

Philosophy of Naturalism

Roswinda Maria Ferdiana¹

¹SMP Xaverius 7 Palembang, Indonesia

Corresponding author e-mail: roswindamaria0@gmail.com

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Abstract: Naturalistic philosophy is an approach in philosophy that emphasizes observation and understanding of natural phenomena and human life through a scientific lens. This research aims to explore the importance of learning naturalistic philosophy in the context of the development of knowledge and human understanding of the surrounding world. Learning naturalistic philosophy opens the door to a broad understanding of the interconnectedness between humans and nature. By grasping the basic principles of naturalism, individuals can develop an awareness of the natural processes that shape their existence. This provides a strong foundation for understanding science and technology, as well as strengthening analytical skills and problem-solving abilities. The existence of naturalistic philosophy also supports the concepts of sustainability and environmental preservation. Through a profound understanding of human interaction with nature, individuals can develop a responsible attitude toward the environment and contribute to the conservation of natural resources. The importance of learning naturalistic philosophy is also reflected in its ability to stimulate curiosity and creativity. By engaging in philosophical thinking related to naturalism, one can develop a critical perspective on complex issues and formulate innovative solutions. This journal employs literature analysis and exploration of key concepts in naturalistic philosophy. The results indicate that learning naturalistic philosophy not only provides profound insights into nature and life but also shapes individuals who think analytically, are environmentally responsible, and are creative in addressing contemporary challenges. Therefore, the integration of naturalistic philosophy into education is a crucial step forward.

Keywords: Complex Problem Solving, Education and Philosophy, Naturalistic Philosophy, Scientific Observation

A. Introduction

Understanding the philosophy of naturalism has a very important role in shaping one's worldview and attitude towards life. Naturalism as a school in philosophy prioritizes observation and research into natural phenomena and life as the main basis for understanding human existence. In the context of the development of

science and technology, as well as increasingly complex environmental challenges, learning the philosophy of naturalism is an urgent need.

Human involvement in nature and natural processes has a significant impact on various aspects of life, such as economic, social and environmental. Therefore, a deep understanding of the principles of naturalism can provide a solid foundation for dealing with these changes.

In addition, environmental sustainability is becoming an increasingly urgent global issue to address. The philosophy of naturalism can provide a philosophical foundation for individuals to develop a responsible attitude towards nature, understand the impact of human activities on the environment, and contribute to efforts to conserve natural resources.

The importance of naturalism philosophy is also closely related to the development of potential creativity and innovation. By understanding natural principles, one can tap into their creative resources and develop analytical thinking in dealing with complex problems.

However, although naturalist philosophy has great potential in shaping thoughts and attitudes, there is not much understanding among the public regarding the sustainability of nature and the creativity that can be gained through this philosophy. Therefore, this journal tries to fill this gap by explaining and exploring the importance of learning naturalist philosophy when faced with the challenges of today's world.

B. Methods

Using the library research method with a focus on article review. Collected and compared to explore a deeper understanding of the application of naturalism philosophy in science and environmental studies.

C. Results and Discussion

One of the topics of philosophical discussion is naturalism. Geire even states that naturalism encompasses all types of philosophy, including epistemology, philosophy of science, ethics, language, and philosophy of mind. Even if we have a broad understanding of naturalism and philosophy of science, we need not worry like those who ask, which came first: naturalism or philosophy of science? The interest in the relationship between the doctrine of naturalism developed in the philosophy of science approach and other philosophical domains, especially epistemology and metaphysics, prompted the review of this article, without any prior intention to defend Geire's view (Sebastian, 2015). A professor of history and

philosophy of education at Yale University in the United States, Jhon S. Brubacher, said that the problem of education has long been connected to the problem of philosophy. According to Brubacher, Naturalism comes from the words “natura”, which means natural, and “ism”, which means understanding. J. J. Rousseau supports this school by explaining that everything that is natural (innate) tends to be good, so internal education is the best education, while external education has a bad impact on child development (Syarif et al., 2021).

Naturalism theory says that children have good talents when they are born, but these talents are damaged by their environment according to Simanjuntak (2013) who discusses various schools regarding education (Simanjuntak, 2013). The educational method known as naturalism emphasizes that education should be in accordance with natural development (Kristiawan, 2016). According to this school, since learning is natural, learning should also proceed naturally. From this perspective, teachers should be able to consider the child’s evolving identity according to his/her age when teaching them (Kartikasari Nur, 2022). This chapter will discuss the naturalism school of education thoroughly as it relates to this school of education. Naturalism education philosophy produces the idea that education should develop in accordance with the development of nature. In Naturalism education philosophy, the best teachers for a child are naturally his or her parents. In the philosophy of Naturalism education, the best teacher for a child is naturally his or her parents. Naturalism-based learning media is a type of media used by teachers to help students learn. They also function as a messenger from the learning source to the recipient of the learning message, which is the student.

The naturalism theory of this school is often associated with nativism. However, this is a different or unique teaching in this theory, which states that children have talents, abilities, traits, behaviors, or dispositions from birth (Mustakim et al., 2020). According to naturalism, what is meant is not spiritual or supernatural things, but this physical universe. As a result, the position of the soul can be detached and combined with the material elements from the point of view of nature. Naturalism believes that there is nothing beyond nature and that everything comes from it, so it can be regarded as a kind of world philosophy. Pluralism is the basis of modern naturalism, which believes that the world can consist of different types of natural beings. Harold H. Titus states that naturalism is a philosophical theory that regards “nature” as the whole of reality. In philosophy, the word “nature” is used in various meanings, including the complete system of space and time phenomena, as well as the physical world that can be observed by humans. Naturalism is the opposite of supernaturalism, which assumes there are forces above or beyond nature, and natural science reveals the natural world to us. Naturalism is rapidly emerging in the world of science (Mesiono, 2018). It incorporates elements of naturalism, which means natural. The philosophical theory known as naturalism stems from the belief that natural laws have always existed.

Naturalism argues that everyone born to earth has a good purpose, and none of them have a bad purpose. Just as every baby is born in a pure state, he or she has various potentials that can develop naturally. It is called nature by naturalists. Education is necessary to preserve nature. According to Naturalism, *"Learned heavily on the knowledge reported by man's sense."*

Naturalism actually comes from the word *"nature"*. *Naturae* automatically becomes supernatural, and its meaning is only related to the material world (Aqidah et al., 2022). Nature, however, consists of the spiritual world and the material world, each with its own laws. Realist-Naturalist theater techniques are used in Indonesian education, and "as if" they are always used in their teaching. Naturalism wants the performance to be comparable to reality, while realism is a style of performance that shows fragments of real life, so it is "as if" what happens on stage is real (Yahya et al., 2023). Broadly speaking, the core of naturalist theology holds that the universe not only has definite laws, but is also perfect and does not require the intervention of a creator or God. Furthermore, the laws of causality or nature determine how the universe grows and develops. Louis Leahy states that, although this perspective describes a philosophy of divinity, one will find that this rationality in no way demands a purpose from the religious dimension of man. As a result, secularism emerges, a notion that distinguishes God in actual religion from human life. In addition, Kattsoff provides an explanation that supports the aforementioned belief. According to naturalism, both the universe and humans are eternal and have the ability to move or walk on their own. Having emerged as a response to positivism, the philosophy of naturalism reinvigorated the field of science by offering a perspective known as "systems philosophy", which is a perspective that sees the world through the lens of systems, which means seeing the world from a holistic perspective (Patras, 2015).

Artists are not supposed to search for the real world or the "hidden" essence (without trying to examine the existence of nature with their generalizations or thoughts); and they are not supposed to demand input values for the surrounding nature or concentrate on "beautiful" topics that will provide "aesthetic" satisfaction. He is simply analysing and describing his environment. Here, there is an important difference to note between naturalism and romanticism, which is a literary style. Naturalism emphasizes the "taste qualities" of things and prioritizes the experience that nature provides. Romanticism, on the other hand, emphasizes the experiences that nature provides to humans and other living things.

Naturalists believe that although their environment is bad, children are good because they were created by a good creator (Hayati et al., 2023). The naturalist philosophy suggests that paying attention to the aspects and development of nature around students at school will enhance their learning process. Caused by the state of water molecules in ice, the basic concept of biological naturalism is a mental state. It

is not the same as the ignition of neurons or other brain processes. Searle's biological naturalism theory can be summarized as follows: 1. Consciousness is real, an irreducible mental feature of the world; 2. Consciousness is biological, a physical feature of the brain; 3. Consciousness as a whole is caused by and can be explained through the behavior of lower-level biological phenomena; and 4. Physiological events are also causally affected by mental states.

In most cases, the term "naturalism" or "naturalistic" refers to a perspective or action that is based on natural desires and instincts. In other words, an attitude or action that is loyal to what is natural and real. William R. Dennes, a philosopher of naturalism, suggests several perspectives on naturalism, including: (1) Events are considered as the main category, which considers events as the core of reality, which means that whatever is real must belong to the category of nature; (2) Existing must exist, something that is considered impossible to exist outside of space and time cannot exist, and anything that is considered impossible to handle with the approach used in natural science cannot exist. (3) Examining events, which indicates that the main components of any event are processes, qualities, and relationships; (4) The most fundamental problem is the problem of science, which indicates that any event, whether religious, spiritual, or otherwise, can be described based on the categories of processes, qualities, and relationships. (5) Knowledge is an understanding of interconnected events, or even of their reality, as well as an understanding of the qualities, facets, structures, constituent units, reasons, and consequences of such events. In other words, an action or attitude that is loyal to natural and real things.

Some characteristics of naturalistic thinking can be identified as follows: 1) Making nature (nature) the only original and fundamental source of everything that exists. It cannot be denied that naturalism, which has its own characteristics, believes that everything must be based on nature, which means that all their ideas depend on the positivistic symptoms of nature. 2) The second feature is that it rejects the existence of God as a transcendent or divine source, which is the first source of all things. This teaching states that the laws that govern the activities and development of life, both rational and irrational, are never interconnected. In addition, this belief rejects the truth and possibility of divine or transcendental intervention in human life. 3) Another characteristic of it is that they think naturalistically; when they investigate natural phenomena, they always use the theory of empiricism; in other words, their view is always positivistic-scientific. 4) The universe is the entirety of the existence of natural objects or events, according to naturalistic thinking, and this is the only fact that exists. Nature has been organized so that it simply flows according to its own will. Naturalism can be defined in contemporary theology as a viewpoint that rejects the idea that things or events are beyond the limits of reason or scientific explanation, such as fate or God's will, and therefore reason can be used to examine them. Naturalists argue that the value of something only exists when it is seen. The theory of materialism is one of many other names.

The main concepts of this school are 1) things will be recognized as existing only if they are physically visible; 2) the physical environment provides value; 3) individual is more valuable than social. According to naturalists, physical education is more than just physical activity. Learning outcomes obtained from his/her activities. Play is an important part of education. Highly competitive achievement among unconditioned individuals (Fahruzy Nasution & Sibuea, 2022).

Classical Naturalism Its followers value the freedom of individuals to maximize their potential through creative self-actualization. The concept is known for its concern for the individual, human freedom, aesthetics, and creativity. However, the criticisms levelled at these followers suggest that educators lack the authority and responsibility to provide wisdom and guidance that they should. In his famous work, "What Science is Most Valuable?", Herbert Spencer mentions five very famous educational goals of naturalism: (1) self-preservation; (2) meeting the necessities of life; (3) improving the education of students; (4) maintaining social and political relations; and (5) enjoying leisure. Naturalism, which holds that nature evolves and moves according to its mechanisms, emerged as a result of the development of science related to nature.

The followers of naturalism discovered and studied the laws of nature. Ash-Shahrestani points out some examples of the school of naturalism, such as the worship of paintings and natural objects. He believes that the practice always involves sacrifice (Ash-Shahrestani, 2018). Naturalism is an idea that accepts "natura" (nature) as the realistic world as a whole. The type of art based on Naturalism prioritizes the likeness and accuracy of objects so that they look as natural and realistic as their references in nature. In Bruce M. Gittings' Dictionary of Art (1996), naturalism is a shift in stage art (theatre) and cinema. It developed in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Theatre usually seeks to use language that is not poetic or pompous to present an idealized fantasy of reality. shows a way of acting that often tries to imitate real life as a thorough identification seeker to fit from the character (such as the way lawyers work). Only naturalism fits the genre of modern drama. In naturalism, the perspective of line and color, along with anatomy, is used to depict natural forms. Jones T. Wynne's Dictionary of Aesthetics (1980) defines naturalism as the basic, widely recognized theory of the science of art that follows the basic principles of nature (not contrived; as it is, in accordance with the senses and reality).

Since the author can only look closely and narrate the roles with their uniqueness that can physically adjust to the environment, artistic art (beauty) does not appear hyperbolic in this broad sense. Both the aesthetics of naturalism and the philosophy of naturalism speak of rules, but both limit rejection to the purpose of art. Artists is not obliged to search in real life or the "hidden" essence (without trying to justify the intentionality of nature with generalizations or idealism); nor are they supposed to

impose critical values on nature or concentrate on “beautiful” topics that will give “aesthetic” satisfaction. He is just doing a simple analysis and explaining what is around him. Here, there is an important difference to note between naturalism and romanticism. Naturalism affirms the “feeling quality” of things and the attachment to nature as if it were a form or presence; romanticism, on the other hand, affirms the experience that nature gives to humans and other living things. Romanticism, then, can lead to the artist’s “tabula rasa” intervention with nature, whereas naturalism seeks its flaws down to the smallest particle. The authors use the natural scenery of Tiris Probolinggo as the main idea for their naturalism paintings. While naturalism is considered very suitable for representing the beauty of nature through painting, the Tiris natural scenery was chosen because of its great tourism potential and scenic aesthetics. In addition to providing experience for the creators in the process of making paintings, the main purpose of making this painting is to show the natural beauty of Tiris to the public (Nurjannatunaimah et al., 2023).

The philosophy of naturalism should be integrated in the education curriculum as a subject or cross-curricular concept. This will provide opportunities for learners to understand and apply the principles of naturalism in the context of science and the environment. Schools can develop extracurricular programs that focus on nature exploration and scientific observation. Such programs can help learners experience first-hand the concepts of naturalism and develop curiosity about natural phenomena. Inviting lecturers and practitioners of naturalist philosophy to give guest lectures or trainings can provide deep insights to teachers and learners. This can help shape a more comprehensive understanding of the concepts of naturalist philosophy. Teachers can use relevant learning resources, including textbooks, journal articles and online learning materials that support learners’ understanding of the philosophy of naturalism. Enriching the learning materials will strengthen the connection between philosophical concepts and the real world.

Education with a naturalism approach can focus on developing learners’ analytical skills. This can be achieved through interactive learning, learners, and assignments that require students to apply the principles of naturalism in analyzing situations or phenomena. Integrating the philosophy of naturalism in education can help build environmental awareness among learners. Environmental education programs based on the principles of naturalism can motivate learners to participate in nature conservation efforts. Teachers need to receive specialized training related to the application of naturalism philosophy in learning. This could include an in-depth understanding of the concepts of naturalism philosophy as well as effective teaching strategies. Schools can collaborate with institutions or organizations that focus on philosophy and the environment. Such collaborations can provide additional support, resources and expertise to support the application of naturalism philosophy in education.

D. Conclusion

The application of naturalism philosophy has a high relevance in facing the challenges of modern times. Using library research methods and journal literature studies, this article illustrates the importance of learning the philosophy of naturalism in shaping the analytical thinking, attitude of environmental responsibility, and creativity of future generations.

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