

**Systematic Literature Review (SLR):  
When Schools Become Prisons: Exploring the Educational Dilemmas in Modern Society**

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**ABSTRACT**

The following study article reviews the challenges faced in the modern public education system in Indonesia. Schools, as formal educational institutions, are a concrete indication of educational failure in this country. In essence, the goal of school is to guide students to become intelligent individuals and have the ability to differentiate between right and wrong. However, ironically, education often makes individuals less educated and feel trapped in situations that make them less developed. In terms of methods, this research uses a qualitative approach by conducting interviews and collecting documents to collect data and information. The collected data is analyzed and interpreted to produce conclusions. Based on information from accurate sources, this research confirms the dilemma hypothesis in education in modern society by illustrating five main cases in the world of education. These cases include inhumane curricula, the high number of suicides and violence against students, the exploitation of elite schools as businesses, disharmonious relations between teachers, students and the student council, and the lack of benefits from extracurricular activities. Therefore, it is time for us to implement an education system that reflects the reality of multicultural culture in Indonesia and the essence of education itself.

**Keywords:** schools, educational dilemmas, modern society

**INTRODUCTION**

Schools as respected institutions are expected to form superior, noble and knowledgeable individuals. In the future, schools are expected to be able to bring individuals from a state of lack of knowledge to understanding that provides positive benefits for collective welfare. Within the school environment, it is hoped that there will be a comfortable atmosphere and opportunities to discuss various aspects of life with teachers and peers. This is what makes schools noble: helping people find their freedom as independent individuals. However, sometimes dreams are just dreams. In reality, schools are not always a pleasant place to play for those who visit them. In fact, sometimes school is not a safe place after the busyness of the outside world. Paradoxically, acts of violence and crime can occur within the school environment. When we reminisce about our elementary school days, we can see the joy of childhood through the pictures on the front page of our report cards, without having to remember every event that happened at that time.

We definitely remember, photos on report cards are always 3 x 4 cm or 2 x 4 cm, generally they are black and white photos (although at that time color photos already existed), we were required to wear a tie, our faces had to face forward, and most of the photos only show faces and little background. These photos were taken at school, usually before graduation or while still students. Technically, we were asked to line up in groups of four or five kids, and then the photographer would take our photos. From there it can be seen that our childhood is limited. Even just to take a photo, it has to be arranged very complicatedly. It is best if children are given the freedom to take photos as they wish. They can go to a photo studio, take photos with their parents, or even with their pets. Most importantly, they can print and display their most liked photos in their report cards. However, it seems unnatural for

a school to implement a model like this.

When we were still students, we were given a very large study load, even up to 20 subjects. All types of lessons are provided to students, and overlap with each other. Plus the homework assignments are piling up. As a result, it is not intelligence that develops, but boredom, stress and a desire to escape from school.

When entering college, we have to choose a major. Does this major open bright and clear career opportunities in the future? In the end, universities only produce graduates who are ready to look for work, not graduates who are ready to become entrepreneurs. Our educational institutions no longer produce leaders, but only become tools for producing workers according to market demand. In this article, the author attempts to explain the essence of man from the perspective of existentialism and evaluate modern society as a theoretical basis. He then identified cases in the field of education and their criticism as evidence of the challenges of education in modern society. Finally, the article concludes with some conclusions.

## RESEARCH METHODS

This study is a literature analysis using a Systematic Review (SR) approach, which is often referred to as a Systematic Literature Review (SLR). This technique is a systematic approach used to collect, critically evaluate, integrate, and summarize findings from various studies related to the research question or topic being investigated. The research process begins with searching for articles that are relevant to the topic you want to research.

A systematic review is a method that thoroughly investigates a particular issue or problem by identifying, evaluating, and selecting relevant problems. This method involves creating specific and clear research questions that are based on pre-existing criteria, and refer to studies. -Previous studies that have quality and are certainly relevant to the questions in the study.

This study applies the Systematic Literature Review (SLR) method, a structured, transparent and repeatable approach to collecting, assessing and integrating research and thinking that has been carried out by researchers and practitioners. The main thing is to identify, review and assess all relevant research. This research process involves a series of predetermined stages, including:

- The initial research question is how important is it for students to study modern education?
- The data population in this research consists of journals that highlight the importance of modern education for students to study in order to normalize modern education from an early age. The search for literature studies began using Google Scholar and the Publish or Perish application, limiting studies from 2007 to 2023.
- Then, after collecting various studies, researchers found 50 relevant articles on the theme of modern education on Google Scholar. Of the 50 articles, 20 articles were selected that best suited the research topic. The articles were then studied in detail, and 7 of them that were most relevant to modern educational material were selected for inclusion in the analysis and conclusions, while the remaining 30 articles did not cover the topic or research question. A diagram illustrating the exclusion and inclusion process during the Systematic Review stage (n: number of articles) can be found below.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Results

One of the obstacles in the human learning process is the polarization of ideas, which is a paradox that needs to be overcome (Wirjawan, 2021). In fact, the information and methods are democratic so that people have the freedom to choose. The importance of the validity of ideas in forming one's self is a crucial aspect in efforts to become a better individual than before (Wirjawan, 2021). Ideas should not be underestimated just because they come from someone else. Ideas should be evaluated based on their intrinsic value, not simply because of who expressed them or why. Skills to filter good ideas must be built (Subekti, 2021). Subekti (2021) stated that to improve the education system in Indonesia, the first focus must be given to improving pedagogy. This pedagogy must reflect local wisdom and universal principles. This local concept must be adapted to the work patterns of Indonesian people and tropical climate conditions, where there is no winter, which means the majority of people are not used to long-term planning. Next, the second step is to create an adaptive learning model, which takes into account the unique skills of each student so that learning can be done at any time regardless of age. Apart from that, it is necessary to implement good standards both in the school environment and in society in general. Subekti (2021) also highlighted that the government focuses too much attention on curriculum and student issues, while ignoring the important role of teachers in education. According to him, the best university graduates should become teachers, as happened in Korea, where the best graduates were chosen to become teachers.

**Table. 1 Research Results on Modern Community Education**

<b>Research and years of research</b>	<b>Journal</b>	<b>Research result</b>
Ila Rosmilawati, Dadan Darmawan, Suheti Suheti (2020)	Education Without Uniformity: Exploring the Learning Culture of Primagama Serang Homeschooling Students	This research is intended to identify (1) the attributes of students involved in home-school programs, (2) their learning patterns while in the classroom, and (3) their learning tactics outside the classroom environment to promote a culture of learning. The method applied in this research is case analysis with a qualitative approach. The main focus of the research is the culture of student learning in the home-school environment. Information was collected through in-depth interviews, surveys, and document analysis. The research results show that the majority of homeschooling students in Primagama Serang previously attended formal institutions. Factors that influence the decision to choose homeschooling include previous experiences of bullying at school. The learning culture in homeschooling tends to be positive, emphasizing active participation,

Research and years of research	Journal	Research result
		freedom of expression, integrity when facing exams, and encouragement for achievement. The learning strategies of homeschooled students are almost the same as formal school students, except for the learning system that has been determined by parents, which emphasizes that learning is a necessity and not a compulsion.
Siti Fadia Nurul Fitri (2021)	Quality Problems Education in Indonesia	Education is a crucial element in human life, where every individual has the right to get fair and equitable access to education. However, in Indonesia, there is inequality in the distribution of education for all citizens. Current debate surrounds the inflexibility and lack of effectiveness of the education system in Indonesia. Comparison of the quality of education with other countries shows that Indonesia is lagging behind. Although conceptually, the education system in Indonesia is similar to the international system, there is a gap between the goals of the system and its implementation in the field. This research aims to identify fundamental problems in the Indonesian education system and offer solutions to correct these gaps.

Muwafiqus Shobri (2017)	Improving Strategy Quality of Education in Madrasah Aliyah Hasan Jufri.	This article was prepared because of the need for quality educational institutions to create superior human resources. Madrasah Aliyah Hasan Jufri, which has the largest number of students on Bawean Island, has a significant role in fulfilling these expectations. The method used in this research is descriptive with a qualitative approach. Information was collected through observation, interviews and document studies involving various parties such as the head of the madrasah, deputy head of the madrasah, head of
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<b>Research and years of research</b>	<b>Journal</b>	<b>Research result</b>
		<p>administration, head of the library and several teachers as respondents. The results of the analysis show that strategies for improving the quality of education at Madrasah Aliyah Hasan Jufri include improving teacher quality, academic and non-academic achievements, national exam results, as well as improving facilities and infrastructure. Supporting factors in improving the quality of education include teacher education qualifications, clear educational programs, adequate infrastructure, a conducive climate and environment, as well as support from the Hasan Jufri Islamic Boarding School Foundation. On the other hand, inhibiting factors include low student learning motivation, suboptimal human resources, low teacher discipline, and insufficient availability of funds. Efforts made to improve the quality of education include guidance and counseling activities, creating an interesting learning atmosphere, giving awards to outstanding students, training for teaching staff, and implementing an electronic attendance system.</p>
Candra Wijaya, Toni Nasution, Muamar Al Qadri, Khairul Anwar, Ahmad Fuadi (2021)	RA teachers' perceptions of teacher certification policies in improving the quality of education	<p>The teacher certification policy is considered a positive step to improve the welfare of teachers in Indonesia. However, the implementation of this policy has not significantly improved the overall quality of education. This article examines teachers' views regarding certification policies in improving the quality of education. The focus of the research is on teacher RA Ali Mahfudz's perception of this policy. This research uses a qualitative approach with case studies. Data was obtained</p>

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<b>Research and years of research</b>	<b>Journal</b>	<b>Research result</b>
		<p>participant observation, and document study. Research findings show that teacher certification policies are considered crucial in improving the quality of education because they aim to improve teacher welfare and improve their skills, competence and professionalism. However, there are still challenges in the field, such as teacher orientation which prioritizes personal welfare over teaching duties.</p>
Sri Utami (2019)	<p>Improving Quality Indonesian Education Through Improving personal, professional quality and teacher recruitment strategies</p>	<p>The aim of this study is to highlight the important role of teachers in efforts to improve education standards in Indonesia, especially to keep up with developments in the Industrial Revolution 4.0 era. Data from the Global Education Monitoring Report (GEM) shows that Indonesia is ranked 10th out of 14 developing countries, while teacher quality is ranked lowest. The factors causing the low quality of teachers in Indonesia include inaccurate perceptions of their profession, low educational qualifications, lack of professional development programs, and ineffective teacher recruitment processes. The research method used is literature search by presenting arguments from literature studies and the author's thoughts. The findings from the research show that to improve the quality of education in Indonesia, several steps can be taken. First, teachers need to continuously improve their understanding of their duties and calling in education through professional development and mentoring programs in schools. Second, the implementation of Law No. 14 of 2005 concerning teachers and lecturers must be implemented</p>

<b>Research and years of research</b>	<b>Journal</b>	<b>Research result</b>
		properly. The government also needs to collaborate with the private sector and universities to establish research forums to improve teacher qualifications. Third, improving more effective teacher recruitment strategies needs to be carried out with the principle of accuracy in teacher selection and placement.
Khoirul Anwar (2018)	The role of the education quality assurance system in improving the quality of education in madrasahs	The quality of education is closely related to achieving national education goals as regulated in Law Number 20 of 2003 concerning the National Education System. Therefore, the quality of education is considered good if it meets National Education Standards. Fulfillment of minimum education standards regulated as National Education Standards is a prerequisite for improving the quality of education, including in madrasahs. However, in reality, the quality of education in Indonesia is still far from expectations, especially in the majority of madrasahs which still face many obstacles. Many madrasahs have not yet reached the National Education Standards, such as inadequate qualifications and competencies of educators and educational staff, as well as inadequate facilities. . The purpose of this paper is to explain the role of the education quality assurance system in improving the quality of education in madrasahs.
Dahlia Sibagariang, Hotmaulina Sihotang, Erni Murniarti (2021)	The Role of the Driving Teacher In Education Freedom to study in Indonesia	This article discusses the role of teachers as promoters in advancing independent learning in Indonesia. This article's approach is based on a literature review, which includes sources such as books, journals, and related documents. The main aim of this article is to present an overview of the teacher's role in organizing an interesting learning process using

<b>Research and years of research</b>	<b>Journal</b>	<b>Research result</b>
		<p>available technology, with the hope of encouraging students to improve their academic achievement. The hope is that students can develop their independence in line with the student characteristics expected in Pancasila, such as the ability to think critically, have good morals, creativity, cooperation, global diversity, as well as the ability to think critically and independently. Through the independent learning process, students not only gain knowledge, but also hone the analytical and reasoning skills needed to face various challenges in life. In the classroom, the teacher's role as a mentor and coach for fellow teachers is also very important.</p> <p>Keywords: learning independence, teacher motivation.</p>

## **Discussion**

From the research results of these seven sources, the importance of education in modern society is very relevant today. Based on the analysis of the seven journals, it can be concluded that the role of teachers as drivers in managing education plays a crucial role in encouraging student achievement. Teachers in the school environment have a very significant role in delivering learning material to help students achieve their academic goals and determine the direction of their future.

Teachers have various ways to convey educational material to students. One way is to develop educational games that can help students feel more relaxed, so that the material being taught can be better absorbed by students.

These journals also highlight the importance of improving the quality of education in Indonesia through improving personal, professional quality and teacher recruitment strategies. In addition, the teacher's role in learning development can be divided into two:

- a. as following activities and dialogue as a process of understanding cognition.
- b. dialogue as a process of cognitive understanding.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

Learning is a crucial stage in the educational process, where its effectiveness is very dependent on the teacher's teaching ability. A qualified teacher will make every effort to ensure that the learning process runs smoothly. One of the key factors for success is the teacher's preparation in preparing a Learning Implementation Plan (RPP) before starting learning in class. The teacher's role is very important in managing the learning environment, which includes functions as a role model, planner, predictor, leader and guide to the direction of learning.

In facing the challenges of modern society, it is important for education systems to adapt and change effectively. This is crucial to ensure that education not only provides knowledge, but also shapes character, and provides opportunities for each individual to grow and develop according to their unique potential.

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