

OPTIMIZATION OF MORAL AND RELIGIOUS DEVELOPMENT IN EARLY CHILDREN THROUGH THE GAME METHOD

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ABSTRACT

Optimization is an effort to maximize activities so as to realize the desired profit. The words morality and religion are often discussed among the people, wherever and whenever. Moral and religious development in early childhood can be interpreted as psychological changes experienced by early childhood related to their ability to understand and perform good behavior as well as understand and avoid bad behavior based on religious teachings that are believed. There are 3 types of games that can be used in the game method, 1) clap game, 2) singing, 3) game tools. This study aims to find out how to optimize moral and religious development in early childhood through the game method. This type of research uses library research or library research which makes library materials in the form of books, scientific magazines, documents and other materials that can be used as a reference source in this research. The results of the study show that this game method can be used by parents or early childhood educators because this method easily stimulates existing developments in children, both moral development and religious development. moral and religious development in children. Also using the learning game method will be more fun.

Keywords: Morals, Religion and Game Methods

BACKGROUND

Early childhood is a child who is in the age range 0-6 years. At that age, development occurs very rapidly. Based on research results, about 40% of human development occurs at an early age.(Khaironi, 2018)

Education must have a clear and directed basis.

Early childhood education is a place for golden age children to develop basic foundations, because according to psychologists, early childhood only comes once and cannot be repeated.(Huliyah, 2016)For this reason, children need to get a good education as early as possible so that children will grow and develop into strong human beings. One of the education efforts is religious and moral education.

In the language of religion can be interpreted by not going.(Wiyani, 2014)religious development can be interpreted as developments related to the behavior that must be carried out and behavior that must be avoided by individuals based on the beliefs they believe.(Nurjanah, 2018.)While Moral comes from the word mores in Latin. Mores itself comes from the word mos which means decency, character, or behavior.(Machmud, 2014)If viewed from the perspective of scientists, they agree that moral development is one of the things that plays an important role during the development process experienced by early childhood. Therefore, understanding the development of morality in children is an important thing to do. Because morals will determine how children behave in their future.(Fitri, 2020)

Thus it can be concluded that moral development in early childhood is a psychological change in early childhood that allows them to know which good behavior to do and to know which bad behavior to avoid.

In education the method is needed, because it can affect the success of learning. And learning will be easier and more fun. Therefore, teachers are expected to be creative teachers and able to choose learning methods and media that are appropriate to the subject matter being taught.(Nefianti, 2021)Learning through games is an effective teaching and learning technique for early childhood.

By going through this technique it will also bring pleasure and satisfaction to them in a program to be delivered. through the game method provides benefits for the growth and development of children more optimally. According to Slamet Suryono,

games are good for educating children, but these games must be given educational content so that children can learn.(Susanto, 2018)The importance of the ability to optimize moral and religious development for early childhood (AUD) is something that is urgent, there are many methods that can be used as part of breaking down the ability of early childhood so that they have good skills more quickly, one of which is by using the game method.

THEORETICAL STUDY

To avoid misunderstanding in understanding the title of this research, it is necessary to have a theoretical study. Some terms related to the title of this research are

1. Optimization

Optimization is an effort to maximize activities so as to realize the desired profit. Which can only be realized if it is implemented effectively and efficiently.(Buda Asmara Putra et al., 2021)

2. Development of Religion

The development of religion can be interpreted as a development related to behavior that must be carried out and behavior that must be avoided by individuals based on the beliefs they believe.(Wiyani, 2014)The development of religion in childhood occurs through life experiences since childhood, in the family, at school, and in the community(Kurniawan, 2015)

3. Moral Development

Moral development is development related to rules and conventions regarding what individuals should do in their interactions with others.(Dewita, 2009).The customs of decency are part of the moral aspect. In order for the moral aspect to be well instilled into adulthood, its development needs to be given from an early age.(Ardini, 2012)

4. Game Method

According to psychology experts, the game method is an appropriate method for learning social skills because the game can create a relaxed and fun atmosphere. In such an atmosphere, people can learn better and earnestly.(Zaman et al., 2010)

RESEARCH METHODS

The research method used is descriptive research with Library Research (library research). In this study, the authors used descriptive research with more emphasis on the power of analysis of existing sources and data by relying on existing theories and concepts to be interpreted based on writings that lead to discussion by describing and describing data. This is through several expert opinions.(Moto, 2019). By reviewing previous research, it can provide reasons for research hypotheses, as well as an indication of the justification of the importance of the research to be carried out.(Pebriana, 2017)

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the study show that this method shows that children have progress in terms of religion and morals. Where in the initial conditions the child is still not good enough, it can be seen that in achieving the indicators the child is able to be patient in waiting their turn, speak politely, carry out activities in an orderly and obedient manner, respect each other and admit mistakes and apologize as well as in their religion.

In one of Amin Sabi'ati's studies, the game method The Playing Method contained a lot of moral values, including willingness to give in, cooperation, helping each other, a culture of queuing and respecting friends. The moral value of wanting to give in occurs when students want to give in to other friends who need more for one type of toy. Understanding and understanding the moral values of accepting defeat or giving in is one of the things that must be instilled from an early age.(Sabi'ati, 2016)

Playing is a means for children to learn about the environment and is the most important and fundamental need for children, especially for early childhood.(Pratwi, 2017)

Prohibiting playing and keeping children busy with learning activities and continuous activities will turn off the child's imagination, and make him bored with life so that a child often looks for reasons to free himself from a boring situation.(Susanto, 2018)Therefore to develop every educational potential for early childhood is to provide fun learning through a fun method called play.

There are 3 types of games that can be used

1. Clap game

The tapping game is a play movement that combines physical activity and imaginary activity.(Nurjanah, 2018.)There are several clapping games that are used to develop knowledge about morals and religion in children, namely:

Wudhlu clap

(prok prok prok), recite bismillah while washing hands. (prok prok prok), rinse your mouth, wash your nose, wash your face. (prok prok prok), hands up to the elbows, head and ears, finally the feet then pray (prok prok prok).

At first the teacher gave an example and first mentioned the ablution clapping movements, after that the teacher applied them in this clapping game together with the children. Through this game of clapping ablution, religious values in children develop, children become aware and easily remember what are the pillars of ablution in which the clapping is accompanied by movement.

2. Singing Game

In this singing game, children are invited to sing by educators with songs about morality and religion that are appropriate to the child's development and remain within the corridor of religious and moral values.(Shahab et al., 2022)In addition to introducing moral and religious values, the aim is also to overcome boredom in children. The following are examples of songs that contain moral and religious values:

4 magic words

If you make a mistake, say sorry, sorry

If you need help say please, please

If you get a gift say thank you

If you want to pass say excuse me

Before singing, the teacher shows the tone first, then the children follow. So that children understand more about the songs above, educators can state them with practice. The song with the title of the 4 magic words above teaches children about moral values that can be applied everyday.

3. Game tool

Game tools are all the tools that children use to fulfill their playing instincts. According to Suryadi, educational game tools are designed to optimize children's development, according to their age and level of development.(Laili, 2018) One tool that can be used is:

Hijaiyah letter puzzle

Puzzles are a form of play that requires precision, trains children to concentrate, because they have to concentrate when assembling puzzle pieces to form a complete and complete picture as a whole.(Nari et al., 2019)

The way to play the hijaiyah letter puzzle is that the educator first introduces children to hijaiyah letters then reads the hijaiyah letters from "Alif" to "yes" then one by one the children come forward to arrange the hijaiyah letters in the correct order. This game develops morals and religion in children where children know hijaiyah letters and teaches children to be patient when the game takes place and teaches about cooperation.

CONCLUSION

From the discussion above, it can be concluded that the game method has an influence on the development of religion and morals in early childhood. The game method can optimize moral and early childhood development by bringing games to children such as clapping games, singing games and playing tools. The game that will be presented must attract the attention of the child and the teacher's voice must also be loud. Of the many methods used, in this study the authors used the game method, because this method can optimize moral and religious development in early childhood.

SUGGESTION

1. Based on the literature research or library research that has been done, the authors provide several suggestions so that teachers can develop learning strategies that have been conveyed in the storytelling method so that students are more motivated to become active, creative, innovative and productive students.

2. Use play methods that interest children and optimize moral and religious development in early childhood.
3. For other researchers, the results of this study can be used as a reference for compiling even better research.

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