

THE INFLUENCE OF CHARACTER STRENGTH AND STIGMA ON THE ACCEPTANCE OF PEER FRIENDS OF TEENAGERS WHO ARE FRIENDS WITH CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to test the significance of the influence of character strength and stigma on acceptance by regular adolescent peers in adolescents with special needs. The population in this study were junior high school teenagers in grades 1-3 throughout Jabodetabek who attended inclusive schools. Sampling in this study used techniques of non-probability sampling with a sample of 276 respondents. The questionnaire used to measure the peer acceptance variable. Meanwhile, for the character strength variable, a scale is used Value in Action Inventory of Strength (VIA-IS. Validity testing of questionnaire items uses the CFA technique (Confirmatory Factor Analysis), while data analysis for hypothesis testing in this research uses techniques of multiple regression. The results obtained show that there is a significant influence of the variables strength of character and stigma against peer acceptance with a value contribution of 66.1%. In detail, it is explained that dimensions that have a significant influence on peer acceptance are wisdom and knowledge, humanity and love, temperance and discrimination, while other dimensions do not have a significant effect on peer acceptance.

Keywords: Peer Acceptance, Strength of Character and Adolescents with Special Needs.