AIDS TO SUCCESS IN INTERVIEWING: A MUST FOR TEACHER COUNSELOR FOR GUIDANCE

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A teacher counselor in a guidance program used the interview to diagnose a student who has behavioral problems. The student gets to understand more about how he feels and what he thinks about certain matters.

If the interview is to be used effectively for the general purposes of diagnoses, education and therapy must be first put to good use for establishing rapport- the warm, cooperative interpersonal relationship between student and teacher-counselor. Thus confidence, trust, and friendship can be established therefore positive emotional response can be created on the part of the student toward the teacher-counselor.

As described by Bingham and Moore interviews should be able to extract information from the interviewee, instruct, influence, or motivate him.

To be successful in interviewing Warten formulated some aids:

1. Reputation among students- if a counselor becomes reputed in a school for two or more years chances are he was able to recognize multiple causes and who shows that he is versed in different areas of knowledge and be able to help with different types of adjustment problems is the one whom students respect.

2. Personal Qualification- the counselor’s reputation among students and his success in interviewing are determined by his characteristics as well as by his professional knowledge and skill. The counselor's appearance in terms of dress and the like is important because it manifests maturity and ability. More important however is the level of maturity or adjustment reached by the counselor. He should be a well-
adjusted person, one who has achieved balance in his life has gained insight to live with his problems, and does not need to discuss or refer to them during his talks with students.

3. Professional Knowledge and Skill. The student who is serving by a counselor who possesses the desired personal qualification profits from his contacts with such a person even though the counselor may lack the professional knowledge and skill of the trained counselor. The mature well-balanced adult can do much to help young people to tackle problems encountered in their day-to-day living, but he may not be able to help them with some important problems. Hence, would be counselor should have personality plus training and practice. A teacher counselor must know human behavior or psychology otherwise he might accept all students’ statements at face value.

4. Understanding of Individual and Group Differences- lack of knowledge in sociology and or social psychology may cause an interviewer to fail to understand and to consider important variations among groups. The counselor needs to have much-specialized knowledge and many skills along with an intelligent understanding of different types of groups and people.

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