

ROLE OF TEACHER EDUCATION IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF HIV/AIDS IN OUR SCHOOL

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Abstract

The need for proper implementation of sexuality education as an aspect of basic education was highlighted in this paper. The paper further examined the role of teacher education in preventing HIV/AIDS in schools. The reasons why Government should eradicate and control pornography were enumerated. The conclusions were drawn that girls child education should be encouraged. Recommendations were also made that standard counselling units be established in all levels of education and various religious group should be involved in educating school pupils on sexuality education.

Introduction

Teacher education, as old as the practice of teaching. It is an embracing concept that defines all principles of education and practices. Efficient teaching in school demands and of the teacher a sound knowledge of all that the pupils must know, together with an ability to relate the content, methods, sequence and pace of his work to the individual needs of his pupils, using the environment and appropriate media to support him. By giving careful consideration to such issues, and by supplementing direct teaching with indirect support, the teacher can be extremely enjoyable for his pupils (Farrant, 1981).

Teaching is an art, which has its own specialized techniques and just like any other skilled occupation. For instance, a civil or building engineer makes a plan before going to the site. Similarly a lawyer spends the whole of his evening in his chamber before appearing in the court, so also a good teacher plans very well before he or she enters the class to teach. Thus, the secret of all good teaching is sound planning. To achieve an effective teaching, there must be an element of good preparation.

However, the word teaching means different things to different people. Teaching to some individuals relates to:-

- Training learners to acquire knowledge
- Demonstrating a behaviour or skill to a learners
- Indicating contents of a topic to be learnt
- Putting forth experiences that can change a learner's behaviour
- Transmission of knowledge to learners
- Persuading learners to learn
- Bringing about knowledge increase

- Initiating learning processes
- Modifying behavioural patterns
- Instructing to acquire skills (Akanbi, 2005)

In addition, the NCE, which the national policy on education hoped would ultimately be the minimum entry qualification into the teaching profession (NPE 1977, p. 26 & 1981, p. 39), has now been made the minimum entry qualification into the teaching profession has contained in the third and fourth editions of the National Policy on Education (NPE 1998, p. 33, NPE 2004, p. 38).

Objectives of HIV/AIDS Education in Schools

Young learners need to know that there are killer diseases in the world today that bring pain and lack of comfort that can wipe out young intelligent people who would have been good leader of tomorrow. In addition, the objective of HIV/AIDS education could be stated as follows:-

- To Protect children and school young aged from the epidemic diseases and its Impact.
- To reduce the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS.
- To prevent risky behaviour among school children and adolescent.
- To provide sexuality education.
- Produce comic book for school children on HIV/AIDS.
- Produce a video drama for school children on HIV/AIDS.
- Produce radio and television jingles and adverts on HIV/AIDS for the school children
- Assess, develop and communicate effective training and learning methods that are sensitive to culture as well as potent in practice.
- Support and take part in the training of curriculum development teachers training and teachers to adopt and use HIV/AIDS materials and other relevant materials in this regard, assist in the establishment of department of preventive education at the college of education, National Teachers Institute and Institute of Education in Nigerian Universities.

Introducing Sexuality Education into the School Curriculum

The Federal Government should make it compulsory for every state Ministry of Education to integrate sexuality education into the school curriculum. The assumption that the religious and moral education learners will effectively and efficiently teach and inculcate the right type of education is not enough children in some cases are left to themselves and in their explorations have acquired the wrong type of sex education on television seeps and operas, video films and with the advent of globalization through pornographic sites on the internet unguided liberty has also exposed so many young Nigerians to negative sexuality influences from their peers.

It is apparently necessary to integrate sexuality education into the school curriculum at primary, secondary and higher institutions. It should be taught as a general course. It is only those schools that are interested that introduced moral education into their General Studies Department. For example, Kwara State College of Education, Ilorin moral education is taught independent of the religious education.

The homo-sexual, who are usually tagged "gay men" were the first to be infected by HIV/AIDS in developed part of the world. The mode of HIV/AIDS transmission in sub-sahara Africa is hetero-sexuality. The adolescents who are sexually bankrupt may contact general diseases such as syphilis, gonorrhea, and HIV/AIDS etc with their short or long term consequences.

Reason why government should eradicate pornography

The government should eradicate pornography because of menace on both physical and psychological well-being of our adolescents and adults. It would increase abuse of sexes and social vices at an alarming rate.

It would be necessary to eradicate pornography because it Increases sexual activities among the young people and adults resulting to an increase in the number of sexually transmitted diseases (STD).

The government should eradicate pornography it can lead to unwanted pregnancy may not be acceptable to the young ones. The victims of unwanted pregnancy may think of abortion by ignorantly going to untrained doctors, an action that can lead to untimely death.

Added to the above, the government should eradicate pornography because of the devilish act attached to it like lesbianism homosexuality and promiscuity.

The rationale for eradication of pornography is that the adolescents would be able to preserve their virginity until they get married. Such customs and beliefs that encourage pre-marital sex, sexual immorality and early pregnancy would be modified or abolished

Teacher Education and Prevention of HIV/AIDS among our Students

With the rising need and concern for teachers to give young adult people adequate education about HIV/AIDS, it would be necessary to integrate HIV/AIDS into teacher education curriculum either at Colleges of Education or University level.

Teacher education should integrate guidance and counseling course into the curriculum of all the tertiary institutions in Nigeria so that the teacher would be knowledgeable guidance and counseling and this knowledge can enable him to tackle Indiscriminate sexuality problems among both teachers and students. The moral and religious teachers should make sure that sexual education is taught and his students are exposed to the danger inherent in the indiscriminating sexual relationship among peers. The HIV/AIDS education can also be integrated into the school curriculum so that the teacher handling sex education can be trained in the area of HIV/AIDS for onward teaching in the classroom. (Onile. 2003),

In cross-river state, sex education is made compulsory. It is part of the school curriculum, since 2004. This was followed with the training of 256 sex education teachers selected from social studies and integrated science teachers who are to serve as pilots to train other teachers in the state. Six hundred (600) teachers were also specially trained to give counseling services on HIV/AIDS to students in the state and positive results were reported.

Teachers should give adequate education on HIV/AIDS to pupils at the primary level, before they enter age bracket of sexually active people. Primary school pupils are key to defeating this dreadful disease, so they need useful and timely information.

Statistics have shown that more than half of those newly infected with HIV/AIDS today are between 15-24 years old. They must become sexually active and the information needs to be regularly reinforced and built on both in and out of the classroom. (New age Tuesday, June 28, 2005 p 17).

The teacher should inculcate in the school children the healthy patterns from the start. It would make it easier than to change their risky behaviour. This is to say that HIV/AIDS education should start at about seven or eight years of age.

Professional Skills of a Good Teacher

1. He establishes a productive classroom atmosphere from the start by means of good organization carefully planned teaching structures.
2. He creates specific kinds of climate settings for different lessons, e.g serious and business like or relaxed and enjoyable.
3. He uses friendly humour and creates excellent teacher-pupil relations.
4. He uses pupil's ideas as much as possible
5. He gives praise generously to pupils
6. He teaches in a relaxed manner with no sign of nervous strain
7. He exercises good class control and discipline
8. He explains things to pupils very clearly
9. He includes a variety of children's activities in his lessons
10. He deals with problems promptly before they escalate or get out of hand.
11. He uses efficient systems for dealing with routine administrative matters such as registration, giving out books, tidying up after practical lessons etc.
12. He does not over-react to children's misbehaviour but uses appropriate punishments (Farrant, 1981).

A good teacher, therefore, is one who has a good understanding of what his pupils need to learn and also of their capabilities for learning. He is Role Of Teacher Education In The Implementation Of Hiv/Aids In Our School able to judge just how much he needs to intervene in each pupil's learning and knows the most effective way of providing this assistance. Thus, the skill of teaching lies in knowing who, what and how to teach and also being to judge.

The rationale for sexuality education in school

All over the world, youths are regarded as the valuable human ascent for nation building. As a potential parents and leaders, youths sexual attitudes and behaviour determine the direction of the society (Olatunji, 2000). Hence, the youths or school aged pupil should be educated on the importance of sexuality education.

Sexuality education is very important in our schools, in order to inculcate the right type of value and norms in our school aged children.

Sexuality education will exposed the ignorance of most parents about the topic at hand. It would definitely create an avenue for awareness about how to minimize indiscriminate sex among the youths.

It would as well minimize the danger inherent in the likely diseases that the indiscriminate sexual intercourse can cause viz syphilis, gonorrhea, HIV/AIDS and Herpes.

Sexuality education is important in schools because, it would bring about critical thinking which would lead to incorporating it on the school curriculum at secondary schools. Pornography are books, videos, etc that describe or show naked people and sexual acts in order to make people feel sexually excited, especially in a way that many other people find offensive: child pornography.

In other words, they are books, magazines and films that are designed to cause sexual excitement by showing people involved in sexual activity (Akanke, 2006).

In Nigeria traditional setting, it is assumed that the best way to prevent sexual immorality among the youth is to keep them in complete ignorance of sexual matters.

In Yoruba traditional setting girls must be kept until her marriage, so that, the husband could shower gifts on both the wife and in-law for keeping their child pure. (Akanbi 1996).

In the contemporary Nigeria, the imperialist have influenced most of traditions culture and norms to fade away gradually.

The traditional practice which used to go with age grade, initiation ceremonies and other indigenous education are no longer available to the Nigerian school pupils.

Added to above Soyinka (1979) stated that because of our children's exposure to the western culture, the importance of purity before marriage has died in Nigeria.

Many school girls engaged in illicit sexual behaviour used illegal drugs and commit abortion. One could then advance reason that the absence of sexuality education may be the explanation for sexual behaviour of our youth. This is reflected the way they responded to the sexual drive and experimentation.

The child can receive sexuality education from many sources either through the classroom, consulting with the different magazines printed and unprinted media.

Conclusion

The right to education should be the right of all the citizens because it is an index of social progress. However, in practice, there is no equal access to education by boys and girls. The girl-child seems to be at a disadvantages usually, because of societal norms and cultural practices.

Teacher education should focus on learning about the HIV/AIDS pandemic, although many have concluded that HIV/AIDS is mainly a sexually transmitted or contact disease thus little or no emphasis or concern is being shown towards creating awareness at the primary, secondary and tertiary institution level.

Recommendation

A well-standardized or institutionalized counseling centre should be established. A qualified education psychology or guidance counselor should be made to head the counseling centre units. Some tertiary institutions have such centres where students can be counseled and it is

necessary to have counseling units in the primary schools. Teachers and students should be engaged in seminars with the theme on the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

The general studies department either at Colleges of Education, polytechnics and Universities should always make sure that there is a regular talk on sexuality education. The press or debating society, religious societies like the Fellowship Christian Associations and Muslim Students Society can always organize sensitization and educative talks on the HIV/AIDS and other vices on the campus.

The government can also organize sensitization talks on Radio, printed media and television on the dangers inherent in HIV/AIDS pandemic.

The federal Government, parents, teachers and other stakeholders in the education sector should find means of minimizing pornography. The activities of unscrupulous internet service providers, cyber cafes should be controlled by some rules and regulations or edicts.

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