EDUCATION AMIDST THE PANDEMIC

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The coronavirus makes great changes in our life as we know it on a daily basis. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, schools in many countries were closed. There has been a trend on distant learning, but that is unequally delivered. This situation is offering us another set of tools. Now we will have different approaches to teach. Educators are adapting to new challenges.

In March 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic caused quite 1.6 billion youth out of faculty in 161 countries. We were at that moment facing a worldwide rising crisis. The World Bank’s “Learning Destitution” indicated that the level of youth who cannot read and understand are of age ten which remained at 53% of children in low- and middle-income nations before the crisis began. This pandemic can decline these results much more on the off chance that we do not act quickly.

A massive homeschooling experiment is occurring now. We know the impact of this virus are going to be far-reaching. But what is it mean for educational institutions and the students? As a response to the challenge brought by the Covid-19 pandemic, educational institutions came up with strategies leading to a so-called new normal. In education, the new normal requires unlearning what we have always known. Distance learning is the new normal delivery mode of education which depends much on online instructions, digital means, and self-learning modalities to adapt as education transit to the new normal. Students learn in the comfort and safety of their homes at their phase.

This pandemic changed social interaction from physical to virtual. The new normal also means a shift in the teaching delivery mode from one-size-fits-all to individualized and differentiated learning. Students can progress through the curriculum at different
speeds and use various resources based on their own learning needs. This aspect looks into the challenge of reducing and redesigning learning programs and resources that cater to the students and their access to digital and printed materials. Another factor to consider is the shift of responsibility in learning facilitation. It requires the active participation of household members providing guidance and assistance throughout the home-based learning scheme.

Teachers know the needs of the students. But more than ever, they became counselors, friends, and parental figures other than educators in this time of the pandemic. Like many of our frontline workers, teachers are under pressure like never before. They are balancing personal worries and safety while learning how to teach as the rules keep changing. Teachers are reaching a breaking point. But what keeps them going is what got them started, is the joy of seeing students light up when they learn. No matter what happened, education must be consistently achieved by every student for living means learning.

References:

Educational challenges and opportunities of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic (worldbank.org)