Class Streaming and Implications for Students in Primary School

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Abstract

Class streaming is a tradition that has been practiced against students since the last day of independence. In fact, it was being used in European countries. This case study aims to identify the positive and negative implications result of the student classification that has long been practiced in our country. A variety of opinions and views have been expressed related to classification of class either positive or negative. The researchers believe the study to be done in some primary schools. Students who participated in this study consisting of students of year five. Therefore, so long as we maintain this grade classification system, it may become necessary for us to review the success of the system that has been practiced, whether positive or negative impact. In this study, researchers will try to identify the implications that occurs as a result of welding classes according to academic achievement that has been practiced for generations. Researchers will look at the positive and negative implications as a result of classes streaming in several schools around Kuala Terengganu which has been identified as a target of a case study. The justifications of the chosen school is based on the diversity of the education system these schools representing school class welding, non welding school classes and regular schools. All these three schools will help researchers to obtain data related to the research topic. Most importantly, the results of this study should be viewed in the long term to the education system.

Keywords: Class Streaming, Implications, Primary School

1.0   Introduction

Class streaming originally was to separate the flow of English and Malay. This statement agreed by Karim (2008), *Sejarah British Di Tanah Melayu*, the implementation of positive and negative impacts. Ambatong (2013), in his book, *Laman Minda Pendidikan* said the gathering of students in groups according to the level of their ability to create a positive and fair competition and to enable all students to develop their own potential. According to him, the streaming may also cause the pupil of the bottom class marginalized and victimized state of the streaming system. In addition, he added that the fact that students marginalization situations because of its attitude of teachers who lack of appreciation in the essence of the Philosophy of Education in the implementation of the curriculum in the classroom.

2.0   Problem Statement

Speaking about the classification of students as well, a Sociologist Sharma (2002) have indicated several disadvantages as a result of class streaming that have been implemented since hereditary this. He emphatically said that those who engage in antisocial activities such as stealing, killing, robbery, gangsterism, drug trafficking and stealing is from the less educated. According to observations of investigators, the less educated is usually a group of students from the bottom class, who had no interest in their studies. Hence, this phenomenon may occur as a result of class classification system that makes them neglected in terms of education. Class streaming problems that have long practiced involves various problems of students, teachers and administrators. The focus of research is covering some of the things that are the main focus, namely:

i)   The perception of teachers to students.
       Jamil (2012), Peranan *Guru Dalam Membentuk Konsep Kendiri Positif*, expressed confidence of teachers to students is very important that students are more geared toward the positive.

ii)   Lack of motivation from the lower class.
       Abdullah (2006), *Guru Sebagai Pendorong Dalam Darjah,* said the teacher served to uplift students and pupils dropping emotion.

iii)   The dilemma of leadership and management of schools in favoritism toward excellent students.
       Ambatong (2010), also said the management role to solve the problem of favoritism among students by teachers, causing less than stellar results.

3.0   Objective

This study is to achieve several objectives, namely:
i.   Identify teachers' perception in the implementation of the welding class.
ii.   Identify the students' perceptions towards the implementation of the class streaming.
iii.   Describe the dilemma of leadership and school management in the implementation of the class streaming.
iv.   Describe the implementation of proposed improvements to the school grade classification.

4.0   Literature Review

Gillard (2008), in his writings, Education in England, the history of our schools, has rekindled its class classification adopted in the country since 1860 again. The streaming was carried out because of the difference of their living standards and way of thinking of people when they do not want their children to mix with people from a social class that are not equivalent. Jamaluddin (2012) wrote a journal entitled *Kemiskinan dan Keciciran Dalam Pendidikan*, also said most of the students who drop out in a rather poor education. Furthermore, when the welding class, it would place the underprivileged students in class retarded and so prevent dropouts in education.

5.0   Methodology

A study conducted by researchers use a mixed method, means a qualitative and quantitative approach. According to Cresswell (1994), qualitative research is a process that begins with data collection methods and lead to ways and how to get answers to every question that has been posed study. The quantitative approach based on Cresswell (2008), was a research study by researchers decided what you want to study, questions were specific and scaled down the scope of the questions to collect data that can be quantified from the participants to use statistics. The study selected was non-intervention and shaped in this research were to study the correlation of the relationship between variables. Qualitative approach to the design of interviews and observations of teachers and pupils in the range of welding classes held in schools that have been selected. The quantitative approach was the design of the investigator circulation study questions to every class level of excellence graders, middle and bottom.

6.0   Findings

The study was conducted in three schools consisting of High Performance School, Cluster School and Daily School. Question survey was distributed to teachers and pupils. Teachers who have been teaching for more than 10 years experience. Meanwhile, the students are made up of pupils in year 5 three schools earlier. All students consists of three stages which are excellent, middle and bottom.

1. The survey is highlighting the questions on teachers are:
    1.1.   Daily School (No Streaming).
       1.1.1.   Most of teachers satisfied because there is no bottom class and all the teachers teach the same level.
       1.1.2.   Lack of misconduct problems among students.
       1.1.3.   Majority of the teachers agree that no streaming carried out in schools.
    1.2.   High Performance School (Streaming).
       1.2.1.   The majority of teachers choose to teach in the excellent classroom (if given a choice).
       1.2.2.   Most teachers do not agree with the abolition of the classification as complicated the process of teaching.
       1.2.3.   Streaming classes among the causes of behavioral problems among students.
    1.3.   Cluster School (Streaming).
       1.3.1.   Most teachers that teach in the excellence classroom are more comfortable because there are no outstanding issues.
       1.3.2.   Majority of the teachers thought the cause of class streaming make students of bottom graders have behavioral problems.

1.3.3. Teachers agreed classification grade teachers continue to focus on the students more centralized.

2. Highlights of the survey on the distribution of questions students are:
   2.1. Daily School.
       2.1.1. Pupils have a good relationship with each other because there is no streaming and no students were labeled as poor students.
       2.1.2. Brilliant Students become mentor to the students who lag behind in their studies. Therefore, the lack of a troubled student.
       2.1.3. Excellent students feel quite tired and bored because of the existence of various levels of students in a class and teaching process is not running smoothly.
       2.1.4. More than 50% of students feel the class streaming is better.
   2.2. High Performance School.
       2.2.1. Significant competition between students who were in brilliant class and be motivated to be the best.
       2.2.2. Majority of the students agree that streaming classes continued, because they were comfortable with it.
       2.2.3. Class streaming requires students to strive harder, but also create a student instead of just going to school to play with classmates.
       2.2.4. A fairly significant gap exists between excellent students and bottom, most bottom students feel inferior and uncomfortable with excellent students.
   2.3. Cluster School.
       2.3.1. Intense competition among excellent students to remain in the first class create pressure on students.
       2.3.2. Pupils with excellent grade have confidence potential and always enthusiastic.
       2.3.3. Pupils through class streaming and have experienced deterioration will be depressed and feel inferior.
       2.3.4. Bottom grade pupils already felt the existence of inequality and justice among students and there is favoritism among teachers against excellent students.

3. Highlights from an interview with the administrator are:
   3.1. The objective of the class streaming at school.
       3.1.1. The streaming has long been practiced and receive positive reception by most teachers.
       3.1.2. Improved performance every year from the execution of streaming.
       3.1.3. Simplify the process of teaching in the classroom.
   3.2. The implications of the abolition of the class streaming.
       3.2.1. Positive Implications.
           3.2.1.1. Various abilities are combined in one class.
           3.2.1.2. Excellent pupils give example of a disciple and be a mentor to other students.
           3.2.1.3. Increased creativity among teachers to control students in mixed ability classes.
       3.2.2. Negative Implications.

3.2.2.1. The preparation of various teaching modules causes relatively limited as there are different levels in one class and number of students up to 40 people.

3.2.2.2. Brilliant pupil somewhat disturbed by classmates who missed out.

3.3. The implications of the implementation of the streaming class.

3.3.1. Positive Implications.

3.3.1.1. The task of the management, teachers and students run more smoothly.

3.3.1.2. The occurrence of changes and improvements in student performance each year.

3.3.1.3. Doubled focusing to every student when they are in the same level.

3.3.2. Negative Implications.

3.3.2.1. Some parents request that their child be in excellent class though not eligible.

3.3.2.2. Self-formation is somewhat less in successful students.

7.0 Conclusion

Overall it can be concluded that the results from the analysis of the data was carried out in a variety of forms, shapes the perception of teachers, students and the perception of leadership dilemma, the researchers found that the classification of this class can proceed, but conditionally. The implementation of this class streaming give good or for bad pupils. Repeal certainly a welding class is difficult to implement because it has become a tradition to our education today. But, despite the increased percent grade it, there is no balance to pupils and learning also focuses on enhancing self-esteem of students for the challenges faced in real life. This is clearly evident when the research was conducted in three schools showed a slight malfunction occurs in a school, where discipline problems arise as a result of the class streaming. Therefore, if this would continue to ensure that the percentage of school performance is always excellent, new preparations to be made to eradicate negative phenomena among pupils in the school.

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