

Research Article

The Role of Education in Socialization and the Formation of Social Values The Process of Internalizing Values Norms and Culture Through Formal and Non-Formal Education

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Abstract

Education plays a crucial role in shaping students' social values through an ongoing socialization process. Values, norms, and culture are imparted not only through formal education at school but also through non-formal education that occurs at home and in the community. This article aims to explore the role of formal and non-formal education in the process of internalizing social values and to identify unresolved research gaps in education and the sociology of education. The method used is a literature review, analyzing relevant books and journal articles. The results indicate that formal education emphasizes knowledge and rules, while non-formal education is more closely linked to social experiences and real-world contexts. However, there are still limitations in research that comprehensively integrates both types of education within the context of social change and digitalization.

Keywords: Education, Formal Education, Internalization, Non-formal Education, Socialization, Social Values

INTRODUCTION

Education is an inseparable part of human life. From birth, a person continuously interacts with family, school, and society, resulting in a continuous socialization process. In this context, education plays a crucial role as a means of



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transmitting values, norms, and culture that prevail within society. Education not only helps a person acquire knowledge and skills, but also shapes their personality, attitudes, and social behavior (Karsidi, 2005).

Through education, a person can understand social rules, moral values, and behaviors considered appropriate by society. This process is not only carried out mentally but also internalized until it becomes part of one's consciousness and identity. Therefore, education is often considered the primary tool in shaping the character and social values of the younger generation. In the national education system, formal education, such as schools and universities, serves as a structured and systematic agent of socialization. The curriculum, teaching methods, school rules, and teacher-student relationships are the primary means of instilling values such as discipline, responsibility, cooperation, tolerance, and adherence to social norms. These values are expected to equip students so they can live in a harmonious and harmonious society (Abdurahman et al., 2025).

On the other hand, non-formal education also plays a crucial role in the internalization of social values. Non-formal education occurs through families, community organizations, religious institutions, and social communities, providing individuals with direct experience in applying social values and norms. The learning process in non-formal education is typically more flexible, contextualized, and based on real-life experiences, making social values easier to understand and experience (Ahrori, 2025).

Several previous studies have shown that formal education makes a significant contribution to shaping students' character and social values. However, most of these studies focus solely on formal education, while the role of non-formal education is often discussed separately. This results in an incomplete understanding of the process of internalizing social values and does not fully reflect the reality of education. Furthermore, advances in information technology and rapid social change also influence the process of value socialization through education. Students now learn not only from teachers and the school environment, but also from digital media and social interactions in cyberspace. This situation demands closer collaboration between formal and non-formal education in instilling values, norms, and culture so that education remains relevant to the challenges of the times.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study employed a qualitative approach with a literature review. This approach was chosen because the research objective was to discuss concepts, theories, and previous research findings related to the role of education in the socialization process and the formation of social values. Data sources included educational sociology textbooks, domestic and international journal articles, and relevant educational policy documents (Yam, 2024). Data collection was conducted by searching for information in the literature directly related to the topic of internalizing values, norms, and culture through formal and non-formal education. To analyze the data, a descriptive-analytical method was used, suggesting, comparing, and interpreting expert views. The results of the analysis were then structured to provide a clear and comprehensive picture of the role of education in the socialization process of social values (Mahanum, 2021).

DISCUSSION

A. The Role of Formal Education in the Socialization of Social Values

Formal education plays a crucial role in the socialization process and the formation of social values because it is conducted in an orderly, systematic, and continuous manner. Schools, as formal educational institutions, are not only places for teaching knowledge but also for shaping students' character and social identity. Through formal education, the state and society convey values deemed essential for maintaining social order and unity (Kusumawati et al., 2023). The educational curriculum is the primary tool in shaping social values. Values such as discipline, responsibility, honesty, tolerance, and nationalism are included in various subjects, particularly Pancasila and Citizenship Education and character education. Through planned learning, students are taught to understand these values both intellectually and to actualize them in their daily attitudes and actions (Anugrah & Rahmat, 2024).

In addition to the curriculum, school culture also plays a crucial role in internalizing social values. School culture is evident in the rules, regulations, traditions, and customs implemented within the school environment. Compliance with school rules helps students understand the importance of social norms and the consequences of violating them. This process gradually shapes students' moral awareness and self-control (Bhoki et al., 2025). Social interactions between teachers

and students are also crucial in shaping social values. Teachers act as role models respected and followed by students. Teachers' fair, honest, and empathetic behavior significantly influences the process of internalizing values. Therefore, the success of formal education in shaping social values depends heavily on the quality of social interactions within the school environment (Ariska, 2021).

B. The Role of Non-Formal Education in Internalizing Social Values

Non-formal education complements and reinforces the social values acquired through formal education. This education occurs outside the school environment and encompasses various activities such as family education, religious activities, youth organizations, and community training. In this context, non-formal education provides a more flexible learning environment that is aligned with real-life contexts. The process of understanding values in non-formal education typically occurs through direct experience and active participation in social life (Mildawati & Tangngareng, 2023).

Values such as mutual cooperation, caring, solidarity, and social responsibility are learned through collaborative activities. These real-life experiences enable a person to understand the meaning of social values more deeply than merely learning theoretically (Mooduto & Otaya, 2023). The family, as the first form of non-formal education, plays a crucial role in shaping social values. Values instilled in the family often form the basis for a person's future attitudes and behavior. The way parents educate, communicate, and serve as role models significantly influences the extent to which values, norms, and culture are accepted by children. In addition to the family, the surrounding environment and religious institutions also play a role in shaping social values. By participating in social and religious activities, a person learns about moral norms, social justice, and responsibility as part of society. Thus, non-formal education significantly contributes to fostering social sensitivity and collective awareness (Lubis et al., 2021).

CONCLUSION

Formal and non-formal education play complementary roles in the socialization process and the formation of social values. Formal education provides a foundation of norms and structures, while non-formal education reinforces the

application of these values through context-appropriate social experiences. Existing research indicates a lack of further, more integrated, context-focused research, particularly in addressing the challenges of social change and the digitalization process in education.

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