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# Increasing Spiritual Intelligence as an Effort to Fortify the Younger Generation from the Depravity of the Times

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# **ABSTRACT**

Only in 2021, 350 thousand complaints of rape were registered in Indonesia. 63% of campus violence incidents were not reported to maintain the good image of the campus. Spiritual intelligence may reduce juvenile delinquency among college students. Spiritual intelligence is used as a foundation maximize intellectual intelligence and intelligence. With spiritual intelligence, a person sees that every life has meaning and value, which makes the individual feel useless in reality. The Bible teaches that followers of Christ, including Christian students, must have the character of Christ and live according to the truth, which means living without the mask of hypocrisy. The inherent responsibility of Christian students should include a desire and commitment to learn and develop their Christian character so that their lives will radiate the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

Moral degradation is in the spotlight in almost all walks of life, including in the world of education. In 2021 alone, there were no less than 350 thousand complaints related to sexual violence in Indonesia (Suhifatullah, Sutarman, & Thoyib, 2021). This figure shows a very significant increase compared to the previous 10 years which only recorded around 100 thousand complaints. Astonishingly, many of these cases occur precisely in student cities. In the same year, in 29 major cities in the country, a survey conducted on 29 campuses proved that 63% of cases of violence that occurred on campus were not reported in order to maintain the good name of the campus (Musa, Arifin, Sukmawati, Zulkifli, & Mahendika, 2023). This harsh reality is a devastating blow to the world of education in the country.

The world of education, which is expected to be an agent for producing a dignified intellectual generation, cannot be separated from cheers (Ma & Wang, 2022). Some past research has shown that college students are still in the early stages of awareness of these kinds of issues. Various sarcastic terms are a common menu found in the midst of association on campus. Ironically, this actually demeans and

triggers bias in their thinking, so they themselves have difficulty identifying whether something that happened to them falls into the category of sexual violence or not (Sakti & Syarif, 2019).

The occurrence of ambiguity in the realm of student thinking seems to get fresh air from stakeholders where they study. As if they did not want the good name and credibility of the campus to be tarnished, instead of processing actions that led to moral degradation, the relevant parties actually tried to suppress and close the incident under the pretext of maintaining the reputation of the campus. As a result, the safe area that many parents aspire to becomes a mirage and even a place where dishonorable attitudes and behaviors are entrenched that will later be brought to society (Simak, Fitriyani, & Setiawan, 2019).

#### 2. METHOD

The data analysis method used in this study was quantitative data analysis(Riyantono & Hatmawan, 2020). This sample technique used Proportionate Stratified Random Sampling type which was a sampling technique when the population had members/elements that were not homogeneous and proportionally proportional. To know the influence of spiritual intelligence to efforts to suppress juvenile delinquency among students, it was used calculations using a simple linear regression analysis method (Sugiyono, 2019).

### 3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

To calculate the relationship between spiritual intelligence variable (X) and juvenile delinquency (Y) by using the help of SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Science) program for windows version 23.0.

**Spiritual Intelligence Juvenile Delinquency** Pearson 1 .661\*\* Correlation Spiritual Intelligence Sig. (2-tailed) .000 N 95 95 Pearson .661\*\* 1 Correlation **Juvenile Delinquency** Sig. (2-tailed) .000 95 95

**Table 1.** Correlations

From the table above, it can be known that there is a positive relationship between Spiritual Intelligence (X) and Juvenile Delinquency (Y) which is worth 0.661 which means that spiritual intelligence can suppress juvenile delinquency among college students.

Table 2. Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	,661ª	,437	,421	6,514

Based on the table above, it appears that the value of R square is as much as 0.437 or by 43.7%. Thus, the influence of spiritual intelligence variables on efforts to suppress juvenile delinquency among college students is as large as 43,7%. Spiritual is closely relevant to one's psyche or inner being. That is what makes philosophers always identified with one's spirituality. At its inception in 2000, the term spiritual quotient was aimed at intelligence to place behavior and life in a broader context. In other words, the intelligence aims to assess a person's actions or life path more meaningful than others. This intelligence is closely related to a person's potential in developing himself, as well as giving encouragement to solve life problems with a calm attitude (Tupan, Lattu, & Therik, 2022). In

everyday behavior, spiritual intelligence produces actions that benefit others, because everything is really thought out with a positive meaning. It is through this intelligence that a person continues to progress in life.

It can be further understood that all human beings are spiritual beings, so it is normal for basic questions to arise in a person such as: what was I born for, what is the meaning of my life, when I have started to be depressed, why should I continue living (Harisa, 2019). Spiritual intelligence is also related to a person's ability to do something accompanied by awareness that is in line with the values guided by God for humans to interpret each of their lives, so that they can feel happiness. Experts also describe it as the ability to do everything with compassion and wisdom while organizing oneself both from the inside and from the outside accompanied by a calm heart in every aspect. Spiritual intelligence enables a person to solve problems to produce something positive (Nihayah, Sumardjoko, & Prasetiyo, 2021). Spiritual intelligence is seen in the behavior of daily life, because actions are the embodiment of one's spiritual aspect.

Spiritual intelligence is the basis of intellectual intelligence and emotional intelligence and has the highest standing (Naibaho, Ariawan, Harianja, Simorangkir, & Sinambela, 2022). It takes synergy between the three so that intellectual intelligence and emotional intelligence can work optimally. This is because the three intelligences have different functions and are interconnected. The difference between spiritual intelligence and emotional intelligence lies in its changing power. In short, in certain situations or conditions, emotional intelligence will respond to what attitude is appropriate when it happens, whereas spiritual intelligence will think and ask if I will stay in that situation or improve it. Spiritual intelligence considers the future, not just thinks about today (Sahare & Kotnala, 2022). One can live creatively because one wants to achieve more things through the meaning and value that has been discovered. Furthermore, the individual will be able to transcend limits, in the sense of being able to decide to change certain circumstances to better ones. For this reason, spiritual intelligence makes us complete humans both in intellectual intelligence and emotional intelligence, although each intelligence certainly has its own functions and roles. Spiritual intelligence is innate from the moment humans are born (Sakti & Syarif, 2019). This intelligence enables humans to live meaningfully and do so by always considering them valuable. Spiritual intelligence enables a person to confront and solve problems of meaning and value, thus placing behavior and actions more meaningfully than others. It also provides a worship or spiritual touch in every thought, action, and activity by collaborating intellectual and emotional intelligence. Although it has been possessed by every human being, spiritual intelligence must continue to be honed.

Spiritual intelligence is not necessarily associated with religion, but religion is also important for most people to improve spiritual intelligence. Spiritual intelligence is categorized as the highest intelligence that can help humans to solve personal problems with others in a community (Simatupang, Simatupang, Sihombing, Ariawan, & Turnip, 2023). Thus, spiritual intelligence cannot be ignored, because it is an important foundation for synergizing other intelligences. Spiritual intelligence is used as a foundation for maximizing intellectual intelligence and emotional intelligence. Spiritual intelligence enables a person to see that there is meaning and value in each of his lives, thus making the individual not feel vain. The existence of spiritual intelligence allows a person to find a way out of every problem both internally and externally. Although one can have spiritual intelligence without religion, but in reality, most people can make religion as a way to develop spiritual intelligence (Nihayah et al., 2021).

In the view of feminism, the occurrence of many cases of violence originates from patriarchal culture that develops in society. It also creates a line of boundaries and gradations between men and women in the structure of society. This kind of social system makes various cases of harassment often occur, plus generally in this kind of case the perpetrator has higher power than the victim. Subsequent signals indicate that the closure of many cases is due to the assumption that it is taboo to expose. Not infrequently victims who dare to speak out actually get a bad stigma from the surrounding community, generally considered to behave flirtatious or dress inappropriately.

Psychologically, students are clearly still in the process of emotional development. As prospective leaders and successors of the nation, students are expected to be able to have a high work ethic and be accompanied by high ethics. All these things require self-mastery in each individual, especially within the framework of Christian Education (Andrei, 2023). Christian students are expected to be able to master thoughts, words and behaviors and attitudes, while still heeding God's commands in the Bible. The process of emotional development that is being experienced becomes a challenge for them so that they are not entangled in early desires which lead to the destruction of their future later. A correct understanding of God's Word, especially the fruit of the Spirit, became the basis for them to maintain a quality of life in harmony with God's word (Anjaya, Arifianto, & Fernando, 2021). The character of Christian students is manifested in the mindset and every decision taken. This character is formed through a long process of maturation in his life, including his interaction with God. The desire to learn and seek God makes the level of wisdom different in each individual student. Not surprisingly, a directed discipleship pattern is needed for their spirituality in order to educate and guide to the truth and provide opportunities to understand God's intentions in their lives (Momeny & Gourgues, 2019).

After teaching or discipleship for children at a young age, it can be said that he has good character, students will be able to consider every behavior, which is good to do and which is not. With this, every student can be aware of their duties and responsibilities. He does not arbitrarily commit acts that deviate or violate the norms prevailing in society.

In everyday life, good character is very important for everyone to have, especially for Christian students. The creation of high moral values in society became the hope for the founding fathers of this nation. The pattern of discipleship based on the teachings of the Lord Jesus can bring students to have a close relationship with God and be able to distance themselves from bad things that damage the relationship with God. The development of various teachings that are considered misleading tends to be the next challenge in students. At this point they are required to be able to choose exactly which teachings are true, which lead to maturity and which actually make them lost. Students who experience spiritual maturity will have the character of Christ. They are called disciples of Christ when they have Christlike character growth. It must be able to introduce Christ to the world through the character of Christ manifested in the Christian (John 13:35). The Bible emphasizes that a disciple of Christ, in this case a Christian student, is to reflect God's glory in him (2 Corinthians 3:18) (Andrei, 2023).

The Bible teaches that followers of Christ, including Christian students, must have the character of Christ and implement truth, which means living as they are without wearing the mask of hypocrisy. A Christian who has the character of Christ will maintain his glorious life by not compromising on sin that will damage and destroy his dignity as a child of God. A disciple of Christ who has the character of Christ will be able to maintain a holy life by distinguishing between good and evil. Christian students who have the character of Christ will become a sweet person who makes his presence and existence missed and loved by many people (Anjaya et al., 2021). A Christian who has the character of Christ will have words pleasing to others because they bring encouragement and comfort to those who listen to them. In addition, a disciple of Christ who has the character of Christ his life will do so many virtues that he deserves praise, both from God and man. These are the real signs of a Christian having the character of Christ in his life.

It is a personal responsibility for each student to continue to grow, especially in the aspect of character. Christlikeness becomes the focal point that every Christian student must go to, and thus bears the responsibility of being prepared as an instrument of God. The responsibility inherent in Christian students must be accompanied by a willingness and commitment to want to learn and develop their Christlike character so that their lives will radiate the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ. This process will enable each Christian student together with other believers to complement each other so that his life will be light and salt to those around him. This is also an effective weapon to

ward off the negative influences of the era of disruption that is being experienced by the current generation.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

Spiritual intelligence is also related to a person's ability to do something accompanied by awareness that is in line with the values guided by God for humans to interpret each of their lives, so that they can feel happiness. Spiritual intelligence is seen in the behavior of daily life, because actions are the embodiment of one's spiritual aspect. Spiritual intelligence is the basis of intellectual intelligence and emotional intelligence and has the highest standing. The difference between spiritual intelligence and emotional intelligence lies in its changing power. In short, in certain situations or conditions, emotional intelligence will respond to what attitude is appropriate when it happens, whereas spiritual intelligence will think and ask if I will stay in that situation or improve it. For this reason, spiritual intelligence makes us complete humans both in intelligence and emotional intelligence, although each intelligence certainly has its own functions and roles. Spiritual intelligence is not necessarily associated with religion, but religion is also important for most people to improve spiritual intelligence. Spiritual intelligence is categorized as the highest intelligence that can help humans to solve personal problems with others in a community. Thus, spiritual intelligence cannot be ignored, because it is an important foundation for synergizing other intelligences. Spiritual intelligence is used as a foundation for maximizing intellectual intelligence and emotional intelligence. Spiritual intelligence enables a person to see that there is meaning and value in each of his lives, thus making the individual not feel vain. Although one can have spiritual intelligence without religion, but in reality, most people can make religion as a way to develop spiritual intelligence. The Bible teaches that followers of Christ, including Christian students, must have the character of Christ and implement truth, which means living as they are without wearing the mask of hypocrisy. The responsibility inherent in Christian students must be accompanied by a willingness and commitment to want to learn and develop their Christlike character so that their lives will radiate the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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