

2024

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Recommended Citation

Purwadi, D., Saliman, S., & Umar, U. (2024). Metamorphosis of citizenship education: Ignizing national awareness of the younger generation. *Jurnal Civics: Media Kajian Kewarganegaraan*, 21(2), 206-213. <https://doi.org/10.21831/jc.v21i2.67153>

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Metamorphosis of citizenship education: Ignizing national awareness of the younger generation

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Article History

Submitted : 02-11-2023
Revised : 10-03-2024
Accepted : 21-09-2024
Published : 30-09-2024

Article Link

<https://journal.uny.ac.id/index.php/civics/article/view/67153>

Abstract

This article discusses nationalism among the young generation, a sense of nationalism is inherent in a person since birth, in the era of globalization, advances in information technology have a good impact on the progress of the nation but it does not rule out the possibility of having a bad impact on the younger generation. This study uses a qualitative approach with in-depth interviews and content analysis to explore the perceptions and experiences of students and educators related to civics learning. The results of the study indicate that Civic Education that combines theory and practice, involves active student participation, and integrates the values of Pancasila and the history of the nation, can increase the awareness of nationalism of the younger generation. Researchers focus more on discussing the role of educational institutions or schools. Through Civic Education which aims to make citizens feel proud as Indonesian citizens and foster a sense of love for the homeland and the younger generation has a sense of shared destiny so that they care and are sensitive to the problems faced by the country. This study uses a literature analysis approach to explore the impact of civics learning on the formation of national values, loyalty, and active participation in political and social life. This article also considers effective learning strategies in increasing awareness of the national identity of the younger generation. The results of this analysis are that civic education that focuses on understanding history, democratic values, and involvement in social activities can shape the nationalist attitude of the younger generation. Interactive learning, the habit of critical discussion, and the use of educational technology also have a positive impact on building a strong sense of national identity in the younger generation.

Keywords: civic education, national awareness, young generation.

Introduction

The era of globalization, marked by the rapid development of information technology, has significantly impacted various aspects of life, including civic education. In this context, civic



education faces new challenges and opportunities to shape the character and national awareness of the younger generation. The main challenge faced is adapting the civic education curriculum to rapid changes in technology and information. The younger generation who grow up in a digital environment tend to have different perspectives and mindsets than previous generations. They are more easily exposed to various information and ideologies that may not always align with national values. This underscores the urgent need for educators and policymakers to adapt civic education to the development of the times.

The metamorphosis of civic education is crucial to increasing national awareness and forming a strong national identity among the next generation. Anggraeni et al. (2024) show that the renewal of the Civic Education curriculum that integrates national values and national awareness can effectively strengthen the sense of identity and pride as citizens among students. Thomas et al. (2021) also emphasised that this metamorphosis process not only updates teaching materials but also includes more relevant and contextual teaching methods, which facilitate a deeper understanding of the roles and responsibilities as part of the national community. With this approach, citizenship education can effectively build and strengthen a solid national identity and sense of responsibility among the younger generation.

Broad exposure to global information and ideologies through social media often distracts the younger generation from their national values and identity. Jover and Gozávez (2024) explain that social media can present various perspectives and ideologies that have the potential to reduce the focus on local and national cultural identities. Bobkowski and Miller (2016) outlined the need for learning strategies that integrate the judicious use of social media so that students can develop critical skills in filtering information while maintaining a solid connection to their national values.

Technology integration in civic education needs to be improved to improve the utilization of the potential of social media and digital platforms as an effective means to strengthen national values. Gaps in access and quality of civic education are also a problem, with significant differences between regions and types of schools. This challenge is compounded by the need to maintain the relevance and appeal of civic education amid global issues that increasingly dominate the attention of the younger generation. Therefore, a new approach is needed to address these issues by leveraging technology and overhauling the curriculum to suit contemporary needs better.

To increase national awareness in the younger generation, it is important to apply an approach that touches on the cognitive and emotional aspects of learning. One effective method is to present relevant and interesting civic education materials, which can connect national values with the experiences and challenges faced by the younger generation. Integration of information technology and social media in the educational process cannot only strengthen their understanding of history, culture, and national identity but also make the learning process more interactive and enjoyable. Digital platforms such as educational applications, interactive videos, and social media campaigns can be used to disseminate national messages creatively and effectively, sparking excitement and interest in civic education.

It is essential to involve young people in activities that foster a sense of pride and responsibility towards the nation, such as volunteer programs, national competitions, and cultural events. These activities provide practical experience and help them feel their contribution to society and the country. Civic education that emphasizes active involvement and actual participation can increase a sense of ownership and love for the country and form a strong character as a responsible citizen who cares about the nation's progress. Young people are often exposed to global information that can cloud their sense of nationhood, and the curriculum of civic education that is not updated is often irrelevant to current needs. Data shows a decline in social and political engagement among young people, and test and assessment results indicate a low understanding of the rights and obligations of citizens.

The need for updates in civic education methods often makes this education incompatible with the more interactive learning styles of the younger generation. This study aims to identify and address this issue by updating the curriculum and teaching methods to increase national awareness and social participation among young people. By utilizing the latest data and facts, this study will provide more effective strategies to strengthen nationalism and increase youth involvement in social and political activities. This article explores the metamorphosis of civic education, highlighting the importance of reviving national awareness among the younger generation. By examining various methods and strategies that can be applied in civic education, it is hoped that effective ways can be found to increase their involvement and understanding of national values. In this process, the role of technology and social media as tools to strengthen the message of nationalism and the challenges faced in its implementation will be discussed.

The novelty of this study lies in its attempt to identify and adopt innovative approaches to citizenship education in the digital age. By focusing on the metamorphosis required to revive national consciousness among the younger generation, this study promises to shed new light on how technology and social media can be effectively utilized in citizenship education. It also highlights the importance of reshaping existing curricula and teaching methods to make them more relevant and engaging for students and introducing new strategies to bridge the gap between contemporary needs and the goals of citizenship education.

The benefits of this research are very significant, especially in providing practical guidance for educators and policymakers in adapting civic education to the development of the times. By exploring new methods and strategies and evaluating the role of technology and social media, this research is expected to contribute significantly to increasing the involvement and understanding of the younger generation towards national values. The results of this research can help develop more effective education programs to form citizens who are more aware and actively involved in maintaining and developing national identity amidst the challenges of globalization.

Method

Central to this research method is the literature study, as elucidated by Mardalis (1999). This study is instrumental in providing a robust foundation for the research, as it involves collecting information from library sources such as books, magazines, and documents available in the library. Arikunto (2006) further emphasizes that data is also sourced from relevant articles, scientific journals, dissertations, theses, and scientific papers. The primary aim of this method is to obtain comprehensive and in-depth data on the topic being studied, namely national awareness among the younger generation. By aligning the collected data with the research problem formulation, researchers can effectively study and analyze information to understand the dynamics and factors that influence national awareness among this generation.

The steps of this research include several main stages: first, identification of the problem and research objectives by determining the main problem regarding the impact of the metamorphosis of civic education on the national awareness of the young generation and formulating research objectives that are crucial to evaluate the effectiveness of the educational method. Second, a literature review involves studies to collect information from books, articles, scientific journals, dissertations, theses, and undergraduate thesis and identify related theories and concepts. Third, data collection from various relevant library sources will be done by recording information about changes in civic education and their impact on national awareness. Fourth, data analysis is used to find patterns and relationships between the metamorphosis of civic education and national awareness, and the results are compared with existing theories. Fifth, the findings should be synthesised and interpreted to draw conclusions regarding the influence of the metamorphosis of civic education on national awareness and interpret the results in the context of the research. Finally, the preparation of a research report includes the background, methodology, analysis results, conclusions, and recommendations for further development in civic education.

Result and Discussion

The study results indicate that civic education that combines theory and practice involves active student participation and integrates Pancasila values. National history can increase the national awareness of the younger generation. Civic Education learning is designed to arouse pride in Indonesian citizens, foster a sense of love for the homeland among the younger generation, and create a shared destiny that encourages concern and sensitivity to national problems. Budimansyah (2010) emphasizes the importance of civics in shaping national identity and social awareness. At the same time, Tolib (2017) show that the right approach to civics can strengthen students' emotional ties to the country, increasing their concern for social and political issues. This study uses a literature analysis approach to explore the impact of civic learning on the formation of national values, loyalty, and active participation in political and social life. This article also considers effective learning strategies for increasing the national identity awareness of the younger generation.

In the context of the metamorphosis of civic education, civics curriculum materials that cover national history, national values, and national identity play a crucial role in building a sense of love and concern for the homeland and forming national awareness among the younger generation. Novia (2021) emphasized that integrating these elements in the curriculum gives students a deep understanding of the nation's cultural and historical heritage and strengthens their emotional ties to the country. Through learning that focuses on these aspects, students are expected to develop a strong national identity and become more caring and responsible citizens, which in turn contributes to the progress and social stability of the country.

Active teaching methods, such as discussions and simulations, play an important role in supporting the internalization of nationalist values by directly involving students in the learning process. Tristan et al. (2020) stated that this approach allows students to further explore and understand the concept of nationalism through practical experiences and active interactions, which enhances their understanding of national values. Fahrudin (2020) also emphasized that active teaching methods can strengthen students' emotional and cognitive engagement, making it easier to internalize and apply nationalist values in their daily lives. By directly involving students in discussions and simulations, this method creates a deeper and more meaningful learning experience, which helps students develop a sense of pride and responsibility as part of the national community.

However, external factors such as social media and the social environment also influence the younger generation's perception of nationalism, adding to the challenges of forming a strong national identity. Sari and Sutirman (2024) emphasize that to deal with these external influences, effective civics education must teach national values and provide a critical basis for students to assess information wisely. Hart et al. (2004) support this view by showing that education that develops critical thinking skills allows students to filter the information they receive from various sources, including social media, and maintain a strong understanding of their national identity. With this approach, civics education can help the younger generation to stay connected to national values despite being exposed to various external influences.

The metamorphosis of civic education in the context of increasing national awareness of the younger generation involves several important aspects of the Civic Education curriculum material:

1. Understanding national values taught through Civic Education, such as Pancasila and the values of justice, unity, democracy, and divinity, helps students understand the foundation of the state and arouses a sense of pride in national culture and history through learning about the nation's struggle and heroic figures.

2. The development of national identity in Civic Education teaches the diversity of Indonesian culture so that students can appreciate regional culture and strengthen a sense of unity in diversity.
3. The formation of citizenship attitudes teaches students about the political system and democracy in Indonesia, including the importance of participating in general elections and understanding the rights and obligations of citizens.
4. Encouraging partisanship for local culture and products in Civic Education builds awareness of the importance of supporting the local economy and appreciating local arts and traditions, which are important for maintaining national cultural identity.
5. Using technology in the Civic Education curriculum, such as multimedia and online platforms, provides an interesting and interactive way of learning and allows students to engage in discussions or debates on national and global issues, fostering critical thinking about social and political issues.

The nationalism of the young generation in Indonesia has a history that continues to develop along with the changing times, reflecting the ever-changing social and political dynamics. Barnes (2016) explains that nationalism among the young generation is often influenced by various factors such as modernization, globalization, and social change, affecting how they understand and articulate their national identity. Gold et al. (2004) add that the evolution of this nationalism also reflects adaptation to contemporary challenges and international influences, which shape how the young generation connects themselves to cultural heritage and national values. Over time, the nationalism of the young generation in Indonesia has become increasingly complex, reflecting the integration of old traditions and new demands arising from social and global change.

The younger generation played an important role in the history of Indonesia's independence struggle by being directly involved in demonstrations and movements demanding independence from colonialism. Greaves (2004). explained that their enthusiasm and courage in facing risks and uncertainties marked their significant contribution to fighting for the nation's freedom. Brizee et al. (2020) added that the active participation of the younger generation in various protest actions and struggle organizations strengthened collective awareness and national motivation to achieve independence. Polson (2015) showed that this involvement also helped shape a strong national identity and a sense of ownership of the results of the struggle. Rajaram (2007) emphasized that the legacy of the involvement of this younger generation continues to influence the spirit of nationalism among the next generation, emphasizing how important their role is in the history and development of the Indonesian nation.

In the context of the metamorphosis of citizenship education, applying nationalist attitudes in everyday life is very important to strengthen the sense of love for the homeland and national unity. Phillips and Moroney (2017) emphasised that the integration of nationalist values into everyday practices allows students to internalise and apply national principles in real contexts, which strengthens their ties to the country. Wojciechowska (2023) added that nationalist attitudes integrated into routine activities, such as participation in community activities and appreciation of national symbols, can increase a sense of identity and social responsibility. Ziminski et al. (2024) emphasised that strengthening nationalist attitudes through everyday practices not only builds deeper national awareness but also strengthens social unity amidst the global and local challenges the nation faces.

1. Nationalist attitudes that can be applied include
2. loving and using local products to increase the prestige of Indonesian products in the international market,
3. maintaining peace and tranquillity in the community,

4. participating in flag ceremonies and respecting national symbols such as the flag and national emblem.

Lynch (2010) explains that strengthening nationalism in Indonesia involves integrating Pancasila values into everyday life, which serve as a moral and ethical basis for strengthening a sense of pride and responsibility towards the country. Ballard et al. (2015) add that various internal factors, such as the history of the struggle for independence and external factors, including globalization and social dynamics influence nationalism in Indonesia. Thus, the consistent application of Pancasila values and collective awareness of legal compliance play an important role in forming strong nationalism and strengthening the bonds of unity among citizens.

Civic nationalism emphasizes the active participation of the people in the political process as the basis for the legitimacy of the state, encouraging the younger generation to be actively involved in political and social life. Ethnic nationalism focuses on the culture of origin of society as the basis for the legitimacy of the state, which can strengthen the sense of identity through an understanding of the cultural heritage passed down from generation to generation. Romantic nationalism sees the state as a natural expression of the nation, emphasizing a deep emotional and historical sense of the homeland. Cultural nationalism focuses on a shared culture that is not hereditary, involving an understanding and appreciating various aspects of culture as the basis for the state's legitimacy. State nationalism combines elements of citizenship and ethnicity, where the nation is seen as a community that maintains and strengthens the state, promoting the integration of national identity and individual contributions to the state. Finally, religious nationalism provides protection and legitimacy for the religions that exist in the state, emphasizing the role of religion in shaping the identity and legitimacy of the state. Understanding and integrating these forms of nationalism in the Civics curriculum can help the younger generation develop a more comprehensive and inclusive view of nationalism.

The literature review conducted in this journal article reveals that civic education significantly impacts the young generation's national awareness. The Civic Education curriculum material, which includes national history, national values, and national identity, plays an important role in shaping national awareness by providing a deep understanding of the roots of the nation's history and culture. These findings indicate that understanding national values can trigger a sense of pride in the country and culture while strengthening national identity through national symbols such as the flag and national anthem, strengthening students' connection with their country. In addition, understanding the government system and state structure helps students understand their role in the democratic process while instilling good citizenship attitudes and encouraging active participation and tolerance of cultural diversity.

On the other hand, civics materials that discuss the country's social, political, and economic issues motivate students to play an active role in finding solutions. At the same time, community service programs develop a sense of patriotism and responsibility towards the country. Thus, to be effective in influencing national awareness, civics materials must be designed in an inspiring and comprehensive manner, integrating important aspects of citizenship and nationality. The role of teachers is also crucial in this process because a teaching approach that supports civic values can strengthen the impact of the subject matter on the formation of students' national awareness.

Active teaching methods in Civic Education have been proven to significantly influence the understanding and application of nationalist values among the younger generation. Through methods such as discussions, simulations, and group projects, students are empowered to be directly and actively involved in learning, enhancing their understanding of national identity's meaning and importance. Active learning methods, such as inviting students to discuss and debate, collaborate on projects, or participate in simulations of national

situations, provide them with practical experiences that help them deeply feel the values of nationalism. In addition, visits to historical sites and participation in history-based or cultural projects enrich students' learning experiences with in-depth, direct contexts of national history and culture. Methods such as storytelling and narratives about national figures also play an important role in fostering students' interest and identifying themselves with nationalist values.

Conclusion

It concludes that civic education is essential in shaping national awareness among the younger generation. Literature review shows that Civic Education curriculum materials, which include national history, national values, and national identity, provide a strong foundation for a deep understanding of historical and cultural roots and the meaning of being a responsible citizen. Active teaching methods, such as discussions and simulations, are effective in helping students feel and understand national values deeply. However, external factors such as social media and the social environment also affect the perception of nationalism, so Civic Education must provide a critical foundation for processing this information. The challenges of globalisation require an inclusive and adaptive Civic Education curriculum, which can overcome the influence of external cultures while maintaining the relevance of local values. Thus, effective and continuously improved Civic Education will play a crucial role in shaping the character of the younger generation who love, respect, and are responsible for their homeland.

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