MINIMALISM FOR LEARNERS “HAVING LESS, IS MORE” STARTER PACK

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“Less is more” this is the heart of a Modern day principle called “Minimalism”. Nowadays that the world never seems to stop producing and reproducing things. Sometimes it makes us wonder if we could actually consume everything we keep making in bulk, but a more significant question is, do we really need to consume it? Are these things really necessary? Is this what we want to keep teaching our kids, learners and future generations?

In a Vlog uploaded by a social media influencer Matt D’Avella, he has mentioned a term “conspicuous consumption” an Idea from a nineteenth century economist Thorstein Veblen which pertains to the spending of money on and the acquiring of luxury goods and services to publicly display economic power – of the income accumulated wealth of the buyer. In simpler terms, it is acquiring things, to boast which made way for the Advertisers and producers to exploit buyers with this consumption behavior, this and the force of social media as a platform to showcase this behavior of boasting our prestige has led us into buying and producing more “stuff”. This is the behavior we could also observe in learners at School, how many among them just scrolls around social media and the internet stumbling into “online sellers” buying things they do not actually need but things that makes them “in” with their clique and today’s social media terminology “starter packs” which literary means - the basic equipment and instructions that you need to start doing something but nowadays becomes things you needed to belong and be accepted by peers and society. How many of the learners’ starter pack are actually, pen, papers and scissors? Are they now, charger, power bank, lip tint for girls and small bags for boys and
all other things that they only want but not actually need? Yes indeed, they have become one of the “conspicuous consumers”, raised by this Society.

What is the concept of Minimalism? Minimalism is owning fewer possessions but it doesn’t mean just that. Owning few things to remove the distraction of excess possession to be able to focus on things that matters most. Intentionality or having purpose is very crucial. Owning things for a good purpose, not just to look good or to belong. This is what we should be teaching our Learners that having less possession doesn’t mean living a lowly life, being deprived or discriminatory. Having less is a chance to see what is truly important. Let them be taught of buying things for a greater purpose, of taking time to think, weigh judgments and evaluations before they make any purchases. Asking themselves, “Do I really need this?” first and not just instantly and spontaneously clicking on that “add to cart” button. There are many more to learn about minimalism but let us start with Intentionality. Let’s start with making them seek the Big “Why?”. Let us start with teaching them to embrace value and purpose not just in their purchases but in everything they do.

References:

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