

Building Partnership With The Society Through
Siwalankerto Early Childhood Development Project Experience

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The Siwalankerto environment is an interesting giant laboratorium in order to support learning process. Petra Christian University Campus stands inside Siwalankerto plural community, which most of the people in our neighbourhood are moslems. As a new commer in the neighbourhood, our campus needs to be accepted and to be supported by the Siwalankerto community .This circcumstance has made the service learning method that being developed in our classroom become more spesific, which is building social partnership to the neighbourhood around our campus.

The service learning method setting in architectural subjects is not easy. Sometime service learning method can be tricky. The class needs to be arranged in special condition, according to class time schedule.

In early 2012, our class has requested to redevelop an early childhood learning center for the poor community in Siwalankerto. It was provided by the local state government. The condition of the building is unsuitable to be used by the large number of children who learn in that place . A long the design development process, our students has learnt a lot of new things. It makes the students

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learning about caring and respects to others, developing new skills of their psychomotor abilities, and developing their critical and creative thinking.

This type of learning process of building social partnership with others has also influenced our students' way of thinking. It broadened their vision of knowledge and mostly improving student's soft skills. They reflect that they have learn new things, beside major subject that has been taught . They also learned new experience that being taught by the marginal community. It has not get by the students in the other subjects in architecture, which doesn't using Service Learning Methods.

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