BULLY AND THE VICTIM: AN EDUCATIONAL CHALLENGE

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Bullying is one of the greatest factors which affect the classroom management of every teacher in a classroom situation. K. Allen, in her book Classroom Management, Bullying and Teacher Practices, stated that, it’s not enough that a teacher is knowledgeable on how to discipline a child on his or her own way which merely affects and touches the emotional aspect of a child and may cause negative impact towards the child’s social relation to others. Recognizing and analyzing the situations shall be the first step of a teacher before giving conclusions or take actions to the existing bullying situations.

One of the biggest responsibilities of a teacher, especially in dealing with this kind of problem nowadays, is to consider the factors why bullying exists among young children with the people around him or her. Bullying, hypothetically speaking, is all around us and very dominating. This implies that bullying also happens with a teacher-to-student, teacher-to-teacher, teacher-to-school head, parent-to-teacher as well, and vis-à-vis.

According to Nansel (et al., 2001), bullying is categorized into three different groups. First, the “Bullies”- these are persons who have been constantly engaged themselves in bullying activities and never had experienced bullying as a victim. Secondly, “Victims” are people who experienced bullying and being victimized by these bullies, but never did bullying of anyone. Lastly, the “Bully-victims” are those individuals who are engaged in bullying activities and have been experienced to be bullied.
In line with these evolving differences, bullying does not just exist among student-to-student. It should be considered that there are instances in a classroom situation that a teacher is also being bullied by a student, and a student is being bullied by a teacher were both can be in a place as a bully and a victim. The notion seems to be aggression begets aggression, and bullying begets bullying. Every individual tends to fight back by showing anger and humiliation, which is very alarming in some educational institutions. It will be a big threat to education particularly in the implementation of teaching and learning. Learning will be very difficult to impart and may result as challenging on the part of the teacher on how he or she will teach with harmonious relationship among the learners, if the teacher and the student reciprocally exchange bullying acts and both encourages aggressions.

In some cases, bullying happens individually. An assault of an individual to his or her victim in order for him not to be noticed by anyone. Intentionally bullying to satisfy his or her personal purposes.

Educational system in the Philippines shall be prepared to address these negative behaviors in our schools. Taking into consideration both the victims and the bullies.

It is undeniable that in this country, recently reported some cases of bullying in school, which became more intense and likely lead to cruelty and killings.

School is a haven not only for academic instructions, but it must be an environment where students will feel safe and nurtured physically, emotionally, socially and psychologically.

The education of the students merely depends from the support of the environment where they acquire learning, whether at home or school or even the whole community. There will be learning and success if an individual feels the love, appreciation, and understanding.
Parents also play an important part in dealing with the rising incidents of bullying. They must be sensitive in their child’s behavior and actions. Awareness of the activities of their child inside and outside their homes must be given attention. They must serve as a model for their children in inculcating good behavior.

The teacher, as the second parent of the child in the classroom, must inhibit bullying. The teacher’s belief, attitude and personal views shall be reflected to become more encouraging person towards good discipline.

Involvement, participation and cooperation between the school and the community harmoniously in addressing this issue on the bully and the victim is a necessity to meet success between the students and the educational institutions.

References:

Allen, Kathleen P., “Classroom Management, Bullying and Teacher Practices”, University of Rochester, bullying.pdf., Volume 34, No.1 Spring, 2010


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