

## CONVENTONAL SCHOOL vs HOMESCHOOLING: "CHILDREN'S CHARACTER FORMATION"

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**Keywords:**

Parental Decision -Making, Educational Impact, Education Comparison, Child's Personality Formation

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**Abstract:** This research explores the comparison of children's character formation between conventional schools and homeschooling. The research focus involves analysis of the impact of the social environment, interpersonal interactions, and educational methods on children's character development. Conventional schools, with their advantages in providing extensive social interaction and a structured curriculum, are compared to homeschooling which offers curriculum flexibility and a more personalized learning experience. Through a literature review and empirical research, this research examines how conventional schools and homeschooling each influence critical aspects of character formation, such as social skills, empathy, self-confidence, and independence. The findings of this research contribute to an in-depth understanding of the implications of education for the formation of children's character, providing a valuable perspective for parents, educators and educational practitioners in making informed decisions regarding children's educational choices

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### INTRODUCTION

Avoid sub-subs in the introduction. The introduction should contain the background of the problem, problems and research objectives. The percentage of introductory page length is between 10-15% of the total length of a manuscript. References are indicated by writing the author's family name and year of publication, without page numbers. The theoretical basis is presented in complete, concise sentences and is truly relevant to the purpose of writing a scientific article. The manuscript is written with a line density of 1.5 spacing, Times New Roman 12 font.

### RESEARCH METHODS

Inform briefly about the materials and methods used in the research, including the subjects/materials studied, the tools used, the experimental design or design used, the sampling technique, the variables to be measured, the data collection techniques, the

analysis and the statistical models used. Avoid writing statistical formulas excessively. If using a well-known method, state the name of the method only. If necessary, state the reference source used as a reference. For qualitative research, research methods can adjust. Manuscripts are written with a line density of 1.5 spacing, Times New Roman 12 font.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### RESULT

In understanding the impact of choosing conventional schools and home schooling on children's character formation, the data analyzed looks at a number of key aspects that focus on children's characteristics which include curiosity, social skills, resilience, integrity, ability to find solutions (ability to find solutions), creativity (creativity), empathy (empathy), firm (firm), modesty (simplicity), and self- confidence (self-confidence).

In this data exploration, findings from observations, interviews, documents with parents, teachers, staff and students from both types of education are integrated. Through thematic analysis, it is explored how each aspect of character is influenced by the chosen learning environment. and here you can see the average key aspect table.

Table. Character Assessment Table for Conventional vx Homeschooling using the Dominant Mean.

No.	Statement	TI	D. Mean
1.	mean achievement score for curiosity at conventional school	20	9.4
	mean achievement score for curiosity at homeschooling	20	6.6
2.	mean achievement score for social skills at conventional school	20	9.8
	mean achievement score for social skills at homeschooling	20	5.6
3.	mean achievement score for resilience conventional school	20	9
	mean achievement score for resilience at homeschooling	20	7.8
4.	mean achievement score for integrity at conventional school	20	8.2
	mean achievement score for integrity at homeschooling	20	9.2
5.	mean achievement score for ability to find solutions at conventional school	20	6.8
	mean achievement score for ability to find solutions at homeschooling	20	7.4
6.	mean achievement score for creativity at conventional school	20	8.6
	mean achievement score for creativity at homeschooling	20	8.6
7.	mean achievement score for empathy at conventional school	20	9.6
	mean achievement score for empathy at homeschooling	20	6.8
8.	mean achievement score for firm at conventional schooling	20	8
	mean achievement score for firm at homeschooling	20	7.6

9.	mean achievement score for modesty at conventional school	20	7
	mean achievement score for modesty at homeschooling	20	9.6
10.	mean achievement score for self-confident at conventional school	20	9.6
	mean achievement score for self-confident at homeschooling	20	5.4

In the tests carried out, it was found that the average achievement score for curiosity in conventional schools was 9.4, with results such that children who attended conventional schools had more curiosity, in contrast to homeschooled children whose score was 6.6. more or less compared to conventional schools. This is supported by the results of the interview excerpt "what the teacher who came explained, I just accept it." Then, in terms of social skills, children who go to conventional schools are much easier to adapt with a score of 9.8 and children who go to homeschooling, the score is 5.6. then in developing the resilience of children attending conventional schools the score is 9 and homeschooling 8.9. Furthermore, integrity, conventional schools score 8.2 and homeschooled children get a score of 9.2. Furthermore, in finding a solution, children who attend conventional schools are 6.8 and children who attend homeschooling are 7.4. Children who attend conventional schools have creativity with a score of 8.6 compared to homeschooled children with the same score. The empathy score for children who attend conventional schools is 9.6 and children who are homeschooled 6.8. the level of assertiveness for conventional school children is 8 and for home schooled children is 7.6. The level of humility for conventional school children is 7 and home-schooled children are 9.6. the self-confidence level of conventional school children is 9.6 and homeschooling is 9.4. from the creativity side of children who attend conventional schools. Children who go to conventional schools excel in the characteristics of curiosity, social, resilience, empathy, firm, self-confident while children who go to homeschool are superior in the aspects of integrity, ability to find solutions and modesty. The biggest difference between choosing a conventional school and homeschooling is the average value seen in the aspects of social skills and self- confidence (4.2). The difference between choosing a conventional school and homeschooling is that the closest average value is seen in the firm aspect (0.4). In choosing a conventional school and homeschooling, the distance between the average scores is the same in the aspects of curiosity (9.4 (CS), 6.6 (HS)) and empathy (9.6 (CS), 6.8 (CS)), namely 2.8.

## DISSCUSSION

The explanation of the findings above is that children who attend conventional

schools tend to show more positive character values than negative values. One aspect that stands out is the high social skills of conventional school children. Daily interactions with classmates, teachers, and the school environment as a whole make a positive contribution to the development of social skills. In contrast, homeschooling, although it provides flexibility and a more individual approach, there are potential limitations in the development of social skills due to the lack of peer interaction and social experience in the school environment. Therefore, conventional schools remain the main preference for the majority of society, recognizing the importance of developing social aspects that not only influence children's personal development, but also in preparing them for challenges in wider society. So that conventional schools have become the main preference for the majority of people. Children spend most of their time at school, interacting with peers, and following a predetermined curriculum (Smith, J., & Brown, A, 2019). Studies show that the social environment at school has an important role in shaping a child's character. Through interactions with various people and situations, children learn social skills, empathy, and cooperation (Johnson, M., & Davis, R, 2020).

However, conventional schools are still the best solution for forming children's character. In the aspect of creativity, children who go to homeschooling and children who go to conventional school are the same. Children who go to school via home schooling are able to develop their potential, able to choose a comfortable learning concept that suits their wishes. Homeschooling, where the family takes full responsibility for their children's education, has been proven to stimulate children's creativity. By focusing on developing each child's unique potential, homeschooling adapts the curriculum without being tied to school time, providing more relaxed learning freedom. Apart from that, homeschooling provides specific skills according to community needs, as well as providing contextual, thematic and non- scholastic learning without scientific limitations. (Wijayanti, 2010)

In the aspect of modesty character formation, homeschooled children tend to be more humble than those who attend conventional schools. They receive much greater attention from parents or teachers, can learn according to their needs, and are not exposed to the social pressures of school. Families involved in homeschooling also often instill the values of humility, creating an environment where children are more comfortable in their own skin. The role and responsibility of the mother in children's education is as a

source and lover, caregiver and guardian, a place to pour out her heart, guardian of life in the household, leader of personal life, emotional educator. (Musawamah, 2021)

In the many aspects of character formation, research shows that homeschooling is characterized by competing motivations, philosophies and parental practices. Cultural background (van Schalkwyk & Bower, 2011), geographic location (Hanna, 2012) and personal beliefs (Kraftl, 2013) all influence assigned homeschooling practices and norms. The methods, materials and curriculum used vary from parent to parent (Moreau, 2012).

In various countries the most prominent reason for home schooling is religious reasons (Collom, 2005; Kunzman, 2009; Gray & Riley, 2015); dissatisfaction with the academic instruction provided; concerns about the school environment including safety, drugs, or negative peer pressure (NCES, 2008; Princiotta & Bielick, 2006; Kunsman, 2009; West, 2009; Ray, 2015), physical violence (Davis, 2010) and psychological abuse; oppression (Davis, 2010); and unhealthy sexuality (Ray, 2015; Jamaluddin et al., 2015).

Breaking away from “conventional school” is difficult and demanding. It is a decision made at risk and demands holistic sacrifice as well as an active and committed lifestyle. Armed with an aggressive commitment to provide their children with a productive childhood and a desire to enable them to achieve their potential, personally and professionally, parents work diligently to provide the best growth opportunities through a mature, safe and free and conducive environment. to study at home.

Unlike conventional schools, homeschooling curricula are free from conformity to grade levels that are aligned and standardized (Morse, 2001; Kraftl, 2013). When learning occurs both inside and outside the home simultaneously, it includes both academic and practical aspects of knowledge (Kraftl, 2013) making learning more holistic and centered on the learner's unique needs. Thus, flexibility in designing the learning environment, choice of academic subjects, curricular content, teaching methods, and flexibility of time and diversity of location make homeschooling a popular educational alternative among families who need a break from institutional prescriptions in educating their children. Meanwhile, homeschooling will certainly witness growth as an individual educational option and countries continue to struggle for answers on how to maintain a system that wisely balances the interests of children, parents and society in the areas of schooling and education (Kunzman & Gaither, 2013).

Determining whether conventional schooling or homeschooling is better depends

on each family's unique needs, preferences, and situation. Both approaches have advantages and disadvantages that need to be considered. Extensive Social Interaction: Conventional schools provide an environment rich in social interaction with peers, teachers, and school staff. According to (Hattie, J., 2009) the advantage of conventional schools is a structured curriculum, if a structured curriculum helps children understand responsibility, time and discipline. But conventional schools also have weaknesses, namely, (Creemers, B. P. M., & Kyriakides, L., 2008) Curriculum inflexibility, namely the standard curriculum may not match the child's individual interests or needs, then social pressure and also competition. The competitive environment can create excessive pressure on several children.

Homeschooling also has advantages, namely Curriculum Flexibility so that parents can adjust the curriculum according to their child's interests and needs. Development of Social Skills Through Direct Experience: Homeschooling allows children to be involved in social activities outside the family (Ray, B. D, 2017). But there are also disadvantages to homeschooling, namely limited social interaction: Homeschooled children may have more limited access to social interaction with a number of peers. In the challenges of time management, homeschooled children require good time management (Kunzman, R., & Gaither, M., 2013).

## **CONCLUSION**

The importance of emphasizing the development of social skills is very visible in conventional schools, where social interactions involve children in the formation of social skills, empathy and cooperation. Curriculum design and learning experiences must pay attention to these social aspects to create a learning environment that supports the development of children's social skills. In contrast, homeschooling offers greater flexibility in the educational approach, allowing for personal adaptation of the curriculum according to the child's needs, making the learning process more effective and relevant.

The role of parents is an important focus in both conventional schools and homeschooling. In both contexts, parents have a central role in educating children. Being actively involved in understanding the child's character, choosing an appropriate educational approach, and providing emotional support are aspects that need to be

considered. Realizing the implications of these three aspects, the world of education needs to prioritize the development of social aspects in curriculum design, adopt a more individualized educational approach, and increase the role of parents in educating children.

However, there are limitations to this study that require further attention. The article may not cover all relevant aspects in the comparison between conventional schools and homeschooling. Therefore, more in-depth research is needed to understand the impact of education on children's character formation, including critical aspects such as social skills, empathy, self-confidence and independence. Advice for parents involves considering the values and goals of education, as well as understanding the child's character needs when choosing educational methods. The world of education is encouraged to pay attention to social aspects in curriculum design, implement a more personalized educational approach, and increase the role of parents in educating children. By considering these limitations and suggestions, it is hoped that this article can provide more comprehensive guidance for individuals, especially parents, in choosing appropriate education to shape children's character more effectively.

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