

## **The Effect of Modernization on Moral Degradation in the Independent Curriculum at Elementary Schools**

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**Abstract:** Modernization is a change that occurs in a multidimensional society in the social, political, economic, and cultural fields by utilizing technology and communication to achieve a better life. Moral degradation is a form of weakening a cultural value owned by society that leads to the formation of a new culture clash. Moral degradation is a form of weakening a cultural value owned by society that leads to the formation of a new culture clash. The purpose of this study is to determine the impact of modernization development on moral degradation, especially manners in elementary school students. The method used is Systematic Literature Review (SLR) which refers to a particular research methodology to collect data in accordance with the focus of the research topic. The development of modernization not only has a positive impact but also a negative impact that has an impact on moral decline, especially on manners in children. Modernization provides freedom and ease of access to information that has an impact on the lives of elementary school students prone to moral degradation. The results of this study students were able to limit themselves to the development of modernization through understanding the importance of social values and apply in the school environment. The impact of this study students can distinguish and select any modernization that has an impact on moral change.

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## **Introduction**

Modernization is a transformation of society in various aspects of the field to achieve a better life and bring people's lives to the conditions in which society is heading towards the era of globalization. Modernization is the traditional want to change or change their lives to be more advanced or often said in a more fashionable age. Modernization can also mean a change from a traditional society to a modern one. Thus, modernization is a process of change when a society that is updating itself trying to get the characteristics or characteristics possessed by modern society (Martono, 2011). Modernization as a new tradition. Modernization refers to urbanization, or to the extent and how the erosion of rural properties of a society takes place (Syani, 2015). Every change that occurs will affect every aspect of life because all the changes that occur have different impacts on human life. Modernization brings human life into the era of globalization where all information can be accessed very easily through digitization.

According to Prihanto (2021) in this digital era, technological progress is growing, all information can be easily obtained without any restrictions or filters, technological developments in this digital era make information disclosure that has affected all circles moral degradation is a phenomenon of a decrease in human behavior that deviates from the norms

applicable to a certain group of people. Moral degradation is the moral decline of human behavior that deviates from the result of not following conscience due to lack of self-awareness of its obligations (Janah et al., 2023). Moral degradation is closely related to the decline in human behavior that results in his life. The impact of moral degradation can be seen from changes in human behavior that are getting worse.

The millennial generation grows together with the rapid development of technology and information that has an impact on the character of children. Children as the next generation of the nation are expected to be able to build and develop the nation to achieve the goals and ideals of the nation so that children must have moral values and the main character. However, the fact is that children's morals are eroded with the Times. The world of education plays an important role in the formation of student character. Teachers as mentors and facilitators of students to do with the customs, values, and culture prevailing in the school environment. Modernization that occurs has an impact on moral degradation, especially manners in children. Meanwhile, the attitude of courtesy is a character value that must be owned by elementary school students. Good manners are the attitude or behavior of someone who is respectful and friendly towards others. However, many children today lack politeness, lack respect for others, and lack respect for elders. Moral according to Shaffer is stated as the rules of norms and institutions that are able to regulate individual behavior in undergoing a relationship with society. According to the great Dictionary of Indonesian degradation is a setback or deterioration. Thus it can be concluded that moral degradation is a decrease in human behavior due to lack of self-awareness to socialize with the environment in society.

Basically, students' manners can be applied through school habits such as greeting, not being rude, respecting elders, being 3S (smile, greet, greet), making good friends, asking permission when borrowing items, helping others, and saying Thank you after receiving help (Janah et al., 2023). However, the fact is that this has not been done well on the character of students in elementary school. In fact, elementary school students experience a moral decline in being especially polite. This occurs as a result of the development of modernization in the era of globalization. Many students follow what they see on social media and practice it in their daily lives. Looking at the circumstances that occurred, encouraging researchers to conduct research focused on the moral degradation of elementary school students as one of the negative impacts of modernization.

In this study the problem can be seen from the decline in moral ethics and behavior of students. The culture of good manners that used to be inherent in the school environment is now decreasing. This has an impact on the decline of moral ethics which is the cornerstone of the norms of decency. With the existence of an independent curriculum is expected to bring changes that affect the moral degradation so that it can be used as a basis for anticipating any incoming modernization. In the independent curriculum with the pancasila student project, students can distinguish and choose each incoming modernization so that moral degradation remains in its preservation. The importance of this study is to preserve the values of decency, ethics and morals of students.

This is a form of implementing the values of politeness that exist in schools and communities. Morals become important to uphold the identity of a country. The independent curriculum applied by strengthening the pancasila student project is expected to be able to limit any incoming modernization that has an impact on moral degradation.

## **Research Method**

The research was conducted by searching for data sources that are relevant to the research topic. This study was conducted using the Systematic Literature Review (SLR) method which refers to a specific research methodology to collect data according to the focus of the research topic. Data collection is done by searching the Journal through the database of journal providers. The search for journals is tailored to the topic of research and is associated with the circumstances occurring in the environment. In addition to journals, additional references are

obtained from books related to moral degradation and independent curriculum. The goal is to synchronize the journal with the actual situation. In this study there are 5 stages, namely:

1. Formulate The Problem

At this stage the researcher writes a formulation of the problem to be discussed in depth. The formulation of the problem in this study is how the influence of modernization on moral degradation terhadap independent curriculum?

2. Search For Literature (Identification)

This literature study is a summary or summary that is determined based on a theme that has been determined. The Data used in this study is secondary data obtained not from direct observation, but obtained from studies that have been done or previous research. Secondary data sources can be articles or journals that are nationally accredited with a theme that has been determined by the researcher. Literature search in this literature study using Microsoft academic data base. The Search Process is used to obtain relevant sources and is used to answer the formulation of problems or research questions (RQ) and other related references. The search process using the search engine google scholar and dimension.ai (<https://www.microsoftacademic.com>). the following stages of Article screening are carried out.

- a. Filtering Articles on Google Scholar Search Engine

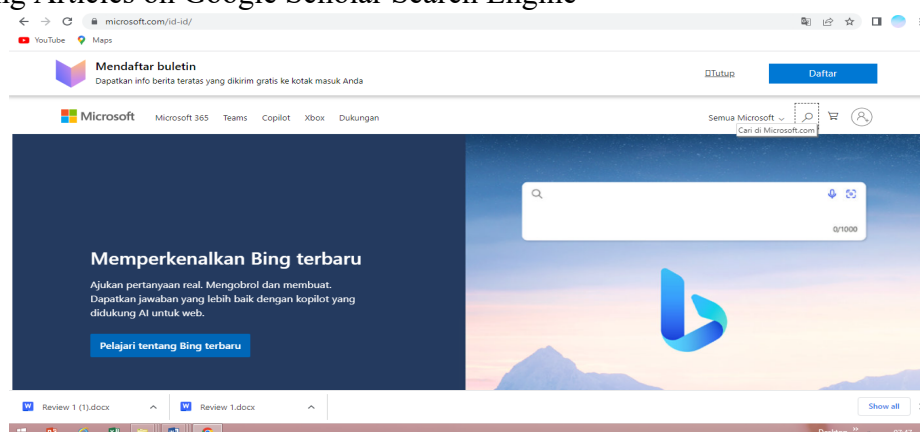


Figure. 1 Filtering Articles on Google Scholar Search Engine

- b. Enter the keyword “effect of modernization on moral degradation”



Figure. 2 Enter the keyword

3. Selecting literature search results that match the Quality

This stage is done to decide whether the data found is feasible or not to be used in SLR research. In this case, the researcher must detail in choosing the appropriate literature. Literature used is related to modernization and moral degradation in the independent curriculum. If you have chosen a quality article, it can be used as a reference to be used as appropriate research.

4. Analysis of literature results from articles that passed the Quality Assessment

Researchers analyze or parse, distinguish something to be classified and grouped according to Quality Assessment Criteria. If you have outlined and distinguished the researcher must be careful to take any Journal that is made reference. Based on the results that have been found researchers examine each article taken to be a reference. Based on this, the results of the research under study can be qualified in accordance with accurate references.

#### 5. Making Research Conclusions

Making a conclusion is to understand the search results that have been summarized at the analysis stage. At this stage the researcher makes the conclusion of the study that is a brief statement about the results of the analysis of the description derived from the facts. The conclusion in the study relates to a logical relationship and contains answers to the statements proposed in the formulation of the problem. So that the focus of the study in accordance with the formulation of the problem that has been determined.

## Result and Discussion

### 1. Result

The discussion in this study is the impact of modernization on the moral degradation of elementary school students. The results of the study showed that elementary school students have experienced a decline in morale, especially in manners. A lot of student behavior is far from good. For example, today's students are brave with teachers, are indifferent when teachers give advice, use less polite language when talking to teachers, and so on. less polite language when talking to teachers, and so forth. Indicators of good manners include respecting elders, accepting everything with the right hand, not saying dirty, rude and arrogant, and greeting every time you meet the teacher.

However, the actual situation is inversely proportional to what is expected. The rapid development of social media takes almost all of the students ' time so that students are less social with the environment. The decline in student manners can be seen from the behavior of students in their daily lives. For example, students lack respect for teachers, harass other students, do not say hello when entering the office or ask permission, say dirty when with his friends that should not be done by elementary school students and students feel senior to other students so he took actions such as pushing, hitting, challenging, fighting, and so forth.

The rapid development of technology and information makes it easier for students to access various information on social media. This resulted in the values of the nation's character decreased, especially among the younger generation and Gen Z. The influence of foreign cultures entering Indonesia has an impact on the loss of local culture and identity of the Indonesian nation which has an impact on the moral degradation of the nation's children. One of the black spots in the development of the times in the current digital era is about the moral degradation that occurs, it is a problem today because the norms of courtesy compensation, religious norms, norms of hospitality are increasingly eroded. The current moral decline occurs in all circles, the fear is that when this is taken for granted and used as an example by others, it will spread morals that deviate from the norms that apply so far.

The role of teachers as facilitators in the world of education is expected to minimize the impact of modernization that penetrated the elementary school students. Noble values and culture need to be instilled in elementary school students to fortify themselves from modernization. Teachers are expected to be able to think creatively and innovatively in character-based learning. This is done to keep students from experiencing character assassination and behavioral changes resulting from the inclusion of a modernizing culture in their lives (Andriyani et al., 2021). Canadian psychologist albert bandura says that children will shape their behavior from following and imitating what they see in their daily lives. Thus, it is very possible that technology with all its contents can have an influence on children, both positive and negative influences (Herawati et al, 2022).

## **2. Discussion**

### **a. Theories and concepts of modernization**

Modernization is a mechanism for changing premodern society into a modern society through changes in social, cultural, and political structures and through the process of economic growth. Modernization can be said to be a change towards the improvement of circumstances by using the attitude of life and existing equipment as a basis (Arif, 2012). Modernization is defined as a state or process of change from an era that has not advanced or has not developed towards an increasingly modern with reference to the achievement of a more prosperous, advanced, and developed life (Hasanah et al., 2023). Modernization is a total transformation of traditional or pre-modern common life in the sense of technology and social organization into economic and political patterns that characterize stable Western countries (Masruroh et al., 2011). It can be said that with the modernization of daily activities can be done easily because of the technology.

In the process of modernization, the community tries to get out of the traditional habits and characteristics of life that prevent the community from progressing and not being shackled by the customary system in traditional concepts. Modernization is considered to be a view in supporting development and change. Modernization is supported by globalization. Science, Technology, Communication, and information are growing rapidly which causes a variety of information can be accessed very easily from various media that have an impact on the concept of people's lives turn out to be more practical. According to Battersby in (Andriyani et al., 2021), it produces aspects of modern life in the form of mechanization, mass media utilization, and Technology Optimization.

Modernization puts forward science that must be understood leaving aside irrational objects. This is what causes modernization to be accepted easily by the younger generation where the concept of young people's thinking puts forward something that is real rather than something abstract or pseudo. The concept of modernization is influential in various fields, one example is the field of Education. Where the development of Science and technology of communication and information is growing rapidly. As a result, there is a change in the mindset of students who have an impact on the formation of character starting from elementary school level. Therefore, it needs guidance from teachers so that they understand the effects of modernization in their lives.

Modernization has resulted in society requires to be modern, where modern society is a society that has undergone the transformation of Science and technology, that is, those who have been able to adjust to the situation and conditions of his time or live with the constellation of the times, but the conditions and situations of each society are different, then the modernization between one society and another is different. According to Supriatna (2016) Man does not depend on his subjective view of reality that occurs in the real world.

### **b. Moral Degradation of Elementary School Students ' Manners**

Moral degradation is a decrease in the character of a person who begins to deviate from the norms that exist in a particular environment. Moral degradation can be caused by the adverse effects of changing times. With the rapid development of information and communication technology, cyber crime has an impact on the millennial generation, especially on moral decline. Even today, modernization has colonized the world of Education. Starting from basic education to universities that have been transformed modern. Modernization in the field of Education brings convenience for both educators, educators, and learners.

According to the Indonesian dictionary degradation is a decline or deterioration, and according to Immanuel Kant morality is a matter of inner beliefs and attitudes and not just an adjustment of rules from the outside, whether it's the rule of law, religion or customs. According to Robert J. Havighurst moral derived from the existence of a value system that is a value is an object estate or affair wick is desired. Then the condition or internal potential of a person's psyche to be able to do good things in accordance with the values of the desired

value (Sholeh, 2005). However, modernization also has a bad impact in the field of education, especially in the decline of student morale. Today's students are already familiar with mass media such as the internet which has an effect on changing their mindset. The negative impact of the internet has an effect on the moral degradation of students caused by online games, videos that are not educational, and so forth (Muhammadiyah Mataram et al., 2023).

The moral degradation of elementary school students occurs, in particular, in a decrease in manners. There are many elementary school students with bad manners. Often they ignore their own teachers, dare to fight teachers and even their peers, do not respect the way a student respects his teacher, and dare to yell and even scold their own teachers.

#### c. The Impact of Modernization on The Moral Degradation of Elementary School Students' Manners

The development of modernization has an impact on education in creating renewal in it. Modernization brings convenience for education actors in accessing information and knowledge from around the world. Modernization also has an impact on improving the quality of educators because students are required to be active and think critically so that they can learn anything and anywhere not only in school. In addition, modernization plays a role in the development of learning with the learning output of a work through modern science and technology (Andriyani et al., 2021).

However, behind the positive impact of modernization there is a negative impact of modernization. With the modernization that gives freedom and ease in accessing information, the lives of elementary school students are prone to moral decadence. It takes assistance from teachers and parents to minimize this. The rapid development of technology brings elementary school students to Western culture as a trend. There is no filtering of the information they get whether it is good to follow or should be left behind. This will lead to a tradition of instant paced in elementary school students so that they do not appreciate the process in the development of their learning (Andriyani et al., 2021). Students are always busy talking about trends that occur on social media so that students do not focus on learning. There is a change in the way of speaking in elementary school students who do not fit the rules because they follow trends on social media.

The moral degradation of elementary school students affected by modernization has an impact on the fading of students' manners. Polite behavior is an important social skill to be learned and developed from an early age. The attitude of courtesy to students must be improved because it has begun to fade with modernization. It can be seen from students who behave badly such as disrespecting teachers, saying dirty and rude, not respecting teachers or their friends, not applying 3S (greetings, smiles, and greetings), not asking permission when entering the room or when borrowing other people's belongings, and often feeling senior in front of his junior siblings.

The impact of modernization is also seen from students who are not wise in using social media. Often they follow the trends brought in everyday life and become habits that are difficult to leave. In fact, social media takes up almost all of the time from students which causes students to experience moral degradation and loss of character. They are influenced by instant culture to get what they want so often they mengahalalkan everything to achieve the goals they want to achieve (Andriyani et al., 2021).

Previous research in the Journal entitled The challenge of counselors in the Millennial Era in preventing Moral degradation of adolescents (Y. D. Setyoningsih, 2018) this article uses library research research methods, and the results of the research explain that the moral degradation of adolescents is one of the social problems that can be interpreted as the moral quality of adolescents is currently experiencing a decline and uncontrollable so it needs special attention. Previous research further entitled Social Movement based on Islam this study uses the method of library research, and the results of the study explain that the development of human civilization today causes many changes, this often raises worrying conflicts with

teenagers who are feared will enter into parts that can damage their mental and moral (B. Trisno, 2022).

In this research, the new novelty is to find the relationship between moral degradation and independent curriculum. In the independent curriculum there is a pancasila student project which is expected to accompany the learning process of students to be able to grow capacity and build noble character as described in the Pancasila student profile. Pancasila student profile is a character and ability that is built in everyday life and brought to life in each individual learner through cultural and ethical norms that apply in educational units that can be applied in the school environment and society.

## Conclusion

Modernization is a transformation of society that brings people's lives into the era of globalization where all information can be accessed easily. Modernization is growing rapidly in line with the increasingly advanced Times. The development of modernization also has an impact on the field of Education. In the field of Education modernization brings convenience for educational actors to carry out their duties. In addition, modernization also has a bad impact in the field of Education. The negative impact of modernization in the field of education can be seen from the behavior of the rest of the elementary school. Today's students are already familiar with mass media such as the internet which has an effect on changing their mindset. Many online games can take up almost their time, non-educational videos that spoil the character of the child, and so on. The moral degradation of elementary school students affected by modernization has an impact on the fading of students' manners. It can be seen from students who behave badly such as disrespecting teachers, saying dirty and rude, not respecting teachers or their friends, not applying 3S (greetings, smiles, and greetings), not asking permission when entering the room or when borrowing other people's belongings, and often feeling senior in front of his junior siblings. Teachers as facilitators must be able to minimize the bad influence of modernization. Teachers are expected to be able to think creatively and innovatively in character-based learning. This is done to keep students from losing character and identity in the process of modernization that will grow.

## Recommendation

In this research, it is hoped that future researchers can study moral degradation in more depth and find solutions for future research.

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