2016 International Essay Contest for Young People [Children's Category – Honorable Mention]

The Education for All for Better Future (Original)

Hashan Jayathilaka (Age 13, Sri Lanka) Maaliyadeva Boys College, Kurunegala

Education is not only studying subjects and filling the heads of children with facts. It is not preparing students to pass exams. It is a journey from birth to death. The real education is what prepares you for life. It makes you learn, cultivate and develop good values of life. If the education is not to be real, it should develop the moral values of children. No education is completed without real education morality. No morality is completed without real education. They are both bound together like light and heat in a fire.

Our life is full of problems and obstacles. So our education should make children competed enough to cross the obstacles, hardships and hurdles of life. Real education not only imparts your knowledge but wisdom too. It develops life skills. It develops your personality by boosting your confidence. It teaches you how to lead a life efficiently and effectively without allowing problems to hinder the peace and harmony in your life. It doesn't mean you will never face problems but the children who are fortunate enough to receive a real education are able to foresee problems and get ready to avoid them or solve them prudently.

What is the role of a teacher in real education? A real teacher should inspire hope, ignite imagination and instill a love of learning in students. He should not be a teacher like Monty Roberts. He should not steal the dreams of students. When Monty Roberts was a student, he was once asked to write a paper about what he wanted to do when he grow up. That night he wrote a seven page paper describing his dream of one day owning a horse ranch. He wrote about his dream in such a great details and drew a diagram showing the locations of all the buildings, the stables and the track. The next day he handed it over to the teacher. After two days, he received it back. On the front page was a large red letter "f" with a note "See me after

class". The boy with dream went to meet the teacher after class and asked "why did I receive an "f"? The teacher told him "This is an unrealistic dream for a young boy like you. You have no money, you have no resources. You came from itinerant family. There is no way you can ever do it. If you came with a more realistic dream, I will reconsider your grade." They boy went home and thought about it throughout the night and decided to give the same paper making no changes at all. He stated "You can keep your "f" and I will keep my dream."

Monty Roberts then turned to the assembled gathering and said, "Today I tell you this story because you are sitting in my 4,000 square foot house in the middle of my 200 acre horse ranch. I still have the seven page paper framed over my fire place. So a teacher should never steal dreams of children but help them to make them come true.

Therefore, real education should not shutter the dreams and skills of children but identify them and sharpen them so that they can face the feature of many challenges with an unflinching resolution. Furthermore, it must lead to your spiritual development. If children can be given such and education which does not hinder the moral progress of theirs, we will be able to see children yourself to the progress, wellbeing and the development of a country.

At present students who leave schools don't listen to others. They don't have patience. They get angry easily. They are used to shouting at others. They are very selfish. They don't love others. They don't love and respect others. They don't have a real pain about the helpless. They don't think about their environment. So they destroy it. So, this is result of our education today. Is this a real education? No, but this is the education. That's why we have a lot of criminals today.

To change the situation and lead our country to the development, and to create a virtuous society, our children should be given a real education. Real education not only fills your brain with knowledge but it fills your heart with good qualities and moral values. Real education prepares you to lead a better life in the society. The children who received so-called real education will not be a burden to the society. Then, real education is the solution to all the problems we face today.