

The Role of Parents in Forming the Character of Elementary School-Age Children

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ABSTRACT

Parents are the first place for a child to get socialization regarding character education. Children spend more time at home with their parents, so that parents have the biggest contribution to character education in children. By providing character education to children from an early age, it will be useful for the child's life in the future. In making this article aims to get an overview of the role of parents in the formation of character in elementary school children. The method used in is a qualitative method. The subjects in this study were parents and students, the object of this study was the role of parents in character education for elementary school-age children. Character education aims to develop the potential to become human beings who have noble character, character education must continue over time character education is needed for each individual to become a better person and be able to uphold human values.

Keyword : the role of parents, character education



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1. INTRODUCTION

Character is a trait that exists within a person that can affect personal matters such as thinking, behavior, understanding, and character in a person. Character has an influence in one's life. Lately there have been many problems circulating that lead to the fading of character values in the field of children's attitudes and characters. In the last few years, data shows that there is a decline in the character of the younger generation in Indonesia. (Muhammadiyah Mataram Mataram et al., 2022) the family has a function as the spearhead of a group that socializes the character values that must be implemented by its members.

The family greatly influences the child's ability to develop the character values of discipline, obedience to rules, willingness to work with others and others. This relates to the functions and objectives of national education as stated in Law Number 20 of 2003 concerning the National Education system article 3 which reads " National education functions to develop and shape the character and dignity of a nation's civilization in order to educate the life of the nation, aiming to develop the potential of students so that they become human beings who have faith and are devoted to God Almighty, have noble character, are healthy, knowledgeable, capable, creative, independent and become citizens of a democratic and responsible state.

Parents are one of the first and most important educational institutions in a child, because a child is raised and born from parents, and will develop into adulthood. Parents are the role models for a child. because every child at first admires his parents, all the behavior of his parents is imitated by his children. Children's behavior will be good if the behavior of their parents is good. And the child's behavior will be bad if the parents behave badly. In other words, it is the parents who have the duty and responsibility in determining the good and bad character of the child.

Parents are role models for children, and children tend to imitate the behavior of their parents. Parents must pay attention to their children's education, because the role of parents in the process of educating children is very important. Parents must be able to show their children good examples and

manners from an early age, because this affects their development. The importance of parents in their children's education is not small, because education is the most important asset that must be owned by everyone who lives to go through the times. the best education for children at an early age Parental involvement in children's education has proven to have many positive impacts on children. The active role of parents must of course be supported by good communication between parents. Character building is an effort that must pay attention to all the benefits of education, both for families, schools, the school environment and the wider community. Character building and character building will not work if there is no balance and harmony between the educational environments.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This research was conducted at SDN 012 Jadi Makmur in class IV in 2022 and the parents of students at SDN 012 Jadi Makmur. This study uses a descriptive research approach. Qualitative research is usually carried out in natural research, developing according to what happened to the researcher. The qualitative data used by the author is to determine the role of parents in forming the character of children at elementary school age. The source of the data in this study were the parents of students at SDN 012 Jadi Makmur, parents of female students. Data collection techniques used in this study were observation and interviews .

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION (10 PT)

A. The Role of the Family in Building the Character of Elementary School-aged Children

Before seeing how the role of parents in shaping the character of children, first know what the meaning of the role is. The role in KBBI is a level device that is expected to be owned by people who are in the community. Role is the ability or readiness possessed by someone to influence, encourage others to accept the influence themselves. Role is the ability or readiness possessed by someone to influence, encourage others to accept the influence themselves. Then do something that will help achieve a certain purpose and goal. Role is the ability or readiness possessed by someone to influence, encourage others to accept the influence themselves. Then do something that will help achieve a certain purpose and goal. So it can be seen that the role is a form of behavior that is expected in a certain social framework or a form of implementing parents in inviting, participating or serving as parents who have responsibility for their children to help achieve the desired goals. Meanwhile, parents themselves are fathers or mothers who are the main and first educators for their children, because it is from their parents that they first receive education.

Parents are also known as the closest people to their children. Parents consist of father and mother. A father must be able to advise and give to his child, just as a mother must be able to advise her daughter. Therefore, it is clear that both parents absolutely must act, speak, behave and have good morals and behavior together for the benefit of the child. Parenting is one of the processes that couples do with children. This pair consists of a father and mother who will give children an example, guidance, direction, advice and a good attitude. Based on the explanation above, it can be explained that parents are fathers and mothers who have great responsibility for their children and become role models because children will initially imitate everything, the good and bad that is in their parents. Parents or father and mother are figures who play an important role and are very influential on their children.

Character is a character, behavior, or personality that distinguishes an individual from other individuals. Or character can also be said as the actual condition of another individual. Character education is a system that imparts character values to an individual which includes knowledge, awareness of will and action to be able to carry out these values both in God. God Almighty, himself, others, the environment as well as the nation and state. The word character is already familiar to anyone who hears it. In everyday life it is very often mentioned, both when seeing

someone behaving well or behaving badly. Sudaryani (2012: 13-14) in (Khaironi, 2017) the large Indonesian dictionary, "character" is defined as a psychological trait, morals, or character. Character can also be interpreted as character, namely behavior or actions that are always done or habits.

Character education is a combination of two words, which are education and character, according to Ki Hajar Dewantara character education is the power or effort to advance the mind, body and manners so that they are in harmony with the surrounding environment and also nature (Dalimunthe, 2015) in (Khamalah, 2017) . Character education is also a basic concept that is applied to one's thinking to make physical and spiritual morals and manners more meaningful than before. Character education must be applied to children from an early age, teenagers, and even adults, so that it can form a person's character to become more valuable and moral. Individuals of good character are people who always try For do the best things to Lord YME, herself, environment, person other, nation and country. which character Good means individual Which know about potential Alone.

Education is something conscious effort to develop optimal potential of students. Business aware That No can released from environment participant educate is at, especially from environment culture, Because participant educate life not inseparable in their environment and act in accordance with rules culture, so that formed love to culture nation Alone. Character education aims to strengthen a child's basic foundation as a preparation for life and being able to adapt to their environment. Kohlberg (1975) in (Majors et al., nd) states that children at a young age do not understand morals, so they do not understand the meaning of good and bad. This is where the role of parents is very large in providing a strong moral foundation for children.

Etymologically "character" comes from the Latin verb meaning instrument of marking, from the French "charrassein" means to engrave (carve) then from the Javanese language "watek" means innate traits that influence behavior, character, character, temperament. Education is a process of changing human behavior, while character is an identity inherent in humans. Lickona (Setiardi, 2017) defines character education as an effort that is deliberately designed to change the character of students. While in simple terms character education can be interpreted as any positive thing that the teacher does and influences the character of the students he teaches (Samani & Hariyanto, 2013). in (Annisa et al., nd)

Character is a way of thinking and behaving that shapes every life and interaction in the family, society, nation and state. People with good character are individuals who can be held accountable for all the consequences and decisions they make. Education is the process of internalizing culture in humans and society to civilize humans and society. Education is not just a means of imparting knowledge, but in a broader sense, ie. H. as a tool to promote and instill values, children must get an education that includes the three basic human dimensions. Even if based on Bloom's opinion (1979: 7) there are three domains in learning, namely cognitive, affective, and psychomotor. These three domains must be developed comprehensively in learning. Likewise in terms of character education, to be able to form good character in students, schools should develop three important aspects, namely moral knowing (moral knowledge), moral feeling (moral feelings), and moral action (moral behavior) (Lickona, 1991:53) (Wuryandani et al., 2014) . Character education in Puskur (2010) in (Kadek et al., 2018) is as value education, character education, character education which aims to develop students' abilities to make good and bad decisions, choose what is good and realize that goodness in everyday life. day. The purpose of character education is to cultivate individual attitudes that have moral values and productive attitudes in life and are willing to do the best and do the right things in life. (Battistic, 2011) in (Indrastoeti, 2016) .

The purpose of character education is to form nation Which tough, Empower competitive, have character glorious, moral, tolerant, gotong cooperate, Love land water, develop in a manner dynamic, insightful science and technology, have faith And fear to Lord Which Maha One. Based on Pancasila. According to law number 20 of 2003 concerning the national education system article 13 paragraph (1), that the educational path consists of formal, informal and non-formal education which can complement and enrich each other (Puspitasari, 2022) . Character education functions (1) to develop the basic potential to have a good heart and good mind, (2) to strengthen and build a multicultural nation's behavior (3) to develop a nation's civilization that is cooperative in world affairs. Character education is carried out starting from various media which includes the family, educational units, civil society, political society, and the mass media. Character education is not just teaching what is right and what is wrong, more than that, character education instills habits about good things so that children become aware (cognitive) of what is right and wrong, are able to feel (affective) good values and are used to doing (psychomotor).

Family is an important factor affecting children's education. The character of the child comes from the family. In Indonesia, some children under the age of 18 spend 60-80% of their time with their families. Until they are 18 years old, they still need their parents and family warmth. The success of a child can not be separated from the "warmth of the family". Brain development in childhood works efficiently. Currently, children's academic and non-academic talents and potential are revealed, and their potential is enormous. The age of one to three years is the most important period for the growth and development of a child. Indicators of child growth and development are not only measured from physical development, but also from brain development which can be seen from their response to the environment. To see the intelligence of a child's brain, parents need to understand which changes are important for the child. If parents are not responsive to child development, problems will come when the child is an adult. The character of a child is formed especially in children aged 3-10 years. It is the duty of parents to determine what kind of input goes into their minds, so that they can form a quality child's character. The inculcation of character education values will be meaningful if these values can be implemented in everyday life. Therefore, the values of character education emphasize more on children's habits to do positive things. Character is something that is formed over time and the development of a child. Latifah, A.(2020) Next factor Which make role family very important in process development child.

- a. The family is a small institution in which its members interact in a manner faces to closed face.
- b. Parents have great motivation foreducate child because child is the fruit of the couple's affection husband wife.
- c. Because of social relations in the family Which closed.Purpose from role environment family in fixing development onchild age early, that is person old teach their children about: Self-mastery, base value character, role social.

Various guidelines on children's education emphasize that parents can be good listeners and communicators, be able to be role models, create a learning environment at home, not develop narrow and shallow thinking in children, and be able to instill honesty. Therefore, the main thing here is the quality of interaction between family members, not the quantity (Go Setiawan, 2000). in (Ainemer et al., 1990) However self-confidence must start from home. This means that the house must be endeavored to be a place to foster children's self-confidence and form other good personalities. The role of parents in educating children is very influential in the child's development process, although it needs to be supported by social institutions such as schools and also the environment. Likewise, the attitude of parents on the other hand, is very influential in education

in the family, because this will affect the characteristics or behavior of children. The success of a child is largely determined by the family, because that's where the first child gets an education.

Based on the opinion above, it can be concluded that the role of parents in shaping character is:

a. Educate through examples of behavior

Behavioral examples are very effective in directing children to become useful people. Effective behavior given by parents must be supported by policies implemented by regulators that are implemented by all family members in all aspects of daily life. Educating through examples of behavior basically includes honesty, mutual respect, courtesy, kindness, friendliness, and obeying rules. Educating through behavioral models is suitable for children aged 6-12 years. Because children aged 6-12 years are identical to imitating the behavior of those closest to them, especially their parents.

b. Implementing Early Education

Parents are the first and foremost educators for children. Education is an effort to develop human qualities in all its aspects. Education as a deliberate activity to achieve certain goals. The most basic things demanded in early childhood education are honesty, mutual respect, courtesy, kindness, friendliness, and obedience to rules. Honesty, mutual respect, courtesy, kindness, friendliness, and obedience to rules in early childhood education will greatly shape character for the better. This will result in the atmosphere of the child's character becoming more organized or formed.

c. Implement an obedience system

Forming and guiding a child towards the safety of inner training will be more effective if it is supported by habituation. Familiarizing children to obey religious regulations as a cultural and social phenomenon will form a conducive atmosphere in the child's soul like carving on a stone that is difficult to erase.

d. Attitude of speech between parents and children

Guidance in the teachings of Islam there are three types, among others, someone invokes virtue effectively, namely guiding with wisdom, gentle teaching, and in the form of mutually pleasant exchange of thoughts or reciprocal dialogue. With a culture of dialogue between parents and children or exchanging ideas, parents will have dialogue accompanied by advice that is in accordance with the teachings of Allah SWT. That way it is hoped that children will have a good heart in accordance with Islamic teachings.

Obstacles in the formation of children's character Understanding the character of elementary age children is sometimes so difficult that they are often unable to do it. Most are confused by children so they feel reluctant to share many things, for example stories at school, their problems. When children start to feel uncomfortable talking to parents, it means that parents have not been able to gain trust and understand the character of their own children. There are 3 needs that must be met in children aged 0-7 years and even more, namely, (1) The need for security (2) The need to control (3) The need to be accepted. These three basic emotional needs must be met so that children become reliable individuals and have strong character to face life. This is the character of a child with problems, it is enough for us to see from his behavior that it appears that parents can already do early detection of the "big disasters" of life that will come. In Islamic literature it is found that the genetic factor is recognized as one of the factors influencing character formation. However, it was found that the most important factors affecting children's character apart from genes are other factors such as food, friends, parents, and goals which are the strongest factors in coloring a person's character. Thus it is clear that the character can be formed. Parents are the main

influencing factor. In shaping the character of a child, parents encounter many obstacles and support. This is in accordance with the explanation below. Inhibiting factors for parents in shaping children's character, namely: lack of parents to give attention, support and affection to their children, parents are not able to set an example for children, parents cannot give a sense of security to children, parents' demands are too high. high, parents who cannot give trust to children, parents who cannot foster initiative and creativity in children.

Based on the results of research conducted by researchers in the field about the role of parents in shaping the character of elementary school-aged children, the results of observations and interviews are as follows.

1. Educate by example

The role of parents in building children's character conducted an interview with Mrs. *Herlina Mariyanti, A.Md.Keb (parents) at SDN 012 Jadi Makmur* who said that setting an example of good behavior for children such as speaking polite words to older people had been taught, but the older the child, the more they know about socializing with their friends "Then an interview with Mrs. *Natik (parent)* she said I had taught her politeness, I even scolded her if the child spoke in a high tone". Based on the results of the interviews above, educate through examples of behavior that has been applied. Responsible for religious rituals and scold them. But as the child gets older, he begins to dare to face adults, if his wish is not fulfilled, the child will get angry and cry. For children aged 6-12 years it is good to cultivate the character of being honest, respectful, courteous, kind, friendly, and obedient to religious rules through exemplary behavior, as well as being well-groomed in polite speech and maintaining an educational attitude. Because according to the parents in Bakti Makmur Induk village, children aged 6-12 years are still very innocent and easy to shape or direct. So, parents try to maintain their attitude and words in front of their children so that their children can imitate them. Parents must also have firmness or policies that make children more averse to older people or respect older people. Always set an example of good behavior such as honesty, kindness and following the rules. Because children imitate and practice what they see, not what they hear. In order to improve children's character, it is very necessary to have several role models of behavior that can encourage growth and development in the formation of children's character. For this reason, parents always set an example in everyday life so that children can emulate the good example of their parents.

In addition to interviews with parents, researchers also made observations of parents. "Researchers obtained data that the implementation of the role of parents in shaping character by educating through examples of behavior has gone well, parents have greeted each other and spoken politely.

2. Implement education from an early age

The role of parents in forming character in children The researcher conducted an interview with Mrs. Siti as a parent saying that early childhood education greatly changes the character of children, if the child is just let go what will my child's character be, I teach attitudes about honesty, helping fellow friends, and get punished if caught lying.

Apart from that, I interviewed Ibuk Sijur as a parent, saying that I have applied how to educate children from an early age, how to have a sense of gratitude when they have been helped, have a sense of being honest, for example, such as not taking things that are not theirs and not doing problems that exist at school or at home. .

The role of parents is very important in education from an early age, for a child parents are the first educators in the formation of character. Parents should practice mutual respect, help,

courtesy, honest, brave, humble and not arrogant. It aims to provide a character for further development.

Getting used to educating children from an early age can lead to habits to shape the character of the child itself. Parents as educators must be sensitive in educating small things. That way children will get used to speaking openly to their parents so that the application of the education system to form the character of respect, help, courtesy, honesty, courage, humility and not arrogant.

Then an interview with Revan as a student said his parents taught him to be honest from a young age, for example going from the house with permission to his parents to recite the Koran, but what Revan did was not recite the Koran but play with friends.

3. Implement an obedience system

The role of parents in forming children's character and guiding a child to get used to complying with religious regulations. The researcher conducted an interview with Mrs. Awok, who said that accustoming her child to obeying religious regulations, for example, such as performing prayers on time, fasting during the month of Ramadan. Familiarize children to comply with religious regulations to have good character, for example, to pray regularly so that they have a better character attitude. But sometimes other factors make children forget to pray, namely friends.

Then conducted an interview with Dinda as a student saying that I had prayed but sometimes there were still many holes.

4. The attitude of speech between parents and children

The role of parents in forming children's character researchers conducted interviews with Mrs. Suriyatik as a parent said that trying to be friends and mothers when talking to children, trying to understand what children need by chatting, for example when children are having problems with existing friends at school I as a parent give input to children to do good and apologize and forgive each other.

The researcher also conducted interviews with Novi as a child saying that her mother was always a friend to tell when she had problems inside and outside school.

The results of interviews with these parents included the role of parents in building children's character through examples, educating by example, implementing early education, implementing a system of obedience, attitudes towards talking between parents and children.

Efforts Made by Parents in Children's Character Education There are a few things that are necessary done by person old sochild No feel reluctant withperson his parents itself is as follows:

1. Listen well to children

Don't just listen to the child as a condition, but listen carefully, give a response, and think about the solution if the child has a problem. Many parents think their children's stories are not important and only listen to them as symbols or conditions. Meanwhile, children know that they are not being heard and begin to distance themselves from their parents. When that happens, parents have taken the wrong step to understand a child.

2. Trying to understand the child's emotional type

For example, the type of child who is impatient but actually he can be more patient if given understanding with Good. Therefore, understand the child's emotional type and don't give anger or violence when the child has touched the negative side of his emotions. Give him understanding or other ways so that the child's emotions don't get worse over time.

3. Introduce children well

Some parents tend to rush and have no patience when they find something wrong and want to get facts about it from their child. If you carry out interrogations with the concept of saying

loudly, forcing, and even hitting. Then the child will lie to the parents, and the concept of understanding the child's character can disappear. Interrogate the child gently, make him tell the truth, and find out how the child is able to tell things that are very confidential to people you know. If that happens, then the parents understand the child's character and are ready to educate them better.

4. CONCLUSION (10 PT)

Character education is a process that never stops, character education must continue over time, character education is needed for each individual become a better person and be able to uphold human values. The importance of character education for a child of primary age is based on the existence of criticality in child development, to improve the study of this article, suggestions are needed, namely the following: (1) character education that has occurred in the family environment needs to be further improved towards a better direction by adhere to the level of consistency, (2) parents need to understand the method of developing the character of an elementary school child in an interesting and fun way and also be able to keep children from getting bored, (3) need to overcome the obstacles faced by parents in their child's character education through parenting activities with fellow parents, discuss or consult with elementary school teacher education experts.

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