DEMOGRAPHIC LOCATION: TOUCHED THE READING PERFORMANCE OF PUPILS

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It had always been that the vision and mission of the Department of Education (DepEd) are to cater the best quality of education among the learners regardless of their identity or origin and it was also embodied in Article XIV “Education” in the Philippine Constitution that States shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take steps to make such education accessible to all.

In this regard, The Philippine Constitution mandates that the budget for education be the largest allocation. Public Elementary and Secondary education are free. President Duterte repeatedly boasted that the 521 billion pesos’ budget allotment for education in 2020 is the largest in Philippine history. Conversely, the reality of public education in the Philippines is a nightmare for the oppressed masses (Pastrana, D. 2014).

For the past decades, administrators, teachers, and parents have been complaining about pupils’ low academic performance particularly in their reading performance. The Philippine school system has been criticized for being wasteful and ineffective. From the first national Survey in 1925 (Monroe Survey) to the present, pupils always obtained below set standard in their academic achievement.

Unsurprisingly, there are many non-readers in our school, non-readers over six years of schooling. The school system is producing pupils who could hardly read or cannot read at all.

One of the reasons why children go to school because they wanted to learn about how to read. Undeniably, reading is the basic foundation to become productive members of society. Survey revealed that graduates who did not find jobs are mostly poor readers
who have poor comprehension. Unemployment due to poor in reading and poor comprehension is one of the problems that affect the economic development of our country.

There are many factors that dramatically affect pupil’s academic performance include; (a) gender, (b) income level of the household, (c) whether or not there are both parents in the home, (d) number of siblings within a household, and (e) demographic location where the pupils and school located. If there are several children in a household with limited income, the older children take care of the younger ones, in lieu of daycare. As a result, the older pupils’ school attendance is low and they may experience diminished academic performance. Often these absences will cause the school’s average daily attendance (ADA) to go down (Slaughter, 2007).

The effects of general education and the respective demography are closely associated. As a matter of fact, demography is the physical study of these circumstances which influence the quality of education. Without having full awareness of the people, the targeted themes of education are very difficult to pursue. It is a common knowledge that various sections of societies respond differently to our areas of study. At least twenty percent of the population is supposed to be left uneducated to work dirty collar jobs. The rest of all are divided to carry out the general functioning of state and immediate requirements of the people. For that reasons demography actually provides us with vital information to arrange mass organization in lucrative manners.

References:

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