

Teachers influence on student personal development

Abstract

Today's educational context emphasises the importance of getting knowledge in order for students to have better results on standardized tests. This situation defocuses teachers from their educational task as educators, aimed at developing student's personality by developing positive attitudes, beliefs, values and personal characteristics. This is task of every teacher, regardless the subject matter that one teacher teaches.

The aim of this study is to determine how teachers influence on students personal development and how they guide them through this process. The research has two specific goals: to determine whether teachers pay attention on development of students personality during their everyday practice using different approaches that teachers use during this process. Some of the following approaches are present approaches are considered: rewards and punishments, praise and reprimand, persuasion and practicing development of positive habits, routines and manners of good behaviour. The second goal is to determine whether there are statistically significant differences in teacher's approaches of work regarding their working experience.

The research was conducted on a sample of 364 teachers in secondary schools in Macedonia. Obtained results were analysed using quantitative statistics, Pearson Chi-square and Kruskal-Wallis test. It is concluded that teachers use all above-mentioned approaches but with differences in the frequencies in use. Most frequently applied approach is development of positive habits followed by rewards and praise. Punishment and reprimand are less frequently used. Statistically significant differences were obtained regarded use of these methodologies between teachers with different working experience. Teachers with more years of experience pay more attention on development of student's personality than teachers that are less experience.

Keywords: student development, impact, reward, punishment, reprimand, praise, teachers working experience