

The Role of Parents in Fostering Children's Morals against Technological Advances

Ananda Setya Ningrum

UIN K.H. Abdurrahman Wahid Pekalongan

Email: anandaningrum12@gmail.com

Abstract

Technological advances today have many influences on life, one of which is the use of digital devices that affect children's morals. The role of parents is very important so that children can use digital devices properly. This study aims to determine how the role of parents in fostering children's morals towards technological advances. The research method used is descriptive qualitative research, by collecting data from observations, interviews, documentation and data analysis. The results showed that children aged 4-12 years in technological advances many of them have poor morals. It is evident that they prefer to play gadgets all the time to the point of forgetting their obligations such as praying, reciting the Koran, and obeying parents' orders. In this case the role of parents is needed in fostering children's morals to be better and so that they are not easily influenced by technological advances. In pamutih village, the role of parents in the family is to be teachers and leaders. There are several steps used by parents in fostering children's morals, namely by providing exemplary strategies, advice strategies, and attention and supervision strategies. This is done so that children are not easily influenced by technological advances such as gadgets and online games. Every parent in providing strategies will be different but in accordance with religious values and have the same goal, namely so that children have better morals despite the rapid advancement of technology.

Keywords: parents, children's morals, technological advancement

Introduction

Along with the advancement of globalized technology, it has affected all aspects of life, both in the economic, political and educational fields.(Jamun, 1996). Technological progress is something that cannot be avoided in this life, because technological progress will run in accordance with scientific progress. Every innovation is created to provide positive benefits for human life. Technology also provides many conveniences, as well as a new way of doing human activities. Humans have also enjoyed many benefits brought by technological innovations that have been produced in the last decade. Nowadays it seems difficult to separate human life from technology, it is even a human need. The beginning of technological development that was previously part of science

or dependent on science, now science can also depend on technology (Ngafifi & Ngafifi, n.d.).

Nowadays, with the advancement of technology, the role of parents is very important in providing education to children, it cannot be denied that technology is developing so rapidly that its use is not only for positive things but also for negative things, and this is where the role of parents is needed in educating their children in the era of technological advances, and according to research, it is also stated that active users of technology today, especially social media, are mostly young children (*Tian Wahyudi*, n.d.).

It cannot be denied that today many of the children are good at operating technology in the form of gadgets such as smartphones or cellphones. The constant use of gadgets will have an impact on the behavior and personality of children in their daily lives. For children who often use gadgets, they will feel very dependent and even become mandatory activities carried out in everyday life. Therefore, many children play gadgets more often than they have to learn or socialize with their surroundings. Another impact for children will be addicted to the internet, online games. Most of them are more concerned with playing gadgets than doing daily routines. It is not uncommon for children to ignore parents' orders because they are too focused on their smartphones (Hidayat & Maba, 2021).

Parents are the initial and main baton in providing education to children, where parents have an obligation to educate, guide, and foster family members to fulfill their role as parents, so the family has a very basic position in maximizing the entire role of the child and cannot be replaced even though the child has been educated in learning institutions both formal and non-formal, and therefore no other party can replace the complete role of parents for a child. The real success of fostering and applying religious values lies between the relationship between parents and their children (Baharun et al., 2019)

Parents as educators in the family, especially children, have a very determining role in how children's morals change and develop their lives. Therefore, parents are directly related to children and supervise them, this opportunity can be done at home or in other places where parents are with their children. Parents are the first and main educators for their children because they are the earliest place to receive education. Because education in the family has a great influence on children's lives in the future, especially in this era of digitalization or technological advances (Yulia et al., 2020)

Research related to this study is research conducted by Cucu Komariah with the title "The Role of Parents in Guiding Children's Morals Through Internet Media" This study is located in Babakan Cikao Purwakarta, West Java. The results of this study that moral development through internet media is carried out

through habituation and giving direct examples of role models from parents (Komariah et al., 2021).

The role of parents in fostering children's morals in technological advances in Pamutih Village, Ulujami Subdistrict, Pemalang Regency is important to be studied more deeply, because in the observation of researchers, parents are busy with their daily work while they still have children of an early age who of course still really need education, guidance, attention and affection from their parents. In addition, these children in their daily lives cannot be separated from the use of gadgets, such as smartphones and android phones which certainly have a negative impact on their moral education. Therefore, researchers are interested in exploring more deeply the role of parents in fostering children's morals towards technological advances in Pamutih Village, Ulujami District, Pemalang Regency. The purpose of this research is to describe the role of parents in fostering children's morals towards technological advances in Pamutih Village, Ulujami Subdistrict, Pemalang Regency.

Methods

The approach used in this research is a qualitative approach. Qualitative research is scientific research whose series of activities capture information from the conditions as they are in an object, based on theoretical and practical perspectives to answer a problem (Zellatifanny, 2020). The data collection techniques that will be used in this research are observation, interview, and documentation (Mardiana et al., 2021).

Data analysis techniques are carried out in three stages, namely, data reduction, data presentation, concluding data. Data reduction is a form of analysis that sharpens, selects, focuses, reduces, and compiles data in a way where the final conclusion can be drawn. Data presentation is organizing and presenting data in narrative form, tables, matrices, or other forms. Meanwhile, concluding data is taking the essence of the organized data presentation in the form of a sentence statement that is brief but contains broad understanding (Sidiq et al., n.d.).

Results

After conducting research in Pamutih Village, Ulujami Subdistrict, Pemalang Regency, to be precise in the middle dukuh, it was found that the children in the middle dukuh had poor morals, this was due to the rapid advancement of technology. Children are preoccupied and spent with the gadgets they have, thus forgetting their mandatory activities such as studying and praying. Parents are quite difficult in fostering children's morals with technological advances. However, parents continue to try to foster children's morals despite technological advances.

The role of parents in fostering children's morals is as teachers, parents educate their children from childhood so that children can be formed with good morals. Every parent becomes the first educator for their child, they must have been educated with good things since childhood. For example in the family of Mr. Purnomo and Mrs. Utari, they do not give smartphones from children from childhood until entering school. Children are given to play smartphones after stepping on grade 3 of elementary school, but still under the supervision of both parents. They were allowed to play with their smartphones on Sundays only. His father, who is the leader in the family, enforces this. His daily activities are to go to school and recite the Koran and do other positive things. But with the rapid advancement of technology, the children in the neighborhood already have their own smartphones. As a result, the children want to play smartphones every day after school. Both parents do not continue to provide understanding to their children about the use of smartphones continuously. With some persuasion and understanding but the children still ask to play games on smartphones. With that, both parents allow it but still under strict supervision by their parents, and when it's time to recite the Koran or study the smartphone will be taken by both parents. Such moral guidance for children is also widely applied by parents in the middle *dukuh*, allowing them to play gadgets but not forgetting their obligations such as prayer, recitation and study.

However, in *dukuh tengah* there are still many parents who let their children play gadgets all the time. For example, in the family of Mr. Rudi and Mrs. Sri, their children after school immediately play games on smartphones to forget their obligations to pray, recite the Koran and study. This happens because the children in the neighborhood do the same thing. Even though since childhood their children have been educated not to play smartphones carelessly, but with the rapid advancement of technology, children who already have their own smartphones. Giving influence to their children, if prohibited or reminded the child will actually fight or get angry. With that, both parents let their children, rather than the child getting angry. Incidents like this are common in the *pamutih dukuh* environment. With the busyness of their respective parents, children easily access games or play smartphones. Even though there is a television at home, children are now only interested in smartphones.

Discussion

- A. **The role of parents in fostering the morals of children aged 4-12 years in technological advances in Pamutih Village, Ulujami District, Pematang Regency.**

The existence of technological advances greatly affects the morals of children aged 4-12 years. The role of parents is needed in this case, parents must be able to provide moral education teaching, so that when they grow up they will have good morals that are always devoted to Allah SWT, to achieve the degree of taqwa not subject to lust, people who have good morals will prioritize goodness and leave bad deeds. Without the role of parents, it is feared that children aged 4-12 years will have morals that deviate from religious values with the advancement of increasingly sophisticated technology. The role of parents in fostering children's morals towards technological advances is as follows:

1. Parents act as teachers

The existence of technological advances in parents in fostering children's morals, parents play the role of an educator or teacher. parents must be able to provide good religious education knowledge for children, especially about morals. Technological advances at this time the role of parents as teachers is very important, because it is known that children aged 4-12 years in the middle dukuh of Pamutih Village are still found many children who do not want to study religious knowledge because parents do not provide guidance, affection, and educate them less continuously so that they are not easily influenced by technological advances.

2. Parents act as leaders

Parents must also be able to fight as leaders. Especially a father as a leader in the family must be able to provide religious education related to morals for his child, and encourage children to imitate the good morals given by parents, so that children aged 4-12 years are not easily influenced by technological advances.

3. The tau person acts as a guardian

The role of parents as guardians is to be responsible for their children. The existence of technological advances gives full responsibility for their children. When children are given gadgets, it is necessary to have supervision from parents so that they continue to protect and protect children from behavior that deviates from the values of religious teachings.

4. Parents act as role holders

Parents are role holders in the family, when children do things that are not good, then parents as role holders must be able to behave or act. When children play their gadgets all the time and forget their obligations such as reciting the Koran and praying then parents must act. The action can be confiscating their gadgets or giving a warning to the child. Despite the rapid advancement of technology, parents must play a role in fostering their children's morals.

5. Parents act as resource persons

Technological advances will greatly affect children in terms of morals, they are very easily angered when the things they like are disturbed. For example, when children are playing gadgets or online games suddenly their mothers tell them to buy something, they will get angry. In this case, parents play a very important role as a resource person, they must be told that these actions include bad morals. So that children can know which is good and which is bad.

The analysis above shows that the role of parents in fostering children's morals towards technological advances is in accordance with Hardi Dermawan's theory. However, not all parents do their role, there are some parents who carry out their role well and some who still do not carry out their role as parents.

B. Steps in fostering the morals of children aged 4-12 years on technological advances in Pamutih Village, Ulujami District, Pemalang Regency

1. Exemplary strategy

The existence of technological advances today makes children fixated with their gadgets so that they forget their obligations. Children in the middle dukuh show the same thing, namely imitating what their parents do. Whereas being a parent must provide a good role model for their children. If parents do bad things, children will easily imitate this behavior. So the exemplary strategy in fostering children's morals is needed, because without giving an example, children will imitate their parents.

2. Habituation strategy

The character of a child will be formed starting from his habituation from childhood. Parents in the middle dukuh of pamutih village have carried out habituation from a young age, starting from carrying out the five daily prayers, reciting the Koran and politeness that has been exemplified by parents towards their children. This is in accordance with the strategy where children from a young age must be accustomed to doing good activities and trained to behave well, and taught politeness wherever they are. So with the advancement of technology, children have embedded good morals through the role of parents through habituation strategies.

3. Advice strategy

Technological advances are inevitable, children today already know technology. Even of them already have their own smartphones, they will access anything with the gadgets they have including online games. Almost all children in dukuh tengah already have their own

smartphones, some were bought by their parents and some asked to be bought by their parents. Their daily lives are filled with playing gadgets, to the point of forgetting what has become their obligation. In this case, parents really need to give advice to their children so that they know which time to play gadgets and which time to study.

4. Surveillance strategy

The development of technology today makes it easy to find children who have smartphones. Children in the middle dukuh almost every hour after school are seen holding their respective smartphones. When coming home from school instead of eating, smartphones will be sought first. Children aged 4-12 still really need supervision from parents, supervision strategies are used to keep unwanted things from happening. Today's technological advances most children's morals are easily influenced when they use gadgets that lead to things that are not useful. So the role of parents is needed.

Conclusions

Technology is a kind of extension of human hands to be able to utilize nature and things around them more optimally. Thus, technology simply aims to facilitate the fulfillment of human needs. Meanwhile, character is a trait embedded in the soul that encourages a person to do actions without requiring thought and consideration. The existence of technological advances affects children's morals, therefore the need for the role of parents in fostering children's morals towards technological advances. The role of parents in fostering children's morals such as parents as guardians, teachers, leaders, role holders, and sources. While the methods used in fostering children's morals through the method of exemplary, supervision, advice, habituation, attention, punishment and gifts. The role of parents in fostering children's morals against technological advances in Pamutih Village, Ulujami Subdistrict, Pemalang Regency is to be a guardian, teacher, leader, role holder, and resource person. There are several steps used by parents in fostering children's morals, namely by providing strategies through exemplary methods, supervision, advice, habituation, attention, punishment and gifts.

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