Digital Literacy for Millennial Families in Educating Children in the Digital Age

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Abstract
The development of technological advances in the digital era has brought major changes in all aspects of life. In the digital age, education issues have become very diverse with increasing family responsibilities. To cope with these developments, it takes the expertise of parents and educators to implement appropriate solutions to all these problems and the ability to adapt to changing environments. This study examines the digital literacy of millennial families in raising children in the digital era. Teachers and parents really need digital literacy skills to educate children so that they can play various roles as educators in the digital era. This research uses literature research methods. Data collection in this study was carried out by developing various types of literature in the form of books, journals, e-books and literature relevant to the issue of digital literacy in millennial families in the digital era. Data analysis techniques use content analysis methods from journals and other materials that can be accessed via the internet. The results showed that in the digital era, the role of parents is very necessary so as not to be left behind. In our time, a new reorientation of learning is necessary because it is seen as affecting vision, responsibility, social sensitivity and logical ability, as well as honesty. All this leads to a reorientation of the new role of parents, namely as agents of change, knowledge reformers and learning consultants who emphasize creativity, initiative, good communication and cooperation between parents, schools and communities.

Keywords: Digital literacy, education, Digital Age

Introduction
Parents, as the main environment for the child, play the most important role in the education of the child. Parents cannot close their eyes and avoid the digital era, because nowadays digitalization has penetrated every field, parents must guide and guide children in using digital media wisely. Therefore, parents need to understand the main values of the digital world that can affect human life today. There are at least three important values that influence it, namely creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking (Kurnia et al., 2017).

Children are priceless trusts bestowed by Allah SWT that must be grateful, taken care of and cared for properly by parents. Solutions come through education and teaching. In the process of maturity, children need various processes carried out by their parents. The experience that children gain will affect their maturity. Parents’ awareness of their roles and responsibilities as educators in the family is very necessary because this will affect the growth and development and maturity of children. This is explained by the Prophet (peace be upon him) in his saying, namely: "every child born in a state of fitrah, it is his parents who make him a Jew, Christian or a magician" (HR. Bukhari).

Parents are responsible for meeting the needs of their children, guiding them, educating them and providing them with role models. These responsibilities include religious, material, physical, moral, intellectual, psychological, social and sexual responsibilities. This responsibility is explained by Allah Almighty in Sura at-Tahrim verse 6 as follows:
The explanation of this verse can be understood that it is the duty of parents to educate their children before the education of their children is entrusted to others, such as educational institutions. Parents play an important role in the education of their children. This responsibility applies in the form of education, the purpose of which is to create a healthy, intelligent child with noble character and morality, capable of becoming a strong generation and having a bright future. In order for this to be done properly, parents, in addition to knowing and understanding, must also carry out this education according to the stages of child development according to Islamic law, as explained by the Prophet Muhammad in his Sunnah. It is therefore very urgent for parents to ensure good behavior, good upbringing and good teaching for their children, so that when they grow up, the child knows what is right and what is wrong and is able to take care of himself and his family.

In the process of education, especially in Islamic education, teaches parents how important it is to be a role model or role model in the family that can shape the child’s personality for the better, so that the child grows and becomes a good child. Millennial Muslim families must be able to live in a family guided by the Qur'an and Sunnah, as well as other scriptures specifically related to the procedures for raising children according to Islam, which is closely related to the success of parents in terms of child growth and development. In order to become an ideal person, so as to create children who have good physical condition, good personality, emotionally mature, mentally healthy, creative, psychologically healthy and have positive implications for the surrounding environment and where they live.

A good educational process must be able to meet human needs for literacy, which is important to survive in this industrial revolution era, so that humans can function well in the human environment and can interact with their peers in an era of rapid change. The development of the industrial revolution. Increasingly sophisticated and modern development conditions require parents to be extra careful in monitoring, guiding and paying attention to children's growth and development, so as not to be negatively affected by development. Overtime. Parents must be smart in observing and monitoring technological developments in order to guide and direct their children. For this reason, parents must have a broad vision of their child’s Islamic education that can be applied in the family.

In today’s digital age, millennial families face unprecedented challenges in educating their children. Rapid technological advances have changed the way children learn, interact, and develop. Along with easy access to information come threats such as exposure to inappropriate content, online fraud, and invasion of privacy. In this context, this study aims to explore and understand the role of digital literacy in millennial families as a tool for children’s education in the digital era. Digital literacy includes not only the ability to use technological devices, but also understand, assess, and use digitally obtained information effectively and securely.

The importance of digital literacy for millennial families lies in the ability to guide and protect their children in a dynamic and sometimes risky digital environment. This research explores how millennial families understand and apply digital literacy in children’s education, and identifies the barriers they face in the process. By examining more deeply, this study aims to produce recommendations that can help millennial families in optimizing the use of digital technology as part of children's education. This study is important considering that digital literacy is now a basic competency that is as important as reading and writing, especially in an era where digitalization is pervasive in all aspects of life. Furthermore, this research is expected
to provide insights and strategies to millennial parents in forming a strong foundation for their children to navigate the digital world responsibly and critically.

**Method**

This search uses the library method or commonly called (library search). Data collection techniques in this study involve the elaboration of various types of literature in the form of books, journals, e-books and literature relevant to digital literacy issues in millennial families in the digital era. Data analysis techniques use methods of analyzing the contents of journals and other documents that can be accessed via the internet (Sari & Asmendri, 2020). This bibliographic method was chosen because the authors wanted to collaborate on research results similar to relevant research studies in the current context (Zed, 2008), to find something new (novelty) in future research.

In the literature research method, researchers use data analysis techniques, namely, 1) Identification and selection of relevant literature sources: Through searching academic databases, journal articles, books, and other sources related to Digital Literacy for Millennial Families in Educating Children in the Digital Era. 2) Data collection: Relevant data are collected from selected literature sources. This data includes Digital Literacy for Millennial Families in Educating Children in the Digital Era, the benefits generated, and related challenges. 3) Content analysis: Read carefully and peruse the source content you have chosen. Identify the main themes, arguments, data, and conclusions presented in the source. Identify also the perspective expressed and the author’s thoughts (Sugiyono, 2019).

**Result**

*The nature and role of parents in millennial families in the digital age*

The family environment is the first educational environment for a child because it is in the family that the child first receives education and guidance and most of his life is spent in the family. The family is naturally responsible for nurturing, caring, protecting and educating the child to grow and develop properly (Hasbullah, 2003). Talking about the concept of family cannot be separated from the concept that continues to develop from time to time. Despite the changes, a family still has many functions, such as educational functions, socialization, reproduction, economic functions, but its application can change according to the demands of life. In the past, the family was synonymous with the role of the father as the breadwinner and the mother was at home taking care of the house and children. Today there has been a change, father is still making a living and mother is also making a living. Thus, in the current context, a millennial family is a family consisting of young couples born between 1981-1994 or also called millennials (Rahmawati & R., 2019).

In a family, parents are the first educators. Parents have their respective roles in carrying out their role as educators in the family. As the head of the family, the father must be able to prepare his family members for whatever they need, where guidance, invitations, examples, sometimes sanctions and punishments, are characteristic of the typical education of children in the family, since homework and community work performed by all family members, or independently, constitute a common means of educational interaction in the family. In this case (Daradjat, 1973) stated that the way a father does his daily work affects his son's work.

The father is the protector of the family, especially his children, sons and daughters. Furthermore, Ahmad Tafsir in Helmawati explained that the function of parents as educators in the family must be carried out to create harmony both inside and outside the family. The functions of the educator in the family include: biological functions, economic functions,
emotional functions, educational functions, protective functions, child socialization functions, recreational functions, family status functions and religious functions (Helmawati, 2014).

Parents also have a responsibility to their children, beyond material things, and that is to set them a good example. The responsibility of parents is to instill love in their children, give them moral education, inculcate monotheism, keep children away from bad things and put them in a good place. Milieu (Djamarah & Bahri., 2014). Similarly, Purwanto explained that parents play an important role in parenting, including: (a) as a source of affection; (b) as caregivers and guardians; (c) as a place for children to let off steam; (d) as family controller; (e) as a director in personal relationships; and (f) as someone who educates about emotional issues (Purwanto, 1995).

In the digital era, parents are expected to be able to master technology to control and educate their children. Technological advances have a huge influence on children. Not only has a negative impact, but it can also help children obtain information, be creative, innovative, intelligent, accompany children, and filter information that is appropriate for their current age, but do not prohibit, but control it until it is safe (Laely, 2017).

Based on the concepts above, millennial families or also called millennial parents play an important role in various aspects of children’s lives, such as religion, economy, education, culture, science and technology, etc. A family will experience problems if its functions and roles are not fulfilled, which will eventually lead to acts of physical and verbal violence, loss of affection, lack of inculcation of religious and moral values, lack of pleasant interaction, feelings of insecurity. in the family. On the other hand, if parents carry out their duties and roles well, family life will be safe, happy and enjoyable and will maintain family life by continuing to do positive, constructive and transformative things. Furthermore, what is no less important is that millennial families continue to improve their technological skills and literacy skills in line with the times in order to educate their children according to the times.

Characteristics of children of the digital generation

The digital age is an era where everyone can communicate with each other, even if distance separates them, everything will seem close to the development of technology and information. All information is very simple and fast (in real time) to obtain. This digital age is also known as globalization. Globalization is a process of integration in the international world caused by exchanges in all fields, including economy, technology, culture, etc. The progress achieved in the digital age has a significant impact on all aspects of life, both positive and negative. In order for millennial parents to educate their children well in this digital era, parents must know and understand the characteristics of children in the digital era. There are several characteristics of digital children, including actively displaying their identity, broad vision, freedom, desire to master, high dependence on technology, spending a lot of time online, easily adapting to new technology and the ability to multitask, which is doing several activities simultaneously (Prastiwi, 2021).

Furthermore, not much different from the opinion above, Wafi explained that the characteristics of children in the digital era (Wafi, 2021) are the following: they like to display their identity on social networks such as Facebook, Twitter, Path, Instagram, YouTube, etc., are more open, like to express themselves frankly, like to live freely and have the ability to learn quickly, For example by accessing online media. In line with the above opinion, Andriyani explained the characteristics of the digital age generation as follows: having strong ambitions, practical thinking, such as speed and lack of patience. Children love freedom, confidence and optimism, critical thinking. You want to be recognized and master the use of digital and information technology (Andriyani &; Noviya, 2018).

From the above characteristics, it is clear that educating children in the digital age has
many challenges compared to educating children in the past. The reason is, children are now experiencing growth and development along with the sophistication of information technology that is very easily accessible anywhere and anytime. Times have changed, of course, the model of educating children also follows the times, as Ali bin Abi Talib said that educating children is in accordance with his times. Along with the changing times, of course, challenges also change, such as challenges related to community life, socializing, learning and interacting with children, and other challenges. It is a great challenge for parents to build generations according to their times. So, as part of the role of millennial parents who have a certain level of knowledge and education, they really need experience and skills in the field of technology and information to protect their children from the negative influence of technology and information.

Discussion

Problems of the digital age

In today’s digital era, various figures have expressed their views and theories regarding various challenges and problems that arise. One prominent figure is Sherry Turkle, a professor at MIT known for her research on the psychology of technology, specifically the impact of human interaction with computers, the internet, and social media on human psychology. Turkle highlights how digital technology can reduce the depth of human interaction and how reliance on digital devices can erode our ability to socialize effectively. She argues that while technology provides opportunities to connect more, the paradox is that this can also lead to feelings of more isolation and loneliness (Turkle, 2017). In addition, Nicholas Carr, author of "The Shallows: What the Internet Is Doing to Our Brains", states that the Internet has changed the way we think and process information, often leading to a decline in the ability to think deeply and concentrate. Carr argues that excessive internet use can cause the surface of our thinking to become shallower, where we become more accustomed to quick and less deep thinking. These two figures, along with many others, continue to explore and discuss the complexity of the problems of the digital age and how it affects the condition of modern man (Carr, 2011).

The digital age is a time marked by major changes in the world. Humans access information very easily through various means and can freely utilize the features of digital technology. The use of digital media and technology not only has a positive impact, but also has negative implications if children and adolescents use it excessively and uncontrollably. The increasing development of digital media also has positive and negative influences, which are as follows: The positive influences of the digital era include: a) Fast and easily accessible information; b) innovation in various fields; c) the number of online media; d) improvement of human resources; e) The emergence of various types of learning references such as online libraries, online learning media, online discussions that can improve the quality of education; and f) The emergence of online businesses that are very easy to get (Setiawan, 2017). At the same time, another positive impact of the digital age is that information is quick and easy to obtain, easy to communicate, easy to obtain, innovative in learning and easy to obtain digital learning references, such as e-books and online articles. In addition to positive impacts, this digital era also has a negative impact, including decreased learning outcomes due to excessive use of digital media, limited physical activity among children, inhibition of children's social and language skills development, suboptimal brain development due to unbalanced developmental stimulation, health problems: eyes, concentration problems, sleep problems, insufficient quantity and quality of sleep, lack of privacy, possible loss of personal data, child abduction, cyberbullying and pornography, and violence (Zahra, 2016). Furthermore, the digital era or globalization also has an influence on local culture where the current generation is increasingly moving away from its customs (Wahid...
et al., 2021).

From the opinion above, it can be understood that the development of digital media has had a positive impact that actually helps individuals live their lives. However, apart from this, negative impacts may arise and must be taken into account by parents in the family as the closest people to the child, so that children can avoid negative influences. Therefore, the development of the digital era must be taken seriously, mastering and controlling the role of technology properly so that the digital era can bring benefits to life. Children and youth should be made aware of the advantages and negative impacts of this digital age. Parents must have high knowledge and awareness in order to control their children's attitudes towards technology and use it properly and correctly.

**Parenting models in the digital age**

In today's digital age, parenting theories and practices face unique challenges complicated by widespread technological penetration. The first significant figure in this discussion was Dr. Devorah Heitner, author of the book "Screenwise: Helping Kids Thrive (and Survive) in Their Digital World", which discusses how parents can assist their children in managing and understanding the digital world. Heitner stresses the importance of being a digital mentor to children, not just supervisors, by educating them about the wise and ethical use of technology (Heitner, 2023).

Next is Dr. Jenny Radesky, a pediatric specialist who researches the effect of screen interaction on young children. Radesky argues that human interaction and free play time are still very important for children's social and emotional development, even in the digital age. She recommends reasonable screen time limits, especially for children under the age of five, and stresses the importance of parental involvement in a child's digital activities as part of parenting (Radesky et al., 2015).

Professor Kathy Hirsh-Pasek, who focuses on developmental psychology, proposed the concept of play-based learning that strategically incorporates technology. Hirsh-Pasek suggests that technology should be used to improve interactions between parents and children and between children and their friends, not replace existing social interactions. He argues that the use of technology in education should increase engagement, creativity, and social interaction, all of which are key components to effective learning in childhood (Hirsh-Pasek et al., 2015).

The three figures offer a balanced view of how technology should be integrated in parenting, emphasizing the role of parents as leaders and companions in the evolving digital age.

Regarding the characteristics of the digital generation above, millennial families or millennial parents are expected to educate children in the digital era by paying attention to the types of parenting styles that are relevant to children's lives. "Today. Millennial parents can implement effective parenting models to educate their children in the digital age. Parents must be able to protect their children from the threats of the digital era, but not prevent them from enjoying the digital era. Millennial parents can practice thoughtful, positive, effective, constructive, and transformative parenting styles. The main parenting style is effective parenting (Zaini et al., 2019).

There are many theories that explain the parenting style of parents towards children in the family. In general, parenting in the family is divided into three categories, namely authoritarian, democratic and permissive parenting styles. (Kurnia et al., 2017) Permissive parenting style, this model gives as much freedom as possible to the child and tends to listen to the child but is too relaxed.

Each parent does not have to use just one type of parenting, but can combine certain types of parenting models in raising and training children, so that good interaction occurs. If the interaction between parents and children is well established, it can improve physical, emotional,
social, intellectual and spiritual development from the child in the womb to adulthood. Therefore, true parenting is the interaction that occurs between parents and their children in terms of satisfying physical (eating and drinking) and psychological (feeling safe and affectionate) needs, as well as socializing the norms that apply in family society so that children can know and live harmoniously, harmoniously and in balance with their environment (Supriani & Arifudin, 2023).

The role of millennial families is very important in today's digital era. Parents should be able to support and guide their children so that they do not become negative victims of the virtual world or digital age. Thus, parents should implement the following strategies to educate and support children so that they can continue to master digital technology without being affected by its negative impacts (Herlina et al., 2018) That is:

1. Parents engage with their children regarding the use and duration of use of facilities such as gadgets, smartphones, tabs, tablets and the internet at home.
2. Parents establish good cooperation with the school and the community, so that the actions, behaviors and attitudes of all children can be well controlled.
3. Parents should accompany and monitor their children’s activities when accessing or using social media.
4. Parents should be able to be good role models for their children by using social media and following through on commitments made with their children.

Meanwhile, parenting in Islam is an integral part of the behavior and treatment of parents towards their children since childhood, starting from how to raise, educate, develop, familiarize and guide children optimally based on the Qur'an and the Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad SAW. SAW. In Islam, parenting patterns are divided into several stages of child development, namely: (1), parenting patterns between 0 and 6 years. The Prophet SAW set an example for parents to love, cherish and pamper their children without limits. (2), a role model for parents aged 7-14 years. At this stage, parental discipline and responsibility should be instilled in the child. (3), parenting of children aged 15-21 years. At this stage of the diagram, the child has entered puberty, so techniques are needed to communicate with the child and know how to listen to him. (4), a parent’s role model for children over 21 years old. At this time, children need the trust of their parents. At this age, parents can only supervise and direct their children. Counseling is an effective way to educate children at this stage.

The purpose of this parenting style is for the child to have a number of skills that are useful to them. Among the skills expected by parents are religious competence, moral competence, physical competence, motor competence, academic competence and socio-emotional competence. Raising children requires continuous, directed and scheduled guidance and guidance, which is indispensable for parents in raising their children. For this to be achieved well, it is necessary to ensure that children are guided in the family, including providing them with role models, nurturing them and caring for children so that they become successors of families that have Islamic values, as well as accustom themselves and their children to tend to do good and renounce evil.

Islamic family education in the digital age

In this digital age, Islamic family education faces new challenges that require deep understanding and adaptive approaches. One prominent figure in discussing this issue is Dr. Amina Wadud, a Muslim scholar who has written extensively on gender roles and education in Islam. In his work, Dr. Wadud emphasizes the importance of integrating Islamic values with the sophistication of digital technology. He argued that Islamic family education in the digital age should not only be limited to maintaining traditional values, but should also involve the use of technology to enrich children’s learning experience. This includes the use of online learning platforms that can provide broader and interactive Islamic educational materials, thus helping
children understand and apply Islamic teachings in the current context. Dr. Wadud also highlighted the importance of gender education as part of Islamic family education, suggesting that boys and girls be given equal access to learning resources and opportunities for self-expression in a digital environment. Thus, his theory proposes a harmonious integration between Islamic values, egalitarian education, and the use of technology, thus creating an inclusive and time-relevant learning environment (Wadud, 2013).

The home environment is a place where children will receive education or influence from their parents. The family is the oldest educational institution and parents are natural educators, so they must also have good training. Because of the education of parents in the family will be able to provide a number of knowledge and skills, religion and beliefs, moral values, social norms and outlook on life that are useful for the future of the child (Marzuki et al., 2024).

Likewise, in the digital era, parents must pay more attention to their children in order to make the best use of technological developments. Some things that parents can do as the main educator of their family (Hardiani, 2018) include:

1. Provide education and understanding to children to abandon various prohibited acts such as smoking, gambling, drinking alcohol, stealing, depriving others of their rights, being unfair, disobeying parents and other illegal acts.
2. Teach children to be disciplined with their time, don't let children spend their time playing with their gadgets.
3. Teach children to get used to wearing clothes that are in accordance with Islamic law from an early age. Men's clothing for men and women's clothing for girls. Do not allow children to wear Western-style tight clothes and do not cover their private parts. Regarding this, the Prophet (peace be upon him) said, which means "Whoever imitates a people is among them." (Sahih, HR. Abu David).
4. Educate children not to access pornographic sites as this can make them addicted to viewing them.
5. Introduce children to useful sites to find information about the learning process.
6. Teach children to always get used to doing positive and useful things.

In addition, parental support for children's growth and development is very important, because children in the digital age are less social, prefer to be alone, etc. To prevent this from happening, intensive assistance from parents is needed. Among the things parents can do to support their children, (Wafi, 2021) exist:

1. Parents should update their knowledge through online media such as websites, blogs, Twitter or Facebook and Instagram.
2. Teach children to use digital media clearly, agree when to use it and when to rest.
3. Organize the child's share in the use of digital media through useful activities, such as art activities, outdoor activities, sports, interactive reading, music and movement, traditional games, etc.
4. Lend digital media such as gadgets, smartphones and computers if needed so that children can learn and control themselves using digital media.
5. Choose a positive application so that it has a positive impact on children's growth and development.
6. Always support and interact with children in the use of digital media.
7. Parents are wise when using digital media.
8. Virtual world activities are an ideal time for parents to prepare their children to visit cyberspace. Educate about useful content and stay away from negative content.
9. Parents should monitor and filter the websites visited by their children and ensure that their children do not visit pornographic sites.
From the above, it can be understood that family education is very important, especially in the digital age, parents must be attentive in preparing their children to face the wave of globalization so that children can avoid negative influences. Therefore, parents should update their knowledge of technology or digital culture so as not to miss out on information by following the Quran and Sunnah.

Conclusion
The role of millennial parents in educating children in the digital era can be emphasized that the family acts as the first and main educational environment for children. The changing dynamics in millennial family structures, where both parents tend to play the role of breadwinners, demands adjustments in parenting methods. This challenge is exacerbated by the advent of the digital age, which presents seamless access to information and technology. Children of the digital generation exhibit characteristics such as a high reliance on technology, a tendency to multitask, and a quick adaptability to change, all of which require a different approach to education from the past.

Millennial parents must combine traditional family functions with the new needs emerging from the digital environment. This role not only includes aspects of supervision and protection but also involves setting an example and value of education through quality interaction with their children. Given the significant impact of easily accessible technology and information, parents need to equip themselves with digital literacy knowledge and skills to educate and protect their children from potential cyber hazards.

Faced with this situation, the recommendations that can be given cover several aspects. First, increasing digital literacy among millennial parents is important. Governments and educational institutions should provide programs and training that enable parents to keep up with the latest technology and understand how best to assist children in using technology safely and productively. Second, schools and communities should be actively involved in providing education and resources on cybersecurity and responsible internet use to children and parents. Third, parents need to have an open discussion with children about internet use, discuss the benefits and risks, and together establish clear rules regarding screen time and the type of content that can be accessed. By implementing these recommendations, it is hoped that millennial parents can be more effective in carrying out their role as the first educators in the digital era, creating a safe and supportive environment for their children's growth and development. In addition, children will be equipped with the necessary skills to face the digital world intelligently and responsibly.

Research Implications
The implications of this research are significant for the development of education policies and parenting practices in the digital age. First, the results emphasize the need for digital literacy training programs specifically designed for millennial parents. This will help them not only understand digital tools and platforms, but also teach how to integrate these technologies in their children's education effectively and safely. Second, schools and educational institutions need to develop curricula that support children's digital skills development and simultaneously provide guidance to parents on how to accompany children in the digital learning process. Third, the results of this study also encourage the creation of public policies that support synergies between schools and families, facilitate wider access to digital educational resources, and promote responsible use of technology. Finally, there is a need for further studies that explore the specific impact of digital literacy on children's learning outcomes and family dynamics, so
as to produce more specific, evidence-based recommendations for future parenting and teaching practices. Through this research, it is hoped that digital literacy can be integrated into parenting strategies, not only as a tool but as an important component in developing children’s social and cognitive skills in the digital age.

Reference

Alfabet.