



THE ROLE OF CIVIC EDUCATION IN FORMING THE CHARACTER OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

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Abstract

Civic education is very important to shape the character of elementary school children, character can also shape students to understand civic values such as tolerance, justice, and critical thinking skills and participate in society. This study also uses the literature review method by collecting and analyzing data from journal sources, books, websites, and scientific articles. The results of the study of civic education learning are effective in shaping the character of elementary school children with interesting learning methods. The conclusion of the study of civic education plays a very important role in learning and shaping the character of elementary school children, with improved teaching, training for teachers and a curriculum that is more adaptive to current developments.

Keywords : Civic Education and Character of Elementary School Children

Introduction

Civics is a lesson that is highly considered in the Indonesian education curriculum, especially for elementary school children. Civics aims for elementary school children to actively participate in society and the state. Civics also studies national knowledge, character, love for the homeland and culture. The character of elementary school children is the most important aspect of forming themselves who have positive values such as honesty, cooperation and responsibility. Character education is a matter of character and morals that have been educated for centuries and have become a concern for the government, especially for elementary school children. According to Ellen G. White in Sarumpaet, character building is an important effort to provide humans with character building with the aim that the Indonesian education system is correct. According to Setiawan, 2014 the process of learning civics education faces several problems, namely, it is considered less interesting, boring, lots of memorization, and teachers lecture too much when bringing civics lessons, teachers bring lessons too emotionally and students' personalities are not considered. According to Kurniawan, 2013; Karimah, 2015; Suardi, et al., 2019 the process of learning civics education needs to be improved to develop students with planning, process/implementation, evaluation, and obstacles experienced by elementary school children.

Research Methodology

This research method uses a "literature review" research with this research method collecting data and analyzing data in books, journals, and websites on the internet. These are some literature review methods about the Role of Civic Education in Forming the Character of Elementary School Children, namely: (1) concept of civic education Ministry of Education and Culture (2013). The concept of Civic Education is one of the very important subjects in the education curriculum in Indonesia. Civics aims to form quality citizens, who have the awareness and ability to actively participate in community and state activities (2) formation of elementary school children's character (Sukmadinata, 2017), formation of elementary school children's character is one of the most important

aspects in education. Good character will form individuals who have positive values, such as honesty, cooperation, and responsibility (3) the role of civic education in shaping character (Wibowo, 2018), the role of civic education in shaping the character of elementary school children. Civics can help students understand civic values, such as tolerance, justice, and equality, as well as develop critical thinking skills and actively participate in community and state activities.

Result & Discussion

Civic education is very important to be learned by elementary school children so that from an early age they have learned about national values and norms that exist in Indonesia. According to Winataputra (2020) civic education learning is one of the themes in the 2013 curriculum from elementary school to college. Elementary school children learn civic education to help students understand their obligations as Indonesian citizens. Civic education learning creates harmony in elementary schools and understands the contents of the 1945 Constitution. In the learning material for elementary school children's civic education, Pancasila as the State Philosophy, Human Rights (HAM), Mutual Cooperation, Tolerance, Village & Sub-district Government Structure, 1945 Constitution, Norms in Indonesia, etc. In the attachment to the Minister of National Education Regulation No. 22 of 2006 it is stated that "Citizenship Education is a subject that focuses on the formation of citizens who understand and are able to carry out their rights and obligations to become intelligent, skilled and characterful Indonesian citizens". According to Wuryandani Wuri and Fathurrohman (2018), the purpose of civic education learning is to develop the abilities of elementary school children so that they can grow as good Indonesian citizens. According to Walker (2017), the most effective civic education learning process is to find teachers who understand and comprehend the material in Civic Education lessons with their daily learning targets. Elementary school children are very important to learn character education, because elementary school children are now very naughty or do not listen to their parents. Character education has a nature to build or improve a person's morality and personality. By studying character education, elementary school children can face their future in the era of globalization like today. The character of elementary school children is built by training elementary school children to be consistent in thinking, in calculating, using terms, and consistent with their responsibilities, the process of character building elementary school children by introducing the school environment, learning materials, and how a teacher delivers the lesson.

Conclusion

Civic education is not merely learning about citizenship but learning about the nation, norms, and character of elementary school children according to their future identity. Elementary school children also understand the environment around the school by the way teachers pay attention to their students and understand their students' desires. Character education is not only from parents but also teachers and friends around them, character education also has the essence of building morality and character of an elementary school child. The nation's current big project should be to restore the character of the Indonesian nation to be better, which of course starts from the education process and solution ideas from various parties, because we can see that currently there is a decline in the concept of morals and mentality of an original ideology of the Indonesian nation. Thus, character education is right to restore the personality values of every citizen, but it must be appreciated by all parties, even though the results will be achieved after one generation of the Indonesian nation. The character of elementary school children is very important to teach because the character of elementary school children is very dangerous in the era of globalization that will come.

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