

Teachers and Trainers in Adult Education and Lifelong Learning

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Prakash Uthaya

Workshop II: Teachers and Trainers between Responsibility and Accountability

**Topic : Teacher/Trainer's Responsibility and
Accountability : Setting the Right Mindset**

Deutsches Institut für Erwachsenenbildung
German Institute for Adult Education

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Workshop II: Teachers and Trainers between Responsibility and Accountability

Topic : Teacher/Trainer's Responsibility and Accountability :

Setting the Right Mindset

Prakash Uthaya

"Teaching, is not just a job. It is a human service, and it must be thought of as a mission by Dr. Ralph Tyler"

The paper focuses on creating awareness among teacher/trainers to understand their roles and responsibility aligned with a positive and right mindset. Positive mindset puts us on the right path that escorts us to success. Generally having the right mindset towards lifelong learning is like a half battle won. First and foremost it's the teacher/trainer's willingness to bear the responsibilities in line with ethical standards. Job appreciation and value for the profession highly determines the continuous professional development of trainers and trainees in lifelong learning. Open-minded, understandings, considerate, professional, goal-oriented and supportive are some of the key elements of trainers that undeniably lead to success and satisfaction in lifelong learning.

Learning starts when fetus reacts to rhythm and movements of its surroundings and it goes on and on. It is endless. Everyday and in every situation through many people we meet in our daily life, there is a new thing that we learn either in a direct or indirect way. With regards to this, who is responsible to ensure the students and trainees learn in their life? A teacher and trainer should shoulder this responsibility and clearly understand the needs and purpose of the learning. In my opinion, a teacher and trainer should define their responsibility which has to be in line with ethical standards.

Firstly trainers/teachers have to realize the meaning of life-long learning and their exact roles in developing people. What are teachers and trainers responsible for? To coach students, to develop, to teach, to train, to incorporate creative and fun learning, to understand students/trainers' needs or to identify the students level and learning capacity. What is the benchmark to measure their responsibilities? As the Chinese proverb goes "Teachers open the door but students must enter by themselves" The question is as a responsible teacher/trainer are we going to take the biggest challenges in our career to help and encourage students to enter or just leave the door open and tell ourselves my job is over?

In our career as a teacher/trainer?

1. Are we willing to learn?
2. Do we view your career as a highly regarded profession?
3. Are we clearly aware the responsibility that we shoulder?
4. Can we be a good role model for our students/trainees?
5. Do we think that you are highly committed and dedicated to our profession?
6. Can we cope and handle difficult students/trainees?
7. Do we have sufficient energy and patience to develop and encourage our students/trainees?
8. Are we able to identify different and efficient ways to transfer knowledge?
9. Most importantly are we able to feel the improvement and development of our students/trainees?

Setting the right mindset is vital in order to fulfill teacher/trainers' key responsibilities? How can this be achieved? Based on my experience I have identified several methods that channel us towards the right mindset.

Firstly, a teacher/trainer should understand that learning and teaching is a never ending process and they have an-on-going responsibility in developing others.

Secondly, the significant value and contribution of the profession need to be full realized and appreciated by each and every teacher/trainer. This positive thinking will strive and motivate them to perform their task competently.

Thirdly, there are some teacher/trainers may not have a coach or role model in their career who is able to guide and assist them and push them to greater heights in the career.

Fourthly, to scrap the negative thought that makes us feel teaching is a routine job and there is nothing new to experiment with it. The teacher/trainer must have the capability in inject new approach and methodology in their daily job. With the current technological advancement and innovation, integration of technology into teaching/training would be a perfect blend.

Fifthly, teacher/trainer should take the initiative and discover their inner potential and upgrade themselves with the latest changes and requirements in the teaching profession.

The next question is how can the issues of accountability be reflected in classroom action? They need to have self-realization of being responsible and accountable for the development of the students and trainees by identifying the learning outcome, design creative and fun learning program and activities which attracts audience to their subject matter. Besides this, an interactive classroom learning which covers

every single component of training such as ice-breakers, energizers and importance of the topic which is to be delivered in a simplified methods and most importantly its application in our daily life and work. The accountability and responsibility creates an interest and emphasizes commitment to continuous improvement and highly regard as well as cultivate teacher's interest and value of their profession.

Most importantly are teachers/trainers able to integrate learning into their students' daily life and assist them to identify a learning methodology or approach. Basically, teacher/trainer need to understand the outcome or the impact of fulfilling their responsibility in their profession