



A DIMENSION OF DISCIPLINE

Alex Badion

Class of 2001, Eastern Visayas State University - Tanauan Campus
Bachelor of Science in Industrial Education

Discipline is a kind of training. It is a training to improve strength or self-control. It is designed to develop behavior by instruction and practice. It is a fact that parents must discipline their children. Parents are the ones with the great responsibility to impose discipline for their children. They are also warned that if they fail their children, those children will bring shame upon them. This fact is based in today's society, as it was in the past. Parents are given options on how to discipline their children. Ultimately, the parents must make the choice. There are many different ways to do the process. And each process requires a particular approach to bring out discipline into use. How do parents discipline their children? A famous proverb says "Spare the rod and spoil the child". This implies about spanking. Some parents use spanking as a form of discipline. They punish the children whenever they failed to follow a command, an order or a rule in the family. Inflicting punishment to children causes fears. Some children are afraid to make mistakes again because they fear to be punished. Does it sound fair? We find that discipline and knowledge will keep children from bringing shame upon the family. If you discipline your child, he will behave always and be a child with whom you can be happy.

According to Manish Rajkoomar in his essay, "The Importance of Discipline", discipline is the process of training oneself in obedience, self control, skill, etc. The controlled and ordered behaviors are the results from such training. Discipline is the basis of the whole universe. The solar system is governed by certain laws to maintain perfect harmony and beauty. Without this order, there would be completely chaos. Discipline is a basic requirement of a civilized society. Citizens of a disciplined nation work with a spirit of cooperation and unity. Aristotle has rightly said, "Discipline is obedience to the rules formed by the society for the good of all. It should be inculcated from a very young age. Talented people and geniuses alone are not enough to achieve the so called success. Discipline has an equally important role to play. Because it balances how a person carry his tasks towards his journey in life. If you lack discipline, you are typically incomplete. Talents blossom in a disciplined person. Discipline is not only desirable but indispensable. Wherever discipline and regulation of human conduct are absent, moral and material deterioration has set in. Absence of discipline means decay. To prevent decay, discipline has to be imposed in the common interest and for the common good.

Why is discipline important in school? Students are tasked to acquire education in school. There should be a favorable place or productive learning institution which is necessary. The educational institutions should have a peaceful and calm atmosphere to enable the students to acquire knowledge. There are times of growing discontentment among the students. Because of this discontentment, we notice that discipline in our schools and colleges has considerably declined. Students are disrespectful to their teachers. They misbehave in the classrooms. They organize strikes and take the law into their hands. The government as well as the educational authorities should undertake necessary steps to improve the atmosphere in the educational institutions. Discipline in schools may reduce the violence and vandalism and help the students to focus well on their studies and career. It is important even in the family. Parents must raise their children in a pleasant and disciplined atmosphere. They should teach them the right values. They should lead an orderly life so that their children can learn from their examples. Children growing in disciplined and happy homes become responsible adults.

The power and strength of a nation lies in discipline. It certainly helps the nation to make progress, fight external invasions and maintain unity. The Government provides laws to maintain peace and order in the country. The laws are enforced to discipline the citizens and to maintain peace and harmony in the country. History has shown that dictators are firmly opposed to the grant of basic rights and liberties to the people because they wanted blind, unflinching obedience. That was Hitler's technique in Nazi Germany and Mussolini's technique in Italy. They thought that discipline was very necessary for a nation to develop.

Questions for discussion:

1. Why do parents discipline their children?
2. Why is discipline important in a country?
3. How do you practice discipline?
4. When do we say that a person has no discipline? Give an example.
5. Why is discipline a basic requirement in a civilized society?