

# THE EFFECT OF SOFT SKILL STRENGTHENING ON CHARACTER BUILDING IN YOGYAKARTA STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

by Rosidah, Nadia Sasmita, Voettie Wisataone, Mochamad Hanafi

## ABSTRACT

Character is not formed from birth, but is formed from a long learning process. Character starts from internalized beliefs and habits, so that it will direct how each individual acts in everyday life. The purpose of this study was to determine how the differences in behavior before and after soft skills were given to the character development of new students at Yogyakarta State University. This research is used as an evaluation material for the Yogyakarta State University campus in carrying out soft skill training during the process of admitting new students in the future. Soft skill provisioning for new students is routinely carried out before starting lectures, which aims as a process of internalizing the values that guide behavior in social life and life during learning on campus which refers to one of the visions of Yogyakarta State University, namely to produce graduates with superior educational quality, creative, and innovative based on piety, independence and intelligence.

This study uses a quantitative approach. The data collection method is through primary data collection using a questionnaire. Secondary data collection is obtained from literature and literature studies and online articles. The number of respondents in this study were 148 students. Data analysis in this study used paired sample test and t-test.

The results showed that there were differences in the character of students before and after obtaining the softskill material. T count is 6,087 and is in the  $H_0$  rejection area or  $H_1$  acceptance area. Medium probability value or Sig. (2-tailed) of  $0.000 < 0.05$  then  $H_0$  is rejected. In the experimental group there was a significant difference between the pretest and posttest results. It is necessary to do further research related to changes in student character after several years

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