THE ROLE OF VARIOUS FOUNDATIONS OF EDUCATION IN THE LIFE OF A TEACHER

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"Education is a social process. Education is growth. Education is, not a preparation for life; education is life itself.” – John Dewey.

Foundation of education plays an important role in the life of a teacher. All aspects on the foundation of education serve as conceptual framework the education. It also serves as guide to a teacher in order for him to become successful in his chosen career. The philosophical, psychological, anthropological and sociological foundation helps the teacher on how to deal with students, parents, stakeholders, co-workers and the community in his everyday life. While historical foundation provide knowledge in order to understand the past and its contribution in today’s system of education, and last the having knowledge on the Legal Bases on education will serves as guide and reminder to protect teachers and students from the possible problems that may arise.

Foundation of education led in understanding normative and ethical behavior in educational development. It also employs different perspective to discern how young students to equip.

Teacher is a role model, students follow and imitate them on the way they communicate, deal with them. Some of them follow their footsteps. Students are deeply affected by the teacher’s character, competence and moral commitment. And most especially the way on how the teacher value them as important person.

We are also an actor in front of our students because we play different roles in everyday situations in order to adopt on current students needs. Our role in society is
both significant and valuable. It has far reaching influence on the society we live in, and no other personality can have an influence more profound than that of a teacher.

We, teacher is an architect of our future generation. It is expected that we did our very best to mold students with knowledge, skills, values, philosophies, and all aspect needed in life to become a well defined man in the future. We can only do all of these if we are much knowledge and guided by the various principles in the foundation of education.

Let us realize the importance of each foundation of education to the teachers and students one by one. First is the Philosophy, it is important because, philosophy is like a system of thinking on what and how it should be done. As teacher with philosophy, it will serve as guide on how to teach, deal and understand students with different personality. Philosophy of education is a vital tool that every teacher must possess. It also gives the teachers many choices, procedures to react positively with the situations that they usually encounter in daily school routine. It also helps the teacher to further understand the students on acquire knowledge. Facing the reality, teachers consistently deal, face students with lot of differences. Students differ from intelligences, mentalities, behavior and understanding capacities.

Philosophy helps the teacher to acquire a grasp of the conceptual field of education. It also enables them to understand better the conceptual debate that involve on the subject they are teaching. Therefore, philosophy is really important because it is an instrument for making ethical, moral decisions for regulating ourselves and examining our duty of care, level of accountability and role modeling as educators in influencing the next generation of responsible citizens.

Second is the sociology, which help the teacher to understand the forces, which enable and constrain education for all both students and teachers also with parents, community and stakeholders. Sociology guide the teacher to have a critical perspective
on topics such as globalization, teaching and learning, equality and equal opportunities in education. Without knowledge in sociology, the learning of the teacher will potentially reduced to a functional role.

Third is the Psychology, which play also an important role in teacher’s life because it helps them to better understand the students, parents, stakeholders, community and even fellow teachers and superiors. Psychology helps the teacher to understand sensitive topics such as mental disorders and be able to help the students that are going through things such as depression.

Fourth is Anthropology plays important role to us because as we all know as teacher, our clientele is our student, we face, deal with them six hours in a day, five days in a week, we play important role in developing them to become a well refined man in the future. And in order for us to fully understand them, we must have a knowledge in anthropology, it will serve us a guide in dealing, understanding people we encounter in our work place, and to be exact, our daily life. Because, in anthropology, we clearly understand the human condition, which includes what has happened in the past, what is happening now, and what will happen later on. And the great thing, is that we can use each other’s knowledge and research techniques to better understand why we act, the way we do, and how it affects our physical, cultural, social, and political environments. And in reality, it will become easier for us to help others when we first understand them.

And last, Legal foundation of education is essential because the legal bases of education were made for the common good of the learners, teachers, and other people involved in the education system. As laws were made for the people, it is also our responsibility to be knowledgeable of these legal bases for us to know our rights and responsibilities. Laws are like subject matters or lessons that can be considered to be effective, only when it is taught and understood by the pupils. For teachers to become effective, it is but proper that they understand the legal bases of education for it is the foundation of all policies and rules concerning education. It is like guiding stars that will
help teachers find the right path that they must follow so that they can achieve the objectives of education. They will be able to make things essential for the lives of the pupils and also in their profession, for knowing of the root of education means understanding the purpose and importance of education.

Robert Browning said, “Ignorance is not innocence but sin.” There is a big difference between ignorance and innocence. As we know, innocence does not excuse anyone to the law. Sometimes teacher commit mistakes not just because they do not aware of the law, but rather they choose to ignore the law. As teacher, the word “innocence” does not have a place in this field. It is expected that we must be knowledgeable on the legal bases of education, because it will serves as our direction in terms of teaching and on how to address and meeting our clientele (students). Having knowledge on the law of education, we as teacher knows our right, privileges, duties and responsibilities. It also help us to know what are the things we must consider especially in doing things that are related in education, to know also what are the restriction of a teacher with her pupils.

Teachers must put all the laws of education into their heart so that they will know the real purpose and obligations of being a teacher. We can control ourselves by knowing and understanding the rules and regulations that were imposed to us teachers. The legal bases help us to become a better teacher with a great heart and great personality.

I, therefore conclude that every teacher must have review, recall the various foundation of education so that each and every one of us will be more guided in performing our duties and responsibilities as a molder of the society.
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