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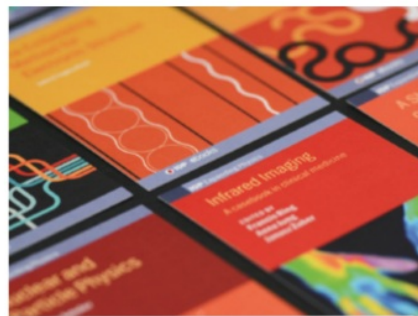
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EARLY CHILDHOOD CHARACTER BUILDING THROUGH TECHNOLOGICAL EDUCATION

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Abstract. The purpose of this research was to identify the pattern of character education in St. Joseph Kindergarten and it was to analyze the application of character education developed by St. Joseph Kindergarten for early childhood in the family. This research used a qualitative approach. The informants in this research were teachers, parents, and students of St. Joseph Kindergarten. Data collection techniques carried out by participant observation and in-depth interview. The collected data analyzed using domain analysis, taxonomy, compound, and cultural themes. The result showed that early childhood character education could be formed through school and family collaboration conducted in kindergarten. It can be known through St. Joseph Kindergarten education program that implements the curriculum with technological developments and it can be seen that children inseparable from technology. Character values developed by St. The implementation values was done through routine habituation that applied as long as the children in St. Joseph Kindergarten unit by introducing technology education so that children did not abusing the technology. Fun learning activities management by utilizing student technology can be more creative and participatory. Character building application through Play Store learning can educate students to be wiser in using Gadget applications in modern era.

1. Introduction

⁵Children are the next generation of families and the nation needs to be prepared from an early age to become a quality successor and they have a good character. Early childhood is a very important development period in human life. At an early age the mentoring of parents and schools of early childhood education is very important because to be a human quality not just have an intelligence but they must have social and psychological skills. The experts called this period is the golden age development [5].

Since the Indonesian nation entered ²the reform era, reforms have been carried out in the field of national education including the issuance of Law Number 20 of 2003 concerning the National Education



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²System. In the National Education System law, it is affirmed that national education functions to develop the ability and form dignified national character and civilization in order to educate the life of the nation, it aim for the potential students development to become faithful and fearful people of God, noble, healthy, knowledgeable, capable, creative, independent, a democratic and responsible citizen [5].

Humans live as individual creatures as well as social beings, individual creatures are responsible for themselves with all the uniqueness they have. While human as social creatures ⁵ have a need to live in groups both in the family environment and in a wider society. In the modern era, family is the smallest unit in society, consisting of father, mother and child. In the family, a child grows and develops, family functions as a place of socialization and a place for the affection between families to grow. Therefore, to foster affection requires good communication in the family [2].

Family is the first and primary community, since the human from an early age, learn the concepts about good and bad, proper and inappropriate, correct and incorrect. In other words, someone learn to know the environment, learn value or moral through the family. Values of persons believe will be reflected in their character, so the character education process begins from their family. Family education will determine how far a child in the process becomes a more mature person, they have a commitment to certain moral values such as honesty, caring, simplicity, and determines how children see the world around them, such as looking at others who are not the same and different social status different ethnic, different religion, different races different cultural background, as explained by [13], [16].

The role of parents as primary and first educators for children, parents are the main factor in build children's character because children will only associate with people in their environment. The role of parents in educating children in the household is very important because in the household a child first receives guidance and education from their parents. The parents task as a teacher or primary and first educator for their children in growing and developing character for children [1], [12].

A lot of media information will affect children's character building. Education for character development is not an easy effort. Normatively, the formation or development of good character requires good environmental quality which is also emphasized by Sudirman [15], that technology can be utilized for character education media. Character Education must follow the development of the Indonesian Industrial Revolution 4.0 because technology cannot be prevented but can be utilized to develop character value for the nation's successors. Early childhood need to instill the value of character through collaborative technology, the role of Parents, Teachers, Schools (Early Childhood Education Programs) and the community must be able to embrace and utilize social media technology so that children do not abuse social media. To build communication between parents and teachers, it is done with WA group, facebook and instagram. The existence of information technology strengthens the relationship between parents and school, so communication becomes more effective. In this era, there have been many early childhood play mobile phones, so that children are not misused, it is necessary to assist in the use of mobile phones. St. JosephSt. JosephCondongCatur Kindergarten has used this information technology for communication between parents and teachers. The activities carried out by children are always uploaded to show the activitiesby the St. JosephKindergarten to be known to the public, especially their parents and children who are doing activities can see the results through social media. This situation make children become proud and confidence.

According to ⁷Law No. 20 of 2003 concerning the National Education System Chapter 1, article 1, point 14 states that “Early Childhood Education is an effort to guide children from birth to six years of age through the provision of educational stimuli to help with physical growth and development and spiritual so that children have readiness to enter further education.” ⁶While in Article 28 about (Early Childhood Education Program) early childhood education is stated that early childhood education is held before the level of primary education, it can be held through formal, non-formal and informal education channels.

National education goals listed in the stem of the 1945 Constitution mandate that the government organize a national education system to increase faith and devotion to God as well as noble character of educating the life nation. Indonesian consciously build education based on the noble character. Based on these goals, education in all levels should develop learning, habituation, exemplary as well as culture of Early Childhood Education institutions activities that are conducive so that children become smart and they have noble character.

Character building is not only can make children have noble character, but it can also increase their academic success [6], [9]. The research result from Kang'ahi and Gerard show that there is a close connection between the success of character building with academic success as well as children pro-social behavior, so that the atmosphere of Early Childhood Education institutions are fun and conducive to effective teaching and learning. In addition, children with good character are those who have high emotional and spiritual maturity, they can manage stress better, which can ultimately improve their physical health.

2. Method

This research used a qualitative approach with phenomenological method. The data collection instruments were observation, interview, and documentation. Observations were carry out in a participatory, real, disguised manner, and it were not structured to ensure that the object in this research is the informant in the location to be studied. The interview were done by snowball sampling to obtaining the data in focus and at the same time searching for data information that can be applied. Information can be obtained from teachers, parents and students of St. Joseph Kindergarten. Researcher used descriptive and structural questions to get information related to the character values taught by St. Joseph Kindergarten.

⁴The data obtained were analyzed with domain analysis ⁴techniques, taxonomy, compound with organizing as well as reducing data process into patterns, category and basic ⁴description unit so that it can be determined the theme and it can be formulated for conclusion. Culture Theme Analysis was carry out at the time of data collection and after data collection were complete. The analytical work carried out in this research was to organize, sort, code, and categorize data so that it can be found the appropriate description with the aspect studied.

3. Result and Discussion

3.1 Character Building Pattern at St. Joseph's Kindergarten

St. Joseph Kindergarten curriculum was organized by Christian values as the basic for the students' character development. Character values that were developed include: honest,

independent and it had a sensitivity of conscience. The implementation values was done through routine habituation that applied as long as the children in St. Joseph Kindergarten unit. In managing fun, creative, and participatory learning activities, St. Joseph Kindergarten applied the safety corner of learning group model that children were divided into group of different activities in one day. The safety corner variables were useful for developing children's abilities in various aspects especially the social emotional and motoric physical aspect to support development for other aspects.

The special program in St. Joseph Kindergarten was intended as a superior program that strengthens the development program to achieve Basic Competency, Vision, Mission, and the goal of St. Joseph Kindergarten. The special program was the development of children's interest through self-development activities namely: music, dance, painting, swimming. In addition, there were a student-oriented programs that include Fun Friday that different activities every week, such as science class, cooking class, bringing guest teacher, craft day, audio visual class and story-telling. BIA (Catholic Child Faith Development). "Fun Friday" activities are held every Friday to provide more enjoyable learning activities, for more details can be seen in picture 1.1 below:



Picture 1.1 Fun Learning Activities

The St. Joseph Kindergarten support program is the program that involve parents, communities, or other parties who can strengthen the implementation of Early Childhood Education services. The St. Joseph Kindergarten support program is a parenting program which is held twice in each year of lessons, family day, the formation of St. Joseph Kindergarten committees, collaboration with community health center, and others. Attitude Development is implemented routinely as outlined in the daily routine schedule.

The Fun Friday program has the goal of attitude development carried out through the exemplary teacher consistently. To establish consistency in attitude formation so routine activities are guided in the Standard Operational Procedure (SOP). Fun Friday activities will be packaged in Social Media as a means of Character Education because it is not denied that child development today is inseparable from technology. Gadget as the most familiar technology with children. Then, St. Joseph Kindergarten develop the gadget application for all activities carried out by teachers and children for posting on social media, so that children do not abuse the gadget. Television and radio broadcast periodically carried out through Petra radio are also developed by St. Joseph Kindergarten by character building values broadcast for early childhood so that the media can be used as character education tools of modern era. It shows the importance of information through mass media for the institution development.

The application of the technology used by St. Joseph Kindergarten is almost activity done by children every day posted via Facebook and Instagram. This is done so that parents can interact and they see concretely given at the St. Joseph Kindergarten. Parents are proud and their children are always update in positive activities through technology.

3.2 Character Education Application developed by St. Joseph Kindergarten for Early Childhood.

Character values are believed as a solid support in the life of the nation and state. The collapse of a country is suspected by the character values weakening in the lives of its people. The National Education Ministry implemented character education at all levels of education, including in Early Childhood Education institutions. Character education in Early Childhood Education institutions emphasizes the habit in daily life. In other words, the character building in early childhood is not only in the form of learning but it can packaged through technology and children's daily activities, it can be seen in picture 1.2, as follows:



Picture 1.2 Children are watching St. Joseph Kindergarten Television Broadcast

Character Education Values developed by St. Joseph Kindergarten, include four aspects, those are (1) Spiritual Aspect, (2) Personal / Personality Aspect, (3) Social Aspect, and (4) Environmental Aspect. Character education is education involve the knowledge building, favorite and good behavior building that become habit. Character values is broadcast through television and social media. It expected that parents can play the television or social media especially St. Joseph Kindergarten broadcast when the children holiday, so all character education can be integrated through school, environment, and family (Licona, 2012).

Character education of St. Joseph Kindergarten is inseparable from Constitution number 20 of 2003 that concerning the National Education System Chapter 1, article 1, item 14 which includes: 1). Love of God, 2). Honesty, 3). Discipline, 4). Tolerance and peace, 5). Confidence, 6). Independent, 7). Helping each other, cooperation, and mutual cooperation 8). Respect and politeness, 9). Responsibility, 10). Hard work, 11). Leadership and justice, 12). Creative, 13). Humble, 14). Environmental care, 15). Love the nation and the state. There are seven character education principles that must be carried out by educator and Early Childhood institution, those are 1). Through the model and exemplary; 2). Carried out continuously; 3). Comprehensive, integrated in all development aspects; 4). Creating an affection atmosphere 5). Actively motivate the children 6). Involve educator and education personnel, parents, and the community, 7). Assessment.

4. Conclusion

St. Joseph Kindergarten is one of the school units managed by the Bernadus institution directorate of Sanjaya School. St. Joseph Kindergarten curriculum is organized by Christian values as the basic for the students' character development. Character values that are developed, include: honest, independent, and it have a sensitivity of conscience. The 18 values application carried out through the routine habituation that is applied as long as children in St. Joseph Kindergarten. In managing fun, creative, and participatory learning activities, St. Joseph Kindergarten applied the safety corner of learning group model that children are divided into group of different activities in one day. The safety corner variables are useful for developing children's abilities in various aspects especially the social emotional and motoric physical aspect to support development for other aspects.

The values application carried out through the routine habituation that is applied as long as children in St. Joseph Kindergarten. In managing fun, creative, and participatory learning activities, St. Joseph Kindergarten applied the safety corner of learning group model that children are divided into group of different activities in one day. The safety corner variables are useful for developing children's abilities in various aspects especially the social emotional and motoric physical aspect to support development for other aspects. St. Joseph Kindergarten activities are packaged on social media and broadcast via television, radio, facebook and instagram with the goal that the children at home, parents know that the education given to their children at St. Joseph Kindergarten can synergize with character education at home.

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