

SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW (SLR)

THE INFLUENCE OF A SUSTAINABLE LEARNING COMMUNITY ON CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT

This research explores how influences in learning communities influence early childhood development. Children at this age are actively learning and honing their abilities in processing information, understanding their surroundings, and building social relationships that are important for their personal development in the future. The method used is a literature study with the method used, namely Systematic Literature Review (SLR). The research results show that sustainable learning communities have a significant positive impact on early childhood development. Children show improvements in cognitive skills such as problem solving, social skills such as cooperation and empathy, as well as better emotional development such as increased self-confidence and emotional management. Apart from that, learning communities also provide a supportive environment for children's exploration, creativity and development of interests. In conclusion, it can be said that sustainable learning communities play an important role in encouraging the improvement of children's learning abilities, overcoming educational deficiencies, and fostering a more conducive educational environment. By facilitating strong collaboration between parents, teachers, and local communities, continuous learning communities offer a support network that fosters holistic development, encourages lifelong learning, and reinforces the importance of education as a collective endeavor.

Keywords : Learning communities; Early childhood; Development

INTRODUCTION

Education is a human right that is inseparable from the right of every individual to develop their potential through fulfilling their basic needs. Everyone has the right and obligation to obtain fair and equitable access to education, as well as to utilize various sciences, technology, arts and culture to improve their quality of life. The existence of quality education also contributes to maintaining and passing on local wisdom and encouraging a deeper understanding of cultural diversity. Through a holistic educational process, it is hoped that sustainable prosperity can be achieved for all mankind, thereby providing a positive impact on social, economic and spiritual development. Thus, education is not only a means of improving individual technical abilities, but also a stage for cultivating fundamental human values and strengthening the foundations of social justice in society as a whole. A country is said to be advanced if it has quality human resources (HR) that are able to compete in this era of globalization. With guidance and education efforts, humans are able to develop and explore the potential that exists within them from an early age (Darmawan, 2021).

A child is an individual with different qualities. A child's early years are a crucial period for his development because this is the period when his growth occurs most rapidly. Children are in a period often referred to as the golden age, where they begin to show a strong interest in various activities that help them understand and control their surrounding environment. In this early age stage, children need ongoing direction and guidance from adults, including the important role of their teachers and parents. The importance of attention in early childhood should not be ignored, because this phase is a critical foundation that shapes an individual throughout his life. Early age is a period where there is a significant surge in development, both physically and emotionally, which will shape the child's character and mindset until adulthood (Hayati, 2018).

In Indonesia, children under 6 years of age are included in the early childhood category. When a child is born into the world they bring all the potential (intelligence) bestowed by God. However, if this potential is not developed and grown optimally from birth, then this potential will not be realized optimally in the child later. In early childhood, children experience what is often referred to as the golden age. This is an important period in which children begin to develop their sense of sensitivity and sensitivity to the surrounding environment. In this phase, children tend to be more open to receiving various stimuli, whether from social interaction, learning, or environmental exploration. This golden age is also an important foundation for children's development, where their cognitive, motor, emotional and social abilities begin to form significantly. Therefore, it is important for parents and caregivers to take advantage of this opportunity by providing positive experiences and stimulate to help children grow and develop optimally. By providing the right support during this golden age, children can gain a solid foundation to explore their potential and interests, which will have a positive impact on their future development. Childhood is a phase that only occurs once in a person's lifetime, and cannot be repeated in the future. Because of this, this phase is considered crucial in the course of human life. Therefore, parents and other stakeholders need to ensure that children receive adequate preparation through appropriate guidance and development, so that their potential and abilities can develop optimally and help them achieve success in the future (Masripah.I. 2020).

Apart from developing physically, it is also important to pay attention to the development of the child's personality in the process of actualizing their learning abilities. This personality development process is influenced by the various learning opportunities experienced by children, where the experience gained will make a significant contribution. As individuals who are in a period of rapid development, young children have interests and activities that are closely related to their growing and developing abilities. Broadly speaking, it is important for adults to provide basic education to children before they enter elementary school. An in-depth evaluation of the child's skills, abilities, character, mental health and physical health must be carried out before entering this round. Without proper preparation, a child may encounter many challenges and difficulties while studying at school. Therefore, providing early childhood education before starting formal education in elementary school can be considered the best to ensure children are better prepared to face the next stages of learning.

Early childhood education is a crucial phase in the basic education process. At this stage, the main focus is to provide appropriate stimuli for children from the moment they are born until they reach the age of six. In early childhood education institutions, teachers have a big responsibility to stimulate the development of children's potential well. In this way, it is hoped that children will be able to develop their abilities to face creative challenges in the future. A teacher also has an important role in paying attention to the unique aspects of each student. This is because developing these special aspects will help create advantages that differentiate one child from another. Within every child there is a variety of potential that requires optimal development.

One important potential that needs to be considered is the potential for creativity which is valuable capital for a child's future success. Thus, early childhood education has a very vital role in helping children explore and develop all their potential in order to achieve a bright future, education has the ability to shape their mentality, maintain emotional balance, and enrich their knowledge so they can grow into individuals who contribute positively to society.

Several educational theories state that the early years of a child's life are a very important and fundamental period for his future development. Therefore, various educational activities should be planned carefully and structured with the aim of providing children with greater opportunities to improve several aspects of their abilities based on their learning experiences. Education must provide stimulation that is right on target. To help children's physical and spiritual growth and development, balanced maturity in physical, mental and emotional aspects is needed holistically, because this foundation play a crucial role in ensuring the realization of an effective and sustainable learning process for them (Saputra, 2018).

In the context of the importance of education, it is undeniable that the role played by early childhood is very significant when it comes to forming a solid foundation for the holistic development of children. Children at this age are like sponges who are able to absorb knowledge and values from their environment very quickly. Therefore, the educational environment they face at this stage must be designed carefully and with attention, so that they can grow and develop optimally. Not only in terms of academic knowledge, but also in forming character and moral values that will guide them throughout life. Investing in early childhood education lays a strong foundation for their future success, and a good opportunity in the early stages of life to reach their full potential. Simply put, this education is the key to forming a generation that is broad-minded, has integrity, and is ready to face a future full of challenges with confidence. One approach that is receiving increasing attention is the learning community approach. A learning community is a group or groups involved in supporting the learning and development process of children. In the realm of early childhood education, the existence of a learning community is essential because it encourages improving the quality of education and encourages children to think, share and interact more intensively. Through interactions within the learning community, children can experience the benefits of supporting each other and encouraging each other's potential in order to achieve optimal achievements in the learning process.

A learning community can be a group of people who live in the same environment and share basic values, organization and common interests. In the scope of early childhood education, learning communities can act as a character education model that helps children's ability to develop character, create ready-to-use characters, and develop local wisdom values. In this case, the learning community has a very important role. In developing early childhood education, it is important for parents and educators to pay attention to aspects of togetherness and cooperation in creating a conducive learning environment. This article will discuss in depth the positive influence of learning communities in the context of early childhood education. Through a solid and inclusive learning community, young children can be involved in a variety of activities that stimulate their cognitive, emotional and social development. With support from adults involved in the educational process, children will more easily explore their interests and talents and develop their potential. Apart from that, through interaction with peers and collaboration-based learning, children will experience the joy of learning and be able to hone their social skills. Therefore, considering the important role of learning communities in supporting the abilities of early childhood is a strategic step in strengthening the foundation of education.

The Indonesian government has recognized the existence of alternative education or what is known as equality education as stated in the National Education System Law No. 20 of 2003, while it is explicitly stated that equality education is part of a program rather than a non-formal education pathway (Mutaqim, 2022).

Education in the current era faces quite a complex situation along with adjustments changes simultaneously with technological disruption. Then those changes has implications for the learning process which usually uses a learning approach oriented towards the transfer of knowledge into learning by constructing experience learners. Learning carried out in alternative education such as equality education currently held by the PKBM unit does not show good climatic conditions and learning outcome orientation (Rosmilawati, 2023).

RESEARCH METHODS

In this research method, a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) approach is used to find, examine and interpret relevant research results related to this research topic. This research method is used to examine research results that have been published in journals in a particular field of study. This research begins with searching and find articles related to this research topic. The stages carried out in research using this method consist of several stages including:

First, the question is how does the learning community influence development in early childhood education. Second, the data collected in this research focuses on the influence of learning communities on development in early childhood education. This study literature search began by searching for articles or data contained in Google Scholar and Researchgate with the keywords used being The Influence of Learning Communities in Early Childhood Development with journal limits from 2019-2024.

Third, after obtaining various journals, the researcher found 20 articles related to or related to early childhood learning communities in a Google Scholar database search, then selected 10 articles related to research on the topic studied from several articles. Then studied the articles in detail and those that were in accordance with the research topic, namely learning communities in early childhood education. The 10 articles were then included and examined in detail to become 7 articles that were in accordance with the topic of discussion, there were 3 articles that were not included in the discussion. The researcher included 7 articles that were in line with or in accordance with the topic of discussion of this research which would be used as a review of the SLR.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Result

Not everyone realizes that a child's character development does not just happen without a multi-layered process. Each stage in this process plays an important role in shaping individual character. For example, one of the most prominent phases is when children begin to develop the morality and values that will form the basis of their future personality. So, as a parent or educator, it is important to provide appropriate support and guidance during this phase of character development.

That way, children can understand the difference between right and wrong, and are able to develop

attitudes of empathy and honesty which are crucial elements in forming a strong personality. So, realizing the importance of this phase will help us provide positive encouragement so that children can grow into individuals with character and responsibility. First of all, the starting point is the period of character development in early childhood, a crucial phase that requires extra attention from parents in shaping the character of these children. The presence of wise and loving parents is very important in directing children on the right path and forming a solid character foundation for their future (Liana, 2019).

Children will experience a significant transformation in their growth and development process when they are raised in an environment rich in good character values. Therefore, it is very important for every newly born individual to be surrounded by positive norms that can shape their personality holistically. Thus, efforts to create an atmosphere that supports optimal growth for children is a shared task for the entire community. Through loving, understanding parenting and good role models, children are encouraged to discover their maximum potential and become strong and empowered individuals. As a result, they will grow as the next generation who are able to face the challenges of the times with self-confidence and good adaptability. Thus, a positive and loving environment can provide every child with a strong foundation to improve their quality of life and contribute positively to society at large. This also remembers that the child's environment is not only the nuclear family environment but everyone around them plays a role in the child's development, including education. In Indonesia, the first type of education given to children is called primary education (also called primary school). This shows the importance of ensuring that a child is holistically prepared before starting their formal education journey. Evaluation of mental, physical, character and talent aspects is the key to ensuring overall development. Therefore, it is important to provide early childhood education before entering elementary school, because this will provide a strong foundation for optimal child development as they grow and develop.

Children will grow and develop into individuals with character if they grow up in an environment with character, so that every new child can develop optimally. This also remembers that the child's environment is not only the nuclear family environment but everyone around them plays a role in the child's development, including education. In Indonesia, the first type of education given to children is called primary education (also called primary school). This means that before a child enters the classroom, his needs must be assessed in terms of mental, physical, character and talents according to his needs. One form of education that should be given to children before entering elementary school is early childhood education.

In this case, education, early childhood plays a very important role in forming the foundation of child development. One approach that is increasingly receiving attention is the approach through learning communities. Learning communities in early childhood education are a very important concept for improving the quality of education, developing children's character and helping children think, share and interact with each other. It can be concluded that learning communities are very influential for early childhood development, holding sustainable learning communities has a good impact on children's development. In addition, parents, educators and the community can work together to provide direct learning experiences that are relevant and sustainable for young children through learning communities.

Based on 7 journal sources that have been determined to meet the inclusion criteria. The information on the research results is as follows in table 1 below:

Table. 1 Research Results on the Effect of Sustainable Learning Communities on Character Development in Early Childhood Education

Research and Year	Journal Publisher	Research Result
Salwiah, et all (2020)	Devotion Journal To Public: Development Activity Learning on Children's Education Early Age	<p>The results of this research show that the aim of the game can improve children's cognitive abilities through experiential learning. Children show enthusiasm when they receive learning material, they can practice calmly by being given safe and affordable material. In addition, children can understand the process of learning activities based on experience. The exercises carried out in this research were aimed at improving six aspects of children's development. Several aspects discussed in the development of learning activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of moral and religious values: Learning activities are designed to develop moral and religious values in young children, which are an important foundation in the formation of their personality. • Cognitive development: Learning activities are designed to stimulate children's cognitive development, such as the ability to think and solve problem and develop ability think logical children. • Language development: Learning activities also aim to develop ability language children including speaking, listening and understanding language skills. • Social emotional development: Through these learning activities, children are provided chance for develop social and emotional skills, such as interacting with peers, managing emotions and working together in groups. • Motoric development: In this case, learning activities also involve developing children's gross and and fine motoric skills, such as body movement skills, • hand-eye coordination and fine motoric skills. • Arts development: Children are given the opportunity to express themselves through artistic activites such as painting, drawing, singing dancing and playing music. Which

		<p>can help develop their creativity and expression.</p> <p>By developing learning activities that include this aspects, it is hoped that young children can achieve better learning outcomes in various aspects on children's development in early childhood education.</p>
Masripah.I. (2020)	Journal of Administration Education: MOTIVATION PERSON OLD IN INVESTIGATING SYSTEM FRIENDS EDUCATION SCHOOL FOR THE EDUCATION EARLY CHILDHOOD IN THE COMMUNITY STUDY HOUSE SCHOOL: RUMAH KERLIP BANDUNG	<p>The results of this results study that is highlight the emergence of home-schooling as an alternative from education in Indonesia, especially in Early Childhood Education. Home-schooling in this research is described as an education system carried out in a home environment which aims to provide comfort, enjoyment and a safe space for children's growth and development. This involves the active presence of parents both physically and morally. One of the institutions discussed in this research is the homeschooling learning community in Bandung, namely Rumah Kerlip. Which applies the homeschooling model. This institution aims to create a learning atmosphere and teaching process that is in line with the principles of human rights (HAM) and the democratization of education. The focus is on developing a family-based independent education model, being proactive in identifying changes in the needs and expectations of children, educators and families, as well as discovering and nurturing children's noble talents.</p>
Yoduke,Daulima,Mustikasari (2023)	Journal Scientific Obstetrician: Accompaniment Caregiver in Enhancement Development Child	<p>Nursing care in readiness to increase the development of preschool aged children towards regular development can be seen from perceptual, motoric, cognitive, language, socioemotional and self-regulation skills. Interactive process maturity added. This matter demonstrated by the child's ability to carry out appropriate interventions understand, improve, adapt, create groupings, solve problems, and maintain realism in specific situations. The results of the intervention show that the child has achieved several abilities such as recognizing gender, coloring pictures, verbal counting, and others. This shows the importance of the role of caregivers in providing appropriate stimulation for children's development.</p>
Indrawati.T., Dewi.L (2022)	Journal Scientific Education Child Age Early: Growth Psychosocial Child Age Preschool From Family	<p>The results of this research show that there are positive and negative impacts for children from broken home families, including independent attitudes, loss of parental love, difficulty socializing, and lack of self-confidence. This research emphasizes the significant</p>

	BrokenHome	impact of broken homes on the psychosocial development of preschool-aged children, children who come from broken homes have beneficial consequences despite the challenges they face. Some of the positive impacts seen in children who come from broken homes include: Independent attitude: Children from families who untidy tend develop a sense of independence. This may be due to the circumstances they find themselves in, where they may have to take on more responsibility and make their own decisions from an early age. This research emphasizes the importance of family relationships in shaping a child's personality and development.
Liana. Rahardjo, Sjamsir (2019)	Journal Pendas Mahakam: IMPLEMENTATION LEARNING CHARACTER EARLY CHILDHOOD IN CHILDREN'S PRESCHOOL WE PRESCHOOL SAMARINDA	The results of this research are that the implementation of early childhood character learning in PAUD Anak Kita Preschool Samarinda is carried out through daily activities with strategic approaches through example, habituation, stories and advice. Methods of instilling character values in early childhood include: character education, habituation, stories, advice, and moving centers. Combination methods are needed for effective cultivation of character values. Implementation of school programs and parental involvement are very influential. Character education for early childhood at PAUD Anak Kita Preschool Samarinda is carried out through learning character values with a descriptive qualitative approach.
Melsi, Syamsuardi, Herman (2023)	Early Childhood Journal: Influence Of Method Based Storytelling Series Images To Ablity Talking Kids	The results of the research show that the use of a story method based on series of pictures can improve the speaking abilities of young children. This research shows a significant improvement in children's speaking abilities after treatment. This approach can influence the development of children's speaking skills. The series picture-based story method can be an effective approach in improving the speaking abilities of young children.
Rofiqotul. K. (2023)	Scientific Journals Potency: Influence Learning Community To Ability Teacher Pedagody In NISN Kindergarten Association Bekasi	The research results show that there is a significant influence between participation in learning communities and teachers' pedagogical abilities. Teachers who are actively involved in learning communities tend to have better pedagogical abilities. Learning communities provide opportunities for teachers to share knowledge, experiences, and best practices in teaching.

Discussion

Research from seven journals explains that sustainable learning communities have a significant positive impact on early childhood development. Children show improvements in cognitive skills such as problem solving, social skills such as cooperation and empathy, as well as better emotional development such as increased self-confidence and emotional management. Apart from that, learning communities also provide a supportive environment for children's exploration, creativity and development of interests. Participation in a sustainable learning community has a significant positive impact on early childhood development. Children show improvements in cognitive skills, social skills, and better emotional development.

Early childhood children who are involved in sustainable learning communities tend to have better cognitive development. They are exposed to a variety of intellectual stimulation that helps them develop critical thinking skills, solve problems, and understand new concepts. Through group activities and joint exploration, children can develop their creativity and imagination. They learn to think creatively, express their ideas, and find new solutions. Learning communities also provide opportunities for children to interact with peers and adults in a positive setting. This helps them develop social skills such as sharing, taking turns and working together.

In addition, emotional support provided by community members can increase children's self-confidence and emotional security. Through learning communities, young children also learn about values, ethics and morals. They learn the importance of honesty, integrity, and respect for others. This forms the basis for the development of good character and personality. Parents play a very important and irreplaceable role in forming a solid foundation for the development of this learning society. By supporting and providing guidance, they can create an environment that supports children's growth and enriches their learning experience. They are not just supporters, but also real examples in showing positive behavior and values to children. The presence of parents not only impacts early childhood education goals but also influences their overall psychological, emotional and social development. In addition, through this learning community, parents can share experiences and knowledge with each other, so that they can be more effective in meeting their children's optimal development needs.

Research shows that learning communities also contribute to improving teachers' pedagogical abilities. Teachers involved in learning communities can share experiences, exchange ideas, and access relevant educational resources. This has a positive impact on the quality of learning in the classroom. Thus, sustainable learning communities have a very important role in supporting early childhood development. With an environment conducive to learning and growth, children can develop into intelligent, empathetic and responsible individuals. Through a deeper understanding of the role of learning communities, we can create an environment that supports children's optimal growth in the future. Learning communities are not just about academic learning, but also about developing children's character, social skills, and independence.

CONCLUSION

The impact of sustainable learning communities on early childhood education is an initiative that draws on the concept of community-based education, where children are required to develop learning and social skills in a positive and collected environment. Collaboration to ensure early childhood education is a very vital aspect in building equitable quality education. The involvement of parents in their children's education process does not only occur in the school environment, but is also integrated with everyday life. In this case, the creation of a strong and sustainable learning community allows parents to become very active partners in helping develop their children's potential. They have the opportunity to be directly involved in various learning activities that can help support the child's development process in the home environment. In addition, through parental involvement, children can feel full support in undergoing their learning phase and are assisted in completing their educational tasks. From the children's side, the interactions they have with adults and peers in learning community locations provide golden opportunities for them to hone their social skills. They can learn many things from the social competencies they develop, such as effective communication skills, skills in working with other people, and skills in solving problems together. All of this is valuable knowledge that they can continue to use in living their daily lives and building good relationships with others.

In this way, increasing collaboration between parents, children and the surrounding environment in ensuring the quality of early childhood education will have an extraordinary positive impact in increasing the abilities and potential of the younger generation. This is in line with efforts to create a brighter and more tolerant society, as well as making a significant contribution to the development of more inclusive and quality education. This collaboration is important to ensure that early childhood education does not only occur in the school environment, but is also integrated into their daily lives. Through sustainable learning communities, parents can become active partners in their children's education. They can engage in learning activities, support their child's development at home, and share knowledge with other parents. Children can learn from interactions with adults and other children in a learning community. This helps them develop social competencies, such as the ability to communicate, collaborate, and solve problems.

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