PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN CHILDREN'S EDUCATION MATTERS

by:
Eduardo Jr B. Barrios
Teacher I, Samal South Elementary School

This may sound cliché, but education has been a pivotal part of one's success in life. It is a weapon against ignorance and poverty, just as my parents taught and instilled in me since I was a child—something I now strive to impart to my learners as well. To achieve this, parental involvement in children's education is a crucial aspect of fostering both academic success and personal development.

According to Oranga and Nyakundi (2023), parental involvement produces positive measurable gains in students' achievement. It is also an important ingredient for the remedy of many problems in education.

Likewise, Utami (2022) also found out through her study that there is a strong positive correlation between parental engagement and academic success. According to her study, it would contribute significantly to improve academic outcomes of the children with parent's involvement in homework assistance, school event participation, teacher communication, and emotional support.

However, parents of today's generation seem to neglect its impact on their children's lives that they expect their offspring's teachers to do all the work and do not provide reinforcement at home. And when they do this, the impact can be significant and detrimental to a child's learning experience.

In a study conducted by Araghieh (2022), she claimed that there are variety of reasons why parents are lacking in participation in the curricula. These are the lack of knowledge and recognition of parents, inappropriate behavior on the part of school

officials, teachers' inability to engage parents' involvement, and other economic, cultural, and social factors.

On the other hand, from firsthand experience, one primary reason why some parents fail to engage in their children's education is a lack of time and resources. Many parents juggle demanding jobs, household responsibilities, and other commitments, which can limit their availability for involvement in educational activities.

Another factor contributing to the inadequate reinforcement at home is a lack of understanding regarding the importance of parental involvement in education. Some parents may not recognize that their participation in academic activities significantly influences their children's attitudes toward learning.

The consequences of limited parental involvement can manifest in various ways. Children may struggle academically due to a lack of guidance and support. They may experience lower self-esteem and motivation, leading to poor performance in school. Moreover, the absence of reinforcement at home can result in behavioral issues, as children may seek attention and validation outside the academic environment.

To address this issue, schools and communities can implement strategies that encourage and facilitate parental involvement, particularly in families where reinforcement at home is lacking. Schools can offer workshops that educate parents about their importance in the educational process and provide resources to help them engage with their children's learning. Furthermore, developing communication channels between teachers and parents can give families the necessary support to participate actively in their child's education.

Parental involvement is essential for a child's academic success and overall development. By fostering a better understanding of the significance of parental engagement and providing necessary support, we can help ensure that all children receive the reinforcement they need to thrive in their educational endeavors.

References:

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