Bridging the Cultural Gap: Re-shaping Education by Integrating Multiculturalism in Teaching and Learning

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Abstract

In a world in which interracial conflicts and tensions seem to have become an inevitable phenomenon of daily life, one of the effective ways to teach respect for diversity is through education. Although people in society are more knowledgeable about the nature of global acceptance, the idea of equal-status situation and mutual expectations, racial discrimination proliferates.

The multidimensional effects of Computer Information Technology (CIT) can have a direct effect on the role of anonymity that challenges the government and reflects issues that might have consequences in countries like Singapore and the Philippines where ‘multiculturalism’ is stressed as a positive part of the economy.

This paper aims to focus on the importance of multiculturalism in teaching and in the learning curriculum in order to understand different ‘cultures’ so as to bridge the cultural gap. Reinforcing multi-cultural education especially in English Language Teaching may help the next generation to learn and integrate respect and dignity for all people and thus improve race relations, develop democratic values and attitudes in treating people with some degree of self-worth and not judging groups of people for the actions of a few.

Keywords: interracial conflicts, racial discriminations, multicultural education, multiculturalism, cultural gap, teaching and learning curriculum, Singapore, The Philippines