REASONS WHY ADOLESCENT LEARNERS ARE HAVING DIFFICULTIES IN STUDYING

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Educating adolescent learners seems to be a great challenge to educators. Adolescent is the stage where students experience different bodily changes due to hormones released by various organs inside the body. The challenge is that due to the internal and external changes on the student’s body, they are facing pressure that may hinder them from learning. They are more concerned on how they look rather than their academic standing. They would stress themselves in acquiring answers on how to cure pimples and dysmenorrhea, how to be “in trend”, and what profile picture is the best to display on their Facebook account. Moreover, their interest is shifted to this thing called love. They are more concerned why their crushes do not crush them back and spend their time more in day dreaming. Therefore, due to these reasons, learning on adolescent stage becomes disruptive.

However, the report from the Alliance for Excellent Education emphasized that educators must give more attention to the adolescent learning because this is the best time to improve learning gaps and develop critical thinking that will equip them globally. These learners have their own ways of acquiring and processing scientific knowledge but because of the above mentioned stress they cannot make it on their own. Teachers must guide them to balance their intellectual capacity and emotional aspect. Moreover, this stage compromises of many opportunities for learning because their cognitive aspect is developing. National Research Council (2007) claims that the changes happening in an adolescent in terms of cognitive, social and psychological aspect are truly amazing. As their cognitive domain develops, the greater the challenge for the teachers.
Moreover, Inhelder & Piaget (2008) stated that adolescents cannot work in a group because they have problem in communicating to their peers. Though they have intelligent ideas and they can comprehend complicated occurrences, the problem is that they cannot transfer the information to others effectively. Teachers have a crucial part in the development of the adolescent learners. The development of their students lies on their hand, therefore they have to find ways to develop instructional tools and use different strategies that may address the difficulties experienced by the learners.

References:
