
Good And Correct Indonesian Language Counseling In Developing Children's Language Ethics In The Digital Era

Bisarul Ihsan ¹, Anwar Sholikhin ², Wahyu Dini Septiari ³

¹⁻² Universitas Islam Darul 'Ulum Lamongan, ³ Universitas Veteran Bangun Nusantara,
bisarulihsan@unisda.ac.id, anwarsholikhin@unisda.ac.id, wahyudiniseptiari.18@gmail.com

Article History:

Received: Dec 10th 2024

Revised: Dec 15th 2024

Accepted: Dec 18th 2024

Keywords:

Language Ethics,
Digital Era,
Indonesian Language
Counseling, Character
Education.

Abstract:

The digital era has brought significant changes in the way children communicate, including in the use of Indonesian. However, easy access to technology and social media often has an impact on the decline in language ethics, such as the use of impolite words, grammatical errors, and the tendency to adopt language that is not in accordance with norms. This study aims to analyze the effectiveness of good and correct Indonesian language counseling in building children's language ethics in the digital era. The research method used is a qualitative approach with data collection techniques in the form of interviews, observations, and documentation. The counseling is designed to provide an understanding of the importance of language ethics, the correct way to use Indonesian, and practical strategies to deal with the influence of digital language. The results of the study showed that counseling was able to increase children's awareness of the importance of language ethics, improve their communication patterns, and motivate them to use good and correct Indonesian in everyday interactions, including on social media. In addition, counseling also plays a role in shaping children's character to better appreciate cultural values and social norms through the use of language.

Introduction

The digital era has changed the way humans interact, including in terms of communicating using language (Rahmawati & Ihsan, 2022). Advances in information and communication technology allow children to connect with the outside world through social media, chat applications, and other digital platforms (Khulel, 2022). However, this change also presents major challenges, especially in maintaining the quality of good and correct use of Indonesian (Marzuqi et al., 2022). Children are often exposed to impolite language, excessive use of foreign terms, and communication styles that are not in

accordance with cultural and social norms (Ihsan, 2019).

Indonesia Language plays an important role as a national identity and a means of communication that unites Indonesian society (Mu'minin & Sukowati, 2023). Therefore, its proper and correct use must be maintained, even in the context of digital communication (Rohmadi, 2017). However, the facts on the ground show that the use of language by children in the digital era often does not reflect ethical language values. This is a serious concern because the language used is not only a means of communication, but also reflects the character and personality of its users (Hapsari, 2023).

Language ethics are an important aspect that needs to be instilled early on, especially in children who are in the character formation stage. In this context, formal education in schools is often not enough to handle the influence of the digital environment on language use. Children need more intensive guidance to understand the importance of using Indonesian properly, correctly, and politely, both in oral and written communication (Joko Sutopo, Sariban, 2024).

Language counseling is one of the strategic efforts to answer this challenge. Effectively designed counseling can provide a deeper understanding of the importance of maintaining language ethics in the digital era (Sukowati & Ihsan, 2022). In addition, counseling activities can be a medium to build children's awareness of the norms of using Indonesian that are in accordance with cultural and social values.

Through counseling, children are not only taught grammar rules, but are also invited to understand the social context of language use. They are introduced to the concept of polite language, respecting the interlocutor, and reflecting empathy. This is important because in a digital environment, messages conveyed can often be misinterpreted if not accompanied by good communication ethics.

Several previous studies have shown that language counseling programs have a positive impact on increasing language awareness in various age groups. However, its implementation to build language ethics in children in the digital era still requires special attention. This is due to the differences in communication patterns of children with previous generations, especially in the context of using digital technology.

This study attempts to fill this gap by examining how good and correct Indonesian language counseling can be effective in building children's language ethics. This approach is expected to be able to answer the urgent need for relevant solutions in maintaining the quality of communication of the younger generation amidst the flow of global change.

With this research, it is expected that not only children will benefit, but also parents, educators, and policy makers. The results of this study can be a reference in designing innovative and sustainable counseling programs to create a generation that communicates well, is polite, and still upholds the values of the nation's culture in the digital era.

Method

This study uses a qualitative approach with a descriptive design. This approach was chosen to understand in depth how language counseling can affect children's language patterns and to explore the phenomenon of language ethics in the digital era. This community service activity was carried out at MI Mambaul Ulum Turi, Lamongan Regency, targeting all guardians, students, and teachers. These three elements are involved so that the objectives of this program are achieved optimally, both in the school environment and in the students' home environment.

Data collection techniques were carried out in three stages, namely observation to directly observe how children use language in various situations, both in the school environment and in digital activities such as using social media or chat applications. Interviews with teachers and parents to understand their perceptions of children's language ethics before and after counseling, as well as with students to gain insight into their understanding of good and correct Indonesian. Documentation to obtain data in the form of student writing results, and student communication records on digital media.

Result

This study aims to analyze the effectiveness of good and correct Indonesian language counseling in building children's language ethics in the digital era. Based on the results of observations, interviews, and documentation conducted during the study, a number of findings were obtained that were relevant to the objectives of this study.

1. *Initial Conditions of Children's Language Ethics in the Digital Era*

Observation results show that children in the digital era tend to use language that is not in accordance with linguistic rules. This is evident from their habit of using abbreviations, emoticons, or non-standard sentences when communicating via social media and instant messaging applications. Some students also do not understand the importance of ethics in communicating, such as using polite words or avoiding hate speech.



Picture 1. Initial Conditions

Interviews with teachers and parents revealed that the condition is exacerbated by children's lack of understanding of good and correct Indonesian. Teachers said that children are more exposed to informal language in digital media than the formal language taught in schools. Parents, on the other hand, find it difficult to control their children's language habits due to time constraints and their own knowledge of language etiquette.

2. *Extension Implementation Process*

The counseling is conducted in three main sessions involving interactive lecture activities, group discussions, and language practice simulations. Each session focuses on important aspects of language, namely:

a. *Good and Correct Language Understanding*

Children are taught about the rules of the Indonesian language, including grammar, diction, and sentence structure.

b. *Implementation of Language Ethics*

Counseling emphasizes the importance of using language that is polite, courteous, and appropriate to the communication context.



Picture 2. *Language Education Stage*

c. *Digital Situation Simulation*

Children are trained to deal with real situations in the digital world, such as how to respond to negative comments and compose polite messages.

3. *Changes After Counseling*

Post-test and observation data showed a significant increase in students' understanding and application of language ethics. Here are some of the changes identified:

a. Understanding Language Rules

Children begin to use better grammar when writing or speaking, both in school settings and in digital communication.

b. Increasing Ethical Awareness

Students demonstrate more polite attitudes in communicating, such as avoiding harsh words and greeting respectfully when speaking to teachers or adults.



Picture 3. Students' Ethical Awareness

c. Implementation in Digital Media

Kids are more careful about their word choices when using social media. Some students even reported helping their friends improve the way they communicate online.

4. *Obstacles and Challenges*

Although the outreach went well, there were several obstacles that needed to be considered:

a. Old Habits

Some students still find it difficult to leave the habit of using informal language, especially when interacting with peers.

b. Environmental Influence

Exposure to less educational digital content remains a challenge in maintaining the language ethics that are taught.

5. *Impact on Teachers and Parents*

Teachers and parents involved in the outreach felt the benefits of this program. Teachers felt more helped in teaching language to students, while parents began to be more active in supervising and guiding their children in communicating at home and in cyberspace.

Discussion

The counseling activity on the use of good and correct language in forming children's character has a very positive impact on children who are still in the process of instilling character values. Character is not only from behavior, but character from the ethics of speaking spoken by someone. This counseling activity received high appreciation from parents of students and teachers, because with this activity parents and teachers play a greater role in instilling character values for children.

One of the main successes of this counseling is increasing students' awareness of the importance of ethics in communication. Before the counseling, students often used harsh words, were impolite, or did not pay attention to manners in communicating, both directly and through digital media. After the counseling, students showed changes in attitude, such as being more careful in choosing words and better understanding the importance of politeness, especially in interacting with teachers, friends, or adults.

This finding strengthens the view that language learning does not only function as a means of communication, but also as a medium for forming character and social values. Language ethics are part of character education, which is very relevant in the digital era where interactions increasingly occur through online media.

The results of the study also show the importance of the role of teachers and parents in supporting the success of counseling. Teachers feel more helped in teaching language materials, while parents who are involved begin to be more active in guiding their children in communicating at home. This counseling not only has an impact on students, but also provides new insights for teachers and parents about the importance of supervision and guidance in language use, especially in the digital era.

Conclusion

The results of the study show that good and correct Indonesian language counseling is effective in building children's language ethics in the digital era. This program has succeeded in increasing children's understanding of language rules and the application of language ethics, although it still faces challenges from the influence of old habits and a less supportive digital environment. These findings indicate the need for sustainable programs and synergy between schools, families, and communities to build a better language culture in the digital era.

Proper and correct Indonesian language counseling has proven effective in building children's language ethics in the digital era. This program provides a strong foundation for children to understand the importance of grammar and ethics in communication. However, the sustainability of this program requires more intensive collaboration between teachers, parents, and the community so that its impact can be felt more widely and deeply.

References

- Hapsari, A. D. (2023). Students' Perception toward Using Canva in EFL Business Correspondence Class. *Edulitics (Education, Literature, and Linguistics) Journal*, 8(2). <https://doi.org/10.52166/edulitics.v8i2.5268>
- Ihsan, B. (2019). Peran Pembelajaran Budaya Lokal Dalam Pembentukan Karakter Siswa Madrasah Ibtidaiyah (MI) Bisarul. *MIDA: Jurnal Pendidikan Dasar Islam*, 2(2), 1–8.
- Joko Sutopo, Sariban, I. (2024). Makna Filosofi Diksi Bahasa Nelayan : Studi Kajian Budaya. *Hastapena: Jurnal Bahasa, Sastra, Pendidikan Dan Humaniora*, 1(1), 1–13.
- Khulel, B. (2022). Improving Students' Writing Skill through Project-Based Learning, Process Writing, and Instagram. *IJECA (International Journal of Education and Curriculum Application)*, 5(1). <https://doi.org/10.31764/ijeca.v5i1.7601>
- Marzuqi, I., Azar, M. A. S., Rohman, B. Z., Khabib, S., & Putri, N. E. (2022). Pengembangan Permainan Tradisional terhadap Pembentukan Karakter Anak sebagai Wujud Pengabdian Masyarakat di Desa Warungering, Lamongan,. *J-ABDIPAMAS(Jurnal Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat)*, 6(2), 183–188. <http://ejurnal.ikipgribojonegoro.ac.id/index.php/J-ABDIPAMAS>
- Mu'minin, & Sukowati, I. (2023). Ilmu Bahasa dan Sastra Indonesia Jurnal Metalanguage. In *Metalanguage*. <http://jurnal.ikipwidyadarmasurabaya.ac.id/index.php/metalanguage/login>
- Muchamad Suradji, Sauqi Futaqi, & Moh. Hudi. (2024). Strengthening the Capacity of Social Welfare Institutions for Service Quality to Orphans, the Elderly and the Disabled. *ABDIMAS: Jurnal Pengabdian Masyarakat*, 7(1), 314–324.
- Rahmawati, Z. D., & Ihsan, B. (2022). Pengembangan Potensi Kreativitas Siswa Sekolah Luar Biasa. *Jurnal Pengabdian Masyarakat: BAKTI KITA*, 3(2), 19–28. <https://doi.org/10.52166/baktikita.v3i2.3541>
- Rohmadi, M. (2017). *Pragmatik Teori dan Analisis*. Yuma Pustaka.
- Sukowati, I., & Ihsan, B. (2022). Dampak Kearifan Lingkungan Berdasarkan Kajian Ecocriticism Dalam Novel Serial Anak-Anak Mamak Karya Tere Liye. *Metamorfosa*, 10(2), 22–31.
- Suradji, M., Hudi, M., Musyafa', A. A., Muhyidin, A., & Rohmah, N. M. (2023). Optimalisasi Bantaran Sungai Sebagai Wisata Waduk Edukatif Di Desa Simorejo Widang Tuban. *Abdi Wiralodra : Jurnal Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat*, 5(2), 200–209.