



THE ROLE OF CIVIC EDUCATION TEACHERS IN INSTALLING CHARACTER IN THE NEXT GENERATION

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Abstract

Civic Education (PKn) has a strategic role in shaping the character of the next generation with integrity, ethics, and responsibility. PKn teachers not only function as teachers, but also as facilitators and role models in instilling moral and national values. This study aims to analyze the role of PKn teachers in instilling the character of the younger generation through an innovative and value-based learning approach. The research method uses a qualitative study approach where the basis of the discussion is obtained from the results of literature studies on book sources, previously existing relevant journals, and scientific articles to understand how teachers implement character learning strategies in schools. The results of the study show that PKn teachers play an important role in instilling values such as tolerance, discipline, honesty, and love of the homeland through interactive methods, critical discussions, and project-based learning. Support from the school environment, family, and community are also supporting factors for the success of character education. In conclusion, PKn teachers have a great responsibility in building the character of the next generation who are able to face global challenges while still upholding national values.

Keywords : Civic Education Teacher, Character, Next Generation, Character Education

Introduction

Education is an effort that is carried out consciously and has also been planned as a learning process to ensure that every human being becomes a person with good character, knowledge, noble morals, logical thinking, creativity, and can be responsible. Education can also be said to be one of the paths that is passed by some people in determining the future (Alvira Oktavia Safitri et al, 2021). In education, character education can be said to be quite an important part because it is one of the things related to personality and morals that must be instilled from childhood, so that children can grow and also develop with good character. Education is a form of effort carried out so that someone is able to mature and humanize fellow human beings or even to every other living creature, character education also plays an important role for humans, because character can help the growth of children, especially at the elementary school level, so that they have a caring nature towards fellow human beings, have a stance, and are also able to take responsibility. Character is essentially something that can be seen as a collection of habits that can be felt, because character is not just behavior and understanding but also something that has become a habit in a person, and is certainly applied in everyday life (Alvira Oktavia Safitri et al, 2021). Civics education is one of the subjects that has a fairly important role in the world of education, especially in elementary schools, in learning civics education there are several values of morals that can shape the character and personality of elementary school students. The character and morals of students can be formed better in civics education lessons. Because in civics education, students learn about how to apply morals, knowledge about the homeland, love and defend the homeland, foster a sense of responsibility, unity, love and respect for each other, obey God as is clearly

in the foundation of the Indonesian State, namely Pancasila According to the Ministry of National Education (2010), character education is everything that teachers do that can influence the character of students.

According to Samsuri, civic education is defined as preparing the younger generation to become citizens who have the knowledge, skills, and values needed to actively participate in society. By studying Civic Education, students can understand their rights and obligations as citizens and are able to solve all problems related to citizenship, such as national unity, human rights, values and norms, democratic society, Pancasila and the State constitution, and globalization, etc. Teachers as one of the components in schools occupy an important profession in the teaching and learning process. Teachers as educators are a determining factor in the success of every educational endeavor. Teachers have a role in the process of growth and development of their students, knowledge, skills, intelligence, and attitudes and outlook on life. Teachers as professional education personnel whose work is different from others, because it is a profession, special abilities and expertise are needed in carrying out their duties and functions. The role of teachers in shaping their students is very important. The teacher's direction becomes a guide for the activities of their students. Once a teacher conveys the wrong thing to his students, at that time he has misled his students. So, a teacher must have a teacher's character before and during his time as a teacher. The characters that must be possessed by a teacher are: a teacher should be a person who has broad insight, what the teacher conveys must be something that is true and beneficial, a teacher should have strong dedication, motivation, and loyalty, have moral qualities and personality, teachers must form the humanist character of their students and teachers must also be literate in information and technology. A teacher who not only teaches, but also educates and trains, when wanting to achieve the expected learning objectives, what the teacher must do is: first, the teacher must have a basic understanding of teaching and the basics of learning theory. Second, the teacher must be able to develop a teaching system. Third, the teacher must be able to carry out an effective learning process. Effectiveness is a principle that allows for optimal achievement of objectives. Fourth, the teacher must be able to assess learning outcomes as a basis for feedback for the entire process taken.

Research Methodology

Research conducted using qualitative research methods or descriptive approaches is research with data results in the form of descriptions of the problems discussed by providing some descriptions of what happens in everyday life (Miranti et al., 2021). Research using qualitative methods is a research method by conducting searches, so that the author is also able to understand and practice exploring what is read and then written in a scientific work. Qualitative research according to qualitative methods is a concept on the problems that will be faced. Research activities are carried out so that researchers can produce and also get theories to analyze. Researchers use descriptive methods because the data collected are in the form of words, pictures, and not numbers. So that the research report will contain data to provide an overview of the presentation of the report. The data collection technique used is a literature review or literature from various writings, both journals and books related to the implementation of character in the role of Civics education teachers obtained from laws and regulations, books, and journals.

Result & Discussion

Character education through Citizenship Education is found in the National Education Regulation No. 22 of 2006, namely citizenship education is one of the subjects that focuses on efforts to form the character of citizens so that they can carry out their rights and obligations to become good, intelligent, creative, responsible, trustworthy citizens (Indrawati, 2015) and have a character in accordance with the foundation of the State, namely Pancasila and the opening of the 1945 Constitution (Kurniawan, 2013). Civic education has a role to provide provisions for students with noble character and basic skills regarding national life as well as preliminary education so that they become citizens and individuals with good character and have tolerance among others. Because in its teachings, citizenship education teaches tolerance towards others, in this case students will learn how important it is to have a tolerant character such as respecting friends who have different religions. Education and character building are the responsibility of every individual including teachers at school who accompany children at school. Teachers not only act as teachers at school, but are also obliged to build students with character, teachers have a heavy responsibility for the development of student character, especially. Teachers are obliged to educate students, train students, motivate students, and direct their students to become moral and dignified human beings (Wardani, 2010: 237). Teachers need to provide direction to students to choose what is good and what is bad for themselves. In addition, teachers also need to be good role models, because every behavior shown by teachers at school will be used as an example by students. So, it is clear that teachers at school have an important and complex role. The

overall task of educators is as an instructive task that includes teaching, educating, and preparing. The role of educators in carrying out efforts at school must be able to make themselves the next parents and be able to attract the sympathy of students so that every example given must be able to encourage students in teaching. Usman (Amiruddin, 2013:3).

In line with (Andrian, 2017:18), Civic Education has a close relationship in developing character as stated by Cogan (1998:13) that the subject of Civic Education plays a role in developing the characteristics of a citizen. So, in this case a citizen needs formal education so that his character can be formed in a directed manner according to what is expected. Based on research conducted by Sunarti (2019:9-10), he explained that Civic Education and student character building are interrelated. Because there are many values that can build character in it, including digesting, showing and carrying out various rules and noble values that exist in everyday life. Through Civic Education, students are also taught to care about the environment and society, so that students will be loved and cared for by the surrounding community. every individual including teachers at school who accompany children when at school . The teacher's task in character learning at school is to set a good example or example for children in particular and society as a whole. In this way, an instructor must set an original model, all of his behavior does not conflict with the standards and quality that apply in the public eye. Any form of deviation will not occur if instructors, guardians and areas can provide sincere guidance to children, the potential for activities that abuse standards, principles will be simpler. So an educator must have the option to become a second parent for students at school, with the aim that students feel comfortable and open to teachers at school. So that later the instructor can instill character values in students, and can guide them on a better path in finding their personality with a solid personality. Moreover, as a PPKn educator, character building cannot be separated from the traits contained in Pancasila. Civic education is the same as democracy education because it aims to form and prepare citizens to have critical and democratic thinking (Suhardiyansyah et al., 2016). Instilling this character in elementary school students is a must because the awareness of democracy in the future is a form of life in society and guarantees the rights of citizens. If students are accustomed to civic education to be critical and democratic, then individuals with critical and democratic characters will also be formed in life. Because character will be formed in each individual if they are used to doing it.

Conclusion

It can be concluded that Civic Education has an important role for Elementary School children in forming a character-based personality. Because in its learning, Civic Education teaches Elementary School children to have a character that is good, respectful, responsible, disciplined, independent, creative, polite, democratic and also has a high nationalist spirit. Civics is a picture that plans to form productive members of society in everyday life that is orderly and in the life of the nation and state. Therefore, students are expected to have a character that is in accordance with the values of Pancasila so that an intelligent and moral generation is created. The role of Pancasila and Civic Education Teachers in forming the mentality and character of students must be possible in more than one way, to specifically frame the perspective of students who protect their freedom and commitment and can carry out their rights and commitments properly, forming students who have a sense of love for the homeland and have a strong sense of ethnicity. Therefore, a person of character is very important because it is needed in the future as capital to build the Nation and State towards a better direction.

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