

## MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCES AMONG FILIPINO LEARNERS

by:

**RUFA C. CARREON**

*Teacher III, Bonifacio Camacho National High School, SDO Abucay Annex*

Multiple intelligences theory was proposed by Harvard psychologist Howard Gardner, who suggested that intelligence is not a single entity but rather multiple independent abilities. These abilities, according to Gardner, include linguistic, logical-mathematical, spatial, bodily-kinesthetic, musical, interpersonal, and intrapersonal intelligence. The concept of multiple intelligences among Filipino learners and its implications for education is one of the pressing issues in the Philippine Education System.

In the traditional educational system, intelligence is often measured through standardized tests that focus on linguistic and logical-mathematical abilities. However, multiple intelligences theory suggests that there are different types of intelligence, and individuals may excel in one or more of these areas.

For example, a student may be highly skilled in music or art but may struggle with math or science. Another student may be an excellent communicator and work well with others but may not excel in more analytical subjects.

The concept of multiple intelligences has important implications for the Filipino educational system. In the Philippines, education is highly valued, and students are expected to perform well in traditional subjects such as math, science, and language.

However, the emphasis on these subjects may not cater to the diverse abilities and strengths of all students. Filipino learners may have different strengths and intelligences, which should be recognized and nurtured to help them achieve their full potential.

For example, a student who excels in music may not be recognized or encouraged to pursue their musical talents in the traditional educational system. This can result in a lack of motivation, disinterest in academic subjects, and a feeling of being misunderstood.

To address the diverse abilities and strengths of Filipino learners, educators must recognize and cater to different types of intelligences. Teachers should create a classroom environment that encourages students to explore their unique strengths and interests and provide opportunities for students to learn in different ways.

For example, a teacher may use music or art to teach a math concept or provide opportunities for students to work collaboratively on a project to develop their interpersonal skills.

Incorporating multiple intelligences into the educational system may also help reduce the achievement gap among students. Recognizing and valuing the different strengths of students may improve their motivation and engagement in learning, leading to better academic performance and success.

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