

## The Urgency of Digital Ethics in Improving Children's Morals in the Era of Society 5.0

Wahyu Firman Syah<sup>1</sup>, M. Khasib Amin Murtadlo<sup>2</sup>, Dewi Ayu Oktafiani<sup>3</sup>, Saiful Alam<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> UIN KH Abdurrahman Wahid

Email: firmanw194@gmail.com<sup>1</sup>; hasibmuhammad86@gmail.com<sup>2</sup>;

ayuoktafiani88@gmail.com<sup>3</sup>; saifulpesantren.5.1@gmail.com<sup>4</sup>

### Abstract

Digital media has become a culture and trend of social life that cannot be separated. All of these media platforms have a positive impact that makes human mobility easier in all respects. But on the other hand, the negative impact causes changes in children's values, norms, rules, and morals. The purpose of this study is to describe and analyze the importance of digital ethics on children's morals in dealing with social media phenomena in the era of society 5.0. This type of research is library research using a descriptive qualitative approach. Then the data was obtained using an analysis of literature data relating to digital ethics on children's morals. In facing the era of society 5.0: 1) teachers are responsible for educating children's morals; 2) Instill digital ethics to create a wise generation in social media.

**Keywords:** digital ethics, children's moral, era of society 5.0

### Introduction

In the era of *society 5.0*, the development of science and technology is growing rapidly. This is evidenced by the existence of the internet and social media that are easy to use by all groups, both parents, teenagers and children. Currently searching for information and exchanging information via the Internet network can be done easily and quickly. The existence of these innovations makes everything function as a medium. For example, looking for learning resources, the need to communicate to buy daily needs can be done using the internet. (Putri et al., 2023, p. 109)

Based on data from the Association of Indonesian Internet Service Providers (APJII) in 2022 Q2, 84.4% of internet use is for social media and online communication. In addition, social media users account for 68.9% of Indonesia's population. This data shows the number of people who communicate using social media. (Ahyati et al., 2023, p. 175)

The use of the internet for its users is very important to avoid negative impacts, such as *hoax news*, online gambling, pornography and information that actually damages the nation's morals. Intelligence in using the internet shows the quality of his behavior. Building a positive culture in digital ethics is very necessary, so that social media can be optimized according to its function and make mobility carried out by humans easier. (Sahronih, n.d., p. 464)

Digital ethical issues can include trust, honesty, social values and moral values that keep up with the times. The increasingly diverse moral values make children confused in choosing which morality to follow. So that there is a change in the mindset of children towards consumerism, individualism, radicalism and changing the child's educational environment system. (Mamul Arifin et al., p. 241)

The use of the internet is indeed very helpful and makes it easier to solve problems in everyday life, but the internet is like two blades. There is a positive side and a negative side. Therefore, parents and teachers have a very important role in supervising and directing their children in using the internet. Elementary school level children can pick and choose or be selective about positive internet content. Indeed, there must be collaboration in instilling knowledge about internet use by separating oneself from negative things so as not to cause changes in values, norms, rules, and morals of life adopted by society or what is called moral degradation, both mental maturity, immature in action and think, so that it is easy to be swept away by the currents of globalization.(Putri et al., 2023, p. 109)

## **Discussion**

### **Digital Ethics in Society 5.0 Era**

Digital ethics is an individual's ability to realize, exemplify, adapt, rationalize, consider, and develop digital ethical governance (*netiquette*) in everyday life. Digital ethics reflects a person's behavior and manners in utilizing digital media for various purposes and interests. In the era of society 5.0, a person is demanded not only to be proficient in using technology, but also to be able to carry out the mediation process productively. With digital ethics, activities and interactions in the digital world become more comfortable. (Kusumastuti et al., n.d., p. 9)

Based on data from the Internet Survey Report, it shows that internet users are dominated by teenagers. Teenagers have unstable emotions, are easily influenced, are in the process of finding identity, are proud and feel great when they are known by many people. The process of showing oneself can be done in various ways, including through achievements, through one's talents and even by doing bad actions. This bad action is carried out through various digital media accounts that are often accessed by children. Some of these actions include the spread of hoaxes, cyberbullying, body shaming, violations of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), to internet access that smells of pornography.(Terttiaavini & Saputra, 2022, p. 2157)

A child is expected to have ethical indicators in accessing the digital world, including:

1. Children have knowledge about which information contains hoaxes, hate speech, pornography, bullying and negative content that disturbs the morale and mentality of children.
2. Children must have basic knowledge of interacting, participating, and collaborating in digital space in accordance with digital ethical principles and applicable regulations, this is an important achievement for every child in social media, so that they are not contaminated with associations that are not in accordance with applicable norms. and then to get away from.
3. Basic knowledge of interacting and transacting electronically in the digital space in accordance with applicable regulations, this can be an important behavior for children to do. Karen nowadays many children top up online payments for every game they play, sometimes children exceed the limit in transactions .(Kusumastuti et al., n.d., p. 10)

### **Application of Digital Ethics to Children's Morals**

Based on the results of theoretical studies regarding the importance of digital ethics and children's morals as indicated by the increasingly global advancement of information and

communication technology, researchers can formulate things that can be used as alternative choices in the era of society 5.0 as follows:

1. The teacher's teaching pattern is closely related to digital ethics and morals in children. Teachers should provide appropriate teaching patterns for children's moral development. Based on observations of the results of moral development, children understand wise behavior and distinguish between good and bad behavior in social media. Things that teachers need to do are: introduce moral values that apply in society, and involve children in seeing problems in social media, instill a sense of responsibility for what digital platforms are consumed, teach discipline, strengthen conscience to always be wise in choosing digital shows that are suitable for viewing. beneficial . In addition, teachers also need to strengthen altruistic behavior and make themselves models/role models in terms of carrying out digital and moral ethics in this millennial era.
2. Parents' lack of concern for education and their social environment has resulted in children accessing various digital platforms freely and uncontrollably.
3. The community environment is a community for individual residence. The environment causes the creation of patterns of interaction between individuals. Association in this environment can influence and change the behavior, character, customs, mind, knowledge and ethical behavior of individuals. This can be interpreted as the environment and association in schools in particular can result in progress or damage/setbacks. This is where the teacher's role as a facilitator and also filtration is needed in the onslaught of increasingly easy access to any digital platform.
4. Peers (peers) tend to be of the same age level. From this peer group, children get feedback. Children in peer friendship also have interests, good behavior and fight each other's courage to cause trouble. Many things influence peer behavior such as: they imitate each other, give psychic influence, to great sympathy. This peer friendship group has positive groups and negative/bad groups. (Madyawati & Rafiq, n.d., p. 138)

In addition, there are several factors that can increase children's morality in utilizing digital media in the era of society 5.0, namely:

1. The teacher as an opinion leader is considered a figure who is always highlighted by the community, both for his performance, personality, or character who can be an example for his students. Teachers are entrusted with teaching, guiding, and educating students to become qualified and tough individuals. A quality person can be seen from his morals, both from the way he speaks (orally) and the way he behaves (non-verbally) . (Herawati et al., 2022, p. 18).
2. Parents who have the responsibility of intellectual education for their children. Providing education, useful habits of thought, cultural awareness, and scientific civilization in the development of technology.
3. Habits/habits that are built in everyday life. Habits that are carried out daily have a major influence in the lives of children. There are a number of things that are important to note, including a) every child must be wise in accessing the virtual world and choosing which one is beneficial for him/her; b) The duration of time playing in the digital world must be limited so as not to interfere with children's activities; c) Everything that is accessed by

children can affect the good or bad of the child's morals, so the ability to sort and filter all of this content is very necessary. (Madyawati & Rafiq, n.d., p. 139)

### Conclusion

Processing of digital information that can be obtained anywhere and anytime allows everyone to obtain a wide variety of content that can be obtained, for example, in accessing Google, YouTube, Facebook, and all kinds of other social media that can be accessed as long as they can be connected to the internet network. All of these media platforms can be accessed by all groups, from adults to elementary school-age children. There are lots of positive sides, one of which is easy mobility. However, on the other hand, there are also negative impacts, for example, from the development of digital technology, which is growing day by day, it can cause changes in values, norms, rules, and morals of life adopted by society or what is called moral degradation.

So from that it is necessary to have indicators of children's achievements in digital ethics and also inseparable from the role of teachers especially as educators in schools, where teachers as opinion leaders in schools become the initial spearhead of the urgency of moral decline due to the development of digital platforms that are very easy to access by all groups, besides that, for the sake of maximizing the moral achievement of children in the era of the digital world, of course, they must be supported by parental factors at home, the community environment and their peers.

### References

- Ahyati, IU, Sya'rawi, H., & Permanasari, L. (2023). Internet Ethics (Netiquette) to Increase Student Digital Literacy at SMAN 2 Banjarmasin. *Your Service: Scientific Journal of Community Service*, 8 (2), 175–180. <https://doi.org/10.33084/Pengabdianmu.V8i2.4151>
- Herawati, N., Sri, D., & Rusmana, A. (2022). *The Role of the Teacher as an Opinion Leader in Addressing the Moral Degradation of Parunggalih Public Elementary School Students in the Digital Age*. 3 (1), 1.
- Kusumastuti, F., Santi, &, Astuti, I., Santi, I., Astuti, YD, Astuti, MA, Birowo, L., Esti, P., Hartanti, NM, Ras, A., & Kurnia, N. (n.d.). *Digital Media Ethics*.
- Madyawati, L., & Rafiq, A. (nd). *Al-Hikmah: Journal of Religion and Science The Urgency of Religious Values in Children's Morals in the Era of Society 5.0*.
- The Influence of Social Media on Moral Degradation Imamul Arifin Et Al. The Influence Of Social Media On The Moral Degradation Of Generation Z In The Perspective Of Islamic Education And Social Society*. (n.d.).
- Putri, I., Mulyadi, AI, Adli, Dendi, & Nanda Syukerti. (2023). E-Cybernetique: Internet Ethics in Social Media for Elementary School Children in Pekon Suka Maju, Ngaras District, West Coast District, Lampung Province. *Journal of Service for You Country*, 7 (1). <https://doi.org/10.37859/Jpumri.V7i1.4941>

Sahronih, S. ( nd). *Proceedings of the 2018 National Basic Education Seminar and Discussion Implementation of Character Education Values in Overcoming the Moral Degradation of Elementary School Children in the Digital Age* .

Terttiaavini, T., & Saputra, TS (2022). Digital Literacy to Improve Digital Ethics for Students in Palembang City. *Jmm (Journal of Independent Society)* , 6 (3), 2155.

<https://doi.Org/10.31764/Jmm.V6i3.8203>