

EXPLORING TEACHERS' EXPERIENCES IN MANAGING CLASSES THROUGH AN INCLUSIVE APPROACH IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

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Abstract

This literature research aims to explore teachers' experiences in managing classes in elementary schools through an inclusive approach. Inclusive education is an approach that involves all students, including those with special needs, to learn together in a supportive and non-discriminatory environment. Through qualitative research methods, in-depth interviews were conducted with a number of teachers to explore the challenges they faced, the strategies they used, and the impact of an inclusive approach on the teaching and learning process. The research results indicate that the implementation of inclusive education requires adaptation of teaching methods, development of additional competencies for teachers, as well as adequate support both in terms of resources and school policies. Despite the challenges, teachers demonstrate that with appropriate training and good collaboration, inclusive approaches can be implemented effectively. These findings provide practical and theoretical contributions, as well as offering recommendations for improving policies and teacher training programs, to support the creation of a more equitable and supportive learning environment for all students without exception.

Keywords: Teacher Experience, Classroom Management, Inclusive Approach

INTRODUCTION

Inclusive education has become a major concern in education reform in various countries, including Indonesia. This initiative to integrate students with various needs into the same learning environment, aims to create a more inclusive and equitable learning atmosphere. However, implementing this policy is not without challenges. Teachers, as the front guard in implementing inclusive education in elementary schools, face various complexities in managing classes consisting of students with different abilities and needs (Wickenden et al., 2023).

Occupying a central position in the learning process, teachers are required to adapt teaching methods to meet the needs of all students. This includes adjustments in teaching strategies, classroom management, and emotional and psychological support for students. An inclusive approach