

## Analysis of the Importance of Guidance and Counseling Services for Students

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### ABSTRACT

This study aims to describe the importance of guidance and counseling services for students; subjects in this study were students of mathematics education who are taking courses in guidance and counseling. This research method uses a questionnaire in the form of a question, and students responded via email, the results are analyzed, then tabulated in the frequency table of respondents, which is then presented with the number of perceptions. This study found that the development of the era, family factors, IT development, excellent Guidance and Counseling Services, individual development, individual experience, and future and potential development are essential guidance and counseling services for students to be well organized at every level of education. The conclusion from the results of this study is that guidance and counseling services must be carried out optimally at all levels of education; guidance and counseling services are essential for students to be able to prepare and anticipate life and life, both for today and in the future, and guidance and counseling services. Counseling should be a place for students to consult various problems, not the other way around, being a place that students fear.

**Keywords:** Perception; The Importance of Guidance and Counseling Services; Students

### INTRODUCTION

The goals of national education as outlined in the national education system are ideal goals, where every student who attends education is expected to gain the value of faith in God Almighty, have a noble character for life, have qualified knowledge for the world and the hereafter, and become creative and responsible human in the future. (Kemdikbud, 2003). Guidance and counseling services are part of an educational program that cannot be separated from achieving national education goals. Therefore the purpose of guidance and counseling services must be able to reinforce the development and growth of students, both in terms of academic, personality, social, and future careers. Come by always providing assistance or assistance services to all students without favoritism. (Sutirna, 2021b), (Ramlah, 2019), (Syamsu Yusuf & Ikhsan, 2006).

Donald G. Mortensen dan Alan M. Schuller suggests that: "Guidance may be defined as that part of the total educational program that helps provide opportunities and specialized staff service by which each individual can develop to the fullest of his abilities and capacities in terms of the democratic idea." (Sutirna, 2021b), (Sutirna, 2013a).

Once the importance of implementing guidance and counseling programs as a bridge for students to achieve national education goals, the Ministry of Education and Culture requires every level of education (formal, non-formal, informal) to carry out an optimal assistance service program for students in a planned and sustainable manner.

Based on the legal and theoretical basis above, the reality on the ground for various reasons, so far, in non-formal education, especially in equivalence education (Program Packages A, B, and C), not all have and implement guidance and counseling service programs, this is shown by the survey results Sutirna & Nugraha, S. (2021) found that *half of the total number of Guidance and Counseling Service Program administrators in Equivalent Education have a guidance and counseling service program*. Furthermore, at the elementary school level, the reality on the ground, guidance, and counseling services have not run optimally for various reasons; the burden and duties of elementary school teachers are very dense every day because they serve as classroom teachers. (Nurohman & Prasasti, 2019).

Then the implementation of the guidance and counseling service program at the junior high school level found the research results that the supervisory function in administering the results of the counseling guidance service still needed a better arrangement as an evaluation material in every counseling guidance service that had been implemented. (Ginting, 2018), At the then high school level, it seems that counselors' competence must be very high; this is because high school students have started to enter the stage of development towards early maturity, where future preparations need to be informed by service teachers' guidance and counseling. (Malik & Kusnarto Kurniawan, 2015)

The home environment, as the first place of education for students, should be able to provide a good role for development. It is realized that there are still many problems in the family or home environment, causing problems for students, especially in the learning process at school. This is in line with the results of research which shows that students' problems can be seen from where the problems come from, both from relationships in the family and family situations. Family problems and situations can affect students at school in terms of concentration in learning and school activities, resulting in a decrease in student achievement. (Handayani & Hidayat, 2017)

Based on the description of the phenomenon of assistance services in formal, non-formal, and informal education, which are still not optimally implemented, a movement to provide a clear understanding of the importance of guidance and counseling services for existing education providers and prospective education providers (students of the faculty of teaching and education) are explained when students take guidance and counseling courses in the lecture process. (Sutirna, 2019)

In order to strengthen the importance of students being assisted, both those who have problems and those who are not, it is necessary for the perception of students who are taking guidance and counseling courses to review the importance of guidance and counseling for students. The purpose of this research is that students, as prospective education providers understand the importance of implementing guidance and counseling service programs at all levels of education.

## **METHOD**

The research method is a descriptive qualitative analysis taken from honest answers about the importance of guidance and counseling services for students. This research instrument is in the form of questions directly given to students to be answered openly about the importance of education services for students via email. Answers are analyzed based on students' perceptions, and then the results are categorized based on percentage categories. The population of this research is students who take guidance and counseling courses, as many as six Mathematics Education students, then for the research sample taken as many as two classes, namely class 4A and 4B.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of this study are students' perceptions of the importance of guidance and counseling for students, and it can be seen in the table below:

**Table I.** Tabulation of Student Perception Analysis for the Importance of Guidance and Counseling

Persepsi Mahasiswa	Frekuensi	Presents
Current development	3	5.26
Family	2	3.51
Socializing	2	3.51
IT Development	7	12.28
Excellent Service Guidance and Counseling	26	45.61
Personal Development	11	19.30
Individual experience	2	3.51
The future	1	1.75
Development of Potential	3	5.26
<b>Total</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: The number of frequencies is analyzed based on the student's answers in general

From the results of the student answers in table I above, the discussion can be sorted from the largest percentage of students expressing their perception of the importance of guidance and counseling services.

### 1. Excellent Service Guidance

From the results of students' perceptions of answers, 45.61% said that guidance and counseling services had not provided optimal services in facilitating students' needs, so many students' perceptions were wrong about guidance and counseling services teachers. This negative perception of students must be a severe concern for implementers in schools so that all forms of assistance or assistance will be optimal, and ultimately the students' perceptions will become positive.

From the analysis of student answers, if we relate it to the reality on the ground, the guidance and counseling services are not yet fully running optimally; let us pay attention to the need for school counselors; in 2013, JAKARTA, KOMPAS.com wrote that the number of guidance and counseling teachers in Indonesia is currently only about 33,000 people. To serve around 18.8 million SMP/MTs and SMA/SMK/MA students, at least 125,572 guidance and counseling teachers are needed. "This means there is a shortage of guidance and counseling teachers, around 92,572 people," said the General Chairperson of the Indonesian Guidance and Counseling Association (ABKIN) and Guidance and Counseling Professor at Semarang State University Mungin Eddy Wibowo, in Jakarta, Tuesday (22/1). He said this was following the public hearing of the Commission X DPR working committee with curriculum experts. At the meeting, the General Chair of the Indonesian Curriculum Developers Association, S Hamid Hasan. According to Mungin, of the many guidance and counseling (BK) teachers, only 418 have a BK degree and professional counselor education. "Others are only BK graduates, and some are not BK graduates," said Mungin. The shortage of BK teachers will be felt, according to Mungin, with the implementation of the 2013 Curriculum. (Wibowo, 2013b); (Wibowo, 2013a)

Especially with the situation and conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic, excellent service for direct guidance and counseling is very unlikely to be carried out optimally. Kristiawan, one of the initiators of the cyber counseling application at the Center for the Development and Empowerment of Educators and Education Personnel (PPPTK) for Physical Education and Counseling (BK), Directorate General of Teachers and Education Personnel, Ministry of Education and Culture stated that currently, Guidance and Counseling services in schools are experiencing many obstacles because the ratio of the

number of BK teachers and the effectiveness of services in schools is very disproportionate. (Ubaidillah, 2020).

Thus, we can draw a common thread from students' perceptions that the importance of guidance and counseling for students requires adding to the shortage of counselors and improving guidance services so that students' expectations of excellent service can provide a feel of comfort in carrying out academic and non-academic activities in Indonesia. Schools, not the other way around, are an obstacle in carrying out activities at school.

## **2. Personal Development**

A person's development factors will have an enormous influence on a person's success process even though external factors are very supportive, because it is internal factors within a person that determine the course of his development. (Sutirna, 2013b). The results of respondents' answers that individual development shows a percentage of 19.30%, meaning that needed to help students in their development.

Individual development is a unit, meaning no one is the same, even though they are born to the same father and mother. (Sutirna, 2013a); (Sutirna, 2021b); (Sutirna, 2013b). The second largest student perception of the importance of assistance services for students is caused by individual development factors, meaning that its uniqueness will result in differences in the services of each individual, especially with the situation and conditions of world development which is increasingly affecting individual development, both physically and psychologically.

Assistance schools are a medium that is expected to be able to support students in obtaining self-adjustment according to their level of development. Each developmental task that individuals must achieve is different for each stage, and the level of achievement of developmental tasks achieved by each individual, in this case, students, are also very varied. In the concept of developmental tasks, it is said that every certain period there are several developmental tasks that each individual must complete. (USA Hutagalung, 2019)

## **3. IT Development**

The third biggest student perception is the IT development factor; this is very important for guidance and counseling services because most of the daily activities of this technological development dominate, especially with the situation and conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic. The presence of technology, especially smartphones, has become the leading alternative and a necessity for most human activities. The world of education in administration, learning, and evaluation has used online as a medium.

In the development of this technology, what must be done by school counselors or guidance and counseling teachers and parents at home is to conduct intensive supervision so that students do not fall into a hostile atmosphere towards the use of smartphones. Teachers, in this case, must master information technology if they do not want to be left behind in carrying out their main tasks and functions as educators, teachers, and supervisors. (Surya, 2014), (Barnett Berry, 2011).

In addition to providing many positive impacts, there are still negative impacts that can occur in the development of communication technology. Advances in communication technology that exist today reduce morale for some people. Because everything seems easy, many students, for example, purely copy and paste in doing the assignments given. (Bakti Kominfo RI, 2019)

Based on students' perceptions of technological developments, guidance and counseling are needed so that its negative impact can be narrowed by the services of educators because if this is neglected by the world of education, it is feared that it will not be suitable for students, it will even become a bridge to destruction for students his future.

#### **4. Current Development**

The development of the times is bound to happen, and we have to face it, and all of us cannot avoid it because if we ignore the developments of the times, we will leave behind the situation and conditions of the era. From time to time, learners will continue to develop following the flow of developments that occur, and we cannot stem it; only we can provide direction so as not to fall into the misleading developments of the times.

Students' perceptions in responding to the importance of help for students against the times must be the attention of all parties involved because the development of the times will have an enormous influence on the behavior patterns of everyday students. As a matter of reflection, in ancient times whose name was respect for parents, teachers, and elders was highly respected by most students, but with the development of the times, it seems that the character of respect is decreasing in quantity.

Based on the respondents' answers and the analysis above, it is appropriate that assistance is needed to provide a profound understanding and understanding to students so that the development of the times is followed by upholding the nation's cultural customs that have a respectful character toward others.

This is reinforced by the opinion of the Secretary of the Directorate General of Islamic Community Guidance (Directorate General of Community Guidance) of the Ministry of Religion (Kemenag) Muhammad Fuad Nasar, in his interview with Media Republika on February 24, 2021, who said that the changing times that are so dynamic today should not change the order of people's lives as a nation. Religious ones. This is following the mandate in the Indonesian constitution. (Nasar, 2021).

#### **5. Development of Potential**

Students' potential is different; in other words, none of them have the same potential. As an illustration of experience, maybe when we were in elementary, middle, or high school, our friends seemed to have great potential and became the best student mascots, but what happens when five or ten years later, the best child seems to be mediocre even worse, and vice versa some children have low potential, but they are now in control at work.

Thus the potential that exists in students, both strong (high), medium, and low, mandatory guidance and counseling services are present in it to be able to provide direction with the potential that exists in students so that with the nuances of the experience the story above is not expected to become an obstacle. In living life and living. Therefore, students emphasize optimally running guidance and counseling services to develop this potential. This is reinforced by Abdul Halim Wicaksono, who said that the development of students' potential is an integral part of the curriculum at the primary and secondary education levels which seeks to enable students to develop according to their respective potentials through counseling services and extracurricular activities. (Wicaksono, 2017)

#### **6. Family**

Character education must be implemented starting in the home environment from the age of children. The 2013 curriculum has answered various character development problems by placing character as one of the main goals of education. The development of spiritual and social attitudes, core competencies in the 2013 curriculum, is expected to become a pillar for developing children's character in education units. However, character education cannot be instilled and formed only by school teachers. The character cannot be formed only through 2-3 hours of encounters every day. The key to character education is in the family. Parents, as first and foremost educators, hold important control in the development and growth of children.

The child's behavior reflects the behavior of those around the child. Interactions in the family will be a model of behavior that children imitate. When children see their parents wake up early every day and start with worship activities and get their children used to do the same thing, the discipline and religious character will also be embedded in the child (Ritayanti, 2019)

Based on experience during their time as educators in elementary and junior high schools, almost some students in schools have problems due to family circumstances. A non-conducive family environment will affect the child in living school life. Therefore, students' perceptions of the assistance services for students and family factors must be the background that school counselors need to know to provide appropriate services so that the presence of counselors can bridge students to be able to understand the situation.

## **7. Socializing**

Adolescents' social life development is marked by symptoms of increasing peer influence or social patterns in their lives. Most of the time teenagers spend connecting or hanging out with their teenage peers is more based on friendly relations; these relationships can provide patterns in adolescent relationships. If the relationship is positive, then a positive pattern is built in learning achievement at school, but if the association is negative, it will significantly affect the pattern of behavior; this is something that is not expected by all parties, both parents, community, teachers, and the Indonesian nation. Therefore, the students gave the perception of the importance of optimal direction to students.

Sunaryo Kartadinata said that when the administration, learning and guidance factors run synergistically, the ideal and quality education will create humans with good knowledge and attitudes. (Sutirna, 2021a); (Sutirna, 2021b); (Sutirna; Marlina, R; Prihandani, 2020)

## **8. Individual Experience**

The most valuable teacher is experienced; these are the words of wisdom always conveyed by experts in various fields. Most of the experiences of students from elementary school to university in guidance and counseling services still say that it has not been implemented optimally. In response, he said that guidance and counseling services are essential for students in school, but the views of students based on experience have reversed their perceptions of guidance and counseling services. This is because the guidance room is scary for students.

Thus the perception of this individual experience must illustrate the need for the presence of counselor services for students. Therefore, the implementation and services of counseling guidance must further improve services through humanistic approaches so that students have a positive perception of guidance and counseling.

Moreover, paying attention to writing in achieving success in the world of business and life, it is said that learning from experience will make you more mature and mature in facing life. Thus, mentoring services in schools must be carried out optimally because this becomes a precious individual experience for future life (Cermati.com, 2016)

## **9. The Future**

The future seems increasingly competitive in dealing with it, so early preparation for students to anticipate and deal with it requires intensive guidance from elementary school to college. In order to achieve a future that is not confused, mentoring services according to students are essential to be carried out correctly and sustainably.

The future in western view, which uses the concept of linear time, the future is that part of the projected and anticipated timeline. Therefore, the future requires guidance and

counseling from the school age so that it can be understood to face the future for himself, the community, and the nation and state.

## CONCLUSION

The results of the analysis of answers from mathematics education students on the importance of guidance and counseling for students, seen from the factors that significantly affect the growth and development of students, both for today and in the future, namely, Excellent Service Guidance, Personal Development, IT Development, Current Development, Family, Socializing, Individual Experience, and The Future. Oleh karena itu Guidance and counseling services must be carried out optimally at all levels of education; guidance and counseling services are essential for students to be able to prepare and anticipate life and life, both for today and in the future, and Guidance and counseling services should be more of a place for students to consult various problems, not the other way around is a place that students fear.

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