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Character Education Development in The Education Curriculum: Challenges and Opportunities in The 21st Century

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Abstract: Character education has become an increasingly relevant and important issue in the 21st century. Social change, technology, and globalization have affected social values and fabrics, underscoring the urgency of character education to address increasingly complex challenges. This article outlines the complexity and importance of character education development in the context of current educational curricula. This article aims to analyze the role and importance of character education in facing the challenges of the 21st century. We discuss the social and technological changes affecting character education and explore the challenges and opportunities associated with integrating character education into the educational curriculum. This research uses in-depth literature review methods and analyses of the relevant scientific literature. We searched and analyzed a variety of studies related to character education, social change, technology, and globalization. Data and findings from these sources were used to support the arguments and analyses of this study. The results of this study reveal key findings that provide important insights into character education in the 21st century. First, character education plays an increasingly important role in shaping the quality of individuals in the 21st century. Character education not only improves moral values, but also shapes an individual's ability to think critically, make wise decisions, and contribute positively to an increasingly complex society. Furthermore, social, technological, and globalization changes have affected the order of individual values, posing challenges in integrating character education that reflects universal and local values. The main challenge in developing character education is to integrate the existing educational curriculum. This requires the development of new learning methods and adjustments to existing curriculum structures. In addition, the roles of teachers and educators in this process are very important, requiring adequate training and support.

Keywords: Character Education Development, Educational Curriculum, Challenges and Opportunities, 21st Century

INTRODUCTION

In the context of developing character education in the educational curriculum of the 21st century, the main finding is that character education has very important relevance (Fernandes, 2019). This article aims to explain why character education is important, how social and technological changes affect it, and how to overcome challenges and take advantage of opportunities to develop effective character education in the educational curriculum. The implications of these findings are particularly relevant in the context of developing character education in the 21st century education curriculum (Dasrimin, 2021). First, character education should be given equal priority over academic knowledge in the educational curriculum. The curriculum must strengthen character education as an integral part of the education process (Soleh, 2023). Furthermore, character education must be able to adapt to social, technological, and globalization changes. Building an understanding of relevant values in a global context is the key to developing a strong character. Finally, teachers and educators should provide

adequate training and support to help them become good role models for students and integrate character education into teaching (Rozak, 2023). Thus, the development of character education in the educational curriculum in the 21st century can become more effective and relevant, creating individuals who are not only academically intelligent but also have strong character and the ability to contribute positively to society.

In the 21st century, character education plays a central role in shaping qualified individuals (Jannah & Adi, 2023). Character education is not only limited to improving moral values, but also to developing critical thinking skills, wise decision-making, and positive contributions to society. This has become even more important given that modern society is increasingly complex, and individuals are faced with a variety of diverse challenges (Salmia et al., 2020). Therefore, character education is key to forming citizens who are responsible, have good ethics, and are able to adapt to changes in the social environment.

Changes in social, technological, and globalization environments have significantly impacted character education. The growth of technology, especially with the rise of the Internet and social media, has changed the way individuals interact, influenced their values, and presented new challenges in the development of a strong character (Fadhilah, 2022). Globalization, which brings about the exchange of cultures and values from different parts of the world, raises the question of how to integrate character education that reflects universal values while considering the context of local values (Erlangga et al., 2022). Therefore, character education must be able to effectively cope with the impact of these social and technological changes.

Although character education plays an important role, integrating it into the educational curriculum is a challenging task (Arifin, 2023). One of the main challenges is how to change the curriculum that is currently more focused on academic knowledge into one that includes character education (Rahman, 2018). Teachers and educators must understand their role in effectively implementing character education in the classroom. However, amid these challenges, there is an opportunity to develop holistic character education in learning (Salmia et al., 2020). Technology such as e-learning platforms and educational applications can be utilized to facilitate character development (Anggreni, 2023). Additionally, creating an educational environment that supports character development can be an important opportunity to achieve the goal of more effective character education.

Thus, the main purpose of this article is to analyze the importance of character education in facing the challenges of the 21st century. This analysis explores the social and technological changes that affect character education, as well as the challenges and opportunities that arise

in integrating character education into the education curriculum (Mahpudz et al., 2020). This article discusses various aspects that influence the development of character education in the 21st century, focusing on the concrete challenges faced in integrating character education into the education curriculum (Waluyo, 2015). We also explain the role of teachers and educators in this process and provide insight into the opportunities that exist to optimize character education in the context of modern education. Thus, this article will help open a discussion and provide a better understanding of the importance of character education in the 21st century.

METHOD

Research or Analysis Approach Used

The approach used in this article is an in-depth literature review (Sugiyono, 2014). This approach will enable us to investigate and analyze the relevant and diverse scholarly literature on character education, its challenges, and opportunities in the 21st century.

Data Source Used (Literature)

The main source of data used in writing this article is the scientific literature. We will collect and research various journal articles, books, research reports, and other academic sources related to character education in the 21st century era (Shohib, 2022). These sources provide a solid basis for analysis and discussion.

Process of Data Collection and Analysis Used

The data collection process in this literature review approach involves searching, selecting, and analyzing relevant scientific literature. We will seek resources related to the importance of character education; the social, technological, and globalization changes that affect character education; and the challenges and opportunities faced in integrating it into the educational curriculum. Once the data are collected, we perform thematic analysis and synthesis of information to identify patterns, trends, and perspectives that emerge in the literature.

RESULT

Character education has become an increasingly relevant and important topic in the 21st century (Afifa 2019). This research, which is based on an in-depth literature review and analysis of relevant scientific literature, produces key findings that illustrate the complexity and urgency of character education in the face of increasingly complex social, technological, and globalization changes.

The importance of character education in the 21st century is clear (Fernandes, 2019). In addition to focusing on improving moral values, character education also plays a broader role in forming quality individuals. This includes the formation of an individual's ability to think critically, make wise decisions, and contribute positively to society (Rahim and Ismaya, 2023). Character education helps students develop the skills that are needed in the face of the increasingly diverse challenges of the modern era. This context arises from the recognition that modern society is increasingly complex and that individuals are faced with significant changes.

In the face of social, technological, and globalization changes that affect the world today, character education is key to forming responsible citizens (Wahyudiono, 2023). Social change includes shifts in community values, family structure, and cultural diversity (Wahid & Hasyim, 2023). Values that may have been widely accepted in the past may no longer apply; therefore, character education needs to respond wisely to these changes.

Technological developments, especially the Internet and social media, also have a significant impact on how individuals interact and communicate (Badriyah et al., 2021). The Internet has changed the way we access information, communicate with others, and express our views. Meanwhile, social media has become a powerful platform for spreading both positive and negative values and views (Muthoharoh, 2020). The impact of these technologies requires character education to address new challenges in understanding how they affect individual values and behaviors.

Globalization, with its rapid exchange of cultures and values, also raises the question of how to integrate character education that reflects both universal and local values (Cipta et al., 2023). While universal values such as honesty and tolerance should remain the focus, character education should respect cultural diversity and local values. An increasingly globally connected society requires individuals to adapt to multiple perspectives and understandings.

The main challenge in developing character education is to integrate the existing educational curriculum. Educational curricula often focus more on academic knowledge, and changing them to include character education requires significant change (Fuaddunnazmi & Safitri, 2023). The development of new learning methods and adjustments to existing curriculum structures are important.

In addition, the role of teachers and educators in this process is very important. Therefore, they must understand their key role in the effective implementation of character education (Sutiyan et al. 2023). This involves adequate training and education to understand how to integrate the aspects of character education into their teaching. The teacher should also be a good role model for students, demonstrating the principles of character expected of them.

The main objective of this study is to analyze the importance of character education in facing the challenges of the 21st century. In this analysis, we can see that character education focuses not only on moral values but also on the formation of broader individual abilities. Ability to think critically, make wise decisions, and contribute positively to society are important components of character education.

The limitation of the topic discussed in this article is the development of character education in the 21st century. We discuss the concrete challenges faced in integrating character education into the educational curriculum, including the role of teachers and educators in this process (Sutiyan et al., 2023). In addition, this article provides insights into the opportunities that exist to optimize character education in the context of modern education.

In the context of developing character education in the 21st century education curriculum, the main finding is that character education plays a very important role in shaping quality individuals (Sa'diyah, 2023). It includes the improvement of moral values and the formation of an individual's ability to think critically, make wise decisions, and contribute positively to society. The character education approach helps students develop the skills that are needed in the face of the increasingly diverse challenges of the modern era.

Social change, technology, and globalization have had a significant impact on character education. Social change includes shifts in societal values, changes in family structures, and diverse cultural backgrounds that affect individuals (Ramadani et al., 2022). The growth of technology, especially the Internet and social media, has changed the way individuals interact, communicate, and convey value. Globalization brings about a rapid exchange of cultures and values, which raises the question of how to integrate character education that reflects both universal and local values.

The main challenge in developing character education is to integrate the existing educational curriculum. A curriculum that focuses on academic knowledge requires significant changes to include character education (Ashari et al., 2021). Teachers and educators must also play an important role in this process, and understand their key role in the effective implementation of character education. Adequate training and support should be provided to help them become good role models for students.

In the analysis of these findings, we can conclude that character education has a very important relevance in the 21st century because an increasingly complex society requires individuals who not only have academic knowledge but also strong character (Rahmawati & Prihartono, 2022). This article aims to explain why character education is important, how social

and technological changes affect it, and how to overcome challenges and take advantage of opportunities to develop effective character education in the educational curriculum.

The implications of these findings are particularly relevant in the context of developing character education in 21st century educational curricula. First, character education should be given equal priority over academic knowledge in the educational curriculum. The curriculum should strengthen character education as an integral part of the educational process. Furthermore, character education must be able to adapt to social, technological, and globalization changes wisely (Saputro & Susilo, 2016). Building an understanding of relevant values in a global context is the key to developing a strong character. Finally, adequate training and support should be provided to teachers and educators to help them become good role models for students and integrate character education into teaching.

By focusing on these findings, the development of character education in the educational curriculum in the 21st century can become more effective and relevant (Ogbonnaya, 2021). Strong character education will help create individuals who are not only academically intelligent but also have strong character, good ethics, and the ability to contribute positively to society. This will help to prepare a generation capable of facing the challenges and opportunities of an increasingly complex and globally connected world. One of the main findings of this study is the importance of character education in the 21st century. Character education is not only about improving moral values but also about forming the ability of individuals to think critically, make wise decisions, and contribute positively to society (Salim & Nora, 2022). In the increasingly complex era of the 21st century, individuals must have a strong character to face various challenges. Therefore, character education is key to forming citizens who are responsible, have good ethics, and are able to adapt to changes in the social environment.

In this context, the impact of social, technological, and globalization changes is also an important concern. Social changes, such as shifts in community values and family structure, affect the order of individual values (LISNAWATI, 2022). The growth of technology, especially with the rise of the Internet and social media, has changed the way individuals interact, communicate, and convey value. Globalization brings about a rapid exchange of cultures and values, raising the question of how to integrate character education that reflects universal values while considering the context of local values (Ismail, 2016). This suggests that character education must be able to cope wisely with the impact of social and technological change by adapting values relevant to an increasingly connected world.

The challenges faced in the development of character education were also identified in this study. One of the main challenges is the integration of character education into existing educational curricula. Education curricula are often more focused on academic knowledge, and changing them to include character education requires extra effort (Azizah and Premono 2021). Integrating character education requires the development of new learning methods, adjustments to existing curriculum structures, and a deep understanding of how to teach and evaluate the aspects of character.

The roles of teachers and educators are also key factors in the development of character education. They must understand their important role in effectively implementing character education. This involves adequate training and education to equip students with the necessary knowledge and skills to integrate aspects of character education into their teaching (Ogbonnaya, 2021). In addition, they also need to be good role models for students, demonstrate the character principles expected of students, and encourage them to develop strong characters.

Overall, the results of this study provide a comprehensive picture of the importance of character education in the 21st century (Pradana 2022). Rapid social, technological, and globalization changes pose challenges that must be overcome but also open up opportunities to develop more effective character education. In facing these challenges, character education must be an integral part of modern education that forms individuals who are not only academically intelligent but also have strong character and good ethics to face an increasingly complex world. Therefore, character education should continue to be an important focus in the development of education in the twentieth century.

CONCLUSION

The conclusions of this study reveal the importance of character education in the 21st century, as an integral part of modern education. In addition to reinforcing moral values, character education shapes an individual's ability to think critically, make wise decisions, and play a positive role in an increasingly complex society. The impact of social change, technology, and globalization is important for the development of character education. These changes include shifts in societal values, changes in family structure, and the growth of technology through the Internet and social media. Globalization also brings about an exchange of cultures and values, which poses challenges in integrating character education that reflects universal and local values. Integrating character education into existing educational curricula is a major challenge given that curricula tend to focus on academic knowledge. The role of

teachers and educators is also crucial in the development of character education, which requires adequate training and support.

These findings imply the need to prioritize character education and academic knowledge in the educational curriculum. The curriculum must be able to adapt to social, technological, and globalization changes as well as build an understanding of values that are relevant in a global context. Teachers and educators should be good role models for students and possess the knowledge and skills necessary to integrate character education into teaching. Thus, the development of character education in the 21st century educational curriculum can be more effective and relevant. Strong character education will help create individuals who are not only academically intelligent but also have strong character, good ethics, and the ability to contribute positively to society. This will help to prepare a generation capable of facing the challenges and opportunities of an increasingly complex and globally connected world.

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