POOR AMBITION

by:

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I felt as if I was paralyzed for a moment when I heard one of my Grade 8 student’s answers that his ambition in life is to become a construction worker. I was caught off guard. For a while, I thought my entire brain cells stop. Then, realization sunk in. Students are in the edge of cataclysm.

It is my individual perception that it is very customary among children to aspire big for themselves. Doctor, lawyer, engineer, pilot, police, nurse and teacher are some of the professions they want themselves to be when they grow up. I for one, dreamt to be a lawyer someday.

Salamah (2007) opined that ambition is well-thought-out an imperative emblem of individuals and community morale, because it is a pointer of human contact with surroundings, society and environment. Ambition level subsidizes basically in the progressions of learning and teaching. Ambition level received consideration from learners and scholars of psychology alike; they endeavour to discriminate the influences that manage its level. Achieving ambitions actuates individuals and ignite them to work and capitalize their potentials as far as conceivable. Often, failures in accomplishing ambitions lead to downgraded psychological modification. The ambition level is beneficial in detaching light on causes of psychological maladies among certain individuals compared to others; hence the ambition level is an analytical indicative mean of individuals psychological wellbeing.

As implied by the above literature, it is underscored that our ambition is a product of our learning. Our learning reciprocates our ambition level. Simply put, a child’s poor ambition is a reflection of a child’s poor learning.
With the statement above, I am wondering how many of my students dream poor for themselves. Don't get me wrong. It is not my intention to degrade construction workers and the likes. I actually esteem them as substantial and treasured labour force in our society. What I am abiding to is that if students aspire to have a degree, they can achieve more; thus, become more stable in the future. Students may believe that they don’t need to bother themselves to study hard because they will eventually be employed in a construction site that does not look after a diploma or report card.

Poor ambition, probably, is one of the main reasons why unsatisfactory performance of students occurs. On the other hand, this calls for the teachers, school administrators, Department of Education and parents to address this issue. After all, it is the main thrust of the education to make a person a better individual who will make this world a better place. Just imagine what country we will have if majority of the students at present have set poor ambition for themselves. Awful!

Now going back to my student, sadly, he failed at the end of the school year, and did not enroll again. The last time I heard about him is that he is a water refilling station delivery boy.

References: