

Love Language Communication as an Effort to Strengthen the Character of Santri at Perguruan Diniyyah Puteri Padang Panjang

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Abstract

Character is a reflection of one's personal self, which is seen in aspects of daily attitudes and behavior. Diniyyah Puteri College students are expected to have the following characteristics: worship experts and akhlakul karimah, strong mujahid Allah, Intelligent as Khalifah. To understand the characteristics of the santri that have been determined, it is necessary to observe how teachers use communication. This study used the field observation method to observe how teachers communicate with students. From the results of observations made with students and teachers, it was found that to communicate with students, teachers at the Diniyyah Puteri College were not allowed to use communication that contained elements of communication viruses, such as commanding, blaming, belittling, comparing, labelling, threatening, advising, lying, entertaining, criticizing, insinuating, analyzing, and prying. To overcome this, teachers in instilling character values in santri must use seven languages of love for children consisting of positive words, comfortable body language, dive into feelings, want to listen, convey the contents of the heart, direct independence, and build cooperation.

Keywords: Communication, Love language, Character

1. Introduction

Educating students requires communication that can change them in a better direction. Communication is a primary need for human beings. Communication is a tool used to convey messages to students, be it in the form of lesson materials or moral values given to students. Communication can be a positive energy for students or a negative energy for students. When communication is positive, students will be able to change according to the message conveyed. Communication has a deep meaning and broad purpose, not only in words but also in actions, because communication can change the behavior of other individuals through what the individual says to other individuals. (Alo Liliweri, 2011). If communication is conducted in a positive, open, and inclusive manner, children tend to develop good personalities. Conversely, if communication is less effective, such as through monopoly or authoritarianism, negative character development, such as lack of self-confidence or potential

aggression, can arise. In addition, verbal violence can hinder the development of children's character. This happens because there is a transition period that causes doubts in them to do or try something that is considered new to them and determines a behavioral pattern that suits them (Wahab & Mahmuddin, 2023).

Perguruan Diniyyah Puteri is one of the Islamic Boarding Schools specifically for women that has been around for more than a century. Improving the quality of its graduates, who not only have knowledge but also have strong characteristics. The characteristics of graduates from Perguruan Diniyyah Puteri students are as follows: Experts in Worship and have noble morals, Intelligent as a Caliph, Strong and Resilient as a mujahid of Allah. To achieve the character of the students, the school has created many programs that can support their character. One of the programs created by Perguruan Diniyyah Puteri in shaping the character of students is to use communication using the language of love to educate students, both in the dormitory and at school. Communication is the primary tool used to convey information. If the communication or method of conveying information is in accordance with what should

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be and is expected by the recipient of the information, then whatever information is conveyed will provide benefits to the recipient. As the theory conveyed by Lasswell through the communication model he put forward in 1948, the components of communication are communicators, messages, channels, receivers, and effects (Nofrion, 2019). According to Laswell, one of the components of communication is the effect, which is the influence of what is communicated.

Educating students requires intense communication. Students need guidance regarding maturity in their lives. Communication is required to direct and guide the students. Good communication is needed to influence others. Communication must be conveyed properly so that there is no misunderstanding of the communication (Aufirandra et al., 2017). Teachers and employees in daily communication with students, both in providing teaching and education, use communication in the language of love. The application of the language of love to improve the character of students at Diniyyah Puteri College; for this reason, this research was conducted.

Research related to the use of communication to improve student character has also been conducted by Aufirandra et al., with the title Communication affecting individual behavior in this study, which discusses how the use of communication improves children's character, but in the study it is still discussed in the form of a literature review not in the form of an application in educating students (Aufirandra et al., 2017). In addition, research with the title Effective Communication Strategy of Teachers in the Formation of Student Character at SMPN 64 written by Fitra Iswari in this study still discusses the forms of strategies only and does not discuss how communication will be carried out in the formation of student character, not in the form of language or communication. In the research that will be conducted, sentences and language are used to improve student character (Iswari, 2022). In addition, research conducted by Nabila Adinda Permatasari, et al. entitled The Influence of Parental Communication on Early Childhood Character Education (Nabila Adinda & Masykuroh, 2022) in this study discussed how communication in parents influences character education, while in this study what is discussed in this study is how teacher communication or the languages used by teachers in shaping student character.

Communication is the primary tool used to convey life messages. For that, how communication is used by teachers to students of Perguruan Diniyyah Puteri in forming character, which is why this research was conducted, is expected to be a reference for schools and parents in providing character reinforcement to students.

2. Methodology

The method used in this study was qualitative using descriptive methods. This study used observation and interview methods. This study will describe what forms of words are used to educate students every day so that the character of the students can become a strong character, optimistic, positive thinking, and other positive attitudes, as stated in Perguruan Diniyyah Puteri. The data source in this study was the Head of the Student Dormitory at Perguruan Diniyyah Puteri. The data analysis technique used in this study includes data reduction, presentation, and conclusion drawing techniques.

3. Results and discussion

a. Communication

Communication is an important aspect of daily life. Humans cannot develop themselves if they do not communicate in their daily lives, and it will be difficult for them to develop and survive. Communication is the process of exchanging ideas, messages, and contacts as well as social interactions. Through communication, people can get to know each other, establish relationships, work together, influence each other, exchange ideas and opinions, and develop their own societies and cultures (Nofrion, 2019). According to Wursanto (2016), communication is defined as the process of transferring or delivering news/news/information that contains meaning from one party (person or place) to another party (person or place) in an effort to gain mutual understanding (Harahap & Rasyidin, 2021). Communication is the delivery of messages or ideas to others. The hope of communication is that there will be feedback on the messages or ideas conveyed to the recipient. In education, teachers are tasked with educating their students. One way to convey the values of education is through communication. The teacher, as the sender of the message, hopes that the student, as a recipient of the message, receives the messages conveyed by the teacher, as evidenced by changes in behavior in accordance with the message conveyed by the teacher. Interpersonal communication is said to be successful if the message conveyed is well-received by the interlocutor (communicant) and produces effects, one of which is reciprocity (Mayangsari, 2019).

In order for communication to run well between both teachers and students, there are several things that need to be considered, including (Yasin et al., 2015)

- 1) Creating a favorable communication atmosphere
- 2) Choose a language that is easy to capture and understand.
- 3) The message conveyed can arouse attention or interest in the communicant.
- 4) The message can arouse the interest of the communicant, which can be beneficial.

- 5) This message can foster appreciation for the communicant.

Communicating requires art so that the information conveyed can be conveyed to the students. When we communicate with other people, we do not simply convey messages like this, but there is a technique. Thus, the person we are talking to does not just remain silent and does not have another understanding of what we are conveying. Onong Uchjana Effendy (2000) said that "communication techniques are a way or "art" of conveying a message carried out by a communicator in such a way that it has a certain impact on the communicant". For this, we must be careful in communicating so that the communicant does not understand the other concepts (Aufirandra et al., 2017).

b. Parenting with the Language of Love

Students of the Diniyyah Puteri College shaped their character to become strong students, not easily giving up, and never complaining. One of the parenting patterns applied at Diniyyah Puteri College is to use Love Language Communication. A psychology expert emphasized the importance of communication in parenting in the modern era (Manurung et al., 2024). A child's character is influenced by examples of behavior from the environment they get and the words or language they get every day. One example of language that can influence children's characters is the use of the language of love. Love language is a form of communication between humans that shows how much affection they have. In the world of education, love language is also needed as a form of communication between teachers, students, parents, and children in order to express affection and sincerity in education and learning (Marni et al. 2024).

The authors of the book *The Five Languages of Children*, namely Gary Chapman and Ross Campbell, reveal that there are five simple love languages that can be applied in parenting in the family. Love language can be realized through physical touch, words of affirmation, quality time, gifts and acts of service (Berdinanta Masang, Febri Kurnia Manopo, 2022). Meanwhile, at Perguruan Diniyyah Puteri, Love's language used to provide education to students is to avoid the words or sentences of communicating viruses. The communication viruses that should not be used to provide pengasuan to students are as follows.

1) Commanding

Commands are words used to force someone to carry out words that have been ordered. Whether the recipient likes it, or the recipient of the message is able to carry it out. In education, teachers should not impose their wishes on students. Children who are often given command words will result in a child who is full of anxiety and afraid to start a job (Pertiwi, 2024).

2) Blame

The act of "teacher-blaming communication" refers to situations in which teachers direct blame or failure of students in the context of learning and education. This can have a variety of negative impacts, both on the relationship between teacher and student and on the student's motivation to learn. Blaming students for what they have done is toxic language. Children who are often labeled with toxic language become stressed, do not dare to express their opinions, are unable to make their own decisions, and lack confidence (Ismiati, 2024).

3) Undermining

Underestimation means considering something unimportant or worthless. In a social context, belittling is often related to a condescending attitude towards other people or certain situations. as for an example of a child's belittling attitude saying "Mrs. Teacher, you can't do the Pr that I gave ...?" The belittling teacher will say, "That period cannot do it ... 'and what can you do ...'. Students who feel belittled feel worthless. Even students in this condition need attention from the teacher. and hopes that the teacher helps him solve the problems he faces.

4) Comparing

Comparing children with others to what they have done is one of the viruses involved in communication. Comparing the work done by the child with that of others can lead to a decrease in self-confidence and mental health. This can lead to feelings of inadequacy, reduce intrinsic motivation, and encourage unhealthy perfectionism. Leads to resentment. The behavior of comparing children with others can cause them to feel worthless, causing them to be unmotivated to do things.

5) Labeling

Labeling children with negative words will make children set limits their abilities according to the labels they receive. Labeling children can limit their potential. A person who is labeled will tend to continue the deviant behavior labeled on him (Mulia, 2021). Diniyyah puteri in providing communication to students; when a student makes a mistake, it is not justified to label the child with the attitude or mistake he has made.

6) Threatening

Threatening children to negative words can have a detrimental effect on their mental and emotional development. The impact of negative words in the form of threats that children experience results in low self-esteem, emotional stress, and difficulty in understanding emotions.

7) Advising

Advising children is one way of educating them. However, advising children with the aim of blaming

them for what they have done can make them feel guilty. Thus, the child felt guilty and inferior.

8) Lying

Lying to children can have a significant impact on psychological and social development. Some of the main dangers of this habit are as follows. Lying to children, especially in the context of scarring them into compliance, can create false perceptions of the world. For example, threatening children with scary figure to make them eat or behave well can lead children to develop negative views of certain figures or social situations, which can affect their future social interactions (Destriando et al., 2023).

9) Entertaining

Entertaining children to make them happy is a good for parents. However, entertaining children to quickly forget the problems they face is one of the communication viruses for children. This is because direct entertainment without listening to what they feel can make their emotional waste pile up without providing a solution to what they feel. Like "Mrs. Teacher, I have a headache ... cannot do the assignment you gave me...." then the teacher responds "yes, do not think about it, it will disappear ...".

10) Criticizing

Criticizing is one of the most toxic forms of communication in children. Constructive criticism is necessary for educating children, but excessive criticism or delivery in a harsh manner can damage their emotional and mental development. To support positive growth, it is important for parents to provide feedback that is balanced between criticism and praise, as well as appreciate the child's efforts and achievements. negative impact than positive impact on children. Children can experience mental disorders, such as depression, stress, lack of confidence, insecurity, and closedness caused by toxic communication from teachers (Dahlan, 2022).

11) Insinuating

Insinuating is a virus of communication that can hinder children's character development. Insinuating laughs at or criticizes someone either in a friendly or joking manner, or harshly. Reporting from a Focus on the Family, parents, and teachers should be more careful when they want to criticize children through sarcasm. They can pierce their feelings when they hear it, as well as in the future. The impact of sarcasm on children is as follows: undermining children's confidence, increasing the risk of depression and anxiety; students will be confused in communication and teach negative attitudes to children by not communicating well; and students will become shy and aggressive. If these traits are present in the student, then the student's character of becoming a

strong, optimistic, and confident person will fade away by itself.

12) Analyzing

Analyzing the attitude of the teacher who draws conclusions in a negative way about each student's condition. The attitude of analysis gives direct statements to students, without giving them the opportunity to explain why this can happen. This results in students feeling directly blamed for the existing conditions. Negative analysis of children will result in them becoming emotionally unstable, irritable, angry, resentful, and experiencing decreased enthusiasm for learning, loss of initiative, decreased self-confidence, stress, and depression. In addition, in the long run, it can result in decreased achievement and behavioral changes (Tanaiyo & Puluhalawa, 2024).

13) Belittling

Bringing up children's mistakes refers to parents or teachers reminding or highlighting the mistakes that children have made in the past. This is often done to teach a child not to repeat the same mistake. However, this can have a significant negative impact on a child's character development, such as making the child lack self-confidence; they may begin to doubt their abilities and feel that they can never live up to the expectations of parents or teachers; and children who are reminded of their mistakes may feel discomfort or even shame. This can cause emotional stress, inhibit their ability to learn from experiences, and make students feel disrespected.

Shaping the characters of students at Perguruan Diniyyah Puteri begins with daily communication. Communication is used to interact with people in everyday life. Communication is performed every day and every moment by people. Likewise, at Diniyyah Puteri College, teachers will use communication to interact with students. For this reason, what must be done by every educator at Diniyyah Puteri College aims to avoid viruses in communication, as described above.

c. The Effect of Communication on Student Character Development

Communication refers to the delivery of messages from one person to another. According to Effendy(, O, 2000) communication is the process of conveying a message to another person to inform or change attitudes, opinions, or behavior, either orally or indirectly through the media ". In education, teachers deliver subject matter and teach values and attitudes to students requiring communication. Communication given to students can be a good motivation for them and can also be a virus that can weaken student character. Poor communication patterns provided by parents or teachers in educating their children will also have a negative influence on children, both physically and psychologically (Sunarty, 2015).

Effective communication also has a positive impact on student characteristics and learning outcomes (Iswari 2022).

Effective communication is characterized by understanding, causing pleasure, influencing attitudes, improving good social relations, and ultimately leading to action (Rahmat, 2007). Diniyyah Puteri College, in realizing effective communication, as evidenced by changes in student behavior or character, then uses Love Language communication. Love language communication does not use a communication virus. Communication viruses consisting of commanding, blaming, comparing, lying, and others can cause students to become insecure about their own abilities, feel unappreciated, cause anxiety, be closed, and do not dare to be creative for fear of being blamed when doing wrong.

One of the characteristics of the Diniyyah Puteri College students is strong and resilient as a mujahid of Allah with indicators of never complaining, never complaining, and never being a burden to others. When students lose confidence, they are inferior, afraid of being blamed and depressed, and not given the opportunity to convey what they feel, this will be a bad experience for students. This will be remembered by students for a long time. This will affect the character of the next Diniyyah Puteri santri, namely intelligent as a caliph, which one of the indicators is to have a blueprint of the future. How will students be able to compile a blueprint of their lives if they get negative words in their daily lives?

To avoid negative sentences or communication viruses, Diniyya Puteri College in communicating with students uses a language of love consisting of positive words, comfortable body language, diving into feelings, willingness to listen, conveying the contents of the heart, directing independence, and building cooperation ((Fauziah Fauzan El Muhammadiyah, 2017). When the students act that is not in accordance with the predetermined character, to communicate with the students using the 5 Continuum approach as follows: Visual Observation (*visually looking on*), Indirect Statement (*non-directivestatement*), Asking Questions (*Powerful Question*), statement (*Directive Statement*), and physical intervention (*physiological intervention*).

4. Conclusion

Character is a way of thinking and behaving that characterizes how each student lives and works together in the family, community, nation, and state. Communication is the main tool in shaping student characters, whether it is in conveying existing character values or telling which characters are right and wrong. In shaping the character of students to be in accordance with what is expected to communicate, teachers should not use communication viruses consisting of words commanding, blaming, underestimating, comparing, labeling, threatening, advising, lying, entertaining, criticizing,

insinuating, analyzing, and prying. To overcome this, teachers instilling character values in santri must use seven languages of love for children consisting of positive words, comfortable body language, diving into feelings, listening, conveying the contents of the heart, directing independence, and building cooperation.

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