TEACHERS VS PUPILS

by:
Josielyne F. Praga
Master Teacher I, Pantingan Elementary School

Pacman vs. Mayweather, GMA 7 vs. ABS-CBN 2, military vs. Abu-Sayaff and many more fights have been matched in their own battlefield. With these fights, we can hardly tell who are going to win. Everyone has their own tactics and styles in competing with one another to defeat their opponent in their chosen field. Everyone has fair chances of winning.

This duel is very different from the teaching fields where teachers and pupils encounter. In this case, their battlefield is the teaching field…the school, particularly the classroom. The fact that the teachers benefit from this financially…pupils benefit more. Though compensation is not worth to the teaching job, teachers still extract effort to deluge the problems inside the classroom and in order to produce quality citizens of our country. Teachers share and impart knowledge to the children to the best of their abilities. Teachers try their best to understand and to relate in every child with different behaviors and backgrounds. Like any other stories, conflicts sometimes arise due to some unavoidable circumstances. Many things happened during the teaching-learning situations and in the disciplinary-action making.

A teacher hit a pupil with a stick… a teacher shouted at her pupil… a pupil was asked by a teacher to do an errand during class hour, a pupil who was isolated by the teacher because he is hurting his classmate…etc., etc., etc., Without any further investigations, I can clearly say that the TEACHER involved is always and absolutely accused as GUILTY.
A teacher who hit a pupil with a stick...physical abused.

A teacher who shouted at his/her pupil...verbal abused.

A pupil who was asked to do an errand during class hour...abused in authority.

Let us reverse these situations.

How about a pupil who hit the teacher with a stick? Have you heard the news about the student who stabbed his teacher? A pupil who shouted and called bad names for his teachers? A pupil who always stamped his feet every time he was asked to do an errand? Are this pupils guilty? Pupils remained INNOCENT.

Is there justice in the battlefield of teacher-pupil match?

Teachers are also human who are entitled to commit mistakes. They are sometimes forced to do things for the goodness of their pupils and for wanting them to learn and to become good citizens. They just wanted to discipline them.

Teachers have feelings. They wanted to feel that they are protected. Why are they always condemned for the little mistake, exploited with negative or violent reactions when situations were broadcasted? How will teachers discipline their pupils?

Is the teacher-pupils match fair?

References:

Educator, Magazine for Teachers, year 2011