# INNOVATIVE WAYS OF DEALING WITH DISCIPLINE PROBLEMS IN THE CLASSROOM

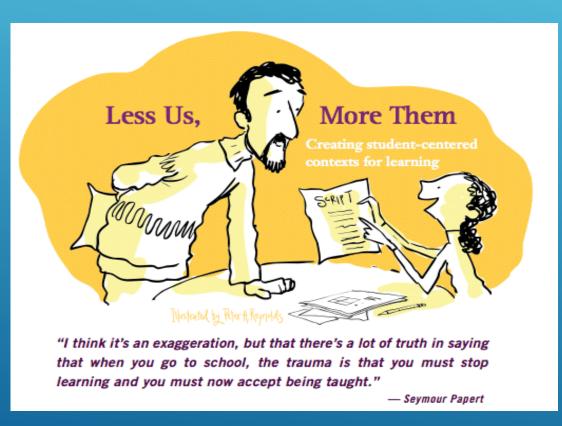
## "NECESSITY IS THE MOTHER OF INVENTION"-PLATO

#### TRADITIONAL VS. INNOVATIVE WAYS

#### Traditional ways

#### Teacher-centered

- · Passive learning
- Absolute obedience
- · Lack of interaction



#### Innovative ways

#### Learner-centered

- Active learning
- · Critical thinking
- Academic and emotional growth

https://collegereadycoach.com/2014/01/28/less-us-more-theme-creating-authentic-learning-communities/comment-page-1/

## Classroom contract

- enhances
   collaboration
   between
   teacher and
   students
- promotes positive discipline
- · promotes logical consequences instead of punishment

Appendices

#### 131

#### Appendix 1 Class Contract

#### OUR AGREEMENT

I agree to the rules below because they will help the class to have good lessons

- 1. We must listen to the teacher when they are talking to the whole class.
- 2. We need to put our hands up if we want to be heard by the rest of the class.
- 3. We must talk quietly to each other.
- 4. We should get on with our work and do our best.
- 5. We should talk politely to.....and to each other.
- 6. We have to do our homework (it will help our learning).
- 7. We will talk to.....about any problems at the end of the lesson.
- 8. We will say sorry when we are unfair to other people.

#### Traditional

- Physical/psychological punishment
- Authoritarian discipline
- The child is a problem, not the behavior
- **► INNOVATIVE**
- Logical consequences
- Develop internal understanding
- > Self-control
- Learn from their mistakes
- Preserve the dignity of the child

Discipline is:	Punishment is:		
Giving children positive alternatives	Being told only what NOT to do		
Acknowledging or rewarding efforts and good behaviour	Reacting harshly to misbehaviour		
When children follow rules because they are discussed and agreed upon	When children follow rules because they are threatened or bribed		
Consistent, firm guidance	Controlling, shaming, ridiculing		
Positive, respectful of the child	Negative and disrespectful of the child		
Physically and verbally non-violent	Physically and verbally violent and aggressive		
Logical consequences that are directly related to the misbehaviour	Consequences that are unrelated and illogical to the misbehaviour		
When children must make amends when their behaviour negatively affects someone else	When children are punished for hurting others, rather than shown how to make ammends		

#### Shireen's Lesson

Shireen goes to school every day and, for the most part, she enjoys it; all except her spelling lessons. The days she dreads the most are spelling test days. For every word she or her friends spell incorrectly, her teacher makes them climb the hill behind the school and carry down five bricks. The bricks are being used to build a wall around the school. Shireen doesn't understand how carrying bricks will help her to learn to spell, but she has no choice but to do the labour. Sometimes when she finishes, her clothes are very dirty, and then she gets scolded at home, as well.

#### Do you think this is an effective approach? Why?

http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001492/149284e.pdf

#### 2 Behaviour Contract

Behaviour Contract					
Teacher: Mr/Ms Pupil					
No one in Mr/Mslessons is allowed to stop him/her from					
teaching or prevent other pupils from learning.					
What I have done wrong in lessons?					
In Mr/Ms lesson I have been unfair and prevented him/her					
No one in Mr/Ms lessons is allowed to stop him/her from teaching or prevent other pupils from learning.  What I have done wrong in lessons?					
How I can put this right?					
My targets are:					
1					
2					
3					
What will be the benefits of behaving?					
Improving my behaviour will help me to avoid getting into trouble.					
It will also help me					

By behaving fairly I will improve my learning, get more rewards and enjoy the lesson more.
If I continue to behave badly, the following things will happen:
I agree to honour this contract and I am now fully aware of the consequences of breaking the contract.
Signed Witnessed by
Date

#### Traditional

- Teacher gives attention for problem behavior
- Provokes anger, embarrassment and misbehavior

#### Innovative

- Teacher gives attention for pro social behavior
- Builds trust and respect

#### Certificates

An excellent piece of homework	Good behaviour in class
Linguist of the day	Lovely accent
Good effort in languages	Quality language work
Best improver	(Insert your own certificate here)

- · Certificates to hand out at the end of language lessons.
- These would all be in different colors with pictures on them.
- · They are A5 size.
- · Pupils have a reduced copy of all of them in their books, so they can tick off which ones they have got. (Jeffery, 2002)

#### Traditional

- Teacher communicates with parents only about misbehavior
- Demotivation and discourage
- Poor relationship
- > Bad results

#### Innovative

- Teacher informs parents for their kids achievements
- teacher finds something good in every student
- > Teacher and parents are allies
- Teacher and parents have a common goal

#### Letter to Parents

#### Dear

In the Modern Languages Department, we regularly reward pupils in class by awarding certificates to them at the end of each lesson. There are seven different certificates which a pupil can be given. They read as follows:

Good effort in languages Quality language work Linguist of the day Good behaviour in class Best improver An excellent piece of homework Lovely accent

When a pupil collects any three certificates, s/he gains a merit certificate which is awarded in assembly.

This clearly shows a keen interest in the subject, a conscientious approach to homework, good behaviour in class and excellent language skills.

We are delighted with his/her work and hope that s/he will continue to adopt this positive approach next year.

Yours sincerely,

Ms S. Newell Head of Modern Languages

Head of Year

(Jeffery, 2002)

## PRACTICAL PART

- · Surveys and interview conducted in Tuzi
- · Primary school "Mahmut Lekic"

**Aim:** to see how much do teachers in Tuzi use innovative approaches in their classrooms

## STUDENT'S EXPERIENCE SURVEY RESULTS (80 PARTICIPANTS, FROM 11 TO 14 YEARS OLD)

Questions				
1. When I misbehave	a) I am aware of the logical consequences that follow	18	b) I am punished	62
2. After teacher`s intervention	a) I feel motivated to improve and perform better next time	37	b) I feel angry and embarrassed	43
3. The rules are established by	a) the teacher, and we must obey them	73	b) the teacher and students together	7
4. The teacher gives attention to	a) student`s misbehavior only	48	b) misbehavior and good behavior	32
5. I think that	a) The teacher understands us	3	b) The teacher doesn't understand us	77

### TEACHER'S EXPERIENCE SURVEY RESULTS

(20 TEACHERS PARTICIPATED)

1.I use the following teaching style:	a) authoritative	9	b) authoritarian	11	c) Permissive	0
2.What do you think is the main cause of misbehavior in your classes?	a) Students are not interested in the subject	4	b) They feel ununderstood	0	c) Lack of education	16
3.The most effective approach to solve behavior problems is	a) To lower their grade	4	b) To send them to the principal`s office or to call their parents	9	c) To talk with them in person	7
4.The most	a) Packing up early	4	b) Talking without	8	c) Getting a large	8

## STUDENT'S INTERVIEW QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (40 PARTICIPANTS FROM 11 TO 14 YEARS OLD)

#### ALMOST ALL OF THEM ANSWERED THIS WAY

- 1. How do you define discipline?
- Discipline is when we obey our teachers.
- 2. What do you think is the cause of misbehavior in your classroom?
- Poor relationship between students and teacher
- 3. How do you feel after teacher's comments about your poor behavior?
- Embarrassed
- 4. What do you think is the most effective way to deal with misbehaving students?
- To remove them from class, to send them to the principals, to suspend them...

- "I think there`s no special method to deal with misbehaving students. I think that a teacher must look a little creepy. That way we won`t misbehave for sure." (11 year-old student)
- "I think that we lack understanding and respect from our teachers. Some teachers simply neglect our feelings. I think they should look back to the time when they were our age. We have 15 subjects and they all expect high performance especially from excellent students, which is very stressful and demanding. They are stealing our childhood! When are we going to be able to play ball in the field?!" (12 year-old student)

"FARMERS AND GARDENERS KNOW YO'CANNOT MAKE A PLANT GROW...THE PLANT GROWS ITSELF. WHAT CAN YOU DO IS PROVIDE THE CONDITIONS FOR GROWTH." (FERLAZZO, 2012, JUNE 4)