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# USING ACTIVE LEARNING METHODS TO IMPROVE AWARENESS CITIZENSHIP IN SCHOOL BASE

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#### **Abstract**

The instillation of citizenship values in elementary schools is often not optimal due to the approach learning that is still passive and teacher-centered. As a result, students lack understanding and internalization of civic values in their daily lives. This study aims to examine in depth the application of active learning methods as a strategy to increase civic awareness among elementary school students. The approach used is a literature review, analyzing various research findings, theories, and practices of active learning from relevant scientific sources. The study results indicate that active learning methods, such as group discussions, simulations, role-playing, and case studies, can increase student participation, understanding, and positive attitudes toward civic values. Furthermore, these methods also encourage students to think critically, collaborate, and be directly involved in the learning process. Thus, active learning has significant potential in shaping character and civic awareness from an early age.

**Keywords:** Literature review, active learning, citizenship, elementary school, student engagement

# Introduction

Education is one of the main foundations in forming character and personality, young generation. In school level basic, learning not only focuses on mastering basic knowledge, but also on forming values Moral, social, and national values. One important aspect that must be instilled from an early age is civic awareness, namely an understanding and positive attitude toward the rights and obligations of citizens, as well as active participation in national and state life. Civics Education (PKN) in elementary schools has an important role in instilling the values of nationality, democracy, and a love of the homeland in students. Educate from an early age. This education is expected to shape students into intelligent, caring, and responsible citizens (Abdullah, 2010). However, in practice, the civics learning process is often less engaging because the methods used are still one-way and monotonous. Civics (PKn) instruction in elementary schools is often conventional, teacher-centered, and tends to emphasize memorization. This method is less effective in fostering student interest and active engagement in the learning process, making it less effective in instilling deep civic values. To address these challenges, a more innovative and participatory learning approach is needed. One approach that has proven effective is active learning. This method encourages students to think critically, discuss, collaborate, and directly involved in process learning. Through Activities such as simulations, role-play, group discussions, case studies, and educational games, students can learn civic values in a contextual and enjoyable way.

Thus, the implementation of active learning methods is expected to more effectively improve elementary school students' civics understanding, attitudes, and behavior. This research aims to explore various active learning strategies that can be applied to Civics and their impact on increasing students' civic awareness. Civics Education (PKn) in elementary schools has an important role in instilling the values of nationality, democracy, and a love of the homeland in students. Educate from an early age. This education is expected to shape students into intelligent, caring, and responsible citizens (Abdullah, 2010). However, in practice, the civics learning process is often less engaging because the methods used are still one-way and monotonous. Civics (PKn) instruction in elementary schools is often conventional, teacher-centered, and tends to emphasize memorization of material. like This not

enough capable awaken interest And involvement active student in process study, so that not enough effective in implant values citizenship in depth.

## Research Methodology

This research uses the literature review method as the main approach, with the aim of examining and analyzing the application of the method. active learning in increasing civic awareness of elementary school students. The study was conducted by exploring various relevant scientific literature, including journals. education, textbooks, reports research, and article published academic in the last two decades. According to Riduwan (2015), studies library is approach Which used to explore existing scientific theories and findings in order to formulate a conceptual basis And strong framework of thinking. Researchers This study identifies, categorizes, and synthesizes findings related to the effectiveness of active learning methods in the context of elementary-level Citizenship Education (PKn). This study also refers to Bonwell and Eison's (1991) view of active learning as a strategy that engages students in critical thinking and direct problem-solving. The approach used is qualitative Descriptive, as explained by Moleong (2013), aims to describe phenomena systematically and objectively through a deep understanding of available secondary data. The review process is carried out critically by analyzing theories, learning practices, and previous research results, so that produced scientific synthesis which supports argumentation that active learning methods can be an effective solution in increasing the civic awareness of elementary school students.

#### **Result & Discussion**

Based on the application of active learning methods in citizenship learning in elementary schools, a significant increase was found in Student engagement and understanding of the material. Students demonstrated greater enthusiasm during the learning process, as evidenced by their active participation in discussions, their courage to express their opinions, and their ability to work collaboratively in groups. This demonstrates that active learning methods are capable of creating a positive learning atmosphere, which is more interesting and enjoyable compared to conventional methods. From a cognitive perspective, evaluation results show that students' understanding of basic citizenship concepts, such as rights and obligations, democratic values, and the role of citizens, has improved. Students retain the material more easily due to their direct involvement in the learning process. For example, in role-playing activities about class meetings or mini elections, students not only understand process democracy theoretically, but also practically, which strengthens their memory and appreciation of civic values. Results others show that method learning active helps strengthen students' positive social attitudes. Through group activities and discussions, students learn to respect the opinions of their peers, resolve conflicts peacefully, and demonstrate tolerance for differences.

These attitudes are part from awareness Citizenship cannot be taught verbally but must be learned through direct experience. Therefore, active learning is an effective means to instilling civic character values. Despite showing positive results, implementing this method also faces several challenges, the other one is readiness teacher in Designing and implementing active learning consistently. Some teachers still tend to use the lecture approach due to time constraints or lack of training in active classroom management. Furthermore, supporting facilities such as learning media and classrooms that support group activities are also determining factors in the success of this method. These results indicate that active learning methods have significant potential for increasing civic awareness at the elementary school level. To maximize their benefits, it is recommended that schools provide specific training to teachers in the use of active learning strategies appropriate to civics material. Furthermore, policy support from schools is needed to create a conducive learning environment. With a targeted strategy, this method can provide a strong foundation for developing a young generation of conscious and responsible citizens.

## Conclusion

Learning active proven effective in increase participation students. Active learning methods encourage direct student involvement in the learning process, which has implications for increased understanding and concern for citizenship issues. Civic awareness can be instilled from an early age through meaningful learning experiences. School students the basis can begin to form an attitude of love for the land water, social responsibility, and active participation in community life through contextual learning and active involvement. Conventional approaches are less effective in developing practical citizenship attitudes. Lectures or memorization alone are insufficient to foster awareness and active citizenship. A more dynamic and participatory approach is needed. Active learning integrates civic values into various activities. Group discussions, simulations, case studies, and community-based projects are examples of active learning that can bring students closer to the realities of national life. Literature review shows the consistency of results from various previous studies. Many previous studies show that active learning has a positive impact on affective aspects. And cognitive students in understand rights and obligation as a citizen.

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