

ON EDUCATING CHILDREN

by:

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Educating children is a philosophy in itself.

From the disciplinary to the diplomatic means, education has been accustomed to all transitions and ideologies of their times. What is the difference between the two – the disciplinary way and the diplomatic way? Will the Philippine legal system agree to the disciplinary or the diplomatic way?

In the past, children are subject to the various disciplinary sanctions of their teachers. When a student fails to do his or her homework or forget something important for the day's work, there is enough reason for the teacher to make the student "squat" at their knees and sometimes with some embellishment, book balanced on the head. Some worst penalties accounted a student to be struck with a bamboo stick at the hands, and other means of what today may be referred to as abusive to children.

Today, there is a new way teachers may deal with the situation. The authoritative 'monsters' in the classroom is no longer feared; but the 'diplomatic' one. Teachers must learn deviant psychology, classroom management, and behavioral sciences to understand noises and other forms of deviancy in the classroom. However, in the absence of a 'monster', students are not always fearing.

The way ways have their own pros and cons. Some opinions attribute the hard-headedness of students to the lost of authority within the classroom; but the legal system does not tolerate it. Any professional teachers, licensed or not, are not allowed to do the 'monster' one but the diplomatic in dealing with their students. Thus, in whatever form of teaching, discipline is a major problem and context that must be resolved.

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