



THE EXISTENCE OF CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN STRENGTHENING THE CHARACTER OF THE INDONESIAN NATION

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Abstract

Citizenship education is an integral part of the national education system. Therefore, the civics education process needs to be reflected in the curriculum and learning at all educational pathways and levels. Functions and roles in the context of achieving national education goals Civics education is designed, developed, implemented and evaluated in the context of achieving national education goals. These three things form the basis and framework for understanding and implementing civic education. Building a civilized democracy requires a generation that is wise and has strong character. There are several reasons why civics education is needed. First, there are growing symptoms and tendencies of not being politically literate or "politically literate" and not understanding how democracy and its institutions work; and second, the decline in citizen participation in the political process as evidence of political apathy. Realizing intellectually, emotionally, socially and spiritually intelligent citizens is indeed a necessity and a necessity. This is where the presence of civics education becomes a very important tool for democratic countries including Indonesia, in order to produce a generation of people who understand national values based on Pancasila and have all the skills needed to transform, achieve and preserve the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia.

Keywords : Existence, Citizenship Education, Character

Introduction

Citizenship education consists of two words, namely the words "education" and "citizenship". To understand the term education, you can look at the Big Indonesian Language Dictionary (KUBI) or the complete definition of education in Article 1(1) of the National Education System in Law Number 20 of 2003 of the Republic of Indonesia, which states as follows; Education is to create a conscious and planned learning atmosphere and learning process, so that students can actively develop their potential, and enable them to have religious spiritual strength, self-control, personality, wisdom, noble character, and what they need. for themselves, society, country and nation. Education, like its object, human, contains many aspects and is very complex in nature. Due to its complex nature, no one limitation is sufficient to fully explain the meaning of education. Experts define education differently, and the content also differs. Education according to Dewey is the process of forming intellectual and emotional fundamental skills towards nature and fellow human beings. According to Ki Supriyoko, education is a strategy to improve human quality. From the understanding above, it can be concluded that; (1) education is a human activity; (2) to provide guidance, guidance, teaching, and training; 3) carried out intentionally, regularly and planned; 4) the agreement changes the behavior of students towards maturity. Character comes from the Greek language which means to mark or mark and focus on how to apply good values in the form of action or behavior, so that people who are dishonest, cruel, greedy, and other bad behaviors are said to have bad character. Conversely, a person whose behavior is in accordance with moral rules is called a noble character. Character education is a system of inculcating character values for school members which includes components of knowledge, awareness or will, and actions to implement these values, oneself, fellow environment and nationality. In this day and age, many things can affect the character of the country's children and the life of the country. Many children don't even know about

Pancasila, nationalist figures and even the national anthem. so of Therefore, it is very important to carry out civic education aimed at citizens. Maintaining and preserving Pancasila as well as developing attitudes and behaviors of love for the Motherland, the spirit of democracy, citizenship that is disciplined and actively participates in building life. Although with the development of the technological age it gets more and more complex and makes full use of learning. not only academic learning and citizenship education so that children can build love for the motherland and patriotism, and become good citizens, it does not eliminate the national identity of their own country. Indonesia shows that citizenship education cannot be separated from the goals, order and interests of its political community, in this case life and the State of Indonesia. Government Regulation No. 32 of 2013 regulates Citizenship Education designed to mold students into living beings of nationalism and love for the motherland in the context of Pancasila values and moral awareness for the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, its values and the spirit of pluralism and commitment to the unitary state of the Republic of Indonesia. Moreover, citizenship education is to shape its citizens to be good citizens. Citizenship Education features that enable all students to understand the essence of civics education in the context of developing comprehensive abilities that enable students to love globalization.

Research Methodology

This research method was made using a qualitative approach using the literature method with descriptive research based on case studies and literature review which aims to find out how to improve the moral character and normal values of Indonesian children by learning citizenship education. Data from this study were obtained from various electronic books, scientific journals, scientific articles and other websites whose accuracy has been confirmed. This research analysis technique was carried out by comparing and examining one by one related e-books or journals about the importance of Citizenship Education. The search results that meet the criteria are then carried out by article analysis and analysis of college students in the surrounding environment.

Result & Discussion

Citizenship Education is actually carried out and developed throughout the world, although with various terms or names. These courses are often called civic education, citizenship education, and some even call democratic education. This course has a strategic role in preparing intelligent, responsible, and civilized citizens. Based on the Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 20 of 2003 concerning the National Education System, as well as the Decree of the Director General of Higher Education, Ministry of National Education Number 43/DIKTI/Kep/2006 concerning Signs for Implementing Group Personality Development courses in Higher Education for the subject of Religious Education , Citizenship Education, and Indonesian Language. Based on these provisions, the personality development course group must be given in all faculties and departments in all tertiary institutions in Indonesia. The fact is that all countries in the world have the awareness that democracy and its implementation must always be developed on the basis of the nation's philosophy, national identity, the nation's historical reality and experience, as well as the foundations of humanity and civilization. Citizenship Education is expected for Indonesian intellectuals to have a basic personality as citizens who are democratic, religious, humane and civilized.

The Indonesian nation must be strong in facing challenges from various directions in this globalization era. The realization of an Indonesian nation with strong character is illustrated by the good and bad of everything that is done by the Indonesian people and whether or not they are able to face the tests that come and go in various aspects of life. In line with the goal of citizenship education to form a personality that is in accordance with Pancasila and the character of the Indonesian nation, when you want to become a quality nation you should pay more attention to all aspects of life, both through formal, informal and non-formal education. Higher education has a fairly large role in preparing the nation's generation which will become a pillar of the sustainability, glory and progress of the Indonesian nation and state. So that in the learning process it is encouraged not only to transfer knowledge, but must be balanced with implementation in accordance with the goals and ideals of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia.

Conclusion

Citizenship education is one of the pillars of character building and national identity, meaning that civic education educates citizens to become good citizens and smart citizens to face world developments in an era of competition. Character education in civics learning is a solution that can revitalize the role of citizens as a scientific discipline which is a field of excellence in developing students' character. Citizenship is a citizenship subject, and the material content has rich character values, which will further help integrate the concept of character education. Character development can not only be developed through citizenship content, but also indirectly through

various stages of learning activities. In addition, student character development can also be supported by the use of methods, media and learning resources.

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