PANDEMIC AND HOW IT CHANGED OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM

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Education is a lifelong process of learning. A very cliché meaning to each one of us. Very ordinary yet very meaningful. We had learned the basics in education when we were 3 or 4 years old, some had attended the Day Care Center, and others were enrolled in Private Institutions. We are taught how to dance, sing, color, and write. However, our teacher's more profound meaning led us to socialize and know “pakikisama” at our early age. As we aged, we learned more complicated academic subjects in Math, Science, English, and other subjects, but we also learned how to solve our problems and face our fears. We also learned how to manage our time when our teachers marked us late during classes.

We got used to it, and the education setting became part of our culture. The month of June is marked to be the opening of classes. May is the time of the year when every parent has become very busy paying tuition fees and buying school stuff. April indicates the moving up ceremonies and Graduation rites. We became familiar with role playings, reportings, and lectures with “sermon” on the side—part of what we call the education system in the Philippines. The sad portion of it – it all changed.

When Pandemic came up in late 2019, we were clueless that the following school year would change- far from the culture we had begun. October became the beginning of classes. School supplies were seldom bought, and school uniforms were not necessary at all. The month of June is the new End of the school year, while ceremonies are planned to be virtual. There are no more role playings, and reporting and lectures are not available for everyone. The sudden change has begun without having a lot of time planning for it.
Teachers were not given a chance to meet their students personally, and vice versa.

Since face-to-face communication is prohibited, everything became distant. Socialization was missed. Students relied on themselves. Gadgets became their friends.

Modular Distance Learning teaches the students to become more independent. They are given time to finish their assignments and performance tasks by their understanding. Yet, not all students can cope up with this kind of learning. It is such an intricate part to these students where their knowledge comes from the teacher’s instructions.

Online Distance Learning, on the other hand, is offered to those who have access to the internet and gadgets. It is similar to traditional face-to-face learning; the only difference is it is done virtually. However, power interruptions and internet stability are the main problems in dealing with this kind of learning.

How did Pandemic Change our Education System?

It changes almost everything. From the settings to assessment, outputs, and even how the teachers deal with the continuous battle against failing grades to evaluate their performance is a big difference.

Values on friendship and “pakikisama” were not turned into a realization. A deeper meaning of every teacher’s “sermon” was also gone. Everything became distant. Everything is virtual—everything is changed.

Pandemic. One Word. Big Change.
References:

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