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## **Influence of Technological Digitalization on Moral Degradation among Adolescents**

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### **Abstract**

This study aims to focus on the analysis of teaching behavior, attitudes, obligations, etiquette and morals that are generally recognized as good and bad. Meanwhile, morals itself refers to manners, including all aspects of etiquette and traditional behavior. This research is qualitative with descriptive analysis techniques with library research *where* this research seeks to describe existing phenomena that are taking place currently. The decline in the moral level of teenagers in Indonesia is a complex problem and requires in-depth understanding from various points of view. Therefore, it is necessary to explore this problem from a Muslim's perspective, to find a solution to the problem, especially from a modern Islamic perspective. As the majority religion in Indonesia, Islam has great potential in providing solutions to overcome the problem of juvenile delinquency. Apart from that, in the context of increasingly rapid globalization and modernization, modern Islam can provide a view that is in line with current developments and technology. Therefore, this research aims to explain the moral degradation of teenagers in the 5.0 era from a modern Islamic perspective, with the hope of providing the right solution to the problems raised.

**Keywords:** Adolescents, Degradation, Morals

### **Introduction**

Relegation is the loss of rank or status. Therefore, this refers to the fall in society's moral standards, especially among teenagers (Mintawati et al., 2023) . This moral degradation occurs with many influencing factors, apart from the very strong influence of information and communication technology, it is also influenced by the lack of filters. openness of information so that people can access information for adults, teenagers and children (Ma'rufah & Rahmat, 2020) . Moral degradation is in the form of a decrease in positive (good) human behavior, in this case students, because students' morals and

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personality are increasingly decreasing in all moral aspects, starting from speech, sayings, inappropriate clothing, etc. (Sofyana & Haryanto, 2023). Degradation means setback, decline or reduction of something, while morals are morals or manners according to the Big Indonesian Dictionary (Waty et al., 2022). If we interpret both, moral degradation is a phenomenon of a decline in the character of a person or group of people (Eka Fitria Ningsih et al., 2023).

Degradation is a decline or decline in quality, while morals are good and bad about behavior and actions (Aopmonaim et al., 2023). Moral degradation has hit our nation today, if you pay attention to information from print and electronic media, there are so many factors that cause moral degradation (Muhammad Argha Edhel Nanda Pratama, 2023). Currently, moral degradation has become a serious problem in the world of education, day by day the level of violations committed by students is increasing, both small and large scale (Khoirina & Akhmad, 2021a). The generation that is most easily affected by negative impacts and will cause moral degradation is the teenage generation (Rahmawati et al., 2023). As is known, moral degradation is a punishment that is currently affecting our nation (Revalina et al., 2023a).

In this *literature review*, the research focuses on analyzing teaching behavior, attitudes, obligations, etiquette and morals that are generally recognized as good and bad. Meanwhile, morals itself refers to manners, including all aspects of etiquette and traditional behavior. The degradation of the values of the social order is due to the influence of developments over time, in the fields of knowledge and technology which produce various changes, resulting in various risks arising from the development of life. Considering that ethical and moral degradation is a problem that is very worrying, and cannot be ignored, of course this problem needs to be discussed and faced from the perspective of religious teachings.

In this case, it is necessary to have a process of internalizing moral values in teenagers to anticipate the dangers of delinquency (Tsoraya et al., 2023). Internalization is an attempt at a doctrinal process of instilling ethical values so that later the results of the appreciation of these doctrinal values can be actualized by students thereby forming a moral movement called ethics (Zeva et al., 2023). Meanwhile, ethics theoretically is a way to achieve a level of happiness (Sanjaya, 2023). Morals are closely related to the ability to distinguish between right and wrong behavior, so that morals can be said to be one component of character control (Hanifa et al., 2023).

Regarding the concept of moral degradation, it can be said that morals are a decline in positive (good) human behavior, in this case students, because students' morals and personality are increasingly declining in all moral aspects, starting from words, sayings, inappropriate clothing and so on. -other (Saputri et al., 2023). The morals that should be controlling behavior are increasingly being eroded and this is called moral degradation (Fahira et al., 2023). As is known, moral degradation is a punishment that currently befalls our nation (Rahayu, 2023). If we pay attention to the information received from various media, both print and electronic media, there are many factors that cause the nation's moral degradation (Muaddab et al., 2023).

Researchers conducted research and reviewed *literature reviews*. So far, people's research on moral degradation shows that there are several important points that cause moral degradation, namely first, it is caused by the family (parents), the family is less able to

provide guidance, because each parent has their own busy schedule. or even some have broken homes, and in controlling student behavior most schools cannot do this completely, due to lack of time, resources and financial resources or lack of emphasis on the importance of morals. There are several things that cause moral degradation, namely: families who lack supervision, influence from social friends, advances in science and technology and influence from western/foreign culture.

Students and schoolgirls are the young generation of teenagers or the generation who have not lived long and who in the future will be the successors of the nation and state in advancing the direction and ideals of the nation, as well as the many challenges and problems they face, especially in the era of globalization (Marpaung et al., 2023) . Currently, humans are faced with uncertain changes (Dasy et al., 2023) . Currently, it can be seen that students' attitudes are experiencing a rapid decline, one of which is a decrease in their knowledge about the limits of good or bad in living life (Nisa et al, 2023) . Various incidents that often occur with students recently show that the identity of students and the younger generation is increasingly being eroded, which has an impact on moral degradation (Laksono et al, 2023) .

The young generation has the capacity, enthusiasm and broad insight to grow and advance the nation (Salmiyanti et al., 2023) . Usually, national revolutions are ended by the younger generation. Attached to it are traits such as taking real action to improve the country and recognizing existing social realities (Oktarila et al., 2023) . Youth can also be considered a phase of human personality development and the process of finding one's identity (Elfiadi, 2023) . The existence of the young generation is a heavy burden for society in terms of needing to think about various types of needs such as education, livability and employment opportunities (Novia Nur Rizki et al., 2023) . The young generation in the context of human life, in addition, must be acknowledged that its existence is a national asset (Andini et al, 2023) .

In this case, the researcher can conclude from the *literature review sources* that teenagers are one of the information seekers, they are an age group that is in the process of growing up to leave childhood towards adulthood and has not yet reached mental maturity. 3 Because adolescence is a period puberty, and the term adolescence means growing into adulthood. Therefore, there will be changes in physical, socialization, characteristics, emotional, self-identity and cognitive development. Changes in the emotional characteristics of adolescents include rising emotional levels , sudden and intense argumentative and aggressive behavior. This causes teenagers to begin to develop self-confidence, examine thought processes and personalities and become idealistic individuals. Adolescent rebellion or resistance can be long-lasting and include challenging behavior and rapidly changing moods, social pressure, identity-related issues, challenging authority, resulting in an impact on family dynamics and personal relationships.

## **Literature Review**

Of course, this moral degradation does not come by itself because during this transition period, teenagers experience a search for identity which is likely to experience uncertainty and uncertainty, so that there are many temptations to implement social, cultural and religious values. The behavior of holding hands, being alone together, and even kissing

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have become normal things for teenagers, especially in big cities in Indonesia. The blurred morality among young people is caused by a less supportive surrounding environment, such as high levels of crime, social inequality and so on (Adriansyah & Rahmi, 2012) .

The moral degradation of the teenage generation in Indonesia is greatly supported by information technology which has opened the tap in the era of globalization, namely as follows: *first* , namely the widespread spread of materialistic views without spirituality, namely the measurement of success in wealth and putting aside morality or religion, even though Indonesia is a country known for its polite diversity. his religion. *Second* , the level of politeness morality has decreased . Third, namely **Globalization** culture offers false pleasure through 3F ( *Food, Fashion, Fun*). *Fourth* , the level of competition is increasing, namely understanding the culture of competition as a space to achieve everything. *Fifth* , society is individual and not social. *Sixth* , the family is no longer the main source of direction, because parents provide wealth rather than love for their children. *seventh* , namely that most teachers do not fully monitor student behavior due to limited time or lack of emphasis on the importance of morality (Kurniawan et al., nd2023) .

However, ironically, in our environment, the perpetrators of moral decadence are mostly teenagers. Teenagers who should be full of knowledge and perseverance in fighting have actually been lulled into misleading pleasures. They prefer to be happy for a moment without paying attention to the effects or losses caused. Technology has a positive impact on human life, becoming more sophisticated, but there is also a negative side, increasingly sophisticated and advanced life causes a shift in the values, norms , rules and morals of life in society. This also seems to apply to the use of technology. If we do not use it wisely, technology will also damage the order of life, both moral and material (Salsabila, 2022) .

### **Research Methods**

This article is a review of a selection of articles that are case studies in this review. A literature search was carried out using the online databases Google Scholars and LibGen between July 2023. Several terms and combinations of terms that are relevant to the topic are used but are not limited to Indonesian language articles but are also dominated by English language articles using several keywords/terms, such as ' *degradation, morals, and youth*' . Some research was also obtained by searching the reference lists of several high-quality publications . Likewise, suitable *e-books are sorted and relevant information is extracted.* qualitative with descriptive analysis techniques with library research *where* this research seeks to describe existing phenomena that are taking place currently (Sugiono, 2023).

### **Results/Findings**

The research results and discussion contain a description of the literature review analysis, namely the moral degradation that occurs over time, has a significant influence on the change and development of values in people's lives. Currently, the delinquency of the younger generation is no longer ordinary delinquency in its development, but has become a criminal

act, where various mass media report a lot about the moral degradation of students such as bullying, drugs, school destruction, mugging and so on. Deviations that occur if not addressed will give rise to the perception that this is normal.

The decline in the moral level of teenagers in Indonesia is a complex problem and requires in-depth understanding from various points of view. Therefore, it is necessary to explore this problem from a Muslim's perspective, to find a solution to the problem, especially from a modern Islamic perspective. As the majority religion in Indonesia, Islam has great potential in providing solutions to overcome the problem of juvenile delinquency. Apart from that, in the context of increasingly rapid globalization and modernization, modern Islam can provide a view that is in line with current developments and technology. Therefore, this research aims to explain the moral degradation of teenagers in the 5.0 era from a modern Islamic perspective, with the hope of providing the right solution to the problems raised.

Morals are closely related to the ability to distinguish between right and wrong behavior, so that morals can be said to be one component of character control. Regarding the concept of moral degradation, it can be said that moral degradation is a decline in positive (good) human behavior, in this case students, because students' morals and personality are increasingly decreasing in all moral aspects, starting from speech, words, inappropriate clothing and etc. The morals that should control behavior are increasingly being eroded and this is called moral degradation. As is known, moral degradation is a punishment that is currently befalling our nation. If we pay attention to the information received from various media, both print and electronic media, there are many factors that cause the nation's moral degradation.

## **Discussion**

It cannot be denied that the growth and development of technology in this digital era has provided great benefits for the civilization of life. This digital era provides practicality, convenience and happiness for humans, who are far away become close, and makes it easy for people to communicate and interact (Revalina et al., 2023). Technological advances are increasingly growing evenly, creating an era of digitalization that is full of sophistication. This ongoing digitalization is not only in terms of areas of material life, for example economics, culture, politics, but also processes that include non-material areas such as norms.

One of the dark spots in developments in the current digital era is the moral degradation that is occurring, this is a current problem because norms of politeness, religious norms, norms of hospitality are increasingly being eroded. Moral decline is currently occurring in all circles. What is feared is that if this is considered normal and used as an example by others, morals will increasingly spread that deviate from the norms that apply so far. Due to the influence of digitalization, there has been a deviation in the boundaries of politeness and morality, such as in the past it was considered taboo and now it has become habitual, from what was once thought to be impossible to something that is happening (Khoirina & Akhmad, 2021). Deviations in social values are due to the influence of the growth of the times, in the field of technology which results in various changes resulting in several impacts of the growth of the times. The rapid development of technology has had an impact on its users, one of which is moral decline or what is called moral degradation.

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Morals are stated as rules, norms and institutions that are able to regulate individual behavior in carrying out a relationship with society. According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary, degradation is decline or decline. Thus, it can be concluded that moral degradation is a decline in human behavior due to a lack of self-awareness regarding socializing with the environment in society (Arliman S et al., 2022) .

Degradation is a form of weakening of cultural values possessed by a group of people which leads to the formation of new cultural clashes. Morals are behavior that is in accordance with the rules that apply in society. According to experts, moral degradation is individual or group behavior that is considered a decline in cultural values because it deviates from the habits and customs of society (Muslim & Ranam, 2020) .

Before a child gets to know the school environment, it is the family that the child first meets. According to Fitri & Dewi, 2021, family is people who continuously live together, such as father, mother and voice. The family is an environment that has the main influence compared to other environments, because children born in the family are the first to receive education (Sangkakala Salatiga & Sari Theological College, 2019) . In the family environment, a child begins to learn to socialize and interact, so that when he grows up the child will have good relationship with the surrounding environment.

According to (Nurlatu et al., 2021) a person's personality and social behavior develop rapidly when they are still children. It was during that time that parents played a very dominant role in improving character education. However, its implementation requires a cooperative school environment where the child is. However, parents must dominate in character education for children because children mostly live with their parents. There are several ways that parents can implement to implement character education for their children, namely having a harmonious family, being a positive role model for their children, and educating their children.

### **Conclusion**

The conclusion of this research is that moral degradation is a punishment that currently befalls our nation. If we pay attention to the information received from various media, both print and electronic media, there are many factors that cause the nation's moral degradation. Technological advances are increasingly growing evenly, creating an era of digitalization that is full of sophistication. This ongoing digitalization is not only in terms of areas of material life, for example economics, culture, politics, but also processes that include non-material areas such as norms.

### **Declaration of conflicting interests**

The author states that there is no conflict in the articles raised and written by the author.

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