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# THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN CHARACTER EDUCATION TO PREVENT BULLYING IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

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#### **Abstract**

The purpose of this research is to examine the role of parents in forming and instilling character education to prevent bullying in elementary school-age children. Because bullying often occurs in elementary school-age children repeatedly. Therefore the role of parents in instilling character education in children is very important. Character education is instilled by people from an early age to dispel forms of bullying behavior in the community and at school. Parents are the first place for a child to get socialization regarding character education. Children spend more time at home with their parents, so that parents have the biggest contribution to character education in children. By providing character education to children from an early age, it can be useful for children's lives in the future. In making this article aims to examine a phenomenon of the role of parents in the formation of character in children using descriptive qualitative research methods. Qualitative descriptive method is a research method that describes, describes, and analyzes objects from a particular situation from all the data that has been obtained during field activities. From the results of research at SDN 105416 Sei Rejo, it ranks less well in children's character education. Because the family environment is the closest environment to children. Parents must pay attention to and provide guidance to children so that children can understand and practice character values well in their daily lives. The subjects in this study were parents and children. The object of this study was character building in elementary school children. This article will discuss the role of parents in character building in elementary school children at SDN 105416 Sei Rejo.

**Keywords:** Bullying, The role of parents, Elementary school children's character.

#### Introduction

Bullying is a form of child abuse committed by peers to someone (child) who is "lower" or weaker in order to gain certain benefits or satisfaction. The culture of bullying (violence) in the name of seniority still continues to occur among children, especially in elementary schools, bullying usually occurs repeatedly, some are even carried out in a planned manner. Riauskina, Djuwita, and Soesetio (2005) define school bullying as aggressive behavior that is carried out repeatedly by a person or group of students who have power, against other weaker students, with the aim of hurting that person. According to Agus Zainul in Ilham Kudi (2017: 31) there are many factors that contribute to influencing moral quality among students. One such factor; is an example from teachers, parents, and society. The second is caused by an exemplary crisis among national leaders which makes children no longer care about teacher's advice and many other things. According to the Child Protection Commission (KPAI), Indonesia is the country with the most cases of bullying in schools reported by the public to the Child Protection Commission. KPAI recorded 369 reports related to this problem. 25% of this amount is reporting in the field of education, namely as many as 1,480 cases. Reported cases are only a small portion of the cases that occur, few acts of violence against children are not reported (Setiawan, 2015). According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP: 2018) that bullying is a form of juvenile delinquency caused by the aggressiveness of perpetrators in a community and causes discomfort felt by victims because the incident is repeated. The consequences of these actions are physical, psychological, social and educational disturbances. In order to overcome these problems

character education is one way or means to improve children's morale, especially elementary school children. This is where the role of parents is needed to teach and apply character education to elementary school children. Character is a trait that exists within a person that can influence personal matters such as thinking, behavior, understanding, and character in a person. Character has an influence in one's life. Lately there have been many problems circulating that lead to the fading of character values in the field of children's attitudes and characters. In the last few years, data shows that there is a decline in the character of the younger generation in Indonesia.

This is evidenced by the increase in the number of cases of brawls which started from 46 cases to 126 cases, and cases of violence in schools increased from 67 to 96 cases (BPS, 2016). At the age of an elementary school child, the family is the first place a child gets education. According to Lazarusli et al. (2014) in (Muhammadiyah Mataram Mataram et al., 2022) the family has a function as the spearhead of a group that socializes the character values that must be implemented by its members. The family greatly influences the child's ability to develop the character values of discipline, obedience to rules, willingness to work with others and others. This relates to the functions and objectives of national education as stated in Law Number 20 of 2003 concerning the National Education system article 3 which reads "National education functions to develop and shape the character and dignity of a nation's civilization in order to educate the life of the nation, aiming to develop the potential of students so that they become human beings who have faith and are devoted to God Almighty, have noble character, are healthy, knowledgeable, capable, creative, independent and become citizens of a democratic and responsible state. Parents are one of the first and most important educational institutions in a child, because a child is raised and born from parents, and will develop into adulthood. Parents are the role models for a child. because every child at first admires his parents, all the behavior of his parents is imitated by his children. Children's behavior will be good if the behavior of their parents is good. And the child's behavior will be bad if the parents behave badly. In other words, it is the parents who have the duty and responsibility in determining the good and bad character of the child. Parents will be role models for children, and children will get used to imitating the behavior of their parents. Parents must pay attention to their children's education, because in the process of children's education the role of parents is very important. Parents must be able to set good examples and habits for their children from an early age, because this will affect their development. The importance of parents to their children's education is not small, because education is the main capital that every living individual must have in order to survive in the times. the best education for children, in the early years Parental involvement in children's education is proven to have many positive impacts on children. Of course, the active role of parents needs to be supported by good communication between parents. Character education is an effort that must involve all interests in education, both the family, school, school environment, and the wider community. Character building and character education will not work if there is no balance and harmony between the educational environment.

#### **Research Methodology**

This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach which aims to describe in-depth problems with the behavior and natural occurrences of the role of parents in building children's character to prevent bullying in elementary school children. The descriptive type is used to accurately reflect data using sentences, describing events and complex facts in the field. Research subjects were determined using a purposive sampling technique based on certain criteria and considerations to obtain more effective information. Data collection was carried out through interviews, observation and documentation. To obtain the validity of the data using source triangulation techniques, namely checking and comparing the data obtained has similarities with the same data sources with observation and documentation techniques. The data were then analyzed using an interactive model that followed the format of Miles & Hurbeman (1992) which included: data reduction, data presentation and conclusion.

### **Result & Discussion**

The Notion of Bullying

Bullying comes from the English language "bully" which means to bully or disturb, bullying can be interpreted as a situation where there is an abuse of power or strength. Strength here is not only physical, but also mental. Lately bullying has become a problem that is often encountered among students, especially elementary school students who do not fully understand the meaning of national unity, and lack of attention and supervision from various parties. According to Siswati and Widayanti (2009) bullying behavior is a form of aggressive behavior. Such as ridicule, insults, and threats are often as an inducement that can lead to aggression. According to Smith and Thompson (Yusuf & Fahrudin, 2012) bullying is defined as a set of behaviors that are carried out intentionally and cause the physical and psychological intelligence of those who receive them. So that it can be interpreted that the perpetrator of this bullying attacked the victim consciously and deliberately without thinking about the victim's condition. Based on the definitions of bullying above, it can be concluded that bullying is a desire to injure both

physically and mentally which is done by a person or group of people to other people repeatedly, which occurs because of an imbalance of power between the perpetrator and the victim and causes satisfaction from the perpetrator in carrying out the act of bullying, in which this action will greatly affect a person's morale and personality, someone who has done bullying before will think that the action is mediocre and will do it again at another time, this is influenced by self-satisfaction that is felt when bullying which results in a person's moral degradation. According to Coloroso (in Zakiyah, et al. 2017, p. 328) classifies types of bullying into three types, including: (1) Physical Bullying. Physical bullying is the most visible and most identifiable type of bullying among other forms of bullying. Types of physical bullying include hitting, choking, elbowing, punching, kicking, biting, pinching, clawing, and spitting on children who are being bullied to painful positions, and damaging and destroying clothes and belongings of children who are being bullied (2) Verbal Bullying . Verbal bullying can be in the form of calling someone a name they don't like, criticizing, slandering, giving cruel criticism, insulting and giving nuanced statements of sexual solicitation or sexual harassment. In addition, verbal bullying can take the form of depriving pocket money or goods, calling in abusive language, sending intimidating e-mails, sending letters containing threats of violence, untrue accusations, vicious gossip, and spread gossip (3) Relational Bullying. Rational bullying is bullying that is the most difficult for others to detect. These behaviors can include covert gestures such as aggressive looks, eye glances, sighs, shuddering shoulders, sneers, mocking laughter, and rude body language. Based on the three opinions above, it can be seen that the types of bullying are divided into several categories, including physical bullying that can be seen and heard by the human senses, verbal bullying that can be heard by the human sense of hearing, and psychological bullying that is not can be seen and heard directly by humans.

# Factors That Cause Bullying

According to Wahyuni in (Sari et al., 2014) the factors that influence individuals to bully are: (1) Family Factor Intercadial factors in the family play an important role in the psychosocial development of children, namely the parenting style applied by parents to children, and when children reach adolescence, children will have their own perceptions of parenting styles, Wahyuni (Sari et al., 2014). given by parents to their children allows children to model this behavior towards their friends. In other words, authoritarian parenting styles have a major influence on children engaging in Ribby bullying behavior (Sari et al., 2014) (2) Individual Internal Characteristics Individual characters carry out bullying behavior such as revenge or jealousy as a result of past experiences, then there is a passion to dominate the victim with physical strength and sexual attraction and to increase the perpetrator's popularity among Astui's peer group (Sari et al., 2014). In line with the statement above, Wong's research (Sari et al., 2014) found that 38% of respondents (bullies) stated that they bullied because they wanted revenge after being bullied victims (3) School Factor Abdul Rahman (in Wiyani, 2012) said that violence/bullying in education arises as a result of violations accompanied by punishment, especially corporal punishment. Schools displaying poor education systems and policies have a tendency to commit subtle and covert crimes such as humiliation and exclusion. Astuti (Sari et al., 2014) adds several assumptions that bullying occurs, among others, due to several factors as follows: (a) Differences in economy, religion, gender, ethnicity/racism (b) Siniority Stransition (c) Siniority.

#### *Understanding The Role Of Parents*

Before seeing how the role of parents in shaping the character of children, first know what the meaning of the role is. The role in KBBI is a level device that is expected to be owned by people who are in the community. Role is the ability or readiness possessed by someone to influence, encourage others to accept the influence themselves. Role is the ability or readiness possessed by someone to influence, encourage others to accept the influence themselves. Then do something that will help achieve a certain purpose and goal. Role is the ability or readiness possessed by someone to influence, encourage others to accept the influence themselves. Then do something that will help achieve a certain purpose and goal. So it can be seen that the role is a form of behavior that is expected in a certain social framework or a form of implementing parents in inviting, participating or serving as parents who have responsibility for their children to help achieve the desired goals. Meanwhile, parents themselves are fathers or mothers who are the main and first educators for their children, because it is from their parents that they first receive education. Parents are also known as the closest people to their children. Parents consist of father and mother. A father must be able to advise and give to his child, just as a mother must be able to advise her daughter. Therefore, it is clear that both parents absolutely must act, speak, behave and have good morals and behavior together for the benefit of the child. Parenting is one of the processes that couples do with children. This pair consists of a father and mother who will give the children an example, guidance, direction, advice and a good attitude. Based on the explanation above, it can be explained that parents are fathers and mothers who have great responsibility for their children and become role models for their children. at first he will imitate everything, good and bad that is in his parents. Parents or father and mother are figures who play an important role and are very influential on their children.

#### The Role of Parents in Shaping The character of Children

Children are a mandate given by God to humans (6-12 years). What children become in the future really depends on their parents. Parents and the surrounding environment that will shape it. The role of parents is as a good educator in the family who will form a good child's personality, the development of the child's personality will be controlled and shaped with guidance and assistance, because parents are the first place of education for children. This is also in accordance with the opinion below, namely: "Parents are the first place of guidance in terms of forming a child's character. Children not only need material fulfillment but also affection, attention, encouragement, and the presence of people by their side". Based on the explanation above, the role of parents in shaping character is to guide or become the main role model for all their children. Guiding can be through very effective behaviors in directing children to become useful people. Effective behavior given by parents must be supported by policies implemented by regulators that are implemented by all members of society in all aspects of daily life. Meanwhile, being the main role model for their children can be done with positive things, because children will learn from what they see. The role of parents to shape character in children can also be done with care, coaching and by educating and accompanying them from an early age. Parents or the smallest structure in society is the initial key in forming character values in children. Parents play a very important role in the development of children. This is in accordance with the opinion below, namely: "The role of parents is very large in educating, fostering, and raising them to become adults." Based on the above opinion, the role of parents in shaping character is to teach good children's character and discipline children to behave according to what has been taught. Parents are also obliged to create a warm and peaceful atmosphere and be a positive role model for their children. This is in accordance with the opinion below. Since birth his mother has always been by his side. Therefore the child will imitate his mother. The role of the father towards his son is also great. Where the father's son is someone with the highest prestige and the smartest among the people he knows. When the child's character has been formed, parents are obliged to develop it. According to Gunadi, there are three main roles that fathers and mothers can play in shaping a child's character, such as: (1) Obliged to create a warm and peaceful atmosphere (2) Be a positive role model for children because children learn a lot from what they see, the character of parents shown through real behavior is learning material that children will absorb (3) Educating children means teaching good character and disciplining children to behave according to what is taught. In detail, there are 10 ways parents can do to develop good character in their children, including: (a) Placing the duties and responsibilities of father and mother as the main agenda (b) Evaluate in spending time for a day/week (c) Prepare yourself to be the best example (d) Open eyes and ears to whatever the child is absorbing or experiencing (e) Use character language. Children will be able to develop their character if their parents use clear and clear language about good and bad behavior (f) Punish with love (g)Learn to listen to children (h) Get involved in the child's school life (i) Not educating character through words alone.

# Understanding of Character and Character Education

Character is a character, behavior, or personality that distinguishes an individual from other individuals. Or character can also be said as the actual condition of another individual. Character education is a system that imparts character values to an individual which includes knowledge, awareness of will and action to be able to carry out these values both in God. God Almighty, himself, others, the environment as well as the nation and state. The word character is already familiar to anyone who hears it. In everyday life it is very often mentioned, both when you see someone behaving well or behaving badly. Sudaryani (2012: 13-14) in (Khaironi, 2017) the large Indonesian dictionary, "character" is defined as a psychological trait, morals, or character. Character can also be interpreted as character, namely behavior or actions that are always done or habits. Character education is a combination of two words, namely education and character, according to Ki Hajar Dewantara character education is the power or effort to advance the mind, body and manners so that they are in harmony with the surrounding environment and also nature (Dalimunthe, 2015) in (Khamalah, 2017). Character education is also a basic concept that is applied to one's thinking to make physical and spiritual morals and manners more meaningful than before. Character education must be applied to children from an early age, teenagers, and even adults, so that it can form a person's character to become more valuable and moral. Individuals with good character are people who always try to do the best for God, himself, his environment, other people, his nation and his country. Good character means an individual who knows about his own potential. Education is a conscious effort to develop students' potential optimally. This conscious effort cannot be separated from the environment students are in, especially from their cultural

environment, because students live inseparable in their environment and act according to their cultural norms, so that love for their own national culture is formed. Character education aims to strengthen the basic foundation of children as a preparation for life and being able to adapt to their environment. Kohlberg (1975) in (Majors et al., n.d.) states that children at a young age do not understand morals, so they do not understand the meaning of good and bad. This is where the role of parents is very large in providing a strong moral foundation for children.

#### Essence of Character Education

Etymologically "character" comes from the Latin ver meaning instrument of narking, from the French "charessein" meaning to engrave (carve) then from the Javanese language "watek" means innate traits that influence behavior, character, character, temperament. Education is a process of changing human behavior, while character is an identity inherent in humans. Lickona (Setiardi, 2017) defines character education as an effort that is deliberately designed to change the character of students. While in simple terms character education can be interpreted as any positive thing that the teacher does and influences the character of the students he teaches (Samani & Hariyanto, 2013). in (Annisa et al., n.d.). Character is a way of thinking and behaving that characterizes each individual to live and work together within the family, community, nation and state. Individuals with good character are individuals who can take responsibility for every consequence and decision they make. Education is the process of internalizing culture into a person and society so as to make people and society civilized. Education is not only a means of transferring knowledge, but more broadly, that is, as a means of cultivating and channeling values, a child must receive an education that incorporates the three basic dimensions of humanity. Even if based on Bloom's opinion (1979: 7) there are three domains in learning, namely cognitive, affective, and psychomotor. These three domains must be developed comprehensively in learning. Likewise in terms of character education, to be able to form good character in students, schools should develop three important aspects, namely moral knowing (moral knowledge), moral feeling (moral feelings), and moral action (moral behavior) (Lickona, 1991:53) (Wuryandani et al., 2014). Character education in Puskur (2010) in (Kadek et al., 2018) is value education, character education, character education which aims to develop students' abilities to make good and bad decisions, choose what is good and realize that goodness in everyday life. day. The purpose of character education is to foster individual attitudes that have moral values and productive attitudes in life and are willing to do the best things and do the right things in life. (Battistic, 2011) in (Indrastoeti, 2016). The core character education aims to form a nation that is tough, competitive, has noble character, is moral, tolerant, works together, has a patriotic spirit, develops dynamically, is science and technology oriented, all imbued with faith and piety to God Almighty based on Pancasila. According to law number 20 of 2003 concerning the national education system article 13 paragraph (1), that the educational path consists of formal, informal and non-formal education which can complement and enrich each other (Puspytasari, 2022). Character education functions (1) to develop the basic potential to have a good heart and good mind, (2) to strengthen and build a multicultural nation's behavior (3) to develop a nation's civilization that is cooperative in world affairs. Character education is carried out starting from various media which includes the family, educational units, civil society, political society, and the mass media. Character education is not just teaching what is right and what is wrong, more than that, character education instills habits about good things so that children become aware (cognitive) of what is right and wrong, are able to feel (affective) good values and are used to doing (psychomotor).

#### How to Build a Child's Character

Character will be formed as a result of understanding the 3 relationships that must be experienced by every human being, namely the relationship with oneself, with the environment, and God Almighty. Each of these results will provide meaning/understanding which will eventually become the child's values and beliefs. The child's way of understanding the form of this relationship will determine the way the child treats his world. Negative understanding will impact on negative treatment and positive understanding will treat the world positively. For this reason, foster a positive understanding of children, one of which is by giving trust to children to make decisions for themselves, helping children to direct their potential so that they are more able to explore on their own, not pressing it either directly or subtly, by so on. Familiarize children to socialize and interact with the surrounding environment. Remember the choice of environment greatly determines the formation of character in children. As the saying goes, hanging out with perfume sellers makes you smell good, hanging out with fish sellers makes you smelly. Like that, a good and healthy environment will foster a healthy and good character, and vice versa. And what cannot be ignored is building a spiritual relationship with God Almighty. Spiritual relationship with God Almighty is built through the implementation of ritual worship appreciation that is implemented in life. The inculcation of character education values will be meaningful if these values can be implemented in everyday life.

Therefore, the values of character education emphasize more on children's habits to do positive things (Putri & Hudah, 2019).

#### The Importance of Education to Elementary Scholl Children

Quality character will need to be formed and nurtured from an early age. Early age, especially elementary school age, is a crisis period for the formation of one's character. Understanding morals through character education as early as possible for children is the main key to building a nation. Rosicum. (2018) in (Muhammadiyah Mataram Mataram et al., 2022) Instilling character education from an early age is the most expensive price that parents need to pay for their children. Character is the main basis for other character education. By having the character of the child will be able to decorate his good deeds based on religious values. In the family, parents have a very important role in the formation of children's character. The characteristics of children with character can be seen if the child is based on piety and faith in God in daily behavior, wants to worship, has sufficient religious knowledge, has religious experience, and is able to practice religious teachings in everyday life. The character here is a person's character, manners, morals or personality, which is the result of internalization of various policies that are believed and used by the community as a basis for views, thoughts, attitudes and actions. Wahid Abdul Education and moral development are the most important and urgent things to maintain a stable life. Parents cannot directly avoid the expected variables in the formation of a child's personality. The reason for education is to use everything that is useful, such as knowledge of religion, culture and civilization, to form a child's mentality. Character education is an attempt to change and build the habits of students who were not good to be good and good to be better, the rest of that character education is intended to build students who are more faithful, pious, have noble character and are more responsible. (Sutisna et al., 2019). The implementation of environmental care character education is very influential from the conditioning carried out by the school to fulfill each program. In accordance with Wiyani's opinion, (2013) explains that in this study the supporting factors for the implementation of cultural and character education in schools are through conditioning in the school environment (Naziyah et al., 2021).

# The Role of The Family in The Formation of The Character of Elementary School-age Children

Family is an important factor affecting children's education. The character of the child comes from the family. In Indonesia, some children under the age of 18 spend 60-80% of their time with their families. Until they are 18 years old, they still need their parents and family warmth. The success of a child can not be separated from the "warmth of the family". Brain development in childhood works efficiently. Currently, children's academic and non-academic talents and potential are revealed, and their potential is enormous. The age of one to three years is the most important period for the growth and development of a child. Indicators of child growth and development are not only measured from physical development, but also from brain development which can be seen from their response to the environment. To see the intelligence of a child's brain, parents need to understand which changes are important for the child. If parents are not responsive to child development, problems will come when the child is an adult. The character of a child is formed especially in children aged 3-10 years. It is the duty of parents to determine what kind of input goes into their minds, so that they can form a quality child's character. The inculcation of character education values will be meaningful if these values can be implemented in everyday life. Therefore, the values of character education emphasize more on children's habits to do positive things. Character is something that is formed over time and the development of a child. Latifah, A. (2020) The following are the factors that make the role of the family very important in the child's development process (a) The family is a small institution whose members interact face to face closed (b) Parents have great motivation to educate their children because children are the fruit of the love of a husband and wife relationship (c) Due to closed social relations in the family

The purpose of the role of the family environment in forming development in early childhood is that parents teach their children about: Self-mastery, basic values of character, social roles. Various guidelines on children's education emphasize that parents can be good listeners and communicators, be able to be role models, create a learning environment at home, not develop narrow and shallow thinking in children, and be able to instill honesty. Therefore, the main thing here is the quality of interaction between family members, not the quantity (Go Setiawan, 2000). in (Ainemer et al., 1990) However, self-confidence must start from home. This means that the house must be endeavored to be a place to foster children's self-confidence and form other good personalities. The role of parents in educating children is very influential in the child's development process, although it needs to be supported by social institutions such as schools and also the environment. Likewise, the attitude of parents on the other hand, is very influential in education in the family, because this will affect the characteristics or behavior of children. The success of a child is largely determined by the family, because that's where the first child gets an education.

#### Educate through behavior examples

Behavioral examples are very effective in directing children to become useful people. Effective behavior given by parents must be supported by policies implemented by regulators that are implemented by all family members in all aspects of daily life. educating through examples of behavior basically includes honesty, mutual respect, courtesy, kindness, friendliness, and obeying rules. Educating through behavioral models is suitable for children aged 6-12 years. Because children aged 6-12 years are identical to imitating the behavior of those closest to them, especially their parents.

#### Implementing an early education system

Parents are the first and foremost educators for children. Education is an effort to develop human qualities in all its aspects. Education as a deliberate activity to achieve certain goals. The most basic things demanded in early childhood education are honesty, mutual respect, courtesy, kindness, friendliness, and obedience to rules. Honesty, mutual respect, courtesy, kindness, friendliness, and obedience to rules in early childhood education will greatly shape character for the better. This will result in the atmosphere of the child's character becoming more organized or formed.

#### Doing a habituation system

Forming and guiding a child towards the safety of inner training will be more effective if it is supported by habituation. Familiarizing children to obey religious regulations as a cultural and social phenomenon will form a conducive atmosphere in the child's soul like carving on stone that is difficult to erase..

# Culture of dialogue between parents and children

Guidance in the teachings of Islam there are three types, among others, someone invokes virtue effectively, namely guiding with wisdom, gentle teaching, and in the form of mutually pleasant exchange of thoughts or reciprocal dialogue. With a culture of dialogue between parents and children or exchanging ideas, parents will have dialogue accompanied by advice that is in accordance with the teachings of Allah SWT. That way it is hoped that children will have a good heart in accordance with Islamic teachings.

# Apply the principle of fairness in managing the available time

As a parent, it is indeed very difficult to place the task of educating children in second position, but the demands of meeting the needs of children and families also require special attention to be put first, if there is a conflict between the two needs which are equally important, of course the most effective answer is a wise attitude in giving charge in the arrangement. schedule, age, and opportunities given by God to parents. This is where parents are required to be selective and wise in determining the allocation of time for careers and responsibilities as parents who will be held accountable before humans and before God.

#### The Role of Parents as Role Models

Parents want the best for their children, so the attitudes and behavior of children must be formed and developed so that they reflect a good attitude. Therefore, as people who are imitated, parents are very concerned about how to behave with children and other people, because giving direct examples will be well remembered by children. Even though the attitude of parents sometimes adopts authoritarian parenting, it shapes the child's character well. Because the development of a child's character is greatly influenced by his childhood. As a source of knowledge at home, there are several roles for parents as role models in educating children's character (1) Guiding children to always pay attention to time and perform congregational prayers and read the Qur'an (2) Invite children to visit neighbors who are sick (3) Form good habits at home, such as cleaning the yard, tidying up the bedroom, watering the plants, and other household chores (4) Introducing good character to children, such as respecting adults, speaking honestly and politely, being responsible, and being tolerant because by doing so children will learn as social beings in society. As people who lay the foundation for character education for children, parents must have a good personality, because children are like white paper on which anything can be written, be it positive or negative. Therefore, the task of parents is to introduce good character to children. Starting from simple habits at home to how to behave with other people. Develop character education for children, parents give examples and explain to children the benefits of what they do or do. So that character education is not just knowledge, but becomes a habit (habit) that is carried out repeatedly until adulthood.

#### Obstacles in The Rormation of Children's Character

Understanding the character of elementary age children is sometimes so difficult that they are often unable to do it. Most are confused by children so they feel reluctant to share many things, for example stories at school, their problems. When children start to feel uncomfortable talking to parents, it means that parents have not been able to gain trust and understand the character of their own children. There are 3 needs that must be fulfilled in children aged 0-7 years and even more, namely, (1) The need for security (2) The need to control (3) The need to be accepted. These three basic emotional needs must be met so that children become reliable individuals and have strong character to face life. This is the character of a child with problems, it is enough for us to see from his visible behavior that parents can already do early detection of the "big disasters" of life that will come. In Islamic literature it is found that the genetic factor is recognized as one of the factors influencing character formation. However, it was found that the most important factors affecting children's character apart from genes are other factors such as food, friends, parents, and goals which are the strongest factors in coloring a person's character. Thus it is clear that the character can be formed. Parents are the main influencing factor. In shaping the character of a child, parents encounter many obstacles and support. This is in accordance with the explanation below. Inhibiting factors for parents in shaping children's character, namely: lack of parents to give attention, support and affection to their children, parents are not able to set an example for children, parents cannot provide a sense of security to children, parents' demands are too high, high, parents who cannot give trust to children, parents who cannot foster initiative and creativity in children.

#### Efforts Made by Parents in Children's Character Education

There are several things parents need to do so that children don't feel reluctant with their own parents, namely the following: (1) Listen well to children. Don't just listen to the child as a condition, but listen carefully, give a response and think about the solution if the child has a problem. Many parents think their children's stories are not important and only listen to them as symbols or conditions. Meanwhile, children know that they are not being heard and begin to distance themselves from their parents. When that happens, parents have taken the wrong step to understand a child (2) Trying to understand the child's emotional type. For example, the type of child who is impatient but actually he can be more patient if given good understanding. Therefore, understand the child's emotional type and don't give anger or violence when the child has touched the negative side of his emotions. Give him understanding or other ways so that the child's emotions don't get worse over time (3) Introduce children well. Some parents tend to rush and have no patience when they find something wrong and want to get facts about it from their child. If you carry out interrogations with the concept of saying loudly, forcing, and even hitting. Then the child will lie to the parents, and the concept of understanding the child's character can disappear. Interrogate the child gently, make him tell the truth, and find out how the child is able to tell things that are very confidential to people you know. If that happens, then the parents understand the child's character and are ready to educate them better. Efforts to form a child's character require underlying conditions for the formation of a good personality. According to Megawangi (2003) in (Kurniati, 2016) there are 3 basic needs of children that must be fulfilled, namely maternal bonding, a sense of security, and physical and mental stimulation. Maternal bonding (psychological position with the mother) is an important basis in the process of forming a child's character because this aspect plays a role in forming the basis of trust in others. Growing a sense of security thereby fostering a sense of trust. In addition, children need a sense of security, namely a stable and safe environment. A changing environment will cause danger in the formation of children's emotions. Children also need physical and mental stimulation in the formation of children's character so that children can appear confident. Based on the results of the articles that have been made, it can be said that parents have a very large role and influence in the life of children's development. The character here is the character, morals, personality of a person who is formed.

#### Conclusion

Character education is a process that never stops, character education must continue over time character education is needed for each individual to become a better person and be able to uphold human values. The importance of character education for a child of primary age is based on the existence of criticality in child development, to improve the study of this article, suggestions are needed, namely the following: (1) character education that has taken place in the family environment needs to be further improved towards a better direction by adhere to the level of consistency, (2) parents need to understand the method of developing the character of an elementary school child in an interesting and fun way and also be able to keep children from getting bored, (3) need to overcome the obstacles parents face in their child's character education through parenting activities with fellow parents, discuss or consult with elementary school teacher education experts.

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