THE PROBLEMS WITH STUDENTS' TARDINESS DURING THE CRUCIAL LEARNING HOURS

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School tardiness or having the nature of arriving late and missing school hours is one of the common problems in classroom encountered by the teacher. This bad punctuality habit can negatively affect the students who are always late, the teacher, the other students in the class and the school at large as well. Tardiness can lead to a more serious systematic problem and can negatively affect the learning of the students because they usually miss out on important announcements and activities. This may seem to be just a simple problem but its effects can be very alarming that is why it should not be tolerated in schools.

Trevor Pilgrim (2013) stated that tardy students tend to get lower grades or worse, fail the subjects because they miss important instructions. Pilgrim also said that "the students must understand the importance of punctuality and how it connects to their future working lives since the school is also mandated to produce good citizens and workers." If tardiness in school will be left unresolved, it can worsen the teaching-learning process in the classroom that is why there must be a clear and strictly enforced policy against tardiness.

It is not only the tardy students will be affected negatively with this bad habit. This can also give a negative impact to the teacher because it can be an extra work for the teacher to give the tardy students with a special discussion. It can also be time-consuming because the teacher must repeat the discussion missed by those students in able for them to still cope with the lesson. Aside from this, other students in the class can also be distracted because late students come in the middle of the discussion and the teacher would need to take back the students' attention.
Further, according to Rebecca Vukovic (2017), there are several studies have shown that school tardiness has a negative impact on learning outcomes and the habit of late time arrival and missing time during school days is a product of less classroom and learning experience than students who attend school in time. Also, if the students arrive late to school, missing out some important activities or tasked in building their social aspect on physical communication with peers, thus resulting to the build-up of personal anxiety toward their classmates.

Tardy students miss out on the discussion in the morning and this can be a serious problem because in the morning are the crucial hours of a school day and the students are more attentive in the morning. If tardiness becomes worse, there is a ground for detention or suspension and other disciplinary measures. It can also lead to some behavior problems and dropouts which can worsen the learning outcomes and the school system as well.

Regarding this problem, Ruth Herman Wells (2014) gave some solutions on how to stop student tardiness such as motivating them through different motivational strategies. The students must see some reasons why they should come to school on time. Identifying the causes could also help because the teacher will be able to identify what solutions and adjustments he or she could give to tardy students. Also, the teachers must be wise in giving the appropriate consequences to the students because negative consequences might trigger them not to attend the class more often.

In teaching, teachers are the ones who need to adjust with regards to the behavior of the students. They are not only teaching lessons but also dealing with the problems that are encountered in the classroom. Despite these problems encountered, the teachers must remain patient and understanding because no matter how hardheaded the students are, their welfare and learning are the topmost priority and the things that are needed to be considered.
References:


https://www.youthchg.com/tardiness/