



THE ROLE OF CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION IN HANDLING APATHIC ATTITUDE IN THE YOUNGER GENERATION

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Abstract

Social changes influence the attitudes and behavior of the younger generation, including increasing apathy which can hinder citizenship and community development. This scientific work explores the role of citizenship education in overcoming apathy in the younger generation. Using literature study methods and a quantitative approach, analysis of the factors causing apathy was carried out along with effective coping strategies. The results of this scientific work show that an in-depth understanding of the causal factors and implementation of strategies for citizenship education can motivate the younger generation to be more active and concerned about citizenship issues. Values such as religiosity, toughness, nationalism and democracy are key in developing the participation of the younger generation to build a better future for the nation and state. Thus, it is hoped that the instillation of these values in the educational environment and society can increase civic awareness and the active contribution of the younger generation in social development.

Keywords : Citizenship education, apathy, young generation

Introduction

Change is one thing that is constant in the dynamics of the world, and as time goes by, the impact of change is increasingly felt in our lives. The differences in mindset between the 20th century generation and the millennial generation are becoming clear due to significant contextual changes between the past and the present. World wars have become history, replaced by modern facilities and easy access to abundant information. World modernization is changing human lifestyles and mentalities, resulting in changes that are sometimes negative, such as apathy and cynicism towards global conditions. Although these degenerative changes cannot be avoided because they are part of the evolution of time, understanding their impact on society is becoming increasingly important in the context of dealing with current social issues. The changing times and social dynamics have resulted in various changes in the thinking patterns, attitudes and behavior of the younger generation. One phenomenon that is increasingly rampant is apathy, especially in the context of citizenship. This apathy reflects the young generation's indifference or lack of interest in actively participating in social, political and community development activities. The role we can play is to determine the right way to minimize this attitude. The young generation is now often considered to be the main pillar in building the future of a nation. The increasing apathy among the younger generation is a serious concern in the context of citizenship. This apathy is reflected in a lack of interest and participation in political, social and humanitarian activities which results in a setback in social development. In facing this challenge, citizenship education plays an important role. Citizenship education not only aims to transfer knowledge about civic values and norms, but also to form strong attitudes, values and civic awareness in the younger generation. Through citizenship education, it is hoped that the younger generation can understand the importance of active participation in national and state life and have a high commitment to community development. In this context, studies regarding the role of citizenship education in dealing with apathy in the younger generation become relevant and urgent. This

scientific work aims to explore in depth how citizenship education can be a solution in overcoming the apathy that is increasingly rampant among the younger generation.

Research Methodology

This research will adopt a systematic literature review method. The systematic literature review method uses data sources obtained from the internet in the form of literature reviews in (1). Local, national and international journals, (2). Books, (3). Technical description, and (4). Relevant laws and regulations. Then, in this research, it is also targeted that 50 articles will be published as answers to the results of the research, but later 20 articles will be filtered and selected that are in accordance with the research theme. The analysis technique used in this research is interactive analysis which was popularized by (Budgen et al., 2022). The stages can be seen as follows: (1) Plan Review: This stage plans and summarizes, selecting the main things that focus on the themes that have been found. based on the pattern. (2) Conduct Review is a process of reviewing or presenting data that is carried out after the data has been completed at the reduction stage. Presentation of data can be done in the form of short descriptions, charts, and correlations between categories can use flowcharts and the like in the hope that the data can be well organized in presenting patterns and obtaining relationships that can be understood. (3) Document Review, namely conducting a review and drawing conclusions to answer existing problems. Below you can see the flow diagram in the Systematic Literature Review.

Result & Discussion

Apathy

The word apathy itself comes from the Greek word "pathos" (which means passion or emotion) which is then given the affix. Luis Rey believes that apathy is defined as a mental condition of a person or individual which is characterized by disinterest, indifference or insensitivity to social, emotional or physical life. So, apathy can be interpreted as a person's feeling of not caring about their living conditions and the conditions around them. This attitude can be characterized by a lack or loss of motivation to achieve goals, difficulty carrying out obligations or responsibilities that must be assumed, and an unwillingness to do anything in life. The impact of this attitude includes a lack of social control, difficulty in developing better attitudes, increased individualism, cynicism and pessimism. The important thing that we need to realize is that this apathy is often experienced by young people, especially in the area of citizenship. This is caused by several factors. The first factor is the absence of a figure as a role model or inspiration so that they do not have a stepping stone for their aspirations and stance. The factor that plays a role in this is the fact that when we try to base someone or a principle on which we can live, it is not uncommon for us to experience disappointment because that foundation does not meet our standards or complete what we need. The result is that young people tend to walk alone without any expectations of certain figures or foundations. Next is the feeling of disappointment that young people continue to experience with world conditions and causes them to tend not to care about what happens, good or bad. They view that whatever they do doesn't produce results and their opinions tend to be taken for granted, so a mentality is formed that if what they do is meaningless, wouldn't it be better not to do anything at all?

Citizenship Education

According to JJ Cogan, the definition of Citizenship Education is a type of learning that aims to develop the totality of citizens. This learning can be done formally or informally. Citizenship education also contains values that can shape our character. These values include:

a) Religious Values

According to Yulianto, religiosity means the belief that there is a God who regulates life and the universe. The value of religiosity is the foundation of Citizenship Education as written in the first principle of Pancasila which reads "Belief in One Almighty God". Through the value of religiosity, we are taught that there is power from the Creator who guarantees control and continuity of our lives. Even in the midst of good or bad conditions, religiosity is what can make us aware of the presence of God. So, we can become more hopeful and more participative in life.

b) Value of Resilience

Resilience in this case refers to how our personality responds to problems and reduces the negative impact of stress. (Rahardjo, 2005). Citizenship education plays a role so that young people can be educated to become strong individuals who have high fighting values in working hard and facing challenges like the nation's founders who fought for the independence of the Indonesian state.

c) Nationalist Values

Nationalism is an understanding of the awareness of every Indonesian citizen to love and defend their country. The value of nationalism has long been part of national and state life in Indonesia because it is in line with Article 27 Paragraph (3) of the 1945 Constitution of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia (UD NKRI 1945) which reads, "Every citizen has the right and obligation to participate in efforts to defend the country." The attitude of nationalism has a significant role in instilling an attitude of care and love for the country in society because this attitude is what moves national heroes to protect their country. The form of nationalism today may no longer be realized by participating in war to defend the country, but it is realized by how we behave in everyday life. Maybe we don't play an active and direct role in politics, but that doesn't mean we are indifferent and don't care about the condition of our country.

d) Democratic Values

Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States, said that democracy is a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. The position of the Indonesian nation as a Pancasila democracy means that the people are responsible for the continuity of the state and the running of the government. People, especially the younger generation, are encouraged to be active and sensitive to the country's political and economic conditions through their respective fields of work or responsibilities.

Application of Citizenship Education in Handling Apathy in the Young Generation

As stated previously, citizenship education can be taught formally or informally. For formal delivery, we are accustomed to relying on teaching and learning activities about these subjects, both at school and campus, by utilizing media in the form of teaching materials containing theory and general knowledge. This is indeed good, but if it only teaches theory, then the values of citizenship education will only be limited to general knowledge. Sometimes it is better if learning does not only depend on theory alone, but also creates a space for real discussion so that pupils or students can express their opinions about the material and how the teacher can instill the values that should be achieved through this discussion. For informal delivery, the most optimal place to start is in the family environment. Parents who are entrusted by God to this world have the responsibility to educate their children, both through teaching advice and real ways of living, so that they have the right mentality and morality. Apart from that, it would be better if parents were also willing to be open about the problems their children are experiencing and provide solutions that are based on the values of proper citizenship education. The results of this analysis show that factors such as dissatisfaction with the political system, lack of political education, as well as technological democracy and social media can cause the younger generation to tend to be apathetic towards citizenship issues. Strategies to overcome this apathy include, among other things, through civic education, inclusiveness, strengthening community participation institutions, and using technology to increase political awareness.

Conclusion

The apathy of the younger generation is a serious challenge in strengthening citizenship and building an inclusive society. With a deep understanding of the causal factors and strategies for overcoming apathy, concrete steps can be taken to motivate the younger generation to be more active and concerned about civic issues. Therefore, it is very necessary for us to instill the values of civic education such as religiosity, toughness, nationalism and democracy in the nation's successors, both in the realm of education and society. And in this way, it is hoped that this scientific work can contribute to efforts to increase the participation of the younger generation in building a better future for the nation and state.

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