WHAT DO TEACHERS MAKE?

by:

Gien Miel Carlos Omania

Come to think of it, one could really ask this question. What do teachers make? Do they really have an impact to our society? If so, then how come the society sees and treats them as the lesser people in the roster of professional careers?

I came across this blog post of Taylor Mali asking the same question. There he pointed out that a teacher has achieved far more feats than any other professions for that matter. It’s just sad to note that the whole article is based on reality. I remember my teacher once telling his story. His college professor asked them why did you chose teaching? Some said they wanted to teach the youth. Some answered they wanted to be a part of shaping and changing the future. Whoa that’s too ambitious hehe . . . but it’s a good motivation non the less. But majority of the students there said they chose teaching because it’s what their parents told them to take or it’s the easiest course to take and cheapest at that. It seems like teaching only came as a last resort for them to choose. Why is this so?

Most of the people now fancy receiving nice salaries, being greeted by their subordinates every day, or in an office table in front of a computer even in a cubicle talking in English selling products and insurances to people. They see those as a great career and that it gives them great fulfillment that other people view them as a great
contributor to the nation. But isn’t teaching just the same as those mentioned earlier? Let’s see things in a closer perspective.

You want a job that receives good salary right? Well teaching provides a hefty amount of paycheck. The salary a teacher gets is enough to support a living even more. The only flaw to this claim is that teachers also have a lot of loans. They say that is already a part of the teacher culture, that almost all teachers are not spared from debts. If only teachers could resist the temptation of spending more than their means, they will prove that the profession pays off very well. Not to mention the great benefits teachers get when they reach retirement age. That is something not commonly found in other professions. They still get sustainable support in their old age.

You like being greeted by subordinates while you walk around. Well one teacher I know, after teaching for how many years, almost all people in the province greet him whenever they get to see him. You like being called ma’am or sir in the workplace, right? Isn’t that how we address our teachers? One teacher said that it’s not what you taught them that stays a lifetime but how you treat them. And so even that the people that greets him have been his students for years they still greet him hug him whenever, wherever they meet.

You like working in front of the computer? Teachers spend hours during the day and even more in the wee hours of the night in front of the computer encoding grades, drafting reports and writing lessons for the next day to come. Believe me there are times
that the computers are the ones that break down more often than the teachers due to long periods of work.

You like to be in a cubicle having your own table and talking in English selling products or insurances. Teachers, well they no longer sell quail eggs or polvoron anymore haha. Kidding aside, they sell knowledge and information. These are the most priced commodities there are. They are the best sellers in the market. Why? Their students, the customers, come willingly to school and whether they like it or not have to stay and listen to the sales talk and that is the discussions of the lesson. And they come every day. Now that is a very good sales agent, isn’t it? They also sell insurances, not the ones that cover payments for bills in the hospital but the insurances that individuals become preventive, educated and disciplined so that mishaps are avoided. Isn’t that way better than spending thousands of pesos in an insurance company?

You see, teaching has been the greatest profession in the planet. If not for them, other professionals will not be able to reach the peak of career. All of them had to start how to read how to write how to do math. The teacher therefore is an indispensable member of the country.

Reference: