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Guidance and Counseling Teachers' Efforts in Fulfilling the Developmental Tasks of Alpha Generation Students

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ABSTRACT

Developmental tasks are a series of tasks that must be completed by a student/counselor at a certain stage of life/development. Developmental tasks arise from physical maturity, psychological maturity, social or cultural demands, and personal values and aspirations. When a student/counselor successfully completes a developmental task, the student or learner feels satisfied and becomes an asset to complete the next stage of developmental tasks. This study aims to determine the efforts of guidance and counseling teachers in fulfilling the developmental tasks of alpha generation students. The type of research used is qualitative literature research which is a literature study. The results revealed that the teacher's efforts in achieving the developmental tasks of alpha generation students or learners are as follows: Needs assessment, needs analysis, planning of services to be provided to students or learners, implementation of counseling, and others related to developmental issues, guidance of student services, evaluation, and reflection of services.
Keywords: Developmental Tasks, Alpha Generation, Students

INTRODUCTION

National education has noble functions and goals as stated in Article 3 of Law 20 of 2003, namely National Education functions to develop abilities and shape the character and civilization of a dignified nation in order to educate the nation's life, aims

to develop the potential of students to become human beings who are faithful and devoted to God Almighty, have noble character, are healthy, knowledgeable, capable, creative, independent, and become democratic and responsible citizens.

Guidance and counseling in schools is organized to facilitate the development of students/counselees so that they are able to realize their potential to achieve optimal development. Facilitation is intended as an effort to facilitate the process, because every human being has the potential to develop. Humans are grouped into several generational stages based on their birth time. According to Nurhasanah & Richardus (2021), the generation born in 1946-1964 is called Baby Boomers. Meanwhile, the generation born in 1965-1979 is called generation X (Slacker or Xers). Generation Y is the generation born in 1980-2000. The generation born after the millennial era is called generation Z.

Generation Z started in 2000 and lasted until Generation Alpha was born in 2010. (Lie et al 2020) state that alpha babies will be born to Y parents and become the younger siblings of Generation Z. The first Alpha Generation was born when Apple launched its iPad line, Instagram was born and the app became the word of the year in 2010. The last Generation Alpha will arrive in 2024. Another name is screeners because screens have been in front of them from an early age. According to (Lithaetr et al 2020), Generation Alpha is currently the children of the Millennial generation. Therefore, the Alpha generation is also called the "Millennial Children".

From the above, it can be said that the Alpha generation after Generation Z was born in an era where information technology was increasingly sophisticated including the birth of Apple, and was an era when children could already have fun. A smarter and more sophisticated screen rephrase has been a part of his life since childhood. Therefore, parents of Generation Alpha children also need to acquire the appropriate skills to navigate sophisticated smart screens with various app functions. Given the current technological developments, the personality of the Alpha generation is different from the previous generation, so parenting patterns will certainly change over time. In accordance with what has been said so far (Fadlurohim et al 2019), the development of children in the 4.0 era (Alpha generation) will definitely change people's perspectives and lifestyles from traditional to unconventional. In addition, as technology develops, society must also evolve, whether we like it or not. The alpha generation faces various obstacles in this world due to technological advances and cannot escape its influence. But these obstacles provide both opportunities and challenges for them. Therefore, as parents, we need to instill character values in alpha generation children from an early age. By providing character education, it is expected that children will gain the ability to face these opportunities and challenges. (Yasir, Sushilawati: 2021)

A 2017 American Psychologists Association (APA) survey of 3,458 Gen Z respondents between the ages of 15 and 21 found that a growing number of respondents felt that social media had become a part of their lives. When using social media, 45% felt judged and 38% experienced negative emotions (American Psychological Association, 2018). Indonesia ranks 6th in the world in terms of the number of internet users, with the number of internet users in Indonesia reaching 202.6 million in early

2021, or equivalent to 73.7 million Indonesians. This number increased by 15% compared to the data from the previous two years. Therefore, students must learn online during the pandemic. Among the large number of internet users in Indonesia, 96.1% of Indonesian children have viewed pornographic content, especially those living in big cities such as Bandung and Yogyakarta. Based on the data collected, the majority of students who access pornographic content are junior high school students. This is obviously very worrying for many people. As you can see, over the past five years, incidents of harassment and rape have increased by 31% due to free access to pornographic content (Anwar, 2022).

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research method used by the author is the literature study method. According to Harahap as quoted (Angraini et al., 2022; Asmita & Silvianetri, 2022) it is called a literature study because various data needed to complete this article come from libraries in the form of books, encyclopedias, journals, documents, magazines, and so on. As international and national literature searches are carried out using the EBSCO, ScienDirect, Proquest, ISJD, Scoolar, Garuda Ristekbrin databases, and so on.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Developmental Tasks of Junior High School Learners

Developmental tasks are a series of tasks that must be completed by a student/counselor at a certain stage of life/development. Developmental tasks arise from physical maturity, psychological maturity, social or cultural demands, and personal values and aspirations. When a student/counselor successfully completes a developmental task, the student or learner feels satisfied and becomes an asset to complete the next stage of developmental tasks. Conversely, when students or learners fail to complete their developmental tasks, they end up feeling disappointed and unappreciated by others. This failure complicates or prevents the student or learner from completing the next stage of developmental tasks.

Developmental tasks are aspects that need to be understood by counselors, because the fulfillment of developmental tasks is the goal of guidance and counseling services. Guidance and counseling services are one of the solutions for students/learners in achieving developmental tasks. The developmental tasks of junior high school students/counselees are: 1) Achieve self-development as an adolescent who believes and is devoted to God Almighty; 2) Get to know the ethical system and values for life guidelines as a person, member of society, and humanity; 3) Develop a better understanding of independent living situations and attitudes at the emotional, social and economic levels; 4) Develop knowledge and skills as needed to complete and continue academic studies and / or prepare for careers and play a role in community life; 5) establish values and behaviors that are acceptable in wider social life; 6) Achieving a good relationship pattern with coworkers in your role as a man, or achieving a good relationship pattern with coworkers in your role as a man or woman; 7) Prepare

yourself, accept and be positive and dynamic towards physical and psychological changes that occur in yourself for a healthy life; 8) Have economic behavior independence; 9) Recognize abilities, talents, interests, and direction of career tendencies and art appreciation; 10) Achieve maturity in relationships with peers. (kemendikbud: 2016)

The Nature of Alpha Generation

The Alpha Generation is the next generation after Millennials and Generation Z. This generation was born in the midst of rapid technological development. This means you receive all the information early on. Alphas receive more information from an early age, which allows them to think more broadly than previous generations. As a generation that will determine the future, adults need to pay special attention to the education and consideration of this generation of children. The author uses the literature review method to provide an overview of the education and parenting patterns (family and school) of the alpha generation and adults. Given the increasing pace of technological progress, education patterns based on religious and family values are important in the midst of rapid technological advances.

Children born in 2010 are also known as Generation Alpha children or gen A children. They are the successors of the previous generations, Generations Y and Z. Mark McCrindle believes this generation is the true millennial generation because they were born in the 21st century. This generation also has other names such as G-N, G-D. That's because they are "digital natives". N (Internet), D (Digital) (Gazali, 2018). They are a generation born in an environment where everything related to technology is available. Unlike Generation Y and Generation Z who were born with the development of technology. Basically Gen Y, Gen Z, and Gen A are generations that live in technology. But the difference is very striking. Generation Y discovered technology in their 20s, and Gen Z discovered technology in elementary school. Meanwhile, Generation Z was born where technology was already available (Novianti, R, Hukmi, H. & Maria, 2019).

Characteristics of the Alpha Generation

Generation Alpha is the group born between 2010 and 2025. This generation has several characteristics:

1) Understanding of technology: Generation Alpha grew up in the advanced digital era and is very familiar with technological devices such as smartphones, tablets, and computers. They have the ability and understanding of advanced technology from an early age.

2) Multitasking skills: The alpha generation has better multitasking skills because they are used to different media playback and technological devices. Switching easily between different activities and tasks, including: B. Watch videos on your tablet and play games on your phone at the same time.

3) Social Skills Through Social Media: However, Generation Alpha has grown up with the proliferation of social media and relies on communication and interaction

through these platforms rather than face-to-face interaction. They are used to using social media to communicate and interact with others.

4) More accustomed to diversity: : Generation Alpha lives in a more open and globally connected world. They grow up in greater contact with different cultures, languages and forms of expression. This allows us to embrace diversity more and understand differences better.

5) Quality Education: Due to easier access to technology and information, Generation Alpha tends to have a higher level of education. Digital platforms allow you to acquire new knowledge quickly and learn independently.

6) Understanding Environment and Sustainability: Generation Alpha has grown up with solutions related to the environment and the sustainability movement. They are more aware of humanity's impact on the environment and better understand the importance of preserving the earth. (Novianti, R., Hukmi, H., & Maria, I. (2019).

The characteristics of the alpha generation include:

1) Digital Native. They are the first generation to grow up fully in the digital age and have access to technology from an early age.

2) Multitasking, Alpha Generation children are usually good at working on multiple tasks at the same time, especially when using digital devices.

3) Education, Generation Alphas are probably the most educated generation in history, thanks in large part to their access to digital information.

4) Diversification, Generation Alpha will be the most ethnically and culturally diverse generation in history. (Lie, Anita et al. (2020).

Factors Affecting the Alpha Generation

1) Technology: Generation Alpha is a generation that has grown up in an advanced digital era. The rapid development of technology such as smartphones, tablets, and the internet has impacted the way we learn, communicate, and interact with the world. They grew up with easy access to information through the internet and are quick to adapt and utilize technology.

2) Social Media Influence: Generation Alpha grew up with the advent of popular social media such as Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. They are used to sharing and accessing information through these platforms. Social media also shapes the way people interact with others and build social relationships both in person and virtually.

3) Family Environment: The family also plays an important role in shaping the Alpha Generation's personality and attitudes. The values, attitudes and mindsets instilled by parents and family members can shape the way children behave and think. Family education, upbringing and experiences can also influence the development of the Alpha generation's social skills, abilities and values.

4) Education: The education system also has a great influence on the development of the alpha generation. The development of technology and digital platforms has affected learning methods and access to information. Gen Alphas naturally incorporate technology into their training and tend to learn through interaction with digital media.

5) Globalization: Generation Alpha lives in an increasingly networked era of globalization. Through the Internet, mass media and travel, they are exposed to different cultures, languages and traditions. Globalization broadens their perspective on the world and influences their attitude towards diversity and multiculturalism.

6) Economy: Economic conditions and technological developments also affect the alpha generation. They grew up in a time of economic uncertainty and rapid technological advancement. These economic and technological changes can affect the way they think about work, finances, and professional responsibilities. (Lithaetr, et al. (2020).

The main factors that influence the alpha generation are:

1) Technology that drives growth: Generation Alpha has grown up in an era where digital technology is highly integrated in everyday life. Rephrase Easy access to digital devices, the internet, and apps has shaped the way they interact, learn, and play.

2) Teaching and Learning: Widespread access to global educational resources and online learning platforms has changed the way we acquire knowledge. Generation Alpha has the ability to learn independently and access information instantly.

3) Openness to culture and diversity: With an increasingly inclusive environment, Generation Alpha has become more open to differences in culture, race and origin. This affects their attitudes towards social issues and diversity.

4) Parenting and family patterns: The way parents raise and educate their children also plays a role. Supporting technology in parenting, limiting screen time, and approaches to developing children's skills are key elements in shaping Gen Alpha's identity.

5) Impact of Social Media and Digital Content: Gen Alpha is exposed to social media content from an early age. This affects their perception of themselves, their social relationships, and the way they share information. Cultural and ecological changes: Changes in culture, trends and social environment also affect the development of this generation. For example, increased awareness of environmental issues and the importance of sustainability will influence their attitudes and behaviors in the future.

Efforts of Counseling Teachers in Fulfilling the Developmental Tasks of Students

Efforts that can be made by counselors or guidance and counseling teachers in fulfilling their responsibilities for student development include: (Ministry of Education and Culture. 2016).

a. Needs mapping

The preparation of guidance and counseling services at school should begin with evaluation activities to identify aspects that can be used as input in the preparation or service program. These assessment activities include environmental context assessment and needs assessment. Through this mapping, it is expected that guidance and counseling services will be available to meet the developmental needs of learners.

b. Needs analysis

Needs analysis is the process of identifying needs and simultaneously setting priorities. Needs analysis is a way or method to find differences between desired/needed or expected conditions and existing conditions. Desired conditions are often called ideal conditions, and existing conditions are often called actual or actual conditions. A needs analysis is a formal process for determining actual outcomes and desired impacts, as well as the distance or gap between the outcomes and desired impacts. Many of these gaps are prioritized and the most important ones are selected to solve the problem. In other words, needs analysis is the identification of supporting and inhibiting factors (gaps) in the service process in order to determine the right and appropriate materials and media to achieve service goals that lead to the achievement of development tasks. From the description above, needs analysis in guidance and counseling is an activity carried out to determine the needs of the students themselves (old paradigm: problems), the environment around students, and guidance and counseling services to achieve them. Development tasks for optimal results. (Ministry of Education and Culture. 2016.)

c. Service planning

Service planning is the process of identifying, analyzing, and determining customer needs and requirements and developing strategies to meet those needs. It includes strategic, operational and tactical planning to create and manage effective and efficient services.

Service planning includes several aspects:

1) Customer Needs Analysis: The first step in service planning is the identification and analysis of customer needs. This includes research and interviews to understand what customers need and expect from the services provided.

2) Identifying user needs: Once the customer needs are known, the next step is to identify user requirements. User requirements include standards and specifications that must be met by the service provided.

3) Strategy Development: Service planning strategies are developed based on customer needs and user requirements. These strategies include innovation, product and service development, and marketing and advertising strategies.

4) Operational Planning: Operational planning involves identifying and allocating the resources required to provide services. This includes financial planning, human resource planning, and infrastructure planning.

5) Implementation and Monitoring: As soon as the planning is complete, the service can be implemented. During implementation, the service implementation will be monitored to ensure that the service is delivered in accordance with the plan and controls that have been established.

6) Evaluation and Improvement: After the implementation of the service, an evaluation is carried out to assess the success of the service. If defects or problems occur, improvements and refinements to the service plan are made to ensure customer satisfaction and improve service performance.

Service planning is essential for managing and optimizing the customer experience. With proper planning, companies can provide services that add value to their customers, increase customer satisfaction, and strengthen customer relationships. (Ministry of Education. 2016.)

Service or activity implementation is the phase in which a program or project is implemented or run. In this phase, all plans and preparations that have been made in the previous phase are carried out. The performance of a service or activity can involve various aspects such as human resources, funding, equipment, and logistics. In this phase, you need to prepare all the components needed to run the service or activity. The process of implementing services and activities also requires coordination and communication between various stakeholders. Every step or action taken must be carefully planned and monitored to ensure the expected goals are achieved. In addition, the implementation of a service or activity includes continuous evaluation and monitoring to identify progress and make improvements where necessary. This is very important to ensure that services and activities run well and produce the desired results. When implementing services and activities, it is also important to monitor all relevant aspects, such as the quality of services provided, efficiency of resource use, compliance with regulations, and assessment of community reactions and needs. At this stage, it is also important to include community or service user participation in the implementation process. Involving communities and service users ensures that services and activities meet their needs and expectations. In summary, the implementation of a service or activity is an important phase of a program or project. At this stage, all planning and preparation is done by considering coordination, communication, monitoring and evaluation to achieve the desired goals.

Evaluation and reflection of services and activities

Evaluation of counseling activities has two purposes: general and specific. The general purpose of counseling evaluation is to determine the success of the implementation of a counseling service. The specific purpose of guidance and

counseling evaluation is to determine the performance of the program in accordance with the description of service program activities or agreed points in the guidance and counseling program. Examples: data collection programs, career counseling activities, individual counseling, group counseling, etc.

The function of evaluating mentoring activities is to provide feedback to supervisors (advisors) for improvement or further development of mentoring and mentoring programs, as well as informing stakeholders about the attitudes, behaviors, and development potential of mentors. The evaluation process of consultation activities has two aspects: process evaluation and outcome evaluation. The process evaluation evaluates how effective the consultation service process is, while the outcome evaluation itself evaluates the effectiveness of the consultation service results. The aspects evaluated in the mentoring and assistance program include the suitability between the program and program implementation, obstacles to program implementation, the impact of mentoring activities, stakeholder reactions, and changes. Phenomena that occur and their broad spectrum. Procedures for evaluating orientation and counseling programs.

In its implementation, the evaluation of guidance and counseling programs can be carried out in four steps. Rephrase, namely problem formulation, development or preparation of data collection tools, and data collection and analysis to find out what programs have been implemented, whether and what programs have been implemented. Whether it has been implemented or the results have not been achieved. Conduct follow-up actions by correcting inappropriate programs or developing (additions or changes) that can support program effectiveness. (Ministry of Education and Culture. 2016.)

CONCLUSION

The first generation of the Alpha generation is now 12 years old. This means that some of them are currently in the seventh grade of middle school, while others are still in the sixth grade of elementary school. The Alpha generation was born with complete technology. This generation has advantages that the previous generations, Generation Y and Z, did not have. Their understanding of technology is faster and better than previous generations. Alpha generation children quickly absorb the positive and negative impacts of technology. Under these conditions, counselors of generations X, Y, and Z need to improve their counseling skills. Teachers also need to think out of the box, be creative, and have technical skills, especially in using social media applications that are familiar to Gen Alpha children. Utilizing technological advances in serving children in the digital era is one of the competencies that counselors must develop so that the services provided can be effective.

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