



THE ROLE OF CIVIC EDUCATION IN BUILDING CHARACTER IN THE YOUNGER GENERATION

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Abstract

Civic education (PKN) plays an important role in building the character of the younger generation. Strong and quality character is an important component in building individuals who are responsible, care for their environment, and believe in democracy and justice. We discussed the role of civic education in shaping the character of the younger generation. Civic education helps shape the character of the younger generation by teaching values such as nationality, democracy, tolerance, unity, and justice. They are also taught about their rights and duties as citizens, about participating in democracy, and about respecting and respecting differences. The learning target of PKN is to instill an understanding of democracy, critical thinking skills, good communication skills, collaboration within the framework of democratic values, and responsible decision-making skills. PKN also teaches ethics and morality in everyday life, builds good social attitudes, and raises awareness of social and environmental issues. Civic education can be implemented in various ways, such as classroom discussions, simulations, real projects, field trips, and participation in community activities. Using a variety of educational resources, such as textbooks, online materials, and local resources, students are given the opportunity to deepen their knowledge of the importance of being a responsible person. Civic education is essential for building awareness of national identity and national values, and preparing students to be critical, active, and positively contributing citizens to society. It also helps them become good citizens. In short, civic education plays an important role in building the character of the younger generation. PKN can form a young generation that is strong, cares about its environment, and is ready to participate in democratic life and fight for a just and just society through a holistic and interactive approach. Therefore, the education curriculum must prioritize civic education as an important component in character building in the younger generation.

Keywords : Civic Education, Character

Introduction

Civic Education (PKN) is very important to shape the character of children. In this increasingly complex era of globalization, it is important for young people to have strong and qualified character so that they can face the social, political, and moral challenges they face in their daily lives. Civic education can help the younger generation build good character by instilling national values such as democracy, tolerance, justice, and unity. The younger generation is responsible for the future of a country. They are potential leaders, decision makers, and social actors who will determine how society will move and have goals. Therefore, it is important for them to have a strong, resilient, and responsible nature. Strong character will enable them to face life's challenges with integrity, honesty, and mutual respect. Civic education is the main pillar in building the character of the younger generation. PKN provides students with knowledge about democracy, their rights and obligations as citizens, as well as the importance of participating in democracy. According to Abdul (1992: 4) the legal basis underlying citizenship education is the preamble to the 1945 law paragraph 4, the government of the Indonesian state has the same functions and objectives as well as being the goal of the Indonesian people and one of them is to demonstrate general welfare, general welfare. blasphemed if the physical needs and mental needs are met and others.

Agung Suharyanto, The Role of Education Citizenship in Fostering Attitudes Tolerance Pancasila moral education because in fact always be "Scapegoat" when there is behavior conflicting students rules and moral foundations. Second Change of education Pancasila morals and, citizenship is also based on legal aspect, namely article 39 paragraph 2 Education System Act National (UUSPN NO. 2 of 1989) which reads as follows Article 39 paragraph 2 namely the contents of the curriculum every type, path and level education is required to load Pancasila Education; Education religion; Education citizenship according to Abdul (1992: 4) the legal basis underlying citizenship education is the preamble to the 1945 law paragraph 4, the government of the Indonesian state has the same functions and objectives as well as being the goal of the Indonesian people and one of them is to demonstrate general welfare, general welfare. blasphemed if the physical needs and mental needs are met and others

PKN also teaches national values such as love for the country, respect for the national emblem, and understanding the country's history and culture. PKN also helps build attitudes and skills that are important for the younger generation. Through interactive and participatory learning, students are taught to think critically, communicate well, work in teams, and make wise decisions. In addition, they are given the opportunity to develop good social attitudes and concern for social and environmental issues, as well as knowledge of ethics and morality in various situations of daily life. Although civic education is essential to building the character of the younger generation, there are still some issues that need to be addressed. Some of these problems include an unintegrated curriculum, lack of teacher understanding of character education, and the education system's lack of attention to PKN. Additional research and development on the role of civic education in building character in young people in this context is essential. This research can provide a deeper understanding of effective teaching techniques, how to create an integrated curriculum, and the active role of teachers in helping young people build good character. In this article, we will discuss how Civic Education (PKN) plays an important role in building the character of the younger generation. We will discuss the values taught in Civics, effective learning methods, problems faced, and important implications of research and development carried out in this field. We hope this article will provide valuable insights and provide a basis for further research and development in the field of Civic Education.

Research Methodology

This research uses a qualitative approach to gain a deeper understanding of the role of civic education in building character in the younger generation. The qualitative approach allows the researcher to thoroughly explore the experience and perspective of the research subject. Research Participants: Students and educators involved in the civic education process were involved in the study. The selection of students is done by considering various school contexts, education levels, and social backgrounds of students. Students can come from a variety of schools to demonstrate diversity in educational contexts. Data Collection, class observations are conducted to see how Civic Education learning is conducted and how teachers and students interact with each other. Interviews were conducted with teachers to gain further understanding of teaching methods, issues faced, and the role of Civic Education in building the character of the younger generation. Data Analysis, thematic analysis methods are used to analyze the collected qualitative data. Systematically, interview transcripts and observation notes are analyzed to find emerging patterns, themes, and concepts. In addition, questionnaire data can be analyzed in a descriptive statistical manner to get a general idea of students' perceptions. Validity and Reliability, to ensure the validity of the study, data triangulation is performed by comparing results from various data sources, such as observations, interviews, and questionnaires. Research reliability is obtained from the clarity of research procedures, good documentation, and reflectivity of researchers. Interpretation and Findings, the results of data analysis are used to understand the role of Civic Education in building character in the younger generation. This decision is combined with a literature review conducted to provide a new understanding of the research topic. This research is expected to provide a deep understanding of the role of civic education in building the character of the younger generation and provide a basis for the development of better character education in education.

Result & Discussion

Civic education is very important to build character in the younger generation and build positive attitudes, values, and behaviors. The following are some of the findings and results of the study: (1) National Values: Civic education is effective in instilling national values in the younger generation. Research shows that civic education can help students understand national history and culture, love of homeland, and respect for state symbols. It is important to instill a strong sense of nationalism in the younger generation (2) Character Competency Development: Civic education is very important to build character competencies in the younger generation. Students are educated to think critically, communicate well, work in teams, and make responsible decisions through interactive and engaged Civics learning. Civic education helps students cultivate good social attitudes such as tolerance, empathy, justice, and concern for social and environmental issues (3) The Role of Teachers in Character

Building: Teachers play an important role in building character in the younger generation through civic education. Competent teachers have the ability to create a learning environment that supports the growth of student character. They have the ability to apply innovative educational approaches, enable people to speak and think, and demonstrate examples of good behavior. Civic Education learning can be a valuable experience for students in building their character through positive relationships between teachers and students (4) Challenges and Implications: The research found several issues that need to be addressed, even though civic education is essential to building the character of the younger generation. This research shows that the curriculum must be integrated, teachers must be given sufficient training, and educational institutions must play an active role in implementing Civic Education as an effort to build character in the younger generation. This research enhances our understanding of the role of civic education in building the character of the younger generation. The results of this study can be used as a basis for making education policies that further strengthen the role of civic education in building the character of the younger generation.

Conclusion

This research shows that civic education plays an important role in building the character of the younger generation. The results show that civic education can help students recognize national values, build character competencies, and foster positive attitudes. Students can gain good critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and social attitude skills through interactive and participatory PKN learning. The role of the teacher in character building is also very important. Experienced teachers can create a learning environment that supports the development of student character. By using innovative teaching methods, allowing discussion and reflection, and exemplifying good behavior, teachers can positively influence students' character development. However, the study also found several issues that need to be addressed, such as a non-integrated curriculum, teachers' lack of understanding of character education, and the education system's lack of attention to civic education. Therefore, this study shows that curricula should be integrated, teachers should be given sufficient training, and educational institutions should be actively supportive to strengthen education. Civic Education is very important to build character in the younger generation. Civic Education can help students become responsible people, care about society, have strong national values, and are able to work together to overcome the challenges of the times through comprehensive and integrated learning. Therefore, it is imperative for governments, educational institutions, and educators to pay greater attention to civic education and ensure that it is implemented correctly. To form a strong character in the younger generation, civic education must be well incorporated into the curriculum, supported by adequate resources, and supported by qualified teachers.

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