HOW DOES GENDER AFFECT EDUCATION?

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Gender plays an important role in education and the teaching-learning process. Though in our educational system, both girls and boys are receiving the same opportunities to attend school, still there are a lot of problems that directly affect education like gender differences, gender roles, gender biased, and a great deal of factors to consider. Truly, boys and girls differ on how they learn and perform in school. The dissimilarities have something to do with their behaviour, social interaction, and academic performance. So how do they deal with this issue? Are both genders fairly treated? Some might say yes, but let us face the sad reality that most of the times, schools show gender prejudice and inequalities.

In the past, girls were not given the privilege to go to school and study. There are connotations that the roles of women before are for household only. That is why many girls lack knowledge and understanding about several things during the earlier times, and so men are superior over girls. Many of our leaders before are full-blooded men. However, as time went by, a lot of changes happened. In our present generation, both man and woman are given equal opportunities for education, and sometimes it seems like the tables had turned, for girls are treated in a much nicer way than the boys when it comes to some aspects. Though there is no generalization here. Based on numerous observations, girls perform equally or better than boys for the latter tend to be more playful and lack interest in learning. Studies also show that girls mature faster than boys. And because of these factors, inequalities and biases in treatment between the two enter.

In an article “Gender Gap Has Far-reaching Consequences,” Mary Beth Marklein says national data in recent years show a 57-43 percent split, favouring women, both in enrolment and graduation rates. Where are the complications coming? Some argue that majority of the boys are being neglected because of their unnecessary or disruptive
behaviour and are socially awkward. Most of the times, girls are always being praised for their academic performances and for proper bearing while boys are being criticized and are always found at fault. Some teachers tend to favour girls and from time to time gets angry with boys. Due to these biased treatment, boys lack the motivation to perform well and finished their studies.

On the other hand, favouring one side is inevitable for teachers and it is part of their work to reprimand disruptive behaviours, yet they must be aware of the impacts of their actions to the students.

Also, since boys and girls differ in the way they learn, diverse activities should also be given to both gender to cater their needs and is not only applicable for one which happens every time. In addition, partialities are also inserted in learning materials, classroom environment, and teacher’s interaction with both gender during the lesson.

To conclude, people from the educational system as well as parents must be well aware of how the treatment between girls and boys directly affects education and their learning. And they must make a move with regards to that essential issue.

Reference: