CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1 Some Pertinent Ideas

In this part, there are some pertinent ideas that explain the concept of the variable of the research.

2.2.1 The Character Strength

2.2.1.1 Definition of Character Strenght

Character Strength is one of the areas Positive Psychology studies, the theory of Strength of Character, is contained in the book Strength of Character and Virtue a Handbook and Classification by Petterson & Seligman (2004), and is an important personal resource which is emphasized in positive psychology, it is the same as being positive affect.[1]

Character Strength defined as a character includes individual differences that are stable and general, but also change.[2] Strength of Character is a good character which directs the individual to the attainment of virtue, or trait positive that is reflected in thoughts, feelings and behavior. Good character is the quality of the individual that makes the individual considered morally good.[3] Strength of Character also uses personal knowledge, but both different (Walker & Pitts, 1998 in Alex & Joseph, 2004).[4]

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[1]Seligman, M. E. P., *Authentic happiness*. (New York: Free Press. 2002), p.38.

[2]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.61

[3]Park, N & Peterson, C., *Character strengths Reseach and Practice.* (Journal of Collage and Character. Vol 4, No 4. 2009). p.19

[4]Alex, L & Joseph, S. *Postive Psychologi in Practice*. (New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 2004). p.56.

Strength of Character is a psychological element that forms goodness, it can be interpreted that every virtue is formed from several strengths of character.

2.2.1.2 Classification of Character Strength

There are six types of virtues consisting of twenty-four Strings of Character,[5] including the following:

1. Wisdom and Knowledge

This virtue is related to cognitive function, namely regarding how individuals acquire and use knowledge. Wisdom and Knowledge early concepts for virtue from Strength of Character because wisdom is the perfect integration of thoughts and virtues referred to over the years.[6]

Several definitions of Wisdom have been developed in the realm psychology since the last two decades, some from development it categorizes wisdom into two, namely wisdom in synthetic skills priorities and analytical priorities.[7] This virtue includes five-character strengths, namely:

a. Creativity

Creativity directs individuals to achieve their goals in its own new, unique and original way. As individual differences, creativity requires two important components. First, the creative person must generate an idea or behavior called original, surprising, or unusual. However, originality not always defined as creativity.

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[5]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.95.

[6]Efklides, A & Moraitou, *Psychology Positive on Quality of Life*. (New York: Spinger Dordrecht Heidelberg, 2013). p.34

[7]Efklides, A & Moraitou, *Psychology Positive on Quality of Life*. (New York: Spinger Dordrecht Heidelberg, 2013). p.47

The behavior or idea must be relevant as well as must adaptive, Individuals with ideas of originality must make a contribution positive for one's own life and for the life of that other. Though, most of the day's activities start out learn from modeling and then become habitual and happen automatically, untouched by originality. Definition the above creativity meets the criteria for a strength of character.[8]

b. Curiosity

Curiosity is related to someone's curiosity leads to the emergence of openness to new things, varied and challenging experiences. With words otherwise, curiosity leads the individual to open up and flexible on new things. A curious individual will actively seek information and feel satisfied when successful get answers to various questions, can learn something new and get new experiences.[9]

Curiosity people are not just tolerant of ambiguity, they like it and are interested to dissect it, and curiosity can be specific (For example, limited to roses) or global, that approach scrutinize everything. Curiosity is actively engaged novelty and passive absorption of information (such as people who watch television all day) does not display strength of this, the opposite of curiosity is easily bored.

c. Open Mindedness

Individuals with Strength of Character will think in a way comprehensive and see a thing from various sides or consider the various available evidence. Individuals

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[8]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.95.

[9]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.98.

will actively collect evidence or information to do assessment objectively, so there is no bias and capable believe in something after obtaining objective evidence.[10]

According to Seligmen (2002) the considerations referred to here is to carry out information filtering objectively and rational, for the good of oneself and others. Consideration in this sense is synonymous with critical thinking.

Consideration shows an orientation to reality and constitutes the opposite of the logical fallacy that afflicts so many sufferer's depression, such as overpersonalization (it's always my fault) and black or white thoughts. The opposite of this power is thinking in a way that supports and reinforces what is already become your belief. This power is an important part of healthy character, so that you don't confuse the desires and your needs with reality in the world.

d. Love of Learning

Strength of Character directs the individual to always want learn new things to develop skills or enrich the knowledge they have. Individuals who are have a love of learning will feel positive emotions if he can acquire new skills or information and learned something completely new to him. Individual regard learning as a challenge.

The love of learning can be conceptualized in various ways way. One view sees it as a genuine part of nature man, especially so clearly seen in the nature of a still person young people, who have a great urge to learn about the world them, but the urge shows up in that life span sure, or so-called effectance motivation, namely

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[10]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.100.

encouragement competent in life, which of course requires a love of learning to do this.[11]

According to Peterson & Seligman (2004) Another view see the love of learning differently in what context someone feels attracted, every individual has a sense of belonging different from one another, in the context of love of learning as a strength of character, someone who has traits general love of learning is positively motivated to acquire new skills or knowledge or building skills who exist with the knowledge by the criteria that love will be learning is certain.

e. Perspective

Perspective is the most mature and the closest force for wisdom itself, perspective allows the individual to look at the world holistically so as to understand itself and others. Perspective lets others draw on the individual's knowledge and help solve problems and get their own perspective. Perspective someone who has this power makes sense to people others and for himself.

Strength of Character is used to achieve welfare of individuals and others, in making decisions, individuals will consider both feelings and rationality. Individuals with this power have needs to contribute to the environment and life others, think about the needs of others and listen other people, evaluate what was said and then provide advice.[12]

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[11]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.103.

[12]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.105.

2. Courage

Persistence is a virtue that involves passion strong to achieve a goal. Despite the obstacles, fine external and internal, but the individual is still motivated to struggle to achieve goals. This power refers on unpopular intellectual or emotional stance and dangerous, over the years, researchers differentiate physical heroism (physical valor) and moral heroism (moral valor), another way of distinguishing heroism is based on being present fear or not.[13]

A person who is tough is able to separate the emotional components from behavior out of fear, refrain from eliciting a response run away, and still face scary situations even if you have to bear the discomfort caused by physical reactions and subjective reaction. Fearlessness, recklessness and haste is not heroic. Facing danger means fear, which is heroism or courage.

Determination consists of four-character strengths, namely:

a. Bravery

Courage keeps the individual from going backwards even though he is accepted threats, challenges, difficulties or internal pain achieve its goals. For example, individuals dare to say or doing the right thing, even if it's not popular. Individuals are also able to withstand group pressure (peer pleasure) to accept certain inappropriate moral views with his own views, in other words, a brave individual do something it needs to do with put fear aside.[14]

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[13]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.199.

[14]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.201.

According to Seligmen (2002) to qualify courage, the action must be executed with the face great suffering, this virtue is universally praised and every culture has heroes who exemplify virtue this.

b. Persistance

Individuals with a Strength of Character will always be finish everything it had started, though facing various challenges. Individuals will take up the challenge to work on difficult projects or tasks and finish it according to what he had planned.

Persistence can not only be measured by the length of the individual dealing with a task, because dealing with a task that is fun and gives profitable results the economy does not require the endurance and attention of the individual. Individuals with this power are not meant to blindly pursue unattainable goals but remain flexible, realistic and not a perfectionist. Ambition has positive and negative meanings; however positive aspects fall into this category of strengths.[15]

c. Integrity

Strength of Character refers to honesty and ability to present oneself as is (genuine), integrity implies that the behavior that is displayed is always consistent with espoused values. An honest man, no just speak the truth, not just speak the truth to other people, but lead an authentic, down to earth life and without pretense.

An honest person treats others with care full, sensitive to the needs of others and helpful to people others based on their needs. In other words, individuals too

[15]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.203.

have a sense of responsibility for people's thoughts and feelings others for the deeds he has done.[16]

d. Vitality

Vitality refers to passion and enthusiasm in carrying out all activities. Individual with this Strength of Character appear as an energetic person, happy, full of enthusiasm, and active.[17] Vitality is related to optimal physical health and bodily functions, for example, is not easy tired and fell ill. Meanwhile, psychologically, vitality reflects the willingness to do something. Individuals who are having vitality tends to be easier to deal with tension psychological, conflict and stressor.

Vitality refers to a feeling of life, being full of vigor, and display enthusiasm for any and all activities, described by people with this power as a person strong and energetic, bright-eyed and bushy-tailed, cheerful, fresh and have a high appreciation for life. Vitality is not the same with hyperactivity, nervousness, tension, or mania. Otherwise, vitality is the spirit experienced as will and responsibility for the worth of life. Vitality is how self-actualization feels.

3. Humanity and Love

Humanity and love involve interpersonal relationships being good with others, which includes caring and pay attention to others.[18] Taylor (2000) refer to humanity as a disposition to tend friends, humanity is almost akin to the power of justice, however there is a difference, namely humanity is more in personal relationships, one

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[16]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.206.

[17]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.210.

[18]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.293.

another while justice is more in relation to one to a lot. This virtue includes three-character strengths, namely:

a. Love

Love involves relationships with others, sharing and pay attention, and try to be close to other people. In in this case, love is limited to reciprocal relationships, for example relationships love and love between parent and child. Individuals with This Strength of Character views the importance of a relationship close and intimate with other people. This strength is characterized by the desire to provide assistance to others and provide a sense of comfort. Strength of Character also involves strong positive emotions, high commitment, and a sense of sacrifice. Peterson & Seligman (2004) exclude unrequited, broken love heart, stalking, love worship and be a fan, because the feeling goes in only one direction, while it is meant in the power of this love are feelings that go both ways.[19]

b. Kindness

Strength of Character Kindness is a strong desire to be kind and provide assistance to others voluntarily.[20] Empathy and sympathy is an essential component of kindness. Individual the kind-hearted is never too busy to help others who need it, both who have known as well as with those who are not yet familiar, for example stood up to give seats to the older person on the train.

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[19]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.294.

[20]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.297.

c. Social Intelligence

Social intelligence is knowledge related to self himself and others, for that matter, the individual is capable of realizing motivation and feelings of others. Apart from that, individuals also have awareness of his own feelings, able to process information emotional well, and able to use it to guide behavior. Although this power is called intelligence social, but this strength actually also includes emotional intelligence (emotional intelligence) and personal intelligence (personal intelligence).

Emotional intelligence is the ability to use emotional information in reasoning. Personal intelligence refers to the accuracy in understanding yourself and assessing yourself, including the ability to understand motivation, emotions and dynamics internal. Meanwhile, social intelligence is related to relationships individual with other people, such as intimacy and trust. Third these concepts are complementary.

Understanding this power don't mixed with just an introspective, thinking with consider aspects of psychology, or contemplate.[21] This power manifested in the form of skillful social action. Another aspect of this power is the ability to find the right place for self.

4. Justice

Justice deals with the interactions between several existing individuals in a group within the group itself. Basic justice a healthy life in a society. According to the Big Dictionary the Indonesian language is Adil, means not taking sides, impartial, side with the right, hold on truth.[22] Justice is symbolized by and closely related to the story of the king Solomon, when two women were fighting for a baby, King Solomon

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[21]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.300.

[22]Susanto, H., *The Power of Disipline*. (Jakarta: PT Alex Media Komputindo, 2002). p.16

ordered to cut the baby into two, to find out who the baby's real mother is, of course, the biological mother the baby does not have the heart and prefers to sacrifice her baby to her beloved. In this virtue, there are three-character strength, namely:[23]

a. Citizenship

Strength of Character refers to individual abilities to work hard as a member of a group, to be loyal to group, and carry out obligations as group members. in other words, the individual identifies himself as a member group. Individuals are aware of their obligations, prioritizing interests or group goals rather than interests or goals personally and voluntarily want to do their job as group members for mutual success.

b. Fairness

Individuals with a Strength of Character will treat others alike, do not discriminate and do not let her feelings influence her view of other people. The individual gives everyone the same opportunity to endeavor and apply the same sanctions accordingly his mistake.

c. Leadership

Leadership directs individuals to become leaders good, can organize activities in groups and make sure that everything goes well. Other than that, the individual can also be a source of inspiration for members in his group, which in turn can encourage members groups to do what they're supposed to do and create interpersonal relationships and good morals too.

Leaders are sympathetic first of all must be an effective leader, strive for duty unresolved groups, while maintaining good relations between members of the

[23]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.357.

group.[24] Effective leaders become leaders sympathetic when handling relationships between groups (Intergruop) "Without envy to anyone with generosity to all, with persistence on the right path"

5. Temperance

The strength of this character is one of those calm characters, someone who has this character simple avoid the spotlight and let their accomplishments be speaking, they admit mistakes and imperfections.[25] Simplicity is very different from politeness. More courtesy external is refers not only to the style of behaving but also to the outer physical appearance such as a beautiful set of dresses and shoes for party, take off T-shirts and shorts.

Humility is more internal; it refers to the person's feelings itself that the individual is not the center of the universe. Characteristic features humility is self-presentation in an accurate manner but, in a way that diverts attention away from yourself and to others or circumstances. This last characterization distinguishes humility and the simplicity of honesty. A humble or simple person is an honest and authentic person, but authentic and honest may or may not be have a humble or simple nature. There are four Strengths of the characters in this virtue are:

a. Forgiveness and Mercy

Individuals with Strength of Character is able to forgive others who do mistakes or being bad to him.[26] These individuals can forget bad experiences in the

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[24]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.366.

[25]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.431.

[26]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.433.

past without coercion from other people. Efforts to provide opportunities for mistakes done and made no attempt for revenge. be consistent let it pass, not out of attitudes and qualities like fear, shame, guilt, or permissiveness and not because of external incentives (bribes or damages given in physical form) or threat (restraining order) but from the positive strength of character

Forgiveness and mercy.

Forgiveness brings about a number of useful changes to someone who has been bullied or hurt by someone else. When people forgive, it is the underlying motivation or tendency for the action towards the perpetrator becomes more positive (noble, kind, or generous heart) and less negative (holding grudges or avoiding), one the only power that can stop the flow of memory to taste pain is forgiving.[27]

The act of forgiving takes place through the four stages, if the four stages can be passed properly, then we will reach the cusp of reconciliation, stage one is feeling hurt, then hate, then healing and the last is attaining peace, reconcile.

b. Humility and Modesty

Strength of Character is emphasizing humility. In this case, the individual is not brag about its success.[28] Humility is also capable make someone see one's flaws and imperfections are in him. Modesty is different from humility. More modesty external, which means that it is behaviorally simple nor appearance. While humility is internal, that is the tendency of individuals to feel that they are not the center of world.

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[27]Smedes, L. B. *Memaafkan, kekuatan yang membebaskan.* (Yogyakarta: Kanisius, 1991), p.52.

[28]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.436.

c. Prudence

Strength of Character is a form of self-management which helps individuals reach their long-term goals. Individual will act carefully in choosing, not saying or doing something irresponsible and not concerned with momentary pleasure, in other words, the individual will think and have full attention on the future as well-set long-term goals and make plans mature.[29]

d. Self-Regulation

Individuals with Strength of Character are able to hold back, emotions, lust, and other impulses in him. Moment dealing with unpleasant events or painful, the individual is able to regulate his emotions and heal own negative feelings. In other words, Individuals can regulate what he feels and does to conform to the situation and moral outlook of society.[30]

6. Transcendence

This virtue deals with the relationship between the individual and nature universe, the power of emotions that reaches out self to connecting individuals with something bigger as well how individuals give meaning to life. That each allows the individual to forge a relationship with the universe that is greater and thus gives meaning to life them. This virtue includes five-character strength, namely:[31]

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[29]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.439.

[30]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.442.

[31]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.519.

a. Appreciation of Beauty and Excellent

This strength of character enables individuals to realize and give appreciation for beauty and perfection. This is a virtue of transcendence because it connects people who have it for something greater than itself, whether it's beautiful art or music, skillful athletic performance, grandeur nature, or someone else's moral brilliance. People with strength it has deep appreciation. They probably can spoke at length about the object they appreciated, Virtue defines these character strengths as emotional experiences amazed or amazed when in the presence of beauty or excellence.[32]

b. Gratitude

Gratitude is gratitude in response to a giving. Individuals with a Strength of Character can realize and be grateful for everything that has happened inside his life, and always take the time to say the taste gratitude.

Gratitude is an appreciation for greatness the moral character of others, as an emotion. This power is in the form of amazement, gratitude, and appreciation for that life alone. Grateful is intended for impersonal or non-sources human (God, animal) but cannot be directed at self alone.[33]

c. Hope

Strength of Character is related to how the individual is looking at his future. Individuals think about the future, expect the best results in the future and feeling confident about the results and goals, in other words, the manifestation of this

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[32]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.521.

[33]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.525.

Strength of Character is the emergence of taste optimistic. Strength of Character also encourages individuals to trying to achieve his expectations.

Lionel (1979) in Peterson & Seligman (2004) distinguishes between the so-called little optimism and great optimism, little optimism relates to certain expectations about a positive outcome: examples "I'll find a comfortable place tonight" meanwhile Big optimist refers clearly to fewer specific expectations, e.g. "Our nation is on the threshold of something big". Big or the smallness of an optimist are both included in the strength criteria this character.

Expectations relate to how a person is management targets or desires and adapt to the challenges in life, hope contributes to meaning and age long, and for this reason hope in the context of positive psychology included in one of the Strength of Character.[34]

d. Humor

Strength of Character allows individuals to carry cheerfulness and smiles to the people around him. Individual likes to laugh, joke, make jokes, or entertain people other. Overall, humor can be interpreted as a thought a fun, blissful outlook allows individuals to see the positive side of a thing.[35]

e. Spirituality

Spirituality makes individuals have a belief about something greater of this universe. This is often described as go.[36] Individuals are able to place themselves as

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[34]Efklides, A & Moraitou, *Psychology Positive on Quality of Life*. (New York: Spinger Dordrecht Heidelberg, 2013). p.67.

[35]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.530.

[36]Peterson, C., dan Seligman, M. E. P, *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*. (New York; Oxford University Press, 2004), p.534.

part of universe. The individual realizes the meaning of his life and knows what he had to do to achieve this. The embodiment of this Strength of Character is adhering to certain moral values and always wanting to do good for other people.

2.2 Previous Research Findings

In this research, there are some reviews of related literature finding from the previous researcher, they are:

Hannah L. Gilfix in his research that titled "Character Strengths of Ninth Grade Students in Accelerated Curricula: A Mixed-Methods Investigation" found that strengths were most prevalent overall, as well as amongst various subgroups of students (program, race, and risk status). The six most identified strengths were humor, love, creativity, kindness, curiosity, and persistence/perseverance. The least selected strengths were spirituality, humility/modesty, and prudence. Amongst ethnic groups, love of learning and social intelligence differed by race. A higher percentage of Asian students chose love of learning, and a higher percentage of White students identified with social intelligence. When looking at academic program, the strengths of creativity, fairness, self-regulation, and kindness varied between AP and IB students. More AP students identified with creativity and fairness, whereas more IB students identified with self-regulation and kindness. Finally, when looking across risk level, the strengths of persistence/perseverance, creativity, leadership, teamwork, hope, love, and humor differed between groups of students above and below a risk threshold. A higher percentage of students without academic risk identified with the strength of persistence/perseverance as compared to students with academic risk. In addition, a higher percentage of students without emotional risk identified with creativity, persistence/perseverance, leadership, and teamwork. A higher percentage

of students with emotional risk identified with the character strengths of love, hope, and humor. Finally, some students described the strength's *Manifestation*. These students alternated between defining the strength or providing an application (or concrete example) of the strength.[37]

Irina Khramtsova in her research that titled "Character Strengths in College: Outcomes of a Positive Psychology Project" found that the study suggests that students' perceptions about the project and its effects were positive and that the more motivated they were intrinsically, the better the outcomes of the project were for them. Extrinsic motivation was unrelated to either the satisfaction with the project or its benefits even though it was quite strong for many students. Intrinsic motivation (but not extrinsic) was found to be significantly correlated with the benefits of the project and with overall satisfaction with its results. Interestingly, neither the amount of time dedicated to the project nor the frequency of working on it were related to the satisfaction with the results or to the benefits of the project.[38]

Omer Faruk Kabakci, Tuncay Ergene and Nuri Dogan in their research that titled "Character Strengths in Turkey: Initial Adaptation Study of Values in Action Inventory of Strengths for Youth (VIA-Youth) and Life Satisfaction in Young People" found that the most common strengths are humour and love and that the least are prudence, forgiveness, religiousness, and self-regulation among youth. When compared with the other studies, according to the results, the most common strength is spirituality. The Turkish VIA-Youth has adequate validity and a reliability

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[37]Hannah L. Gilfix, *Character Strengths of Ninth Grade Students in Accelerated Curricula: A Mixed-Methods Investigation,* (University of South Florida: Scholar Commons, 2019) p.109.

[38]Irina Khramtsova, *Character Strengths in College: Outcomes of a Positive Psychology Project*, (Journal of College and Character, 2008), p.18

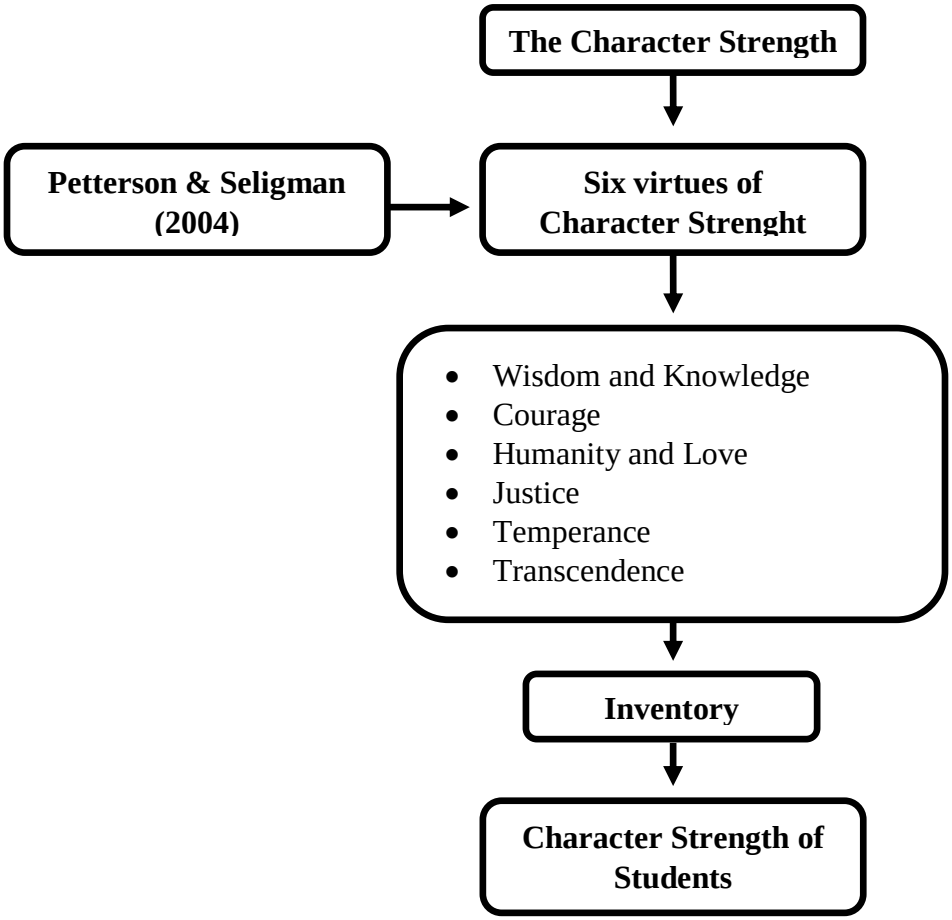
coefficient to be used both in research and applied studies for determining character strengths of young people in high school. The adapted inventory is considered to contribute in the design and execution of experimental studies in the area of positive youth development. Counseling services for youth can benefit from the results to design and conduct individual and group studies and program evaluation. Signature strengths of the students can be specified by VIA-Youth and they can be developed by professional counseling support with the perspective of strengths-based counseling.

However, it is important to note that the study also has several limitations. One of them is that VIA-Youth is developed for the ages of 10-17 and unlike this age limit, this study includes an adaptation for young people who attend high school. This is determined by taking into account the high number of the questions and developmental differences between high school and secondary school students. In the future studies, VIA-Youth can be adapted for secondary school students. Another limitation is that the test-retest studies were done with a relatively small research group and for a limited period. The authors recommend that the inventory be reevaluated with a larger participant group and in a longer period.[39]

2.3 Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework underlying this research will be given in the following diagram:

[39]Omer Faruk Kabakci, Tuncay Ergene and Nuri Dogan., *Character Strengths in Turkey: Initial Adaptation Study of Values in Action Inventory of Strengths for Youth (VIA-Youth) and Life Satisfaction in Young People*, (International Journal of Educational Methodology; 2019), p.499



Character strength is a good character that directs individuals to the achievement of goals or positive traits that are reflected in feelings, thoughts and behavior, the strength of this character is spread in virtue. Virtue are characters that are observed and appreciated by moral philosophers and religious thinkers that are universal and essential for survival.

Peterson & Seligman (2004) divide character strength into twenty-four which are grouped into six virtues, namely:

1. Wisdom and Knowledge (Creativity, Curiosity, Open mindedness, Love of learning, Perspective)

2. Courage (Bravery, Persistance, Integrity, Vitality)
3. Humanity (Love, Kindness, Social intelligence)
4. Justice (Citizenship, Fairness, Leadership)
5. Temperance (Forgiveness, Humility and modesty, Prudence, self-regulation)
6. Transcendence (Appreciation of beauty and excellent, Grattitude, Hope, Humor, Spirituality)

From the twenty-four characters, the strongest characters possessed by English Language Education Students using the Inventory method

Inventory is an instrument used to measure certain psychological characteristics of an individual. Inventories are often synonymous with personality tests. In psychological measurement terminology, the term personality test is most widely used to measure characteristics such as emotional statements, interpersonal relationships, motivation, interests, and attitudes. In the inventory, the answer given is a natural condition, an everyday atmosphere that is felt and experienced, or something that is expected. In other words, in answering questions / statements in the inventory, one does not need to learn first.

The results of the inventory or student character personality tests, it was found that the character strength of the English Department students at IAIN Parepare.

2.4 Hypothesis

Based on the previous related literature and the problem statement above the researchers elicits forward hypothesis as follow;

Null Hypothesis (H_0) the difference in the character strength of students' English Department is not based on gender.

Alternative Hypothesis (H_1) the difference in the character strength of students' English Department is based on gender.[40]

2.5 Operational Definition of Variable

Variables can be defined as any aspect of a theory that can vary or change as part of the interaction within the theory. In other words, variables are anything can affect or change the results of a study. Every study has variables as these are needed in order to understand differences.[41] Variable of this research is:

2.5.1 The Character Strength

Good character is something everyone looks for in other people, whether they are employees, students, friends, or potential dating partners. Sometimes called character strengths, these are the good qualities that people possess a collection of positive traits that show people's strengths rather than a compilation of their faults and issues.

Character strength is the measurement of character strength using a Likert scale consisting of four alternative answers (very suitable, appropriate, inappropriate, very inappropriate) which includes the classification of character strength, namely wisdom and knowledge, courage, love, justice, temperance, transcendence.

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[40] Hungu, *Demograi Kesehatan Indonesia.* (Jakarta : grasindo, 2007), p.35

[41] Christopher L. Heffner, *Defining Variable* http://allpsych.com/researchmethods/ definingvariables/ (accessed on January 17, 2020).