THE PROBLEM ABOUT DISCIPLINE

by:

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What is discipline? Do you really know how to discipline a student? How can you make sure that your act of disciplining learners is effective? Based on the definition taken from the Merriam Webster dictionary, “discipline is a behavior that is judged by how well it follows a set of rules or orders”. It is a behavior that learns through continues practice.

Many teachers try to discipline their learners. They establish a set of rules to be followed. They make sure that every learner is informed and agreed what they called “house rules”. They remind students on the punishment to be received if students disobey a certain rule like skipping classroom chores. This is done to make things inside the laboratory of learning spick-and-span.

The intention of disciplining the learners is good. It sounds exemplary and brilliant. But, why is it that in some situations discipline is not effective? Many teachers are wondering what is going on inside their classroom where in fact they oriented their learners at the beginning of the class. The problem about discipline is not the learners, not the set of rules, and not the classroom, the problem is on the execution of discipline and the consistency of the teacher executing it.

You are probably disappointed when your learners do not follow you reminders and instructions, but you have to reflect on yourself. What made them disobey your instruction? Is it always reminded and observed? What do you do if they forgot it? As a disciplinarian, you have to do something if one of the rules is neglected by your learners. Do not just let it pass, because if you do they will keep on repeating it until such time they are not following you anymore. Do not make punishment that will hurt their feelings, but instead explain to them that you are doing
this to improve their performance at school. Remember that discipline is an act that makes learners learn and not make students embarrassed. Teachers have the task to make learners realize that discipline is a way to train them in becoming accountable citizens on their own acts, so that in the near future they will not become problems of our nation. They have to develop a sense of responsibility among leaners and maturity so they can have the capacity to handle their problems. Do not shout on your students, it is not effective. Yes they will follow you as of that moment, but they will remind most on the way you make them feel inferior. Talk to them in a group stating your objectives on why you want them to follow your instructions. Do not name a person who disobey you in a class, but you have to generally state that particular mistake and how to avoid repeating it. You have to bear in their minds that discipline is not castigation, but a move to identify fault and how not make necessary adjustments to prevent occurrence.

Discipline is anybody’s task. Discipline must be consistently applied so that learners may not mislead you why you are doing this. Teacher should make this sooner than the soonest to avoid conflict between leaners. Intentional disobedience of the leaners on the rules resulting to unbecoming attitudes must be identified and addressed, so that proper discipline is incorporated. Discipline is in the hands of the teachers, without them learning is ineffective. It means teachers have difficult, but great task in molding the mind and the character of every learner.