

Qualities of a Good Tutor

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THE student learns sometimes more from the behaviour of the Tutor than the taught and that affects the student in the process of moulding her or his life. The broad mind of Tutor with B.Sc (N) qualification in Nursing Teaching Section, especially to upgrade the below average student, with her strenuous efforts, proves his or her sincerity with which a poor student who was selected into the Nursing professional course with margin of marks on the reserved list is much benefited.

Indeed it is the trend of some of the young Tutors with B.Sc (N) Degree qualification in Nursing, professional School/College, without much experience in teaching, now-a-days, to be attached more with above average students who are said to be clever students, with the aim that these students would get name and fame to them and with a negligent view of below average students. This naturally inflicts the tender minds of these young students who have in vain been aspiring for affectionate encouragement of the Tutor which leads to many failures in their life.

Helping the Downtrodden

It is a well known fact that an above average student gets through the course easily even without the guidelines of a Tutor. The average student also gets through with her keen efforts and guidelines of the Tutor, and the below average student struggles to get through the course in spite of guidelines of the Tutor. The Tutor's efforts and affection should be more, in fact, on the third category of below average students who hail usually from the poor down-trodden families and selected for the course on the basis of reservation, to uplift their standards so as to enable them to get through the course successfully; and to prepare them to stand on their feet so that they can look after their parents and dependents when they start earning regularly. Thus it is said that a Tutor can help to her ability in eradication of poverty at least in a family which is the unit of a nation. But some new inexperienced Tutors with less confidence in teaching get more attachments with only the so called clever students and neglect others and sometimes even put them down in classes.

This sort of behaviour of Tutors affects some students and they develop the defeatism and sink themselves in inferiority complex and do not shine well in their life.

It is said that a poor Tutor tells; an average Tutor explains; a good Tutor demonstrates; a great Tutor inspires. Every Tutor should be a

great Tutor to inspire all the students irrespective of their mental calibres. Tutors' behaviour is more important in moulding the character and conduct of the students. A student is likely to learn by observation from the behaviour of the Tutor, her likes and dislikes for students; partiality shown sometime, her ability in teaching and social activity etc. Therefore, the Tutor should be more alert and conscious of her actions while teaching and moving with students. This aspect, especially in some of the Tutors with B.Sc (N) qualifications, is lacking.

Our educational system in recent times has been going through a process of metamorphosis. This is apparent from the attempt to make education more and more responsive to job requirements or occupations. So, at this juncture, the personality of the Tutor and her behaviour counts very much. Her disposition, delivery and intonation are matters of immediate cognizance. Her patience towards her students, her explanations of different problems and her faculty of establishing relations to different subject areas can inspire students a great deal more than what text books do.

The Ability to Grasp

A good Tutor understands the student and her ability not merely on I.Q. but also on her ability to grasp the situation quickly. Due to different factors present day students are less open to teaching than grasping. The aim of a good Tutor is to bring the lower strata to a higher one by inspiring them with her effective teaching and behaviour. The behaviour of a Tutor has effective bearing upon the taught. One proverb says: "As the King, so the subject."

Can virtue be taught? If so, in what sense? How does a Tutor develop a sense of responsibility? How a Tutor cultivates honesty, loyalty, courage and sex-purity in students? She must be an active participant in the group of students. She must be an 'Ideal Miss'. She must be a good gardener in the children's garden. She must behave like a friend, philosopher and guide to everyone irrespective of caste, creed and talent. A good Tutor with her good behaviour and humour can create a suitable healthy educational environment of mutual regard in Nursing professional Schools/Colleges.

It is not the wish of anybody that a Tutor in Nursing Education should discourage the clever student and encourage the below average student. It is the wish of everybody to treat all alike and especially be courteous towards the students who need real help.

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