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# Character Development of The Nation's Next Generation In Terms of Reading Habits In The Midst of Sophistication of Technology 5.0

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## Abstract

The younger generation is the main pillar of a nation, which will determine how this country will be in the future. Will it be more advanced or just the opposite? The first fact, UNESCO said that Indonesia ranks second from the bottom in terms of world literacy, meaning that interest in reading is very low. According to UNESCO data, the reading interest of the Indonesian people is very concerning, only 0.001%. This means, out of 1,000 Indonesians, only 1 person is an avid reader!

In a different research titled World's Most Literate Nations Ranked conducted by Central Connecticut State University in March 2016, Indonesia was ranked 60th out of 61 countries in terms of reading interest, just below Thailand (59) and above Botswana (61). In fact, in terms of infrastructure assessment to support reading, Indonesia's ranking is above European countries.

The second fact is that 60 million Indonesians own gadgets, or the world's fifth largest number of gadget owners. Digital marketing research institute Emarketer estimates that by 2018 the number of active smartphone users in Indonesia will be more than 100 million people. With such a large number, Indonesia will become the country with the fourth largest active smartphone user in the world after China, India and America.

Ironically, even though interest in reading books is low, wearesocial data as of January 2017 reveals that Indonesians can stare at gadget screens for approximately 9 hours a day.

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## Introduction

KBBI defines "growth" n thing (state of) growing; development (progress and so on): a harmonious household atmosphere is very important for the child's soul; national culture; economy an increase in gross national product within a country; exponential an increase in the form of a fixed percentage of the whole at a certain time; population increase or decrease in the number of residents in an area; Growth requires practice and growth is necessary for the Christian life. It's in the Bible, For even though you, in terms of time, should have been teachers, you still needed to be taught the basic principles of the word of God, and you still needed milk, not solid food. Because everyone who continues to drink milk does not understand the teachings of truth, because he is a child. But solid food is for mature men, who have senses trained to discern good from evil.<sup>[1]</sup>

Character growth for the younger generation is very important. Because the character they form today will determine what the nation's character will be like in the future. Of course, it cannot be separated from the role of parents who are the main educators for a child. Besides that, of course National Character Education is needed by the next generation of the nation because the future of this nation is in the hands of the next generation of the nation. So how to have the next generation of a superior nation? Of course, getting used to and making reading a habit and culture will accelerate the growth of knowledge and character. Because after reading, that is knowing, after knowing, of course doing it. Do what is learned what is read in daily life.

What is the meaning of custom? Habit comes from the word "ordinary" which according to the Big Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI) has: (1) a common meaning; general: for people now wearing shoes is already; (2) as before (as before): he was eating and joking as, it did not appear that he was seriously ill; (3) is already an inseparable part of everyday life; it has become a custom: every morning he -- drinks coffee; (4) often: he -- comes to our house; it can't be because --, PB lost his intelligence by training; Habit means: (1) something that is usually done and so on; (2) Antr patterns for making responses to certain situations that are learned by an individual and which he does repeatedly for the same thing; constitutional unwritten basic law that arises and is maintained in the practice of administering the state and is obeyed by state administrators as a moral and ethical obligation.<sup>[2]</sup>

It's never too late to learn and it would be nice to get used to liking reading from an early age, it really needs to be applied by every parent to their son/daughter. Because the first education of a child is certainly from home, namely the role of parents is very influential.

Meanwhile, data showing that reading interest in Indonesia ranks low includes, based on a survey by the International Education Achievement (IEA) in early 2000 that the reading quality of Indonesian children ranks 29th out of 31 countries surveyed in Asia, Africa, Europe and America (Rohman, 2017). According to Kartika (in Triatma, 2016) in 2011, UNESCO presented the results of a survey on the reading culture of residents of ASEAN countries. Indonesian reading culture is rated the lowest with a score of 0.001. This means that out of around a thousand Indonesians, only one has a high

reading culture. And UNESCO statistical data for a total of 61 countries, Indonesia ranks 60th with a low literacy level. Thailand is in 59th place and Botswana is last. Finland is in first place with a high literacy rate, almost 100 percent. This information clearly shows that the high interest in reading in Indonesia is still far behind compared to Singapore and Malaysia. According to research data from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the level of education in Indonesia according to the Human Development Index (IPM) is still relatively low, namely 14.6%. This percentage is much lower than Malaysia which reaches 28 percent, Singapore which reaches 33 percent (Witanto, 2018). These data show that literacy problems in Indonesia must be corrected. Books are very important in one's life. By developing interest in reading in Indonesia so that it continues to increase so as to form a cultured society in reading.<sup>[3]</sup>

Definition of Reading According to Experts:<sup>[4]</sup> Tampubalon (1987, 6), reading is seeing and understanding its contents, either verbally or silently. Written language is an idea/thought, so that in dialect understanding a writing with the reading method is a reasoning process.

Juel in the book Sandjaja (2005), reading is a process to be able to recognize words and integrate them into word meanings and into sentences and reading structures. Finochiaro (1973, 119), reading is understanding the meaning and meaning contained in written language. Lado, (1976), reading is understanding from several patterns or grammar from written descriptions. Keraf Gorys, reading is a process that contains physical and mental components. Along these lines, it can be translated also as a methodology giving importance to visual images.

Hodgson, (1960), reading is a process carried out by readers to get a message, which will be conveyed by the writer through the medium of words or written language.

Fredrick Mc Donald, (1996), reading is a series of complete responses, which include attitudinal, cognitive, and manipulative responses. Bonomo (1973), reading is a way to understand a meaning and its meaning in the written language. Kolker, reading is a process of communication between readers and writers using written language.

According to Smith in the book Ginting (2005), reading is a process that builds an understanding of the essence of reading (text) written. Jul and Sandjaja (2005), read that methodology to become more acquainted with some of the words and coordinate to the importance of the words into sentences and structure research. In this way, in the wake of research can make the essence of the part.

Whereas in the Big Indonesian Dictionary (2005) it means that, something that is written then says and mentions what is written again is called reading (Hasan, 2005). In Permendiknas No 58 of 2009 reading activities for young children are included in the scope of literacy language development. Which consists of: (1) Children will learn to recognize letter symbols; (2) Mention the names of objects whose initial sound is the same; (3) Mention words that have the same initial letter; (4) Understanding the relationship between sound and letter shape by reading pictures or connecting writing with symbols; (5) As well as reading and writing his own name in full.<sup>[5]</sup>

This study aims to answer the question: What is character growth? What is the impact of Sophisticated Technology 5.0 in terms of Reading Habits? What is the right solution to overcome the impact of Sophisticated Technology 5.0 in terms of

Reading Habits?

## Research Methods

In accordance with the background above, the method used in compiling this journal is descriptive quantitative. This journal was created by collecting, categorizing and presenting the latest data based on literature searches. As a final step, the author analyzes the data and draws conclusions.<sup>[6]</sup> By using this method the author wants to make sure that how important it is to accustom the nation's next generation to love reading in the midst of Sophisticated Technology 5.0.

## Results and Discussion

The meaning of character growth? Growth/growth/growth/ n things (states) grow; development (progress and so on): a harmonious household atmosphere is very important for ~ the child's soul; ~ national culture; ~ the economy of increasing gross national product in a country; ~ exponential increase in the form of a fixed percentage of the whole at a certain time; ~ population increases or decreases in the number of residents in an area;<sup>[7]</sup> character; psychological characteristics, morals or manners that distinguish one person from another; character; 2 Compound letters, numbers, spaces, special symbols that can appear on the screen with the keyboard character v have properties; have personality; character: the kid is ~ weird.<sup>[8]</sup>

Impact of Sophisticated Technology 5.0 in terms of Reading Habits? What is the impact of Sophisticated Technology 5.0 in terms of Reading Habits? Impact of Sophisticated Technology 5.0 in terms of Reading Habits? According to the observations of Dr. Suryaningsih, the role of libraries is starting to shift with the sophistication of technology 5.0 because the sophistication of gadgets is more able to attract attention and meet the needs or what is of interest to the next generation of the nation by showing content that is packaged nicely from the age level of toddlers, children, children, youth, adults and parents/elderly. Apart from that, the next generation of the nation can get pocket money, pocket money, additional income money from watching videos or even being able to create content that can be published from things that are of interest.

The impact of technological developments along with progress and increasingly sophisticated technological developments in fact makes the enthusiasm for learning decrease, especially the culture and interest in reading textbooks so that the achievement of learning outcomes decreases. This is an impact that arises from technological advances. Most of them are familiar with gadgets at the age of 5 years, they already really understand how to use gadgets and they usually use them only to play games and watch videos, even they are already familiar with various kinds of social media applications. such as tiktok, facebook, instagram and that makes the learning process decrease and today's children become lazy at their very young age. Of course this is a technological development that leads to negative, because at the age of 5 they should read more books, study hard, play and communicate with friends their age. Especially now that there is a lot of negative content on the internet and social media and of course today's children should not be allowed to see this content at a very young age.

What is the right solution for overcoming the impact of Sophisticated Technology 5.0 in terms of the Reading Habits of the Next Generation? Solutions for the Character Growth of the Next Generation in terms of Reading Habits in the midst of sophistication of technology 5.0

Character education in today's young generation is very necessary, because we are entering the 5.0 era. In Era 5.0, everything is already using technology. This is related to the crisis in the character of the young generation in Indonesia who are already addicted to technology. The existence of technology has positive and negative impacts on the younger generation, depending on how the younger generation deals with it. The younger generation must respond to this technological advancement in a positive way. The positive way is by filtering the things that are obtained in technology. Doctor Suryaningsih added that it is time to reintroduce old traditional games to the next generation of the nation and agencies or all education providers hold a competition to read the most books by getting a trophy governor or regent, mayor. Agencies, education providers and the environment from the RT level create reading rooms filled with good quality books in each RT to stimulate interest in reading for the nation's next generation, not only at the age of the children's level but up to the adult level.

## Conclusion

The habit of reading must be inculcated from an early age and the nation's next generation must be able to filter and understand the positive and negative impacts of technological sophistication.

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