

Shaping the Character of Smart and Good Young Citizens Through Citizenship Education in the Digital Age

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Abstract

Education is a conscious effort made by the nation to change behavior for the better and can develop knowledge to become smart and quality young citizens who can face and solve problems. Citizenship Education as one of the right vehicles in building character and national identity so that they become smart and good citizens in facing the development of the world in the digital era. The method used in this study is a qualitative research method. Data collection techniques used are observation, interviews, and literature study approaches sourced from journals, books and other sources that are related to the role of Citizenship Education in shaping the character of young citizens. Based on the research results, Researchers can draw the conclusion that in today's digital era awareness of being a smart and good citizen is very much needed. The reason is that many citizens are increasingly worried about technological progress and sophistication because the younger generation is increasingly showing moral degradation, which indicates that the younger generation no longer has good character. In this case, civic education has a great role and influence on the formation of the character of young citizens who are smart and good in the digital era. Many citizens are increasingly worried about the progress and sophistication of technology because the younger generation is increasingly showing moral degradation which indicates that the younger generation no longer has good character. In this case, civic education has a great role and influence on the formation of the character of young citizens who are smart and good in the digital era.

Keywords: Character, Young Citizens, Citizenship Education, Digital

Introduction

We have now entered the digital era. Advances in technology and information will never be lost and will continue to grow, as well as human personality. The more sophisticated the technology, the smarter the human being and the greater the personality. Advances in technology and information have provided many programs that can be accessed online. Currently, the online learning process (e-learning) continues to grow. E-learning can be developed at the same time to teach, give assignments, to a place to collect assignments online. Besides being able to learn online,

advances in technology and information also provide other programs such as online shopping, applying for jobs and even working online. This has given many positive impacts on human life.

In the field of education, there are many facilities for obtaining science and technology. Ease of getting reading materials such as books, journals, articles, magazines, newspapers, pictures, and other educational videos. Advances in science and technology in the world of education have also produced many new innovations to support the learning process. One of the developments is the increasing variety of learning media thanks to

increasingly rapid technology.

The development of technology and information, in addition to having a positive impact but also a negative impact. When viewed from the negative side, many children, teenagers, and even adults are involved in cyberspace, such as addiction to gadgets, online games, addiction to pornography, and even falling into LGBT. In addition, it has an impact on the development of religious and moral values. In general, the impact of this technology is not only focused on the development of religious and moral values, but also has an impact on the development of cognitive aspects, physical and motor aspects, aspects of social, emotional and language development, especially for further development. generation of nations such as children and development. language. teenager. With the rapid development of technology and information, today many teenagers are experiencing moral degradation or decline. Even children who have been taught moral values and character, religious norms from an early age can still influence them. Therefore, we as technology users must be able to use and utilize technology wisely.

Civic education is one of the fields of education that has an important role, given its position in the discussion of the national education curriculum (Asyafiq, 2016). Its presence, starting from elementary school to university level, can be said as one of the strategic efforts in building the character of Indonesia which has become a multicultural country (Hartini, 2020). The existence of Citizenship Education will shape the character of young citizens who are smart and good in accordance with the values of Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. To become a smart and good citizen can be implemented through social media which is currently controlled by all young generations. Social media has a very powerful opportunity in the digital era, ideas uploaded on social media do not only resonate on social media.

Method

The method used in this study is a qualitative research method. According to Moleong (2018:6) qualitative research is based on efforts to build the views of those who are

researched which are detailed, formed with words, holistic and complex images. Qualitative research in terms of several definitions is research that utilizes open interviews, observation, documentation and triangulation to examine and understand the attitudes, views, feelings, and behaviors of individuals or groups of people. The technique used in data collection is the data collection technique used, namely by observation, interviews, and literature study approaches sourced from journals, books and other sources that are related to the role of Citizenship Education in shaping the character of young citizens who are smart and good.

Sources of data used in this study are primary data and secondary data. The method used to obtain primary data is the method of interview and observation. The primary data source of the researcher was collected from the Citizenship Education Teacher at SMP Negeri 7 Tanjungpandan. Secondary data used by researchers in the form of appropriate literature books and other scientific journals.

Result and Discussion

Etymologically, the word character can be understood from a number of languages. "Character" (Latin) means instrument of marking, "charessein" (French) means to engrave (carve), "watek (Javanese) means wanci characteristics, "character" (Indonesian) means innate traits that affect behavior, character, character, temperament (Koesoema, 2007:163). Terminologically, character is defined as a description of behavior that emphasizes the value of right-wrong, good-bad, either explicitly or implicitly (Alwisol, 2006:8).

Character refers to a set of attitudes and behaviors. Character includes attitudes such as the desire to do the best, intellectual capacities such as critical thinking and moral reasoning, behaviors such as honesty and responsibility, maintaining moral principles in situations of fairness, interpersonal and emotional skills that enable a person to interact effectively in various situations. , and a commitment to contribute to the community and its people. Characteristic is the realization of positive development as an individual (intellectual,

social, emotional, and ethical). An individual with good character is someone who tries to do the best (Musfiroh, 2008:25).

In the digital era like today, humans are increasingly spoiled by advances in technology and information. So that it makes a change in the role and perspective of humans in living life as social beings. Along with this phenomenon, moral degradation is increasingly widespread and cannot be avoided. In the 4.0 era as it is today, the concept and role of citizens also need to be expanded to adapt to the demands and developments of the times, meaning that we not only build good citizens, but must be able to build smart citizens. citizen) in facing various challenges. Therefore, the concept of a smart and good digital citizen is an ideal concept as a citizen who lives in the digital era.

Forming the character of young citizens who are smart and good is the task of all subjects in school, one of which is Citizenship Education. This is because Citizenship Education is a subject that concentrates on forming skilled, intelligent, and characterized citizens and is oriented to carrying out rights and obligations in accordance with those in Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution (Pramanda, Muchtarom, & Hartanto, 2018). In shaping the character of students during the digital era, of course, do not forget the values of Pancasila (Wulandari, 2020). This proves that forming digital citizenship will of course be adapted to the scope of Civics learning which includes Pancasila, the 1945 Constitution, Bhinneka Tunggal Ika, and the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia.

Based on the information obtained through interviews with resource persons, it can be concluded that the efforts that have been made in building a smart and character generation in SMP Negeri 7 Tanjungpandan are carried out by developing individual abilities to become good citizens, namely individuals who are aware of their rights and obligations. as citizens, forming students' critical thinking skills through teaching and learning activities in the classroom, and manifesting character behavior in life in the school environment. To create a good and intelligent generation, in every learning, students must actively involve students to hone their critical thinking skills.

Pancasila and Citizenship Education according to Cogan (1998:13) is Citizenship education has been described as 'the contribution of education to the development of those characteristics of being a citizen. Thus, Pancasila and Citizenship Education is described as the contribution of education to the development of the characteristics of citizens. Pancasila and Citizenship Education, in a broad sense is an important task in all societies today. This opinion is further strengthened by Budimansyah (2012: 180) that:

Curricularly, PPKN is designed as a learning subject that aims to enable students to:

- (a) Think critically, rationally, creatively in responding to citizenship issues;
- (b) Participate actively and responsibly, and act intelligently in community, national and state activities as well as anti-corruption;
- (c) Develop positively and democratically to shape themselves based on the characteristics of the Indonesian people so that they can live together with other nations;
- (d) Interact with other nations in the world arena directly or indirectly by utilizing information and communication technology.

Conclusion

In today's digital era, awareness of being a smart and good citizen is very much needed. The reason is that many citizens are increasingly worried about technological progress and sophistication because the younger generation is increasingly showing moral degradation, which indicates that the younger generation no longer has good character. In this case, civic education has a great role and influence on the formation of the character of young citizens who are smart and good in the digital era. Citizenship Education as one of the supporting pillars in the formation of character and national identity, which means that Civics educate citizens to become good citizens.

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