



Role of Geography Education in Raising Environmental Awareness: A Literature Review

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Abstract

This research is a literature review that aims to explore the significant role of Geography Education in increasing environmental awareness. This research uses a descriptive Qualitative Method by conducting a literature study related to this research. The results of the literature analysis show that geography education provides an important foundation for students to understand the complex relationship between humans and the natural environment, as well as its impact on the sustainability of the Earth. In addition, it helps students identify global and local environmental problems, provides insight into workable solutions, and encourages an environmentally responsible attitude. This study confirms that geography education has great potential in shaping a generation that is environmentally conscious, ready to participate in nature conservation efforts, and address the increasingly pressing environmental challenges of the future.

Keywords: Environment, Geography Education, Role of Geographers

Introduction

Increasingly pressing environmental issues, such as climate change, habitat destruction, environmental pollution and biodiversity loss, have come under the global spotlight (Latue et al., 2023; Wulandari et al., 2023). These rapid environmental changes present serious challenges to our planet and human well-being. Therefore, environmental awareness and understanding of environmental issues are key in addressing these challenges and maintaining the sustainability of the earth for future generations (Hong et al., 2022; Rakuasa & Latue, 2023). Education plays an important role in shaping individuals' understanding, attitudes, and behaviors related to environmental issues (Gustavo & Rakuasa, 2023). One subject that has great potential in this regard is geography education (Manakane et al., 2023). Geography education enables students to understand the interaction between humans and the environment, as well as the impact of human activities on natural ecosystems. Therefore, the role of

geography education in raising environmental awareness has become a focus of attention (Rakuasa, 2023b).

Despite the growing recognition of the importance of geography education in the context of environmental awareness, there are still few in-depth and comprehensive studies that explore this role in depth. Therefore, a comprehensive and in-depth literature review on the role of geography education in raising environmental awareness is crucial (Manakane et al., 2023; Rakuasa & Mehdila, 2023). This literature review aims to identify, analyze, and summarize key findings in the literature related to the role of geography education in raising environmental awareness. By integrating findings from various studies and research that have been conducted in various contexts, this review aims to provide a deeper understanding of how geography education can be effective in promoting environmental awareness among students. In addition, this literature review will also look at the factors that influence the effectiveness of geography education in promoting environmental awareness, such as curriculum, teacher training, policy support, and the role of the community. Therefore, the results of this literature review are expected to provide valuable guidance for educators, teaching curricula, and policy makers in their efforts to strengthen geography education as an effective tool in increasing environmental awareness among the younger generation. In addition, this literature review can also contribute in a global context, given the differences in geography education across countries. This can help in the understanding of how geography teaching can be adapted to the unique culture, environment and challenges that may be faced by local communities. Thus, this literature review is expected to open new insights into the important role of geography education in efforts to maintain the sustainability of our natural environment and face increasingly complex environmental challenges.

Literature Review

This review conducted an in-depth review of the relevant literature and summarized key findings, including effective teaching methods, factors that influence the effectiveness of geography education, and differences in geography education across global contexts. The results of this literature review provide greater insight into how geography education can be a powerful tool in promoting environmental awareness among young people, and provide valuable guidance for educators, policy makers and researchers interested in the sustainability of our natural environment.

This literature review provides a deep insight into the potential of geography education in shaping environmental awareness and strengthening the role of education in addressing global environmental challenges. By identifying effective teaching methods and factors that influence the learning process, this review provides a solid foundation for the development of more effective geography education strategies and programs that address environmental issues. In addition, an understanding of the differences in geography education across countries can help in designing more contextualized and efficacious approaches to raise environmental awareness at the global level.

Research Method

This research uses a descriptive Qualitative Method by conducting a literature study related to this research. Literature study is an effective approach in research to collect, observe, analyze, and synthesize relevant information from various existing literature sources (Hermawan, 2019). In the context of the research peran pendidikan geografi dalam meningkatkan kesadaran lingkungan: sebuah kajian literatur.

Result And Discussion

1. Fundamentals of Geography and Environmental Education

The fundamentals of Geography and Environmental Education are an important foundation in developing students' understanding and awareness of the relationship between humans and their environment, as well as their impact on planet Earth (Piotrowska et al., 2019). Geography and Environmental Education aims to equip students with knowledge of physical and human geography, and how humans interact with their natural environment (Ardoin & Bowers, 2020). According to Schultz & DeMers, (2020), through this learning, students can understand geographical patterns, environmental changes, and global environmental issues currently faced by the world. One of the important aspects in Fundamentals of Geography and Environmental Education is the development of environmental awareness. Students are taught to understand the importance of maintaining the sustainability of the natural environment, safeguarding ecosystems, and reducing the negative impact of human activities on the Earth (Manakane et al., 2023). They also learn ways to participate in environmental conservation, so that they can become responsible citizens towards sustainable development.

In addition, geography education helps students understand cultural, social, economic and political differences around the world. It opens their minds to different perspectives and helps build tolerance and intercultural understanding. It also helps students recognize global challenges such as climate change, inequality and conflict, and promotes the idea of global cooperation in finding solutions. Finally, Fundamentals of Geography and Environmental Education aims to equip students with the analytical, problem-solving and decision-making skills needed to face the challenges of an increasingly complex world. This involves the use of geographic technologies and data collection, as well as the ability to understand geographic information and apply it in the context of everyday life. This education prepares young people to become agents of positive change in safeguarding the Earth and improving the quality of life for people around the world.

2. The Role of Geography Education in Raising Environmental Awareness

The role of Geography Education in Raising Environmental Awareness is very important in this era where environmental challenges are increasingly urgent. First, geography education provides a deep understanding of the interaction between humans and their environment. Through geography learning, students can understand how humans affect the environment, both positively and negatively. They learn about patterns of environmental change and their impact on the sustainability of planet Earth. This knowledge becomes the basis for students to reflect on their actions towards the environment and take wiser steps (KAHRAMAN, 2016).

In addition, Geography Education provides insight into global environmental issues such as climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution (Ramadhan et al., 2019). Students are taught about limited natural resources and the impact of human consumption on the environment. With this understanding, they can recognize the urgency of these issues and feel compelled to contribute to environmental conservation efforts. They also learn about solutions that can be implemented to address these issues, such as the use of renewable energy and sustainable agricultural practices. Furthermore, geography education helps students develop a sense of responsibility for the environment. They learn that they have a role to play in sustaining the environment and protecting natural resources. It also encourages students to participate in concrete actions such as reducing waste, saving energy, and supporting environmental conservation efforts. This awareness can shape students' positive attitudes towards the environment that can continue into their adult lives (L. Fu et al., 2020).

Finally, Geography Education opens the door for students to explore their careers and interests in the environment and geography. With the understanding they gain through this learning, they can choose professions and studies that focus on environmental conservation, environmental research, or natural resource management (Jorgenson et al., 2019). This means that geography education not only increases environmental awareness, but also opens up opportunities to contribute positively to efforts to protect the earth. Thus, Geography Education has a crucial role in shaping a generation that cares and is responsible for the future of our environment.

3. The Future of Geography Education and Environmental Awareness

The future of Geography Education and Environmental Awareness promises an increasingly important role in shaping a generation that is environmentally conscious and responsible for the future of the Earth (Meadows, 2020). First of all, the development of information and communication technologies will play a major role in geography education. Students will be able to access geographic information and environmental data more easily and interactively, allowing them to conduct more in-depth explorations of global and local environmental challenges (Rakuasa, 2023). Furthermore, the integration of Geography Education with interdisciplinary programs will become more common. Schools and colleges may more frequently align geography subjects with social sciences, natural sciences and technology to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the interactions between humans and the environment (Meadows, 2020; Latue et al., 2023). This will help students develop the cross-disciplinary analysis skills needed to address complex environmental issues.

The importance of environmental conservation will also be increasingly realized in the curriculum. Geography education will place more emphasis on understanding ecosystems, sustainability, and nature conservation efforts (B. Fu, 2020). Students will be taught about ways to reduce their ecological footprint and participate in concrete actions to protect the environment, such as sustainable agricultural practices, water conservation, or tree planting. Finally, geography education will place greater emphasis on global understanding. Students will be expected to understand global environmental issues such as climate change, the biodiversity crisis, and global policy issues. This education will equip them with the knowledge and skills necessary to participate in the global dialog on environmental conservation and to become agents of positive change in maintaining environmental sustainability (Jorgenson et

al., 2019). Thus, the future of Geography Education and Environmental Awareness will continue to evolve to meet the increasingly pressing environmental challenges of the 21st century.

Conclusion

The conclusion of the research on the Role of Geography Education in Raising Environmental Awareness through literature review shows that geography education has a very important role in shaping students' understanding and awareness of global environmental challenges. By providing in-depth knowledge of human interactions with the environment and current environmental issues, geography education enables students to become more responsible citizens for the sustainability of planet Earth. In addition, it also helps students develop an attitude of responsibility towards the environment and encourages them to participate in nature conservation efforts. Thus, Geography Education has great potential to shape a generation that is more concerned about the environment and better prepared to face increasingly complex environmental challenges in the future.

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Role of Geography Education in Raising Environmental Awareness: A Literature Review

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