Age, School and Economic Status: Its Association with Moral Reasoning of Children

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ABSTRACT

NAME OF INSTITUTION: De La Salle University-Dasmariñas

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OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

A. GENERAL:

To know the association of moral reasoning of children to age and school economic status.

B. SPECIFIC:

1. To determine the difference in moral reasoning between five years old and nine years old respondents.

2. To find out the difference in moral reasoning between the respondents from public and private school.

SCOPE AND COVERAGE:

The research study focused on the association of moral reasoning with age and socioeconomic status among kinder (5 years old) and grade III (9 years old)

students of Zapote Elementary School, a public school and Mary Help of Christian Montessori, a private school.

METHODOLOGY:

The researchers used the correlational-descriptive design in gathering, analyzing, evaluating and interpreting the data. It measures the possible relationship between age and school economic variates with the criterion variable of moral reasoning of five-years

old and nine-years old children of Zapote Elementary School and Mary Help of Christian Montessori.

MAJOR FINDINGS:

This study revealed that: (a) there is significant difference in moral reasoning between the five-year old and nine-year old respondents. Which indicates that the age has an association with the moral reasoning of children. (b) There is no significant difference in moral reasoning between the respondents from private and public school, which only means that school economic status does not have an effect on child's moral reasoning.

CONCLUSIONS:

After a careful analysis of the findings, the respondents came up with the following conclusions: (a) there is an association in moral reasoning in terms of age. The respondents belonged to same level, but the five-year old children were classified at stage one and the nine-year old to stage two of Kohlberg's level of

moral reasoning. (b) There is also no real relationship in moral reasoning between students enrolled in private and public school. The respondents live with the same laws, customs and cultures for them to conform to one social standard.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. School teachers and guidance counselor should be informed of the results of the study in order for them to identify as to what level of reasoning the respondents are for them to be able to come up with special techniques that could enhance children's moral behavior and reasoning.
2. Parents of ages five and nine must set good examples regardless of their socioeconomic status for them to inculcate among their children good moral behavior and reasoning.
3. Respondents who were identified to belong to level three of Kohlberg's moral reasoning should be taken as subjects for another related study in order to crosscheck their level of moral reasoning.
4. Future researchers should come up with another study on whether Intelligence Quotient and Emotional Quotient of children can be associated with their moral reasoning. Different standardized tests may be used as research instruments.

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