



The Consequences of Violating the Teacher Code of Ethics for Education

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ABSTRACT

Violation of the teacher code of ethics is an important issue in education because it can disrupt the learning process, reduce the quality of education, and damage the image of the teaching profession. This research aims to identify and analyze the impact of violations of the teacher code of ethics on various aspects of the educational environment. This research method uses a descriptive qualitative approach with literature study as the basis of analysis. The results show that violations of the teacher code of ethics have an impact on the decline in teacher credibility, disruption of the teaching and learning process, damage to the character of students, and a decrease in the overall quality of education. Supervision, ethics training, and periodic evaluation are needed to prevent violations.

INTRODUCTION

Education is the main pillar in building civilization and preparing future generations. In the education system, teachers play an important role as educators, facilitators and role models for students. To maintain the honor and integrity of their profession, teachers must adhere to a code of ethics that has been established by professional organizations and related institutions. This code of ethics serves as a moral and professional guideline that must be upheld in the performance of daily duties.

However, the reality in the field shows that violations of the code of ethics by teachers still occur frequently. Several cases show that unethical actions by teachers can damage the educational relationship between teachers and students, reduce public trust in educational institutions, and even significantly affect the academic and mental achievements of students. This is a serious challenge for education in Indonesia.

A lack of understanding of the teacher code of ethics can have a negative impact on educators' professionalism. The teacher code of ethics helps ensure that teachers act fairly, objectively and professionally in every aspect of their work. If teachers do not understand the code of ethics well, they may not be able to meet the standards of professionalism expected of them (Silalahi, 2023)

Lack of understanding of the teacher code of ethics can also lead to ethical violations in teaching practices. Ethical violations can harm students and parents, as well as damage the reputation of the school and the teaching profession. Therefore, it is important for teachers to understand the teacher code of ethics well and follow the established rules (Maryanto, 2024).

However, in practice, there are not a few cases of violations of the code of ethics committed by unscrupulous teachers. These violations can include discriminatory actions, harassment, manipulation of grades, and even verbal and physical violence against students. This phenomenon raises concerns because it not only injures the integrity of the teaching profession, but also has a direct impact on

the psychology of students, the quality of learning, and the image of the educational institution itself.

This study aims to analyze the impact of violations of the teacher code of ethics in education. Using a descriptive qualitative approach, this study will identify common forms of violations, their impact on educational processes and outcomes, as well as solutions that can be applied to prevent and overcome these violations.

Therefore, it is important to examine in depth the impacts that violations of the teacher code of ethics have on the world of education. This research is expected to serve as a reflection and input in efforts to strengthen the supervisory system, improve teacher professionalism, and create a healthy and dignified educational environment. This research is expected to make a real contribution to improving the quality of education through upholding the ethics of the teaching profession.

METHODS

This research uses qualitative research with a literature study method, so that data collection in this study apart from reference books is also used as sources of books, journals, Bibles, articles so that it can make valid research (Tina Natalia Napitupulu, 2022). The first characteristic of the qualitative method is its emphasis on the natural environment, where data is obtained by being in the place where the research is conducted (Victor Deak, 2022). Descriptive qualitative research method is a systematic approach to understanding certain phenomena or events by collecting, analyzing, and interpreting descriptive or narrative data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Definition of Education

Education is a continuous process and continues to follow the times. The education process itself occurs in the life of a pluralistic society, namely a society consisting of various races, tribes, religions, groups, and customs (Josep Tatang, 2022). Basically, an education has a principle that liberates every student. Values in education are a very important thing to discuss. Because, the values contained will

greatly affect the lives of students (Wahyu Sapta Purnama, 2022).

Understanding the Code of Ethics

The code of ethics consists of two words, namely code and ethics. Code means a sign that is accompanied by a certain intention or meaning and is mutually agreed upon. Ethics comes from the Greek language, namely *ethos*, meaning character, way of life, and manners. According to KBBI, a code of ethics is a collection of rules of behavior that are mutually agreed upon to regulate good behavior at work. The professional code of ethics specifically regulates things that may and may not be done by members of a profession so that they act professionally and responsibly. (Sari Muthia Silalahi, 2024).

According to Shidarta, a code of ethics is the moral principles that are inherent in a profession and are arranged systematically. This means that without a code of ethics that is deliberately arranged systematically, a profession can still run because these moral principles are actually inherent in the profession in question. However, a code of ethics is necessary because the number of people in the profession itself is so large, besides that the demands of society are also increasingly complex (Shidarta, 2009).

Teachers & Teacher Code of Ethics

Referring to the Republic of Indonesia Law no. 14 of 2005 concerning Teachers and Lecturers, Teachers are professional educators with the main task of educating, teaching, guiding, directing, training, assessing, and evaluating students in early childhood education through formal education, basic education, and secondary education. Based on this understanding, the word teacher is interpreted as a profession in the field of education with certain duties and roles that are inherent in accordance with their professionalism. Referring to the understanding above, there is the word educator which means that the task of a teacher is not only to deliver lessons according to their field, but teachers also have the task of educating their students. (Yorman, 2023).

People who work or work as teachers. In another sense, a teacher is a person who has expertise in a particular field and is good at teaching others about it. In Indonesia, teachers generally refer to professional educators with the main task of educating, teaching, guiding, directing, training, assessing, and evaluating students (Joko Prihanto, 2021)

Teachers are the main agents in educating the nation's life. Teachers have a very strategic role in shaping the character, personality, and intellectual quality of students. Teachers as individuals who have abilities and experiences that play a role can facilitate in carrying out their role as educators (Reysti Ayu Lestari, 2023).

In carrying out their professional duties, teachers are bound by a code of ethics that aims to maintain the dignity of the profession, ensure professionalism, and protect the rights and obligations of all parties involved in the education process. The teacher code of ethics not only regulates the relationship between teachers and students, but also includes relationships with fellow co-workers, parents, and the wider community. Where the form of violation of the teacher's code of ethics towards students such as a teacher who is late to class when the lesson starts, in addition to a teacher who leaves the classroom without any clear reason during the learning process, and also a teacher who consciously smokes in the classroom or in the school environment which sets a bad example for students.

While the form of violation of the teacher's code of ethics towards parents of students such as unclear fees that result in parents' objections, in addition to a teacher who does not have good communication with the parents of students. In addition, violations of the teacher's code of ethics towards colleagues such as the emergence of quarrels between teachers at school. While the last one regarding violations of the teacher's code of ethics towards the profession is such as a lack of interest in developing knowledge in the world of technology, considering that at this time a teacher is required to have to master technology in order to encourage higher quality and interesting learning so as to

increase understanding in students. (Devi Putri Thesia, 2024). Guidance is carried out to answer needs that can complement and facilitate the development of early adults both spiritually, psychologically, and socially (Church, 2022).

The teacher's code of ethics is a behavioral guideline applied by teachers in carrying out their duties as educators. The teacher's code of ethics aims to improve the quality of learning and provide protection for students. In the concept of learning, the teacher's code of ethics has an important role in creating a healthy and enjoyable learning environment for students. This is because teacher behavior can have a direct impact on students' motivation and interest in learning (Alwi Sofyan, 2021). The teacher's code of ethics is the basis for teachers' actions in carrying out their professional duties in the field of education (Windarto, 2021).

There are several functions of the teacher's code of ethics in educational development (Dr. H. A. Marjuni, 2020); First, to provide guidelines for each member of the profession regarding the principles of professionalism outlined. Second, as a means of social control for the community over the profession concerned. Third, to prevent interference from parties outside the professional organization regarding ethical relationships in professional membership. Professional ethics are very much needed in various fields.

Meanwhile, according to (Khadijah, 2022) the function of the teacher's code of ethics is; First, so that teachers have clear guidelines and directions in carrying out their duties, so that they avoid professional deviations. Second, so that teachers are responsible for their profession. Third, so that the teaching profession is free from internal divisions and conflicts. Fourth, so that teachers are able to improve the quality and quantity of services, so that the services of the teaching profession are recognized and used by the community as a profession that helps in solving problems and developing themselves. Fifth, so that the teaching profession is free from interference from other professions and the government.

There are several objectives of the code of ethics, including (Dr. H. A. Marjuni, 2020): first, so that teachers have guidelines that can be used as guidelines in their daily behavior as educators. Second, so that teachers can reflect on their behavior. Is it in accordance with the profession of educator that they hold or not. Third, so that teachers can ensure that their behavior does not lower their dignity as a professional whose main task is as an educator. Fourth, so that teachers can return immediately, if it turns out that what they have been doing so far is contrary to or not in accordance with the norms that have been formulated and agreed upon as the teacher's code of ethics. Fifth, so that all teacher behavior is always in line with or does not conflict with the profession they hold, namely as an educator. Furthermore, it can be emulated by students and the general public

With the establishment of a teacher code of ethics, teacher behavior that is contrary to applicable norms or rules will receive moral punishment such as ridicule from colleagues, or the most severe punishment, namely being expelled from the educational institution (Nur Fitriatin, 2023). However, it is not uncommon to find violations of the code of ethics committed by certain teachers, either directly or indirectly. These violations can be in the form of discrimination against students, acts of violence, violations of social norms, and abuse of authority. Concrete examples of these violations include acts of verbal and physical violence by teachers, discrimination against students with certain backgrounds, and manipulation of grades.

Impact

In the development of modern life today, there are many negative influences, both through technology, culture and free lifestyles that can undermine and hinder the growth of children's faith (Guntur Hari Mukti, 2021).

The implementation of the Teacher Code of Ethics in the educational environment often faces various complex challenges, both in terms of individual teachers, educational institutions, and developing social dynamics. One of the main

challenges is the lack of understanding and awareness of some teachers regarding the content and essence of the code of ethics itself. The code of ethics is often only considered a formal document that is rarely socialized or applied concretely in everyday life. The lack of training or strengthening activities related to the code of ethics means that many teachers do not fully understand how these principles can be applied in various situations in their work environment. In addition, pressure from the work environment is a significant inhibiting factor. Teachers are often faced with excessive administrative demands, such as academic reports, managing school activities, and various additional tasks that are not directly related to learning. This high workload often makes teachers lose focus on their main duties as educators and student mentors. On the other hand, high expectations from schools, parents, and the community can create emotional stress that affects teachers' consistency in carrying out their duties in accordance with the principles of the code of ethics. (Natasya Clara Evrillia Lasma Dame Purba, 2025).

From each of these challenges, it ultimately leads to violations of the code of ethics, thus having an impact on the world of education.

- a. Impact on students: Decreased motivation to learn, psychological trauma, and loss of respect for teachers.
- b. Impact on Educational Institutions: Declining school reputation, increasing distrust of parents and the community. Schools as institutions will lose their credibility.
- c. Impact on the Quality of Education: There is a decline in the quality of the learning process because the teacher-student relationship is disrupted. Violations of ethics create an unhealthy and uncondusive learning environment. Weakening the integrity and accountability of Educational Institutions.
- d. Impact on the Teaching Profession: The reputation of the teaching profession is tarnished, and this hinders efforts to

improve the social status of teachers in the eyes of the community.

CONCLUSION

The teaching and learning process is not an easy job, because the future of students, the future of the nation and state are borne by educators, without good and professional teachers there will be no good and professional students. An educator can be a good student, and become a bad teacher because he was once a bad student. Quite high standards are attached to teachers. Therefore, a teacher must be able to devote himself and his life to education. A successful educator is an educator who is able to transform his knowledge in the right way and is able to lead his students to achieve their goals (Victor Deak R. S., 2021). Teachers who comply with the Code of Ethics not only protect themselves from unethical or unprofessional actions, but also maintain the trust of students, parents, and the community in educational institutions, and prevent cases related to teacher ethics (Victor Deak S. C., 2024).

Violations of the teacher's code of ethics have a significant impact on the quality and integrity of the world of education. Teachers, as moral and academic role models, play a strategic role in character formation and the achievement of student competencies. When the code of ethics is violated either in the form of abuse of authority, discrimination, unprofessional behavior, or violation of social ethics public trust in educational institutions decreases, students' motivation to learn is disrupted, and the image of the teaching profession is tarnished. In addition, such violations can create an uncondusive learning environment and hinder the achievement of national education goals. Therefore, consistent enforcement of the code of ethics and ongoing development of professional ethics are very important to maintain the dignity of teachers and the quality of education in Indonesia.

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