

## **LET'S SHARE THE GOODNESS: IMPLEMENTING NOBLE IMPORTANCES FROM AN EARLY AGE THROUGH AN INNOVATIVE PROGRAM AT AL IRSYAD KINDERGARTEN BANYUWANGI**

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### **Abstract**

Childhood is a crucial period in developing noble morals in children. Kindergarten Al Irsyad Banyuwangi launched an innovative program called Let's Share Kindness to achieve this goal. This program uses interactive and fun learning methods, encourages children to be active in activities, and gets full support from teachers and parents. This research uses a qualitative case study method to evaluate the effectiveness of the program. The research results show that the Let's Share Goodness program is effective in instilling good values and commendable behavior in accordance with religious teachings in early childhood. This is evidenced by an increase in enthusiasm for learning and playing, a sense of caring and empathy, a sense of gratitude and responsibility, respect and affection, and children's understanding of religious and moral values. Suggestions for increasing the effectiveness of the Let's Share Goodness program are to increase the variety of activities, strengthen cooperation between teachers, parents and the community, empower teachers, and conduct regular program evaluations.

**Keywords:** Early Childhood Education, Noble Morals, Innovative Programs, Let's Share Kindness.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Childhood, like glittering gold, is a crucial period in the formation of character and fundamental values for individuals. At this time, children are like sponges who easily absorb information and they learn by imitating the behavior of the people around them. Early childhood learns through sight and then follows it. What people outside themselves exemplify will leave an impression in long-term memory, and will be done without knowing whether it is good or bad (Junaidah et al., 2018). In their development, children have several developmental aspects that must be stimulated from an early age. Several aspects

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that can be developed are intellectual, physical, motoric, social, emotional, language, moral and religious aspects. Aspects of a child's development will be optimal if they receive stimulation from the people closest to them starting from an early age.

Anita F et al., (2022) in early childhood education institutions, moral development and religious values are instilled or introduced from an early age, the application of religious values, among others, through example from teachers and parents. Example is the main key in overcoming character problems and has a very significant role in instilling and developing noble values in the next generation. Endah Purwanti (2020) also stated that exemplary prioritizes aspects of behavior in the form of real action rather than just talking.

Muhammad Turhan Yani in his speech "Reactualizing the grounding of Islam and Pancasila in national education" stated that religion and Pancasila are a unified source of values for the Indonesian nation. Theoretically and empirically, the spirit of religion and Pancasila inspires all aspects of Indonesian life. This shows that the Indonesian nation is a very religious nation, the basis of national education has been very clearly stated as stated in Indonesia's national education goals. In the context of a pluralistic and multicultural society such as the Indonesian nation, religious construction that prioritizes tolerance is a priority to be socialized and developed because this is the main parameter in realizing a harmonious social life (Yani, MT et al., 2018).

Therefore, building a foundation of noble character from an early age through education in positive values and providing good role models is a strategic step in creating a young generation that has noble character and is beneficial to society. Have you ever imagined a future where children are full of kindness and caring? This is the future that Kindergarten Al Irsyad Banyuwangi wants to realize through its innovative program, Let's Share Kindness.

Al Irsyad Banyuwangi Kindergarten was founded in 1990 with the vision of "Creating a generation with noble character, intelligent, independent, healthy and cultured". Realizing the importance of instilling these positive values, Kindergarten Al Irsyad Banyuwangi enthusiastically launched an innovative program called Let's Share Kindness as a response to the increasing cases of bullying that occur in educational environments. This program is designed with the noble aim of instilling religious and moral values in young children through sharing activities and real actions that are fun and inspiring so that it is hoped that it can increase feelings of empathy and concern for children, with a target of 80% of children showing mutual helping behavior. in one semester. Fostering a sense of gratitude and responsibility in children, with a target of 70% of children voluntarily setting aside their pocket money to give charity.

Let's Share Kindness is not just an ordinary program, but a movement that invites all elements of the school, including children, teachers, parents and the surrounding community, to work together to spread kindness. This program is framed by seven main keywords which become the spirit and guide for its implementation. Enliven the kindergarten atmosphere and increase children's enthusiasm for learning and playing.

Providing direct experience by emphasizing children's real actions in sharing kindness. Encourage children to be friendly to others. Using interactive learning methods that actively involve children. Teach children to share kindness with others and provide education about the importance of sharing kindness so that children can be inspired to always do good. Teach children to be grateful for what they have and share it with others. More than just an acronym, Let's Share Goodness is a compass that guides this program's steps in realizing its vision and mission. This program not only provides knowledge, but also emphasizes the experience and practice of religious and moral values through real activities that are fun and inspiring.

The Spirit of Sharing that Grows from an Early Age, at Al Irsyad Banyuwangi Kindergarten, the Let's Share Kindness program is not just a slogan, but a culture that is practiced every day. Every morning, children are invited to bring food or toys from home to share with their friends. This activity not only trains generosity, but also fosters a sense of empathy and concern for others.

This spirit of sharing doesn't stop there. Every Friday, children are invited to set aside their pocket money to give alms. The pocket money collected is then used to help less fortunate friends or for humanitarian donations. This activity instills the values of generosity and social awareness in children from an early age.

As the culmination of the Let's Share Goodness program, every two months children are invited to bring basic necessities from home, such as rice, sugar, oil or vegetables. The collected basic necessities are then packaged and distributed directly by the children to the local community, such as pedicab drivers, scavengers, and so on. This real action provides an experience for children to feel the happiness of giving and helping others.

Let's Share Kindness is not just a program at TK Al Irsyad Banyuwangi, but a movement that involves all elements of society. Parents are involved in fostering and strengthening the values instilled at school. The local community is also invited to participate in sharing activities and real actions organized by this program.

With this spirit of collaboration and mutual cooperation, Let's Share Goodness is expected to reach more parties and have a broad positive impact on society. This program not only instills religious and moral values in children, but also builds national character who has noble character, cares for others, and is ready to contribute to building a brighter future. Let's Share Kindness, a small step to build a future generation full of goodness and glory. Let us together support and spread this spirit of sharing, for the sake of a brighter future for the nation.

The following are several examples of activities carried out in the Let's Share Kindness program, namely every day, children share food or toys with their friends. Then every Friday, the children set aside any amount of money to give alms. This alms money is then collected and used to help friends who cannot afford it or for humanitarian donations such as donations to Palestine, helping victims of volcanic eruptions, flood victims and so on. Every month, alternately per group level, children are encouraged to bring basic

necessities from home, such as rice, sugar, oil or vegetables. The collected basic necessities are then packaged and distributed to the local community, such as pedicab drivers, scavengers, and so on.

The results of previous research from Trunojoyo (2015) stated that the storytelling method could increase the development of AUD's religious and moral values. Nur Evira Anggrainy (2021) concluded that the storytelling method has a positive and significant effect on children's moral development. The storytelling method is considered to be an appropriate medium for fostering an attitude of tolerance towards friends, being able to differentiate between good and bad actions, fostering an empathetic attitude such as wanting to be friends with friends and helping friends who are having difficulties, listening to the words of parents and teachers, and obeying God Almighty. . So the activities that can be carried out in this program include telling stories about exemplary stories that instill good values, telling stories, singing songs about sharing and love, playing roles and watching videos about stories of sharing and helping others.

The Let's Share Kindness program at Al Irsyad Banyuwangi Kindergarten shows positive results in instilling religious and moral values in early childhood. However, this research has several limitations, such as the small research sample and lack of control over external variables.

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

A qualitative approach with the case study method is the method used in this research. The purpose of the qualitative approach chosen was to understand in depth the Let's Share Kindness program at AL IRSYAD Banyuwangi Kindergarten, including how the program was designed, implemented and evaluated, as well as how the program had an impact on children.

The data collection technique used in this research is participant observation where the researcher will be directly involved in the Let's Share Good program activities and observe how the program is implemented. Researchers will also interact with children, teachers and parents to get information about the program. Then the researcher will conduct interviews with children, teachers, parents, and other parties related to the Let's Share Good program to get information about the program, including how the program was designed, implemented, and evaluated, as well as how the program has an impact on children. Researchers will also collect documents related to the Let's Share Kindness program, such as curriculum, syllabus, activity plans, evaluation reports, and so on.

The data analysis technique used in this research is thematic analysis. Researchers will identify themes that emerge from the data collected, and then analyze these themes to understand the meaning of the data.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Anwar Zain stated that the concept of religious and moral values of AUD is all process efforts in instilling and accustoming children to have good characteristics and

behavior (akhlakul karimah) based on religious teachings and also being used to carrying out ritual religious worship activities to Allah Almighty.

According to Fitri Ramadhini (2021), it is not enough to instill moral and religious values just to provide learning content in the form of memorization or in writing, but the instillation of moral and religious values must be able to be integrated into children's cognitive, affective and physical motoric development in a way directly carry out and imitate real events in the environment around the child.

The Let's Share Kindness program at Al Irsyad Banyuwangi Kindergarten shows positive results in instilling noble morals in young children through habituation and real action. This is proven by the following indicators:

First, increased enthusiasm for learning and playing in 75% of children after participating in the Let's Share Kindness program for one semester. The children felt happy and enthusiastic in participating in the Let's Share Kindness program activities. This can be seen from their activeness in participating in activities, such as singing, role playing and telling stories.

Second, the sense of concern and empathy for children increased by 65% after participating in the program for one semester. Children become more caring towards others and want to help those in need. This can be seen from their willingness to share food, toys and money with their friends and with other people in need. Like Raffa did when he found out Afif didn't bring supplies to school, Raffa immediately took the initiative to share the supplies he brought. When asked, Raffa said, "Poor Afif didn't bring provisions, so he wouldn't be hungry later."

Third, children's feelings of gratitude and responsibility increase by 55% after participating in the program for one semester. Children become more grateful for what they have and feel responsible for sharing it with others. This can be seen from their willingness to set aside their money to give charity and help other people.



Figure 1. Children share groceries



Figure 2. Children share groceries

Fourth, increasing children's respect and affection. Children become more respectful of others and have a greater sense of compassion. This can be seen from their friendly, polite and courteous attitude towards other people.

Fifth, children's understanding of noble morals increased by 80% after following the program for one semester. Children become more aware of religious and moral values,

such as sharing goodness, helping others, and being grateful. This can be seen from their answers when asked about religious and moral values.

The results of the research above are in line with the results of an interview with one of the Al Irsyad Banyuwangi Kindergarten educators, Mrs. Rodhiya, that instilling noble morals in children is not enough with knowledge alone, but also with understanding through direct practice/real action so that it becomes meaningful learning.

The results of the research above show that the Let's Share Kindness program at Al Irsyad Banyuwangi Kindergarten is effective in instilling noble morals in young children through habituation and real action. This can be seen from the existence of several indicators that show positive progress in children, such as increasing enthusiasm for learning and playing in children, showing that the Let's Share Goodness program has a positive impact on children's motivation and active learning.



*Figure 3. Collage of children sharing in the surrounding environment*

The sharing activities and real action in this program provide a fun and meaningful learning experience for children, so that they become more enthusiastic in participating in learning activities at school.

The increased sense of concern and empathy for children shows that this program has succeeded in fostering noble morals and good values in accordance with religious teachings in children. Sharing and helping others activities in this program encourage children to care more about others and want to help those in need.

The increased sense of gratitude and responsibility in children shows that this program helps children understand and appreciate what they have. The sharing and charity activities in this program encourage children to be grateful for what they have and feel responsible for helping others.

Increasing children's understanding of religious and moral values shows that this program is effective in instilling noble morals in young children. The activities of telling stories about exemplary stories of prophets and messengers, fairy tales, singing religious songs, role playing, and watching videos about sharing in this program help children to understand and appreciate these values more easily.

The success of the Let's Share Kindness program can be attributed to several factors, namely this program uses interactive and fun learning methods, so that children feel happy and enthusiastic in participating in activities. This makes it easier for children to accept the noble morals taught.

The Let's Share Kindness program encourages children to be active in activities, so that they can learn and develop optimally. Children's active involvement in this activity helps them to better understand and appreciate the noble morals and good values taught. In line with Revina's statement as a parent in an interview, she said that "This program provides experience to the children who are directly involved. "Previously, the children were given knowledge through videos or role playing, then they were involved in real sharing actions where they saw firsthand how underprivileged people really needed help, so this program really had an impact on the children."

The next factor is the full support of teachers and parents at Kindergarten Al Irsyad Banyuwangi for this program, helping children to more easily apply the noble morals taught in this program. Collaboration between teachers and parents is very important in the moral and religious development of early childhood (Muammar Qadafi, 2019). Collaboration between teachers and parents of students has a huge impact in developing the moral aspects of religion in early childhood, this can be seen from the behavior of students who are able to apply the values of responsibility, cooperation, affection, mutual respect, honesty, courage and tolerance (Pratitis Dyah Ratih Susetya et al., 2022).

However, based on an interview with one of the Al Irsyad Kindergarten teachers, Mrs. Endang Dewi Astuti said that in its implementation there are certainly challenges related to the let's share kindness program at Al Irsyad Banyuwangi Kindergarten, namely: "The let's share kindness program is not easy to implement, considering that children's understanding abilities vary so "It requires patience, consistency and the ability of educators to design program implementation strategies that suit children's needs."

This is in line with Nurul Amelia's statement (2023) that in developing religious and moral values in early childhood, we must start instilling them according to the age level of each child, because if the implementation is not age appropriate then the development of religion and morals will not run smoothly.

A solution is needed to face the challenges that have been stated previously, this research found a solution as stated by Badi' ah Abdat as head of the Al Irsyad Kindergarten school, saying that "It requires collaboration from all parties so that this program runs well, apart from the school community, it also needs active involvement from the student's parents. as well as local residents so that the implementation of the let's share goodness program can run optimally."

The results of this research show that the Let's Share Kindness program is effective in instilling noble morals in young children. However, it is important to note that these findings may not be generalizable to other schools and children with different characteristics.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the research and discussion above, it can be concluded that the Let's Share Kindness program at Al Irsyad Banyuwangi Kindergarten is an effective program in instilling noble morals in accordance with religious teachings in early childhood. This program uses interactive and fun learning methods, encourages children to be active in activities, and gets full support from teachers and parents. This study provides initial evidence of the program's positive impact, but future research with a larger sample and better control of extraneous variables is needed to confirm these findings.

## Suggestion

Based on the results of the research and discussion above, the following are several suggestions for increasing the effectiveness of the Let's Share Goodness program, namely by increasing the variety of activities in the program. This can be done by adding new activities that are interesting and match the children's interests. Strengthen cooperation between teachers, parents and the community by holding regular meetings, training and other activities involving all parties. The following are several examples of collaboration between teachers, parents and the community, namely:

1. Empowering teachers is important in developing this program, namely by encouraging them to develop their creative ideas and providing awards to build their motivation and enthusiasm to continue to contribute.
2. Active involvement of student parents by asking for input and ideas from student parents' representatives to improve the program.
3. Collaboration with local residents can be carried out by involving community leaders and religious leaders to promote the program and encourage participation.
4. Conduct regular program evaluations with related parties. This is done to determine the effectiveness of the program and make improvements for further effective implementation.

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