Virtual Field Experience Multicultural Journal Entry

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Multicultural Journal Entry

For my cultural Journal Entry I will be observing Oaks Christian and Fayetteville Christian School. I chose two different Christian schools that are located in different states. Spirituality is sprit from the Latin words spiritus meaning breath, wind, and life principle. Spirituality is about the practice and outworking of the spirit and the ways, which it is developed, with its different aspects and ways relationships connected, sustained and understood. In western culture, spirituality has been defined through the Christian religion; as the dominant Western from, it is often referred to as the Christian narrative (Egli, Fisher,Getner, 2014).

Fayetteville Christian School is a known Christian school located in Fayetteville, North Carolina and Oaks Christian is located in Westlake Village, CA. Oaks Christian teaches grade 5-8 and 9-12. There core values and goals are to have a Christian learning environment. They believe in a Biblical worldview, they believe all students should be embraced with the welcoming love of Jesus Christ, and invited and encouraged towards spiritual growth through dynamically programs activities and curriculum. Oaks Christian School provides their students with the opportunity to reach their highest potential in Jesus Christ. Students should have good character and citizenship that will enable to help them in the future. Oak View Christian challenges the students in a nurturing environment with a lifelong learning (Oaks Christian).

Fayetteville Christian School’s vision is to maintain a small program that would meet a child’s developmental and spiritual needs. Fayetteville Christian, teachers’ students from 1st grade to 12th grade.

The school eventually grew with larger classes and Christian teachers which academically challenge their students with Christ-centered program in the upper grades. They continue to maintain a developmental program in the early grades. Looking at both schools they all have a goal for the students, but I did not read any thing on praying in the classrooms. Oaks Christian is a larger school than Fayetteville Christian. They have more to offer to their students. However, when it comes to Christian worldview they both have the same goals for their students. Some times I think a lot of these Christian schools are more focused on the money than developing soul for Christianity.

Multicultural Awareness/Checklist

Strengths

I know when specific cultural beliefs influence students responses to counseling.

I can recognize when my beliefs and values are interfering with providing the best services to my students.

I can define and discuss racism.

I can discuss how school family- community partnerships are linked to student achievement.

I can identify the cultural bases of my communication style.

I can give examples of how stereotypical beliefs about cultural differences impact the counseling relationship

Weakness

I am able to challenge my colleagues when they discriminate against students.

I can discuss culturally diverse methods of parenting and discipline.

I can discuss family counseling from a cultural/ ethnic perspective.

Sometimes our weakness can be use as a strength. For instance, I am from a different country. I have learned the different types of cultures. I know my boundaries and I am opened minded to the various types of cultures. We can have group counseling; which can give each student a chance to talk about his or her culture. Students can learn from each other. I am a vocal person and I also like to help people that are in need. I will have to learn how to complete assessments on students and not get overwhelmed.

Cultural and counseling theory and techniques.

It is important that school counselors know the different types of techniques, especially if they will be working in a diverse community. Each counselors has different types of counseling styles. It’s important that counselors have a caring school atmosphere by implementing comprehensive, preventative and developmental interventions. Also assisting students needs in a positive manner, focusing on relationship building, providing developmental guidance lessons, conducting evaluations and needs assessments, and utilizing problem- solving techniques (Tici,2014). For example the case of a pregnant Hispanic teenager. The Hispanic populations are family oriented, they believe in getting married at a young age. It will not be a good idea if the school counselor suggested to Maria to give up her baby. It will be best for Maria to make her own decision. It is the counselor’s responsibility to provide Maria with all the resources available to her. We as counselors are here to advocate for our students. Some teachers may see a child failing. A counselor can come up with different strategies to help that child succeed in her/his academic

Professional Development

It is very important that school counselors keep up to date with rules, regulations and to continue their education. Sometimes regulations can change. The ASCA encourages professional school counselors to focus on local student needs and on the local political context and to use data to identify and meet these needs, as well as to document program effectiveness (Erford, 2015).

School counselors; also have to be sensitive to diverse communities. School counselors collaborate with stakeholders to create a school and community climate that embrace cultural diversity and help to remove barriers that impede student’s success (Erford, 2015). Going into this field I have to make sure the students needs are meet with classroom guidance activities. Examples include addressing peer pressure, teen pregnancy, bullying, violence, abuse, problem solving and conflict resolution. Jesus is a counselor we put our trust and problems in his hands. We as Christian counselors have to do the same for our students.

Reference

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