

TEACHER'S CONTRIBUTION IN FORMING CHILDREN'S PERSONALITIES THROUGH CHARACTER EDUCATION

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Abstract

Teachers have a significant role in helping the personality development of children and adolescents at school. The work of a teacher is a professional job, meaning that this work cannot be done by educators who are found as best they can, with as little knowledge as they can, as employed as they can, who teach as they please, and with as little knowledge as they can. Teachers' work is based on mastery of knowledge, skills, responsibility, autonomy in making pedagogical decisions, as well as a code of ethics as a guide to action. Teachers act as guides who help explore these potentials and direct them in a positive direction. By understanding students' interests, talents and strengths, teachers can identify areas that need development and provide appropriate support. Apart from exploring potential, teachers also play a role in building strong character in students. Strong character includes moral values, ethics, positive attitudes, leadership, self-confidence and social responsibility. In understanding students' potential, using effective learning methods, building attitudes, values and ethics, providing guidance and counseling, encouraging leadership development, instilling social responsibility, and providing a significant positive impact, teachers can help students become quality individuals. , tough, and has a solid character.

Keywords: Teacher Contribution, Child Personality, Character Education

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INTRODUCTION

Education is one of the important pillars in forming a quality future generation. Apart from imparting knowledge and skills, education also has a very crucial role in shaping personality and building strong character in students. One element that has a big influence in this process is the role of the teacher. Teachers are able to provide the role and color of a nation in the context of educational implementation so that it deserves attention (Makmur et al., 2023).

Teachers as educators have a great responsibility in exploring the potential and forming the character of students. They act as facilitators, guides and mobilizers who help children and young people develop good personal qualities. Teachers are not only tasked with conveying information, but also play a key role in forming positive attitudes, values and behavior. In this context, it is important to understand that each individual has unique and different potential (Hanafiah, 2022).

Teachers act as guides who help explore these potentials and direct them in a positive direction. By understanding students' interests, talents and strengths, teachers can identify areas that need development and provide appropriate support. Apart from exploring potential, teachers also play a role in building strong character in students. Strong character includes moral values, ethics, positive attitudes, leadership, self-confidence and social responsibility. Teachers act as good examples and provide a positive influence that can shape student behavior. Through teaching, mentoring and daily interactions, teachers can inspire and help students develop strong character and integrity (Suprayitno, 2023).

The position of a teacher as an educator, guide and teacher does not necessarily separate from the teacher as a person. A teacher's personality and character greatly influence his role as an educator, guide and teacher. A teacher with intelligence and personality is able to liken himself to an architect who can shape the nature and character of his students by acting according to moral values, and making them role models for all their behavior (Shinta & Mahamudah, 2023). Considering that teachers are partners, role models and mirrors for their students, it is necessary for a teacher to have a noble character and this character needs to be developed. Character is an inner trait that influences a person's entire character, character, morals, or personality which is formed from the internalization of various virtues that are believed to be used as a basis for the way they view, think, behave, and act.

Students are young shoots for the nation and state, the good and bad of a nation is determined by the quality of the students, in fact it cannot be denied that producing quality human beings must start as early as possible. It is very important for educators to know students' personalities, because this is very important to use as a reference in formulating teaching strategies (Oktiarina et al., 2022).

Seeing this role, it becomes clear that a teacher must have a good and correct personality. This is based on the fact that the teacher's job is not only to teach, but also to instill and develop students' character values. Student character is certainly influenced by various problems in learning activities (Muchsam et al., 2023). This is proven by Presidential Decree no. 87 of 2017 concerning strengthening character education. Strengthening character education is defined as an educational movement under the responsibility of the education unit, which aims to strengthen the character of students through harmonization of heart, emotions, thinking and sports through the participation and cooperation of educational units, families and society.

RESEARCH METHOD

The study in this research is qualitative with literature. The literature study research method is a research approach that involves the analysis and synthesis of information from various literature sources that are relevant to a particular research topic. Documents taken from literature research are journals, books and references related to the discussion you want to research (Earley, M.A. 2014; Snyder, H. 2019).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Formation of Student Personality

First, attitude towards other people or surroundings. In the process of teaching and learning activities at school there is interaction between teachers, students and learning resources, which has goals and results that can expand understanding, knowledge, skills, values and student attitudes. Within oneself, a person must have an attitude as a willingness to react (disposition to react) positively (favorably) or negatively (unfavorably) towards certain objects that can maintain his relationship with fellow humans, his relationship with God and his relationship with the surrounding environment (Osterholz et al. al., 2022). Student attitudes play a supporting role in achieving a learning goal. Attitudes are influenced by feelings of

support or non-support for an object. There are many assumptions that there is a positive relationship between student attitudes and learning outcomes.

Second, individual nature and character. Apart from being inherited from birth (genetics), nature and character are also formed by education, both education in the family and at school, nature and character are also influenced by the values circulating in society and the environment that grows them. Therefore, each person has a different genetic inheritance, and grows up in a relatively different educational and social environment, so certain characters will grow which are inherent in a unique individual figure, besides that there is also a collective character which is based on values. -values that are universal, such as religious values, and values that become a kind of "common agreement" in social life and are passed down from generation to generation by parents to younger people (Sabelnikova, 2023). Character training is one of the most common ways to direct students to become individuals with character in the components of heart, feelings, body, mind and goals. So character is defined as the quality of truly having the right behavior, which rationally comes from the mind, heart, feelings, training and goals which are a sign of a person's goodness, virtue and moral maturity.

Third, Fuad (feelings/heart/conscience). Education is an adult human's effort to guide and direct immature humans towards maturity with the aim of educating their sight, hearing and heart to become individuals who are smart in being grateful. Where everything that one sees and hears must be able to be processed in the heart and mind (Kruglova, 2022).

With hearing and sight, humans are able to search and find the information they need. With the information obtained, his heart will work to process it into knowledge, which with this knowledge can encourage someone to become knowledgeable and grateful. This is in accordance with the function of the heart that Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala has explained in the Qur'an, namely to understand (Pebrianti et al., 2024).

The learning process must be able to maximize the potential of the mind and heart of the student, if the learning process has touched the mind and heart of the student, as stated in the Qur'an then the student... while saying: "Our Lord, You did not create this in vain... (QS. 3: 191). This verse implies a recognition of the greatness, intelligence and thoroughness of Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala in creating everything on earth, so that nothing that Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala creates is in vain. Everything created by Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala is definitely useful for the benefit of all His creatures on earth.

Fourth, the quantity and quality of knowledge or insight possessed. To improve the quality of individual students, in the learning process students get direct opportunities to be involved in scientific activities or experiences. This can improve thinking abilities. Because thinking skills play an important role in improving the quality of individual students, because students have mental psychomotor abilities in addition to manual psychomotor abilities. In a learning process that emphasizes student activity, this is an effort to increase and improve the quality of learning (Eftaxas & Jenkins, 2023).

Fifth, values and beliefs such as held beliefs and dreams, caution in determining the direction of life or ideals. Values will not be present in the world of experience, but will be present in the world of human thought. When values are in the human mind, they become an important concept in life, so that the concept or idea becomes a standard of behavior, namely a standard for displaying efficiency, beauty or meaningfulness that is supported and maintained, even though they are not always aware of it. These standards become our moral values, moral values that describe guidelines for what is right and fair. Once a person knows and comes into contact with a value, that value will gradually influence his beliefs and become the basis for his thoughts and actions (Necherda, 2023).

The Role of Teachers in Shaping Personality

The role of teachers in shaping students' personalities is very important. Teachers have a significant role in helping the personality development of children and adolescents at school. The work of a teacher is a professional job, meaning that this work cannot be done by educators who are found as best they can, with as little knowledge as they can, as employed as they can, who teach as they please, and with as little knowledge as they can. Teachers' work is based on mastery of knowledge, skills, responsibility, autonomy in making pedagogical decisions, as well as a code of ethics as a guide to action (Bagram, 2023).

Lev Vygotsky (Qamar & Ahsan, 2023), a Russian psychologist and education expert, stated that the teacher's role is as a mediator in student learning. Teachers help students build new knowledge and skills by providing appropriate guidance and support. The teacher functions as a facilitator in the student's actual and proximal development zone. The teacher is an example that students follow. The teacher's actions, behavior and attitudes will be an example for students. Therefore, teachers need to be good role models in terms of integrity, ethics and positive attitudes. By being a good role model,

teachers can help shape students' personalities for the better. Overall, teachers have a significant role in shaping students' personalities. By providing good role models, character education, emotional development, guidance and counseling, and collaborating with parents, teachers can help students develop positive and balanced personalities.

The Role of Teachers in Shaping Student Character

E Mulyasa (Fanani, 2023) wrote in his book that: Not all teachers are important, in fact many teachers mislead the development and future of the nation's children. The statement above could be true. The role of teachers in shaping their students is very important. The teacher's direction becomes a guide for the students' activities. Once a teacher conveys the wrong thing to his students, at that time he misleads his students. So, a teacher, before and during being a teacher, must have the character of a teacher.

Ngainun Naim (Davies, 2022) stated about the character that teachers must have, namely: teachers should be people who have broad insight, what the teacher conveys must be something that is true and provides benefits, a teacher must prioritize an objective attitude in Facing every problem, a teacher should have strong dedication, motivation and loyalty, have moral qualities and personality, the teacher must form the humanist character of his students and the teacher must also be information and technology literate.

The characters above are a must for a teacher who not only teaches, but also educates and trains. When wanting to achieve the expected learning objectives, what teachers must do according to Ngainun Naim is: First, teachers must have a basic understanding of teaching and the basics of learning theory. Second, teachers must be able to develop a teaching system. Third, teachers must be able to carry out an effective learning process. Effectiveness is a principle that allows goals to be achieved optimally. Fourth, teachers must be able to assess learning outcomes as a basis for feedback for the entire process undertaken (Rahman et al., 2023).

Phrases we often hear: I heard, I forgot, I saw, I understood, I did, I can. Confucius' expression from 100 years ago tells us about how teachers act when teaching. Teachers not only provide (verbal) explanations, but also express them visually, and condition their students to do so. This makes students not only know, but also understand and can (Nguyen et al., 2022).

Knowing, understanding and being able, it turns out, is not enough to provide life. Teachers must also educate and instill moral values. If the teacher intends to instill moral values, then what must be done: First, the teacher

becomes an effective lover. Second, the teacher becomes a model, namely an ethical person who shows high respect and responsibility both inside and outside the classroom. Third, teachers become ethical mentors (Mujahidin & Rindaningsih, 2023).

Furthermore, Munif Chatib provided further and deeper insight into how teachers teach students, where students are positioned as humans. In the book *Human Parents* (Addison & S, 2022) in a table about the comparison between human schools and robot schools, it is written that in human schools, teachers must educate and teach with heart and patience in dealing with students with various intelligences. The teacher's role is as a facilitator where the teacher always provides opportunities for students to do more activities in learning activities. The teacher's attitude is as a catalyst who always ignites students' talents and interests, never calls them stupid or naughty, and encourages students to achieve. Teachers' teaching strategies use multi-strategies and have teaching creativity. So that learning becomes something that is simply fun.

Teacher Challenges in the Era of Globalization

Education is essentially inseparable from the role of the teacher as the spearhead of the teaching and learning process and the process of providing education. The challenges faced by professional teachers in the 21st century are divided into two, namely internal and external. Internal challenges are challenges faced by all components of the Indonesian nation, namely the development of democratic values, implementation of regional autonomy, strengthening the value of unity and fostering national morals, as well as the phenomenon of low quality of education. External challenges are challenges in order to be a professional teacher in the 21st century and as part of the world community in the era of globalization (Tyagi & Kazieva, 2023).

The duties and roles of teachers are becoming increasingly difficult day by day, along with developments in science and technology. Teachers as the main component in the world of education are required to keep pace with or even surpass the development of science and technology that is developing in society (Gaudel et al., 2024). Through the touch of teachers in schools, it is hoped that they will be able to produce students who have high competence and are ready to face life's challenges with confidence and high self-confidence.

A teacher in this modern era should be able to utilize all available channels and media. According to Gerlach & Ely (Utina et al., 2023), media can

be broadly understood as people, materials, or events that create conditions, which cause students to be able to acquire knowledge, skills, or attitudes. So according to this definition, teachers, peers, textbooks, the school environment and outside of school, for a student are media. In responding to the above challenges, teachers should be able to position themselves as a profession protected by law and become models for students in accordance with the mandate of the National Education System Law no. 20 of 2003. For this reason, the challenge for professional teachers in facing globalization is to be able to provide knowledge to students, apart from science and technology, but also to instill a disciplined, creative, innovative and competitive attitude.

Some of the challenges of globalization that teachers must address by prioritizing professionalism are as follows (Putri & Aslami, 2023):

1. The development of science and technology is so fast that teachers must be able to adapt responsively, wisely and wisely.
2. The moral crisis that has hit the Indonesian nation and state has had an impact on the development of science and technology and globalization, resulting in a shift in the values that exist in people's lives.
3. Social crises, such as crime, violence, unemployment and poverty that occur in society.
4. The identity crisis as an Indonesian nation and state currently has a tendency to diminish the spirit of nationalism among the younger generation. Based on the current reality, teachers as the spearheads of custodians of values, including nationalist values, must be able to provide awareness to the younger generation about the importance of the spirit of nationalism in the life of the nation and state.
5. Free trade, whether at the ASEAN, Asia Pacific or world level, requires superior and competitive human resources. Therefore, teachers are needed who are visionary, have competence, are highly dedicated so that they are able to equip students with a number of competencies needed in life amidst a society that is and continues to change (Nata, Abuddin: 2010)

Several important things that teachers must pay attention to, namely (1) Law no. 14 of 2005 concerning Teachers and Lecturers. This law regulates mechanisms, quality improvement, and the rights and obligations of educators, so that the position of teachers is recognized and protected by the state. This law is a form of commitment and responsibility of the teaching profession as the spearhead in educating the nation's children. (2) the teacher's philosophy which means to be admired and imitated, which means that the teacher should be used as a role model and imitate all his behavior.

Teachers should protect themselves and their attitudes when interacting with students, because whatever they say and do will be recorded and imitated by students. However, we still find many acts committed by teachers that are very inappropriate, for example immoral acts committed by unscrupulous teachers against their students at Bulukumba Middle School in August 2017, immoral cases that befell MTs students in Bantul in July 2017, as well as many immoral cases and other acts of violence. (3) paradigm regarding the level of teacher welfare/salary. So it is important for the government to change the image of teacher welfare so that the teaching profession is not just looked down upon but is an ideal and a calling. (4) Teachers must master technology. Nowadays teachers are required to master technology because the current generation is very different from the generation 10-15 years ago. If teachers do not care about mastering technology, the learning process will be monotonous and stiff. It is very important for a teacher to master e-learning, social media and other media-based learning to be applied in the classroom. Teachers must master the basic applications of Ms. Office, computer and laptop operation, LCD, and other modern facilities. Apart from technology producing negative effects, teachers must maximize its positive side through the educational process. (5) maintaining good relations with the community. Communication with the community is important as a form of evaluating the implementation of education, what things have been established and need to be addressed, maintained and improved. Through good communication, educational institutions will be able to create a more humanistic and social education (Elice & ., 2023).

Levie & Lentz (Zainiyati et al., 2024) suggest four functions of teaching media, especially visual media, namely: a) The attentional function of visual media is the core, namely attracting and directing students' attention to concentrate on lesson content related to the meaning of the visuals displayed or accompany the text of the lesson material. b) The affective function of visual media can be seen from students' level of enjoyment when learning (or reading) text with images. c) The cognitive function of visual media can be seen from research findings which reveal that visual symbols or images facilitate the achievement of goals to understand and remember information or messages hanging in images. d) The compensatory function of teaching media can be seen from the research results that visual media which provide context for understanding texts helps students who are weak in reading to organize information in the text and recall it.

CONCLUSION

Teachers are a means of instilling national character in children. The role of the teacher as a model in forming the character of students/students is very urgent, because the teacher is a role model for the students/students. When a teacher applies this character in everyday life, it is very likely that students will imitate the teacher's character. The teacher's role in shaping the personality and building the character of students is very important. In understanding students' potential, using effective learning methods, building attitudes, values and ethics, providing guidance and counseling, encouraging leadership development, instilling social responsibility, and providing a significant positive impact, teachers can help students become quality individuals. , tough, and has a solid character. The teacher's role in character education is not only visible during the learning process in class, but outside of learning process hours the teacher also always carries out his role in the character education of students.

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