TECHNOLOGY AND ITS INFLUENCE ON THE BEHAVIOR OF CLASS VII STUDENTS AT SMP MBS ZAM-ZAM CILONGOK

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the impact of technological advancements on the behavior of seventh-grade students at SMP MBS Zam-Zam Cilongok. The research aims to determine the extent to which technological developments influence student behavior, providing insights into both the positive and negative effects of technology use in educational settings. To achieve this, the study employs a qualitative approach with a case study design. Data were collected through observations, interviews, and documentation involving seventh-grade students, caregivers, and teachers. Findings reveal that technology offers positive effects, such as easier access to information and support for learning, but also poses challenges, including addiction, concentration issues, and potential exposure to negative content. The pesantren has implemented various policies to mitigate these negative effects, such as limiting gadget usage, providing digital literacy education, and strict supervision. Technology is also selectively utilized to enhance learning quality without neglecting the pesantren's traditional values. However, the implementation of these policies faces challenges, including limited resources, inconsistent adherence by students, and insufficient human resource readiness. This study underscores the importance of synergy between pesantren administrators, parents, and the community to optimize the wise use of technology in accordance with Islamic values. Furthermore, more comprehensive research is needed to gain a deeper understanding of the phenomenon. The results of this study are expected to serve as a reference for other pesantren administrators in formulating relevant policies in the digital era while supporting the pesantren's vision of shaping students who are faithful, pious, and possess noble character.

KEYWORDS	*technology, student behavior, pesantren, digital literacy, islamic education*

INTRODUCTION

The rapid development of technology is currently having a significant impact on various aspects of life, including the world of education. Along with advances in technology, the field of education is also experiencing changes that cannot be avoided (Arridho et al., 2022). The use of technology must be utilized appropriately and wisely, especially in a modern Islamic boarding school environment (Rohaeni et al., 2021; Suharto & Fatmawati, 2022). Especially at the junior high school level where teenagers are vulnerable to the influence of technology. Apart from that, the increasing ownership and use of gadgets among students is an interesting phenomenon to study further, considering that this can have a significant influence on student behavior (Ma'ruf et al., 2024). The increasing convenience provided by technology, it cannot be denied that this can also have a negative impact on the development of students. Although if used correctly, technology can bring positive benefits in the world of education, such as facilitating access to information, encouraging creativity, and supporting a learning process that is more enjoyable and easy to understand for students (Kis et al., 2021; Munthe, 2021).

This research aims to determine the extent to which technological developments influence the behavior of class VII students at SMP MBS Zam-Zam Cilongok (Fathurrochman et al., 2020). Through this research, it is hoped that it can provide a clear picture of the positive and negative impacts of the use of technology among students, so that it can be used as a recommendation for Islamic boarding schools in managing the use of technology (Manshuruddin et al., 2019).

RESEARCH METHODS

This study employs a qualitative approach with a case study design to deeply explore the influence of technology on student behavior in the specific context of SMP MBS Zam-Zam Cilongok. The qualitative method was chosen because it allows for an in-depth understanding of social phenomena, focusing on the subjective experiences and interactions between students, teachers, and caregivers regarding technology use.

The research was conducted at SMP MBS Zam-Zam Cilongok, located in Cilongok, Banyumas Regency, Central Java, during the period of January to March 2024. The choice of this location was based on the pesantren's unique integration of traditional Islamic education with modern technological elements, making it an ideal setting to study the balance between technological advancement and religious values.

The population in this study includes all seventh-grade students at SMP MBS Zam-Zam Cilongok, as they represent adolescents who are particularly susceptible to the influences of technology. The sample was selected using purposive sampling, targeting specific participants who could provide relevant insights, including 10 seventh-grade students, 3 teachers, and 2 caregivers. The data collection techniques used in this study include:

a. Observation – Conducted in classrooms and dormitory environments to observe students' interactions with technology in real-life settings.

b. Interviews – In-depth, semi-structured interviews were held with students, teachers, and caregivers to gain deeper insights into their experiences and perspectives on technology use.

c. Documentation – Analysis of school policies, student activity logs, and other relevant documents to supplement the data collected from observations and interviews.

For the data analysis technique, the study utilized the Miles and Huberman interactive model, which involves three key steps:

a. Data Reduction – Organizing and simplifying the collected data by focusing on significant patterns related to technology use and its impact on behavior.

b. Data Display – Presenting the data in matrices and descriptive narratives to facilitate the identification of relationships and trends.

Conclusion Drawing and Verification – Interpreting the findings to draw meaningful conclusions while continuously validating them against the data to ensure reliability.

To maintain data validity, the study applied triangulation techniques, combining data from observations, interviews, and documentation. This approach ensured a comprehensive and accurate representation of the research findings.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Initial research provides an illustration that current rapid technological developments have a significant influence on the behavior of class VII students at SMP MBS Zam-Zam Cilongok. Based on the results of observations and interviews, it was found that there were several positive impacts such as facilitating access to information, facilitating the learning process, and being able to increase students' interest in learning (Munthe, 2021). On the other hand, the negative impacts that arise are excessive use of devices, decreased focus and learning achievement, as well as behavior that leads to negative directions such as cyberbullying and addiction to online games (Andriani & Wahyuni, 2021) (Munthe, 2021).

This finding is in line with several sources which show that technological developments provide opportunities as well as challenges in the world of education (Arridho et al., 2022). Technology can open wider access to information, but on the other hand it can also cause addiction and physical and psychological disorders for students (Munthe, 2021). Apart from that, adolescence is a period that is vulnerable to the negative influences of technology, so supervision and guidance from parents is needed when at home and caregivers and teachers when in the Islamic boarding school environment.

Islamic boarding schools' efforts to face these challenges are by implementing various policies, such as regulating device usage hours, limiting internet access, and increasing digital literacy for students. Thus, it is hoped that technological developments can be utilized optimally to support the learning process and shape the character of students who are in accordance with the values and goals as well as the vision and mission of education at SMP MBS Zam-Zam Cilongok, namely forming Muslim people who are faithful and devout, have moral character, have a

soul. social, taquh fiddin, capable, intelligent, master of science and technology, independent and have an entrepreneurial spirit.

Based on the research results, it was found that technological developments had a significant impact on the behavior of class VII students at SMP MBS Zam-Zam Cilongok. This situation is in line with previous research, which stated that technological developments have had a huge influence on the world of education, especially on the learning process and daily activities of students in Islamic boarding school environments. This finding is also in accordance with research results which state that technology provides many conveniences and opportunities for students, such as easier access to information (Hutami, 2021). However, on the other hand, the use of technology can also trigger negative impacts such as physical and psychological disorders for students if it is not managed well and with adequate supervision by teachers in class, by teachers/caregivers in dormitories, and also parents when at home. (Arridho et al., 2022)

SMP MBS Zam-Zam Cilongok, in its efforts to anticipate the negative impact of technology on students, has implemented several policies, such as regulating device usage hours, limiting internet access, and providing digital literacy education for students. Continuous and monotonous use of technology in the learning process must be avoided because it can cause boredom and lack of face-to-face interaction between teachers and students, so there is a need for innovation in its use.

Handling the use of technology in Islamic boarding schools really requires good cooperation between the Islamic boarding school, parents and also the surrounding community. In contrast to general institutions, Islamic boarding schools have more varied strategies in managing the use of technology by students, tailored to the aim of building character and noble morals which are the characteristics of Islamic boarding schools. The use of gadgets at SMP MBS Zam-Zam Cilongok is also very limited, so that students have sufficient space and time to carry out religious activities and character building.

The results of this research are at least able to illustrate that the influence of the use of technology on the behavior of class VII students at SMP MBS Zam-Zam Cilongok is very diverse, both from the good and the bad side. However, Islamic boarding schools have made several efforts to control the negative impacts of technology, so that its use can be in accordance with educational goals, namely forming people who are faithful, devout, have noble character, intelligent, skilled and independent as per the vision and mission that have been set. So far, researchers have not found any bad influence which is currently viral and is a very frightening threat to parents of students, namely online gambling.

All the efforts carried out by this Islamic boarding school show a strong commitment to maintaining the Islamic boarding school's identity as an educational institution based on strong Islamic values, even though it still has to adapt to the demands of progress that cannot be avoided (Setiawan & Rasyidi, 2020). Even though there is still debate about the use of technology in Islamic boarding schools, positive efforts to implement technology wisely must still be made so that the benefits can be optimally felt by all students. The steps given to students are to

facilitate the use of Islamic boarding school gadgets to support the learning process, rather than providing free access to use personal devices (Setiawan & Rasyidi, 2020). In accordance with the principles of education in Islamic boarding schools, the management also continues to carry out supervision, guidance and training to improve the students' ability to use technology wisely and must be in accordance with the religious values taught by the Islamic boarding school.

The findings above are in line with sources which state that Islamic boarding schools have five basic elements which have their own function in student learning, namely the boarding school, mosque, teaching Islamic books, students and kyai (Riswanto et al., 2020). Islamic boarding schools are also ideal partners for the government to collaborate in improving the quality of education and national character. Apart from that, the results of this research also strengthen findings from other sources which state that technology provides many conveniences and opportunities for students, but can also trigger negative impacts if it is not managed well and with adequate supervision (Mikal & Mubin, 2020; Prasetyaningrum et al., 2021). The latest finding in this research is that there is a strong commitment from the Islamic boarding school to maintain the Islamic boarding school's identity as an educational institution based on strong Islamic values, even though it still has to adapt to the progress of the times which cannot be avoided in the era of digitalization. Apart from that, Islamic boarding schools' efforts to support the success of students in using technology are also carried out by limiting usage time, providing digital literacy education, as well as monitoring which is carried out comprehensively and continuously.

The results of the researchers' findings show that the Islamic boarding school has made various efforts to overcome the negative impact of technology on student behavior, however, good cooperation and synergy from various parties, including the academic community, government and society, is still needed to support these efforts. Efforts to instill character values and noble morals in students through various religious activities also need to be carried out on an ongoing basis to strengthen the moral fortress of students in facing the challenges of the times. Apart from this, this research presents significant findings regarding Islamic boarding schools' efforts to manage the use of technology among students, but further studies need to be carried out to obtain a broader and more comprehensive picture of the phenomenon.

During the research, the researcher did not find any literature that specifically discussed the influence of technology on the behavior of class VII students at SMP MBS Zam-Zam Cilongok. It is hoped that this research can contribute to formulating technology-based learning policies and strategies that are in accordance with Islamic values and Islamic boarding school culture. So that it can be a reference for other Islamic boarding school managers in optimizing the use of technology wisely and in harmony with local wisdom. Researchers are very aware that this research still has many limitations so that the results of this research cannot be generalized, but at least it can provide a general picture of the phenomena that occur at the research location. However, researchers are very confident that the results of this research can be a basis for conducting further and more in-depth research on similar topics in the future.

Looking at the Islamic boarding school elements, researchers found that the implementation of the use of technology at SMP MBS Zam-Zam Cilongok has not been fully integrated and organized into the students' learning and daily activities, this is because the Islamic boarding school still limits the use of gadgets in the Islamic boarding school environment, there is no policy. formal regulations that regulate the use of technology, and there is still uncertainty about the attitude of Islamic boarding schools in responding to increasingly rapid technological developments. However, Islamic boarding schools have made several efforts to control the negative impacts of technology, so that its use can be in accordance with educational goals, namely forming people who are faithful, pious, have good morals in accordance with the Islamic boarding school's vision and mission.

Based on research findings, the Islamic boarding school admits that the issue of technology use among class VII students is still a challenge in itself. Wrong behavior of students in using technology, such as addiction to playing with devices, accessing negative content, and disrupting their concentration on learning still often occurs. This is in line with sources which state that in the Islamic boarding school environment, the challenges faced are quite complex compared to the challenges faced by regular schools (Maula, 2020).

In this regard, the Islamic boarding school has implemented several policies such as limiting the use of gadgets, direction and guidance regarding the use of technology in accordance with Islamic teachings, as well as getting used to carrying out activities without using gadgets in daily activities. However, the implementation of this policy still faces various obstacles, such as a lack of commitment and consistency among students in complying with the rules, as well as limited knowledge and skills in using technology. This is proven by the fact that there are still students who are caught secretly carrying cellphones.

Apart from that, based on observations, researchers also found that the use of technology in Islamic boarding schools is more focused on improving the quality of learning, such as the use of projectors, learning applications and other digital media. This illustrates that the Islamic boarding school is trying to combine the use of technology selectively without abandoning the traditional Islamic boarding school values which are their identity as an Islamic-based educational institution. However, these efforts have not been completely successful because there are still obstacles faced, such as limitations in terms of adequate human resources, inadequate facilities and infrastructure, as well as Islamic boarding school policies that are not yet comprehensive and integrated in regulating the use of technology as a whole in the environment. boarding school.

Based on the research that has been conducted, it can be concluded that the management of the SMP MBS Zam-Zam Cilongok has made several efforts to control the negative impact of technology among students, although they still face various challenges and obstacles in its implementation. In managing the use of technology in the Islamic boarding school environment, the management has implemented a number of policies and strategies, including limiting the use of devices, getting used to activities without devices, direction and guidance.

CONCLUSION

The use of technology must be utilized appropriately and wisely, especially in a modern Islamic boarding school environment, particularly at the junior high school level, where teenagers are vulnerable to the influence of technology. The increasing ownership and use of gadgets among students is an interesting phenomenon to study further, considering its significant impact on student behavior. Based on the research conducted, it can be concluded that the management of the SMP MBS Zam-Zam Cilongok has made considerable efforts to control the negative impacts of technology on students, despite facing various challenges and obstacles in its implementation. In addressing technological developments within the boarding school environment, the management has implemented several policies and strategies, such as limiting the use of digital devices, encouraging activities without gadgets, and providing guidance and socialization to students. Crucially, these efforts require strong support from students' guardians and all related parties. The success of these measures depends on proper adherence to procedures and, most importantly, the involvement of Allah Subhanahu Wata'ala, the Almighty Creator, through continuous prayer and a commitment to strengthening the students' spiritual connection with Him.

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