Strengthening the Life Value in the Family to Overcome Student’s Vandalism Behavior in the Disruption Era

Musa Sinar Tarigan
Universitas Pelita Harapan
Indonesia
musaturigan@uph.edu

Abstract—Student’s behavior is strongly influenced by the quality of life value in the family. One of the student’s behavior that is very disturbing to society is the behavior of vandalism in the disruption era. It is very disturbing to the community because it destroys the life values and pattern of safe and peaceful environment in the society. This study aims to know the main problem of vandalism behavior carried out by students and its consequences and how to control their behavior. This study uses social, psychological and religious literature research written by experts in their respective fields. This study states that vandalism behavior is caused by the growing process of the life value of students that is not fulfilled in families in this disruption era. The life value within a family life has been degraded in the disruption era. Therefore, the values of life in the family must be strengthened again by restoring parenting style, parents as mentor and role model for their children. This study concludes that parents cannot fully give the growth of students’ life value to the teachers at school, but parents must be also responsible by taking over their roles as parents in a family in a disruption era.

Keywords: life value in family, student’s vandalism behavior, disruption era

I. INTRODUCTION

Education faced a very serious challenge in the disruption era. the current context is creating changes that are so fast and cannot be stopped. Because disruption era has changed various patterns of life and human behavior. An important question that must be answered in this era of disruption, is whether this era of disruption can help students have a spiritual maturity, personality in facing the reality of life in the age that is constantly changing so that they have good behavior?

The changing of behavior is an important issue in education that needs to be solved in disruption era. Skiba said, "Still, issues of disruptive behavior top of the list of concerns about education among teachers and parents” (27). Skiba's statement was also confirmed by [1] in Kompas daily and said, “Education as discussed, is also important to welcome the era of digital disruption as it is today. As is known, the era gave birth to new trends.” The challenge of education in this era of disruption is how to prepare human resources that will not be replaced with these machines, and give birth to students who continue to be ‘human learners’ or long life learners [2]. Resource preparation must be prepared as early as possible and starting from the family as the closest environment and then the school environment.

The negative impact on the disruption era that marked by digital development is the process of personal and spiritual growth of children or students. Chapman and Pellicane said, “The electronic age has brought us the amazing miracles of television and computer technology, but it also has risks to the social and intellectual development of our children” (2). The life process of students in disruption era is very dependent on digital or the internet so that the social relations of students are degraded. They lose their values of life as a gift of God that is very important in their lives. [3] stated, “Though they have been warned to be cautious, they are still lured into meetings by Internet predators. Why do young people sometimes seem so stupidly self-destructive? The tragic truth is that many of these foolish choices are the first real decisions they have ever made” (22). Commonly, students do not experience the natural growth process as they should. Students must develop instantly to follow the trends of this era so that they lose important experiences in their lives, the students don’t have ability to cope their life stresses, and side effect of faster digital development process. Cline and Fay said,

The human rights revolution, the communication explosion, the Internet, cell phones, changes in the nuclear family — these and many other factors have radically changed how our children view life. Kids are forced to grow up quicker these days, so they need to learn sooner how to cope with the tremendous challenges and pressures of contemporary life (11).

Cline and Fay's statement shows deep concern about students growth and life imbalances so that few students seek satisfaction and their identity with acts of vandalism that disturb the environment and many others.
The problem of vandalism cannot be separated from students' life experiences, especially in families as the closest and influential community in their lives. [3] said, “Contrary to popular opinion, many of the worst kids - the most disrespectful and rebellious - often come from homes where they are shown love, but it's just the wrong kind of love” (23).

This paper will discuss how importance the values of life in the family to control the actions or students’ behavior. The family is a major factor in the process of students growth in the face of disruption era. Good family will educate, lead the students who display clean hearts, good behavior and be blessing to others.

II. METHOD

Discussion of this topic uses literature review in social field about the behavior of vandalism that often occurs among school-age students. This discussion will begin with various phenomena of various vandalism events which are disturbing people's lives. This condition encourages the author to examine various causes of vandalism, and solutions from family factors, especially from the role of parents. Because parents are the most responsible for the growth of attitudes, character and spiritual students. The discussion of this topic examines the various views of various writings of experts in their fields that written in various books and other academic journals.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Student’s Vandalism Behavior

Vandalism is an act that destroys the pattern of people's lives and disrupts the life of environment. [4], cited the definition of vandalism from the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) and said "Vandalism is defined by the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program as willful or malicious destruction, injury, disfigurement, or defacement of any public or private property, real or personal, without the consent of the owner or persons having custody or control." This definition states that the act of vandalism is an act of destruction of private property or others. This action has been disturbing community life. Even [5] classify the acts of vandalism as deviant social behavior. He said, "In general, vandalism is willful or malicious damage to property, such as equipment or buildings. Vandalism is often associated with other signs of social disorder, such as disturbing the peace and trespassing." This statement was later confirmed by [6] and stated, "Vandalism has traditionally been described as absurd, unreasonable or even pathological behavior in as much as it procures no advantage to perpetrators and, indeed, even has a negative impact upon him / her by reducing the quality of the environment in which he / she lives or works” (4). This statement shows that the behavior of vandalism is an important issue that needs to be solved so that it does not damage themselves or others. The acts of vandalism as an expression of disrespect for others and property of others. This is also confirmed by [7] who cited Sanders' statement about vandalism and stated, "Vandalism can be described as the purposeful damaging, violation, defacement, or destruction of public or private property by persons who are not the direct owners of the property "(206). Vandalism is not only occurred in the general public but also often arises in the context of education and in the school environment [7]. This is an irony in the sense that the school is the place to educate students to grow well, but in fact the students’ actions are contrary to the values of education.

B. Causes of Vandalism Behavior

This vandalism behavior has various causes. In general, this behavior begins with a family that has a dysfunction or a family that does not do their job properly. [7] said, "Factors that are often beyond the control of the school, such as poverty, unemployment, disintegration of family life, inability or unwillingness of government to clamp down on vandals, and availability of drugs and alcohol, are considered the most important causes of vandalism" (210). This is also said by [8], that the causes of various acts of social violence are triggered by environmental factors, especially family disfunction, such as his statement, "Young men, yes, are most likely to be perpetrators of many kinds of violence. Similarly with background variables such as poverty, race, and origins in divorce or single-parent families (21). Family problems make their students (children) do not have experiencing the growth process as they should and their various needs are not being met. These family problems can lead the students' personality problems to acts of violence or vandalism. This thing was said by [6], said "The clinical psychologist's idea that the deviant behavior of vandals stems partially from their personality and partially from their social and family background is based only on the examination of the small numbers of vandals arrested by the police” (5). These various causes encourage someone to do destructive actions as form of inability to control themselves, think rationally. This was also said by [5], "Vandalism is not senseless property damage. Individuals vandalize for a variety of reasons including: to convey a message, to express frustration, to stake revenge, to make money, or as part of a game. Perpetrators may work alone or as members of a loose or organized group” (2). Such actions are disturbed others and the perpetrators themselves will not get benefit, but they only express disappointment in life. Families that are not conducive and environmental factors are not conducive make students cannot be ready to face the fast changing life. In addition, social factors can also be a cause of the development of vandalism and are unable to adapt to the environment which is usually referred to antisocial behavior that is characterized by attitudes and conflict with their environment, they are known as students who are not responsible, cannot understand people's feelings other, selfish and does not have feelings of guilt for behavior that has disturb others [9].

Acts of vandalism occur both inside and outside the school because it cannot be released from the spiritual condition in the family where students in their sinfulness do not want to obey God's command that is to love and respect each other. Education
and application of spiritual values as the root of family values have not primary place in the family. Parents often make mistakes in implementation of spiritual principles in their children. Parent has important position in spiritual leader in the family. Parents are often inconsistent in teaching the righteous life according to the principle of faith in God but using their authority as parents to hurt their children [10]. Then [10] said, "Likewise, those in spiritual positions of authority can violate our trust. It’s possible to become so determined to defend a spiritual place of authority, a doctrine or a way of doing things that you wound and abuse anyone who questions, or disagrees, or doesn't "behave" spiritually the way you want them to” (27). These actions cause disappointment in the child so that it can give birth to vandalism. [11], stated,

This could be attributed to the phenomenon that children in families with high level of conflicts might turn to God in prayer for the reduction of conflicts, and those of the divorced parents might find the behavior of parents as being contrary to the religious tradition that they profess, which then forces the children to be sceptical of the religious tradition itself” (76).

The growth of child or school-age student cannot be separated from family environmental factors. The role of the family is very important in the process of shaping his life identity as a good person and having good social behavior. This was also confirmed by [6], "Furthermore, vandalism has been observed to be more deeply rooted where the ability of families to meet the needs of their members is limited; this is particularly the case when socio-economic standards are low, when unemployment is present and when immigrants are involved” (4). The students will learn from various life experiences in interacting and communicating among fellow family members, especially with parents.

C. Disruption Era

The digital age has been changing the system of human life. All activities of human life are highly dependent on digital technology. All human activities are connected with the digital age. [12] said,

We are a connected people. Daily, our dependence on computers, mobile devices, and digital systems increases for business, personal transactions, social media, education, entertainment, communication, and a host of other purposes, some vital to our wellbeing and some insignificant and perhaps frivolous (13).

Almost all human activities are highly dependent on the internet. Even Leclare refers to humans now as digital people, with his statement, "We are a connected society - a" digital people” with our fame and fortune a click away on the Internet” (13). This changing era has been changing the pattern of human life following the development of this era. Human relations have been determined by digital technology, and the internet has become a major human need. Including the growth of children or students is very dependent on the progress of this technology. Moore (2014) goes on to say “Electronic communication means our children are living in a social world on steroids. Cell phones and the internet put kids constantly in touch with their peers, which can be both comforting or overwhelming” (206). [13] describes children today as digital children as the following statement “Children today are digital natives” (206). This development is encouraging human efforts to achieve better life. But the reality these development is not always produce good impact in accordance with the original purpose. Because humanity has not prepare to welcome this digital era. Families have lost the most essential values of life, namely direct interaction between humans directly fulfilling their need to love and be loved by their fellow human beings. Human direct interaction with each other cannot be replaced by technology. [13] said “What this study does show is that online communication isn't interchangeable with face to face interaction. There’s something importing and different about real life interactions that online interactions don't replicate” (208).

Dependence on the digital era or commonly called disruption this era has changed in various aspects of life that continue to occur and cannot be avoided. As a result, the essential values of life as a gift from God the Creator such as the life of love, mutual respect, and mutual respect for others, including human spiritual values, are beginning to be abandoned and replaced with new patterns of life and values. Students who are supposed to live the life centered on God (God centered) eventually change to self-centered. Parents are not able to carry out their duties in parenting so that students lose the period of spiritual growth, character with the family and find their own way. The students express their needs to acts of vandalism and damage the standard pattern of life and destroy their own lives.

D. Strengthening Family Values to Control Students’ Behavior

Being a parent is God's calling and special privilege from God. The responsibility of parents in educating and caring for their children (students) becomes more difficult, especially in disruption era. [14] said,

Parenting is a difficult job. It is tough enough to juggle the many demands of life without children, many people find giving appropriate attention and care to one or more children-on top of the already considerable responsibilities of marriage and career—a nearly impossible job. Many succeed admirably, nonetheless, but many for a variety of reason-do not (179).

Parents have important role in shaping the personality, spiritual of the students. Parents are fully responsible for the development of students as entrusted by God. The family is a place where children grow life values in preparation for facing life's difficulties. Chapman and Pellicane said, “The ideal place for a child to learn to be social is in his home, where a loving
mother or father can model what healthy relationships look like” (14). Parents cannot hand over the responsibility of education and the formation of the personality and spiritual of children to other institutions such as schools. Parents need to understand the characteristics of the disruption era in order to be able to accompany their children as students facing this change. [13] said, Parents have an important role to play in helping their children navigate the digital world. We need to warn them about possible dangers and teach them how to respond when – not if – they encounter upsetting or inappropriate material online. We also need to help them keep electronic communication in perspective and to find a healthy balance in their social lives that leans heavily toward face-to-face interaction with family and friends. By all means, tell your children, “No texting time at the dinner table (200).

Along with the context of life in disruption era, the struggle of parents is more difficult because parents also have to follow the current context. Disruption era is a challenge for parents to educate their children not to fall into frustration and lead to acts of vandalism. [3] stated, "Parenting is a challenge and opportunity for every one with teenager. It doesn't matter what kind of batting average you have been maintaining so far; adolescence can be a whole new ball game” (16). This statement was also emphasized by [15] and stated "The more you can understand the values of your teens, the more effective you can become at leading them. Everything they do stems from their values” (70). This statement shows that the interaction of parents and students in family cannot be replaced by digital. Parents must communicate directly with students (children) to get a close understanding of students' needs both psychologically, socially, spiritually and other needs. Students feel comfort and safety in the family environment so they can grow properly.

Every decision and action of students comes from a system that starts from the family. Students do not live in neutral space, if parents develop poor grades to the student then they will learn and follow their value or behavior. This is also confirmed by [15] "Remember, their conclusions are typically stem from a value system. Their decisions are made because of a value they hold that may not be readily seen or evident. Even when the act itself is foolish, most of the time it actually rooted in a value that you as a parent could affirm” (71). If the students come from functioning families, they will be able to go through various social problems in their lives. [13] said, "Studies show that teens who come from families that express emotional in healthy ways and solve constructively problems are more likely to use healthy coping strategies” (9).

E. Spiritual Value

The family is created by God in the first time. The family is the smallest environment for humans to build life according to God's will. Parents need to understand the values that are believed by their children in this digital age. The more parents know their values, the more effective they are in caring or giving the students true values. Spiritual values and beliefs are the basis of every family's life. Vertical relationship with God as the basis for horizontal relationships with others. Religious experience or relationship with God will give enlightenment to students to judge themselves valuable as God's creations so they must behave in accordance to God's will as Creator. Students will give respect to God and do His will correctly that is respecting oneself and others, belonging to others including the environment as a gift from God to be preserved. Although the digital era and disruption era are constantly demanding change, the students believe their identity in God so that they are able to react many changes properly. This identity will remain clear despite the many changes that occur in life.

F. Love Value

Planting and growing family values will prepare children and students to face the difficult realities of life. The principle of life in absolute love becomes the value of life that must continue to be implanted in the students' life. The Life in love is God's greatest gift to the sinful human being. God give us the unconditional love. Humans cannot be a source of love for others because humans are very limited and have sinful nature. Humans can emulate God's love for humans. The beauty of life in love will provide valuable life experiences so that students will continue to learn to love each other, respect the property of others and not disturb their environment with acts of vandalism. [16] said, "There's an interesting tie in between grace's work in a human heart and the sense of freedom that people enjoy in life. In the process of making grace the template for your role as a parent, you get to export true freedom to your child’s inner core” (49).

The various processes of life experience in love for God and others must have rules consistently. The regulation is an opportunity to learn together and respect others to avoid acts of vandalism as pattern of rebellion. [16] said "Rules are not tempered by grace blocks relationships with our children and lead to rebellion. On the other side, relationships without rules don't result in grace either” (59). Various rules based on God's grace and love for God will help students have discipline and respect each other. [3],

That’s where Parenting with Love and Logic comes in. Why the terms love and logic? Effective parenting centers around love: love that is not permissive, love that doesn’t tolerate disrespect, but also love that is powerful enough to allow kids to make mistakes and permit them to live with the consequences of those mistakes (11).

G. Respect Each Other

Every human being has uniqueness than another. The uniqueness is not an opportunity for mutual hostility. Instead the uniqueness is God's gift to humans. God educates everyone to learn to accept the uniqueness of students with the principle of
mutual acceptance and they can grow together as community. Students need to learn differences and be able to accept one another as brothers and sisters. Parents need to train students to resolve the conflicts or problems without violence, and acts of vandalism that harm themselves and others. [17] said, "Social instructional approaches can help establish a non-violent school climate, by teaching students’ alternatives to violence for resolving interpersonal problems” (32). In this case parents need to communicate and work together with the school to teach the same thing, namely to love and respect each other to prevent this act of vandalism. [16] showed the important task of people in the family and stated, "One of the crucial roles of parents is to help their children develop emotional and social skills they need to thrive. Every Child struggle, at some point, with painful feelings or friendships problems” (1).

H. Truth Value

Parents need to develop the value of truth and justice in the lives of students or their children as soon as possible that two things cannot be separated. The actions of student life must have principles that are true and fair. Therefore students’ behavior must have definite references and based on legal norms and values in society. The development of these values must be experienced and guide them for their life. Parents need to prepare students to face the negative impact of disruption era with true and fair values. Knowing these values will help students to analyze various problems and make the right decisions at the right time and the right place and they do not damage themselves and others. Development of these values must start from the family and guidelines in family life.

IV. Conclusion

Disruption era has being major influence on students’ lives including the patterns of their life in community. Various changing of life have impact on family and students’ patterns of life and student life patterns. The digital age is very good progress aimed to improve human life. But unfortunately the parents (the community) have not ready to face the impact of disruption era. Disruption era causes many problems for students’ life where they cannot find the core of the true value of life. So that the students fall into acts of vandalism that damage the standardized environment and cause unrest in society. This action needs to be overcome by increasing the role of parents to develop the universal values of life in students. The development of life values in the family encourages students to have the right perspective in responding to digital progress in this era of disruption. The students finally made use of this digital era for mutual development and strengthening each other as creation of God and to glorify God.

REFERENCES


