



THE ROLE OF CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION IN FORMING PERSONS WITH CHARACTER IN PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

Aperlita Fahmawati Simanungkalit¹

¹Universitas Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara

Email: ¹aperlitasimanungkalit@gmail.com

Abstract

This article aims to find out and explain the role of Citizenship Education in forming individuals with character in elementary school children. The research method uses a descriptive qualitative study approach where the basis for discussion comes from book sources, previously existing relevant journals and scientific articles. This research was conducted to obtain information and data that focuses on obtaining data, sources and also supporting evidence related to the problems discussed. Researchers obtained references from relevant and reputable scientific journals related to the problems discussed, namely Citizenship and Character Education. This research explains the role of citizenship education in forming personal character in elementary school children. The results of this research show that the role of citizenship education in forming character in elementary school children highlights the importance of instilling civic values, ethics and social responsibility from an early age. Citizenship education helps children develop a sense of civic responsibility, respect for diversity, and an understanding of democratic principles, which are important for building strong, principled character.

Keywords : Citizenship, character, elementary school

Introduction

Education is a conscious and planned effort to realize atmosphere Study And process learning so that participant Students actively develop their potential to have strength religious spirituality, self-control, personality, intelligence, morals noble, as well as the skills needed by himself, society, nation and state. According to (Suwahyu, 2019) Education can also be said to be one of the paths through which some humans determine their future. Character education is one of the types of education that must be instilled in forming the character of elementary school children. Instilling civic values, ethics and social responsibility from a young age is very necessary. Character education plays a very important role for humans, because good character can help children grow, especially elementary school children. Character is instilled in elementary school children so that they have traits that care about other people, have an opinion, and also have a sense of responsibility. Which was conveyed by (Sari, 2017) that the essence of character is something that can be seen from the habits carried out, because character is not just behavior and understanding, but character is something that has become a habit within a person and is also applied in everyday life. day. Character according to (Fadlan et al, 2023) in his book says that character is a collection of values that lead to a system, which underlies the thoughts, attitudes and behavior displayed. Citizenship education is a subject in elementary school and also has an important role in the world of education. In citizenship education there are values such as; religious values, honesty, intelligence, toughness, caring, democracy, nationalism, adherence to rules, respecting differences, and also being aware of the rights and obligations of oneself and others. This good character can be instilled by studying citizenship education. In several previous studies that have been carried out (Akbal, 2016) with his research on Citizenship Education in Building National Character, discussing citizenship education as an educational program to build good citizens. (Kamza et

al., 2021) has discussed strategies for shaping student character in elementary schools by prioritizing appropriate learning strategies to shape character, and the role of Citizenship Education teachers in shaping student character which has been discussed by (Bego et al., 2016). It is hoped that this research will provide benefits such as: 1. It is hoped that this research can be used as a basis for teachers to develop character education through citizenship learning. 2. It is hoped that this research can provide information to teachers and parents about the importance of citizenship education in the formation of children with more character, especially in an effort to create a generation with better character and character. 3. It is hoped that this research will increase knowledge about citizenship education as a means of building better character.

Research Methodology

In this research, researchers used qualitative methods with a descriptive qualitative approach. According to (Sugiyono, 2016) the qualitative research method is a method that is based on the philosophy of postpositivism, qualitative research methods are used for research that focuses on the natural conditions of objects. Meanwhile, according to (Miranti et al., 2021), the descriptive qualitative research method is research with results in the form of descriptions of the problems discussed by providing several descriptions of what occurs in everyday life. This research was conducted to obtain information and data that focuses on obtaining data, sources and also supporting evidence related to the problems discussed. Researchers obtained references from relevant and reputable scientific journals related to the problems discussed, namely Citizenship and Character Education. After the data is obtained from relevant reference sources, it is then concluded as the answer to the problems that have been discussed.

Result & Discussion

Character education according to (Ministry of National Education, 2010) is everything done by teachers, which is able to influence the character of students. (Febriyanti, 2021) said that character education is a deliberate effort to help someone so that he can understand, pay attention to, and carry out good ethical values. Character education according to (Depdiknas, 2010), namely; (1) Developing students' conscience or affective potential as humans and citizens who have character values; (2) Develop habits and behavior of participants that are commendable and in line with global values and religious cultural traditions of the nation; (3) Instilling leadership and responsibility in students as the nation's next generation; (4) Develop students' abilities to become independent, creative, national-minded human beings; (5) Developing the school life environment as a learning environment that is safe, honest, full of creativity and friendship, as well as a high and strong sense of nationality. The following are the three main functions according to (Ministry of National Curriculum Center, 2010), namely; (1) Formation and development of potential (2) Repair and strengthening (3) Filtering. Character education through citizenship education has been regulated by National Education Government No. 22 of 2006 in (Indrawati, 2015) where citizenship education is one of the subjects that focuses on building character so that they are able to carry out their rights and obligations to become good, intelligent, creative, responsible and trustworthy citizens. Citizenship education plays a role in providing provisions for students through ancestral values and basic skills regarding civic life. Citizenship education has a role in forming good character education in elementary school students which can be implemented by teachers at school, namely through exemplary activities and habits in the school environment, such as: (1) Familiarize students with loving their homeland; (2) Get students used to discipline, such as wearing uniforms in full, arriving on time, doing assignments, not cheating on exams, carrying out class pickets according to their schedule, and being responsible for what they do; (3) Get students used to always minding their words, obeying teachers, and having a sense of caring for others. Based on the researcher's analysis above, character education taught in citizenship education lessons with appropriate upbringing and habits implemented daily will produce students with character. This is the basis for why character education in elementary schools is very important to be instilled through citizenship education lessons, because it has a very big role in human life with good character.

Conclusion

Citizenship education plays an important role in instilling civic values, ethics and social responsibility in students. By integrating citizenship education into the school curriculum, students are equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to become responsible and ethical members of society. Citizenship education helps children develop a sense of civic responsibility, respect for diversity, and an understanding of democratic principles, which are important for building strong, principled character. Ultimately, the incorporation of civics education in elementary schools contributes to the holistic development of students, preparing them to become active and engaged citizens in their communities.

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