



THE IMPACT OF CIVIC EDUCATION LEARNING ON NATIONAL AND STATE AWARENESS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Refa Yolantika¹

¹Elementary School Teacher Education Study Program, Faculty of Teacher Training and
Education, Universitas Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara, Medan

Email: refayolantika@iCloud.com

Abstract

This article aims to analyze the impact of Civic Education (PKn) learning on national and state awareness in Elementary School (SD) students. Civic Education has an important role in instilling basic values of nationality and nationalism, which are important foundations in shaping the character and identity of the nation. This study uses a literature study method by reviewing various previous studies, articles, journals, and relevant books related to PKn learning at the elementary school level. The results of this study indicate that PKn learning has a direct impact on increasing students' national and state awareness. Through PKn subjects, students are introduced to values such as the rights and obligations of citizens, the importance of maintaining national unity, and an understanding of the diversity that exists in Indonesia. This learning also strengthens attitudes of tolerance, respect for differences, and understanding the active role of each individual in national life. Thus, the national values introduced through PKn learning can form a strong attitude of nationalism in elementary school students, which in turn encourages them to play a more active role in the social, cultural, and political life of the nation. In conclusion, civics learning in elementary schools has a very vital role in building students' national and state awareness, which is very necessary in facing global challenges and building social peace in a pluralistic society. Suggestions that can be put forward are the importance of continuing to develop more interesting and relevant learning methods, such as problem-based learning, group discussions, and the use of interactive media, in order to further deepen students' understanding of national values. In addition, stronger collaboration is needed between teachers, parents, and the community in creating an educational atmosphere that supports the development of democratic attitudes and a sense of love for the homeland in students.

Keywords : Civics Learning, National Awareness, Citizenship Education, Elementary School Students, Nationalism Character, Democratic Education

Introduction

Education has a strategic role in shaping the character and personality of children from an early age. One important aspect of education in Indonesia is Civic Education (PKN), which functions as a means to instill national values, love for the homeland, and an understanding of the rights and obligations of citizens. Civic Education at the Elementary School (SD) level is the initial foundation in building awareness of nation and state in students. National and state awareness refers to the understanding, attitude, and actions of individuals in appreciating national identity, maintaining unity and integrity, and playing an active role in community and state life. In the context of Indonesia which has cultural, religious, and ethnic diversity, PKN learning is very important to strengthen the sense of nationality and teach the values of democracy, tolerance, and social responsibility to students from an early age. Thus, PKN plays a role as an instrument to form citizens who have character, are

critical, and responsible for the nation and state. However, in its implementation, the effectiveness of PKN learning in increasing national and state awareness in elementary school students still faces various challenges. Less interactive learning methods, limited learning media, and the lack of real examples in everyday life can be obstacles in delivering material effectively. In addition, the social and cultural environment around students also influences the extent to which they understand and apply national values in everyday life. Therefore, it is necessary to analyze the impact of civics learning on national and state awareness in elementary school students. By understanding the extent to which civics learning is able to shape students' national character, more effective learning strategies can be developed that are in accordance with the needs of students. Thus, it is hoped that the young generation of Indonesia can grow into individuals who have a sense of love for their homeland, appreciate diversity, and contribute positively to national and state life.

Research Methodology

This study uses a qualitative approach with a literature study method (library research), which aims to explore and analyze the impact of Citizenship Education (PKn) learning in fostering national and state awareness in elementary school students. The literature study method is carried out by collecting various data and information from relevant written sources, such as scientific books, national and international journals, articles, previous research results, and official educational documents from related government agencies. The research stage begins with a reference search using keywords such as "PKn in elementary schools", "national and state awareness", "Pancasila values", and "character education in PKn". After the relevant sources are collected, a systematic content analysis is carried out to identify important themes, arguments, theories, and research results that support the discussion of the topic. The analysis was conducted descriptively-analytically, namely by explaining the relationship between civics learning and the formation of an attitude of love for the homeland, a spirit of unity, tolerance, and social responsibility as a manifestation of national and state awareness. Researchers also compared various views to find a common thread that could strengthen the results of the study. With this method, the study can provide a theoretical and practical overview of the strategic role of PKn in elementary education, although it does not involve direct observation or experimentation. This literature study is a strong foundation in answering the formulation of the problem and supporting the conclusions drawn in the article.

Result & Discussion

The results of the study show that learning Citizenship Education (PKn) has a significant influence in increasing awareness of nation and state in elementary school students. PKn material containing the values of Pancasila, the 1945 Constitution, Bhinneka Tunggal Ika, and the spirit of Indonesian unity, has been proven to be able to instill an attitude of love for the homeland, a sense of responsibility as a citizen, and appreciation for the diversity of the nation's culture. Several analyzed literatures reveal that students who receive contextual and active civics learning are better able to demonstrate positive behaviors such as mutual cooperation, discipline, tolerance, and concern for their social environment. Civics teachers play an important role as facilitators in directing students to be able to understand and internalize these national values. Civics learning based on character and experience also helps students understand their role as part of Indonesian society and nation. With a variety of approaches, such as discussions, simulations, case studies, and simple social projects, students become more active and reflective of national problems and are motivated to participate in maintaining the integrity of the Republic of Indonesia from an early age. However, civics learning that only focuses on memorizing concepts and values without being accompanied by real application in everyday life has the potential to fail to foster deep national awareness. Therefore, there needs to be innovation in civics learning methods to make it more meaningful and contextual for students. Overall, civics learning at the elementary school level is a strategic means to form a strong and sustainable foundation of national character in the young generation of Indonesia.

Conclusion

Based on the results of the study, it can be concluded that learning Citizenship Education (PKN) has a significant impact on increasing national and state awareness in elementary school students. Students who receive learning with interactive methods better understand national values, such as Pancasila, tolerance, and responsibility as citizens. In addition, they also demonstrate a disciplined attitude, respect differences, and have a higher sense of love for their country. However, the effectiveness of civics learning still faces several challenges, such as the lack of active student involvement, conventional teaching methods, and minimal support from the family and community environment. Schools that implement extracurricular activities based on nationality, such as Scouts and

Paskibra, tend to be more successful in instilling national values than schools that only rely on lecture methods in the classroom. To improve the effectiveness of civics learning, innovation is needed in teaching methods, the use of more varied learning media, and cooperation between schools, families, and communities in instilling national values in students. With a more active and contextual approach, it is hoped that students can better understand and apply national values in everyday life, so that a young generation is formed who has a high awareness of the importance of nation and state.

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