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Effective Classroom Management: Student Behavior Management Strategies in the Digital Era

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Abstract: *This study aims to explore effective classroom management and student behavior management strategies in the digital era. Using a qualitative approach and descriptive analysis, data was collected from 16 selected articles from Google Scholar (2012-2024). The findings indicate that establishing clear rules, utilizing technology, involving parents, and developing social skills are key strategies in creating a positive learning environment. By leveraging digital applications and platforms, teachers can enhance student engagement and reduce negative behavior. The implications of this research emphasize the need for teacher training and collaboration with parents to support behavior management. This study is expected to contribute to the development of better educational practices in the digital era and open opportunities for further research on student behavior management in broader contexts.*

INTRODUCTION

Effective classroom management is a crucial aspect of delivering quality learning experiences. In the educational context, classroom management involves the physical arrangement of the classroom and encompasses strategies for managing student behavior to create a conducive learning environment. In the current digital era, where information and communication technology (ICT) is rapidly advancing, educators face increasingly complex challenges in managing student behavior. The use of digital devices in learning often affects student attention and can lead to undesirable behavior if not properly managed.

The importance of effective classroom management in the digital era is further heightened by changes in social interaction patterns among students. Today's students grow up in an environment surrounded by technology, such as smartphones and social media platforms, which often influence their behavior in the classroom. Research shows that students' inability to separate technology use in the learning context from their daily lives can disrupt the learning process (Nuraini et al., 2021). Appropriate student behavior management strategies need to be formulated to address these challenges, ensuring that education can proceed optimally.

Effective classroom management strategies rely on conventional approaches while also

considering the integration of technology in learning. Educators need to develop the ability to utilize ICT as a tool to support the learning process while managing potential negative impacts (Ghavifekr & Rosdy, 2015) . For instance, the use of interactive educational applications can enhance student engagement, but teachers must also monitor the use of these devices to ensure they do not distract students from the learning material being taught. Effective classroom management skills should include an understanding of how to positively harness technology.

Previous research indicates that student-centered approaches, such as project-based learning and collaboration, can enhance student engagement and reduce negative behaviors in the classroom (Taylor et al., 2024). However, implementing these strategies requires careful planning and strong managerial skills from educators. In this regard, professional training and development are essential to improving teachers' competencies in applying classroom management strategies that meet students' needs in the digital era.

Furthermore, educational psychology theories provide a solid foundation for developing classroom management strategies. Motivation theories, such as Self-Determination Theory, explain that when students feel a sense of autonomy in their learning, they are more motivated to actively participate in the learning process (Chiu, 2022) . Therefore, educators need to create a classroom atmosphere that allows students to contribute, both in decision-making and in choosing learning methods that suit their preferences. This is one of the key factors in managing student behavior effectively.

On the other hand, the challenges posed by the influence of social media and digital content also need to be addressed. Students exposed to inappropriate or excessive information from the online world may exhibit disruptive behaviors in the classroom (Chao et al., 2020) . Educators must develop strategies to teach students about digital literacy and ethics in using technology, so they can better manage their behavior. This approach will help create a better learning environment and prepare students to face the challenges of an increasingly digital world.

Effective classroom management in the digital era requires a holistic, student-oriented approach. Educators must adapt to changing times and utilize technology as a tool to support the learning process. Additionally, it is important for educators to continually update their knowledge and skills through professional training and development. This research aims to explore and formulate effective student behavior management strategies in the digital era, with the hope of making a positive contribution to classroom management practices in educational settings.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Classroom management is the process of organizing and controlling activities within the classroom to create an effective and conducive learning environment for students (Zainuddin & Hardiansyah, 2023). It involves the application of various strategies and techniques by educators to regulate student behavior, facilitate social interaction, and optimize the use of time and resources. Good classroom management includes the physical arrangement of the classroom, setting rules and expectations, and fostering positive relationships between educators and students. Additionally, classroom management involves monitoring and assessing classroom dynamics to adjust teaching approaches, ensuring all students are actively engaged and able to achieve the desired learning objectives.

Behavior management is the process carried out by educators to regulate and guide student behavior in the learning environment, aiming to create a positive atmosphere that supports effective learning (Parsonson, 2012). This process involves establishing clear rules and expectations, applying consistent consequences for both positive and negative behaviors, and

using motivational strategies to encourage positive behavior. Furthermore, behavior management includes monitoring and analyzing social interactions within the classroom, enabling educators to identify issues and respond with appropriate interventions. Effective behavior management plays a crucial role in creating a safe, comfortable, and productive learning environment where students can actively participate and reach their learning goals.

The digital era refers to a period in which information and communication technology (ICT) plays a central role in daily life, influencing how we interact, work, and learn (Ausat et al., 2023) . Characterized by rapid advancements in technologies such as the internet, smartphones, social media, and cloud-based applications, the digital era has revolutionized how information is disseminated and accessed. In education, this era offers new opportunities for more interactive and personalized learning through online platforms, digital resources, and collaborative tools. However, the digital era also brings challenges, such as potential distractions, the spread of misinformation, and the need for digital literacy to help individuals navigate and use technology wisely. The digital era creates a dynamic landscape, demanding adaptation and innovation across various sectors, including education, business, and social life.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study uses a literature review method with a qualitative approach to analyze student behavior management strategies within effective classroom management in the digital era. A qualitative approach was chosen as it allows the researcher to explore and understand phenomena in-depth through textual and contextual analysis of relevant literature. Descriptive analysis will be used to describe and interpret the findings from the selected articles, focusing on how student behavior management strategies can be applied in learning environments supported by digital technology. The research data is drawn from Google Scholar, with publications ranging from 2012 to 2024. In the initial stage, the researcher identified 37 articles related to the research topic. However, after rigorous selection based on predetermined inclusion criteria, such as relevance to the research theme, methodological quality, and contribution to understanding student behavior management, 16 articles were selected for further analysis. The selection of these articles aims to ensure that only the most significant and high-quality literature is included in the review, providing in-depth and practical insights into student behavior management in the digital era.

RESEARCH AND DISCUSSION

Effective classroom management in the digital era has become crucial for creating a conducive learning environment for students. In this context, managing student behavior must be one of the primary focuses for educators. At State Senior High School 1 Jakarta, teachers have adopted technology-based approaches to manage student behavior, particularly in addressing the distractions caused by smartphone use during class. Students are more actively engaged in learning by utilizing interactive educational applications like Kahoot and Quizizz. This reduces distractions from mobile devices and increases student engagement and motivation in the lessons. Teachers have successfully created a more dynamic and enjoyable learning atmosphere through the use of these technologies, leading to improved overall learning outcomes. Furthermore, the use of technology offers students the opportunity to learn in a more engaging way, thus enhancing their focus on the subject matter (Haleem et al., 2022).

One effective strategy for managing student behavior is the establishment of clear and consistent rules (Tufail et al., 2019). A study conducted at Elementary School 3 Bandung showed that when students understand behavior expectations, they are more likely to comply and remain

focused on learning. At this school, teachers implemented a transparent classroom rule system and involved students in formulating these rules. Open discussions about behavior expectations created a sense of ownership among the students, which in turn increased their responsibility for their actions. As a result, the study showed a significant improvement in positive student behavior, such as reducing rule violations and enhancing peer interactions. This participatory approach also fosters mutual respect and empathy among students, which is essential for creating a positive and inclusive learning environment.

Applying consistent consequences for student behavior is another critical aspect of behavior management. At State Junior High School 3 Yogyakarta, teachers have implemented a clear system of rewards and consequences. Students who exhibit positive behavior earn points that can be exchanged for rewards, while those who break the rules face specific consequences, such as additional assignments or extra learning time. This approach encourages students to behave well and helps them learn about responsibility and the consequences of their actions. Consequently, students become more aware of the importance of positive behavior in achieving their academic and social goals. Research shows that this reward system can enhance students' intrinsic motivation, making them more eager to actively participate in class and adhere to established norms (Zou et al., 2024).

In the context of behavior management in the digital era, it is essential for educators to utilize technology as a support tool. At Senior High School X Surabaya, teachers use online learning platforms like Google Classroom and Microsoft Teams, which allow students to interact with learning materials and their peers in real-time. Teachers can divert students' attention away from other digital distractions by providing students with a space to collaborate and engage in active discussions. Additionally, these platforms offer easy access for students to receive immediate feedback from teachers and peers, which significantly contributes to improving positive behavior in the learning process. The use of digital platforms also encourages students to take greater responsibility in managing their time and tasks, as all information and instructions are easily accessible.

One of the main challenges in behavior management in the digital era is the issue of attention distraction due to gadget use (Hawi & Rupert, 2015). A study at the State University of Malang found that students who actively use social media during school hours tend to show decreased focus and interest in learning. To address this issue, some teachers at the school have adopted active teaching techniques that integrate technology, such as using interactive quizzes and online group discussions. Students become more engaged in the learning process through this approach, which significantly reduces their tendency to be distracted by their devices and enhances their motivation and interest in the subject matter. This active approach reduces negative behaviors and improves students' ability to collaborate and communicate effectively within groups.

Social skills also play a crucial role in managing student behavior (Supriatna et al., 2024). At Elementary School 2 Bogor, a school implementing a social skills development program, students are taught how to interact well and resolve conflicts. Students become more capable of managing their emotions and communicating effectively with their peers through activities such as role-playing and simulations of social situations. This approach has proven highly effective in reducing negative behaviors, as students with good social skills tend to exhibit more positive behavior in the classroom. Additionally, by developing these social skills, students are better prepared to face real-world challenges, including collaborating with others in various situations.

Moreover, digital literacy is key to managing student behavior in the digital era (Arsari,

2022) . At Harapan Bangsa Senior High School, teachers educate students on digital ethics and the responsible use of social media. Students become more aware of their responsibilities and can avoid undesirable behavior when using digital devices by providing the right knowledge about the impact of technology use. This program includes lessons on online privacy, cyberbullying, and appropriate behavior on digital platforms, enabling students to become more responsible users. As a result, students not only learn about technology but also how to use it in a positive and constructive manner.

Parental involvement is also an important aspect of managing student behavior (Utami, 2022) . A case study at Cipta Mandiri Elementary School showed that when parents actively support their children's education, including behavior management, the results are highly positive. The school holds regular meetings between teachers and parents to discuss students' progress and behavior management strategies. As a result, there has been a significant improvement in both student behavior and academic performance. Parents can provide more effective support in their children's learning process by fostering good communication between school and home. When parents collaborate with teachers, they can better understand the challenges their children face and work together to find solutions that enhance behavior and academic performance.

The use of classroom management applications has also become an effective tool for managing student behavior in the digital age. At Junior High School 4 Jakarta, teachers use classroom management apps like ClassDojo, which allow them to monitor attendance, behavior, and student engagement in real-time. These apps also enable students to provide feedback on their learning experiences, helping teachers make quicker and more informed decisions to support students who need extra attention. With accurate and up-to-date information, teachers can adjust their teaching strategies to meet the individual needs of students (van Geel et al., 2023) . This approach also strengthens communication between students and teachers, which is essential for building positive and supportive relationships in the classroom.

Professional training and development for educators in behavior management should not be overlooked. At some schools, such as Vocational School 1 Cikarang, training programs are conducted to improve teachers' skills in using technology for classroom management. This training includes the use of project-based teaching methods that integrate technology, which has been shown to be effective in increasing student participation and reducing negative behavior. Schools can create a more positive and productive learning environment by enhancing teachers' capabilities (Tufail et al., 2019) . When teachers feel confident and well-trained, they are better able to implement effective and adaptive strategies in addressing behavioral challenges in the classroom.

In the digital era, the importance of flexibility in behavior management cannot be overlooked. In schools that implement flexible learning approaches, such as at Global School Jakarta, students are given choices in determining how they learn. This approach increases motivation and reduces resistance to rules, as students feel they have control over their learning experience. When students feel heard and have a voice in the learning process, they are more likely to commit to positive behavior. This flexibility fosters a sense of trust between teachers and students, which is essential in creating a positive classroom climate.

Overall, effective classroom management in the digital era requires a multifaceted approach that includes the use of technology, social and emotional learning, parental involvement, and continuous teacher training. Educators can create a positive by implementing these strategies, productive learning environment that supports the development of good behavior among students. Good behavior management contributes to better academic outcomes and shapes responsible

students who are prepared to face challenges in a constantly evolving world.

CONCLUSION

In the rapidly evolving digital era, effective classroom management and student behavior management are crucial aspects of creating a positive learning environment. Various strategies have been identified as important steps in addressing the challenges faced by educators. From setting clear rules to implementing technology and collaborating with parents, all of these contribute to reducing negative behaviors and increasing student engagement. The conclusion of this study shows that a holistic approach, integrating technology, social skills, and continuous feedback, is necessary to create an effective learning experience in the digital era. The implications of this research are highly relevant for educational practitioners, policymakers, and researchers. Schools are expected to implement comprehensive classroom management strategies that accommodate the needs of students in the digital era. Training for educators is also essential to ensure they have the necessary skills to use technology effectively in behavior management. Additionally, parental involvement in their children's education should be viewed as an integral part of this process, fostering a strong partnership between home and school.

Based on the findings of this research, it is recommended that schools conduct regular training for teachers on the use of technology and behavior management strategies. This could include workshops on classroom management applications and project-based teaching techniques. Moreover, the development of more intensive parental involvement programs should also be considered to strengthen support for students. Schools are also advised to explore more innovative teaching approaches utilizing technology, such as blended learning, to enhance student engagement. This study has several limitations. First, its primary focus on specific case studies in particular locations may limit the generalizability of the findings. Additionally, the data obtained from Google Scholar may not cover all relevant research, leaving the possibility that some information has been overlooked. Furthermore, the rapid changes in educational technology may render some of the analyzed strategies less relevant over time.

For future research, it is recommended to further explore the specific impacts of various educational technologies on student behavior across different educational contexts. Longitudinal studies could provide deeper insights into the effectiveness of classroom management strategies over time. Additionally, studies involving various levels of education and diverse student backgrounds could offer a more comprehensive perspective on student behavior management in the digital era. Thus, future research could contribute to the development of better theory and practice in classroom management.

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