The Important Role of Parents in Guiding Children in the Digital Era 4.0

Damayanti Nababan *[1]
Elsa Yulinarda Yahya Nainggolan [2]
Louisa Silalahi [3]
Ayu Pasaribu [4]
Sri Sinambela [5]
Saryna Natalia Purba [6]
Agnesia Mahulae [7]
Sonia Hutauruk [8]
Rizki Lumbantobing [9]
Indah Gultom [10]
Fourman Simatupang [11]

[1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11] Institut Agama Kristen Negeri Tarutung (IAKN Tarutung)
*e-mail : [1] nababanyanti02@gmail.com ; [2] elsayulinardayahyan@gmail.com ; [3] louisasialahi81@gmail.com ;
[4] Srimelatisinambela28@gmail.com ; [5] sharynantl26@gmail.com ; [6] agnesiacarmelita20@gmail.com ; [7]
ayupasaribu662@gmail.com ; [8] soniahutauruk101@gmail.com ; [9] riskitobing74@gmail.com ; [10]
indahwastina2@gmail.com ; [11] fourmanjoyartosimatupang@gmail.com

Abstract

The role of parents in guiding children in the digital era 4.0 is becoming increasingly crucial along with advances in technology. In an ever-growing digital environment, parents play an important role as facilitators and companions for their children. This article reviews how parents can guide their children in understanding and managing the impact of technology positively. An approach that involves open communication, understanding online risks and developing digital skills together is key to ensuring that children can face digital challenges wisely. By understanding their role as mentors and actively involving themselves, parents can help shape a young generation that is able to use technology responsibly in this dynamic digital era. In the digital era 4.0, the challenges faced by children in facing technological advances require a proactive and caring role from parents. This research discusses the central role of parents as supervisors and educators in guiding their children to face the complex digital world. Open communication and a deep understanding of technology are key to creating a safe and educational environment. Parents need to develop digital literacy with their children, facilitate understanding of online etiquette, and provide adequate guidance regarding the use of digital devices. In addition, this article highlights the need for parents as positive role models, helping children build critical and emotional skills to face the challenges of the digital era. Thus, the role of parents is not only limited to supervision, but also to active guidance to create a generation that is intelligent, responsible and digitally skilled.

Keywords : roles, parents, technology, digital era 4.0, children

INTRODUCTION

In a society that continues to develop and connect digitally in the 4.0 era, children are experiencing increasing exposure to technology. This rapid development opens up opportunities and at the same time creates new challenges, considering that children must learn to manage information, online risks and understand digital ethics. Along with this, the role of parents becomes increasingly important in guiding their children through the complexities of the digital environment.

Technology provides great benefits in children's education and development, however, along with this, risks such as inappropriate content, dangerous online interactions and digital insecurity are also part of their reality. Therefore, it needs to be understood that parents are not only supervisors, but also mentors who are proactive in forming children's understanding of technology holistically.

This research aims to explore the role of parents as supervisors and primary educators of

children in facing the dynamics of the digital world. The focus of this research is to identify open communication strategies, in-depth understanding of online risks, and developing digital literacy with children as concrete steps in creating a safe and educational environment.

METHOD

The method in this research is qualitative in document study. The document study in question is a study that searches for literature in accordance with study materials such as books, articles, the internet and so on. (Long in Marani, 2017). The methods for collecting data include; First, carry out a literature review that is appropriate to the material being researched. These materials are collected. Second, after the data was obtained, the author carried out analysis using a descriptive method according to the author's understanding. The data sources in this study consist of two, namely primary data and secondary data. Primary data is data related to the title of this research, while secondary data is supporting data from the title of this research (Aslan, 2017).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In the last five years, the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) by households in Indonesia has shown rapid development. The percentage of the population who uses cell phones continues to experience a surge and increase, which is known to have reached 63.53% in 2019. This growth in cell phone use was also followed by growth in computer ownership and internet access ownership in households, which reached 18.78% for computer ownership, and 73.75% for household internet access ownership.

Internet use has also increased during the 2015-2019 period, which can be seen by showing an increase in the percentage of the population accessing the internet in 2015 from around 21.98% to 47.69% in 2019. And conversely, ownership of fixed-line telephones in households decreased from year to year. In 2015, the percentage of households that owned and controlled or used landline telephones was around 4.01%, decreasing to 43.51% in 2019.
Modern humans cannot avoid how important technology is in life, especially information and communication technology. Information Technology (IT) has become a very important part of every business plan. Almost all companies, both large and small, use information technology as one of the activities that is needed to provide improvements to the business services they manage. A very appropriate and helpful platform for implementing technology collaboration with business is social media.

The industrial revolution 4.0 is marked by increased digitalization of manufacturing which is driven by several factors, including increased business intelligence connectivity, to increased new interactions between humans and machines. Technology plays a very active role in all business elements. Various challenges from the process and results of implementing business mastery by all groups, workers must have abilities that cannot be done by machines in order to maintain the performance of human resources.
Some examples of technology in everyday life include:
1. Agricultural sector
The presence of agricultural tools and machines in rural areas is expected to fill the shortage of human labor and livestock which are increasingly scarce with increasingly expensive wage rates, can increase the efficiency of farming by saving energy, time and production costs, can increase the competitive and comparative advantage of agricultural commodities, and to increase labor productivity. The unavailability or inappropriate use of agricultural tools and machinery has caused a reduction (loss) in the quantity and quality of agricultural products.
2. Business sector
The benefits that can be obtained from doing business via the internet are cost savings reaching 35%, customer service reaching 32%, increasing income reaching 18%, marketing reaching 13%, and others reaching 2%. Meanwhile, the advantages of business strategy in winning competition that can be obtained are that global communication in business becomes truly live, faster, cheaper and easier; interactive communication as a means of showing the company's attention to its consumers; provide information and services according to the needs of each consumer; increasing cooperation between teams; EC makes it possible to open new markets, products, or services; can integrate external activities and business processes within the company online.

3. Education sector

Technology as a determinant of choosing learning strategies, materials and media equipment that are used to improve the learning atmosphere. The application of technology is beneficial for education, namely:

a. The emergence of mass media, as a source of knowledge and a center for education, especially electronic media. Examples include internet networks, computer labs.

b. The impact is that the teacher is not only a reference source of knowledge, so that students are not only focused on the teacher and the learning information provided by the teacher, but can also access learning material via the internet, the teacher has a role as a teacher and guide, so every student is guided in in learning to direct and monitor the educational process, so that students do not take the wrong path in using Information Media in learning at school.

c. There are new methods that can make the learning process of students at school easier. With technology, methods are created that attract students' attention in learning and make it easier to understand the material.

d. Learning can be carried out online, for example by using the Zoom application, Google Meet, and using internet postal services.

e. There was a data management system for assessment results that used the use of technology at a time when human technology had not yet developed to carry out research, the data analysis had to be carried out directly and go into the field and calculated manually, but with the current technology all tasks can be done through technology, without requiring a long time and the results are more accurate. An example of technology is a laptop or computer that can manage data by utilizing programs on the laptop or computer.

f. Fulfillment of educational facilities quickly. For example, when making questions, it is necessary to make questions according to the number of students in the school, therefore there is a photocopy machine that can make copies quickly. With technological developments, all of this can be done in a short time.

In the learning process there are several benefits obtained from technology, namely:

a. This learning will be more interesting and effective.

b. Used to explain something complex clearly and easily understood.

c. Can speed up a long process quickly.

d. Presents rare events, as well as many new discoveries.

e. Shows events that are unexpected by humans.

There are several positive impacts of digital technology 4.0, including:

1. It is easier to access information and communicate.

Technological advances such as television, mobile phones (HP), and even the internet have not only hit urban communities, but can also be enjoyed by people in remote villages. As a result, all information, both positive and negative, can be easily accessed by the public. Whether we admit it or not, we are slowly starting to change people's lifestyles and mindsets with all the images that characterize them.

2. Production efficiency and effectiveness occurs.

If the 4 principles of the industrial revolution are realized, then industry has the possibility of efficient and effective production at costs that are no longer expensive. So there are remaining costs that can be allocated to other needs that do not involve many technological elements.

3. Increase in national income.

Industrialization allows countries to optimize their dwindling resources. Industrialization increases the quantity and quality of goods produced by a company. This is what makes a greater contribution to the gross national product (GNP).

4. Higher standard of living.

In industrial societies, labor is more valuable. If productivity is higher, individual income increases.

5. Economic stability.

Countries that depend on the production and export of raw materials alone cannot achieve rapid levels of economic growth. Limited and fluctuating demand for agricultural products and raw

materials supported by natural uncertainty will hamper economic progress. Stunted economic progress leads to an unstable or insecure economy.

6. Improved balance of payments.

Industrialization changes foreign trade patterns within a country. Increased exports of manufactured goods are more profitable in foreign exchange. At the same time, processing raw materials domestically will limit imports of goods thereby saving foreign exchange. The impact of export orientation and import substitution from industrialization helps improve the balance of payments.

7. Stimulate the progress of other sectors.

Industrialization encourages progress in other economic sectors. Developments in one industry have an impact on the development and expansion of related industries.

8. Increased job opportunities.

Industrialization provides increased employment opportunities in small and large scale industries. Industry absorbs unemployed and unemployed workers from the agricultural sector thereby increasing people's income.

9. Greater worker specialization.

Industrialization opens the way for specialized labor or skilled labor to become better known. This division of labor increases the marginal value product of labor. Specialized labor is more profitable. The average income of workers in the industrial sector will be higher than workers in the agricultural sector.

There are several negative impacts of digital technology 4.0, including:

1. Vulnerable to cyber attacks

The industrial revolution 4.0 will be very closely related to the world of technology, where one of the things that can be seen starting to be discovered nowadays is the internet of things (IoT). IoT products eliminate the physical boundary between the production process and the network system and are therefore very vulnerable to cyber attacks if not protected by a solid and robust security system. One of the IoT products is an employee attendance application which can be directly connected to HRD management via the internet but with a better security system so that your asset data can be more secure.

2. HR investment is not cheap and minimal

Companies that want to use automation systems and high technology must of course have human resources who have the abilities and skills to be able to use these sophisticated facilities. Therefore, companies must be willing to spend funds to invest in providing skills training and certification to employees they already have or are ready to provide decent and higher salaries for workers who have the expertise and skills needed by the company.

3. The impact of technology on the environment

As long as humans use machines to work, energy needs will remain high and until now there is no sufficient energy source that can be used for large-scale production activities other than using fossil fuels. The higher the manufacturing production activities, the higher the waste disposal which can threaten the global environment.

4. Humans become dependent and lazy

Information media has attractive qualities that can respond to all stimuli provided by its use. It is too attractive, making people feel as if they have found their own world which makes them feel comfortable and they don't want to let it go. For someone who is used to using information technology, they tend to be lazy because they are more interested in using existing applications/facilities rather than having to be bothered. In fact, with the industrial revolution 4.0, it can be used as a forum for information and communication or even as entertainment to relieve fatigue/stress. 5. Urbanization

As a result of industrialization, people from rural areas will migrate to cities looking for work in factories. Urbanization is the movement of people from villages to cities. As a result, the population in the city increased.

6. There is an income gap

The separation of capital and labor creates income differences between laborers and those who control capital resources.

In the development of digital technology 4.0, parents have an important role in guiding children in the digital 4.0 era, including:

1. Educate spiritual maturity

The role of parents as educators for children in the family is not just carrying out the responsibilities received as a result of marriage, but the role as educators is a mandate given directly by God to parents. As God's representatives in the world, parents are given the task of guiding their children based on concepts that are in accordance with God's aims and objectives. The Bible firmly states that children must be educated so they understand the truth. We can see this in Deuteronomy 6:4-9 where God commands parents to teach what they have heard and received from God to their children.

It is hoped that the implementation of Allah's mandate can help children know Allah, follow His commands and live in the right way. However, in reality, there are quite a few Christian parents or families who are less aware of this noble task. This is in line with the statement by Ezra Tari and Talizaro Tafonao who stated that education in the family sphere tends to be often neglected. Lack of parental attention to children's education is caused by the lack of parental education, parents are busy with work, parental awareness of education is minimal, the family is less harmonious, and the family economy is less supportive.

2. Educate about love

a. Don't compare children with their siblings (especially other children). If you have two or more children, love them equally. Love is not jealous. So, don't arouse our children's jealousy. They need to feel loved and receive the same loving treatment from their parents so they can express love healthily and naturally to others.

b. If we treat others well, children will follow our example. Likewise with negative behavior. Swearing at drivers or public road users, or even fighting are examples of negative behavior. Love is patient, so teach that patience to children so that they understand the importance of boundaries and tolerance towards other people.

c. Show good words to our children, partners, parents, neighbors and friends. The way we treat each other will be seen and imitated by children. This doesn't necessarily mean that they are doing something bad, it's definitely because they are imitating you. However, you need to remember the importance of parental example in teaching divine character to children.

3. Guiding children to live in social groups

a. Observe and pay attention to children

Get to know the uniqueness of each child. Observe how they interact with their peers and people around them. If your child likes to smile, is good at socializing and adapts easily, guide them to continue to show good and positive morals. Meanwhile, if your child tends to be afraid or shy, position yourself and understand their feelings. Help your child feel comfortable and introduce him to the environment without having to force him.

b. Open atmosphere

Implement an open relationship and atmosphere in the family. Encourage children to communicate about various things, from food, daily activities, to nature. Also provide special time to talk about children's and parents' feelings, whether happy, sad or upset. Be calm, build a comfortable atmosphere, then support your child to ask questions, have opinions, or just tell stories and express their feelings.

c. Freeing children to express themselves

Give children space and support to explore interests and talents. Let children experience and choose the activities they like most. Because, by recognizing their own abilities and desires, children are trained to express, communicate, face challenges, and become more confident.

d. Generate self-confidence

Parents must be the ones who know best and understand their child's strengths and weaknesses. So, value and appreciate every child's work and achievements to raise their self-confidence. Because to have flexible interactions with other people, children need to feel comfortable with themselves.

e. Play together

Playing with peers and siblings can be a good activity to train children to communicate, interact, get to know the environment and express themselves. Reduce the intensity of use of devices such

as smartphones, tablets or computers as a means of entertainment, and take children outside the house so they can meet and play with other children.

f. Choose a positive group

Support and facilitate children to get involved in social activities or study groups, in the form of children's communities, sports teams, or courses that suit their interests. Occasionally, Mom and Dad can also invite their children to get involved in community activities around the house. That way, children will have the opportunity to meet new friends, get to know the environment, socialize, and actualize themselves.

g. Not restrained

An overprotective attitude can limit children's potential and reduce their interaction with the environment. So, build habits that can support children to live independently and learn to behave in social interactions. For example, guiding them to take care of simple needs, such as calling a friend, buying food at a stall, or receiving a package.

h. Teaching social ethics

Apart from encouraging children to socialize, fathers and mothers must also provide direction regarding attitudes or ethics that apply in social environments. Instill important values, such as respecting differences, maintaining principles, obeying regulations, or maintaining public order, so that children can more easily blend in and get a good response from others.

i. Explain the meaning of friendship

If a child tends to be shy, then he needs motivation to be able to actively interact with other people. So, fathers and mothers need to provide a good understanding regarding friendship relationships and social interactions. In this way, children can encourage themselves to be more open and flexible in socializing.

4. Be a role model

Parental example is the key to the growth of a child's faith. Exemplary must be shown not only when things are good and smooth, but when things are not good, even during difficult times. Parents' example must be in harmony with the Bible, according to the child's level of understanding and psychology, as well as the methods of conveying his example. Everything must become an inseparable unit, so that children remember and imitate when they face problems and difficulties that are similar to those their parents have faced.

Thus, it appears that parents do not provide good examples in educating, developing, directing their children to have good character or personality, especially in the development of children's character and spirituality. This situation can be seen when the child is in a peer environment. With a shallow spiritual condition, parents' spiritual maturity does not only start from how diligently they participate in worship and involvement in service, but from how they can build relationships with other people, including their children. When building communication, especially with children, parents need to use words that build and do not tear down the child's mentality. As the Word of God says in Titus 2:7 "and set yourself an example in doing good. You must be honest and serious in your teaching." In spiritual matters, parents must set an example that what they do is in line with the truthful values of God's Word. In this way, parents can be good role models and become a reflection for a child in their behavior or spiritual growth.

Link Youtube : https://youtu.be/C-UB8GExbC4?si=Ei8OFYvnBS75dDQz

CONCLUSION

As for the conclusions that can be drawn from the description and results presented above, children do not yet have the capacity to limit their own use of gadgets and choose for what purposes they are used. Parents too, in their efforts to control the use of gadgets, both in terms of time and choice of content, mostly involve trial and error, due to limited knowledge and experience in fields related to the latest technology.

Absolute prohibitions and excessive restrictions on the use of gadgets without reasoning-based explanations are unacceptable for children. This non-acceptance appears in the form of disobedience behavior, namely using gadgets secretly and uncontrollably, outside the knowledge of parents. And it can be used as a reference in developing a more comprehensive study regarding education and childcare, especially in relation to the use of gadgets in the era of the industrial revolution 4.0. It is necessary to extract additional data through survey methods with more

parents to get a general picture of parenting trends that are applied today. However, the results of this initial research point to the importance of increasing digital literacy, both in parents (for educational and parenting purposes) and children so that maximum positive impacts can be expected from children's use of gadgets.

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