PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY INSIDE THE CLASSROOM

by:
Albert S. Tinao
Orani National High School Parang – Parang - SHS

Gender equality, as stated by UNICEF, is the situation when both dames and gents or boys and girls enjoy the same privileges, accumulate possessions, getting equal chances in life and be protected by the law. The issue about gender equality is associated with anti-discrimination law which aims to protect the right of every individual from being harassed or insulted because of appearance, race or status in the society.

As the students grow, they notice their differences from the opposite sex. The girls learn to act what the society expects them to be and the same things happen to boys. Teachers, who have direct contact to students, play a major role in students’ education. Their influence measures a great strength through the way they interact with their students. Unconsciously, teachers contribute to gender bias inside the classroom from the way they treat girls and boys such as the way they talk to boys is different from girls and they always tell the girls that they should act and move the way girls should act.

To avoid gender bias inside the classroom, there are things that teachers must do, these are:

1. Teachers must be thoughtful and neutral.

   Teachers must be mindful of what to do and not to do, offer questions to students that will reflect gender equality.

2. Teachers must make reflections through colleagues and students.
They may ask feedbacks from their colleagues from letting them observe your teaching methods and for the students, teachers may use suggestion box.

3. Teachers may use gender equity language.

Teachers must avoid using terms that signify or particularly pertaining to a gender and do not use terms that may exclude girls from the topics.

4. Explain the circumstance.

Teachers must explain things to students without using phrases that pertain to being a girl or boy.

5. Teachers must create a group composing both males and females.

Educators must not isolate girls from boys, instead encourage them to participate and work as a team.

6. Teachers may use inquiry-based approach in teaching.

Let the students explore and learn in group with males and females. Lead them to work harmoniously with the opposite sex.

Inculcating gender equity inside the classroom seems to be a difficult task for the teachers however, continuous practice, this gender bias will be forgotten as time pass by.

References:

https://www.teachthought.com/education/6-ways-can-promote-gender-equality-classroom
https://www.jbcnschool.edu.in/blog/importance-of-gender-equality/