



THE URGENCY OF PPKn LEARNING IN CULTIVATING CHARACTER ATTITUDES IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

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Abstract

Civic education has a very important role in carrying out character and moral education for the nation's children. One of the factors that cause disruption of social relationships is unnatural social behavior. Today, at the primary school level, we often see deviations in social behavior, such as the use of abusive language towards parents, abusive attitudes, and increased violence among students. Schools are expected to have a role and responsibility in encouraging good values and morals and shaping the character of students with positive values and morals. This shows how important character education is in creating a good quality of life for the nation and country. This research uses a qualitative research approach, which means conducting an in-depth analysis of data, facts, concepts, and sources of information such as journal articles and e-books. The aim of qualitative research is to understand the phenomena experienced by the subject comprehensively, including perception, motivation, self-activity, and description through language and language forms, using specific natural contexts and various scientific methods. It also shows that the principle of character education can be implemented in the classroom through Civic Education subjects, and teachers need to develop better innovations in teaching it to students. Based on research findings and results, the formation of national character through civic education is a must because it can form a young generation who are intelligent, also have noble ethics so that their existence in community life becomes meaningful and has character

Keywords : PPKn teaching, attitude, character

Introduction

In Indonesia, there is hope to produce students who have good quality and character. One institution that has an important role in character building, especially at the elementary school level, is the school. Elementary school is considered a golden period to motivate good character development for a better future. One of the subjects that aims to develop intelligent and characterful learners is civic education. Thus, the concept of education is an activity that aims to increase one's potential and show that a noble personality and morals have been formed. According to the National Education System Law number 20 of 2003, education refers to a deliberate and planned effort to create a learning environment and learning process that allows students to actively develop their potential in terms of intelligence, self-control, personality, and good morals. Education also aims to develop the traits and skills needed for the benefit of individuals, communities, and nations. In addition, education also has an important role in maintaining social harmony, because failure in this regard can lead to social disconnection. One of the factors that cause disruption of social relationships is unnatural social behavior. Today, at the primary school level, we often see deviations in social behavior, such as the use of abusive language towards parents, abusive attitudes, and increased violence among students. In addition, we can also see many problems of social poverty that occur today, such as lack of tolerance, lack of ethics, lack of honesty, lack of discipline, and lack of empathy in community life and school environment. It is very noticeable, that children tend to become individualistic and pay less attention to their surroundings. During this time, students tend to reduce interaction with others and prefer to play with mobile

phones, such as playing games or spending time on social media, which ultimately results in a selfish attitude and lack of responsibility for the actions that have been done.

To overcome the phenomenon of declining values and morals in the daily lives of elementary school students, it is important to improve it through learning Civic Education (Civics) and the application of material about values and morals in elementary schools. Civics is one of the subjects in every school with the aim that all students gain a deeper understanding of the importance of civic values and be able to apply them in everyday life. Thus, through Civics learning, students are expected to develop an understanding of citizenship and the importance of these values in each country. (Galuh et al., 2021) Character education is a type of education that has a close relationship with individual behavior, because through this education students can develop good morals and morals. Looking at the various phenomena that occur around us, one method to improve the values and morale of elementary school students is to apply character education in the school education environment. Schools are expected to have a role and responsibility in encouraging good values and morals and shaping the character of students with positive values and morals. This shows how important character education is in creating a good quality of life for the nation and country. Quoting from (Anatasya & Dewi, 2021) "the true meaning of character education is to shape a child's personality to become a good individual, a good member of society, and a good citizen. It aims to prevent moral crisis and participate in the development of the younger generation. The Minister of Education, in a meeting with the board of the Indonesian Continuing Education Training Institute (LPTK) at Medan State University, stated that character education needs to start from elementary school. If the character is not formed from an early age, it will be difficult to change it later in life. Character education is considered very important in learning, because it helps students become responsible individuals and are able to appreciate the differences between each other." Therefore, it is important to carry out character education learning to shape students into responsible individuals and able to accept differences in character in each child.

Research Methodology

This research uses a qualitative research approach, which means conducting an in-depth analysis of data, facts, concepts, and sources of information such as journal articles and e-books. The aim of qualitative research is to understand the phenomena experienced by the subject comprehensively, including perception, motivation, self-activity, and description through language and language forms, using specific natural contexts and various scientific methods. This research involves the study of texts or literature, which includes several aspects. First, theoretical studies that involve certain disciplines and require an empirical approach to obtain empirical truth. Secondly, philosophical or theoretical research that aims to investigate all objects of study and relate to validity. Third, research aimed at deepening language theory. Lastly, research that involves the analysis of literary works. (Berutu, 2017) in Moleong.

Result & Discussion

The Indonesian nation faces challenges in terms of declining morality in ethics, empathy, and justice. it is important for the Indonesian nation to revive the moral values that are the foundation of this nation. The problem of moral deterioration, especially among the younger generation such as primary school students, must be met with more decisive action. Therefore, it is important to inculcate these moral values from an early age. If not handled properly, moral decline can have a devastating effect on future generations. Moral education is considered the main approach in creating moral values in children. The environment plays an important role in shaping children's education. If children grow up in a supportive environment, they will be exposed to good things and have a good personality. Conversely, if their environment contains negative things, children will also be affected and have a bad personality. Therefore, it is important to create a positive and supportive environment to shape children's morality. Civic Education has a close relationship with contemporary realities in Indonesia which are still in the process of recognizing and developing democracy. Civic Education is not only about civic education or democracy education alone, but also involves lecturers and students in direct practice of democracy during the lecture process. The main focus of Civic Education is to educate the younger generation to become critical, active, democratic, and civilized Indonesian citizens. They are expected to have awareness of rights and obligations in social and state life, and are ready to be part of the global community. (Nasution, 2016). According to (Herdiansyah et al., 2021) "Civics subjects actually have many important characteristics. Therefore, it is important to carry out character education well in Indonesia, and every school level must have citizenship subjects. The National Education System Law (UU Sisdiknas) No. 20 of 2003 explains that Civic Education, which is based on Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution, aims to develop skills, shape character, and build national civilization that has important values in national life. The goal is to develop the ability of students to become human beings who believe and are devoted to God Almighty, have noble character, healthy, knowledgeable, capable, creative, independent, and become democratic and

responsible citizens. Thus, it is clear that civic education has a very important role in carrying out character and moral education for the nation's children. It also shows that the principle of character education can be implemented in the classroom through Civic Education subjects, and teachers need to develop better innovations in teaching it to students. Civic Education basically aims to provide education that educates the younger generation by providing the knowledge needed in community life. Through Civics subjects, students will be developed critical thinking skills, responsibilities, and democratic attitudes and actions, which are important factors in building the nation's character. Civics also plays a role in providing a learning environment that supports the character development of students, so that they can become active and responsible members of society. (Rahmatiani, 2020) One of the objectives of Civic Education (Civics) is to develop responsible and quality participation skills in political and community life at the national, local, global, and regional levels. This means Civics aims to equip learners with the necessary knowledge and skills so that they can participate actively and responsibly in political and community life, both at the national and local levels. In addition, Civics also teaches students about the importance of understanding and participation in global and regional contexts, so that they can become active citizens and contribute on a wider scale. Civics also has other objectives, including: (1) Forming learners who have a holistic, critical, analytical, and democratic mindset. Through Civics, students will be taught to have the ability to think thoroughly, be able to analyze critically, and take actions in accordance with democratic principles. This goal aims to develop students who have quality thinking skills and are ready to face various challenges in community life (2) Encourage the development of democratic traditions such as freedom, equality, tolerance, independence, and self-government. Civics aims to equip students with an understanding and experience of fundamental democratic values. Through Civics, students are taught about the importance of freedom, equality, tolerance, independence, and participation in self-government. This goal aims to form a generation that has awareness and commitment to democratic values and is able to practice them in everyday life (3) By achieving these goals, Civics is expected to contribute to forming a good society or citizenry, maintaining national unity and unity, and realizing a strong, prosperous, and democratic Indonesia.

Character Education Design

Character education involves developing materials, processes, and environments that encourage and facilitate the growth of good habits in a person. The main goal is to form a strong and positive character in the life of the individual. These habits arise and develop through individual consciousness and beliefs, so that character formed through character education comes from within, not imposed from outside. This approach focuses on the internal motivation of individuals in demonstrating good behavior. (Ali, 2014) Character education is a system that aims to instill character values to individuals, which include knowledge, awareness, will, and actions oriented towards values towards God, self, others, and the environment. Through character education, a person is expected to become a complete and perfect human being. Character education approaches can be integrated into the learning of each subject. Learning materials related to the standards or values of each subject should be explained and linked to the context of everyday life. In character education, learning character values not only focuses on cognitive aspects, but also involves internal and real practices in the daily lives of students in society. (Seno, 2017) In simple terms, education can be interpreted as an effort to help students develop all their potential (heart, mind, taste, purpose and body) to look to the future. (Fitriani et al., 2021).. Character education involves substances, processes, and moods or environments that provide inspiration, motivation, and encouragement to develop good habits in everyday life. The habit grows and develops based on the individual's awareness, beliefs, sensitivities, and attitudes.

Thus, character education focuses on building character from the inside out, where behavior occurs as a result of internal motivation, not as a result of external coercion. (Shukri, 2019). Character education planning involves efforts to develop individual potential to form good character through mapping, strategies, and improving positive traits and overcoming weaknesses. The goal is for individuals to build strong character with positive values, attitudes, and skills. The social, environmental, and cultural values are also considered in this planning. With good planning, character education can focus on developing individual potential to achieve good and useful character in everyday life. Character is formed by several factors, both internal and external, according to (Pertiwi et al., 2021) factors that can affect student character development are: a) embedded value patterns; b) examples of idols; c). habits d). Rewards and punishments; and e).necessity Character education emphasizes the importance of example, the creation of a supportive environment, and habituation through academic tasks and conducive activities. This is so that what students see, hear, feel, and do can shape their character. In addition to using example and habituation as the main method, the creation of a conducive climate and culture and a supportive environment also have an important role in shaping the character of students.

The Urgency Of Character Education

At the primary school level, relevant character values are integrated into civic education. Assessment in civic education cannot be done haphazardly, but must be adjusted to the purpose of civic education itself. Information on character values suitable for civic education in elementary grades is obtained through analysis of competency standards (SK) and core competencies (KD) listed in content standards (SI). After that, the selection of character values in accordance with the SK and KD was carried out. Individual evaluations are then conducted based on comparisons between SK, KD, and existing guidelines, which are appropriate to the objectives of civic education in primary schools. (Dewi et al., 2020). In integrating character education into Civic Education in Primary Schools, it is important to add character values into brochures and design examples. Steps that can be taken to incorporate character gifts into brochures and design examples include: a) Understand the contents of SK (Competency Standards) and KD (Basic Competencies) well, both intellectually, emotionally, and psychomotorically. b) Develop markers that reflect the side effects of understanding the SK and KD. c) Determine the value of marks that show the relationship between SK and KD using sign values and symbols. d) Develop appropriate assessment tools. e) Prepare Relevant study materials. f) Choosing the right learning strategy. With these steps, character education can be well integrated in Civic Education in Elementary Schools through the addition of character values in brochures and design examples used. (Galuh Nur Insani, DinieAnggraeni Dewi, 2021).

Character Education Problems In Indonesia

First, character education should be able to create people who have noble ethics. However, in practice, there are situations in which character education is not able to achieve such goals and can even demoralize the individual. This can be due to improper understanding or ineffective implementation in the education system. Second, in today's school learning, there is a greater emphasis on adding knowledge than on instilling values. Too strong a focus on aspects of knowledge can neglect the formation of good character and ethics that should be an integral part of education. Third, today's learning often centers on rote memorization of material. High marks are given to students based on their ability to memorize, but this may not directly reflect good daily behavior. Practical understanding and application of values in everyday life becomes a more important aspect than rote memorization without deep understanding. Finally, teacher role models have a very important role in character education. Teachers as role models for students must be able to practice the values taught and show appropriate behavior. The example of teachers cannot be compromised, because their influence in shaping the character of students is very significant. In order to improve the implementation of more effective character education, there needs to be attention to proper understanding, emphasis on character building, integrating values in practical learning, and the importance of teacher example as a good example. With a holistic and consistent approach, it is hoped that character education in Indonesia can have a more positive impact on the moral and character development of the younger generation.

Conclusion

Thus, through Civics learning, students are expected to develop an understanding of citizenship and the importance of these values in each country. (Galuh et al., 2021) Character education is a type of education that has a close relationship with individual behavior, because through this education students can develop good morals and morals. Schools are expected to have a role and responsibility in encouraging good values and morals and shaping the character of students with positive values and morals. Character education is considered very important in learning, because it helps students become responsible individuals and are able to appreciate the differences between each other." Therefore, it is important to carry out character education learning to shape students into responsible individuals and able to accept differences in character in each child. 20 Year 2003 explains that Civic Education, which is based on Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution, aims to develop skills, shape character, and build national civilization that has important values in national life. It also shows that the principle of character education can be implemented in the classroom through Civic Education subjects, and teachers need to develop better innovations in teaching it to students. In order to improve the implementation of more effective character education, there needs to be attention to proper understanding, emphasis on character building, integrating values in practical learning, and the importance of teacher example as a good example. With a holistic and consistent approach, it is hoped that character education in Indonesia can have a more positive impact on the moral and character development of the younger generation.

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