

Awareness on Pandemic Prevention Protocols and Educational Motivation to Attain Quality Education

Abdurajik Sarail Dansalan *

Associate Professor V, College of Education, Graduate School, Mindanao State University - Sulu Jolo, Sulu, Philippines

Abstract: This article aimed to develop the awareness of elementary school parents and teachers on pandemic prevention protocols and its implication to the educational motivation to attain quality education. The COVID-19 Pandemic evolved and disrupt education not only in one country but in many countries in the world. The educational institutions were using different teaching and learning modalities to continue education without meetings in the face-to-face classrooms. The quality education can be attained with the integration of moral values and religious teaching and collaborative inclusion of information communication technology.

Keywords: educational motivation, pandemic prevention protocols, quality education.

1. Introduction

The COVID-19 Pandemic has changed the nature of the education of people not only in one country but in many countries in the whole world. COVID-19 is a disease caused by a new strain of coronavirus. 'CO' stands for corona, 'VI' for virus, and 'D' for disease. Formerly this disease was referred to as '2019 novel coronavirus' or '2019-nCoV (Key Meages for COVID-19 Prevention and Control in Schools, 2020, p. 2). The COVID-19 is a disease that create fear in the heart of the people not only those who are living below poverty line but includes the people who live happily in their abundant wealth. The heart of those people who are in authority also tremble to treat those who are not following the dictate of the Republic Act and special law as one of the outlaws. Outlaw in the sense that they are subject to punishment and charges. The head of the state 'the President' is giving orders, decree, law and conventions to prevent the spread of the virus. The generals and their soldiers do not let a second passed without implementing every rules and regulations promulgated by the senate and the congress to prevent the spread of the disease. Every people of the nation is alarmed and feared so much the presence and spread of the coronavirus.

The symptoms of COVID-19 Pandemic include fever, cough and shortness of breath. In more severe cases, infection can cause pneumonia or breathing difficulties. More rarely, the disease can be fatal. These symptoms are similar to the flu

(influenza) or the common cold, which are lot more common than COVID-19. This is why testing is required to confirm if someone has COVID-19 (Ibid).

The COVID-19 Pandemic is transmitted through direct contact with respiratory droplets of an infected person (generated through coughing and sneezing). Individuals can also be infected from touching surfaces contaminated with the virus and touching their face (e.g. eyes, nose, and mouth). The COVID-19 virus may survive on surfaces for several hours, but simple disinfectants can kill it (Ibid).

We are learning more about how COVID-19 affects people every day. Older people, and people with chronic medical conditions, such as diabetes and heart disease, appear to be more at risk of developing severe symptoms. As this is a new virus, we are still learning about how it affects children. We know it is possible or people of any age to be infected with the virus, but so far there are relatively few case of COVID-19 reported among children. This is a new virus and we need to learn more about how it affect children. The virus can be fatal in rare cases, so fa mainly among older people with pre-existing medical conditions (Ibid).

2. COVID-19 Effect on Education

The COVID-19 crisis and the unparalleled education disruption is far from over. As many as 100 countries have yet to announce a date for schools to reopen and across the world, governments, unions, parents and children are grappling with when and how to approach the next phase. Countries have started planning to reopen schools nationwide, either based on grade level and by prioritizing exam classes, or through localized openings in regions with fewer cases of the virus. However, given the continued virulence of the virus, the majority of countries surveyed in May–June 2020 had yet to decide on a reopening date (Policy Brief: Education during Covid-19 and Beyond: p. 3).

Religious shrines like churches, mosques including the Holy Ka'ba were reprimanded for large social gatherings. The pilgrimage was suspended for already two years. The prayers in the mosques were following the social distancing although

*Corresponding author: yasserailsamsaljr16@gmail.com

against the order of congregational prayer that everyone in the jama'at should stand closer to one another so that the shaytan cannot enter in between them. Because shaytan was believed to whisper disturbing the believer while they are standing devotedly in prayer, to disturb their concentration to the One Almighty Allah Subhanahu wa ta'ala. But at this COVID 19 Pandemic the believers were forced to stand a meter away from each other because it is the health prevention protocol. No one in the Muslim believers can claim straight forward that Allah is great that is worth for fear. Unfortunately, coronavirus calls everyone's attention to have fear on it, where in fact virus is so minute that cannot be seen by the naked eye but only visible under the most powerful electron microscope, yet everyone seem to have fear far beyond the fear of the Almighty Allah, who has the power to create all things. The Almighty Allah has created the heavens and the earth, the stones and rocks, vast space occupied by water, living things in and outside the sea. They are all created by the Almighty Allah that everyone should have the worth to be feared.

The Almighty Allah has declared in the Qur'an Al-Karim that "He (Allah) has created death and life so that one can be tested who among them performs good deeds (Al-Mulk, 30:2). The Almighty Allahu Subhanahu wa Ta'ala can destroy everything at one command "Be and It is". Allah is the Creator (Khaliq), The Ever-living (Hayyul Qayyum), The First (Awwal) and the Last (Aakhir). Everything will perish only Allah remained. Humanity should fear Allah. They should accept the fact that COVID 19 Pandemic is a punishment. Because, there are many people who committed sins every day and night. They are plank in darkness of ignorance doing things against the commandment of the Almighty Allah. The believers are there standing, looking at these people without performing the command "call and invite people to good deeds and abstain them from doing bad deeds (Al-Imran, 3:15)" which also invite the punishment of Allah.

The COVID 19 Pandemic is a stick used by the Almighty Allah to punish the believers for not doing the command "call and invite people to do good deeds and abstain them to commit sins" and the non-believers of Islam for doing things against the commandment of Allah. Hence, people are fearing the coronavirus over the fear of the Almighty Allah. Every Muslim believers should at once ask forgiveness "istigfar" and perform the command of calling people to do good deeds and abstain them from committing sins". The forgiveness of the Almighty Allah is the way to lift off COVID 19 Pandemic and the fear of coronavirus will be lifted from the heart of the people. The Almighty Allah can do everything at once by just saying "Be and it is" because He has the power over all things. He is the Sovereign Lord of all the worlds "Rabbul Alamin". So people should go back to Him, follow His command and perform good deeds with highest degree of humility.

The verse in the Qur'an states "For those who fear Allah will be gardens in the presence of their Lord beneath which rivers flow, wherein they abide eternally and purified spouses and approval from Allah. And Allah is Seeing of (His) servants (Al-Imran, 3: 15).

Those Muslim believers who have acquired real and true

faith they are not annoyed by the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic. When they got sick of the COVID-19 Pandemic, they got advantage of atonement of their sins. The Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) said "If the real and true believers got sick his sickness is atonement of his sins. If he dies because of his sickness he got the advantage of seeing his Lord Almighty Allah. One time in Paradise, the Almighty Allah allows real and true believers see His face. This is the time the believers cannot ask more pleasure. This is the highest degree of pleasure one can experience by seeing the face of His Almighty Lord. For real and true believers do not matters whether they are freely moving in pleasure in this world or in the adversity, they have the same feeling of gratitude to serve Allah alone and pleased of serving Him alone. This is the real and true believers. For the unbelievers, they feel frighten and fear so much when they got sick much more when they are about to die. Because they do not feel the pleasure of being a servant of Allah. Hence, severe punishment awaits them in the Hereafter, in Hell.

3. Motivation to Continue Education

The impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Higher Education Institutions was abrupt and in the majority of cases there was no contingency plan other than to attempt to continue classes remotely, it is important that we start to conceptualize a way out of this crisis, ensuring the highest degree possible of inclusion and equity. Indeed, one could say that the pandemic adds a further degree of complexity to higher education globally but particularly in the region because of the unresolved challenges it faced such as growth without quality, inequities in access and achievement, and the progressive loss of public financing (COVID-19 and Higher Education: Today and Tomorrow: p. 11).

The government of every country substantially longing for a vaccine of the COVID-19 Pandemic. The scientists in every country are given tremendous amount of money to conduct research for the vaccine suited to counter the coronavirus. Millions of money spent to find anti-virus which everyone failed to do so, because diagnose of the sickness is not correct. The failure to find the correct and appropriate vaccine is in the hands of the Almighty Allah. The vaccine can be found from the will of Almighty Allah. The knowledge, the wisdom, the strength and the clear proof of the vaccine is from the will of Allah. The Muslim believers should acknowledge their faith and open to the unbelievers the correct and appropriate vaccine is forgiveness and good deeds to attract the pleasure of Allahu azawajalla. Eat halal foods, drink lawful drinks, and do not exercise waste. The Almighty Allah will make the world in order under His pleasure.

4. Motivation Attaining Quality Education

Reading is the key of quality education. The parents during the COVID -19 Pandemic should see to it that their child be taught reading. The Almighty Allah commanded humanity to reading. His command is "Read in the name of your Lord who created. Created man from clinging substance. Read, and your Lord is the most Generous. Who taught by the pen. Taught man

which he knew not (Al-Alaq, 19:1-5). The quality of education is an education that brought man to his Devine Lord. He should understand the Power, Might Grandeur of Allah and perform of His commandment in every minute details. His success in life is under the will of the Allah. The businessmen, fishermen, farmers, teachers, engineers, doctors, scientists, and all humanity is failure when he does not perform good deeds, love other people, feed and respect the poor and the orphans. This is the core of quality education. Quality education is the means of attaining good lives, the life in this world and the life in the Hereafter "Akhira".

Education should come with the teaching of moral values and reinforce by performance of good deeds. The pupils in the kindergarten, elementary grades and students in the high school, senior high schools and colleges should be taught morality, values and train them to performance good deeds. The source of ultimate good life cycles comes with appropriate knowledge and wisdom of pious people. That will grow and divide to the group of youths that covers to the attainment of quality education. Good man should come out of the bond of pupils and students who are dramatically develop from the right choice of knowledge and skills leads them to carry out the critical thinking that arise to good people with quality education.

The most evident impact on teachers is the expectation, if not the requirement, that they continue to teach using the virtual modality. In theory, at least, virtual education is present in most large Higher Education Institutions and it is difficult to find one that does not have a virtual campus and, within it, a virtual classroom for each subject, as an extension of the physical classroom. In practice, the ability of each teacher to continue teaching largely depends on their experience in that regard. We must also consider that those subjects which include the development of professional competences through practice (clinics, pedagogical residencies, design careers, engineering, science and generally all those heavily dependent on practical workshops, laboratory work or institutional practices) are a source of greater uncertainty, which will lead to a set of different impacts on the system of the individual university. Mathematics generally presents more difficulties in the virtual adaptation process (covid-19: and higher education: Today and Tomorrow, p. 20).

Teachers with significant experience in the field gained, for example, through distance graduate programs and appropriate digital resources, probably do not have great difficulty in ensuring continuity. In any case, we must not ignore the fact that the learning curve for the efficient use of technology in distance higher education is very steep and requires external support in the technological and pedagogical fields. For the other remaining teachers, who represent the majority, the simplest option is to transmit class sessions by video, live or delayed. This is where teachers can see the difference between those HEIs that make tools and resources available to them, such as training courses, and those that do not (Ibid, p. 21).

5. Quality Education and Information Communication Technology

On the other hand, this crisis has stimulated innovation within the education sector. We have seen innovative approaches in support of education and training continuity: from radio and television to take-home packages. Distance learning solutions were developed thanks to quick responses by governments and partners all over the world supporting education continuity, including the Global Education Coalition convened by UNESCO. We have also been reminded of the essential role of teachers and that governments and other key partners have an ongoing duty of care to education personnel. But these changes have also highlighted that the promising future of learning, and the accelerated changes in modes of delivering quality education, cannot be separated from the imperative of leaving no one behind. This is true for children and youth affected by a lack of resources or enabling environment to access learning. It is true for the teaching profession and their need for better training in new methods of education delivery, as well as support. Last but not least, this is true for the education community (Policy in Brief: Education during COVID-19 and beyond, p. 2).

Saxena (2017) mentioned in the International Journal of Engineering Sciences and Research Technology that "Conventional teaching has emphasized content and contemporary settings are now favoring curricula that promote competency and better performance, which are well supported and encouraged by emerging instructional technologies (Stephenson, 2001). The growing use of ICTs as tool of everyday life is increasing the quality of student learning. ICT is supporting changes to the way students are learning as they move from content centered curricula to competency based curricula; associated with the move from teacher centered form of delivery to student centered forms (Yusuf et al. 2013). It improves the quality of instruction and encourages collaborative learning. ICT facilitates fast and accurate feedback to learners (Becta, 2003). It promotes deep learning and allows educators to respond better to different needs of different learners (Lau & Sim, 2008). This activates paced learning and allows effective mapping of learning path ways. According to (Newhouse P., 2002), ICT supported learning environments could be beneficial to a constructivist teaching approach. One of the major advantages of using ICTs in the education system has been to prepare the present and next generation of students for a workplace where ICTs particularly computers internet and other related technologies are becoming more and more ubiquitous. These computer savvy and technologically literate students possess the desired competencies to use ICTs effectively (Anu Sharma et al, 2011).

The spread of COVID-19 can be slowed down or prevented. As with the other respiratory infections like the flue or the common cold, public health measures are critical to slow the spread of illness. The public health measures are everyday preventive actions that include: [1] Staying home when sick. [2] Covering mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue when coughing or sneezing. Dispose of used tissue immediately. [3] Washing hands often with soap and water. [4] Cleaning

frequently touched surfaces and objects. As we learn more about COVID-19 public health officials recommend additional actions. [a] Wear mask, [b] Stay 6 feet away from others, [c] Get vaccinated, [d] Avoid crowd, [e] Wash hands, [f] Cover face when sneezing, [g] Clean and disinfect, [h] Monitor your health daily, [i] Drink and eat food supplements daily to revitalize immune system.

6. Conclusion

COVID-19 Pandemic brought education disruption in the countries of the world. Schools and Higher Educational Institutions were closed with a serious crisis of COVID-19 Pandemic. There is no exact decision as to the assurance of the Schools and Higher Educational Institutions reopening. The Quality Education is associated with the knowledge of moral values and application of the good deeds in collaboration with the use of Information Communication Technology.

7. Recommendation

The schools and Higher Educational Institutions should integrate in the curriculum the moral values and religious knowledge and practices as part of the quality education indicators.

The schools and Higher Educational Institutions should

strengthen and develop the use of Information Communication Technology and integrate in the teaching and learning to attain quality education.

References

- [1] Anu Sharma, Kapil Gandhar and Seema, "Role of ICT in the Process of Teaching and Learning," in *Journal of Education and Practice*, vol. 2, no. 5, pp.1-6, 2011.
- [2] Becta, "A review of the research literature on barriers to the uptake of ICT by teachers," 2003.
- [3] COVID-19 and higher education: Today and tomorrow. April 9, 2020.
- [4] Handbook of COVID-19 Prevention and Treatment.
- [5] Key Messages and Actions for COVID-19 Preventions and Control in Schools. March 2020.
- [6] Lau and Sim, "Exploring the Extent of ICT adoption among Secondary School Teachers in Malaysia," in *International journal of Computing and ICT research*, vol. 2, no.2. pp. 19-36, 2008.
- [7] P. Newhouse, *The impact of ICT on Learning and Teaching*, Perth, Western Australia: Department of education, 2002.
- [8] Policy Brief: Education during COVID-19 and beyond. August 2020.
- [9] Saxena, Namita, "The Role and Impact of ICT Improving the Quality of Education: An Overview," in *International Journal of Engineering Sciences and Research Technology*, vol. 3, 2017.
- [10] J. Stephenson, "Learner- managed learning an Emerging Pedagogy for online learning. Teaching and learning online: Pedagogies for new technologies," London, Kogan page, 2001.
- [11] Yusuf Musibau Adeoye, Afolabi Festus Oluwole, Loto Antonia Blessing, "Appraising the Role of Information Communication Technology (ICT) as a Change Agent for higher education in Nigeria," in *International Journal of Educational Administration and Policy Studies*, vol. 5, no. 8, pp. 177-183, 2013.