A CONSTANT FRONTLINER

by:
Sisa Hualda Parrera
Master Teacher I, Samal North Elementary School

Being in a tough situation is no longer new to our country. There are really circumstances that put each profession in a test. A situation that would really challenges one’s strength, courage and loyalty in a certain career. This situation would sometimes put a professional in a dilemma; that is whether to go on with the given career or to already give up.

Presently, the country is in a situation that puts the medical practitioners, soldiers and local officials in a greatest life and death challenge because of the Covid 19 virus and because of this they are always commended in the social media as being the modern-day heroes.

Consequently, these commendations and support that they are receiving from the public tends some netizens to compare our jobs to them and negatively criticize the teachers for being not so visible in this kind of situation. It is not clear whether they sound envious because teachers are just working from home unlike the front liners who are dreadfully exposed to the virus or somehow questioning the benefits that the government is giving to the teachers thinking that they are not actually deserving of it since they are not in the most risky situation.

Some educators were affected with this kind of accusation and tend to be defensive against those who are questioning their job. In contrary, they shouldn’t be affected of what others are saying against them. In fact other’s opinion should be none of their business as it is really difficult to please everyone.
Educators should be confident of their job. Many people have no idea as to what kind of situation teachers are encountering each day inside the classroom. They might be thinking that it may not be as fatal as the effect of the Covid 19 virus but, the stress that the teacher is battling everyday could also be fatal if not being managed properly.

They have no idea as to how many pupils inside a very small classroom without an air-conditioner, is the teacher attending everyday struggling to cope with different attitudes. As the trend of modernization has brought upon the pupils’ nowadays, their behavior tends to be worse than what is expected.

Some parents are sending their children in school without even teaching them the right behavior and put all those responsibilities on the teachers’ hand. They are not aware that the teachers’ ability to discipline the students has always been put into test because of the Child Protection Policy.

They don’t feel how is it humiliating for a teacher when he has been televised and accused of abusing a child in the social media if well, in fact, he is just trying to impose a discipline on a child that the parent missed to do.

Sometimes, even the responsibility of feeding a child has also become a part of the teachers’ job especially if some of the students come from a very hard-up family, ignoring the fact of having a meager earning as long as he can extend help to the needy pupils.

Moreover, the teachers are also a jack of all trade; an agriculturist for the implementation of the Gulayan sa Paaralan, a nurse who takes the Nutritional Status of the children, a clerk that accomplishes all the necessary reports about the students' performance, a dietician that plans and budget for the meals of the Supplementary Feeding Recipients, a trainer or a coach for sports and academic competitions and a knowledgeable rescuer for the School Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office (SDRRMO). It seems that they are just like garlic that is always a part of every dish. They
are always taking a part of the other sectors’ activity. Nobody could even imagine the bulk of paper works it gives them aside from their vital TEACHING job.

In addition to that, teachers as well, are having an experience of dealing with some toxic co-teachers and administrators and straining so hard to boost their immunity against them so it won’t affect their performance as competent teachers.

It only proves that it is no time for everyone to compare jobs from each other. It is just a fact that a job is sometimes at its peak and a person has no choice but to carry it out. Eventually the courage of pushing it through makes a person better than what he is now. Since everybody is a God’s shepherd; no job is little to be considered as a CONSTANT FRONT LINER.

References: