



ASSESSING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN PROMOTING VALUES DEMOCRATIC VALUES

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Abstract

Democracy is a decision-making process in society that ideally involves rational, inclusive, and tolerant dialogue and discussion between diverse individuals and groups. This study aims to explore the effectiveness of civic education programs in promoting democratic values through Civic Education learning in schools. Civic education emerged as an alternative, more dynamic, critical, and inclusive approach to civic education, promoted by national and state education authorities. Civic education is often a top-down and highly normative subject that encourages conformity, obedience, and passivity through static representations of society. The method used is a literature study by collecting and analyzing various related sources. Assessing the effectiveness of civic education programs in promoting democratic values is a complex and ongoing task. This study adopts a multi-method approach, builds clear indicators, and considers various factors that influence effectiveness.

Keywords : Civics Education; Democracy; Learning; Tolerance

Introduction

Education is an effort that is carried out consciously and planned, with the main goal of creating a learning environment that supports and facilitates the learning process. Through education, students are invited to actively explore, develop, and optimize the unique potentials possessed by each individual. This does not only include intellectual aspects, but also other dimensions such as spiritual and religious strengths that strengthen ethical values in a person. (Putri et al., 2024) Civic education emerged as an alternative, more dynamic, critical, and inclusive approach to civic education, promoted by national and state education authorities. Civic education is often a top-down and highly normative subject that encourages conformity, obedience, and passivity through static representations of society. It is important to note that traditional civic programs in France or America are largely concerned with the status quo and do not encourage students to look critically at society, raise social awareness, or encourage social action for a more just society (Putri et al., 2024) Civic education has been a topic of debate for more than half a century, with various organizations and movements promoting the concept. Canadian International Development Agency funding in the 1960s sparked renewed interest in global citizenship education. Various visions of citizenship have been put forward by educators, including Heater's concept of "dual citizenship," Selby's description of "multiple and parallel citizenships," and Hébert's construction of "new flexible citizenship" (Putri et al., 2024).

Benefit Which obtained by educator

1. Encourage students to think critically about the democratic process and their rights as citizens
2. Helping students understand the basic principles of democracy, such as freedom of speech, participation, and fairness
3. Sharpen students' ability to analyze existing policies and practices in the context of democracy.

Research Methodology

This study uses a literature study method to collect and analyze various sources of literature related to the effectiveness of civic education programs in promoting democratic values. The sources of literature used include textbooks, scientific journals, research reports, and other relevant sources.

Result & Discussion

Civic education also plays a role in shaping attitudes and values that are in accordance with democratic principles. This includes an understanding of human rights, justice, equality, tolerance, and respect for pluralism in society. Thus, political education does not only focus on the knowledge aspect, but also on the formation of character and morality that are in accordance with the demands of a democratic society. (Putri et al., 2024) Pancasila is the basic ideology of the Indonesian state which has become the foundation in forming Indonesia's national identity. Pancasila reflects inclusive Indonesian values, such as mutual cooperation, deliberation for consensus, social justice, and democracy. (Putri et al., 2024). This value emphasizes the importance of fair treatment of all individuals regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, and gender. Tolerance education teaches students to respect human rights and social justice. Pancasila emphasizes democratic values and citizen participation in decision-making. Tolerance education promotes interfaith discussion, dialogue, and understanding as a form of democracy in the context of religious diversity. (Putri et al., 2024). Assessing the effectiveness of civic education (PKn) programs in promoting democratic values is complex and requires multiple perspectives. Here are some key points to consider.

A multi-method approach is needed to gain a comprehensive picture. This may include: (1). Surveys: Measuring students' knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors related to democratic values. (2). Case studies: Analyzing a specific civics program in depth to understand its implementation and impact. (3). Interviews: Gaining a deeper understanding of the experiences and perspectives of students, teachers, and other stakeholders. (4) Observations: Observing how democratic values are taught and practiced in the classroom and in the school environment. (Wulandari et al., 2024). Increasing the effectiveness of civic education promotion in instilling democratic values in the younger generation requires continuous and collaborative efforts from various parties. By developing creative, innovative, and measurable promotional strategies, and overcoming various challenges and obstacles, we can prepare the younger generation to become democratic, participatory, and responsible citizens. (Eli Nurlaela et al., 2020). The education curriculum is one of the important containers where the values of Pancasila are integrated into the education process in Indonesia. Since the early days of independence, Pancasila has been the philosophical foundation of the state and, therefore, plays a central role in the development of the education system. Through the curriculum, these values are attempted to be taught to the younger generation with the hope that they will apply them in their daily lives. (Purnomo et al., 2023)

Conclusion

Democracy is a decision-making process in society that ideally involves rational, inclusive, and tolerant dialogue and discussion among diverse individuals and groups. Assessing how effective civic education (PKn) programs are in teaching democratic values is a complex task that requires multiple perspectives. Assessing the extent to which civic education programs are effective in promoting democratic values is a complex and ongoing task. By taking a multi-method approach, establishing clear indicators, and considering the various factors that influence effectiveness, we can continue to improve PKn programs and help future generations become democratic and responsible citizens.

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