

**FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO STUDENTS'
RELUCTANCE IN LEARNING**

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2002

CHAPTER 1 - Introduction

Discipline is a simple word yet it has many shades of meaning. Discipline can also be defined as a quality or a state of behavior in a person or in a group of people. Discipline can also mean a process or an effort to bring about obedience and order. This is reflected in our efforts to discipline ourselves from young.

Schools in Malaysia seemed to be experiencing an increase in indisciplined behavior. In schools, discipline is essential because teachers teach students and not subjects. They are moulding the future citizens. Therefore, the responsibility is to orientate them towards desirable norms and values. A Malay proverb states that should we want the bamboo to be straight and supple, then we must shape it when it is still a shoot.

In Malaysia, when we say we need disciplined citizens, in a disciplined society, we mean people who observe social norms, obey rules and regulations and uphold the national constitution so that the society remains united and cohesive always. Also we need disciplined citizens because we need a workforce that is productive, responsible and conscious of the need to work hard to bring about prosperity and wealth to the country's economy and social well-being.

The school is a microcosm of society. The disciplining process begins there. Discipline is an essential process in the classroom because without it the process of education cannot take place. There is a need for order, regimentation and routine in schools before teaching and learning can take place.

Statement of Problem

As a disciplinary teacher, the researcher decided to make a research on reluctant learners in his school. Reluctant learners are those who are not interested in learning by giving no attention at all to their studies, always fail to bring their books, very seldom do their homework, involved in truancy and absenteeism and other disciplinary problems.

They are also low achievers and not motivated and show low interest towards school work thus performing badly in examinations. Some of them do not bother at all, although they could not even read. They have no effort at all to be better.

Purpose of Study

Reluctance in learning is a multi-causal problem and every reluctance is unique. Many teachers have little understanding of the topic and do not really know the reasons for the students to behave that way thus giving a little or no effort at all to help these students.

Most teachers have little sympathy with reluctance learners. They tend to focus their attention to high motivated learners. This is a normal setting in any school. Teachers are busy people. Their workloads and the organization of schools ensure that very few of them have the time to know a great deal about individual students. There are even fewer opportunities for them to become familiar and understand these students. They tend to feel that these students themselves need to change if they want to make satisfactory progress.

This study is proposed to find out all the possible factors that contribute to these students' negative behaviors. Do these behavior really come from inside themselves

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