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# THE IMPORTANCE OF PKN LEARNING IN FORMING THE VALUE OF CHARACTER EDUCATION IN PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

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#### **Abstract**

This research aims to find out how important the influence of learning is in shaping the value of character education in elementary school children. This research is based on the author's concern about the situation that continues to decline and deviate from character education in the nation's next generation, especially elementary school children. The method used is a literature review method, in which the author reads and explores topics from various sources such as journals, books and other sources that he feels are related. The results of this research state that character education is important as a bridge in the formation of character education for the nation's next generation. Through this, it is hoped that the nation's next generation will not only develop in terms of knowledge and skills but also have noble character.

Keywords: Character Education in Elementary School Children

#### Introduction

Education is an important thing in human life. Education is meaningful as a conscious effort to improve knowledge and virtuous attitudes to achieve the nation's ideals now and in the future. Education is also a process of transferring knowledge, skills and character that must continue throughout life. Character education cannot be done instantly, but rather through habituation and example in everyday life, this is of course throughout life. This habituation and example is of course carried out by the individual as well as the surrounding environment, both at home, school and in the community. Apart from that, the implementation of character education is generally integrated into educational practice, namely in every subject at school (Dewi, RR, Suresman, E., & Suabuana, C. 2021). Thus, education not only forms intelligent students, but also forms students with personality or character with the hope that the nation's next generation will be born with characters who uphold the noble values of the nation and religion. Through managing PPKn learning, students can study Pancasila and Citizenship Education in a dynamic and interactive forum. So far, character formation is integrated in the teaching process, or more precisely, learning, in schools. Learning character values is very important in order to develop the potential of students who are more dignified. Character education as a conscious effort through actions and good examples has been established in subjects, one of which is Subject (Dwintari, JW 2017).

### **Research Methodology**

This research uses the Literature Review method where the data taken is excerpts from several articles and journals accessed on Google. The selected articles are articles that have a topic of discussion that is in line with the theme raised by the author in this article. In less than a few days, the author conducted research from articles and journals which was then reprocessed into information that was easy to understand and had useful value. Then, the next step is to prepare the article and revise it. The literature study is reading, then writing, then processing the data into relevant information.

#### **Result & Discussion**

Character formation carried out by teaching staff can be done by providing learning materials, namely Pancasila and citizenship education. The importance of civics learning is explained in the Republic of Indonesia Law No. 20 of 2003 concerning the national education system, chapter 10 concerning the curriculum, article 37 paragraphs 1 and 2 which explains that civics is one of the lessons that must be included in the curriculum for basic education, secondary education and higher education. (RI Law No. 20 of 2003). The existence of citizenship education in the national education system law as a mandatory subject at the primary, secondary and higher education levels shows that this learning occupies a significant position in achieving the national education goals of Indonesia. The aim of national education based on (RI Law No. 20 of 2003) is to develop skills and shape character in order to educate the life of the nation which leads to the goal of developing students' potential to become human beings with character and become good citizens. It can be said that in essence the goal of national education boils down to increasing cognitive, affective and competitive abilities. Regarding affective abilities, this is related to the ability to behave in accordance with applicable values and norms. This is one of the individual guidelines for forming character within oneself (Trisiana, A. 2019). Character is a system that exists within oneself that grows by habituation and the influence of the surrounding environment. This explanation provides the understanding that each individual has different behavioral tendencies. Another definition stated by Hiraclitus explains character as something that will shape a person's destiny. It can be concluded from the previous definition that character is unique because it is formed through different processes, resulting in different influences on each individual's identity. This is of course formed through a process that makes it an important part for individuals because it will influence the future lives of each individual, group in the surrounding environment (Syam, N. 2011). The meaning of Civics is defined as learning which is one of the main parts in forming the character of the nation's generation of children, especially elementary school children. This character education must be implemented from an early age. The values of character education must be instilled from an early age, one of which is through elementary school education so that in the child's life, in their subconscious mind, an awareness of the implementation of character is formed which can slowly form positive character values in the child. The problem of elementary school children regarding the implementation of character cultivation in their daily lives is still not implemented independently.

This problem can be resolved, at least by improving the quality of Civics learning by implementing several effective strategies so that it can help children in character formation (Wening, S. 2012). The moral development of children in Indonesia today is very minimal. From lower class children as well as upper class children, their attitude towards the state is less likely to participate in maintaining the integrity of the state. Elementary school education is the foundation for the formation of good and useful national character. The development of national character is made the main stream in national development. This shows that every development effort must always be directed at having a positive impact on character development. In fact, this is constitutionally reflected in the national development mission (Suardi, S., Herdiansyah, H., Ramlan, H., & Mutiara, IA 2019). Character education must be given as early as possible. Start from the family and then it can be helped to develop by educators in formal education institutions starting from the basic education (SD) level. Success in character education in elementary school can have an influence until he grows up because at that time children begin to be able to recognize good and bad things, with good guidance students will be able to behave well and the quality of their education will increase and develop (Setiawan, D. (2014). Efforts are made to build national character through the introduction and understanding of the values that apply to the Indonesian nation. Building national character is also the future goal of our nation so that students' character becomes better and they can become the nation's successors. The future of the Indonesian nation is determined by students who have good character. If students who do not have good character will become our nation if it is led by people who do not have good character. For this reason, schools are now also applying their own character values (Ardiyansyah, H., Prima, B., Hermuttaqien, F., & Bomans Wadu, L. 2019).

#### **Conclusion**

Character education is one of the important things in creating a generation of people in Indonesia. Through character education, students are taught to have good attitudes and behavior. Character education aims to revive the character of citizens in accordance with the values of Pancasila, including the value of devotion, the value of faith, the value of honesty, the value of caring, and the value of ethics or courtesy. Civics is one of the appropriate means for implementing these values in character education for students, because the aim of Civics is basically to create students into democratic citizens with character in accordance with the values of Pancasila. Therefore, character education is appropriate to be implemented through Civics in shaping the morals of the younger generation.

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