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Roosbeh, Narges; Nikseresht, Ali

Veröffentlichungsversion / Published Version
Zeitschriftenartikel / journal article

Empfohlene Zitierung / Suggested Citation:

Roosbeh, N., & Nikseresht, A. (2015). Teaching Universal Themes through Enactment to Students. *International Letters of Social and Humanistic Sciences*, 59, 89-91. <https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:101:1-2019072114190390975762>

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Teaching Universal themes through Enactment to Students.

Narges Roozbeh, Ali Nikseresht

Teacher at Education Office of Narmashir, Kerman, Iran

E-mail address: nargessroozbeh@gmail.com
alinikseresht56@yahoo.com

Keywords: teaching, enactment, universal themes, children, themes, peace, love

ABSTRACT. If a teacher teaches universal themes to her students, they will make a good society in future. If they are taught love, sympathy, justice, friendship, forgiveness, genericity, kindness, peace, the world will be a safe place to live. The world will build itself according to peace and stability if we teach students, who will run the world tomorrow, universal themes. As teachers we have taken into account this and have conveyed universal themes to our student and to our consternation they come to love each other more than before. This requires that we should create a lovely atmosphere for the students to feel they are important as members of the society. It is interesting that we made use of great poems which preach universal themes and concepts. Teaching students to enact help each other in class makes them help each other in time of need which makes them friends indeed. After teaching universal themes we found that they came to think universally and felt sympathy towards people who were treated badly. By shifting attention from local issues to universal concepts teachers will be able to expand their students' horizons of expectation and students will be more responsible and committed in their lives.

1. INTRODUCTION

If teachers start teaching universal themes to their students, they will make a crimeless society in future. If students are taught love, sympathy, justice, friendship, forgiveness, genericity, kindness, peace, the people will be protected and will be protecting and caring in return. They will build the world according to peace and stability if teachers teach their students the right materials and stuff. Children of today will run the world tomorrow, therefore it is obligatory to teach them universal themes. As a teacher I have taken into account this and have communicated universal themes to our students. A universal concept is a "timeless, broad, abstract idea that can be used to tie together literary works or to understand broad concepts in history"(Prufrock). It is a concept to which all people can relate. It transcends race, gender, and creed. and to our surprise they come to love each other more than before. This needs a lovely atmosphere for the students to be created by the teachers. Children at the early stages of their learning are ready to learn everything and they learn it very well. Thus we should exert ourselves in teaching them to be kind, sympathetic, fair, and peaceful. In this respect it is important that teachers make use of great poems which preach universal stuff. In almost every country there are poets who preach universal themes. They should help students enact universal concepts in their classes.

Regarding the poem we made use of a poem by Sadi the Persian poet who teaches universal topic. Saadi Shirazi the Persian poet (1210 – 1290) says human beings are created of one essence and soul, therefore they should help each other:

*Human beings are members of a whole,
In creation of one essence and soul.
If one member is afflicted with pain,
Other members uneasy will remain.
If you have no sympathy for human pain,
The name of human you cannot retain.*(Wikipedia)

Teaching students how to help each other in time of need makes them friends indeed. The poem which is my favorite poem teach universal themes. It tells the story of creation. It speaks of love

among people. It teaches sympathy for the pains of others. In fact we are brothers and sisters who need each other at times of trouble. If we don't help each other at such times, we are no longer human beings, this is the main idea of the poem. In fact, poets are teachers and great universal teachers. This in fact was fruitful when we came to this conclusion that teachers should set universal poets as their example.

After teaching universal themes we found that they came to think universally and felt sympathy towards people who were treated badly. By shifting attention from local issues to universal concepts students will be able to expand their horizon of expectations and will be responsible.

Sometimes we taught them practically. We asked them to enact universal themes like generosity and kindness. This required a play in which one student is afflicted with pain and needed their help. That student who was afflicted with pain, for example needs to be taken to the hospital and does not have any money. Some of the students offered their small money and some played the role of a taxi driver who willingly offered their help. Some, we assigned, as doctor who should cure that person. The doctor-student helped the patient-student and did not ask for money when he found out the patient did not have money.

The enactment was in actual fact, very significant and fruitful since they enacted universal themes and it is likely that in times of trouble they will help others in need. In fact, some of the students reported helping others when they found out that their friends did not have what they had like pens, pencils and notebooks. For example one of the students who used to have pistachio in his bag to school to eat at intervals shared it with his classmate. When the report of it came through one of the student we appreciated the students act. This was the result of enactment. When they enact peace, they will come and love peace, when they enact kindness they will become kind themselves, when they enact generosity, it is likely they become generous. In class we along with students enacted love, sympathy, justice, friendship, forgiveness, genericity, kindness, peace by creating situation in which something universal was played out by the students themselves. When they did enact a universal theme and concept through a play in the class, they were ready to go to society with minds filled with universal ideas.

When a class is a small world in itself in which students help each other willingly, it is to conclude that the world itself is a class in which we can be classmate and help each other. It is by helping each other, by being kind to each other, by loving each other that we can have a peaceful world.

2. CONCLUSION

The world will build itself according to peace and stability if we teach students, who will run the world tomorrow, universal themes. As teachers we have taken into account this and have conveyed universal themes to our student and to our consternation they come to love each other more than before. This requires that we should create a lovely atmosphere for the students to feel they are important as members of the society. It is interesting that we made use of great poems which preach universal themes and concepts. Teaching students to enact help each other in class makes them help each other in time of need which makes them friends indeed. After teaching universal themes we found that they came to think universally and felt sympathy towards people who were treated badly. By shifting attention from local issues to universal concepts teachers will be able to expand their students' horizons of expectation and students will be more responsible and committed in their lives.

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