COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF STUDENT CHARACTER FORMATION THROUGH CHOIR EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAMS AT SD MARSUDIRINI BSB AND SD NURUL ISLAM SEMARANG

ANALISIS PERBANDINGAN PEMBENTUKAN KARAKTER PESERTA DIDIK MELALUI PROGRAM EKSTRAKURIKULER PADUAN SUARA DI SD MARSUDIRINI BSB DAN SD NURUL ISLAM SEMARANG

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ABSTRACT

Student character is still a challenge in elementary education, especially related to discipline, responsibility, and cooperation. This study aims to analyze and compare the role of extracurricular choir programs in character building for students at SD Marsudirini BSB Semarang and SD Nurul Islam. This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach with a case study method. Data were collected through observation, interviews, and documentation of students, teachers, coaches, and parents. Although both schools have extracurricular choirs, there are differences in intensity, technicalities, program achievements, and support and parental involvement that affect the results of character building for students. The results of the study indicate that the choir program has a significant impact on strengthening student character, especially in terms of discipline, cooperation, and responsibility. Differences in program implementation and intensity in both schools provide variations in student character outcomes. Structured practice activities and teamwork encourage students to build positive attitudes, such as valuing time and personal responsibility. . This study concludes that choir is an effective means of instilling character values in elementary schools and can be a contextual character building model.

INTRODUCTION

Character education of students, especially at the elementary school level, is a crucial content in education in Indonesia. Until now, character education has not run well in schools According to Article 2 of Law Number 20 of 2003 concerning the National Education System, the goal of national education is to develop abilities, form character, and build a dignified national civilization in order to educate the life of the nation has not been fully achieved. (Tohri et al., 2022)

Character formation takes a long time and cannot happen instantly. To achieve the desired results, the cultivation of character values requires a continuous process through a systematic educational process. The government has shown awareness of the importance of this process by strengthening its policies. One example is the Presidential Regulation on Strengthening Character Education (PPK), which will serve as a foundation for improving the implementation of character education in formal educational institutions.

Many students today still have difficulties in maintaining punctuality, following the rules and being responsible with themselves in carrying out their duties. According to Character Education, it can form the identity of students if applied from an early age in elementary school. This is because character values will be embedded in students. (Taqwiem , 2018) (Squirrelly , 2023)

According to Character education, it is a planned effort to help individuals understand, internalize, and apply basic ethical principles. By considering these definitions, we want to cultivate the type of character we want to instill in students. This means that we want them to be able to understand those values, pay attention to those values more deeply and then do what they believe in even though they have to face challenges and pressures from within and from without. In other words, they ask for a "consciousness to force oneself" to carry out these principles.   (Squirt et al., 2022)

(Saleh, 2022) said that Character is a way of thinking and behaving that is characteristic of people to live and work together in families, communities, nations, and countries. Character can also be seen as a set of values that underlie the way people think and behave. Those who have character, have the ability to make decisions and are ready to take responsibility for all the consequences of their actions.

(Amelia, 2023) stated that the impact of technological developments is beginning to be felt in high school, junior high and even elementary school children, be it positive impacts such as ease of access to information and communication. Findings in the field show that students are often late to participate in intracurricular and extracurricular activities. In addition, the use of technology can interfere with the growth of students' character.

In some schools, the learning is still too focused on academic aspects and values rather than character attitudes, it is difficult to build students' awareness of the importance of discipline, cooperation, empathy and care and patience. There are many ways to improve the character of students. This includes encouraging teamwork, instilling the principles of consistency and responsibility, teaching punctuality, and providing ongoing motivation to foster confidence. However, the facts in the field are still not optimal.

One of the steps taken to solve these problems is to provide a Choir Extracurricular program which is expected to form discipline, teamwork, and responsibility of students. In his statement, he also reinforced that involvement in extracurriculars can help students find what they like, become more confident, and face challenges. It incorporates the bar uke aspect in the learning process and enhances the character building process with values such as perseverance, independence, and responsibility. (Hell)   Masnawati   et al., 2023)

Choir is not solely a group singing activity, but a systematic learning and coaching process to produce quality music works. The four main components that ensure the quality of a choir are good melody, proper rhythm, harmonious harmony, and balanced timbre. With the integration of these four components, music not only has aesthetics, but also helps develop the character of students. Choir activities help students to develop discipline,

cooperation, and respect for each other as well as build unity and unity, all of which are part of the values of character education. (Ancient , 2020)

(Wuryandani et al., n.d.) His findings show that undisciplined behavior often still occurs in the school environment, including elementary schools. Non-compliance with rules such as stepping on prohibited plants, littering, truancy, inappropriateness in the use of uniforms, and delays in completing tasks are some examples of such behavior.

(Sendayu et al., 2020) His findings point to a number of common problems that can interfere with the learning process. One of them is learning about learning discipline. Researchers found that grade IV students of SD Pahlawan had a relatively low level of discipline when it came to school. The researcher also saw several violations related to discipline when conducting observations in the field.

(Faruq and Al in Kholifah, 2024) which says that although students have character values, habituation in school is essential to strengthen and develop those characters. Learning activities, the development of interests and talents, as well as the availability of adequate facilities and infrastructure, can help improve the character of students. In addition, a positive school atmosphere affects the character of students. Various studies have investigated the role of extracurricular activities as a means of character formation in this context.

(Ristiana et al., 2020) This study found that common problems faced by elementary school students such as being late to school, not bringing study materials such as books and stationery, lack of punctuality in completing assignments, lack of attention during learning, and the habit of throwing garbage out of place are some of the problems included among these problems. Researchers looked at Nine students who were selected based on their academic ability categories, namely: high-ability students, moderate-ability students, and low-ability students. The results of the observation show that students with high abilities tend to have a good level of discipline. This is in line with the view that successful individuals generally have strong discipline, because discipline that is embedded from an early age is one of the important components to achieve success in the future.

Therefore, discipline is one of the keys to success. Education in Indonesia today still tends to emphasize the cognitive aspect compared to character education.in Nowell et al, 2020) The cultivation of character education and discipline should not be limited to learning activities in the classroom only, but also needs to be strengthened through activities outside the classroom, such as extracurricular programs that provide opportunities for students to develop their potential holistically. (Dual Stuart Stuart Shirley Padmi,

One of the programs that has great potential in this context is choir activities. Although often considered to have a less significant impact on students, especially at the elementary school level, choirs actually have a substantial contribution to the formation of student character. In addition, the choir also opens up great opportunities for students to achieve achievements through various national and international competitions. Essential character values, such as cooperation, discipline, responsibility, and confidence, are always instilled in every training and competition process, making this activity an effective means of supporting the achievement of character education.

Character and musical art are closely linked. Through music arts activities, students can develop positive attitudes and principles. Values such as patience, honesty, cooperation, empathy, and respect for differences are instilled through music learning. In addition, involvement in music activities helps build students' understanding of the importance of collaboration in a group. (Tresia Oktari & Desyandri , 2023)

al., in Aji, 2023) stated that the current education system tends to emphasize more on the cognitive aspect or left brain, but pays less attention to the affective aspects of empathy and taste or the right brain. This imbalance can lead to gaps in the development of more holistic intelligence in learners. One of the real impacts is the weak inculcation of character values in the school environment. The findings of the study confirm that humans need activities that are able to balance the functions of the left brain and the right brain in harmony. One form of activity that has the potential

to support this balance is choir, which not only hone musical skills, but also cultivate emotional, social, and character aspects through the process of practice and cooperation in groups. (Adiyatma et al.,

The previous research was conducted by with the title "Character education in drumband extracurricular activities at mekarsari II state elementary school in Tangerang regency", however, the study focused more on drumband extracurricular activities in the formation of character values. Meanwhile, the study conducted by "The Application of the Kodaly Method as an Effort to Increase Tone Sensitivity in the Extracurricular Choir of SD Al-Madina Purworejo" The study discusses choir, but tends to focus on teaching methods and the development of aspects of musicality, compared to the formation of students' character. (Kurniawan, 2018) (Squirt et al., 2021)

Therefore, this study aims to fill this gap by examining how choir extracurricular activities can contribute to strengthening the character and discipline of students at SD Marsudirini BSB Semarang and SD Nurul Islam Semarang. These two schools have different implementation characteristics. SD Marsudirini BSB Semarang, with a background in Catholic education, implements choir activities with an emphasis on a strong tradition of discipline and order. On the other hand, SD Nurul Islam Semarang, which is based on Islamic education, integrates religious values more in the implementation of choir activities. The comparison between the two schools is expected to provide a more comprehensive perspective on the context and values that affect the effectiveness of choir activities in shaping the disciplinary character of students.

The novelty of this research lies in the comparative analysis between two schools with different cultural backgrounds and values, as well as the focus of their application mechanisms that play a role in instilling discipline and character in students.

The purpose of this study is to analyze the contribution of choir extracurricular programs to student discipline at SD Marsudirini BSB Semarang and SD Nurul Islam Semarang. Identify the mechanism of character formation through choir extracurriculars in both schools. The results of this study are expected to provide a foundation to open their eyes and provide insight to educators in other elementary schools about the great potential that choirs have and views related to implementing them.

METHOD

This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach with a case study design. The case study was chosen because it allows for an in-depth exploration in analyzing the contribution of choir in shaping character formation values in the extra-curricular program of Choir at Marsudirini Elementary School BSB Semarang and SD Nurul Islam Semarang. (Assyakurrohim et al., in John W. Creswell, 2022) explains that the term case study in English is known as case study or case studies. The term "case" comes from the word case which has a broad meaning, encompassing a specific event, study, or problem. A case study is understood as an in-depth exploration of a "tied system" or one or more cases that are intensively studied over a period of time.

This research demands comprehensive data collection and involves a diverse range of rich sources of information in a clear context. The tied system is limited by a specific dimension of time and place, while the focus of the case can be a program, event, activity, or individual. In other words, a case study is a research method that researchers use to explore certain phenomena in the context of a specific time and activity. This process is carried out through detailed and in-depth information collection using various data collection techniques. During the research period, this approach allows researchers to gain a comprehensive understanding of the problem being studied, both in terms of context, background, and surrounding dynamics. Therefore, case studies are often chosen to analyze complex issues or phenomena with specific scope.

This research aims to explore the potentials of Choir, this approach allows researchers to understand the expectations of students, parents, teachers and coaches. This research was conducted at SD Marsudirini BSB Semarang and SD Nurul Islam Semarang, which are the locations for the implementation of Choir activities, the

selection of subjects of this research is based on direct involvement in the Choir program, where students, parents, teachers and coaches are interviewed to obtain various perspectives regarding the influence of this program on the formation of students' character. In collecting data, this study uses interview, observation, and documentation techniques. The researcher will conduct direct observation to find out the dynamics of interaction, as well as the values of discipline and character formed in the implementation process. Collect documents related to choir activities, such as: rehearsal schedules, absences, and achievements.

Once the data is collected, the researcher will apply thematic analysis to identify key themes related to student discipline. Thematic analysis is carried out by identifying themes related to discipline in adhering to the training schedule, responsibility in completing tasks, and the ability to work together in a team. The data obtained through observation, interviews, and documentation will be grouped into specific categories, such as discipline in adhering to the rehearsal schedule, the routines performed by the choir, and how they demonstrate discipline in practicing and working together in a team. This analysis process aims to illustrate how regularity in participating in choir activities can affect the formation of character attitudes and overall student discipline.

To ensure the validity and validity of the data, this study will use data triangulation, namely by comparing the results of observations, interviews, and documentation. With this triangulation, it is hoped that a more complete and accurate picture of the phenomenon being studied can be obtained. In addition, the researcher will also conduct member checking, which is giving the informant the opportunity to re-check existing findings, to ensure that the interpretation of the data reflects the reality in the field. This approach aims to make a meaningful contribution to deepening the understanding of the role of choir extracurricular programs in shaping student discipline and character. This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach with a case study design.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the results of observations and interviews, the involvement of students in both schools, both at SD Marsudirini BSB Semarang and at SD Nurul Islam has been classified as very good. This is shown from the readiness of students before extracurricular activities begin, such as preparing musical instruments and other supporting equipment. The number of students who participated in choir extracurricular activities at SD Marsudirini BSB Semarang amounted to 44 students, while at SD Nurul Islam there were 15 students. At SD Nurul Islam, the extracurricular music program has two branches, namely choir and band, because of the background of coaches who have competence in both fields. However, students seem to prefer the band aspect, especially when practicing musical instruments.

Choir activities are more used for performances in internal school events such as "Nurisfest". Routine training at SD Nurul Islam lasts for one hour every Tuesday, plus compaction training one week before the event. In contrast, at SD Marsudirini BSB Semarang, the choir became a more structured activity, with a duration of rehearsals of two hours every week on Mondays, plus additional hours before the competition was usually held on Saturdays. This school routinely participates in competitions and targets annual competitions at both the national and international levels. These competitions are announced in advance, usually five to twelve a.m., so the training process lasts a long time, so the competition also acts as a long-term motivator.

The choir at SD Marsudirini BSB is also supported by a vocal coaching program since grades 1 and 2 before entering the choir, so that it can be a strong foundation in the formation and discipline character of students. This shows that a regular training structure will have a great contribution to the habituation of the application of discipline of students   (Danger   et al., 2025)

Through a structured schedule of activities, consistent attendance, punctuality, and active participation, choir activities help shape the discipline and responsibility of students. Students learn to be accountable not only to

themselves, but also to others they help. This experience teaches time management, commitment, and accountability skills that are useful for academic and future responsibilities

This study also found that the role of parents in supporting the choir program, especially during competitions, is very high, especially at SD Marsudirini. Parents play an active role not only in providing permission and assistance during the competition, but also supporting in terms of financial activities such as raising funds through the sale of used clothes for competitions. The findings are in line with the results of the research presented by , which emphasizes that school culture and active parental involvement have a crucial role in strengthening the formation of students' character. These two elements support each other in creating an environment conducive to the development of positive character values.   (Faruq et al., 2024)

Routine activities of SD Marsudirini such as weekly worship services at church also provide students with the opportunity to perform consistently, which can indirectly train their responsibility, discipline, and confidence. This shows that students are not only trained in terms of musicality, but also instilled in the habit of character values such as responsibility and discipline. On the other hand, at SD Nurul Islam, even though choir activities have not been directed to competitions, school events are still a place for students to train their confidence so that they can give them high flying hours if done consistently.

The role of the coach has proven to be very influential in the process of character formation, work rhythm, group dynamics and consistency in assertiveness. Long experience of coaches also allows the emergence of role models between students from the previous batch, which plays a role in strengthening the culture of discipline and responsibility in a group, on the other hand the experience and flight hours of the coach and the process of getting to the competition can also provide evaluation material for the coach, the coach is not only a companion in the choir competition but they also become the conductor in the competition. These findings show that the example of coaches and upperclassmen strengthens the instillation of discipline values in choir groups. stated that the role of the coach in choir coaching is not limited to improving the vocal technique skills of students. In addition, the coach is responsible for shaping attitudes and character through various methods. First, the coach accustomed the choir members to pray before starting the Rehearsal. Second, he guides basic techniques such as body posture, breathing, articulation, intonation, frasering, vibration, resonance, improvisation, and vocal expression. Third, the trainer patiently teaches the skill of reading the score. Fourth, he also plays a role as an accompaniment in the Training. In addition, the coach acts as a motivator who encourages the spirit of the members, becomes a model of wise leadership and acts as a friend who listens to the problems of the members during the Training. Finally, coaches are expected to build close relationships like parents or siblings, so that the choir becomes a comfortable and meaningful place for each member. (Snoop Dogg   , 2021)

Meanwhile at SD Nurul Islam, the relatively new trainers are still in the process of adapting and forming a culture and work pattern, affecting the level of firmness and regularity of training, so that it has an impact on the discipline pattern of students who are not as strong as at SD Marsudirini BSB.

Overall, choir extracurricular activities in both schools have a positive impact on the development of students' character, especially in terms of discipline, cooperation, responsibility and confidence. Students who actively participate in choirs show an increase in the courage to perform, the ability to work together in a team, and time management in a long time. The preparation for the competition, which took months, especially at SD Marsudirini, provided positive pressure that trained perseverance, mental resilience and order of students. These findings strengthen the understanding that involvement in choirs contributes concretely to the formation of students' character, especially the discipline aspect.

CONCLUSION

This research shows that choir activities in elementary schools have a role more than just a forum for developing interests and talents. The active involvement of students in this activity has a real role in shaping their character, especially in terms of discipline, cooperation, and confidence. At SD Marsudirini BSB Semarang, the program that is structured and focuses on choir and strong parental support is able to create a consistent learning environment, which not only trains musical skills, but also accustomes students to the positive values they bring to their daily lives. The role of experienced coaches and a supportive social environment are also key to success in this program. Choir activities can provide space to grow into a more organized, diligent person and ready to face challenges, both in nature and outside of school. Overall, this activity not only enriches students' experiences in the field of art, but also becomes an effective means of instilling useful character in the long term.

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