



THE IMPORTANCE OF PANCASILA AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION (PPKn) IN FORMING THE CHARACTER OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

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Abstract

Pancasila and Citizenship Education (PPKn) has a very important role in building the character of students in elementary schools. PPKn is a learning that introduces Pancasila values as the basis of the Indonesian state and equips students with an understanding of citizenship. This journal aims to analyze the importance of Citizenship Education in shaping the character of elementary school students. In this study the authors collected data through literature studies and interviews with teachers and students. The results of the study show that PPKn has a positive impact on the formation of student character, including the values of honesty, fairness, diversity, tolerance and responsibility. Through Civics learning, students are taught to respect differences, work together, and become responsible citizens. The implication of this research is the importance of strengthening the role of PPKn in the elementary school curriculum to continue efforts to build strong character in students. Character education is a device that plays an important role in forming quality human beings and is expected. Everyone is expected to be a good person, and education plays a strategic and significant role in shaping the attitudes and behavior of students on a daily basis. Citizenship is a science that is acquired and created based on moral clarification that seeks answers to questions about the what, why, and how of social peculiarities, especially those related to ethics and the way humans behave. a person's soul can be shaped by his character, which means that they will not easily believe in things that are not clear until there is proof. The same goes for a developed personality.

Keywords : Pancasila and Citizenship Education, Elementary School, Character Building

Introduction

Pancasila and Citizenship Education (PPKn) is one of the subjects given to students in elementary schools. The main objective of PPKn is to provide an understanding of the values of Pancasila as the basis of the Indonesian State and to develop citizenship awareness in students. PPKn also has an important role in building the character of students at the elementary level. In this journal, we will examine the importance of Civics in building the character of elementary school students. Character education as a goal of community development is contained in Law number 20 of 2003 part 1 article 1 paragraph 1 concerning the public schooling system which states that: "In order for students to actively develop their potential, education is carried out deliberately and planned. effort to create a learning environment and learning process himself to have a strict otherworldly strength, wisdom, character, insight, honorable person, and ability necessary without other people, society, country and country." (Silitonga, n.d.). Character education is a device that plays an important role in forming quality human beings and is expected. Everyone is expected to be a good person, and education plays a strategic and significant role in shaping the attitudes and behavior of students on a daily basis. Citizenship is a science that is acquired and created based on moral clarification that seeks answers to questions about the what, why, and how of social peculiarities, especially those related to ethics and the way humans behave. a person's soul can be shaped by his character, which means that they will not easily believe in things that are not clear until there is proof. The same goes for a developed personality. That is, someone can always be trusted in words, deeds. This character building is defined as a

teaching that creates values for elementary school students, so that in this situation they have high personal values within themselves, and can complement these traits in their lives as citizens and residents who have values. -high personality values, strong beliefs, nationalism, autonomy, collaboration, and trust.(Trivanila Bella et al., n.d.).

Research Methodology

In this study the authors collected literature review data and interviews with elementary school teachers and students. Literature review was used to collect information about the role of Civics in building student character. Interviews were conducted to get direct views from teachers and students about their experiences in learning Civics.

Result & Discussion

Introduction to Pancasila Values

Pancasila has been created for a very, very long time as the basis of the state and was implemented in the beginning of our ancestors as a guide to life and should be used as a reference for the Indonesian people in the life of the nation, state and society. Likewise for the current generation, Pancasila has begun to lose its prestige among the current generation, there is great hope that it can return to its former glory if the younger generation understands and realizes the role of Pancasila and applies it in everyday life. Because the values of Pancasila are reflected in the identity of the Indonesian nation which has personal characteristics and national wealth, very closely related to character. This character must be passed on to the next generation as a way of life with the aim of preserving the personality of the Indonesian nation which originates from its noble values. Consequently, characters that depart from Pancasila values must be created and preserved for the nation's children. Through education, these characters can be passed on to future generations.(Nurizka & Rahim, n.d.). A comprehensive introduction to Pancasila values, namely Belief in One Almighty God, Just and Civilized Humanity, Indonesian Unity, Democracy Led by Wisdom in Deliberation/Representation, and Social Justice for All Indonesian People is given in Pancasila and Citizenship Education (PPKn). Students are educated to appreciate and apply these qualities in everyday life. The five values of Pancasila have an important role in the education and character building of elementary school students in Indonesia. Pancasila is the moral and philosophical foundation that is instilled in the younger generation from an early age to form positive attitudes, behaviors and understanding of the values of national and state life.(Surakarta, n.d.)

In an educational environment, the values contained in Pancasila are taught to elementary school students as a basis for forming good social, moral and ethical attitudes.(Adilla, n.d.) .Students are taught to respect cultural diversity, respect the rights of others, empathize, and work together in a spirit of unity. Principles such as fairness, democracy and equity are explained in language appropriate to the understanding of students at their age level. Through a Pancasila-based curriculum, elementary school students are given an understanding of the importance of unity, justice and prosperity for all Indonesian people. They are taught the values of mutual cooperation, mutual respect, and working together to achieve the common good. Students are also given an understanding of religious freedom and the importance of maintaining inter-religious harmony.(Muthoharoh, 2022). In addition, Pancasila values are integrated into extracurricular activities and character development for students at school. Elementary school students are taught to uphold the values of honesty, discipline, responsibility, and concern for the environment. They are also taught about the importance of respecting children's rights, participating in social activities, and maintaining cleanliness and preserving nature. By practicing the values contained in Pancasila and also understanding them since students are still at an early age, it is hoped that students can grow into a generation that has a positive attitude, is responsible, and respects their homeland. They are expected to create citizens who contribute to building a just, civilized and prosperous society in accordance with the spirit of Pancasila.(Hidayah et al., 2022)

Citizenship Awareness Through Ppkn

Through Pancasila and Citizenship Education (PPKn) subjects, students in Elementary Schools (SD) are given in-depth learning about citizenship awareness and their responsibilities as Indonesian citizens. In this lesson students are not only taught about their rights as citizens, but also about the obligations that must be fulfilled. In PPKn subjects, elementary school students learn in detail about the history and constitution of the Indonesian state, including an understanding of the Proclamation of Independence, the struggles of the heroes, and the formation of the state and government system. They also learn about the state symbol, national anthem, and other state symbols. In addition, students are taught about the importance of actively participating in democratic life. They are given an understanding of the general election process, the right to vote, and the importance of voting in elections to uphold democratic principles. Students are also taught about the importance of respecting differences of opinion, listening

well, and having constructive dialogue in building an inclusive society. Through Civics learning, elementary school students are also given the opportunity to be involved in community activities, such as flag ceremonies, commemoration of national holidays, and social activities in the community. This helps students understand that they have an important role in building the country and maintaining the integrity and progress of the Indonesian nation. With a deep understanding of the rights and obligations as Indonesian citizens, elementary school students can become individuals who have a high sense of citizenship. They will grow up as a generation that is responsible, cares about social issues, and is ready to play an active role in advancing society and the nation, in accordance with the national spirit and the ideals of Pancasila.(Saputro et al., 2021)

Powerful Character Building

Building a strong character is one of the main goals in elementary school education. Pancasila and Citizenship Education (PPKn) subjects have an important role in achieving this goal by teaching basic values and principles in the formation of student character. In Civics learning, elementary school students are not only taught the values of honesty, fairness, responsibility, discipline, and cooperation, but are also given a deep understanding of the meaning and how important the values of Pancasila are in everyday life. Students are taught to practice these values and apply them in every aspect of their lives.(Maulidayani et al., 2021). In addition, students are also taught to respect differences and understand the importance of diversity in society. They are taught to respect different cultures, religions, ethnicities and backgrounds. This helps students to develop inclusive, tolerant attitudes, and avoid discriminatory attitudes. In Civics learning, students are also given knowledge and skills in making wise decisions. They are taught the importance of considering the impact of every decision they make and taking responsibility for their actions. Students are also taught about ethics in communicating and interacting with others, as well as the importance of complying with applicable rules and norms. Through a holistic Civics learning approach, elementary school students are given the opportunity to develop strong character. They are taught to be honest, fair, responsible, disciplined individuals, and able to work together in a team. The formation of this character will not only have an impact on students' lives at school, but will also have a positive influence on their lives in society and their future as responsible citizens.(Isroani & Huda, 2022)

Implications And Recommendations

This study uncovers significant implications related to the character building of students in elementary schools through Civics subjects. These implications include several aspects that need to be considered in order to ensure effectiveness and success in Civics learning and the formation of holistic student character. The following are some of the implications and recommendations that can be taken: (1) Strengthening the Role of PPKn in the Elementary School Curriculum: The main implication is the need to strengthen the role of PPKn in the SD curriculum. This subject must be given sufficient attention and taught in an integrated manner with other subjects. Thus, the formation of student character can be an ongoing focus in education (2) Adequate Teacher Training: To carry out effective and engaging Civics lessons, teachers need to receive adequate training. This training may include active learning strategies, use of technology, and developing classroom management skills that support the formation of student character (3) Collaboration Between School, Teachers, Parents and Community: Collaboration is very important not only within the school environment but also with parents and the community. Comprehensive programs, creation of supporting resources, and joint efforts to improve Civic Education education at the primary school level are all possible outcomes of this collaboration (4) Utilizing Fun Learning Methods: Another implication is the importance of implementing interesting learning strategies that are in line with the development of elementary school-age children. Students' interest and understanding of Pancasila values can increase as a result of learning strategies that involve games, discussions, simulations, and other forms of active participation from students (5) Evaluation and Monitoring: A good evaluation and monitoring system is needed to measure achievements in character building through PPKn. With a systematic evaluation, schools can identify the successes and challenges faced and make the necessary improvements in implementing Civics learning.

Conclusion

This research has an important impact on how Pancasila and Citizenship Education (PPKn) courses shape the character formation of students in elementary schools. These implications include several important aspects that need to be considered in order to ensure effectiveness and success in Civics learning and the formation of holistic student character. Following are some conclusions drawn from this research: (1) Strengthening the Role of PPKn in the Elementary School Curriculum: This research shows that the role of PPKn in the SD curriculum needs to be strengthened. This subject must be given sufficient attention and taught in an integrated manner with other subjects. Thus, the formation of student character can be an ongoing focus in education (2) Adequate Teacher Training: In

implementing Civics learning, this research suggests the need to provide adequate training to teachers. This training includes active learning strategies, the use of technology in learning, as well as the development of classroom management skills that support the formation of student character (3) Collaboration Between School, Teachers, Parents and Community: Collaboration is very important not only within the school environment but also with parents and the community. Comprehensive programs, creation of supporting resources, and joint efforts to improve Civic Education education at the primary school level are all possible outcomes of this collaboration (4) Utilizing Fun Learning Methods: Another implication is the importance of implementing interesting learning strategies that are in line with the development of elementary school-age children. Students' interest and understanding of Pancasila values can increase as a result of learning strategies that involve games, discussions, simulations, and other forms of active participation from students (5) Evaluation and Monitoring: To ensure the success of building student character through Civics, a good evaluation and monitoring system is needed. With a systematic evaluation, schools can identify the successes achieved and the challenges faced, and make the necessary improvements in implementing Civics learning.

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