

Implementation Of Smart Techno Parenting in Shaping Children's Character to Face the Industry 5.0 Era

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ABSTRACT

The use of gadgets as playmates for children has become increasingly common among modern parents. This trend has led to a shift in the parental role as play companions, especially during the developmental stage of children aged 1-5 years, known as the "golden age." This period is critical for the growth of intellectual, emotional, and spiritual intelligence, which significantly influences a child's future development. This study aims to examine the importance of parental involvement during the golden age by implementing a technology-based parenting approach (smart techno parenting) to support the development of a child's character, personality, and cognitive abilities. The research employs a literature review method, gathering data from relevant sources to understand the concept and application of smart techno parenting. Smart techno parenting has proven to be a wise approach for parents to protect, educate, discipline, and guide their children amid the influence of technology. Parents adopting this method must continuously learn and serve as primary role models for their children. Smart techno parenting is an effective strategy for optimizing a child's development during the golden age, enabling parents to act as intelligent companions who utilize technology wisely without neglecting the child's fundamental needs for play, learning, and direct interaction.

Keywords: Smart Techno Parenting, Character, Parenting Styles

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INTRODUCTION

Technological advancements have transformed every aspect of global society, presenting both opportunities and challenges. From revolutionizing business operations, research methodologies, and entertainment to reshaping social interactions, digital technology has become an integral part of daily life. The effects of digital

technology are inherently neutral; the outcomes positive or negative depend entirely on how it is utilized. In the context of family life, digital technology plays a critical role, particularly in the development of children's characters during the digital era. When used wisely, digital technology offers tremendous potential to enhance children's growth and development. However, it also poses risks, especially when it is used excessively or without proper supervision. Parents, as primary educators, hold a central role in shaping their children's character amidst the complexities of the digital age, including the challenges introduced by Society 5.0.

Smart Technology Parenting is a parenting approach where parents take intelligent and proactive actions to guide, protect, and nurture their children. This includes teaching, disciplining, and providing consistent moral and ethical direction. Children, as highly adaptive individuals, absorb behaviors, speech patterns, knowledge, and lifestyles from their environment. Therefore, parental supervision and active involvement are critical to ensure children are exposed to positive influences that align with their developmental needs and family values.

The pervasive use of gadgets in daily life presents both opportunities and challenges. While gadgets offer educational and recreational benefits, they also pose significant risks for children, especially when used without adequate supervision. Studies and observations have shown that excessive gadget use can lead to a range of negative behaviors, such as reduced social interaction, increased individualism, and a lack of awareness of the surrounding environment. This issue becomes even more concerning during early childhood (ages 1-5), known as the "golden age," a critical developmental period where children rapidly absorb information and establish the foundation of their cognitive, emotional, and social abilities.

Initial observations conducted by the researchers reveal that children's gadget use is often unrestricted, exposing them to diverse content that may not align with their developmental needs. The lack of parental control over digital content consumption risks fostering unintended behavioral and developmental issues.

This study highlights the need for parents to embrace their role as active participants in their children's digital experiences. Through Smart Technology Parenting, parents can mitigate the negative impacts of gadget use while optimizing its potential benefits. The goal is to empower children to become a quality generation capable of navigating the challenges of the digital age responsibly. Addressing this issue requires comprehensive parental involvement, from supervising gadget use to modeling appropriate behaviors and fostering meaningful interactions within the family.

This research seeks to examine the implications of digital technology on children's character development, emphasizing the critical role of parents in creating a balanced environment that leverages technology for positive outcomes. Through a literature review approach, this study will explore strategies to help parents adopt effective smart parenting practices, ensuring their children grow into responsible and well-rounded individuals capable of thriving in the digital era. Spending time playing online games, showing little concern for the surrounding environment, lacking interaction with parents, and even being reluctant to study are some of the observed behaviors. Some believe that this happens due to the child's lack of understanding of the positive and negative impacts of digital use and the insufficient supervision from parents (syarifuddin & Hefniy, 2019).

RESEARCH METHOD

This study employs a literature review method, which involves a systematic process of collecting and analyzing data from various sources. According to Abdul Rahman Sholeh, literature review research is a method that utilizes a structured approach to gather informational data by examining and analyzing relevant references, such as

scientific journals, books, and other literature pertinent to the research topic. In this study, the focus is on narratives of historical stories or pure literature research related to the subject matter (Mahmud, 2011).

The literature review method relies on secondary data sources, including books, academic papers, notes, and reports from previous studies. This approach enables researchers to synthesize insights and findings from existing works to inform the current investigation. By critically analyzing and integrating these resources, the study aims to provide meaningful contributions to the field, particularly in the area of parenting strategies in the digital era.

Through this methodology, the research seeks to generate findings that offer practical guidance for parents in adopting effective parenting practices, addressing challenges posed by technology, and fostering positive developmental outcomes for children.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Smart Techno Parenting

Smart technology, translated into Indonesian as *teknologi pintar*, refers to technology that surpasses conventional delivery and reception methods. The term "smart" is an acronym for Self-Monitoring Analysis and Reporting Technology. Smart technology learns from experiences to enhance performance, anticipate, think, and reason about subsequent actions, while possessing the capability to generate and sustain itself. This concept is instrumental in the modern era, where technological advancements influence various aspects of life, including parenting.

Smart Parenting is defined as the cumulative actions parents undertake, from minor daily interactions to significant efforts, to create a healthier balance in household dynamics and relationships with children. In Indonesian, the term "parenting" is known as *pengasuhan*, derived from the root word *asuh*, which means to care for, nurture, and educate. *Pengasuhan* encompasses the process, manner, and act of caregiving. Parenting, therefore, represents a dynamic and ongoing interaction process between parents and children, involving nourishing, guiding, and protecting children during their developmental stages. Qusyairi (2019) emphasizes that parenting entails accompanying and guiding children through various stages of growth, fostering their new lives at each developmental phase.

Smart parenting has gained prominence in discussions about childcare and guidance. In the field of education, it is recognized as an intelligent approach implemented by educators. It involves consistent interactions between parents and children to monitor and guide their potential. This method emphasizes creating a warm household atmosphere and fostering positive relationships, helping parents and children navigate emotional complexities through self-regulation (Qusyairi, 2019).

Asoloihin highlights that Smart Parenting leverages available family resources to nourish, guide, and protect children. This approach integrates the family's physical, mental, and social support systems, ensuring children's growth is nurtured effectively. Parenting also involves decisions that influence a child's socialization process, including responses to behaviors like crying, anger, or shirking responsibilities. According to Jerome Kagan, a developmental psychologist, parenting requires thoughtful decisions that foster responsible and socially contributive individuals (Qusyairi, 2019).

Smart parenting is not limited to families but extends to collaborative efforts involving educators and even governments. It seeks to address developmental gaps in children while preparing them for the challenges of the rapidly advancing technological world. This includes guiding children to become a "golden generation" equipped with resilience, intelligence, and adaptability. Ilymy, Wahid, and Muali (2018) suggest that Smart Parenting involves

strategies that foster collaboration between parents and the state to ensure holistic child development in alignment with societal and technological advancements.

Smart Techno Parenting

In the digital era, Smart Techno Parenting represents the integration of smart parenting principles with technological advancements. Devices such as televisions, smartphones, and social media platforms have created unique challenges in parenting. A lack of effective parenting strategies often contributes to behavioral and developmental issues among children. Parents must actively monitor their children's media use, ensuring that technology serves as a positive educational tool.

Smart Techno Parenting is an innovative approach to child-rearing that adapts to the challenges posed by the digital age. It addresses the growing addiction among children to technological devices like gadgets and laptops by transforming these tools into means of constructive education. This strategy emphasizes the intelligent nurturing of children's potential, positioning parents as proactive, creative, and technologically competent facilitators of their children's growth.

According to Novianti and Garzia (2020), parenting aims to help children grow into individuals who are faithful, morally upright, physically and mentally healthy, intelligent, creative, and adaptable to changing times while upholding cultural and religious values. Smart Techno Parenting builds upon this foundation by instilling mental and spiritual resilience in children amidst the rapid development of information technology.

This method involves communicative, intensive, and open interactions between parents and children, utilizing technology to create positive learning experiences. By leveraging technological advancements, Smart Techno Parenting fosters environments where children can thrive while developing the skills needed to navigate the complexities of the modern world. Thus, it positions parents as active partners in shaping a future-ready generation, equipped with the tools to adapt, excel, and contribute meaningfully to society.

Character Formation

The term *character* originates from the Greek word *charassein*, which means "to carve an enduring and indelible pattern." In essence, character refers to the nature or disposition of an individual, encompassing all inherent qualities that define and distinguish one person from another. Character is developed through repeated actions performed routinely until they become habitual and integral to an individual's identity.

Character Formation and Life Skills

Character formation is intricately linked to life skills, which are practical abilities essential for everyday life. These skills involve practices and exercises designed to develop an individual's capabilities, wisdom, and resilience. The process of developing life skills often transitions through stages: from unconscious incompetence to conscious competence. This progression plays a significant role in shaping an individual's character, fostering adaptability, and preparing them to navigate complex challenges.

In today's digital era, traditional forms of play, which once encouraged creativity, camaraderie, and social interaction, are being overshadowed by technology. For instance, children now spend significantly more time engaging with gadgets, video games, and online activities. On school days, children spend an average of 3 hours watching television, increasing to 7.4 hours during holidays. Similarly, they average 2.1 hours of internet usage daily (Hasibuan, 2015). While digital technology offers various benefits, it also poses challenges, including behavioral and

developmental disturbances. Therefore, parents must guide, monitor, and supervise their children to ensure technology usage yields predominantly positive outcomes.

Smart Techno Parenting in the Industry 5.0 Era

The concept of smart techno parenting has emerged as a solution for character-building in the Industry 5.0 era. It focuses on helping parents guide, educate, and supervise children in effectively and responsibly using technology. This approach ensures the younger generation becomes technologically adept while maintaining moral and ethical standards.

Era Society 5.0

The Society 5.0 era is a continuation of Industry 4.0, emphasizing the integration of advanced technologies like artificial intelligence (AI) to address human-centered needs. Society 5.0 aims to balance technological advancements with sustainability and human well-being. Anafiah and Soomro (2021) describe this era as a period of innovation that enables solutions to societal challenges while fostering inclusion and sustainability.

In the context of Society 5.0, technology significantly influences various sectors, including education. Prasetyo (2018) highlights the role of AI systems in enhancing quality of life and education by prioritizing human-centered designs. These developments lead to transformative paradigms in personal and societal interactions, shaping a "Smart Society" equipped to address modern challenges creatively and innovatively.

Implementation of Smart Techno Parenting

Smart techno parenting encompasses deliberate strategies adopted by parents to safeguard, nurture, educate, and discipline their children. It requires parents to be proactive and informed about digital technologies, enabling them to provide effective guidance.

1. **Digital Literacy for Parents** Parents play a pivotal role as educators and mentors in their children's lives. To fulfill this role effectively in the digital era, they must possess technological competence. Parents need to educate themselves on the latest technological advancements, ensuring they remain knowledgeable and capable of guiding their children. Self-education, attending workshops, and participating in parenting sessions can enhance their understanding of technology and its applications.

According to Nastiti (2020), preparing children for the Society 5.0 era requires a focus on critical thinking, problem-solving, and creativity. Parents should actively engage their children in activities that develop these skills, alongside nurturing spiritual and emotional resilience. Collaborative efforts with schools and communities can further strengthen parenting strategies in the digital age.

2. **Parenting Patterns in the Society 5.0 Era** Effective parenting patterns are crucial for shaping children's character and helping them navigate the challenges of the Society 5.0 era. As stipulated in Indonesia's Law Number 35 of 2014, Article 26, parents are responsible for nurturing, educating, and protecting their children while fostering their potential and moral values. These obligations form the foundation of parenting practices aimed at developing responsible and adaptive individuals.

The parenting approach must align with generational characteristics. For instance, today's children, belonging to Generation Z and Alpha, are digital natives, while their parents are predominantly from Generation X and Millennials.

This generational gap necessitates parenting styles that integrate traditional values with modern technological insights. Effective parenting involves protecting children from digital threats while leveraging technological tools to enrich their learning and development.

Zaini (2019) emphasizes that effective parenting focuses on character-building and mental resilience. Parents must model positive behaviors, fostering an environment conducive to the holistic development of their children. Regular updates to parenting practices, informed by emerging trends and technologies, ensure relevance and effectiveness.

Character formation in the digital era requires a strategic blend of traditional values and modern technological insights. Smart techno parenting offers a framework for parents to nurture and guide their children effectively, preparing them to thrive in the Society 5.0 era. By fostering critical thinking, creativity, and resilience, parents can ensure their children's holistic development while leveraging the benefits of technological advancements.

Qualitime Family

In building the aspects of character formation for children within the family, parents need to dedicate quality time with the family, known as "Qualitime Family." The purpose of Qualitime Family is to enhance communication among family members and prepare children mentally to face the challenges of the digital era. Additionally, Qualitime serves as a way for parents to monitor and educate children on the responsible use of social media.

Time management is an essential aspect of digital parenting that parents employ to limit children's use of gadgets. This can be achieved within the framework of Qualitime Family. One effective approach is for parents to allocate specific time slots for gadget usage. Based on findings, such scheduling is generally acceptable to both parents and children, as it aligns with mutually agreed-upon timeframes (Sisbintari & Setiawati, 2021). Scheduling methods vary, with some parents allowing gadget usage after school, others after sunset, and some after study sessions. By incorporating these practices into Qualitime Family, parents foster opportunities to build the personalities and skills of family members.

Eklesia, Londa, and Mingkid (2020) emphasize that parental communication plays a crucial role in preventing gadget addiction in children. One effective method is discussing and agreeing on gadget usage schedules. Such agreements help create a structured and healthy balance between screen time and other activities. Moreover, effective communication fosters positive mental development in children by promoting democratic education patterns within the family (Lubis, 2019).

Another effort to prevent gadget addiction involves monitoring children's activities or browsing history while using gadgets. Parents aim to minimize exposure to inappropriate content by supervising their children's digital consumption. Monitoring helps children develop discernment in their digital habits, as parents can restrict access to content unsuitable for their age. This practice encourages children to use digital media more productively. Lubis and Wangid (2019) note that wise use of technological advancements significantly influences the development of a child's attitude and character.

Besides monitoring content, parents are also concerned about the negative impact of social media on children. Parents can mitigate these effects by actively engaging in conversations about digital literacy and by being role models of responsible technology use. By doing so, they support their children in developing critical thinking skills and emotional resilience, equipping them to navigate the complexities of the digital world effectively.

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis conducted by the author regarding the implementation of the Smart Techno Parenting concept in shaping children's characters to face the Industry 5.0 era, the following conclusions can be drawn:

Industry 5.0, often referred to as Society 5.0, represents a new era that places human needs and well-being at the center while leveraging advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), information technology, and data security. The rapid evolution of ICT (Information and Communication Technology) has had transformative effects across various sectors, including education, learning, and social interactions. In this era, AI systems are utilized to enhance the quality of life, offering individuals innovative solutions to meet their evolving needs. However, these advancements are not without challenges, as they can lead to negative impacts on productivity, mental health, and social connections if misused.

To mitigate these risks and maximize the benefits of technological progress, parents play a critical role in guiding their children. Smart Techno Parenting is a proactive and informed approach whereby parents protect, nurture, teach, and guide their children in navigating the complexities of the digital age. It focuses on three primary goals: (1) ensuring the physical and emotional well-being of children, (2) equipping them with skills and values for a productive adult life, and (3) transmitting cultural and ethical principles that foster responsible digital citizenship. This approach depends heavily on maintaining a healthy, communicative, and quality relationship between parents and children.

Smart Techno Parenting emphasizes the importance of continuous parental education regarding technology and the application of effective parenting methods that align with the demands of Society 5.0. By adopting this approach, parents can act as role models, instilling positive habits and values in their children to counteract the negative influences of social media and digital overuse. This includes setting clear boundaries, fostering critical thinking, and encouraging productive and meaningful engagement with technology.

The challenges and opportunities presented by the Industry 5.0 era demand that parents evolve alongside technological advancements. Smart Techno Parenting is not merely a set of practices; it is a holistic commitment to raising a generation that is emotionally resilient, morally grounded, and technologically savvy. By embracing their roles as lifelong learners and role models, parents can empower their children to thrive in a world where humanity and technology coexist. Ultimately, Smart Techno Parenting ensures that the next generation is not only prepared to face the digital future but also equipped to shape it responsibly and ethically.

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