TEACHERS DISCIPLINE IN PLACE OF PARENTS

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Teaching in a class size with an average of 30-40 pupils is a very challenging role for teachers. As teachers, it is our job to nurture and teach them how to live. This task has never been easy. On some days, classes are fun and exciting place for our pupils to learn. But on the other days, we feel uncertain if we could perform our jobs.

Provided under Article 218 of the Family Code, teachers are considered as “in loco parentis” or “in place of a parent or substitute parents”. In the academe, the teacher stands as the second parent. Whereas, in loco parentis is a source of liability of teachers. Which means that if a child is in school, teachers carry the weight of several responsibilities such as their welfare, safety, education and health. Teachers are responsible in moral sense and in legal one. Because of that legal responsibility, teachers also face a lot of liability.

When a child is in school, teachers have a special parental authority, as stated in the Family Code of the Philippines. If a pupil under their care causes harm to other pupil for lack of discipline, the teacher who is in charge of them shall be principally liable for the damages or harm. This is the reason why pupils discipline is one of the responsibility of the school while they are in their custody and supervision. In this principle, teachers are given the parental authority to discipline their pupils while under their care.

A discussion of the issue of teachers’ liability for pupils’ discipline is very important because there are some instances that teachers are being sued. The teachers’ enforcing of discipline on misbehaving students is not a right, but rather their
obligation. It is very important for parents to understand that the role of teachers in terms of imposing discipline to their children, because they have to understand that when we are talking of an obligation, you have no choice but to fulfill this action. They must understand that teachers are responsible not only for their children’s ability to learn but also to provide them with moral and spiritual guidance and also to inculcate the values the values of honesty, integrity and self-discipline.

References:

https://www.teacherph.com/teachers-liability/