

Teachers Are Not Oppressors

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Abstract. Teachers must create a safe, comfortable and positive environment during learning so that students experience a pleasant process so that they focus on learning. Students should not be stressed when taking lessons because it will make students not want to be creative. Teachers are often seen as authoritarian figures who can intimidate students, as oppressors who only want to impose their will without considering students' needs. The method used in this research is a qualitative method through literature study sourced from various journal articles, books and other references to facilitate understanding of the objects discussed. The focus of this research is whether teachers are bullies or teachers who are not bullies. Teachers have good character or good personality competence, respect other people, have a passion for teaching, nurturing, encouraging and motivating, and create a safe and positive learning environment to produce students who are useful to many people. Teachers are not oppressors. Teachers are not people who force or pressure students, but rather educators who are wise, encouraging, and a source of comfort and support for students' positive development. Interactions between teachers and students should be based on respect, understanding and good communication. So the profession shown by a teacher is that teachers are not oppressors.

Keywords: teacher, oppressors, students

INTRODUCTION

Teachers are one of the most important components in the world of education, especially in the learning process. The role of teachers as organizers or actors of education is very important. It is important for teachers to recognize their experiences and calling as educators. An official institution or organization definitely has rules that must be obeyed. For example, at school, if a student does not comply with the established rules, he will be given sanctions according to school regulations or even expelled from school permanently. Another example, the school has a rule that students must arrive at 07.15 in the morning. This is a rule for students to practice their discipline in school. Discipline can be applied both at home and in the community with the hope that this action will be able to discipline students for a better future at school, at home and in society.

Basically, the rules enforced in schools do not make students suffer, but continuously teach and train students to make obedience to the rules a reality in their lives. In this case, parents and teachers have an important role in directing, advising and guiding students to the right things without forcing them. Students are given freedom but are still controlled by their teachers at school and by their parents at home.

Received May 15, 2024; Revised June 12, 2024; Published August 31, 2024

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Based on this understanding, it can be concluded that if rules and regulations lead to goodness, and people who accept them respond wholeheartedly and with full awareness, then rules and regulations in education mean guiding students to goodness. However, on the other hand, if the recipient feels pressure and thinks it has a bad impact on him, then this is what is meant by pressure or shackles. Therefore, teachers must be able to create a safe, comfortable and positive environment when learning and teaching so that students experience a pleasant learning process so that they focus on learning. Students should not be stressed when taking lessons because it will make students not want to be creative.

The case of a Christian teacher who bullied and harassed two of his students in Tapanuli by the victim's parents on Friday (18/3/2022). The victim was harassed at school when things were quiet. According to the victim, the abuse occurred in December 2021. During that time, the victim was summoned on the pretext of serving sweet tea, and the victim was assaulted on the chest. The victim's mother was shocked and very angry when she heard these words. "SH is suspected of abusing two of his students. The suspect's name was officially announced and arrested by the North Tapanuli Police PPA Detective Unit. (<https://www.tribunnews.com/tag/guru-agama-di-tapanuli-utara-lecehkan-2-siswi>)

And in another case regarding bullying, a teacher at SMAN 3 Tarutung reported it to the police. A Tarutung 3 High School teacher with the initials MT was reported to the North Tapanuli Police because he was suspected of bullying his student AM. Victim AM reported the bullying accompanied by his lawyer Roni Prima Panggabean and Fendiv Tobing, Chair of the North Tapanuli Regency Child Protection Commission (KPAD), his parents and uncle.

"The alleged crime occurred on March 9 2024. And since then, the victim has not dared to come to school," said Roni Prima Panggabean, at North Tapanuli Police Headquarters, Tarutung, Thursday, (28/3/2024). Roni Prima Panggabean also explained that the victim was undergoing medical treatment to restore his psychological condition.

Roni Prima Panggabean said, the victim is currently being treated for severe trauma and has been examined by Dr. Suniaty M. Ked (KJ) SpKj. Overall, the victim experienced severe trauma. Therefore, Roni Prima Panggabean continued, his party believes that the victim will be punished for the criminal act as intended in Article 80 Jo. 76 of the Child Protection Law No.35 of 2014. Roni Prima Panggabean explained: "We also believe that the Regional Police are capable and competent in handling the case we submitted."

Furthermore, Roni Prima Panggabean emphasized that teachers and schools must be a safe place for students. Roni added: "school is not a place where children are bullied. Therefore, the alleged perpetrator and the school principal must play a role in the victim's recovery and be

held accountable for their actions both criminally and administratively. Meanwhile, the Head of North Tapanuli KPAD, Fendiv Tobing, criticized the teacher's actions. He concluded his words as follows: "Acts of violence against students cannot be tolerated, teachers must be role models and students must be protected while at school."https://medan.inews.id/read/424879/soal-kasus-bullying-guru-sma-3-tarutung-dilaporkan-ke-polisi?utm_medium=sosmed&utm_source

From the two cases above, it is very unfortunate that unscrupulous teachers can oppress students in the form of sexual harassment and bullying. And based on the information that the teacher is a Christian teacher (PAK) and a Christian teacher, they should be role models for students and also for their colleagues in terms of attitudes, behavior and politeness in the world of education.

Teachers have an important role in changing students' attitudes and behavior. As counselors and educators, teachers must create and establish relationships that are mutually respectful and supportive, not arrogant or domineering in the learning process in the classroom. Students feel valued and encouraged to develop personally and academically. By creating such an atmosphere, teachers can encourage their students to actively learn and develop their potential without pressure or intimidation.

According to the author, if there is an act of violation of rules and regulations in the world of education, such as the case above, then firm action must be taken and one's rights and profession as a teacher must be revoked. The educational system and institutions in Indonesia have attempted to prevent bullying and overcome it by continuously striving to provide a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students.

Sudarwan Damin (2022:15) states that professionally, teachers' duties are to educate, teach and train students. There are also those who view that these three things are the main duties of teachers. As a teacher, you really need to understand many things about your profession, so that your competence, insight and motivation as an educator can continue to be improved and developed in carrying out your work as a professional teacher. Teachers who lack knowledge about themselves as educators may not carry out their roles and responsibilities clearly because their knowledge is unclear.

On the one hand, teachers are often seen as authoritarian figures who can intimidate students and are seen as bullies who only want to impose their will without considering students' needs. However, the teacher's role is actually much more complex than that. Teachers become learning facilitators and encourage students to reach their best potential.

RESEARCH METHODS

The method used in this research is a qualitative method through literature study sourced from various journal articles, books and other references to facilitate understanding of the objects discussed. The focus of this research is whether teachers are bullies or teachers who are not bullies.

DISCUSSION and RESULTS

Definition of Teacher

A teacher is a professional educator who educates, provides assessments, and evaluates students. A teacher is a person who has dedicated himself to teaching a science, educating, directing and training his students to understand the science he is teaching. The word Guru in Sanskrit etymologically comes from two syllables, namely Gu meaning darkness and Ru meaning light (Wikipedia encyclopedia). It is interesting that the word Guru consists of two forms of words that have different meanings: light/shining/radiance of light, joy/seriousness against darkness. In essence, a teacher or educator is a person who shows 'great light' or knowledge and destroys ignorance or darkness. Wikipedia encyclopedia says: "A teacher is a person who is believed to have great knowledge, wisdom, and authority in a particular field and uses it to guide others." So a teacher is a person who is respected for his knowledge, wisdom, ability to provide enlightenment, honor and power to guide others. Because of this, teachers are appreciated and assessed by society based on the truth and actual facts.

Furthermore, in Law Number 14 of 2002 concerning Teachers and Lecturers (Article 1) it is stated that: "Teachers are professional educators with the main task of educating, teaching, guiding, directing, training and evaluating students in formal education, at the basic and educational levels and middle."

Based on the opinion above, it can be concluded that opinions about a teacher have a broad and deep meaning. The word "teacher" comes from Sanskrit and has various meanings such as serious, strong, important, superior, respected. This shows that the role of the teacher has a deeper meaning than just teaching; They also play an important role in shaping and guiding the next generation.

In a legal context, the definition of a teacher as stated in Law Number 14 of 2002 provides a clear framework regarding the duties and responsibilities of a teacher. Teachers are considered professional educators who are primarily responsible for educating, teaching, guiding, directing, training and evaluating students in the context of formal education, especially at the primary and secondary education levels.

Thus, the conclusion that can be drawn is that the role of the teacher is not only to teach and educate but also as a leader, leader and guardian of the norms and behavior of students. They are responsible for helping students grow and develop as a whole, guiding them towards success and learning.

Role and Duties of Teachers

First, the teacher's role is not to put pressure or oppress, but to educate, guide and change the character of students. Teachers must be a source of role models, leaders who encourage students to learn and develop. With a friendly and supportive approach, teachers can help students overcome their problems and reach their maximum potential. Sudarwan Damin (2022:78) emphasizes that educating is a very broad task of teachers and some of it is done in the form of teaching, encouraging, praising, punishing, giving examples, getting used to it and so on.

In addition, a good relationship between teachers and students is very important to create a good learning environment. A teacher who understands his students, listens to them, and pays attention to their needs and interests, can make students feel valued, involved in the teaching and learning process, and comfortable expressing and conveying their ideas. The popular terms for Ki Hajar Dewantara's teachers are "ing ngaso sun tulodo and ing madya mangun karsa, and tut wuri handayani".

As a facilitator in the educational process, teachers must also identify the learning challenges faced by students and help overcome them. Caring and compassionate teachers will find ways to help students with learning disabilities without punishing or bullying them. Therefore, a good teacher must be able to create an inclusive environment and support all students without leaving any of them behind. Tilaar (2000: 137) states that teachers act as a communication medium for students. Teachers no longer just provide information that students can remember. Apart from that, teachers should also have a positive attitude and provide a good example to their students, namely they must be able to instill in students good values such as honesty, perseverance, the desire to learn and curiosity. In this way, a teacher can help change the character and behavior of students, preparing them to become responsible citizens and contribute to society. Mulyasa (2002:187) emphasizes that the teacher's most important task is how to create a pleasant learning environment, so that it can arouse the curiosity of all students so that their interest and appetite for learning arises.

From the opinions above, it is clear that the role of teachers does not state that teachers are considered oppressors, instead they are educators who are caring, encouraging and supportive. In this role, teachers are expected to help their students reach their maximum

potential, motivate them to learn, and instill good character and behavior for the future. The teacher's responsibility as an educator will not be limited to filling the minds of his students with knowledge, but will try to change all their attitudes and behavior, so that they are able to become adult humans who are able to know knowledge and use it well for the needs and interests of society and all mankind.

According to Husen & Postlethwaite (1995) in *The coordinators of the International Encyclopedia of Education*: explains the three main meanings of the term "teacher's role", namely.

1. *As an Education Professional:*

The role of the teacher is as an educational professional who has the knowledge, skills and abilities to teach students effectively. They are expected to fully understand the curriculum, teaching methods and assessment strategies.

2. *As a Model and Example:*

The teacher's role also includes setting an example and being a role model for students. They teach not only with words but also with daily actions. In this case, teachers have an important role in shaping the character, values and morals of students.

3. *As a Guide and Advisor:*

Teachers also act as mentors and directors for students. This helps learners develop their skills, provides motivational support and provides advice and guidance in facing academic and personal challenges.

Thus, the teacher's role is not only limited to teaching subject matter but also includes other important aspects such as character education, motivation and guidance in developing students' skills holistically.

From the opinion above about the role of the teacher, it can be concluded that the role of the teacher is not to oppress or bully, but to be an educator who cares, encourages and supports students. By playing this role well, teachers can help students achieve academic and personal success and transform them into active and efficient citizens in society.

Teachers are responsible for teaching knowledge and transferring it to students, organizing the educational environment and developing students' knowledge, skills and attitudes. Teachers also participate in implementing learning methods that meet the individual needs of students, such as constructivist learning methods. In addition, teachers are responsible for organizing student interactions with activities and learning materials that suit the characteristics of the students themselves.

Are Teachers Oppressor?

Humans as objects and subjects of education should be the main focus at every stage of education. Without it, education will lose its meaning. This means that education cannot humanize humans and their values as humans if the education does not have a humanitarian perspective. So liberation education does not invite oppressed people to become oppressors, but rather oppressed people should not become oppressors, but education must be able to humanize humans (Hepi Ikmal: 2021:7).

Bullying is a type of unethical crime. So how can teachers put pressure on students if they do it sincerely, sincerely, kindly and nobly? The opinion that teachers are bullies may come from people who view teachers as someone who is very strict when giving homework, expressing a yes or no attitude to students, and problems with completing school assignments, this may be considered similar to bullying. Whatever the reason, it seems like the word bullying is too much and not appropriate to use. There are even times in the classroom when teachers act in ways that treat students and are judged less well through physical, emotional or verbal actions, this is clearly contrary to the teacher's role. The behavior of a teacher (individually) being less than good cannot be a way of saying that all teachers are oppressive or evil. Morris (2022:133) emphasizes that when examining the relationship between teachers and oppression, it is clear that this is a traditional education system that can stifle creativity. Meanwhile, teachers play a role in facilitating students to find creativity in the learning process at school. In addition, Muller & Boutte (2019:94) state that it is very important for teachers to provide an understanding of oppression to students in order to understand and combat oppression. This helps teachers understand and identify where bullying occurs and take practical action to reduce this type of bullying in the classroom and at school.

Based on the opinion above, it can be concluded that teachers have a big responsibility to fight or resist oppressive institutions or rules in education. By applying objectivity, critical awareness, and implementing professionalism, teachers can play an important role in promoting social justice, security and comfort as well as encouraging equality and learning opportunities so that oppression does not occur.

As a place where learning takes place, schools should be safe and comfortable places, at least for children. The objectives used should be based on student development goals and learning motivation. Schools must be alert to problems that rob students of their freedom.

According to Kurt Singer in the book *Samba* (2007:57) that school is no longer a safe place for children. Teachers become agents who control, oppress and dehumanize students. Schools have turned into institutions that kill children's talents and enthusiasm for learning.

Therefore, in our country, in order to fight for the rights of students, the Ministry of National Education and Culture Number 82 of 2015 concerning Prevention and Management of Violent Crimes aims to ensure a good, easy and kind living environment. a fun way to learn and prevent all students from being exposed to acts or acts of violence.

If students ever encounter or encounter a situation where they feel a teacher is behaving badly, it is very important to immediately ask the authorities, such as the school committee and principal, to address the problem. Also talk to your parents or guardians so they can provide help and support in overcoming this problem. According to Paulo Freire (2007:15) The reality of education is an oppressive practice. He saw that students were seen as oppressed people. Because, he saw that teachers were seen as knowledgeable and students were seen as less knowledgeable in the learning process. Indicators that a teacher is not a oppressor are:

1. *Teacher as a role model*

One of the competencies that a teacher must have is character skills. His personality traits and traits are steady, steady, mature, intelligent and strong, he is a role model for students and has good character. Weaknesses in a person's abilities include: (a) Having a steady and steady personality, including working according to social norms, enjoying being a teacher, and consistently working according to norms, (b) A mature person who shows independence by acting as a teacher. . Teacher and has the attitude of 'working like a teacher', (c) An intelligent person, acting in the interests of students, the school and society, open in thinking and acting, (d) Having an acceptable character including his behavior. on students and respectful behavior. (e) Having good morals and being a role model includes acting in accordance with religious principles (honesty, hypocrisy, charity) and the behavior of fellow students. Personality is a person's ability to display a stable, stable, mature, intelligent and strong character, be a role model for students and have good morals.

2. *Respect for Others.*

Teachers are often called unsung heroes. The word hero comes from the Sanskrit word phala-wan, which means a person who provides good fruit (phala) for the nation, state and religion. Teachers should motivate their students to be respected by students and society. A teacher's anxiety can stimulate students' enthusiasm for learning. At this stage, teachers' social competence needs to be developed further. Teachers must be able to establish strong relationships with their students, fellow teachers, and the community.

3. *Have an educational spirit*

The teacher's job is to educate the nation. Teaching is not just a job to earn a living, but also a part of life. It is as if they were born to provide strength to improve the quality of the sons and daughters of this country. For this reason, teachers must be enthusiastic in carrying out their responsibilities. This heart is also reflected in his attitude and words. Teachers who influence every student in everyday life are teachers who know not only word choice but also the intonation, tone of voice and body language they use, and can calm their students' minds. The need to create a fair environment when working with students in schools is a challenging situation for teachers. A sense of responsibility, love for the world of education and respect for the ethical values of the teaching profession are values that should be developed by teachers. That's why teachers are never satisfied with their knowledge. They always apply the concept of lifelong learning. They continue to learn because they have the spirit to develop themselves in their souls.

4. *Teacher as an educator, encourager and encourager.*

Wayan Suwatra (2014:36) explains that the role of teachers is reflected in three things, namely Tut Wuri Handayani, Ing Ngarsa Sungtulada and Ing Madya Mangun Karsa. This role was mentioned by KI Hajar Dewantara. Tut Wuri Handayani means the teacher stands behind his students, follows them and continues to encourage their development. Ing Ngarsa Sungulada means the teacher is within, so he must be able to set a good example. Ing Madya Mangun Karsa means that teachers are in the midst of students, so they must be able to show desire, willingness and enthusiasm to achieve educational goals.

5. *Teachers are able to create a safe and comfortable classroom and school atmosphere.*

According to Hamalik (2001:195) The learning environment is something that exists in that environment and has a certain meaning or impact for someone. A good learning environment, such as a learning environment and a school environment, provides a calm and comfortable atmosphere for students so that students can learn the material well. The learning environment is a prerequisite for all materials used in the daily learning process (Wiyono, 2003: 29). Mariyana (2009: 17) says that the learning environment is a way for students to be active and creative until they discover new behaviors in their lives. . In other words, the learning environment can be described as a "laboratory" or a place where students investigate, experiment, and express themselves to find new ideas and knowledge that reflect their learning outcomes.

The school environment is expected to help students develop their skills through teaching and learning activities carried out by providing school facilities and infrastructure. A good school environment will help students in participating in teaching and learning programs, because students with a good, healthy school environment with adequate infrastructure will feel comfortable and calm in participating in teaching and learning programs at school. Therefore, schools need to be able to provide resources and infrastructure and create an effective system to support the implementation of teaching and learning programs in schools.

CONCLUSION

Teachers are not oppressors. Teachers are not people who force or pressure students, but rather educators who are wise, encouraging, and a source of comfort and support for students' positive development. Interactions between teachers and students should be based on respect, understanding and good communication. So the profession shown by a teacher is that teachers are not oppressive; This means that the teacher has good character or good personality competence, respects other people, has a passion for teaching, nurturing, encouraging and motivating, and creates a safe and positive learning environment to produce students who are useful to many people.

There is no exact data on the number of teachers who are bullies. Legal protection for teachers in the educational process related to criminal acts of violence has been fully regulated in various laws such as Law Number 14 of 2005 concerning Teachers and Lecturers and Government Regulation Number 74 of 2008 concerning Teachers. Where it is explained in these two laws that punishment or giving sanctions to students for the purpose of teaching carried out by teachers is not a criminal act of violence. All of this shows that being a teacher does not only mean providing knowledge to students, but also changing their character, creating better ways of learning and being a good role model for them.

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