



Character Education for Teenagers Regarding the Dangers of Drug Abuse in Babakan Banten

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Abstract

Purpose: This research highlights character education's role in preventing teenage drug abuse, addressing the widespread issue and associated risks.

Method: Qualitative methods, including workshops and seminars, were employed to promote awareness, and understanding within the community.

Practical Applications: Integrating drug prevention education into school curricula and community initiatives can effectively mitigate drug-related challenges among teenagers.

Conclusion: Character education plays a vital role in combating teenage drug abuse. Integrating drug prevention programs into educational and community settings contributes to a safer and healthier society.



Introduction

The activity of devotion regarding the socialization of the dangers of drug abuse and the role of parental supervision is one way for students to develop their creativity when directly involved in the field to see firsthand the problems in society. This devotion activity serves as a channel for the dissemination of knowledge that students have gained in lectures or when carrying out devotion located in the Babakan Banten Hamlet. Character education is the most important thing in advancing the morals of the younger generation in Indonesia (Parai', 2023; Ramdliyah, 2020).

Character education is a system of naming character values that include components of knowledge, awareness or willingness, and actions to implement these values, both towards the One Almighty God, oneself, others, the environment, and the nation (Puspitasari et al., 2023; Yulianti, 2021). Character education is included in one of the efforts to prevent drug abuse. It can be seen from the cases of drug abuse in Indonesia experiencing an increase, this is caused by the lack of character education for the younger generation (Adianto, 2023). In addition, it is caused by technological advances such as information media (television, radio), telecommunications, and transportation that facilitate the spread of drugs to various parts including rural areas. The National Narcotics Agency (BNN) revealed an increase in the prevalence of drug abuse in the age range of 15 to 64 years, from 1.80 percent in 2019 to 1.95 percent in 2021 (Kuba et al., 2023). Adolescents to students fall into this category.

Thus, this makes parents very anxious about the association of their children, especially for parents who have teenage children. According to Law No.22 Year 1997 Regarding Narcotics, drugs are chemical substances needed to maintain health, when these substances enter the body's organs, one or more changes in function occur within the body (Farmasi, 2018). Then it is continued with physical and psychological dependence on the body, so that when the substance is stopped consumption there will be physical and psychological disturbances. According to (Siallagan et al., 2020), drugs can be distinguished into three groups, namely:

1. Group I, only for scientific development, not for therapy, and strong dependence, for example Heroin, Cocaine, and Marijuana.
2. Group II, the last choice for therapy, strong dependence but less than group I, for example Morphine and Pethidine.
3. Group III, often used for therapy and the dependence is lighter, for example Codeine.

The main target of drug distribution is teenagers or the younger generation (Heriyanti et al., 2023). According to (Putri et al., 2021), adolescence is a transitional period between childhood and adulthood marked by biological and psychological growth and development. Adolescence lasts from age 12 to 21 for females and from age 13 to 22 for males. This adolescent age range can be divided into two parts: ages 12/13 to 17/18 are early adolescence, and ages 17/18 to 21/22 are late adolescence. According to data from the National Narcotics Agency (BNN), there are more than 1.2 million drug users who are still students (aged 12-21) (Oktarina, 2021).

During this time, adolescents have specific characteristics such as mental strength and curiosity. The characteristics of adolescence are a transitional period from childhood to adulthood, a period of emotional, social, moral, and family relationship changes, with many issues, self-identity search, development of realistic attitudes, and full of hope (Febristi, 2021). According to (Sari et al., 2023), factors causing someone to want to consume drugs include family breakdown such as divorce, parents who are not often at home and cannot monitor their children's movements, influence from social media displaying drugs and substances, rapid technological changes, lack of teaching values and religious systems, economic imbalance, pressure from surrounding conditions, and boring luxury.

Due to the increase in drug abuse and the negative influence of narcotics, the government has issued several regulations aimed at reducing the level of drug abuse, namely Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics articles 7, 54, Article 111, Article 112, and

Article 114. However, these efforts will not be maximized if the community does not participate in helping the government. Considering the increase in drug abuse and the significant negative influence of drugs, the initial step that can be taken is to provide character education from an early age so that they have the tools to protect themselves from the dangers of drug abuse, parents who are more concerned about their children's associations and development, increasing knowledge about the dangers of drugs, and forming anti-drug groups among teenagers involving various parties such as students, community leaders, parents, and teenagers themselves.

Therefore, this devotion activity is carried out by developing a character education program through socialization about the dangers of drug abuse to the community in Babakan Banten Hamlet, especially parents, children, and teenagers. This is necessary because it is expected that this program can make parents better at protecting their children from the dangers of drug abuse, and teenagers themselves can better understand the dangers of drugs.

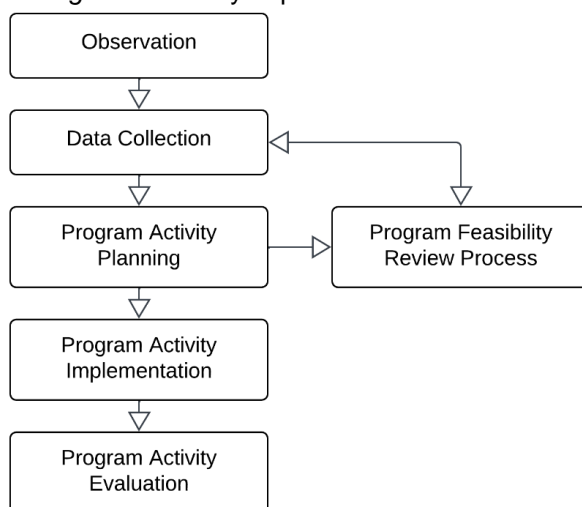
Method

The implementation of community service uses Community Education methods such as socialization, counseling, and training to enhance public understanding. The activities carried out in this community service are in the form of counseling on the dangers and prevention of drug abuse for teenagers, as well as counseling for parents on the importance of parental supervision. The steps of the activities are as follows:

- a. Conduct direct observation with the Chairpersons of RT (neighborhood associations) in Babakan Banten Hamlet to report on the planned program to be implemented in that area.
- b. Socialization on the importance of character education targeting children and teenagers in the environment of Babakan Banten Hamlet, Kutajaya Village.
- c. Socialization on the dangers of drug abuse aimed at increasing understanding targeting children, teenagers, and parents in Babakan Banten Hamlet, Kutajaya Village.
- d. Training on making posters about drug dangers to be conducted by teenage children in the Babakan Banten Hamlet, Kutajaya Village, which will later be disseminated by them through social media.
- e. Evaluation of all activities carried out during community service.

The following is an overview of the flow of activities for Drug Abuse Prevention Socialization:

Figure 1. Activity Implementation Flowchart



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Result

Community Service Activities with activities aimed at enhancing character education through the socialization of Drug Abuse Prevention for children, teenagers, and parents in Babakan Banten Hamlet, Kutajaya Village. This socialization activity is held in two places, namely at Kutajaya III Elementary School and the Kutajaya Village Office. The socialization held at Kutajaya III Elementary School aims to provide character education from an early age regarding the dangers of drug abuse, so that they can protect themselves from the threat of drug abuse. During the socialization activities at Kutajaya III Elementary School, the children were very enthusiastic in listening to and understanding the material being presented, resulting in several questions being asked by them about the dangers of drug abuse. In addition, the speakers asked questions to the children to test their understanding of the material presented.

Figure 2. Drug Abuse Prevention Socialization at Kutajaya III Elementary School



The socialization held in the Kutajaya Village Office Hall targeted teenagers and parents in Babakan Banten Hamlet. The large number of participants who came made the socialization activities run smoothly and well-directed. This socialization presents material about the dangers of drug abuse. In figure 3, which is a socialization activity about the dangers of drug abuse, the speaker explained various dangers of drug abuse, methods of preventing drug abuse, types of drugs, reasons why teenagers use drugs, treatment for addicts, and criminal threats for addicts, dealers, and drug couriers.

Figure 3. Socialization on Drug Abuse Prevention



In Figure 4, the socialization activity regarding the importance of enhancing character education for the younger generation is depicted. The speaker explained the significance of enhancing character education for the younger generation, the positive impact of character education enhancement, the long-term function of character education, and the negative consequences of the absence of character education for the younger generation.

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Figure 4. Socialization about the importance of enhancing character education for the younger generation



In both socialization activities, the participants enthusiastically received and understood the material provided by the speakers, making the implementation of the activities interactive and engaging. This was evident from the emergence of several questions and responses from the participants and speakers. The speakers also asked participants some questions about the materials that had been presented. The Head of the Hamlet stated that many people still have minimal knowledge about drugs and other illicit substances, and many participants do not know what dangers arise from drug abuse and illicit drugs. Therefore, both teenagers and parents attended to broaden their knowledge about the dangers of drug abuse to better avoid these dangerous situations.

The location of these activities was in the Kutajaya Village Office Hall as it could accommodate many participants. Additionally, the selection of the venue was crucial because a strategic location with short travel distances could be reached by the participants easily. This Drug Abuse Prevention Socialization activity was conducted together with the Hamlet Head, RT (neighborhood association leaders), RW (community unit leaders), residents, and community service students from the Islamic University 45 Bekasi in Babakan Banten Hamlet.

Figure 5. Poster Making Training Through Canva Application



After conducting drug abuse prevention socialization in the Babakan Banten Hamlet community, a poster-making training activity regarding the dangers of drug abuse was held. This training taught teenagers how to use the Canva application to create posters.

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Figure 6. Results of Poster Making Training Through Canva Application conducted by the Babakan Banten Hamlet community



The posters created by them will be shared through their respective social media accounts so that many people can see them and understand the dangers of drug abuse. After the character education activities with socialization about the dangers of drug abuse, it is hoped that the community will have a better understanding of drug dangers, the importance of character education, and that parents can better supervise their children during play. Additionally, it is hoped that the Babakan Banten Hamlet community will remain drug-free.

Discussion

Based on the results of the socialization activities that have been conducted, the implementation of these activities went smoothly despite a slight obstacle, namely rain. However, the smoothness of the activities was evident from the enthusiasm of the participants who flocked to the Kutajaya Village Hall, with 18 people attending, and several questions were asked by the participants during the socialization. Below is evidence of the attendance list of participants and the question and answer or discussion session after the presentation of the material by the speakers.

Figure 5. Evidence of Participant Attendance

DAFTAR HADIR PESERTA

No.	Nama	Nomor Telepon	TTD
1.	Zakaria	0877 840822	[Signature]
2.	Alya	0877 730 0307	[Signature]
3.	Shinta	089294716490	[Signature]
4.	Maria	0851 1131 1807	[Signature]
5.	Kamella	085892607986	[Signature]
6.	Nasya	0857 7134 5098	[Signature]
7.	Ardi	08160087877	[Signature]
8.	Au Rahman	0875202172	[Signature]
9.	Mun	8852041609	[Signature]
10.	Prati	0852240417071	[Signature]
11.	Rani d	0858534208	[Signature]
12.	Zurra	085914176514	[Signature]
13.	Rita Nurmanan	08528090920	[Signature]
14.	Muhammad Fauzi	08572867066	[Signature]
15.	Ade Firdaun	085818503707	[Signature]
16.	Adhik	085 717658413	[Signature]
17.	Khan	085081308452	[Signature]
18.	Andika Mustafa	08507878886	[Signature]
19.			[Signature]
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The positive impact of character education activities regarding the dangers of drug abuse is the enhancement of character among the younger generation in the Babakan Banten Hamlet area, such as engaging in more positive social activities, such as religious studies held every Saturday night at Al-Hidayah Mosque and organizing local community football matches.

Based on the socialization conducted, awareness about drug abuse prevention is crucial for the Babakan Banten Hamlet community because many people still lack knowledge about the dangers of drug abuse. The poster-making training through the Canva application is a very appropriate method because the Canva application can not only be used to create posters but also as an editing tool. In the implementation of this activity, it is hoped that the socialization about the dangers of drug abuse will continue and be continued by teenagers in the Babakan Banten Hamlet through social media or directly.

Conclusion

Character education is an essential aspect that must be enhanced for the younger generation because it is crucial for the progress of the Indonesian nation and for keeping the younger generation safe from the dangers of drug abuse. Drugs are substances or medicines that can be used for the treatment of certain diseases and for scientific purposes. Drugs are also divided into three categories according to Law No. 22 of 1997, namely Group I, Group II, and Group III. The main target of drugs is adolescents, as evidenced by the BNN survey in 2018, where 2,297,492 students have used drugs. To prevent the increase in drug abuse, it is necessary to provide socialization about the dangers of drugs and to provide character education to children.

The activity of enhancing character education through socialization for the prevention of drug abuse was carried out in two places, namely at Kutajaya III Elementary School and Kutajaya Village Office. This activity went well and was engaging, with question-and-answer sessions. The purpose of the socialization at Kutajaya III Elementary School is to provide character education so that children do not fall into drug abuse.

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