



THE ROLE OF CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION AS CHARACTER EDUCATION IN BUILDING RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

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Abstract

This paper aims to find out how far civics education (PKN) is in fostering a sense of tolerance among people in elementary schools, because a lack of understanding about tolerance is often the cause of bullying at this young age. Due to a lack of understanding of tolerance itself, the problem is centered on a lack of tolerance in early childhood. Through print media, data is collected and analyzed qualitatively. This study argues that the task of education in this situation is the main area of strength to in the extreme, build a sense of resilience between individuals, making students who never clash between them and never discriminate between one religion and another. They have been treated as well as possible with the existing tolerance. Tolerance also encourages mutual respect, appreciation and living together in harmony, which will reduce conflict and hostility and create a prosperous society, to foster tolerance, education aims to instill these values. In accordance with what is taught in Citizenship Education, it seems that the role of Citizenship Education (PKN) is running as it should. The elementary school period is the beginning of character formation for each student to deal with developments and influences from an increasingly developing era. In preparing students to face these changes, the atmosphere of the school and classroom is an important factor in creating character to build religious tolerance among elementary school students.

Keywords : Citizenship, character education and religious tolerance

Introduction

Education is an effort to humanize humans and a process for selfdevelopment in order to achieve the desired goals. Education is also the process of improving oneself to become a person of quality. As in RI Law No. 20 of 2003 concerning the National Education System Article 1 paragraph (1) states that education is a conscious and planned effort to create an atmosphere of learning and learning so that students actively develop their potential to have religious spiritual strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble character and skills needed by himself, society, nation and state. Because it includes three fundamental human aspects, education is a process that cannot be separated from human subjects and objects of the educational effort itself. The role that educational activities play in personal growth reflects the importance of education to society. It is stated that education is a change that directly encourages individuals, groups and nations to achieve prosperity. When a country can develop a comprehensive education system, of course the success that appears will be achieved (Situmeang et al., 2023). Citizenship Education (PKN) is a subject that aims to produce students who are intelligent and have character. Deviant behavior from underage students seems to be common in newspapers, the Internet, and television. such as harassment, speeding on the street, and free sex which results in pregnancies outside of marriage. This shows that the morale and character of students is lacking or even bad. The morals and character of students will be seen in their daily lives. In addition, what they learn at school may not be memorable and will not stick with them (Anatasya & Dewi, 2021). According to Sukini (in Yanty, 2019: 151), Diversity is a space in society between different ethnicities, religions, races and groups. This diversity is the diversity that belongs to the nation, which forms the wealth and beauty that make up the Indonesian nation. This diversity is the diversity, wealth and beauty

inherent in the Indonesian nation (Yulianti, 2021). Diversity is often seen as difference, and some people often use and take advantage of differences to achieve their group or personal goals and interests. Because this diversity is perceived as difference, there will be conflicts and problems. Diversity that should be respected can turn into a scary thing. This problem has the possibility to continue to grow until it threatens unity and oneness if it is not addressed immediately. even if it drags on. Because diversity can be a challenge, a source of conflict, and a problem that can damage the Indonesian state if it is neglected or not managed properly. In Indonesia, various conflicts with ethnic, religious, racial and intergroup nuances (SARA) have often occurred, such as imposition of will, intolerance, discrimination, etc. (Yulianti, 2021). Religious values are holding fast to one's own religious beliefs or teachings, not demeaning other religions, or being tolerant of them 2021). Religious values are holding fast to one's own religious beliefs or teachings, not demeaning other religions, or being tolerant of them 2021). Religious values are holding fast to one's own religious beliefs or teachings, not demeaning other religions, or being tolerant of them another religion. It is hoped that this will become the basis for applying values, morals and ethics to this character (Winandar & Dewi, 2021).

Tolerance also encourages mutual respect, appreciation and living together in harmony, which will reduce conflict and hostility and create a prosperous society. Although tolerance is commonly heard, students who lack education or students who are still in elementary school sometimes do not understand and do not understand what tolerance is. Therefore, it is very important to get education at a high level, not just at elementary school, to foster a sense of tolerance and understand what's tolerance (Wulandari et al., 2022). Tolerance also strengthens the relationship between religious adherents and God Almighty. In this way living together feels safe and calm. Therefore, to foster tolerance, education aims to instill these values. The teacher makes a lesson plan on tolerance, respect, diversity, and religion with derived values such as tolerance, faith, and piety as a means of integrating values and strengthening character education. In an attitude of religious tolerance, educators instill two character values, namely tolerance for adherents of the same religion and tolerance for adherents of other religions (Hubbi et al., 2020). That is the task of educators, especially political education. Because citizenship education expects not only the intellectual aspects of the Indonesian population (cognitive), but must also include aspects of attitudes and values (affective) and psychomotor (Yunita, 2021). For elementary school children, tolerance and diversity are important steps in realizing character. Tolerance is one of the characteristics of one of the main values of society. For example, when a student goes to school, tolerance is shown to help those who might benefit from the experience. Tolerance is a form of attitude and action that encourages the welfare of religion, ethnicity, ethnicity, opinions, attitudes, and actions of a person Kemdiknas, (2010:9) in (Dewi et al., 2021). Character values are taught in schools because they are important to keep up with the times (Arkani, 2017). This character education can be carried out in various ways, both in schools as formal teaching and in the home environment as informal teaching. Elementary school as the first formal educational environment experienced by students is integrated into character education so that formally it becomes a strong foundation for the successful development of students to become good citizens in the future. Diversity and tolerance education depends on schools and classrooms as a form of real character building and as a form of learning citizenship (Pkn), Citizenship education is one of the subjects aimed at character development (Yulianti, 2021). Based on the statement above, the statement proves tolerance in Indonesia, especially in elementary schools, is still an urgency that needs attention. If students get more special attention then this is able to form elementary school students with character in building religious tolerance in elementary schools. Therefore, the authors are interested in discussing a journal entitled "The Role of Citizenship Education as Character Education in Building Religious Tolerance in Elementary Schools".

Research Methodology

Instilling a sense of tolerance in elementary school students can be learned through the method of learning literature using e-books, magazines, articles and other online books that contain information to be studied, namely tolerance. Literature study is an important component because when a researcher has summarized his findings, the next step is to conduct research related to his findings from a theoretical point of view. In accordance with the concept, students will get a lot of information from related literature. Literary summaries can be obtained from books, journals, magazines, results of indepth research (theses and dissertations), and other appropriate sources (the internet, newspapers, etc.). This method can be done individually and does not require an interview process or other people concerned, so this method is easier and the time required is shorter, and does not reduce the accuracy of the information obtained. As in the journal entitled "The Role of Citizenship Education in Developing a Sense of Tolerance Among Elementary School Students".

Result & Discussion

Education has a lot of influence on human survival, progress, and human development from generation to generation. Education as the main phenomenon that influences how people live today, where those who have reached adulthood encourage students to go through adolescence and transition into adulthood. Since the beginning of human history, people have been taking educational action on the subject matter not according to the theory of how to do it right. In this situation, education emphasizes education provided by the general public. The aim of this educational program is to equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in the workplace. It is also a means of ensuring that future generations will be able to respond to the needs of the workforce. In accordance with Law No. 20 of 2003 concerning the national education system, PKN is a means of educating students in the knowledge and skills needed to understand national and international roles. Citizenship Education is becoming more important because the government declared that Civics is the only subject that must be taught in the school curriculum. This is stated in Law no. 20 of 2003, which among other things calls for the curriculum to contain good citizenship lessons and prepare for the future. Citizenship education is actually a planned and deliberate effort to improve the quality of life of citizens by instilling national identity and morals as the basis for exercising their rights and obligations as citizens for the survival and success of the country. According to Nu'man Soemantri (54: 2001) The title of citizenship is one that focuses on political democracy and is characterized by a positive influence on the education system, students, and the general public. This influence is used to prevent students from developing a critical, analytical, and democratic attitude after Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. The important role of influential education, by teaching an understanding of fostering national character based on national values. The important role of education is influential, by teaching an understanding of building character as a strategic effort to form a value system that exists within humans, which is related to the realization of their dignity and worth, in harmony with the social life around them. Examples of tolerance in general include respecting the opinions or thoughts of other people that are different from ours, and having to help each other regardless of religion, race, skin color, etc. In this case, education that leads to the goal of character building is civics education. PKN has become part of the national education tool to educate the lives of Indonesian people. Civic Education prepares students to become good and capable citizens who are noble, intelligent, participatory and responsible. Civic education produce a generation with character and a high sense of nationalism. According to Rahmatiani (2017) in the journal (Hariyanto, 2021). Character values must be instilled as early as possible because this will form the habit of practicing character values in their lives without their knowledge and will slowly form good character in students as a nation that is vulnerable to disease outbreaks for the next generation.

Conclusion

PKN is a means of educating students in the knowledge and skills needed to understand national and international roles. In this case, education that leads to the goal of character building is civics education. PKN has become part of the national education tool to educate the lives of Indonesian people. Character values must be instilled as early as possible because this will form the habit of practicing character values in life without their knowledge and will slowly form good character in students, especially the character of religious tolerance as a nation that is vulnerable to disease outbreaks for the next generation, such as not respecting and appreciating the rights of others, discriminating and discriminating between religions, interfering with the freedom of others in religion.

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