



EFFECTIVENESS OF CHARACTER EDUCATION AT ANANDA PAUD POS SURABAY

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Received: March 09, 2026

Accepted: May 22, 2026

Published: June 01, 2026

Abstract:

In the Presidential Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia Number 87 of 2017 concerning the Strengthening of Character Education (Presidential Regulation No. 87-2017) it is stated that the strengthening of character education is an educational movement under the responsibility of the educational unit to strengthen the character of students through the harmonization of heart, taste, thinking, and sports with the involvement and cooperation between educational units, families, and the community as part of the National Movement of Mental Revolution. This study uses normative research where the methodology used to analyze the main issues of the research is using conceptual philosophical approaches and legal approaches. In this section, there is an exchange of personal thoughts between students, teachers and parents. This is in line with the characteristics of legal science where everything must have a legal basis. There was an adjustment so that character education at the Ananda Early Childhood Post in Surabaya really showed seriousness in the implementation of the curriculum.

Keywords:

Children; effectiveness; character; early childhood; education

1. Introduction

In the Presidential Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia Number 87 of 2017 concerning Strengthening Character Education (Presidential Regulation No. 87-2017) it is stated that strengthening character education is an educational movement under the responsibility of educational units to strengthen the character of students through harmonization of heart, feeling, thinking, and sports with the involvement and cooperation between educational units, families, and communities as part of the National Mental Revolution Movement. Such a scope provides an understanding that character education is an important part of the national movement. There are differences in the meaning of legal science where the understanding of legal science depends on the understanding of each individual's intellectual taste. (Darumurti, 2017) Even though the community should have basic knowledge in understanding legal science, everyday life cannot be separated from legal science. This development is the focus of research in Pos Paud Ananda Surabaya. Seeing the phenomena that have occurred recently in the world of education with the rapid flow of information and globalization that has hit the world in general, the cultural values of character and politeness in schools are very ironic. For example, students often argue with teachers, do not respect teachers, and there are even students who invite their teachers to compete with each other. (Samal, 2017) This kind of domination does not occur at the Ananda Early Childhood Post, but the concept of prevention is part of the policy that must be implemented. The development of education at the Ananda Early Childhood Education Post reinforces the meaning of student behavior with community behavior. There is a dualism in education that makes the Ananda Early Childhood Education Post provide its educational concept to students. In fact, the Ananda Early Childhood Education Post represents the state in realizing the will of Presidential Decree No. 87-2017. The state's obligation to provide protection for children includes fulfilling obligations in matters of respect and protecting children's rights, as well as fulfilling children's living needs, both physically and psychologically. Children's rights that should be fulfilled and receive guaranteed protection that includes religious, educational, health, and social protection. (Alfar et al., 2023) This state obligation is also stipulated in the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia (UUD NRI 1945), which shows the state is a law-based state, including welfare within it. Based on this background, the research question that arises is the effectiveness of the implementation of legal character education at the Ananda Early Childhood Education Post.

2. Method

This research employs normative research, where the methodology used to analyze the main research issues is a conceptual philosophical approach and a legal approach. (Taira et al., 2025). This research is also influenced by the sociological legal approach, meaning that the treatment at the Ananda Early Childhood Post (Pos PAUD) has an influence, including an approach to students who naturally demonstrate a desire to understand the nature of legal science in a simple way. This approach is the most humanistic approach to answering questions that arise in society. (Sjaiful, 2021) Penelitian ini bersifat deskriptif, yakni penelitian yang dilakukan dengan cara membuat deskripsi, gambaran secara sistematis, faktual dan akurat mengenai fakta-fakta, sifat-sifat, serta hubungan antar fenomena yang diselidiki. Sehingga penelitian ini bertujuan untuk memaparkan apa adanya tentang suatu peristiwa hukum atau kondisi hukum. (Siregar & ..., 2020)

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Character of Legal Science

In its development, legal science often becomes part of society. There are patterns that make legal science no longer normative but empirical, and it can become a solution to achieve legal certainty. A common misunderstanding of legal science is the criticism that its activities are dominated by a positivist or legalistic approach by jurists. The association that jurists tend to be positivist or legalistic in studying (and using) legal science is an inappropriate generalization because, within their own internal positions (jurists' positions in studying legal science), there are different stances in discussing or stating the law: some jurists are positivist and others are non-positivist. (Darumurti, 2017) Furthermore, in civil substantive law, there are two definitions of legal principles. In the first sense, legal principles are understood as "the general characteristics of socio-economic relations regulated by civil law, as formulated by civil law." In other words, civil law teachings formulate the general characteristics of socio-economic relations as legal principles. When understood in this way, the principles (for example, the principle of autonomy of

the parties and the equality of the parties) function together as "criteria that form the basis for separating civil law from other areas of law." According to the second view, legal principles are "ideas that serve as guidelines, foundations, sources of contract law as a whole"; "a point or place where, from a philosophical and ideological understanding, a small number of general legal rules are formulated, from which, and according to that understanding, many individual legal rules are formulated." Therefore, individual legal rules are the result of applying logical methods to "ideas that serve as guidelines, which depart from general understanding - philosophical and ideological." (Keršić, 2020) This character of legal science does not make society understand but gives rise to legal problems when understanding is only based on unfounded beliefs. (Alwi Fachrezi & Michael, 2024)

The character of legal science will continue to exist to address various problems occurring in Indonesia. There is a complex legal-philosophical debate regarding mandated apologies in relation to insults, where Immanuel Kant considered mandated apologies to be justifiable as punishment in the context of criminal law, if humiliating the perpetrator is necessary based on *ius talionis*. (Geeraets & Veraart, 2021) The inclusion of this apology serves as a disclaimer for readers that this research aims to provide a precise and logical understanding.

3.2. Implementation of Character Education for Children

Early childhood education is an educational discipline that focuses on understanding, fostering, and developing potential as early as possible. Therefore, the golden age period significantly influences subsequent development as adults. For educators and parents, the most important thing is that every child has a profound curiosity, which needs to be nurtured so that children have the ability to explore and develop their potential optimally. Suyadi and Ulfa explained that early childhood education is essentially education organized with the aim of facilitating the growth and development of children as a whole or emphasizing the development of all aspects of personality. (Pratama, 2022) Early childhood education not only fulfills the human right to receive education as early as possible through formal, non-formal, and informal channels, but also lays the foundation for the growth and development of all children's potential. The goals of early childhood education are as follows. First, children are able to worship, recognize and believe in God's creation, and love their fellow human beings. Second, children are able to think logically and critically, provide reasons, solve problems, and discover cause-and-effect relationships. Third, children are able to recognize the natural environment, social environment, the role of society and appreciate social and cultural diversity. They are also able to develop self-concept, a positive attitude towards learning, self-control, and a sense of belonging. (Harun et al., 2021)

Early childhood education integrated with legal science will foster legal-based character. Furthermore, when legal science becomes part of society, when confronted with children, conflict arises because children truly need parents. The children in this study were students at the Ananda Surabaya Preschool Post, where applying legal character education would be a violation of their educational rights. The application of legal character education was taken to provide specific characteristics so that problem solving can proceed smoothly. In practice, teachers at the Ananda Surabaya Preschool Post have developed character education based on government rules. Reinforcement is carried out, for example, when a student makes a mistake, the mistake must be acknowledged by the perpetrator. The mistake is not solely the student's responsibility but also the parents' responsibility, so students better understand that mistakes at home and at school are the same. However, different resolution methods will lead to different understandings for students. The concept of preparing students to learn and understand new themes in early childhood can be implemented by asking a question about what the students know before the lesson begins. Educators provide praise and appreciation to students who are able to answer the question correctly. Furthermore, educators also provide opportunities for other students to speak, even if only in simple sentences. This makes the learning system more engaging and students more active in the learning process. (Ngaisah et al., 2023)

Human life, from conception to birth, goes through several stages of growth and development. Each stage of development has distinct tasks, functions, and roles. Childhood is highly dependent on adults, especially during early childhood, namely infancy. Likewise, children's moral development goes hand in hand with intellectual, emotional, linguistic, and social development. The formation of children's moral behavior occurs through education within the family, learning in the community, guidance both within the family and in the community, and discipline of children starting from the family environment. Character formation can be achieved through character education, which involves aspects of knowledge, feelings, and actions. (Munandar, 2021)

Stage patterns will continue to develop, for example, a child's intellectual development is influenced not only by the school environment but also by the nutritional intake provided within the family. Furthermore, emotional development tends to be innate, so emotional processing in students must be monitored. This means there is a combination, so emotional control is not about prohibiting students when they are in a bad mood, but rather allowing them to express themselves as a natural outlet for human expression. When this happens, students will understand their behavior and its impact on society. The existence of language and social interaction fosters a bond between students and teachers. The use of Indonesian as the unifying language is also supported by the students' regional languages. A personal understanding is fostered during the approach, making it easier for students to understand their own character.



Figure 1. Interview with the Principal

During the interview, the principal stated that due to age, character education should be taught naturally. There should be no coercion, as students tend to play and do what they enjoy. This is an important part of fostering personal critical thinking and character development in students.

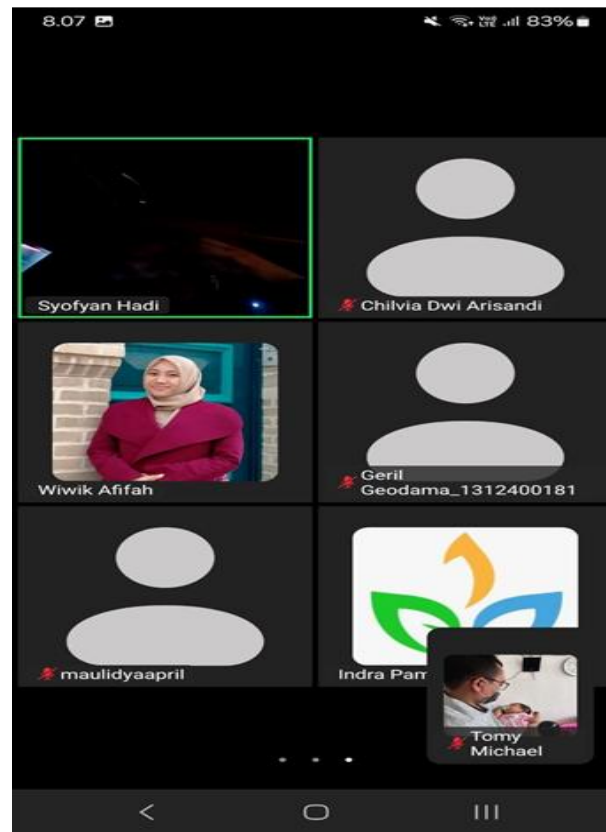


Figure 2. Research Discussion Via Zoom

Comparatively, a mistake that is considered forgiving by parents is considered a mistake when it occurs in schools. For example, a relevant learning approach for early childhood should not simply follow secular learning theories that tend to emphasize the knowledge and skills of a teacher/educator, curriculum and learning materials, or sophisticated tools and adequate learning facilities. It should also emphasize the importance of a foundation based on the holy scriptures as the primary guideline. (Hura & Mawikere, 2020). This means there is a polarization regarding the meaning of character education, where a person's character cannot be fully traced, but there are various approaches within it.

4. Conclusion

In this section, there was an exchange of personal ideas between students, teachers, and parents. This aligns with the characteristics of legal science, where everything must have a legal basis. Adjustments have occurred so that character education at the Ananda Surabaya Preschool Post truly demonstrates the seriousness of curriculum implementation. This is evident in the feeling of safety for the students at the Ananda Surabaya Preschool Post. Then, fulfilling student protection standards becomes another main thing because children are special legal subjects.

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