

## Technology Impacts on Moral Development ES Students

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### ABSTRACT

The development of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) at this time has many impacts on people's lives, especially for Elementary School (ES) students, both positive and negative impacts. This study aims to determine the impact of ICT on the moral development of ES students. The method used in this research is qualitative with interview, observation, and documentation techniques. The research subjects were 6th-grade ES students. Analysis of the research data was carried out using a qualitative descriptive analysis. The results of the study show that most of the users of ICT without parental and teacher control have a great impact on student development. The negative impacts are that students are lazy to learn, ignorant, lack discipline, impolite behavior appears, and changes in social interaction, and dependence on Android. The teacher's efforts to overcome this are through digital literacy education, monitoring and limiting the use of technology, selecting quality content, discussion and reflection, collaboration with parents, and being a model of good behavior. With holistic education, ES students can gain understanding and strong moral skills that will help them become responsible, ethical, and contributing individuals in society.

*Keywords: Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Elementary School (ES), Moral Development, Students.*



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### INTRODUCTION

At present with technological advances that are developing rapidly and reaching almost all levels of society. According to Santi et al (2021) technological developments have affected various aspects of human life, in the fields of education, economy, health, and other fields. Technological developments have a positive influence on human life, especially in the field of education. Information is more quickly obtained and accessed for educational purposes. The emergence of applications such as e-learning to support the ease of the educational process. The subject matter can be made more interesting and interactive. Likewise, ES students can take advantage of technological sophistication in finding information related to their lessons. However, behind the advantages of these technological developments, there are also disadvantages. According to (Rizqiyah & Lestari, 2021) technological developments have an impact on human life. The culture of society is slowly shifting because of the fast and easy exchange of information that occurs in the world. This progress has various negative impacts that are detrimental to the child himself. Some of the consequences are the decline in the moral quality of children. Ease of access to information from the internet makes children free to explore various sites that are inappropriate for consumption by their age, Rizqiyah & Lestari (2021) So, norms and rules of life are needed to maintain morality and culture in a society that is increasingly deviating from the rules. Handayani & Maharani (2022) the use of information technology during the online learning process, most children use cell phones as an intermediary tool

for the learning process.

After going online, there are many impacts and changes felt by children. Among them change in attitudes, morals, and personality of children in behaving or learning. This happens because of the factor of children who often spend time playing with cell phones. Sites or content contained on social media can affect the moral development of students. Students at ES age tend to imitate what they think is good regardless of the good or bad effects of what they imitate. Kohlberg Deep (Hasanah, 2019) argues that the moral aspect is something that is not brought from birth, but something that develops and can be developed/learned. Moral is defined linguistically from the Latin word *mores* which means procedures, habits, and customs. Based on interviews that the author conducted in one of the ESs, it is known that currently, the moral development of students is experiencing a decline starting from behavior, ethics, and speech which is starting to be impolite both toward peers and towards teachers. Based on interviews, the factors that influence students' moral decline are influenced by parents and the environment. Lack of family supervision of children using Android can affect student development. Moral development in children must be guided properly because children's morals will affect their future. Therefore, the researcher is interested in studying the causal factors and teacher efforts that can influence the moral and personality development of ES students.

## **METHODS**

The research conducted is qualitative research using a descriptive approach. Qualitative research methods aim to explain a phenomenon in depth and are carried out by collecting data as deeply as possible. Qualitative methods prioritize observation of phenomena and examine more into the substance of the meaning of these phenomena (IAIN, n.d.) Researchers explored the phenomenon or moral behavior of ES students and how the efforts made by the teacher in dealing with it. The technique in collecting data is to collect data based on observations and interviews as well as field records obtained. The respondents of this study were teachers and ES students. Apart from that the data also received support from research that had previously been carried out by researchers.

## **RESULTS**

This study analyzes changes in the behavior of ES children as a result of the influence of Android use. The results of interviews, observations, and documentation show that there are three findings in this study, which are as follows. The first finding shows that the use of Android with its various applications has very diverse impacts. Students without the knowledge of the teacher have brought cell phones to school. They play tiktok during recess. In addition, teachers see students on social media as creating content that is not good. Unethical use of language on social media. In addition, the negative impact is that children tend to prefer daydreaming at school, and do not interact well, children's social behavior towards peers and family is also not good, children become emotional, and have difficulty obeying rules at school and also at home. berating friends, bullying friends, the worst. Children prefer to rule over peers, do not respect peers, and exclude friends who do

not have cell phones or friends who are weaker, children often fight because they tease each other. This indicates a lack of social attitudes or behavior of children toward peers. In addition, the teacher also explained that the students' speech at school also began to follow the language he called slang. Talking to the teacher is as if talking to their peers.

Based on these problems or findings, the efforts made by the teacher so that students can utilize information technology according to its function without being affected by its bad effects so that students' moral development does not decline, namely; 1) Teaching honesty, 2) Teaches courage, 3) Teaches patience, 4) Teaches simplicity, 5) Teaching straight thinking, 6) Teaching responsibility, 7) Teaching discipline, and 8) Teaches the value of fighting spirit. In addition to trying at school, teachers also communicate with parents. What parents do is; respect and personal freedom, make the household comfortable and attractive, value their independence, discuss various problems, provide a sense of security, affection, and attention, and supervise student associations on social media. Limit the use of Android. Establish good communication with children.

### **3.1 Findings**

#### **3.1.1 Moral Development**

The moral development of elementary students is a process in which students develop understanding, values, and positive moral behavior. At the elementary level, students' moral development often focuses on understanding the basic concepts of morality, developing empathy. Several aspects of the moral development of elementary students according to (Jahja, 2015); (Ammert et al., 2020) : that is; First, Understanding moral values: Elementary students begin to learn basic moral values such as honesty, kindness, justice, and respect for others. They learn to recognize the difference between right and wrong actions and understand the consequences of moral actions. Second, empathy and other people's perspectives: Elementary students are developing empathy skills, namely the ability to feel and understand the feelings and experiences of other people. They learn to see the world from the perspectives of others and to take the feelings and needs of others into account in their actions. Third, take responsibility: Elementary students are taught to develop responsibility for their actions and decisions. They learn to acknowledge the consequences of their actions and take responsibility for the mistakes they make. Fourth, manage conflict positively: ES students' moral development also involves learning how to manage conflict and differences of opinion in a constructive way. They learn to communicate well, listen empathetically, and seek fair solutions to conflicts. Fifth, respect for diversity: ES students are also taught to respect diversity in society. They learn to respect differences in culture, religion, and other backgrounds and avoid discrimination or prejudice against others. Sixth, understanding social responsibility: ES students are introduced to the social responsibilities they have as members of society. They are taught to contribute positively to society, understand their rights and obligations, and the importance of protecting the environment and helping others.

#### **3.1.2 The Impact of Technology on the Moral Development of ES Students**

Technology has had a significant impact on various aspects of human life, including education. In the context of education, technology has provided great benefits, but it also has an impact on the moral development of ES students. The following are some thoughts on the impact of technology on the moral development of ES students (Republik & Informatika Republik Indonesia, 2020); (Syifa et al., 2019):

- *First*, the Effect of Behavioral Models: One of the impacts of technology on the moral development of ES students is the influence of the behavioral models they encounter in

digital media. Elementary students tend to follow and imitate what they see and hear through technology. If they are exposed to immoral content, such as violence or inappropriate behavior, it can affect their moral development by changing their view of what is right and wrong.

- *Second, Changes in Social Interaction:* Technology can also influence the social interactions of ES students. Use of gadgets, video games and social media can lead to social isolation and reduce face-to-face interaction with peers and adults. This can hinder the development of social skills and empathy, which are important in the formation of good morals.
- *Third, access to Inaccurate Information:* With easy access to the internet, ES students can easily find information about anything. However, this also means they are vulnerable to content that is not appropriate for their age. Inappropriate or immoral content can undermine their understanding of proper ethics and values.
- *Fifth, Reliance on Technology:* Moral development involves the ability to make good and responsible decisions. However, when ES students are too dependent on technology, they may lose the ability to develop critical and independent thinking skills. This dependence can affect their moral development by reducing their ability to understand the consequences of their actions
- *Sixth, Positive Learning Opportunities:* Although there are negative impacts, technology can also provide positive learning opportunities for ES students. Using the right technology and guided by teachers and parents, students can access valuable educational resources, such as interactive learning materials, online education programs, and moral modeling tools that can help them understand the concept of ethics and good values.

To overcome the negative impacts and maximize the positive benefits of technology on the moral development of ES students, it is necessary to have an active role from teachers and parents. They need to provide careful oversight of students' use of technology, teach critical thinking skills and content evaluation, and facilitate discussion of right and wrong moral values.

### **3.1.3 Teachers' Efforts in Overcoming the Negative Impact of Technology on the Moral Development of ES Students**

Teachers have an important role to play in overcoming the negative impact of technology on student development. Here are some efforts that can be made by the teacher based on the source (Perbukuan, 2021); (Dikdasmen, 2019); (Syahbana et al., 2022) :

- *First, Digital Literacy Education:* Teachers can provide digital literacy education to elementary students to help them understand how to use technology wisely. This includes teaching about online safety, evaluation of sources of information, healthy time management, and ethics in interacting in the digital world.
- *Second, Controlling and Limiting Technology Use:* Teachers can help monitor and limit technology use in the classroom and at home. They can provide clear guidelines and rules about when and what types of technology students can use. For example, setting internet service time in class, encouraging limiting screen time at home, or inviting students to use technology in a productive and educational way.
- *Third, Selection of Quality Content:* Teachers can help students choose quality and moral content when using technology. They can recommend appropriate educational resources, introduce educational apps or games, and help students understand the difference between quality and poor content.
- *Fourth, Discussion and Reflection:* Teachers can facilitate discussion and reflection on the impact of technology on students' moral development. They can hold class sessions

to discuss topics such as online ethics, cyberbullying, violence in the media, and how technology affects social interaction. This discussion can help students understand the consequences of inappropriate use of technology and encourage them to think critically about the moral values they apply

- *Fifth*, Collaboration with Parents: Teachers can collaborate with parents to overcome the negative impact of technology. They can provide parents with guidance on the healthy use of technology at home, explaining the risks and how to manage them. Teachers and parents can also share information and experiences with each other to help students develop positive habits of using technology.
- *Sixth*, Model of Good Behavior: The teacher is an example and a role model for students. By practicing the wise and responsible use of technology, teachers can inspire students to follow good examples. Teachers can also use technology as an effective educational tool, showing how to use technology for meaningful learning and building character.

By implementing these efforts, teachers can help students deal with the negative effects of technology and develop a better understanding of positive moral values in technology use. It is important for teachers and parents to provide primary school students with guidance, example, and practice opportunities in developing their morality. Through a holistic education, ES students can acquire strong moral understanding and skills that will help them become responsible, ethical and contributing individuals in society.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The development of information technology at this time has many impacts on people's lives, especially for ES students, both positive and negative impacts. The positive impact felt by students is that it can help students in developing knowledge, facilitating student access to find information to add insight. However, behind the positive impact of ICT development, there is also a negative impact. The negative impact of ICT is due to the lack of supervision from parents in using android so that it makes changes in student moral development. students become more ignorant, less disciplined, less polite, etc. It is important for teachers and parents to provide primary school students with guidance, example, and practice opportunities in developing their morality. Through a holistic education, ES students can acquire strong moral understanding and skills that will help them become responsible, ethical and contributing individuals in society.

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