People nowadays are trying to find the rights words to say things. Why? Simply because we have to be sensitive and concerned of others. One wrong word and it could make or break someone’s heart and dream. In particular, teachers are expected to be cautious in their choice of words or what we call diction whenever they are communicating not only to the pupils but also to the parents and other stakeholders of the school.

With that, I can’t help but wonder how teachers exert effort and contemplate on things just to utter the right and appropriate words. More so, they are even deemed to express not only accurate information but also appropriate facial expressions, gestures, and the likes.

Isn’t it amazing how teachers cope? According to DepEd Order 40, s. 2012, also known as “DepEd Child Protection Policy”, as soon as a learner or a child felt depressed or frustrated or what other people said, that could be considered against the mentioned DO. Nonetheless, many people, particularly teachers are wondering of how they can discipline their pupils if they will not hear what they have to hear. Also, how can they make the latter realize their mistakes?

Traditionally, whenever a task or responsibility is given to a child, he or she has to attend to it regularly. Failure to do so would be given punishment. Often times, the punishment is done through deducting grades, merit, or reward. Doing so before led children to work harder out of fear of getting a low score or grade.
Teachers know very well that learning should be fun and not be based from fear of someone or something, yet, we cannot also deny the fact that such practice encouraged children of those days to attend to their tasks more responsibly. That made them work harder too. More so, it made their victories sweeter. Hence, that also taught them to appreciate and value hard work.

To sum, the past may not be the same as today, but I cannot help but ask the “What ifs”. If children can still be disciplined just like before. If only such practice was not abused. If the children of the past are still the people of today. Will they need the same protection? Are teachers not that caring enough anymore that this DO is always reiterated to us almost every school year? Who really is to blame?

Therefore, as an advice, let us all be cautious of our actions for as we keep these children protected, we also keep ourselves safe.

References: