

Essay report

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Cultural awareness

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Cultural awareness

Understanding ones' own culture enables one to understand and be aware and more sensitive to other people's culture. Self-reflection on culture and cultural background is a significant aspect that gives staff a platform to reflect on their cultural settings and tastes and appreciate their values with other cultures. Through self-reflection, one can increase their awareness of cultures, values, and skills to accommodate different people from different cultural settings.

Five years ago, I got a job as a tutor in a nearby school where I meet parents from diverse backgrounds. This day, a student approached me in need of help that involved his parents, who had been subjecting him to psychological torture because of the chaotic manner in which they lived. I was puzzled because I had grown to know that parents do not disclose their issues to their children in my cultural setting. The boy pleaded with me to talk with their parents to understand his situation and give him ample time at his home. I told the boy I would take my good time to investigate the matter, but he should do it amicably, so I had to speak with my charge deputy. The deputy resolved to handle the matter because he understood the cultural settings of the boy.

I do not hold assumptions as always bad, mostly when I come across or interact with people who do not belong to my culture. Assumptions have enabled me to interact more fluidly with other cultural norms, and I do not find myself questioning every action. To safeguard myself against assumptions about other people, I would practice healthy relationships with the people I meet and observe and listen to foreign colleagues. Learning about other cultures will help me

understand their norms and values, which will help me safeguard any assumptions I might be having about such cultures (Amorin-Woods, 2020).

In my career, I am concerned with people from different cultures because some people associated with different cultures are fearful and do not want their voices to be heard. Again, different cultures have different ways in which they understand professional etiquette, which may bring about conflict in the working place. My sensitivity to cultural differences will be my strong pillar in overcoming these concerns, which will help me work smoothly and effectively with people from a culture different from mine.

A teacher should be sensitive while teaching to ensure that they deliver appropriate content to all students through all possible ways. One way they can do this is to ensure that they examine their teaching materials, including their voices and the stories they give, especially when teaching humanities and social sciences. Another way is to get an understanding of their students and their uniqueness. I would suggest that teachers learn their students before they can start entering into details in their teaching methodology. A teacher should be careful not to divide students, which are interpreted as denying them their right to education. It is very critical to understand learners' rights because legal actions can be taken whenever such rights that concerns learners are violated.

Teachers play a vital role in addressing issues dealing with exceptional learners who society expects to be better people after the learning process. Diverse learners encompass children from all abilities across all human settings of race, ethnicity, and culture (Hallahan, 2020). As a teacher, I would ensure proper coordination of activities and also determine what best strategies are most or will be the most effective to each student in my class. Some of the

strategies I believe would work with exceptional learners are pre-teach and using vocabularies that students will be required to apply in the following content in the syllabus. Another strategy that I would consider effective in delivering outcomes is the breakdown of classwork and assignments into small sections.

In conclusion, I have learned important skills in handling people from cultures that differ from my own. Being sensitive to different culture has enabled me to interact and deal with many people some of who have helped me while others I have helped. It is not easy to interact with people who have different cultural norms, and therefore there is the need to safeguard one's assumptions regarding other cultures. Teachers have negligible chances of not meeting diverse cultures, and therefore they need to equip their skills in dealing with cultural differences.

2 References

Hallahan, D. P., Pullen, P. C., Kauffman, J. M., & Badar, J. (2020). Exceptional learners.

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Amorin-Woods, D. (2020). Habla mi idioma? An exploratory review of working systemically with people from diverse cultures: An Australian perspective. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Family Therapy*, 41(1), 42-66. <https://doi.org/10.1002/anzf.1402>

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