

Technium.

49/2023



The 7th International Conference on Social Sciences
Organized by Faculty of Social Science
and Law Manado State University

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The Use of the WhatsApp Application in the Learning Process in Class IX C of SMP Negeri 2 Tondano

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to determine whether or not employing the WhatsApp application as a learning assistance medium is successful. This study was carried out because social media apps now have a significant impact on the learning process, one of which is at SMP Negeri 2 Tondano. The issues presented in this study include the process of using WhatsApp in the learning process of students at SMP Negeri 2 Tondano, as well as the hurdles in adopting the usage of WhatsApp in the learning process. A qualitative methodology with descriptive research was employed in this study. Interviews, observations, and recording of instructors and students in class 9C were used to obtain research data. According to the findings of the research, the WhatsApp application has features that can support it as a medium in the learning process. WhatsApp is also capable of making the teacher's job easier if they are unable to enter the classroom due to external assignments or meetings that cannot be left behind. Students who are unable to attend can also send assignments and notifications to the teacher concerned via WhatsApp. The hurdles include that not all students have cell phones, that learning is less effective because the teacher does not always explain the content directly, and that the teacher cannot perceive the students' seriousness in studying. WhatsApp, as an intriguing tool, is a helpful medium in the learning process, however it must be balanced by the teacher's function of entering the classroom to explain the subject and the processes for carrying out assignments directly.

Keywords: *Use, WhatsApp Application, Learning Process*

1. INTRODUCTION

According to Law No. 20 of 2003, education creates potential in a person in the form of religious spiritual strength [1], self-control, character, intelligence, nobility, and skills to be able to live in society with a conscious and planned effort [2].

Learning and learning activities, interactive educational processes used to attain educational goals. Learning [3] is a system that comprises various interacting components such as teachers, students, objectives, resources, means, techniques, and assessment. Learning is defined as teaching and learning activities related to education in which students and educators play roles that result in changes in behavior [4] in the form of attitudes, skills, knowledge, and so on, so that the learning process is comfortable and helps students learn well towards the goals to be achieved. Collaboration between school members, especially the role of the teacher as an educator, is essential for learning achievement [5].

Technology is increasingly being used in and out of the classroom nowadays [6]. As a result, it is critical to adopt new technology and implement their benefits in the educational system. In reality, educational institutions continue to rely on traditional learning management systems rather than utilizing social media's full potential for global learning, collaboration, and social networking. Despite the fact that Web 2.0 interaction tools have become a significant part of students' everyday life, very few students use them to help their learning process. 1 Students and instructors now live in a world dominated by Facebook, Twitter, Wikipedia, YouTube, and WA. Many social networks and other social media applications are included in the category of social networks [7].

It is defined by concepts like as social engagement [8], content exchange, and collective intelligence. Furthermore, today's kids spend the majority of their time in front of computers, playing games, using digital music players, video cameras, mobile phones, and surfing the web. Students, who are accustomed to being

constantly immersed and multitasking in their daily activities, demand a high degree of social interaction and learning in their studies. Whereas the conventional pedagogical method, which relies on passive content, is no longer applicable and must be replaced, or at the very least augmented, by a highly participatory learning experience [9].

Learning media [10] is critical to students' academic achievement. The usage of learning aids enables students to participate in the learning process and assists them in gaining a better comprehension of the subject. When choosing media, consider issues such as accessibility, affordability, technology, interaction, organizational change, novelty, and speed [11].

The usage of instructional materials has a significant impact on student replies [12]. The learning process will be more effective, dynamic, and creative using instructional materials, which can boost students' interest and enthusiasm to study. As a result, the modern teacher's position requires them to be not only competent and talented in their specialty, but also to contribute information, master and collect instructional materials, and enhance learning outcomes based on competence standards, core competencies, and indicators [13].

Teachers can use the WhatsApp application as an online learning medium. Due to the limitations they have in utilizing information and communication technology, most of the grade I teachers at one of the private elementary schools in the Ciracas sub-district use the WhatsApp application as an online learning medium. The use of the WhatsApp application is very helpful in implementing online learning during the Covid-19 pandemic, because it is simple and has many features that can make it easier for users to operate compared to other online applications [14]. Furthermore [15] stated that the WhatsApp application was the application most widely used in implementing online learning during the Covid-19 pandemic at the elementary and junior high school levels because the WhatsApp application was already popularly used by the community.

A number of studies have proven that the WhatsApp application can be used as a learning medium in implementing online learning. Susilowati [16] has researched that online learning through WhatsApp groups with the Group Discussion By WhatsApp type II learning model can work effectively in increasing learning independence. Likewise found that the use of the WhatsApp application as a learning medium amid the Covid-19 pandemic is very appropriate, because it is simple and has many features that can make it easier for users to operate compared to other online applications. Sari et al has proven the effectiveness of using WhatsApp social media in online learning in class I.

IPS is one of the fields of study that is important to study for the advancement of education [17]. IPS plays an important role, especially the mastery of science and social culture of people's lives. IPS is one of the sciences that requires the development of science and technology to distribute its material to students so that it is easier to understand.

In today's modern era, the development of science and technology is becoming faster and more sophisticated, especially in disseminating information and access to various social networking sites that have become easier over time in both developed and developing countries, especially in Indonesia. Technology has become a need for every human being to help and facilitate all human activities in doing work so that performance is fast, precise, accurate and can be completed on time. In the process of learning activities, the achievement of educational goals depends on how the learning process is carried out by teachers and students [18].

The results of student learning assessments for social studies subjects are currently still far from the expectations of teachers. This is likely to occur because according to students that social studies is very difficult to learn, because it takes a lot of time to read and memorize the material. The response that students experienced many difficulties in studying Social Sciences was reflected in the list of daily test scores, assignment scores, and semester grades that did not meet the teacher's expectations [19].

One of the efforts that teachers make to improve student learning outcomes in Social Sciences subjects includes utilizing applications downloaded from the Playstore found on cellphones as learning media. Social studies learning by using applications installed on cellphones is felt to be more effective and successful, because teachers can help students learn when students are outside study hours at school and anywhere. So that there is no space or time limit for students in social studies learning.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

The research method employed was qualitative research with a descriptive approach. Qualitative research generates descriptive data from people in the form of spoken and written words as well as observable behavior. While the study method adopted is a descriptive method. The descriptive technique is a clear, systematic, truthful, precise, and explicit account of a social phenomena using direct observation variables. This technique was chosen to describe the process of utilizing the WhatsApp application in the learning process in class IX C of SMP Negeri 2 Tondano, as well as the hurdles encountered in implementing the usage of the WhatsApp application in the learning process.

Moleong [20] explains the research steps as follows:

First, there is the preliminary research stage. The researcher began preparations by requesting permission from the subject instructor to conduct preliminary observations in order to gain an overview of the activities and participants who would be participating in this research.

The second stage is research implementation. At this point, the researcher gathered data on the usage of the WhatsApp application in the learning process through observation, interviews, and documentation. Researchers make observations through paying attention and actually observing.

The third stage is data analysis. All data gathered through observation, interviews, and documentation on the usage of the WhatsApp application in the learning process is then minimized. In order to be summarized and categorised depending on the study topic formulation's focus. Following that, the data will be clearly displayed utilizing code or coding. The final phase in data analysis is to make conclusions and validate the usage of the WhatsApp application in improving student learning accomplishment at SMP Negeri 2 Tondano.

Interviews, observation, and documentation will be utilized to collect data for this project [21].

a. Interview

An interview is a meeting between two persons to share information and ideas through question and response in order to develop meaning in a certain issue. According to Susan Stainback (1998), interviewing allows researchers to learn more in-depth information about participants in interpreting circumstances and phenomena that occur, which cannot be obtained by observation.

b. Observation

Observation is the activity of gathering facts for the purpose of drawing conclusions. Space (location), actors, activities, objects, actions, occurrences or happenings, time, and feelings are some of the information gained as a consequence of observations.

c. Documentation

Documentation is meant to acquire data directly from the study location, and may include relevant literature, rules, activity reports, images, movies, and research data.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. The Process of Utilizing The WhatsApp Application in The Learning Process In Class IX C, SMP Negeri 2 Tondano

Based on study completed at SMP Negeri 2 Tondano class IX C on the usage of WhatsApp in learning. According to the observations, before beginning the learning process, the instructor first prepares everything needed for the learning process, particularly preparing to utilize WhatsApp. In terms of teacher preparation, the instructor establishes a WhatsApp group for the class, creates videos or PowerPoint documents, and sets homework in the form of quizzes.

Researchers observed the use of WhatsApp as a medium to support the learning process carried out by subject teachers. Through direct observations that researchers have made, it appears that teachers are using the WhatsApp application as a learning medium at this time in the midst of an ongoing learning process, researchers join directly in class WhatsApp groups, observe activities during the learning process taking place both inside school hours and outside school hours. At the beginning of the lesson the teacher greets students in the class by greeting, then praying, then proceeds to check the presence of students.

The teacher next instructs the students on how to carry out the exercises. The instructor then transmits the study material to the WhatsApp group; the teaching material is often in the form of learning videos or content summaries in the form of power slides that have already been developed in accordance with the textbook. Students are given the chance to completely comprehend the content offered via WhatsApp once the instructor delivers it to the WhatsApp group, and then the teacher provides students the option to ask questions or do not understand the material that has been presented.

Learning is a process that is carried out by each individual in developing himself, from the process of not being able to do it deliberately consciously, so that changes occur within the individual, such as from those who do not know to know, from those who cannot become able, and so on. Learning is a process of individual change that interacts with the surrounding environment in a good or bad direction, depending on how each individual interprets it. Changes in behavior towards learning outcomes are continuous, functional, positive, active and directed.

Learning is fundamentally a sort of teacher-student interaction in which teaching is provided via a range of learning tools. Learning and learning are interactive educational processes used to attain educational goals. Learning is a system that is included inside the learning process, and learning consists of various interacting components such as teachers, students, resources, media, techniques, and assessment.

During the implementation of learning, there is teacher-student interaction, in which the instructor asks

students if there is anything they do not understand before giving a test on the content. After the instructor provides chances for students to demonstrate their grasp of the content supplied, the teacher continues learning activities by assigning homework in the form of tests that have been prepared by the teacher. Because there are just 8 questions and they are multiple choice, the teacher allows roughly 15 minutes to complete the quiz. After all pupils have understood the subject and completed the quiz, the teacher concludes the lecture by expressing gratitude and saying thank you.

According to the findings of research, observations, and interviews, as well as literature, instructors utilize WhatsApp as a medium to help the learning process. Interviews with subject instructors in the use of teaching materials, based on the findings of observations, can aid in the process of communicating knowledge from these teaching resources. According to Pribadi [22], media is a tool for learning activities, making the learning process more effective and efficient. The usage of instructional materials undoubtedly aids communication between teachers and students throughout the learning process. Many digital application technologies are available for usage.

WhatsApp, according to Jumiatmoko [23], is an online program that allows users to quickly connect using the available features and is the most extensively used social media for communication. WhatsApp is the preferred medium for usage as the primary learning tool. Based on observations, interviews, and documented proof, the following WhatsApp capabilities are often utilized by instructors in the learning process: images, videos, documents, WhatsApp groups, polls, and phone calls. The features given aid teachers in the learning process.

According to Barhomi [24], the benefits of visible learning features include WhatsApp Messenger Group providing collaborative and collaborative online learning tools between teachers and students or classmates at home and at school, as well as applications that are free, simple to use, and can be used to share comments, articles, images, videos, audio, and documents. The teacher will provide homework in the form of a quiz, and the pupils will work on it directly in the WhatsApp group. Instructors can transmit multiple document formats such as Word, PDF, or PPT to disseminate papers submitted using the document function; in learning activities, instructors use this feature since PPT or pdf contain teaching materials.

Whereas with videos, teachers use WhatsApp media to share learning videos to support learning activities, finished videos will be sent to class in WhatsApp groups, all forms of sending photos, documents, and videos that students can upload and save, WhatsApp groups as facilitators to send complete messages to

parents and students, and calling features will be sent to class in WhatsApp groups.

3.2. Obstacles In Implementing The Use of The WhatsApp Application in The Learning Process

WhatsApp is a messaging program that was created to help people communicate in today's ever-changing technology world. WhatsApp is a social networking platform that allows users to easily and quickly communicate information. Because of its ease of use, many individuals have turned to WhatsApp. According to Suryadi [25], WhatsApp is a platform for exchanging information such as text messages, images, videos, and even phone conversations. Using WhatsApp will allow for more accurate and effective information exchange. Allow WhatsApp to improve communication and interaction efficiency, particularly by delivering learning information.

Learning media is a medium used to support activities, particularly those involving the delivery of learning material from teachers to students. As a medium of communication for students, learning media can take the shape of print media or physical technology, with learning media capable of developing students' intellectual and emotional talents.

Taponao [26] defines the role of learning media in the learning process as follows: (First). Clarify material distribution so that it is not merely verbal, (2). Overcoming spatial, temporal, and sensory restrictions, (3). The employment of different and suitable media can overcome student passivity (4). Avoid mixing up a thing with a notion, (5). Bringing the real and the surreal together.

Regarding the obstacles or difficulties felt in using WhatsApp during the learning process, it was found that students had difficulty understanding the material, students were less disciplined in following the learning process, lack of interaction, cellphone memory was full of all files included in the WhatsApp group, there were still some students who did not have cellphones and students did not have internet quota.

Obstacles or difficulties experienced in using WhatsApp during the learning process were found that students had difficulty understanding the material, students were less disciplined in following the learning process, lack of interaction, cellphone memory was full of all files included in the WhatsApp group, there were still students who did not have cellphones and students had no internet quota. The barriers to adopting WhatsApp as a learning medium include signal interference and full mobile memory. Full HP memory will undoubtedly slow HP usage. According to the findings of informant interviews, the enormous quantity of images delivered in the form of homework and study materials hampered the HP operation.

According to connectivity theory, the digital and networked structure of our everyday life necessitates learning through contact with numerous sources of information as well as engagement in communities, social networks, and like-minded workgroups. ³ This learning theory also highlights the importance of technology in the learning process as well as the interaction between persons who utilize technology and those who do not. Furthermore, the use of social media in education, such as WA, allows students to obtain more helpful material, interact with study groups, and other educational systems, making the learning experience more enjoyable and comfortable.

The significance of using WA in lectures motivates the need for study on the use of social media, particularly WA, to improve the professionalism of future educators. The purpose of this study is to offer an introductory description of the use of WA in research methodologies courses. This article will offer an overview of the significance of interaction and the improvement of communication quality between professors and students during lecture activities. This description then serves as an encouragement for future instructors to become more professional by serving and pushing pupils to study harder.

The learning process is more than just memorizing concepts or facts; it is also an act of absorbing knowledge in order to acquire a thorough understanding. Learning, according to Madi and Amri, is more meaningful when individuals actively feel what they learn by utilizing all of their senses rather than just hearing. Furthermore, one of the external elements is the availability of learning media, which makes it simpler for pupils to absorb learning information and establish a more developed learning process. According to Sadiman, media is everything that may be utilized to convey messages from senders to recipients in order to stimulate students' ideas, feelings, interests, and interests during the learning process. Furthermore, Sudjana and Rivai said that the role of instructional media is similar to that of teaching aids. Learning media can improve student learning results by increasing the intensity of the student learning process.

In learning, it is necessary to use tools or media to convey learning material so that it is easily accepted by students. Learning media is a tool to help simplify the process of delivering information. The learning media used today are not limited to the use of blackboards, practicum tools and textbooks, but have developed using more sophisticated facilities as technology advances. Media forms that were previously synonymous with large physical dimensions are now increasingly developing into digital forms that are more compact, compact and portable.

The usage of cellphones and the internet as a learning aid is one possible technology. The

combination of these technologies results in cell phone instant messaging services such as WA. The WA service application is the most extensively used instant messaging service in Indonesia, and it uses an internet or WiFi data connection with no additional expenditures other than internet data connection fees. WA includes a number of chat-related capabilities, one of which is group chat. This feature allows several WA users to communicate in chat rooms at the same time, so that when group members post messages or material to the group, all members may receive and read them at the same time. This functionality can be used to help with.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of the above study and debate, the following conclusions may be drawn: The first usage of WhatsApp as a learning medium in the learning process was by subject instructors in learning activities such as opening, core, and closing activities in class IX C of SMP Negeri 2 Tondano. Then there are the widely utilized features like as photographs, videos, documents, WhatsApp groups, and direct phone conversations. The availability of the WhatsApp function and its ease of use, which can be utilized by numerous groups, contribute to this convenience. Students have difficulties grasping the subject, lack discipline in pursuing the learning process, lack interaction, and phone memory are all disadvantages of utilizing WhatsApp as a learning medium in the learning process.

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