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The Urgency of Strengthening Social Sciences Education in Elementary Schools in Forming Good Citizens

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Abstrak: The aim of this research is to find out how important social studies teaching is in elementary schools, namely: First, learning social studies in elementary schools as strengthening character education. Second, the urgency of learning social studies as an instrument for instilling students' character values of tolerance. Third, social studies learning problems. Fourth, the urgency of learning social studies in an effort to strengthen Indonesian students' understanding of democracy. Fifth, the role of social studies learning in strengthening the character of students in upper elementary schools. The method used in this research is a literature review study to provide the need for improving social studies teaching in elementary schools so that students can become better citizens. Literature analysis is carried out by reading and citing quotations from several scientific works related to the research topic. Information obtained from the literature is then researched and combined to answer the questions asked. The references used in this writing refer to relevant sources, such as academic texts published by related parties, research results, and other written sources. To strengthen the finding that the social studies program in elementary schools has a strong urgency in forming good citizens, various data were used by identifying individual information, such as journals, books and other documents. The results of implementing several strategies show that strengthening social studies education in elementary schools can improve well.

Keywords: Social studies; Elementary school; Urgency of social studies; Citizenship,

Introduction

In shaping children's personality and behavior in elementary school, the most important field of science is Social Sciences Education or known as Social Sciences. Strengthening social studies education in elementary schools is an important aspect for building a virtuous society in the future.

Therefore, this article discusses the need for social studies education in elementary schools to prepare citizens well. The purpose of this article is to provide an explanation of why social studies learning in elementary schools is important and how social studies education in elementary schools can make good citizens.

Social sciences are a subject in the core curriculum that is very important for building a successful society. Social studies education helps students understand and apply social, religious and ethical norms that exist in general society. Apart from that, social science also teaches people about the importance of being good citizens and encourages them to participate in social and political life.

In Indonesia, social studies education in elementary schools is very important to form strong citizens with character. This is related to the complex social and political climate in Indonesia, where there are many social problems such as inter-group conflict, domestic violence and widespread intolerance.

In this article, literature research is being carried out regarding the need for social studies in elementary schools to provide good citizen education. The literature study method is used to collect data information from existing literature, such as books, journals, articles and other documents relevant to the research topic. It is hoped that the results of this research will provide more accurate information about the need for social studies

training in elementary schools. Through the social studies curriculum, students can learn about various aspects of social, political, economic and religious life in the surrounding community.

Therefore, social studies education in elementary schools is a very important factor in developing good citizens in the future. According to Fauziah et al, (2022), the current social science education in the 2013 curriculum which was revised in 2016 must include: First, knowledge of social life. Second, logical and critical thinking skills, reading skills, problem solving, communication, social interaction. Third, regarding cultural values, social values, honesty, humanity and social nationality. Fourth, the attitude of developing creative and innovative independent attitudes, curiosity, responsibility and so on which include positive attitudes, so that they are able to shape students' personalities as an efficient nation. This suggests that social studies training in elementary schools is necessary to ensure that students have a solid understanding of social, political, economic, and religious issues that affect society as a whole. Law on the National Education System Number 20 of 2003 explains that national education has the function of developing and forming the character or character of a dignified national civilization as an effort to realize the nation's ideals, namely to make the nation's life more intelligent and strive to realize the nation's ideals develop the potential and skills of participants educating and realizing students to become human beings who believe, have noble character, are creative, capable, independent and become democratic citizens and have a high sense of responsibility (Depdiknas, 2003; Rusmiati et al, 2023).

Apart from that, social studies education in elementary schools can help students understand their responsibilities as national leaders who are committed to building a more prosperous society. Therefore, social studies programs in elementary schools are very important for nation building, because they provide the social support and strong foundation they need. To achieve this goal requires cooperation and consideration from various parties, especially from educators and the government. To provide maximum benefits for participants who are raised in developing their identity and character as good guardians of the nation in the past, social studies education in elementary schools must be improved and maintained.

Many changes have occurred as a result of globalization and the accelerated growth of science and technology. There are not many choices available unless you adapt your behavior to these changes (Oviyanti, 2013). The single most important change that needs to be made is to the education system. Changes in the education system need to be carried out in a way that is in accordance with natural law (Nurohman, 2014). For

students to have fulfilling lives in a global community, education must be able to provide them with a solid foundation. Apart from that, education has the task of preparing students to be able to read in the past without jumping to the present. For students to be successful in understanding change, instruction must be provided in a more carefully chosen language. Education primarily provides all the competencies that students may need in the future to prepare students to face any changes that may arise.

Social science education in elementary schools has a very important function in shaping students' character as good citizens. Social sciences help students understand various social and environmental problems that occur around them, so that they can become individuals who care and are responsible for the environment and surrounding society. Apart from that, social sciences also help students understand national values and strengthen their sense of love for their country (Abdullah, et al, 1998). Social learning theory states that a child will indirectly imitate by observing the behavior of the people around him (Narvaez, 2008; Miller, 2011; Sanderse, 2013; Wulandari & Kristiawan, 2017). A person's character will be influenced by several factors including internal factors and external factors. Internal factors come from within each individual, while external factors come from the surrounding environment (Sari, 2021).

In social studies learning, students are taught about various aspects of social life, such as history, geography, economics and politics. This helps students understand various social problems that occur in society, such as poverty, social inequality and inter-ethnic conflict. By understanding these problems, students can develop an attitude of empathy and care for others, and respond to social problems in a positive way (Rofiqoh, 2019).

Apart from that, learning social studies also helps students understand national values, such as Bhinneka Tunggal Ika, Pancasila, and the 1945 Constitution. The values of national education with character are meant in this case as originating from religion, Pancasila, culture and the goals of national education, namely: religious, honest, tolerance, discipline, hard work, creative, independent, democratic, curiosity, national spirit, love achievements, of country, respect for friendly/communicative, love peace, like reading, care about the environment, care about social issues, and responsibility (Puskurbuk, 2011: 3; Hermanto et al, 2019). This helps students strengthen their sense of patriotism and develop a positive attitude of nationalism. By understanding national values, students can become good and responsible citizens (Sapriya, 2012).

Therefore, strengthening social studies education in elementary schools is very important in forming good citizens (Sari & Faizin, 2023). Social studies learning can help students understand various social and

environmental problems, as well as strengthen their sense of patriotism. In this way, students can become individuals who are caring, responsible, and have a positive nationalist attitude (Ikhsan, 2018).

Method

This study uses a literature review to assess the need to improve social studies in elementary schools so that citizens become better citizens. The literature review method is used to collect information from previously published literary works, such as books, journals, articles and other documents relevant to the study topic. In this article the author uses various journal sources, which are about identify the study topic and questions to be asked of participants, supply library materials that are appropriate to the research topic, selection of literature to be used in research based on previously established criteria, analysis of literature related to the research topic research written reports. In this research, the literature selection criteria used are as follows: suitability to the research topic, credibility and reliable information, conformity with study objectives and accuracy of the information provided.

Literature analysis is carried out by reading and understanding parts of the literature related to the topic under study. After that, the information obtained from the literature will be examined and synthesized to answer readers' questions.

Results and Discussion

Social Studies Learning in Elementary Schools as Strengthening Character Education

This research aims to learn more deeply about the internalization of character deficiencies in social studies classes for grade V (five) students in elementary schools, classes that focus on character, how Ki Hadjar Dewantara handles character deficiencies, classes that focus on character, the basics of movement. For character education, and character deficiencies in character education.

The results and conclusions that can be drawn from this research are as follows: *First*, using various techniques and strategies, such as applying examples, intervening in the educational process, getting used to it, and completing it, is one way to increase the amount of character information in social studies textbooks. This is done by referring to character information in the Learning Implementation Plan and syllabus with students under the guidance of teachers who are persistent in attending class, people at home, and the general public using various methods and strategies, such as setting an example, intervention through the educational process, get used to it, solve it continuously

in the long term. Second, the aim of character development in education is to increase good moral understanding, good moral behavior, and good moral beliefs as well as bringing out five human emotions, namely hate, fear, anger, and feeling/karda. This is achieved by maximizing human potential in the areas of cognition, perception, psychology, and daily functioning in interactions with friends, family members, and the general public. Three different types of classroom settings – formal, informal, and nonformal – are used for character education. Third, the way to express Ki Hajar Dewantara's philosophy is to use his principles in education and training as a way to uphold the principles of the Independence of the Indonesian Nation and to ensure that students are educated properly. Standing firmly in the struggle to defend the nation which is based on three educational centres, namely the philosophy of Ing ngarso sun tulodo (to be a leader you must be able to provide a role model for today). In order for a person to be able to contribute innovation wherever he is, he must also be able to solve or repair whatever is broken. Tut wurihandayani (a person must be able to uphold morality and uphold justice from the bottom up so that everyone around him is motivated).

Determine the educational environment as the best way in the learning process in these two concepts. There are no longer any obstacles in using materials from the Assistance Operational School, as long as you keep your mouth shut. In addition, the Government provides modules for Learning.

The importance of elementary school social studies learning to develop student character. The text "Social Science Learning" focuses on a number of social science concepts related to character development that prepare people for more complex daily life. Social studies learning is very important in developing students' character to transform them into members of society who have good character and can adapt to the social environment in which they find themselves. With the help of his character as a social creature, he is able to understand the multicultural problems that exist in Indonesian society. Humans view themselves as social creatures who live side by side with other humans.

The Urgency of Social Studies Learning as an Instrument for Inculcating Students' Values of Character Tolerance.

The aim of this research is to improve student character through social studies learning which can produce a multicultural population. The results and conclusions of this social science article are very important in determining the character of students' subjects. The Social Sciences curriculum contains social norms that help shape character and prepare them for a more complex life (Suyanti, 2017).

Social studies learning is quite important for developing students' positive character and adapting themselves to social life in society. Because humans are social creatures who often interact with each other, social studies training is very important in building a tolerant and non-violent character in prospective workers. Learning social studies from elementary school is very important because learning social studies provides education that ensures fairness in society. Social science is a school that teaches everything related to social matters, including sociology, economics, history, anthropology, geography, politics and psychology (Surahman & Mukminan, 2017). Indonesia is a country with various kinds of unique holidays. The Indonesian population has conditions that are always in conflict with each other and a level of tolerance that greatly strengthens a peaceful population. Generating from education the nation's future generations have the attitudes, skills and knowledge from education to deal with a diverse population. Give each participant a personality trait as a tool to help them engage in healthy interpersonal relationships. Identify the social studies major in the social studies class as a location for social studies learning. In still a social attitude in the students who attend there.

From the results and discussion above, it can be concluded that social science is built with a student character that is tolerant of all religions, including ethnicity, race, etc. According to character development, students have what it takes to engage in social interactions with the general public. Because humans are social creatures who cannot survive alone, social support is needed. The importance of social studies education cannot be overstated in terms of changing the stereotype of students into a multicultural society capable of tolerating differences and acting in a mutually beneficial way.

The role of social studies education functions as an enforcement of efforts to form students' pluralistic character in the field of education so that they are tolerant of differences or, if necessary, mutual respect, mutual trust and mutual cooperation. The good war within the nation as a guide is the most important thing that social science can do. Promote knowledge of basic economic, geographical, sociological and political concepts in a clear and concise manner; realizing one's potential as a student; develop critical thinking skills with less fear and feeling that you don't want to know what to do to understand social problems and have the necessary language skills; forming a committee to handle Indonesian national and cultural values, as well as a committee to handle human values and respect. In addition, point five emphasizes the need for communication and teamwork in everyday life for the general public.

Problems in Social Studies Learning

Social sciences learning is one of the subjects taught in elementary schools. However, there are several problems in social studies learning that can affect the quality of learning. One of the problems that often occurs is the response of some people to social studies subjects as easy and not too important. This can influence students' interest in learning social studies. As stated by Rahmad (2016), some people's perception of social studies as an easy and not very important subject cannot be accepted, because this assumption is not in accordance with reality.

Another problem that often occurs in social studies learning is the teacher's lack of skills in teaching social studies. This can be caused by a lack of training and development of teacher skills in teaching social studies. As stated by Ratnawati (2013), lack of training and development of teacher skills in teaching social studies can affect the quality of social studies learning.

Another problem that often occurs in social studies learning is the lack of adequate resources and facilities for social studies learning. This can affect the quality of social studies learning because students cannot obtain optimal learning experiences. Apart from that, there are problems in implementing social studies learning, such as a lack of attention to the affective and psychomotor aspects of learning. This can affect the quality of social studies learning because students cannot develop the social and emotional skills needed in everyday life. As stated by Karima & Ramadhani (2019), many teachers are still apathetic, static in responding to educational reforms or changes, they are still shackled to the conventional learning system which places more emphasis on providing information and does not pay attention to affective and psychomotor aspects.

Lastly, the problem in social studies learning is the lack of proper support and supervision in its implementation. This can affect the quality of social studies learning because there is no proper social control over the implementation of learning. As stated by Karima & Ramadhani (2019), this problem causes education to be without proper support and supervision in its implementation, so that there is no proper social control over the implementation of education.

In order to improve the quality of social studies learning, efforts are needed to overcome existing problems. Some efforts that can be made include increasing students' understanding of the importance of social studies learning, providing training and developing teacher skills in teaching social studies, increasing adequate resources and facilities for social studies learning, and paying attention to the affective and psychomotor aspects of social studies learning. Apart from that, proper support and supervision is also needed in the implementation of social studies learning

so that there is correct social control over the implementation of education.

The Urgency of Social Studies Learning in Efforts to Strengthen Indonesian Students' Understanding of Democracy

Social studies learning is very important for elementary school children to increase their understanding of local customs and culture. An elementary school child can study religion using the national language, emphasizing Indonesian religion. Such as dance, belief systems, and several methods to describe them.

Based on the results and analysis above, it can be concluded that culture is an important concept that must be understood, encouraged and handled appropriately in every region of Indonesia. Because currently there are many generations who are willing to use foreign goods that enter Indonesia. Therefore, it is very important for education to improve children's personalities so that they are able to detect the culture of immigrants entering Indonesia. Because in the social studies curriculum there are lessons that can be applied in everyday life, there are benefits for developing children's character. The availability of quality packaging materials can help students understand and appreciate the social studies curriculum in elementary school. Interesting teaching materials can be books, videos and other media.

The Role of Social Studies Lessons in Strengthening the Character of Students in High Class Primary Schools

Goals results and principles the importance of character in everyday life cannot be overstated as it makes people more likable. This causes the government to implement character-based learning in every school. The importance of strengthening character for students, such as improving the declining morale of the nation's children, displaying values, attitudes and behavior that are noble and have noble character, forming discipline, toughness, a sense of responsibility, and developing basic potential.

Based on the results and discussion above, it can be concluded that the aim of social studies learning is to make children safer and more agile. Therefore, character must be understood and used from elementary school teachers to high school. Become a person of noble character.

Again, strengthening education. The decline in the quality and interest of students in this social studies subject. Social studies education in elementary schools is decreasing. Therefore, social studies learning in elementary schools needs to be continued so that students can understand and appreciate the importance of social science in everyday life. Various methods, including the following, can be used to continue social studies education in elementary schools. Improving the

quality of social studies teachers in elementary schools must have the skills needed to teach the subjects being studied. Therefore, the government and educational institutions must provide training and skills development to social studies teachers in elementary schools. This can be done by holding workshops, seminars, or other educational programs aimed at improving the ability of instructors to teach social studies in elementary schools.

Development of the Social Sciences Curriculum Related to the Social Sciences Curriculum in Elementary Schools must be in accordance with natural laws and human needs, Utilizing Effective Learning Methodologies, Using interesting teaching techniques can make students more active and enthusiastic about learning Social Sciences in Elementary Schools. Interesting teaching methods can include group discussions, presentations and simulations. Apart from that, the use of technology in social studies learning can grow students' self-confidence in the subject matter.

Implementation of interesting social studies extracurricular activities. Interestingly, extracurricular social studies training can make students more enthusiastic and eager to study social studies in elementary school. Environmental observations, visits to tourist attractions, and social gathering activities are some examples of social studies extroversion events that might be interesting. Apart from that, the social studies extracurricular program can help employees understand and appreciate the importance of social sciences in everyday life.

Conclusion

Based on the results of the research from various sources that have been carried out in this study, it can be concluded that Social Sciences Education is a field of study that is very important in developing the character and personality of elementary school children to form good citizens in the future. Strengthening social studies education in elementary schools is very important in order to produce good citizens with character who have high levels of ability and social awareness. Therefore, it is very important to apply character education in the learning process, especially in elementary school social studies subjects to improve the declining morals of the nation's children, develop values, attitudes and behavior that are noble and have noble character, form discipline, perseverance and a sense of responsibility, and developing basic potential, namely through several approaches and stages, one of which is a contextual approach and stages of planning and implementing learning.

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