



THE FIRST CHEPs CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP

“Education for community development”

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INTRODUCTION

EDUCATING THE GIRL CHILD IN NORTH EASTERN PROVINCE AS A MEANS OF BRINGING DEVELOPMENT TO THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE

I chose to be a teacher at Hyuga Primary school in Garissa county. It is a girls only school. Taught them science for standard 8 students and counseling sessions every Friday from 6:45 am to 8:00 am

BACKGROUND

I particularly chose this school because it is the only girls only primary school in Garissa town and I chose to go to the girls school because girls in my hometown are considered as the weaker sex and mainly overwhelmed by domestic chores. Parents see them unfit for educations. A typical Somali parent will bluntly tell you that girls are to stay home and get trained on how to be the perfect housewives hence, the girls need a lot of encouragement in excelling in school and counseling. The mindset already created by the parents has stuck in the girls' heads and therefore they don't put much effort in their school work. In the SABAHI report, the region i.e North eastern Province was ranked the last amongst all the provinces in Kenya. The girls' performance was said to be the worst and hence might have been caused by the above reasons

METHODOLOGY OF INTERVENTION

It was noticed that the students had major problem in two subjects. Science and English .I opted to take them for science. The students had classes till 4:00 pm so I proposed that I have an evening session with the class 8 students starting from 4:30pm to 5:30 pm. Just an extra hour of tuition on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday because the Monday and the Tuesday evenings were taken by the English tutor. On Fridays, the first 30 mins of the session included doing of a quiz on what we had learnt during the previous lessons on the same day from 6:45 am to 8:00 am I had counseling sessions with the girls. I gave my story and of others who had suffered from lack of support from parents and how we all ended up doing our dream courses by giving a deaf ear to the negativity from the community and concentrated on our education. And how education is very important especially in Kenya since there is more of the conformity mentality than diversity nowadays

RESULTS

It was noticed that the students became more bold and participating. The students I met earlier were all shy. They were free to ask questions and from the quizzes and CATs they were improving and now having a better understanding of the areas and topics they did not understand during their normal science class. The other students from the neighbouring areas were free to come however only one enrolled. The enrollment of just one student was probably caused by lack of awareness since it was the first time I had carried out the programme. Hyuga girls is an only girls school too. This may have stopped male students from enrolling for the tuition programme

DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

Seeing the lack of facilities in that school, i.e text books which was the main problem I faced I assumed that every other public school in the region suffered the same and came up with an idea I.E Starting CHEPs Book for Change (CBC) a very easy project whereby we visit the good muslim schools in Nairobi for example Nairobi Muslim Academy and Muslim Academy annually and talk to the school heads,let them know of our project and appoint students in charge in every class. We can be putting cartons in every class during the end of every year and ask the students to donate the notes(I believe they write good notes) and textbooks that they feel

DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION cont..

- like they wont be needing in their next class instead of throwing them away or even burning them like most pupils in Nairobi schools do. And it being a course we are doing for the sake of Allah,it might even motivate the students to do it willingly. After collecting the books we can then go and distribute it to the schools in Garissa, Wajir and even in Nairobi i.e to Daggoretti muslim primary school that is in kawangware. We don't necessarily have to distribute them to the schools in North Eastern Province only. Given the chance, I, together with my colleagues from CHEPs and friends will embark on ensuring in the success of the CBC project and hopefully, it will help as many schools as possible.
- Educating and empowering the girl child amounts to empowering the community