no correlation between schadenfreude and empathy, but there is a relationship between schadenfreude and the Big Five personality traits and voters empathy. According to Cikara, Bruneau, and Saxe's (2011) journal article on the failure of intergroup empathy, people are motivated to feel better about themselves by becoming sympathetic to the suffering of others. However, when group status is highly competitive, the feelings that arise from empathy lose their meaning. Ingroups and exclusions. The degree to which intergroup competition shapes empathic responses is not surprising.

While the suffering experienced by the outgroup can result in pleasure, a phenomenon known as schadenfreude, depressed members of the ingroup typically experience empathy (Batson & Ahmad, 2009). (Smith, Powell, Combs, & Schurtz, 2009). Similar to this, in politics, voters who support the same candidate will typically feel empathetic toward those who oppose them, while obstacles faced by those on the other side may make voters happy. This implies that the ingroup may be highly motivated to ignore or assist the outgroup in intergroup competition. When outgroups in competitive relationships are reminded of their own group's feelings of inferiority, they may become targets of schadenfreude (Leach & Spears, 2009). Fans of softball teams reported, according to research by Cikara, Botvinick, and Fiske, that group competition highlights social identities and affects how individuals respond to challenges faced by outgroups. A member of the outgroup may experience pleasure from failing, a feeling that could spur them on to harm an opponent, whereas an ingroup member's failure results in unpleasant emotions. People who are empathetic toward others will be driven to assist them; conversely, those who experience schadenfreude will be driven to injure others. Similar to this, in political contexts, someone will be inspired if they feel empathy for their opponent when they lose or make a mistake. To assist, but schadenfreude makes one happy and may even inspire one to harm one's opponent.

According to Baren's (2017) study, insecure attachment is linked to a higher frequency of negative emotions like schadenfreude toward the suffering of others. This finding is based on research on the roles of attachment, comparison, and cooperation on Schadenfreude. The impact of empathy on helping behavior is conditional on attachment avoidance, despite the less strong findings regarding helping behavior. Individuals' levels of empathy toward rivals or allies also vary according to their level of attachment. The impact of empathy depends on the voter's avoidance of attachment, so each voter's level of empathy with the supported or opposition party varies depending on their attachment. The attachment, or insecure attachment, that voters have during elections can be linked to schadenfreude. Negative background events were found to be a significant predictor of feelings of schadenfreude by Dijk, Ouwerkerk, Goslinga, and Nieweg (2011). The existence of a situation that can be compared to someone's feelings of inferiority towards the actor is another predictor. Jealousy is another emotion linked to Schadenfreude. This bond is especially strong when interacting with nearby actors. The lack of comparison or competition in the respondents' criteria for this study provides evidence against the idea that empathy plays a part in Schadenfreude. This research demonstrates that schadenfreude in a political context

cannot be explained by a lack of empathy because schadenfreude can be linked to voter attachment or insecure attachment during elections, whereas the impact of empathy is determined by the voter's avoidance of attachment, which leads to feelings of empathy for the party they support or oppose. Every voter is unique, based on their level of attachment and the lack of comparison or competition in the factors that the study's respondents met, which are indicators of Schadenfreude. Individuals who experience pain and empathy frequently have a tendency to lack empathy and even become emotional when others are unfortunate. But empathy is a very adaptive and situation-specific reaction. In competitive situations, people who belong to an outgroup are more likely to lack empathy and even become the object of schadenfreude. In addition to having a great deal of empathy, a person can also be callous and take pleasure in the suffering of others (Cikara et al., 2011).

Wen, Ma, Li, Liu, Xan, and Li's (2013) explanation that physical and nervous conditions play a primary role in schadenfreude is supported by the research findings demonstrating that empathy played no role in the 2019 election among voters. On occasion, people activate brain regions associated with reward processing, which makes people feel nothing when schadenfreude occurs, while also inactivating brain regions typically involved in empathy processes, such as the ACC and insula. According to research on losses of others revealed on social media, witnessing others share their misfortunes and comparable experiences with them (observers) will heighten schadenfreude but reduce empathy by making message recipients feel less worthy (Wen et al., 2013). In addition, an individual's responses, such as stress, depression, and remorse, can also contribute to the lack of a role. There is a belief in justice that good people will produce good people and bad people deserve bad luck or misfortune, and individual mistakes or misfortunes are seen as something to be accepted. For instance, Callan, Dawtry, and Olson (2012) discovered that people wanted to punish older offenders harsher than they would have if they had been younger. Additional studies have also discovered a connection between schadenfreude and empathy—namely, self-worth judgments. Emotions that lead to assistance, like empathy and sympathy, will surface if the depressed person is not at fault, while antisocial emotions, like schadenfreude and hatred, will increase if negative outcomes are justified (Feather & McKee, 2014; Feather, Wenzel, & McKee, 2013). This also applies to Indonesia's political system.

Future research on empathy and schadenfreude will face difficulties as a result of this study. This study's findings indicate that while empathy and schadenfreude are conceptually and theoretically related, more attention needs to be paid to these two variables when analyzing the data. The competitive environment within a group or individual setting. Even though empathy is a person's unique context, in practice it will change when the person is in a group or a competitive environment, making the choice of how to behave heavily influenced by the group that the person identifies with. Although the subjects have very different personalities, Dymond (1994) explains that while some characteristics of groups with high empathy and others in groups with low empathy are shared, the mere fact that these groups exist allows for the formation of empathy. According to several studies, personality influences empathy.

The findings of this study themselves support the notion that the big five personalities influence voter empathy. The findings indicate that all personality traits contribute to the empathy variable, but only neurotic personality traits have a positive correlation with empathy when examined in more detail. These findings are based on the five personality traits found in the five big personalities. In contrast, there is a negative correlation between the other four personality traits: extraversion, agreeableness, conscientiousness, and openness. The stimulant role of neuroticism, agreeableness, conscientiousness, and openness on empathy was discovered through the testing process that followed. This is consistent with research from Meysarani and Listiyandini (2017), who found that 8.6% of medical students' empathy is influenced by their big five personality traits. This study revealed that overall characteristics play the biggest part in empathy. This study's findings that extraversion trait did not significantly influence empathy are consistent with those of a 2012 study by Magalhães, Costa, and Costa on Portuguese medical students. Positive emotions and a strong desire to form relationships with others are traits of this personality (Ramdhani, 2012).

Not everyone who experiences happiness interacts with others in a way that influences empathy. Additional research that supports the current findings was done by Erlanger & Tsytsarev (2012), who looked at how students' attitudes toward animals related to their personality and empathy. As a result, people with high empathy had a favorable opinion of animals compared to people with low empathy. An essential component of a student's personality is empathy. Hidyatai (2016) found a positive correlation between extraversion and agreeableness traits and empathy in high school students. According to additional research, the three dimensions of empathy—perspective-taking, empathic attention, and personal pressure—are attributed to big five personalities in a range of 18.1% to 30.2%. China's medical students show a moderate relationship between these two variables (Song & Shi, 2017). Similarly, studies on adult Spanish subjects revealed a positive correlation with conscientiousness and openness and a strong correlation with empathy and agreeableness (Barrio, Aluja, and García, 2004). Given the phenomenon of declining empathy in society, research on empathy is crucial. Many behavioral, emotional, and social relationship issues can arise from a loss of empathy. A loss of empathy can lead to a number of issues, including violence, abuse, bullying, and other issues. Social interactions become challenging when empathy is lost (Howe, 2015). Cruelty toward others increases with a loss of empathy. When people see other people as identical to themselves rather than as distinct individuals, it is a sign of a lack of empathy. At its most basic, empathy is the capacity to discern the feelings of others. People consider empathy to be an impartial process. Creating sympathy is one way that empathy fosters good emotions and stronger social bonds. Empathy can also be thought of as producing insight. It seems that the capacity to stand and view oneself from another person's perspective is necessary in order to comprehend someone. We must frame circumstances from their point of view or change into someone else in order to see ourselves as others see us.

Numerous studies claim that personality produces empathy itself. Dymond's (1949) study clarifies how personality affects empathy. People with high empathy

have warm, gregarious, optimistic, and emotionally invested personalities. They also show a keen interest in other people. They are adaptable individuals who find emotional fulfillment in rewarding others because their relationships with others, particularly their early familial relationships, were emotionally fulfilling. They are able to be drawn to other people due to their own security level. People who are not very empathic exhibit distorted personality traits and uncontrollable emotions. They demand emotional contact, are egotistical, and appear incapable of forming healthy interpersonal relationships. The family's emotional ties are expected to be turbulent and unfulfilling, which makes them feel as though they can't adequately show their love for other people since they are more preoccupied with their own needs. People who lack empathy find it hard to trust other people, are inwardly focused, have a rigid structure that makes it hard for them to empathize with others, and are not well integrated with the outside world. Knowing what other people are thinking and feeling leads to a sense of selflessness.

According to Listiyandini et al., (2017) research, personality influences empathy. According to their research, out of the five personality traits, pleasant traits have a greater influence on empathy. This research yields four of the five traits that form empathy, with the exception of extraversion, in contrast to Meysarani's research that suggests that only one trait is involved in the formation of empathy. Various personalities will result in varying levels of empathy (Howe, 2015). The findings of this study are corroborated by Song and Shi's (2017) research. The findings of Song and Shi's study indicate that empathy is influenced by the big five personalities. In particular, there was a significant positive correlation between agreeableness and empathic concern. Openness to experience has a weak correlation with both personal stress and perspective taking, while neuroticism is strongly linked to personal stress that leads to empathy. Taking a simple perspective and awareness are related.

The similarity between this study and Song and Shi's findings can be explained by the fact that extraversion alone does not produce empathy. According to King (2010), the big five personality consists of five traits, including tolerance, openness to new things, and an affinity for creativity and artistic accomplishment. Conscientiousness is a personality trait that facilitates easier task completion and impulse control. goal-oriented conduct, including organizing, setting priorities for tasks, thinking things through before acting, and adhering to norms and rules. Agreeableness is defined as a personality dimension that includes prosocial behavior, altruism, gentleness, and trustworthiness. Extraversion is defined as a personality dimension that is energetic towards the social and material world and is sociable, active, assertive, and has positive emotions. People who exhibit negative emotions, such as anxiety, depression, sadness, aggression, and so forth, are said to be neurotic. According to the study's findings, extraversion alone is not a factor in the development of empathy. This is consistent with studies by Magalhães, Costa, and Costa (2012), which found no connection between extraverted personality and empathy for values. Positive emotions and a strong desire to form relationships with others are traits of the extraverted personality (Ramdhani, 2012). This demonstrates that not everyone who feels good about forming relationships with others is able to

control their empathy. According to additional research that bolsters Costa et al.'s (2014) findings, extraverted personality is not related to empathy.

There was no multicollinearity between the independent variables when the correlation results from this study were retested using the Stepwise method to find the best correlation results. Based on the findings of the Stepwise test, which the researchers conducted, it was discovered that the traits of neuroticism, openness, and agreeableness all had a simultaneous 13.4% role in Schadenfreude. This indicates that 86.6% of the factors that could affect behavior were external to the traits of neuroticism, openness, and agreeableness. voters to engage in Schadenfreude, a topic not covered in this research. The study's findings indicate that, to some extent, neuroticism, openness, and friendliness are the characteristics that matter, whereas extraversion and conscientiousness have little bearing on schadenfreud. The findings of earlier research by Crysel and Webster (2018), which showed that Schadenfreude is negatively correlated with conscientiousness, friendliness, and openness, and positively correlated with neuroticism, corroborate the findings of this study. According to the findings of another study on the subject by Greenier (2017), people with low agreeableness tended to exhibit Schadenfreude more frequently. The study sought to ascertain the relationship between the Big Five Personality Traits and Schadenfreude. Additionally, the results of this study indicate that only trait agreeableness is a significant, unique, and independent predictor—the other variables are not significant enough. Based on the findings, it can be concluded that the neuroticism personality trait has a positive value, indicating that it is correlated with the Schadenfreude variable—that is, the more neuroticism a person possesses, the greater their level of Schadenfreude. This relates to the traits associated with neuroticism, such as seeing more irrational ideas, having strong urges or desires, and failing to react appropriately (Carvon and Pervin, 2013). According to Feist, Feist, and Roberts (2017), people who exhibit high neuroticism traits also frequently worry, become tense and emotional, and feel sorry for themselves. This type of inappropriate response explains why people feel good when they hear that others have gone through difficult times.

When it comes to the political climate in Indonesia, those who exhibit neuroticism are more likely to feel an overwhelming need to be better than others. This indicates that someone's misfortune—especially that of their competitors—will fulfill their earlier aspirations. In addition to a propensity to react inappropriately, people with the neuroticism trait will also exhibit Schadenfreude more frequently because they will enjoy witnessing their foolish competitors' reactions when others exhibit empathy for adversity. High agreeableness individuals are quick to forgive others who they believe have damaged their egos or themselves. If translated into the political situation in Indonesia, individuals who are characterized by Neuroticism will tend to experience an excessive urge to feel superior. This situation means that the misfortune experienced by someone (especially their rivals) will fulfill their desire to achieve earlier. Coupled with a tendency to fail to provide appropriate responses, Schadenfreude in individuals with the Neuroticism Trait will emerge more frequently because when others show empathy for adversity, individuals with Neuroticism will relish seeing their hapless rivals. Individuals who have high levels of agreeableness will easily forgive others

who are deemed to have hurt themselves or their egos. Individuals who tend to have difficulty experiencing Schadenfreude have aspects found in the nature of agreeableness itself, namely having a soft heart, full of trust, generosity, obedient, gentle, and kind (Feist et al, 2013). This makes individuals who have high levels of friendliness tend to be less conflicted and more empathetic (Tangney, 1999). Individuals high in agreeableness tend to be self-effacing and humble (McCrae & Costa, 2003). This illustrates the results of testing the hypothesis that agreeableness has a negative and significant value for Schadenfreude, that individuals who have high agreeableness tend to be less likely to commit Schadenfreude because when they see other people's misfortunes, they try to prioritize empathy. and maintain a good relationship with that person.

People with the Agreeableness trait in Indonesian politics will be low on self-esteem when their rivals in the political arena fail, and they will put empathy before improving their performance. The Agreeable trait prevents a person from looking for an excuse to be happier about their political rival's misfortune, even if they feel inferior to them. The personality trait Openness is another important factor from the Big Five personality that can be said to have a significant influence on Schadenfreude. According to the results of the hypothesis test, the Openness personality trait has a negative value, indicating that it is the opposite of the Schadenfreude variable. In other words, the more open a person is, the less Schadenfreude they experience, and vice versa. On the other hand, a person's degree of Schadenfreude increases with decreasing openness. This is consistent with the traits of those who possess the openness trait, which are that these people have a propensity to value every experience and encourage the investigation of novel ideas (Cervone & Pervin, 2022). It is proven that savoring differences and variances in experiences deters Schadenfreude because it makes no difference in the outcomes attained. When it comes to the political climate in Indonesia, people with the openness trait enjoy trying new things. There are a lot of different things in politics, just as there are different things people win or lose. Negative outcomes obtained by political rivals can be viewed as a benefit for our side in competitive situations like elections. The need for the quality of openness, which promotes new experiences and lessens the likelihood of Schadenfreude manifesting in the person, can be supported by events like defeating or defeating political competitors.

CONCLUSION

While schadenfreude and empathy do not correlate, there is a relationship between schadenfreude and voters' empathy and the Big Five personality traits. The study's findings demonstrate that people's schadenfreude behavior is influenced by their personalities when they encounter political phenomena. Only three of the big five personality traits are shown to have a role in schadenfreude, despite the fact that this research indicates that all five of them contribute to it simultaneously. resulting in schadenfreude. According to the outcomes of the Big Five Inventory dimensions' correlation hypothesis test with Schadenfreude, not all of them showed a positive correlation. The only trait that was found to positively correlate with Schadenfreude was neuroticism. Schadenfreude has a negative correlation with four

other personality traits: agreeableness, conscientiousness, openness, and extraversion. Positive correlation results indicate that the Schadenfreude score increases with the personality dimension (in this case, neuroticism) score, and negative correlation results indicate that the Schadenfreude score decreases with the personality dimension score.

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