Awareness Commitments and Understandings

Student’s Name:

Institutional Affiliation:

Course:

Instructor:

Date:

**Introduction**

The world experiences numerous formidable challenges that require subsequent generations of all college graduates to become capable leaders. The challenges need leaders to have a comprehensive understanding of public life, critical thinking skills, and other honed skills and the collaborative abilities of diverse individuals to create changes and solve the challenges. Teaching is good because it allows learners to apply all the skills and knowledge in different sectors for the benefit of other individuals. It enhances the creation of awareness which has a more significant impact in fostering capabilities such as service-learning. Awareness, commitment, and understanding are beneficial in different sectors as it allows individuals to apply their skills and knowledge to benefit other individuals in the society. The paper describes the process of developing awareness, commitment, and understanding.

**Social Construction of Reality**

Socialization is always determined by the cultures and the world that surrounds different individuals. The perception that people have about the world is always affected by other external forces. Societies always describe individuals living in a well-defined geographical area. The individuals constantly interact with each other, and they share a common culture. A giant puzzle is how the society was constructed and the individuals who decided on the best norms which shape the society (Bigelow., 1950, p.15). Sociologists always understand that reality is constructed socially. That means that individuals shape their experiences via social interaction. One of the sociologists wrote a book called the social construction of reality. The authors argue that human beings create societies and human interactions, referred to as habitualization. The aspect of habitualization describes all the actions which repeated frequently and later become a pattern. People construct the society and accept the whole community because other individuals created the earth before.

A good example is a school that may exist in the community. A school will exist as a learning institution and not like any other building within the surrounding environments (Yoo et al., 2018, p.108). If the school is older than the world can agree, it was created by other individuals who existed earlier. Such is an example of institutionalization, which is an act of implanting conventions or norms in society. Before the internet, sociologists examined how individuals present themselves to other individuals and how they are perceived. The digital age allows contemplation of different kinds of images posted online and how other individuals react to the pictures. It also affects the interpretations of the reactions. Developing oneself involves understanding how other individuals respond to actions, the performance of reactions, and creating a sense of self that depends on the interpretations.

**Status and Roles**

People employ various behaviors every day. The roles are behavioral patterns that can be recognized in different individuals. Such roles represent the social status of an individual (Ki-Aries & Faily, 2017, p.663). There are times when one can play a student, neighbor, employee, or daughter. Each of the roles is associated with a different status. Sociologists will always use the term status to explain responsibilities, and the benefits individuals experience depending on their role and rank in society. There are those statuses that get ascribed, which involve those aspects that one cannot select, as a son, female or elderly. The other is achieved a status which is always obtained because of choice.

A typical example is a high school dropout, a nurse, or a self-made millionaire. When someone is a son or a daughter, they tend to occupy a different status than that of an employee or a neighbor. There are times when individuals experience strain in their roles.

A good example is a parent who has to cook, clean, solve different challenges, act as the primary source of moral guidance, and drive the children to school. An individual may also experience some conflict in their roles when they have more than one contradictory role. For instance, a parent on a full-time career always experiences conflicts in their everyday parts (Yoo et al., 2018, p.108). Such a parent may get overwhelmed when they have deadlines at work, and their child is sick. It may be challenging for such parents to decide whatever they should begin with. All the roles in life have significant impacts on people's decisions and who they will be in the future. Understanding the social construction of reality makes it easier for individuals to create awareness of different behaviors and commit to particular actions that will pull them towards their dreams in life.

**Individual-As-Central, Banking Vs. Transformative (Connected) Teaching; Hidden Curriculum**

The banking model of education describes and criticizes the traditional system of education. The approach describes such a form of education as a fundamental narrative with a teacher who is the subject, and the students are the passive object. The system follows the transmission education model. The model always views education as a significant body of knowledge transmitted from learners to the students (Reeves & Le Mare, 2017, p.87). It constantly emphasizes the teacher-centric learning approach where the learners and other passive absorbers of information and the purpose of learning are memorizing the facts. The transmission model is always used in institutions of higher education.

In a class of more than one hundred learners, the most straightforward approach to teach them via lectures where the teachers stand in front of the classroom dictates to the learners. Transformative education seeks to empower learners to view the social world differently via an ethical lens. The program aims to change and challenge the status quo as the agent of change. The status quo is always upheld by the current power relations (Perna & Leigh, 2018, p.157). It influences the possibility of individuals to pursue different issues without concern of any negative consequences. The approach acknowledges and allows connection with learners at a professional, emotional, and personal experience instead of neglecting the learning and other potentials within such experiences. It also allows individuals to engage the experiences via dialogue, which is always in social interactions that integrate various perspectives, including experimental and practical knowledge. Dialogue is always a differentiated form of discussion that tends to sideline the experiential and practical. The efforts mentioned above occur with commitments of continuous creation of ethical societies.

**Tracking; Reproduction Theory; Meritocracy; Equity;**

The social reproduction theory constantly argues that institutions with equal opportunity but mechanisms perpetrate different forms of inequalities socially. In 1960 there was the emergence of the reproductive analysis, which was later abandoned in the nineties. The key to social forms of interaction involves understanding the production of services and goods and production of life, which are part of a single integrated process (Reeves & Le Mare, 2017, p.90). In a nutshell, it involves acknowledging the fact that oppression of both gender and race happens capitalistically. Meritocracy is a system of politics involving economic goods and other forms of political power vested upon different individuals depending on their efforts, achievements, and talents instead of their wealth or social status.

All these systems' advancement depends on their performance as it is measured via examination or demonstration of different achievements. Even though meritocracy is a concept that has existed over a long period, the term came into existence during the late fifties. Meritocracy has been criticized over the years because of the absence of a defined system that gives standardized merit that requires measurement and can be used to compare other individuals (Tozzo et al., 2019, p. 3). Education systems are characterized by values where the learners are ranked depending on their academic qualifications. The merits are always determined via the opinions of evaluations and teachers. Additionally, education levels which are required to be competitive in meritocracy could equally be costly.

Inclusion and equity is a significant aspect in the growth of any institution. Today most organizations are taking significant steps to ensure greater diversity, inclusion, and equity in the workplace. Previously, numerous reports of individuals from different races reported feelings of undervaluing, exhaustion, and lack of safety at work (Perna & Leigh, 2018, p. 158). Workplaces were also characterized by different forms of implicit biases which stem from other forms of microaggressions. Previously there were more reports of adverse outcomes related to hiring, access to education and healthcare services, promotions, and evaluation of performances, among others. Most individuals could not openly describe their experiences out of fear that they will be terminated from work. Understanding that equity is a significant aspect of any organization is essential because it allows employers to tap on different potentials of their employees, which may enhance the growth of an organization.

**The Role That Class, Race, And Gender Play In Shaping School Culture And Student Outcomes;**

The culture of a learning institution and the outcomes of learners are always affected by the gender, class, and race of individuals in society. The culture may be described as either negative or positive. There will be professional development and satisfaction at work (Tozzo et al., 2019, p.4). Class, gender, and race play a more significant role in shaping the culture of an institution and, at the same time, learning and working with individuals from different backgrounds and the cultures present in the classroom environment. The students always gain a very detailed understanding of various subject matters. It also ensures the education of the learners and how they use their strengths and viewpoints that contribute to a diverse environment of work.

**Critical Pedagogy**

Critical pedagogy is a philosophy of teaching that invites various educators intending to encourage the learners to critique oppression and power structures. The concept allows teachers to use their own enlighten to encourage learners to ask themselves questions while challenging the different forms of inequalities within the family, societies, and schools (Perna & Leigh, 2018, p. 158). The concept has six principles that involve a critical pedagogy which is a political process. The critical language pedagogy, which is centered towards a student, and the necessary language pedagogy, make the classes the democratic public spheres. There is also the critical language pedagogy which is very dialogical. The concept is crucial because it is a practice of various subject matter forms oriented for social and self-changes. It assists learners to have some consciousness and freedom and allows learners to investigate and collaborate on everyday topics, social issues, and academic content.

**Future of American Education**

The future of American education will shift to adaptive systems of learning that will replace the current forms of direct instructions (Reeves & Le Mare, 2017, p.90). The adaptive learning software always uses AI to move the learners up and down via grade-level content based on the performance and assessment of questions. The adaptive learning approach is faster and very efficient compared to other teachers.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, awareness, commitment, and understanding are vital in permeating the feelings of different individuals. How the institution makes the leaders, students, and every other person in the community feel like they are instrumental yet disregarded is in the close correlation that individuals have with the institution's success. The school's culture always influences every aspect that goes on in the school and the feelings of the learners. A positive culture promotes the development of various professionals and satisfaction at work.

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