

PEBSAS : JURNAL PENDIDIKAN BAHASA DAN SAstra

THE IMPACT OF ENGLISH TEACHER EDUCATION ON STUDENTS' CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT: A THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT

Character education is a process of applying moral and religious values to students through science, the application of these values both to oneself, family, fellow friends, to educators and the surrounding environment and God Almighty. This article will discuss the influence of character education in various theoretical perspectives, the role of the school environment, family, and teachers in shaping student character, and strategies that can strengthen character education in the educational context. The research method used is descriptive method and qualitative approach. The findings of this study highlight the importance of theoretical models and approaches in understanding the role of parenting, religiosity and sociological factors in shaping student character. In addition, the article also discusses the positive relationship between extracurricular activities and character education, the important role of educators, and the impact of the school environment in shaping student character.

Key Words: Character Education, Character Building, Influence

INTRODUCTION

Learners are the generation that will determine the fate of our nation in the future. The character formed in students from now on will significantly impact the nation's character later on (DfEE, 1997, p. 10). The school and family bear the responsibility for the development of children's character (Siska Apriani Rambe, 2017). Students' character flourishes when they have ample space to express themselves freely, allowing them to grow and develop optimally. Character education is a concerted effort in educational institutions to shape students' behavior in thinking and acting. It aims to strengthen and develop students' ownership, providing an understanding of values that should manifest in everyday behavior. In this context, character education influences students' character development, both theoretically and practically. It plays a crucial role in shaping students' behavior and personality, encompassing moral and intellectual development (Azyumardi Azra, 2013).

According to the Directorate of Basic Education (2022), the importance of character education is reflected in the role of teachers, who are responsible for being role models in character education. Internal and external strategies, such as learning methods, assessment, classroom management, and community involvement, also play a role in shaping students' character. President Joko Widodo emphasizes the need for strategic actions, including continuous character education, to create outstanding human resources (2019-2024). Character education should instill values such as compassion, exemplary behavior, morality, and diversity awareness in students. This aligns with the National Education System Law number 20 of 2003, emphasizing that teachers should lead students actively in developing their spiritual strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble character, and other necessary skills. This article comprehensively discusses the influence of education on students' character development from various theoretical perspectives, highlighting the roles of the school environment, family, and teachers. Additionally, it explores internal and external strategies to strengthen character education within the educational context.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Santika Virdi, Husnul Khotimah, Kartika Dewi (2023) in their article "Educational Sociology in Shaping Students' Character in Schools" discuss how a sociological approach can contribute to shaping students' character. The theoretical framework in this article outlines theories underlying the discussion, such as socialization theory, structural-functional theory, and conflict theory. Previous research has also made significant contributions to understanding the relationship between educational sociology and the formation of students' character. In his study "Concept of Children's Character Education in Families in the Post-Pandemic Era" (2022), Syamsul Bahri aims to explore concepts and models of character education for children within families in the post-pandemic era. The research findings indicate that character education within the family can be achieved through various structured learning activities and character reinforcement within the family environment. The concept of children's character education in families should also explore dimensions such as knowledge growth, social development, and moral development in children.

Siska Apriani Rambe (2017) in her research titled "The Influence of Environment on the Formation of Students' Character in Islamic Boarding Schools" discusses the impact of the environment on shaping students' character in Islamic boarding schools. Through quantitative research, the study finds that both the school and community environments significantly influence the formation of students' character, emphasizing the importance of the environment in shaping students' character. Ira Rahayu (2021) in her research "The Mediating Effect of Students' Learning Strategies on the Influence of Learning Interest on Students' Learning Outcomes" discusses the mediating effect of students' learning strategies on the influence of learning interest on their academic performance. While not directly related to character education, students' learning outcomes can also reflect their character development in the learning process. Considering the insights from these previous researchers and reviewing relevant articles on the topic of character education, the researcher is interested in conducting further research using a systematic literature review titled "The Influence of Education on the Development of Students' Character in Theoretical Perspectives."

METHODS

"Research methodology is a scientific approach to obtaining data with predefined objectives and purposes," says Sugiyono (2011). Research methodology refers to how the researcher acquires data for investigation and then develops it into a coherent whole. This study also employs a qualitative approach and a library research method, or descriptive method. It involves data collection for analysis, encompassing information or materials gathered from books, journals, the internet, and the library related to the research title. The focus is on sources discussing the character education of students, which is the main focus of this research. After identifying several sources believed to support the researcher's thoughts and opinions on the study, the researcher proceeds to analyze these sources one by one. This process took place over 2 days, starting on December 27-28, 2023, and concluding on December 29, 2023.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Findings

Based on the search results provided, the influence of character education on student development can be discussed from a theoretical perspective. Several studies and articles have explored the theoretical foundations and models related to character education. For instance, a study by Diana (2019) examined the theoretical model of the influence of positive parenting and a friendly personality on parental involvement in students' character education through the mediator of religiosity. This research utilized a mixed-methods approach and empirically supported the theoretical model.

Furthermore, an article by Viridi, Khotimah, and Dewi (2023) discusses how a sociological approach contributes to shaping students' character. The theoretical study in this article outlines theories underpinning the role of sociology in education, such as socialization theory, structural-functional theory, and conflict theory. Additionally, Bahri (2022) aimed to find theoretical concepts and models for character education in families in the post-pandemic era. This study emphasizes the importance of exploring various dimensions, such as knowledge growth, social development, and moral development in children, from a theoretical perspective.

These studies provide valuable insights into the theoretical aspects of character education and its influence on student development. They highlight the importance of theoretical models and approaches in understanding the roles of parenting, religiosity, and sociological factors in shaping students' character. Therefore, a comprehensive discussion of theoretical perspectives on character education can be built based on these findings.

Discussion

Building on the search results provided, the influence of character education on student development can be further explored by examining the impact of extracurricular activities, the role of educators, and the school environment on students' character development.

a Extracurricular Activities and Student Character Education

The relationship between extracurricular activities and students' character education has been a focus of research. A systematic literature review by Rahayu and Dong (2023) found that well-organized extracurricular activities have a positive correlation with the development of students' character education. Internal school factors such as peers, teachers, and the school climate, as well as external factors like parents, were identified as significant determinants influencing this relationship.

b The Role of Educators in Shaping Student Character

The role of educators, including teachers, in shaping students' character has been prioritized in research. A study by Wu (2023) explored the impact of providing Islamic spiritual extracurricular activities on students' character development and found that the role of teachers as facilitators and mentors in these activities played a crucial role in shaping students' character, particularly in fostering independence, obedience, and responsibility.

c School Environment and Student Character Formation

The school environment was also identified as a significant factor in shaping students' character. A study by Murianto and Data (2023) revealed that the family's role, teacher discipline, and the school environment have a positive and significant effect on students' character. This highlights the importance of the school environment as a structured space for various educational programs to help students develop their moral, spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social, and skills aspects optimally.

For students, character is more likely to be directly influenced by experiences and interactions with others in school compared to formal or curricular teaching. They argue that respect for others can be inherited through interactions with others, and therefore, role modeling is a key factor. However, students tend to report role models other than teachers, sometimes due to a clear dislike for teachers, which they attribute to a lack

of respect from teachers. This phenomenon has been observed previously and more widely in various national school systems (e.g., Gorard & Smith, 2010).

These findings provide valuable insights into the diverse influences on student character development, including the positive relationship between extracurricular activities and character education, the crucial role of educators, and the impact of the school environment. Understanding these influences is essential for the comprehensive development of students' character and can provide information for designing effective character education programs.

CONCLUSIONS

The conclusion of this article is that character education for children has a significant influence on shaping their behavior and personality. The article explores various theoretical perspectives, the roles of the school environment, family, and teachers in shaping students' character, as well as internal and external strategies that can strengthen character education in the educational context. The research methods used are descriptive and qualitative approaches. Findings from this research highlight the importance of theoretical models and approaches in understanding the roles of parenting, religiosity, and sociological factors in shaping students' character. Additionally, the article discusses the positive relationship between extracurricular activities and character education, the crucial role of educators, and the impact of the school environment on character formation.

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