OVERCROWDING RESULTING TO UNDERACHIEVEMENT

by:

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As the classes begin, problems prompt in the system of education in the Philippines. One of reiterating problems is the overcrowding inside the classroom and in the school. Public schools have annually addressed this situation to the DepEd officials; however no permanent and effective solutions have created. As a result, most students who are studying in an overcrowded classroom perform lower than the expected output. Teachers mentioned that 55-60 students cannot accommodate in a small classroom where space is limit and ventilation is poor. Teachers cited that poor ventilation makes the students out of focused and loses energy and self-control.

According to Dylan Lubao, “overcrowding is a chronic problem.” It is probably the problem in which government wants to solve or at least lessen the burden of the learners every time classes open. Students who are in an overcrowding area easily become irritated because of the heat brought about by the weather condition and the situation they are with. Some of them cannot move on their chairs because of limited space, some didn’t even feel the coldness of the air that makes them relaxed and comfortable, while others cannot stand freely in front of the class when explaining because they are already near the board. There are classrooms in which pathways are narrow. There are schools that students cannot play due to rough spaces within the school-campus. Spaces for teachers are also limited.

But what greatly affects by overcrowding? Is the government fully accomplished its duty to eradicate this problem? Overcrowding shows significant effect on the students’ performance. It is very clear because students who are in the overcrowded learning environment usually get low grades in almost all learning areas. Some students even get failing grades in two or three subjects and cannot even comprehend the lesson because they are more focused on the situation they are facing and not on the topic that the teacher is discussing. In fact, some young people in our
countries do not attend formal schooling at all. Although the government is keep on building classroom, still it is not enough to the increasing number of enrollees.

Conducive learning environment could embodied in the DepEd’s vision for Filipino students to meet quality education that will give them opportunity to improve their lives, but it does reach hundred percent of providing conducive learning environment. Because of this event, some students are not motivated to attend their classes. They find schooling not interesting.

But how does overcrowding occur? Overcrowding starts when classroom is not enough for the number of learners/enrollees in the school. The number of population is pushing the school to assign more students and exceeding the required number in a regular classroom. Some schools have to do the shifting on their class to accommodate many learners.

On the part of the teachers, overcrowding means an extra effort can needed to sustain the needs of the students. They are the ones making sacrifices to able to give basic quality education. Both teachers and students are having difficulty in the process of teaching and learning, but this would not mean that they have to stop making way on how to improve the qualities of education in our country.