# **International Journal of**



# **Students Education**

Page 289-291
ISSN 2988-1765
Vol 2 No 2 2024
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# IMPLEMENTATION OF LEARNING BASIC CITIZENSHIP CONCEPTS IN PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

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#### **Abstract**

This research aims to discuss the application of learning basic citizenship concepts to elementary school children. Citizenship Education (PKn) subjects have a function as a means of forming students into citizens who understand and are able to carry out their rights and obligations, are committed to being loyal to the nation and state of Indonesia by reflecting themselves as intelligent, skilled and characterized citizens. the mandate of Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. Qualitative research is research that intends to understand phenomena about what is experienced by research subjects, for example behavior, perceptions, motivations, actions, etc., holistically, and by means of descriptions in the form words and language, in a special natural context and by utilizing various natural methods, using observation as a data collection technique. Schools are formal institutions that educate students through teacher supervision and teaching. With the results of citizenship education in elementary school, it can become the basis for making students have character, have a high social sense, be able to carry out their rights and obligations in order to become good, intelligent, skilled and responsible children.

**Keywords:** Learning citizenship, character, social care

### Introduction

Citizenship education or Civics subjects at school have a very important role in forming students' character as citizens who understand and are able to carry out the rights and obligations to become intelligent, skilled and characterized Indonesian citizens as mandated in Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. in accordance with what was stated by (Depdiknas, 2006). The role of teachers as educators who are examples to students in educating and equipping students in elementary schools is certainly very necessary. However, students must first understand the basic concept of citizenship itself, the concept of attitude and moral values contained in Civics subjects focuses on forming citizens who are skilled, intelligent with character, who understand the implementation of their rights and obligations.

#### Understanding Citizenship Education

Every nation has its own history of struggle and there are many historical values that we can learn, such as nationalism, patriotic values, and many others. Therefore, there is a need for learning to maintain these values so that they continue to be integrated into every citizen so that every citizen knows the rights and obligations in carrying out national and state life, learning that has been implemented in schools, namely Civics or Citizenship Education subjects. (Samsuri, 2011) said that citizenship education is defined as preparing the young generation to become citizens who have the knowledge, skills and values needed to participate actively in society. This is in line with the opinion of (Saidurrahman, 2018) which states that Citizenship Education is democratic education which aims to prepare citizens to think critically and act democratically, through activities to instill awareness in the new

generation, regarding the awareness that democracy is the form of social life that best guarantees rights community rights.

## The Nature and Goals of Citizenship Education

The essence of Citizenship Education is to equip students with basic skills and knowledge regarding the relationship of Indonesian citizens with the State and with fellow citizens . And the purpose of Citizenship Education itself according to (zulfikar, 2021) is for its citizens to become citizens of the State which is good, because the citizens are good does not directly support sustainability the country concerned. The Ministry of National Education in (Magdalena et al, 2020) stated that the aim of Civics Learning is to provide the following competencies; (1) Think critically, rationally and creatively in responding to citizenship issues (2) Participate intelligently and responsibly, and act consciously in community, national and state activities (3) Develop positively and democratically to shape ourselves based on the characters of Indonesian society so that we can live together with other nations. d. Interact with other nations in world regulations directly by utilizing information and communication technology.

#### Function of Citizenship Education

Citizenship Education (PKn) subjects have a function as a means of forming students into citizens who understand and are able to carry out their rights and obligations, are committed to being loyal to the nation and state of Indonesia by reflecting themselves as intelligent, skilled and characterized citizens. the mandate of Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. This is in line with the opinion of (Mubarokah, 2012) which states that the function of learning Citizenship Education is as follows; (1) Helping the younger generation gain an understanding of national ideals or State goals. (2) Can take responsible decisions in resolving personal, community and state problems (3) Can express national ideals and can make intelligent decisions (4) A vehicle for forming citizens who are intelligent, skilled and have good character loyal to the nation and state of Indonesia by reflecting oneself in the habits of thinking and acting in accordance with the mandate of Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia. Currently, learning citizenship education is less popular with students. As educators, we should do self-introspection. Have we taught well so far and can we make students interested in Civics lessons? There are several things that must be considered in teaching citizenship education so that students are interested in participating in the learning process, such as; (1) use learning methods or models that are able to attract students' interest, (2) connect the material with everyday life so that students understand the material more easily, and (3) involve students in the learning process so that students play an active role in the learning process.

#### **Research Methodology**

This research is qualitative research which according to (Rusli, 2021) Qualitative research is research that intends to understand phenomena about what is experienced by research subjects, for example behavior, perceptions, motivations, actions, etc., holistically, and by means of descriptions in the form words and language, in a special natural context and by utilizing various natural methods, using observation as a data collection technique. Observation according to (Jailani, 2023) says that observation is a data collection technique that involves direct observation of participants and the context involved in the research phenomenon. Qualitative observations can be carried out in real situations or in environments that have been specifically designed for research.

#### **Result & Discussion**

Citizenship education has been implemented in schools, especially in elementary schools. Because Pancasila and citizenship education is education that plays an important role in forming the personality of elementary school students. What we can know is that the function of citizenship education itself is to help students understand their rights and obligations as citizens, to form character in students, to make students responsible individuals, and also to make students into individuals who have a sense of nationalism. tall one. Citizenship education teaches to create harmony at school, at home and in society. This is in line with the aim of citizenship education, namely to know and understand the content and meaning contained in Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution or in other words to become a good citizen based on state philosophy and the 1945 Constitution and thus citizenship education is one of the educational efforts that concerns the formation and development of individuals and students, or in other words, is one way to shape the character of the Indonesian nation and shape the personality of Indonesian people who are completely in accordance with the values contained in the principles of Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. The obstacles faced may occur during the learning process in the classroom, because students may find that the material

in the Citizenship Education subject is quite heavy so that students become less active in learning in class, but this can be overcome by the teacher applying or connecting the learning material with everyday life-day. Citizenship Education as democratic education is a multidimensional subject. Because this education is normal values education, social education and political education. However, the most prominent ones are values education and moral education. Character education is integrated into subjects to train, instill, familiarize and strengthen students' character in accordance with character values that are in accordance with the values contained in Citizenship Education. In relation to Citizenship Education learning outcomes, educators do not always have to focus on teaching knowledge to students, but educators must also develop moral values that are in accordance with Pancasila. It can be interpreted that the life values contained in consumer education are a necessity to be given to students.

#### Conclusion

Citizenship education is not just an ordinary subject, but through citizenship education it can give birth to a generation that loves its homeland, and makes people conform to the identity of their own nation. Hopefully, Citizenship Education subjects in the future can be more effective and efficient, because citizenship education is one of the educations that can be applied to produce citizens of high quality and character.

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