The Role of Democratic Values on Respect for Other People's Opinions in the Civic Education Learning Process

Syukur Kasieli Hulu¹, Kosmas Dohu Amajihono²

¹²Prodi Pendidikan Pancasila Dan Kewarganegaraan, Universitas Nias, Indonesia

* Corresponding Author. E-mail: syukurkasielihulu@yahoo.com

Received: 10/01/2023 | Accepted: 17/02/2023 | Published: 01/03/2023

Abstract

The value of democracy is a pattern of beliefs or good things that are used as guidelines for life for the community to realize a democratic life. One of the indicators of democratic values and also the focus of this research is the attitude of respecting opinions. Respect for other people's opinions is an attitude in which a person has respect and is able to accept any differences that exist without seeing who and what other individuals have. Formulation of the problem How is the role of democratic values in respecting the opinions of others in the learning process of civic education. What are the obstacles in instilling democratic values in respecting other people's opinions in the learning process of civic education. The purpose of the research was conducted to determine the role of democratic values in respecting the opinions of others, and to identify obstacles in instilling democratic values in respecting the opinions of others in the learning process of civic education. This research uses qualitative research with a description method. Data collection techniques are interviews, observation, and documentation. The results of the study revealed that the role of democratic values in respecting the opinions of others in the learning process of civic education is: 1) Students uphold other people's opinions, 2) Students heed other people's decisions or opinions, and 3) Students do not consider themselves the most correct. The obstacles in instilling democratic values in respecting the opinions of others in the learning process of civic education are the lack of student motivation in the learning process and ineffective communication between students in expressing opinions.

Keywords: Democratic Values, Respect for Opinions
INTRODUCTION

Education is essentially an effort to assist students in developing and focusing on the ability of knowledge, intelligence, values or useful behavior patterns (Zagoto, Yarni & Dakhi, 2019). Schools as one of the formal educational institutions known in Indonesian society have a very large role in educating the nation’s next generation. The role of schools as educational institutions is expected to have a role in cultivating democratic values (Nasrullah, Budiono & Tinus, 2018). In relation to the implementation of democracy education, Wantoro (2008:220) argues that: So far, high schools have implemented democracy education through civic education lessons or previous subjects such as PMP or Civics, there are attitudes shown by students at school. The attitudes that can be seen in the classroom include when the teaching and learning process takes place, especially in discussions, students seem to dare to express their opinions, respect the opinions of friends and want to listen to their friends who are expressing their opinions.

John Dewey (Zamroni, 2007: 19) argues that "a democratic school must encourage and provide opportunities for all students to actively participate in decision making, planning activities, and implementing the plan". In this case, the school is a place for teachers and students to learn together to uphold democratic values such as freedom of opinion, equal rights and obligations, and responsibility.

Teaching and learning activities must foster mutual respect and brotherhood between students and teachers in any subject (Aini & Khoffifah, 2023). The cultivation of democratic values can begin with respect for differences. Students are invited to reach joint decisions openly and respect each other’s opinions. Respecting and valuing others must be done regardless of the degree, status, gender, religion of the person. Ways that can be realized to respect other people's opinions are by not denouncing people's opinions, being able to accept criticism and suggestions, giving appreciation to others who are successful. As expressed in the Indonesian Charter of Human Rights in Tap. MPR No. XVIII/MPR/1998, article 19, namely "Everyone has the right to freedom of association, assembly, and expression". Based on this, it can be said that expressing opinions is a full right by every individual and should be respected and appreciated without any unpleasant feelings towards the opinions that have been expressed.

In connection with the cultivation of democratic values, the implementation of the learning process must reflect respect and mutual respect by fellow students. In classroom learning activities, this attitude of respecting other people's opinions can be seen from how students participate in learning and work together in groups. But in reality, when a student or a group of students makes a presentation in class, often many other students do not pay proper attention to what the student or group is talking about. This situation the author found when observing students who were carrying out group percentages in Civics subjects. Because of existing habits, students always speak loudly and laugh at the mistakes of friends who express opinions so that the class becomes noisy.

In addition, based on the results of pre-research interviews conducted by researchers to one of the Civics teachers at SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo, it was revealed that when one of the students answered questions from the teacher, other students seemed indifferent, and there were some who laughed or mocked the student who was answering the question. This indicates
that the sense of respect for other people's opinions is still relatively low.

Related to the lack of optimal learning independence and respect for other people's opinions, it is necessary to instill democratic values to students. Teaching and learning activities must foster mutual respect and brotherhood between students and teachers in any subject. This is in accordance with the definition of education stated in the objectives of national education. According to Law No. 20 of 2003 on the national education system states that:

National education functions to develop abilities and shape the character of a dignified national civilization in order to educate the nation's life, aims to develop the potential of students to become human beings who are faithful and devoted to God Almighty, noble, healthy, knowledgeable, capable, creative, independent and become democratic and responsible citizens.

The law states that in addition to equipping the nation's critical generation, education is also obliged to form citizens who behave democratically. The value of democracy can be instilled in students and grow and develop in family life, schools, communities and countries. In addition, parents, teachers, community leaders and the government need to be exemplary in instilling democratic values in society.

METHODS

The research approach used in this research is a qualitative approach with a description method (Burhan, 2008; Kaelan, 2005). The type of research used is interactive (interconnected, mutually active) and participatory (participation, participation). The informants in this study were the Civics teacher in class X, and class X students of SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo in the 2023 academic year. To obtain data in this study, researchers used the following techniques: a. Observation technique, b. Interview technique, and c. Documentation technique. The data analysis technique in this study uses an interactive analysis model (Emzir, 2010; Sugiyono. 2005; Miles and Huberman 1984; 15-21).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Role of Democratic Values in Respecting the Opinions of Others in the Civic Education Learning Process

During the research, the findings obtained by researchers through interviews, observation and documentation, to find out the role of democratic values in respecting the opinions of others in the learning process of civic education are described as follows:

1) Class X Students of SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo Uphold Other People's Opinions

Based on the results of interviews conducted by researchers, it can be explained that the role of democratic values taught in civic education subjects is to make students able to uphold the opinions of others, both to fellow students and to teachers in the learning process. Upholding opinions is one of the attitudes of respecting other people's opinions, where this attitude is seen when class X students of SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo listen and digest when a friend is speaking or expressing an opinion while carrying out a question and answer discussion on civic education subjects.

In addition, other findings of the researchers also revealed that the attitude of class X students of SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo in upholding other people's opinions is not interrupting or stopping other people's conversations or arguments when someone is speaking. In this case, students who differ in opinion do not immediately interrupt their friend's opinion by saying that the opinion is
Based on the research findings, the researcher can conclude that one of the roles of democratic values in the attitude of respecting other people's opinions in the learning process of civic education in class X SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo is that students uphold other people's opinions through listening and digesting attitudes when a friend is speaking, and not interrupting a friend's conversation while speaking.

2) Class X Students of SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo Respect Other People's Decisions or Opinions

Based on the statements of research informants listed in the research appendix, the researchers concluded that the role of democratic values in respecting the opinions of others in class X SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo is that students are able to listen to other people's decisions or opinions. The point here is that students have an attitude that is able to accept the opinions of friends even though they have different opinions. This can be seen from the discussion activities in the civic education learning process, where when there are differences of opinion or arguments among students, the teacher determines whose opinion is most appropriate to the discussion and after determining who is right, the previous different opinion is able to accept the justified opinion.

Based on the research findings, the researcher can conclude that one of the roles of democratic values in the attitude of respecting other people's opinions in the learning process of civic education in class X SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo is that students uphold the decisions or opinions of others through an attitude that is able to accept the opinions of friends even though their opinions are different.

3) Class X Students of SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo Do Not Consider Themselves The Most Correct

From the results of the interviews listed in the research appendix, where based on the statements expressed by the research informants, it is said that the attitude of respecting opinions as a role of democratic values is to make students realize that they do not consider themselves the most correct. In this statement, it can be described that the attitude taught to class X students of SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo is not to consider themselves the most correct, this can be seen from the attitude of students who do not impose their own will or opinion on friends or others even though that opinion is different from others. In this case, class X students of SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo have a big hearted attitude and are flexible when their opinions or arguments are not accepted by friends or others.

Based on the results of the research findings, the researcher can conclude that one of the roles of democratic values in the attitude of respecting other people's opinions in the learning process of civic education in class X SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo is that students do not consider themselves the most right, which is shown by not imposing their own will, as well as being big-hearted and open-minded.

Obstacles in Cultivating Democratic Values in Respecting Other People's Opinions in the Civic Education Learning Process

During the research, as for the findings obtained by researchers through interviews, observations and documentation, to find out the obstacles in instilling democratic values in respecting other people's opinions in the learning process of civic education, namely:

1) Lack of Motivation of Class X Students of SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo in the Learning Process
One of the obstacles in instilling democratic values on respecting opinions based on the results of interviews with research informants is the lack of motivation of Class X students of SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo in learning activities. Based on the statements of students and nanny teachers of Civics subjects that some students have little willingness to learn, this can be seen from the number of students who are less active in learning, come late, do not do the assignments given to them, besides that they often show attitudes that cause commotion in the classroom such as mocking friends who make mistakes in expressing opinions. This is one of the challenges for teachers in overcoming these obstacles, especially in forming an attitude of respect for the opinions of others, which requires student activeness in participating in learning.

Based on the research findings, the researcher can conclude that one of the obstacles in instilling democratic values in the attitude of respecting other people's opinions in the learning process of civic education in class X SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo is the lack of student motivation in the learning process.

2) Less Effective Communication Between Students in Expressing Opinions

Communication as the most basic need in carrying out daily life cannot be denied as well as for students in learning. With good and effective communication, the learning process will run smoothly, especially in discussion or question and answer activities that require good communication in conveying opinions.

From the results of interviews with research informants revealed that communication between students still has a selfish nature in maintaining opinions and not accepting other people's opinions which results in communication between them being less harmonious. Students are still immature in accepting and respecting each other's opinions even though they have learned and understood about democratic values, one of which is respect for opinions. This has hampered the cultivation of democratic values in the attitude of respecting other people's opinions in the learning process of civic education in class X SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research findings in the field, the authors can put forward the following conclusions:

1. The role of democratic values in respecting other people's opinions in the learning process of civic education in class X SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo in the 2022/2023 academic year is as follows:
   a). Students of class X SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo uphold the opinions of others. This attitude can be seen when students listen and digest when a friend is talking or expressing an opinion, and do not interrupt a friend's conversation while talking, b). Students of class X SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo heed other people's decisions or opinions. It can be seen from the attitude of students who are able to accept the opinions of friends even though their opinions are different, and c). Students of grade X SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo do not consider themselves the most correct. This is shown by the attitude of not imposing their own will, as well as having a big heart and being patient.

2. Obstacles in the Cultivation of Democratic Values on the Attitude of Respecting Other People's Opinions in the Learning Process of Civic Education in Class X SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo in the 2022/2023 Academic Year, namely the lack of motivation of Class X SMA Negeri 1 Ulugawo students in the learning process, seen from the attitude of
students who are less active in learning, coming late, not doing the assignments given to them. As well as the existence of ineffective communication between students in expressing opinions.

BIBLIOGRAPHY


