

# Investigating the Impact: Financial Literacy, Socio-Economic Status, and Awareness on Investment Decisions with Moderation Factors

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## Abstract

Investment decisions must be made appropriately so that investors are not trapped by investment scams. But in fact, cases of investment scams are increasingly rampant in Indonesia. The primary objective of this paper is to highlight the lack of financial literacy as one of the elements that might be responsible for Indonesia's substantial number of investment scam victims. To investigate the association between financial literacy, SES, awareness, and investment decisions, the model put out in this research employs logistic regression analysis. The results show that financial literacy has an impact on investment decisions, while SES has no influence on investment decisions. Awareness of fraudulent investments can moderate the relationship between financial literacy and investment decisions but cannot moderate SES on investment decisions. This study exhorts investors to base their investment choices on their financial literacy rather than on outside influences. Financial literacy training programs should be developed by the government, financial institutions, and educational institutions.

**Keywords:** Awareness, Financial Literacy, Investment Decision, Investment Scams, Socio-Economic Status.

## 1. Introduction

As of the 2022 G20 Presidency, Indonesia is one of the countries that experienced an increase in investment realization in the first quarter of 2022 by 28.5 percent compared to the same period in 2021. Over the past 5 (five) years, investment realization in Indonesia has increased (Dihni, 2022). Data shows that the number of Single Investor Identification (SID) has reached 4,002,289, with 99.79% being local individual investors (Indonesian Central Securities Depository (KSEI, 2022). This data proves that Indonesians are increasingly aware of the importance of investing. Meanwhile, data on the distribution of domestic investors shows that 69.59% of investors come from people in Java (KSEI, 2022). Based on age, the data shows that 59.72% of investors are under 30 years old, and 21.92% of investors are 30-41 years old (KSEI, 2022). This shows that investors in Indonesia are dominated by investors from the Millennial generation and generation Z who come from Java Island.

Millennials and Generation Z are both raised in the world of social media and smartphones, so they are automatically tech-savvy. Amidst the rapid development of digitalization, the mindset of these two generations tends to be instantaneous and concerned with the popularity of the social media used. Such digitalization has made trading securities easier and cheaper, and account opening can also be done via the internet. This is what is believed by the Financial Services Authority (OJK) in (Natalia, 2022) as the reason why

these two generations are busy becoming investors. Despite the ease of access to information about investments, neither generation has the resources to diversify their portfolios widely, thus it is limited. On the other hand, young investors tend to create accounts in securities to imitate friends or influencers (Paramita et al., 2018; Clarence & Pertiwi, 2023). Two generations have become victims of fraudulent investments as a result of poor investment decisions.

News about fraudulent investments is increasingly prevalent in Indonesia. According to the Investment Alert Task Force (SWI), the public has lost Rp 117 trillion because of illicit investments over the last ten years (Wareza, 2021). Unrealistic returns are promised by illegal investments in a short amount of time. Eradication of SWI is challenging because of how easily offenders shift their identities and tactics. According to Tongam L Tobing, Chairman of the IATF, there are 3 (three) things that cause people to fall into fraudulent investments, namely: being easily influenced by influencers who show off their wealth or flexing on social media, the desire to get high returns in a fast time, and low financial literacy (Handayani, 2022). Due to a lack of understanding about financial markets and how to recognize safe investments, Millennials and Generation Z are caught up in fraudulent investments. People are typically seduced by the prospect of large profits without considering the hazards, which is why financial literacy is essential for everyone.

Particularly in developed and emerging nations, financial literacy can lead to financial stability (Arif,

2015). Previous research has found that financial literacy affects investment decisions (Arif, 2015; Lusardi, 2019; Mouna & Jarboui, 2015; Padil et al., 2022). Financial literacy is basically defined as an individual's ability to read, understand, and process financial information and act on that understanding when making financial decisions (Saeedi & Hamed, 2018; Lie et al., 2023). One of the benefits of financial literacy is to increase individual awareness to make the right financial decisions to avoid investment fraud. Through financial literacy, Millennials and Generation Z can understand the returns and risks that will occur so that they can make the right investment decisions. But not all investors are experienced in anticipating risks in financial instruments. Low financial literacy has the potential to result in investors becoming victims of investment scams.

In addition to financial literacy, socio-economic status (SES) is also one of the factors that influence investment decisions (Prasad et al., 2021). One of the calculations of SES is measured by the amount of household expenditure. Household spending often depends on disposable income. If the household income is high enough, they can allocate more money towards daily expenses such as living expenses, bills, and other necessities. In this case, there may be more money to invest. Personal income is compensation (in the form of money) received by a person from a few resources, such as: salaries, wages, and bonuses received from employment or self-employment, dividends and distributions received from investments, rental income from real estate investments, and profit sharing from business (Kagan, 2023). Generally, a person's investment decision will be determined by the amount of income earned (Atmaningrum et al., 2021). However, no matter how high a person's income level is, if it is not supported by good financial management, it will certainly be difficult to achieve financial security.

The purpose of this study is to examine how socioeconomic status and financial literacy affect investing decisions. Furthermore, the aim of this study is to examine if investment awareness mitigates the impact of SES and financial literacy on investment decisions. The problem in the study is based on the research of (Padil et al., 2022) which examines financial literacy and awareness of investment scams, then the researcher develops it with the social economic status involving moderating variables. The author hopes that this research can be useful for the Millennial and generation Z, to increase financial literacy and increase awareness of the dangers of investment fraud. With this awareness, people can be encouraged to make the right investment decisions and have a more prosperous life in the future.

## 2. Literature Review

### 2.1. Financial Literacy

In view of the rise in investment scams, there is a growing need for improved financial literacy among society (Clarence & Pertiwi, 2023). This is essential for effectively managing finances and protecting against financial exploitation. Financial literacy empowers individuals to budget for daily expenses, establish emergency funds, save for education, and prepare for retirement (Goyal & Kumar, 2021). Enhanced financial literacy not only benefits individuals but also promotes financial inclusion, with positive implications for the broader economy (Grohmann & Menkhoff, 2020).

A crucial measure of individuals' capacity to make sound financial choices is their degree of financial literacy. The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) accurately characterizes financial literacy as encompassing not just the grasp of financial concepts and risks, but also the abilities, drive, and self-assurance to utilize this comprehension effectively in various financial situations (OECD, 2017). Financial literacy is essential abilities for overseeing one's financial security and prosperity (Buccioli et al., 2021). Therefore, it's critical to assess the results of treatments meant to increase financial literacy and confidence.

Financial literacy holds significant importance in preventing individuals from encountering financial difficulties (Lie et al., 2023), as it frequently necessitates trade-offs between different financial interests. Individuals with greater financial literacy are more adept at navigating and making sound decisions regarding various financial challenges that may arise (Lusardi, 2019). These future financial challenges can encompass diverse situations, including covering medical expenses, effectively managing, and repaying debts, financing education, or making future purchases.

To equip individuals with the means to make more informed financial choices, it's crucial to not only gauge their existing knowledge but also identify what additional knowledge they require, and subsequently, assess the disparity between these two. There exist several fundamental principles that underlie most of the financial decision-making. (Lusardi, 2019) employ three fundamental questions, often referred to as "The Big Three," as a means of assessing financial literacy.

Individuals with low financial literacy who have confidence in their own decision-making often experience financial losses. In a study by (Jappelli & Padula, 2015), a positive connection was established between financial literacy and wealth, suggesting that financial literacy opens better investment opportunities

for individuals. Investors who lack sufficient financial expertise may be more susceptible to deception and make foolish investment choices (Arif, 2015). Thus, someone with low financial literacy tends to be a victim of investment scams. Given the foregoing explanation, therefore:

H<sub>1</sub>: There is an effect between financial literacy and investment decisions.

## 2.2. Socio-Economic Status

Based on the prior literature, SES encompasses two main components. The first one is resource-related factors (Navarro-Carrillo et al., 2020), which include material resources, social resources, assets like income and wealth, and educational qualification. Other than that, prestige-related resources refer to how individuals or households are positioned within the social hierarchy in terms of their access to and utilization of goods, services, and knowledge (Deshmukh & Akkilagunta, 2020). Moreover, SES is measured along three major domains, education, occupation, and income that affect successively investment decisions.

When associated, people with less education are more likely to fall to investment scams. Some factors can affect this statement. People with less education means that they have a limited understanding of economic concepts and factors that drive macroeconomic conditions. Also, less-educated people believe that stock market returns will not make that much because they do not follow the latest news. Moreover, the lack of confidence, with a skewed view of the financial investment instruments and the stock market, can encourage individuals to be more easily influenced by various other factors, including frauds or investment scams. And based on the prior research by , less educated people in the U.S. only invest 8% of their income into stocks and make their own investment choices or decisions. So the second hypothesis is formulated as follows:

H<sub>2</sub>: Socio-economic status has a significant effect on investment decisions.

## 2.3. Awareness of Investment Scams

When someone attempts to trick others into investing money, that is considered an investment scam. They could convince people to invest in stocks, bonds, notes, commodities, money, or real estate. Conscious individuals will understand that there are risks of fraud associated with investing, and individuals should be alert to signs that indicate potential fraud. The perceived comprehension of knowledge regarding investment fraud, which can be acquired by reading, experience, or education, is known as awareness of investment scam (Padil et al., 2022). This awareness also

includes realizing that internet platforms are becoming the scene of rising investment fraud instances. Several techniques are used in these investment frauds, such as the promotion of fictitious investment plans and the employment of unregistered influencers or celebrities to offer financial advice (Kasim et al., 2023).

Individuals who are aware of investment fraud usually demonstrate the following features: aware that some con artists rely on their capacity to attract new investors, that some con artists portray opulent lifestyles and social status to attract new investors, that they may become targets of pyramid and Ponzi schemes, that some manipulate artists rely on celebrities and public figures to attract new investors, and that investment schemes that guarantee extremely high returns should not be trusted (Padil et al, 2020).

Those considered financially literate acquire the information and abilities necessary to make wise financial decisions, including those about investments. Meanwhile, even those with a high degree of financial literacy could become victims of dishonest schemes if they are unaware of possible investment frauds. Understanding investment scams acts as a buffer, reducing the negative effects of financial literacy by assisting people in identifying and steering clear of fraudulent investment opportunities. Stated differently, a greater awareness of scams may serve as a filter to improve the efficacy of financial literacy by guaranteeing that people make thoughtful and informed investment decisions, hence reducing the potential harm that fraudulent schemes may cause to their financial decisions. Given this argumentation, the third hypothesis is:

H<sub>3</sub>: Awareness of investment scams can moderate the influence of financial literacy on investment decisions.

An individual's financial capability, risk tolerance, and access to investing options are frequently influenced by their SES. On the other hand, people with varying SES levels' perceptions and reactions to investing risks can be moderated by knowledge about investment fraud. Higher SES individuals might have more financial resources and access to a wider range of investment possibilities. However, they might also be more cautious and perceptive in their decision-making due to heightened awareness of scams. Conversely, those with lower SES might have fewer financial options. Therefore, awareness of scams could be essential to keeping them safe from making unwise or dishonest investments.

H<sub>4</sub>: The effect on SES and investment decisions is moderated by awareness of investment scams.

## 2.4. Investment Decision

Bodie et al., (2021) explain that investment is an activity of placing a sum of money or other resources

carried out at this time and is expected to benefit in the future. Investing can increase the value of money over time and benefit from compound interest and long-term growth. On the other hand, investment is important for future income and wealth accumulation (Farley, 2022). An investor is an individual who places money in a particular investment product to seek expected returns, and the focus of investors is to maximize profits and minimize risks (Rahman & Gan, 2020). In addition to the goal of financial security, investments are a way for investors to achieve financial independence, build wealth, and reach financial goals (Reserve Bank of Fiji, 2019). In other words, investments are the tools investors use to achieve their financial goals.

Lending decisions and investment decisions have connections that involve people trusting others with their money in the expectation of receiving a higher return subsequently. If they act on incorrect decisions, creditors and investors are additionally at risk of suffering damages (Harsoyo & Zulaikha, 2021). An investor makes an investment decision to allocate funds to a financial product to pursue the anticipated profit. The investor's primary goal is to maximize returns while avoiding risk (Rahman & Gan, 2020).

Figure 1 is an image presenting a conceptual framework of the variables to be examined.

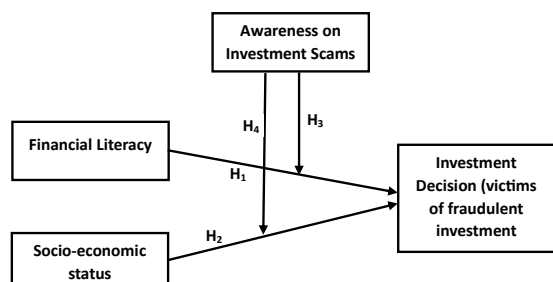


Figure 1. Conceptual framework

### 3. Methods

This type of research employs an associative research design with a quantitative approach. The population in this study consists of the entire population belonging to the Millennial and Generation Z generations in Indonesia. The population belonging to the millennial generation includes individuals born approximately between 1981 and 1996, while the Generation Z population comprises those born around 1997 to the mid-2010s. According to the BPS (2023) 2020 Population Census statistics, Indonesia has 144.87 million millennials and members of generation Z.

Purposive sampling, or selecting participants based on predetermined criteria, was utilized in this study. The following sample criteria are used to select research subjects: 1) participants must stay on the island of Java and have an identity there, and 2) participants must be between the ages of 18 and 45. The Slovin

approach and BPS statistics for 2020 can be utilized to calculate the minimum sample size. Consequently, 99,862 samples must be collected in total.

The data used in this study were obtained directly from primary data. These were collected by giving participants a questionnaire consisting of multiple-choice questions tailored to their knowledge and characteristics. The questions offered to respondents were structured as multiple-choice queries used to assess their financial literacy. Control variables are used in this study because they are useful in assisting researchers in separating and comprehending the link between the independent and dependent variables without the interference of extraneous variables that could cloud the analysis.

Additionally, the available response options are ranked on an ordinal scale based on socioeconomic status (SES) and demographic factors. The questionnaire used the Likert scale method to assess the cognitive variable. In this study, the Likert scale used ranged from 1 to 5, including responses such as "Strongly disagree" (SD), "Disagree" (D), and "Agree". moderate" (MA), "Agree" (A), and "Strongly agree" (SA). After collecting data from respondents, the existing data is processed using the statistical application IBM SPSS.

The measurement model assessment confirms the validity and reliability of the indicators, which is the first step in the analysis process. The next step is to perform a crosstabulation analysis to provide a more comprehensive and in-depth description of the respondents' responses for every variable under investigation. The following analysis uses logistic regression to test the hypothesis and determine whether it is supported.

Financial literacy is measured using three indicators: numeracy related to the ability to perform interest rate calculations and understand compound interest; understanding inflation, understanding risk diversification (Lusardi, 2019). SES is measured by calculating the SES score obtained from the total monthly household expenditure, family members, cooking fuel type, and drinking water type. Awareness on investment scams used the indicators as follows: awareness of how scammers attract investors, awareness of not being fooled by greed, awareness of reasonable returns on investment, awareness of not being deceived by friends. Investment decisions are measured by two categories, namely having been a victim of fraudulent investment or not being a victim of fraudulent investment (0 = Not a victim, 1 = a victim of fraudulent investment).

### 4. Result

The number of surveys distributed and completed by researchers reached 200. Most respondents in this

study reside in key economic hubs such as Banten (6.5%), DKI Jakarta (29.5%), West Java (28%), Central Java (10.5%), East Java (23.5%), and Yogyakarta (2%). These statistics substantiate various trends and assertions regarding the increasing popularity of investments, particularly in stocks and mutual funds, among Millennials and Generation Z.

Moreover, the predominance of respondents from Java has been identified as a significant factor influencing other study outcomes. Several implications can be delineated from this observation. The findings reveal that a substantial proportion of respondents belong to the upper economic stratum, constituting 44%, while 40% fall within the middle-class bracket. Remarkably, 98% of these individuals have invested in diverse financial instruments.

**Table 1.** Respondent profile

Parameter	Frequency	%	Parameter
Gender	Male	79	39.5
	Female	121	60.5
Age	18 - 24 years	59	29.5
	25 - 30 years	59	29.5
	31 - 35 years	39	19.5
	36 - 40 years	33	16.5
	41 - 45 years	10	5.0
SES Grade	Lower 1	10	9.1
	Lower 2	25	22.7
	Middle 1	51	46.4
	Middle 2	24	21.8
	Upper 1	44	22.0
Marital Status	Upper 2	46	23.0
	Single	105	52.5
	Married	95	47.5

Source: processed data

Based on Table 1, 60.5% of respondents were female, while 39.5% were male. Most respondents are between 18 and 24 years old and 25 and 30 years old, with the same percentage, namely 29.5%. The SES grade shows that Middle 1 respondents have the largest percentage (46.4%). The difference in marital status of respondents is not significant, with single as much as 52.5% and married at 47.5%.

In this study, validity testing was carried out on 200 respondents. Decision-making is based on comparing the value of the number *r* with the table *r*. This study's validity and reliability tests were carried out for the awareness variable, which contained several questions related to investment awareness. Table 2 shows that the *r* count is greater than the *r* table, so it can be concluded that the data is valid.

Cronbach's alpha value is used for reliability testing. Based on Table 3, the Cronbach alpha value is 0.821, and a number greater than 0.6 is a reliable deter-

mination. It can be concluded that the questions representing the cognitive variable are reliable or that the answers are consistent over time. The reliability for each variable is presented in Table 3.

**Table 2.** Validity test

Variable	Indicator	r count	r table	Explanation
Awareness	A1	0.658**	0.1388	valid
	A2	0.651**	0.1388	valid
	A3	0.665**	0.1388	valid
	A4	0.578**	0.1388	valid
	A5	0.496**	0.1388	valid
	A6	0.568**	0.1388	valid
	A7	0.654**	0.1388	valid
	A8	0.612**	0.1388	valid
	A9	0.677**	0.1388	valid
	A10	0.721**	0.1388	valid

Source: processed data

**Table 3.** Reliability test

Variable	Cronbach's Alpha	Explanation
Awareness	0.821	Reliable

Source: processed data

Table 4 indicates that the 89 respondents with high levels of financial literacy are not the victims of fraudulent investments. In contrast, 25 individuals with insufficient financial literacy have fallen victim to fraudulent investments. Respondents who are categorized as having high financial literacy have scores of 66.67 - 100, while respondents who have low financial literacy have scores of 33.33.

**Table 4.** Crosstab financial literacy

IS/FL		Low	High	Total
Investment	No	71	89	160
	scams	25	15	40
TOTAL		96	104	200

Source: processed data

Table 5 shows that 73 people in the Upper 1-2 SES did not become victims of fraudulent investments. Meanwhile, 18 Middle 1-2 SES people have become victims of fraudulent investments.

**Table 5.** Crosstab social-economic status

IS/SES		Lower (1-2)	Middle (1-2)	Upper (1-2)	Total
Investment	No	24	63	73	160
	scams	5	18	17	40
TOTAL		29	81	90	200

Source: processed data

Following Table 6, 155 respondents with high knowledge do not currently fall prey to fraudulent

investments, whereas 40 respondents with high awareness have already experienced this.

**Table 6.** Crosstab awareness

IS/AWR		Low	High	Total
Investment scams	No	5	155	160
	Yes	0	40	40
TOTAL		5	195	200

Source: processed data

Based on Table 7, the intersection between financial literacy and investment scams has an important coefficient of 0.040. With a significance value of around 0.05, it is evident that there is a relationship between financial literacy and investment scams.

**Table 7.** Chi square test

Variable	Sig.
FL*Invest Dec	0.040
SES*Inv Dec	0.839

Source: processed data

The intersection between SES and investment scams has been shown to have an important coefficient of 0.839; it is evident that there is no relationship between them.

**Table 8.** Model summary logistic regression

Step	-2 Log likelihood	Cox & Snell R Square	Nagelkerke R Square
1	174.0500	0.1220	0.1946

Source: processed data

The -2 Log Likelihood value < Chi Square Table (174.050 < 229.663), concluded that the model, after including the independent variable, has met the test requirements.

**Table 9.** Binary logistic regression result

Variable	Sig.
FL	0.017
SES	0.528
FL*Awareness	0.000
SES*Awareness	0.094

Source: processed data

Based on the results presented in Table 9, it might be determined that the FL variable impacts decisions concerning investments, and SES has no effect on decisions. This outcome validates the findings of the chi-square test. After adding moderation variables, the test results show that awareness can moderate the effect of FL on Investment Decisions. However, Awareness cannot moderate the effect of SES on Investment Decisions.

## 5. Discussion

This study discovered an effect between financial literacy and an investor's decision. Investors with solid financial literacy can better decide wisely and avoid untrue investments. On the other hand, investors with poor financial literacy are more likely to fall victim to fraudulent schemes. Millennials and Generation Z investors will be less likely to lose money on shady deals if they know how to calculate interest rates, comprehend inflation, and diversify their risks. The rewards from fraudulent investments are typically substantially higher than those from traditional investments and have exceptionally high rates of return. Singh & Misra (2022) research from India, which indicated that financial literacy lowers the probability of people participating in dishonest investment schemes, lends credence to the findings of this study. The results of this study are supported by research conducted by Hendaro et al., (2021) which found that financial literacy influences investment decisions in the millennial generation.

Investors familiar with compound interest will be better able to spot a phony investment and avoid falling victim to fraud. Contrarily, unlawful investments frequently declare that their investments are low-risk or risk-free. An investor who understands risk and diversification of risks will likely calculate investment risk more accurately than those who do not. Investors who do not comprehend risk are likelier to fall victim to shady deals. These findings are in line with Arif (2015), which states that financial literacy is related to investment decisions. Increased financial literacy will help investors make better investment decisions. This is reinforced by Arianti (2018), which found that the primary variable in determining how individual investing decisions behave is financial literacy.

This study found that SES does not affect investment decisions. SES obtained from total monthly household spending, cooking fuel, and drinking water does not affect a person's decision to place their funds in a particular asset. This shows that someone who has a lower or middle, or upper status has nothing to do with being a victim of fraudulent investment. So, the decision is not based on the SES ownership. The results of this investigation are different from those of previous research studies. According to Prasad et al. (2021), socio-economic factors were an important factor influencing investment decisions for both men and women. The total amount of money expended does not determine an individual's investment choice because decisions regarding investments are influenced by many factors, including human characteristics like overconfidence, herd mentality, trait rage, trait anxiety, self-control, optimism, deliberative thinking (Hidajat

et al., 2021; Kasoga & Tegambwage, 2022; Rahman & Gan, 2020).

As a household budget and daily expenses component, SES is essential to basic needs and daily life. On the other hand, investment decisions are mainly concerned with directing excess income to opportunities that can increase wealth rather than fulfill immediate needs. Generally, investments are classified into many financial categories, such as stocks, bonds, real estate, or retirement accounts, each requiring different methods and considerations compared to SES.

Awareness of investment fraud is proven to moderate the effect of financial literacy on investment decisions. The association between financial literacy and investment decisions can be strengthened or weakened depending on awareness. Millennials or Gen Y who understand the philosophy of interest rates and the economic value of money will avoid making fraudulent investments because he is fully aware that investment schemes that promise substantial returns cannot be trusted. Financial literacy is essential for making smart investment decisions, but awareness of investment scams provides an additional layer of security. It aids people in identifying potential dangers and using care while assessing investment prospects. Together, financial literacy and scam awareness build a more knowledgeable and resistant investor, decreasing the risk of falling for shady schemes and improving the overall standard of investing choices.

Finally, the results show that the effect between SES and investment decisions is not moderated by awareness of investment scams. Awareness cannot strengthen or weaken the influence between SES and investment decisions. A person of upper, middle, or lower economic status, aware or unaware of fraudulent investments, cannot influence their investment decisions. The significance of scam knowledge may be overshadowed by the drivers of SES, such as total household spending, which may have a more significant and direct effect on investment decisions. However, choices on investments are intricate and multifaceted. The association between SES and investment decisions may not be greatly affected by fraud knowledge due to the interaction of various factors.

The research's management implications are that financial institution managers can concentrate on increasing millennials' and Generation Z's knowledge of investment fraud by endorsing financial education initiatives tailored to their demographic. Through this training, participants' levels of financial literacy can improve, their comprehension of investments can be enhanced, and the likelihood of investment fraud can be decreased. Financial institution management can also create online tools or decision aids to assist Millennials and Generation Z in avoiding fraudulent investments while making investment decisions.

The measurement of SES in this study depends on daily expenses and household budget components; hence, SES and investment decisions serve distinct purposes in personal finance. Consequently, it is recommended that future studies be able to infer other elements that aren't stated directly. Personal financial objectives, risk tolerance, investment expertise, and availability to opportunities are a few examples of characteristics that can be seen as more significant in this situation.

## 6. Conclusions

Financial literacy among Millennials and Generation Z in Java Island influences investment decisions. Most respondents with excellent financial literacy are not the victims of shady investments. This finding can be why Millennials and Generation Z need to improve financial literacy. Making financial goals early on, reading financial books, watching financial videos online, or using financial applications are some things that can be done to increase financial literacy. Other things to consider are being disciplined in budgeting, saving, and investing. Conversely, socioeconomic status does not affect the investment decisions of Millennials and Generation Z. A person with a large or small monthly household expenditure and a large or small number of family members will not be able to decide on an investment. Awareness of investment fraud is proven to moderate the effect of financial literacy on investment decisions. It has been demonstrated, meanwhile, that awareness of investment scams cannot moderate the influence of SES on investing decisions. Further research is recommended to examine other factors influencing investment decisions, such as personal preferences, risk tolerance, and resource availability. Financial institution managers should concentrate on educating the millennial and Z generations about investment fraud through activities including sharing security details and cooperating with other financial and regulatory organizations to reduce the danger of fraud.

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