PERCEPTION OF STUDENTS ABOUT THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION THEY RECEIVED DURING PANDEMIC

by:
Jeremy Mina Flores
Teacher I Bonifacio Camacho National High School, Senior High School, SDO-Annex Abucay

Since the emergence of the COVID-19 Pandemic, governments have declared numerous lockdowns and a State of Health Emergency within their borders to mitigate the effects. As part of this, the Educational System has drastically shifted to virtual or online learning. Let us admit that the Philippines has an enormous problem in delivering quality education as not all its citizen have access to the Internet.

Before we proceed, let us differentiate between the meaning of “face-to-face learning” and “online learning.” Face-to-Face Learning is a teaching approach in which a curriculum is delivered in person to a group of learners, while Online Learning is a form of distance learning which happens in different places, both synchronous and asynchronous.

Nowadays, some students believe that online learning has a significant relative advantage than traditional learning style which includes cost-effectiveness, flexibility, and individualized learning.

- COST-EFFECTIVE. Some students believe that online learning can save time and money because they no longer need to travel. Also, some schools decrease their tuition fee. Online learning can also save time as it allows the learner to focus on what is most important. Students have the luxury of time to finish their school tasks and to do their household chores and recreational activities.
- FLEXIBILITY. Online learning is a form of distance learning in which the students can log-in anytime and complete their school tasks quickly. Online learning allows learners to develop and learn new skills and acquire knowledge at their own pace.

- INDIVIDUAL LEARNING STYLE. Online learning can be done either synchronously or asynchronously. The teacher allows the learners to practice their learning style by giving them the luxury of time to finish, understand, and apply all the competencies required for a specific subject.

These are just some of the advantages that a learner has during his or her online learning. We all know that the Philippines is still using traditional learning approach which has stood the test of time, especially in delivering a much higher quality of education. However, the disadvantages of online learning are social isolation, strong time management skills requirement, and lack of quality assurance.

- SOCIAL ISOLATION. We are used to collaborating with other individuals, especially while doing school tasks, but in online learning, the students do it all alone most of the time. Social isolation happens when a person has a little or no communication at all with people around him or her. It can weigh heavily on one’s mood, views, beliefs, perspective, and sense of oneself.

- STRONG TIME MANAGEMENT SKILLS REQUIREMENT. Since the students have the luxury of time, there are plenty of external factors that keep the students from falling off track during their studies. These external factors may include mobile or computer games and/or other activities. The students are left to exert extra effort because they are the only ones to manage themselves during learning activities. As a result, those students who lack strong time management skills will find deadlines more burdensome to meet compared to traditional studies, where they have their classmates to support and remind them.
LACK OF QUALITY ASSURANCE. Not all of us are computer literate and have access to the Internet. Online learning approach cannot be done for all students. Also, teachers tend to focus on theoretical or principles of subjects because it is easier to discuss. For example, it is easy to discuss Organization and Management rather than Computer Systems Servicing.

Let us face it that when it comes to online education, the Philippines is not ready. Indeed, some universities in the country have already shifted from traditional face-to-face to online learning. Although some students prefer online learning, there are still more who enjoy the traditional way of learning.

References:


Spotlight on Quality Education For All During Coronavirus Highlights Thirty Education Solutions. Hundred Team. April 2, 2020. (Short Link) https://tinyurl.com/2bza84ef