USE OF NORMS

by:
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One of the essential aspects in the teaching-learning process is the establishment of norm that pertains to the standard behavior where the groups of people are following and agreeing with. Norms serve as routines in order to establish students-teachers’ rapports inside the classroom. Bucholz and Sheffler (2009) shared that routine in the classroom helps the teacher to create positive interaction and bond among the students. It is used to encourage emotional well-being in the classroom environment. It creates mutual respect between the teacher and student as it establishes relationship which lets the students to feel safe and comfortable as members of the class (Davies, 2011).

In the classroom contexts, preliminary activities are the norms being established by the teachers. They are the foundation activities that strengthen teacher and students’ rapports in the learning environment. Most often, the activities portrayed in the preliminary activities are praying, greetings, checking of attendance, and reviewing of the past lesson. Chase et. al. (2019) posited that teachers should establish routines inside the classroom as it helps to maintain order, and lets the students stay calm. Routines helped the teacher to minimize the misbehavior of the students by constantly giving them something to do. If the students are certain what to do or what to expect, they may follow the tasks at hand rather than to invent their own less-constructive activities. Routine caters a sense of responsibility as well as it requires students to carry out daily tasks.

The Filipino culture for being polite is also one of the examples of norms inside the classroom. The students are using the expressions “po/opo” and addressing their teachers as “Sir” or “Ma’am” that indicates a way of showing respect and recognizing their teachers’ authorities inside the classroom. Mitchell (2018) shared that Ma’am and Sir
Publications are mostly used to display respect toward the people in the position whom cannot be called or addressed in their first names. Ma’am and Sir served as norm gestures of politeness for Filipinos. Thus, it is appropriate for the teachers to be addressed as such since they should be respected and treated well. Moreover, “Nak” or “Anak” are the expressions being used by the teacher in calling their students as they serve as the second parent that treats the learners as their own sons and daughters. Sudhakar (2017) stresses that the teachers are playing as the second parents of the students. They are shaping their minds, and helping them growing by recognizing their talents and enhancing their skills.

The classroom norms are essential in the teaching-learning process as they contribute a good turn-taking among the teachers and students and shows a good management inside the classroom. It maximizes learning by establishing an effective and engaging learning atmosphere.

References:
