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# Implementation of Character Education from Parents in Overcoming the Danger of Drugs in Labuhanbatu District

Mulkan Darajat <sup>1</sup> Galih Orlando <sup>2</sup> Hamna Sari Siregar <sup>3</sup> Naimah Agustina<sup>4</sup> Leli Hasanah Lubis <sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Universitas Al Washliyah Labuhanbatu, Indonesia
 <sup>2</sup> STIT Albukhary Labuhanbatu, Indonesia
 <sup>34</sup> STIT-PL Gunungtua
 <sup>4</sup> STIT Albukhary Labuhanbatu, Indonesia

\* Corresponding Author. E-mail: 1 mulkandrajat@gmail.com

#### **Abstrak**

Penelitian ini membahas tentang implementasi pendidikan karakter dari orang tua dalam menangkal bahaya narkoba di Kabupaten Labuhanbatu. Penelitian ini dilakukan dengan metode kualitatif dengan pendekatan fenomenologi. Informan penelitian terdiri dari orang tua, remaja, dan pemuka masyarakat di Kabupaten Labuhanbatu. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa implementasi pendidikan karakter dari orang tua di Kabupaten Labuhanbatu cukup efektif dalam menangkal bahaya narkoba. Hal ini dibuktikan dengan beberapa temuan, yaitu: a. Anak-anak yang memiliki pendidikan karakter yang baik lebih terhindar dari bahaya narkoba. b. Orang tua yang menerapkan pendidikan karakter dengan baik memiliki hubungan yang lebih kuat dengan anak-anak mereka. c. Masyarakat di Kabupaten Labuhanbatu mendukung implementasi pendidikan karakter. Kesimpulan penelitian ini adalah bahwa implementasi pendidikan karakter dari orang tua merupakan salah satu upaya yang efektif untuk menangkal bahaya narkoba di Kabupaten Labuhanbatu. Dengan memberikan pendidikan karakter yang baik, orang tua dapat membantu anak-anak mereka untuk menjadi generasi yang bebas narkoba dan berprestasi.

Kata Kunci: Pendidikan Karakter, Orang Tua, Narkoba

## **Abstract**

This research discusses the implementation of character education from parents in preventing the dangers of drugs in Labuhanbatu Regency. This research was conducted using a qualitative method with a phenomenological approach. Research informants consisted of parents, teenagers and community leaders in Labuhanbatu Regency. The results of the research show that the implementation of character education from parents in Labuhanbatu

Regency is quite effective in preventing the dangers of drugs. This is proven by several findings, namely: a. Children who have good character education are more protected from the dangers of drugs. b. Parents who implement character education well have stronger relationships with their children. c. The community in Labuhanbatu Regency supports the implementation of character education. The conclusion of this research is that the implementation of character education from parents is an effective effort to ward off the dangers of drugs in Labuhanbatu Regency. By providing good character education, parents can help their children become a drug-free and high-achieving generation.

Keywords: Character Education, Parents, Drugs

# Introduction

Drugs or narcotics and illegal drugs are one of the serious problems faced by many countries, including Indonesia. According to experts, as stated by Sarlito Wirawan Sarwono (2009), drug abuse can have an impact on the psychological and social aspects of individuals, thereby contributing to various social problems in society. Drug abuse not only impacts the individual user, but also society as a whole. In Labuhanbatu Regency, the drug problem has become a major concern due to the high level of abuse among teenagers and young adults. As stated by Soerjono Soekanto (2006), the phenomenon of drug abuse among teenagers is often influenced by the social environment and lack of parental supervision. This condition requires effective prevention efforts and one approach that can be taken is through character education implemented parents at home.

Labuhanbatu Regency, which is located in North Sumatra Province, has a fairly large population with diverse social and economic backgrounds. According to research conducted by M. Syafi'i (2012), diverse social and economic dynamics often contribute to an increase in the risk of drug abuse in developing regions. As a developing region, Labuhanbatu also faces various social challenges, one of which is drug abuse. Data from the National Narcotics Agency (BNN) and local police

show an increase in the number of drug cases in recent years. The high accessibility of drugs and lack of supervision and education are factors that contribute to this problem. According to Endang Sri Rahayu (2014), high drug accessibility and lack of prevention education are the two main factors causing the increase in drug abuse in Indonesia.

Character education is a process that aims to develop moral and ethical values in individuals, so that they can grow into individuals who are responsible, honest and have integrity. According to Mochtar Buchori character (2007),effective education must start early with a consistent approach at home and school. Effective character education must start from an early age and the role of parents is very vital in this matter. Parents as the first main educators have responsibility in shaping their children's character. As explained by Abdullah Idi (2011), parents play a very important role in children's character education because daily interactions between parents and children create opportunities to instill positive values.

Parents play a very important role in children's character education. Daily interactions between parents and children create opportunities to instill positive values. Several important aspects in character education by parents include: open dialogue, example, and giving fair rewards and sanctions. According to

Djamaludin Ancok (2010), good interaction between parents and children can help children internalize strong moral values and avoid deviant behavior such as drug abuse.

- Modeling: Children tend to imitate the behavior of their parents. Therefore, parents must be good role models in terms of morality and ethics.
- Effective Communication: Open dialogue between parents and children regarding the dangers of drugs and the importance of avoiding deviant behavior is very important.
- Formation of Positive Habits: Parents should encourage and support their children to engage in healthy and beneficial activities, such as sports, arts, and religious activities.
- 4. Supervision and Assistance: Parents need to supervise their children's interactions and provide assistance in dealing with the various pressures they face.

Teenagers are an age group that is very vulnerable to the influence of drugs. Adolescence is a period of self-discovery and is often accompanied by high curiosity and pressure from peer groups. Drug abuse among teenagers can have very bad impacts, including:

- 1. Physical and Mental Health: Drugs can damage body organs and brain function, which can be fatal.
- 2. Academic Achievement:
  Adolescents who use drugs tend to
  experience decreased academic
  performance due to lack of
  concentration and motivation.
- 3. Social Problems: Drug abuse often causes social problems such as criminal acts, conflict with family, and isolation from the social environment.

#### Method

This research was conducted in Labuhanbatu Regency, North Sumatra Province. Labuhanbatu Regency is an area that is vulnerable to drug trafficking and abuse. This is proven by the increasing number of drug abuse cases among teenagers and youth in the area.

This research uses a qualitative method with a phenomenological approach. Data collection techniques were carried outthrough in-depth interviews and participant observation. Research informants consisted of parents, teenagers and community leaders in Labuhanbatu Regency.

#### **Results and Discussion**

# A. Research result

Labuhanbatu Regency, which is located in North Sumatra Province, is one of the areas that is vulnerable to drug trafficking and abuse. This is proven by the increasing number of drug abuse cases among teenagers and youth in the area. The main factor underlying the rise in drug cases is the lack of character education from parents towards their children.

Character education is the process of instilling moral, ethical and spiritual values in children from an early age. This is important to do to form strong and resilient children's characters, so that they can avoid the dangers of drugs.

Parents have an important role in implementing character education for their children. Here are some ways that parents can do:

 Be a good role model.Parents are role models for their children. Therefore, it is important for parents to show good and commendable behavior in everyday life. Avoid behavior that can

- lead children to drug abuse, such as smoking, drinking alcohol and gambling.
- 2. Give love and attention. Children who feel loved and cared for by their parents will be more open and easier to communicate with their parents. This is important to build good communication between parents and children, so that parents can find out the problems faced by children and help them to solve them.
- Instill moral and ethical values. Parents
  must instill moral and ethical values in
  their children from an early age. These
  values can be taught through various
  means, such as stories, fairy tales, and
  examples.
- 4. Providing religious education.Religious education can help children understand moral and ethical values from a religious perspective. This can help them to differentiate between good and bad, and can help them to avoid despicable acts such as drug abuse.
- 5. Build open communication.Parents must build open communication with their children. This is important to know the problems faced by children and help them to solve them.
- 6. Give it time and attention. Parents must spend time and attention on their children. This can be done in various ways, such as playing together, eating together, and watching movies together.
- 7. Take an active role in school activities. Parents should play an active role in their children's school activities. This can be done by attending parent meetings, helping with school activities, and volunteering at school.

Implementing character education can provide many benefits for children, including:

1. Form a strong and tough character. Children who have strong

- and tough characters will find it easier to refuse drug offers.
- Increase self-confidence. Children who have high self-confidence will find it easier to face pressure and temptation to use drugs.
- Improve communication skills. Children who have good communication skills will find it easier to establish healthy relationships with other people.
- 4. Improving learning achievement. Children who have good character will find it easier to focus on learning and achieve good achievements.
- Avoid the dangers of drugs. Children who have good character education will be more protected from the dangers of drugs.

To overcome the drug problem in Labuhanbatu Regency, a comprehensive approach is needed, including the implementation of character education by parents. Some strategies that can be implemented include:

- Education about the Dangers of Drugs: Parents must keep their knowledge updated about the dangers of drugs and effective prevention methods. This information is then conveyed to children through open and honest discussions.
- Creation of a Positive Home Environment: Building a home environment full of love, attention, and good communication can prevent children from seeking escape through drugs.
- 3. Involvement in Positive Activities: Parents should encourage their children to engage in positive activities that build character, such as sports, the arts, and religious activities.
- 4. Collaboration with Schools and Communities: Effective character education also requires collaboration

between parents, schools and communities. Positive outreach programs and community activities can help reinforce the messages delivered at home.

The results of the research show that the implementation of character education from parents in Labuhanbatu Regency is quite effective in preventing the dangers of drugs. This is proven by several findings, namely:

- Children who have good character education are more protected from the dangers of drugs. Children who have good character education have high self-confidence, good communication skills, and strong moral and ethical values. This makes it easier for them to refuse drug offers.
- 2. Parents who implement character education well have stronger with relationships their children.Parents who implement character education well are more open and easy to communicate with their children. This makes children feel comfortable telling their parents about their problems and helps parents find out about the problems faced by children and help them to solve them.
- 3. The community in Labuhanbatu Regency supports the implementation of character education. The community in Labuhanbatu Regency is aware of the importance of character education in preventing the dangers of drugs. This is proven by the large number of people who are willing to help parents in implementing character education for their children.

Even though it is important, implementing character education at home faces various challenges. Some of these include:

 Lack of Parental Knowledge and Skills: Not all parents have sufficient

- knowledge and skills to teach moral and ethical values effectively.
- Economic Pressure: Difficult economic conditions often make parents focus on fulfilling basic needs and therefore pay less attention to character education.
- 3. Environmental Influence: The surrounding environment, including peers and social media, can have negative influences that are difficult to offset by character education at home.

## **B.** Discussion

The results of this research can be discussed using several theories, namely:

Labuhanbatu Regency, which is located in North Sumatra Province, is one of the areas that is vulnerable to drug trafficking and abuse. This is proven by the increasing number of drug abuse cases among teenagers and youth in the area. According to Sarlito Wirawan Sarwono (2009), the main factor underlying the rise in drug cases is the lack of character education from parents towards their children.

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Parents have an important role in implementing character education for their children. Several ways that parents can do this, as explained by Mochtar Buchori (2007), include: 1. Be a good role model. 2. Give love and attention. Children who feel loved and cared for by their parents will. 3. Instill moral and ethical values. 4. Providing religious education. 5. Build open communication. 6. Give time and attention. 7. Take an active role in school activities.

To overcome the drug problem in Labuhanbatu Regency, a comprehensive

approach is needed, including the implementation of character education by parents. Some strategies that can be implemented include: 1. Education about the dangers of drugs. 2. Creation of a Positive Home **Environment:** 3. Involvement in Positive Activities. 4. Schools Collaboration with and Communities.

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Maslow's Theory of Basic Human Needs.According to Maslow, humans have basic needs that must be met, namely physiological needs, security needs, social needs, self-esteem needs, and self-actualization needs. Character education can help children meet their basic needs, especially security needs, social needs and self-esteem needs. This can make children feel safer, loved and appreciated, so that they avoid the dangers of drugs.

Self-Control Theory according to Rotter. According to Rotter, humans have two types of self-control, namely internal self-control and external self-control. People with internal self-control believe that they have control over their lives, while people with external self-control believe that their lives are controlled by external factors. Character education can help children to develop internal self-control, so they are better able to make the right decisions and avoid risky behavior

# Conclusion

Implementing character education from parents is an effective effort to ward off the dangers of drugs in Labuhanbatu Regency. By providing good character education, parents can help their children become a drug-free and high-achieving generation.

Drug abuse in Labuhanbatu Regency is a serious problem and requires special attention. One effective approach in preventing the dangers of drugs is through character education implemented parents at home. By providing role models, effective communication, and creating a positive home environment, parents can shape the character of their children so that they are resistant to the temptation of drugs. Even though there are various challenges implementation, in collaboration between parents, schools and communities is very important to ensure the success of character education in preventing drug abuse among teenagers.

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