The Infrastructure of Discipline in Child Development

I have learned that every family has their own perspective on disciplining. Throughout my education I have learned that there can be two types of behavior modifications that can be used. There is a way to use positive reinforcement and negative disciplining when approaching children. It has been mentioned in my Child Development courses that based on a specific culture, there can be a positive and/or negative influence in the family. Families who have been educated on these topics might have their own beliefs about discipline. In my experience in the field I have allowed myself to use the Guides to Speech and Action, which is a form of positive reinforcement. This tool has helped me in the past and present when working in a childcare setting and it has been beneficial when guiding children to make the right choices. I have learned how to use this tool more effectively through my experiences with working with children. It was not easy learning the Guides to Speech and Action at first, but the more I practiced it the better I became at it.

When I learned about the theory of Bronfenbrenner’s Ecological System it had taught me to better understand the different forms of human behavior. If we look at what influences we have in our environment it helps us understand each other. It has also taught me how to become more patient with people and children. I always think of Bronfenbrenner’s Ecological System as an onion, and I compare this to people’s own ecological system. I have also taken into consideration Erik Erickson’s stages of Psychosocial Development. This is a ladder of stages that everyone goes through from the beginning. I feel the most important one that we can already see in children is trust vs. mistrust. I feel that some children in a childcare setting can be very open and trusting, and others don’t show it as much.

My philosophy that will guide me in my practice in the future is to become the person I want to see in the world. That has stuck with me throughout my higher education. I have been aware of the different issues that have occurred in the classroom, and what has helped me was to be patient and to remember everything I have learned. For example, deep breathing has helped me while handling challenging behaviors. Practicing my Guides to Speech and Action will also be useful in the future. I feel that I learn something new everyday about myself or about the children, families, and staff. I enjoy bonding with all these people because I show them the change I want to see in the world, and I feel the more I do that I grow as a respected man.

When I attended Butte College I took a psychology course entitled Global Studies and Peace Psychology. After reading over my writing I always enjoy recalling my thoughts that were going on in my mind at the time. It is rather interesting reading at times because it’s rare that someone reads there own thoughts. It was a learning experience reanalyzing my thoughts and coming up with a brief summary on the topics that I felt were important to me right now. During this journal summary I chose a few topics to write about. What I found to be very interesting was the topic on, “what’s wrong with the world is what’s wrong with us.” We were supposed to make connections between the problems of the world and those we are dealing with. I feel this goes along with my philosophy about being the change you want to see in the world. After seeing some issues in the world, it made me want to change the world one child at a time. I found that a preschool classroom is a perfect place to begin. I am able to commence a new paradigm in our society with peace and harmony.

I have managed to capture some of the key concepts that I have learned in a Sociology introductory class, such as; cohabitation, egalitarianism, feminist perspective, and these are just a few to name. In this assignment I focused more on how I have established my ethics, morals, and values. It is my duty to apply this valuable information to my present and future life. After reading the article, “The Male Mystique,” by Andrew Kimbrell, I now have a different perspective of myself as a man. The article taught me to be cautious from the expectations of society, which has been portrayed by the media, to misguide the depiction of a man. I want to shift the paradigm and begin to grow as a modern man, and be able to express my feelings, love, and nurturing skills. The article mentions, “As men become more and more powerless in their own lives they are given more and more media images of excessive, caricatured masculinity with which to identify.” I feel that this is something I have been practicing within my life. It has been a pleasure looking back on what I had to change, and how much I have grown as a person. This old assignment was something I found new at the moment, but now it is something that I apply to my everyday life.