



INSTALLING THE VALUES OF TOLERANCE AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS THROUGH CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

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Abstract

This study discusses the importance of civic education in increasing the values of tolerance and ethnic diversity of elementary school students. Indonesia has a diversity of ethnicities, religions, and cultures. Therefore, instilling the values of tolerance and ethnic diversity through civic education is very important to create an inclusive and harmonious society in the future. This diversity is not only a challenge, but also an opportunity to enrich inter-ethnic interactions and build solidarity. By respecting and understanding differences, society can create harmony and unity in diversity. This character education can occur in various ways, both formally in schools and informally in the home environment. Elementary schools introduce character education as the first formal educational environment experienced by students, formally providing a strong foundation for students to develop into good citizens in the future. The research method used is descriptive research based on experts or previous research and collecting data from several scientific journals and books. The results of the values of tolerance and diversity in civic education can form an attitude of mutual respect, accepting differences wisely, and not being discriminatory. This is important to create a harmonious and peaceful society.

Keywords : Tolerance Values, Ethnic Diversity, Civic Education

Introduction

Indonesia is an archipelagic country full of richness and diversity of culture, race, ethnicity, belief, religion, and regional language. Despite its rich cultural diversity, Indonesia still adheres to the motto "Bhinneka Tunggal Ika" which means "Although different, but still the same. Cultural diversity is also supported by the territory of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia which is separated by the ocean. Cultural diversity is a characteristic in the form of uniqueness, heritage from ancestors, and human works in the lives of people who are applied daily so that they become a habit. Indonesian culture is spread across various regions, spread across 38 provinces that have various characteristics and characteristics. Culture is reflected in various aspects of people's lives throughout Indonesia. This diversity is not only a challenge, but also an opportunity to enrich inter-ethnic interactions and build solidarity. By respecting and understanding differences, society can create harmony and unity in diversity. It is important for us to realize that ethnic diversity is an asset that must be maintained and celebrated, because that is what makes our nation unique and competitive. However, diversity is often considered as a difference, and differences are often exploited and abused by some people to achieve their personal ambitions, interests, or group ambitions. When this diversity is seen as a difference, then conflicts and problems arise. Diversity is something to be proud of, but it can also be scary. If the potential for this problem is not immediately addressed, then the problem will continue to grow and threaten unity and cohesion, although the problem will persist for a long time without proper handling.

This diversity, if left unchecked and unmanaged, will become a source of challenges, conflicts and problems that can harm the country of Indonesia itself. In Indonesia, various conflicts with ethnic, religious, racial and inter-group (SARA) nuances often occur, including: Imposition of will, intolerance, discrimination in various regions,

etc. Conflicts that have occurred in Indonesia include the Ambon and Poso conflicts and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM), the Republic of South Maldives (RMS) and many other countries, which in the end will only harm various parties and sacrifice the unity of the country. One way to minimize the existence of conflict and problems is simply by character building through education. Efforts to improve character in education have been widely carried out both between policy makers and policy makers. Education seeks to form a quality generation in the future and as a shaper of intelligent and moral character. Therefore, education must be designed to make learning fun. Because, if students learn in a fun atmosphere, they will definitely get better results. For elementary school children, tolerance and diversity are important stages in character development. This character education can occur in various ways, both formally in schools and informally in the home environment. Elementary schools introduce character education as the first formal educational environment experienced by students, formally providing a strong foundation for students to develop into good citizens in the future. Diversity and Tolerance Education, like Civic Education (PKn), is based on schools and classrooms as a form of implementing authentic character education. Civic education is a subject that aims to develop character. Civic education is a process that enables individuals to think critically, understand their rights and obligations, and participate in building a democratic society.

According to the Regulation of the Minister of National Education Number 22 of 2006, Civic Education aims to form intelligent, skilled, and characterful Indonesian citizens, in accordance with Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. The focus is on forming some citizens who understand and carry out their rights and obligations in accordance with applicable norms. According to Kansil (in Suharyanto 2013:195), Civic Education is a subject that aims to preserve and develop noble values, which are rooted in the moral values of the Indonesian nation's culture. The goal is for students to be able to apply these values in everyday life, both as individuals and members of society, in accordance with the teachings of God Almighty. Therefore, Civic Education is integrated into the education curriculum from elementary to high school to form good citizens and foster the culture of the Indonesian nation. One way to form good citizenship attitudes is through teaching about tolerance and diversity in civic education subjects. These values are taught from elementary school level so that students can live side by side in diversity. Students understand the importance of mutual respect and appreciation for others, and behave positively towards diversity of tribes, ethnicities, races, cultures, and religions. Instilling these values is very important in order to maintain unity in the life of Indonesian society. According to Peter Salim (in Suharyanto 2013:198), the meaning of tolerance comes from the Latin "Tolerare" which means patiently letting others do something or do something. In Arabic, "Tasamuh" means being generous.

Another term for tolerance is "Tasahul" which means being easy on others. "Tolerance is about tolerance and an attitude of letting go. This involves mutual respect and appreciation in interactions and everyday life." and according to Tilman, tolerance is mutual respect, through understanding with the aim of peace. Tolerance is a method towards peace (Tilman, 2004:95), so tolerance is Giving others the freedom to express opinions or do something that is contrary to personal views, regardless of ideology, race, or other differences. Because Indonesia has a variety of tribes, races, customs, and cultures, conflicts can occur. Therefore, it is important to build an attitude of tolerance as the main foundation in the life of the nation towards peace. The definition of diversity according to Sukini (in Yanty, 2019:151) is a state in society that is diverse in ethnicity, religion, race, and inter-group. This diversity is a plurality possessed by the Indonesian nation, which is a wealth and beauty for the nation. This diversity is a wealth and beauty possessed by the Indonesian nation. The principle of diversity education is in line with the implementation of education regulated in Law Number 23 of 2003. The law emphasizes that education is carried out democratically and fairly and without discrimination to maintain human rights, religious values, cultural values, and national diversity.

Research Methodology

The research method that I use is a research method that is included in descriptive research, namely collecting relevant data in the form of literature. The sources of literature that I use in this study are books, scientific journals in the form of articles, theses, internet sources, which are based on previous experts. This method is carried out by reading various sources then connecting them with the topic being discussed to then be conveyed again in the form of a description. This study aims to explore and analyze ways that can be used to increase tolerance values among elementary school children. Tolerance is the capacity to respect differences and accept diversity in society. This is very important to learn from an early age because it will help children grow into individuals who are more open and accepting of differences in culture, religion, and background.

Result & Discussion

Instilling values of tolerance and diversity is very important in a diverse society. This applies to all aspects of life, from culture, religion, ethnicity, to diverse backgrounds. Discussions about instilling values can involve various important aspects, such as values of tolerance and diversity, strategies to promote these values, and the benefits of a society that values tolerance and diversity.

Values of Tolerance

Values are something that has a broad meaning. According to Frimayanti, (2017) values are something complex, values can help in identifying or determining the behavior that is done is good or bad, right or wrong, allowed or not allowed if done, so that values can be beliefs in determining choices and also become guidelines for behavior in everyday life. According to Fithriyana (2020), an attitude of tolerance is a feeling, thought, and behavior that is tolerant, respectful, appreciative, and accepting of opinions, views, beliefs, convictions, and so on that are different or contradictory to one's position. The importance of tolerance and diversity:

1. Strengthening unity: Tolerance is the glue in building unity and togetherness in a pluralistic society.
2. Respecting human rights: Accepting and respecting differences is a form of respect for human rights to live freely and with dignity
3. Preventing conflict: By respecting each other's differences, we can avoid disputes and conflicts that can damage relationships between individuals and groups.

Strategies to promote tolerance and diversity

- a. Education: Education plays a very crucial role in shaping an individual's character. By integrating the values of tolerance and diversity into the curriculum, we can create a younger generation that is more open, respects differences, and lives side by side in harmony.
- b. Communication and dialogue:
 1. Interfaith dialogue: Facilitate dialogue between religious communities to understand and appreciate differences.
 2. Social Media: Use social media to spread positive messages about tolerance and diversity.
- c. Law enforcement:
 1. Fair Law: Ensure that the law is enforced fairly without discrimination.
 2. Strict Sanctions: Impose strict sanctions against acts of intolerance and violence.

Benefits of a society that is tolerant and respects diversity

1. Diversity of ideas and perspectives: Societies that are tolerant and value diversity can draw on a variety of ideas and perspectives to solve complex problems and advance themselves
2. Strengthening social relationships: Societies that accept differences tend to have strong and supportive social relationships, which can improve individuals' quality of life and strengthen social ties.
3. Global competitiveness: In an increasingly connected world, tolerant and inclusive societies are better prepared to face global challenges, establish good business relationships and be part of the international community
4. Peacekeeping: Tolerance and diversity can help prevent conflict and build sustainable peace, both at the local and global levels
5. The importance of instilling values of tolerance and diversity applies not only at the individual level, but also at the institutional and societal level as a whole. By adopting and practicing these values, society can create an environment that is inclusive, respectful, and appreciative of differences.

The Concept of Diversity

The concept of diversity refers to the existence of differences between individuals or groups in society. These differences can appear in various aspects of life, such as physical aspects, cultural aspects, social aspects, psychological aspects. In other words, diversity is a condition in which we live side by side with people who are different from us. Diversity allows humans to learn from each other, enrich knowledge and insight, increase creativity and innovation, strengthen unity in diversity. However, diversity can also cause conflict and tension. Inaccurate understanding of a particular culture or religion can trigger prejudice and discrimination. Therefore, it is important to promote an accurate understanding of diversity and appreciate differences as a positive force. In facing complex global challenges, diversity is a valuable resource for building a better future for all of us. Diversity education is closely related to the development of moral student character. The following is diversity education in

schools: (1) increasing mutual respect between students, (2) creating an inclusive school environment, (3) forming strong and responsible student character, (4) increasing intercultural communication skills. According to the Minister of National Education Regulation No. 22 of 2006, the integration of diversity education in PKn subjects for elementary schools has provided an overview of the integration of PKn based on diversity, namely as follows:

1. National unity, including pride in being an Indonesian citizen, living in harmony with differences, and participating in defending the country.
2. Human rights, including rights and obligations as a child, student and as a member of society
3. Citizens' needs include a spirit of mutual cooperation, learning to express opinions, respecting opinions and equality as members of society.

The instillation of diversity values is applied in the learning approach, by providing insight into diversity, providing an overview of the same equality between religions, tribes, cultures, races, and groups. Examples of implementations that can be done in the learning process are by inserting the habit of singing national and regional songs in class before learning begins in order to provide an atmosphere of unity and a sense of love for the nation's culture even with different backgrounds, Showing films, videos, or images that depict cultural, racial, and ethnic diversity, Introducing students to the richness of Indonesian and world culture. Civics is one of the most important subjects in fostering a sense of love for the homeland and national values in the younger generation. One of the goals of civics is to instill the values of tolerance and ethnic diversity in students. In the learning process, teachers are expected to provide a good understanding of the importance of respecting differences in ethnicity, culture, and religion. In that way, students will understand that diversity is important to maintain and preserve. The result of instilling the values of tolerance and ethnic diversity in civic education is the formation of an attitude of mutual respect and appreciation for each other. In addition, it is also able to respond to differences wisely and without discrimination. This is very helpful in building harmonious social relations and realizing peace in community life. Therefore, it is important for schools and teachers to pay serious attention to implementing the values of tolerance and ethnic diversity in civic education. So, the younger generation will grow into individuals who have positive attitudes towards differences, and work together to build a better and more peaceful country.

Civic education is a learning process that aims to shape attitudes and behavior as good and responsible citizens towards the country. One of the essential things in civic education is the discussion of ethnic diversity in Indonesia. Indonesia is a country rich in ethnic and cultural diversity. So, in the field of civic education, it is very important to learn and understand this diversity in order to increase tolerance, cooperation, and unity among fellow citizens. Discussion of ethnic diversity in citizenship education can be done in various ways, including:

1. Introduction to the History and Culture of Ethnic Nations

Teaching the history and culture of the various ethnic groups in Indonesia can help students understand the diversity that exists, as well as build respect and tolerance for differences. This can include introducing different customs, languages, religions, and traditions.

2. Implementation of Pancasila Values

Civic education can emphasize the importance of Pancasila values as the foundation of the state that recognizes and respects diversity. Pancasila teaches about the importance of harmony, tolerance, and mutual cooperation in maintaining social harmony amidst diversity.

3. Visit to Historical or Cultural Sites

Extracurricular activities, such as visits to museums, cultural centers, or historical sites that reflect the diversity of Indonesian ethnic groups, can provide students with direct experience to better understand and appreciate this diversity.

4. Inter-ethnic Discussion and Dialogue

Holding discussions or dialogues between students from different ethnicities can be an effective way to introduce different perspectives.

By introducing and understanding the diversity of ethnic groups in Indonesia, it is hoped that it can form a young generation that is tolerant, appreciates differences, and has a strong sense of love for the homeland, and how to maintain national unity amidst differences. Through the introduction and understanding of the diversity of ethnic groups in Indonesia, it is hoped that it can form a young generation that is tolerant, appreciates differences, and has a strong love for the homeland. Therefore, the discussion of ethnic diversity in civic education is very important to be applied at all levels of education.

Conclusion

Based on the description above, it can be concluded that civic education is a compulsory subject from basic to high levels, as part of the process of forming citizens who can be relied on by the state. Developing high values that

are in accordance with the culture and diversity of the Indonesian nation, Forming intelligent, skilled, and characterful behavior. Which can be realized in everyday life. Tolerance and diversity are things that are very much related to the life of the Indonesian nation. The diverse Indonesian nation can be continuously fostered to have an attitude of tolerance and mutual respect, especially through civic education. Fostering an attitude of tolerance and strengthening the value of diversity starting from elementary to high levels is an effort to strengthen the unity of the Indonesian nation. The instillation of educational values about diversity and tolerance can be done through various ways, both formal in schools and non-formal in the home environment. Civic Education learning in schools strives for inclusion, accepting differences, and encouraging tolerance. Schools play a central role in disseminating these values and are at the forefront of strengthening social solidarity. Schools are pioneers in accepting culture and the various cultural backgrounds of students. The core of implementing the instillation of diversity and tolerance education is through learning that is based on teachers as educational relations and students as learners. Teachers provide habits and role models in the learning process that will directly influence student behavior. The instillation of diversity values in learning is emphasized by providing insight into diversity, as well as a picture of equality between religions, ethnicities, cultures, races, and groups. Teachers are able to implement leading diversity-based education without siding with a particular culture in the learning process in the classroom. They can guide well and implement inclusive education, which opens the door for students with diverse cultural backgrounds to be involved in learning. In Tolerance learning, teachers emphasize students' daily activities with habituation in learning, because by doing so students will automatically get used to having an attitude of tolerance. The process of tolerant learning occurs through the creation of a learning environment full of freedom and reciprocal appreciation among students. Supported by aspects of caring, harmonious cooperation, friendship, and positive behavior training to help students learn to avoid conflict.

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