The Analysis of Psychological Assessment and Escalating Moral Decay to the Tanzania Students

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ABSTRACT: This study mainly focused on understanding the importance of psychological assessment as well to analyse and point out the moral decay to the students. Currently, in our country we hear from the radio, televisions, newspaper and media concerning the morals issues regarding students, such as bad behaviour, improper use of technology, family issues, and quarrelling. Few months ago, our president of the united republic of Tanzania Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan made remarks to the religious leaders to speak out the issue of morality in their teaching. The president said that the country is undergoing a massive moral decay and parents, leaders and guardians should join together in order to identify the root causes and where the society went wrong. She insisted that the society can be successful only if that they instruct, teach and direct children to understand the moral value. In order to make that happen, that the government should provide all necessary support needed for the change to take place. Therefore, we need a psychological assessment to help our students, teachers, school administrators as well as parents identify their moral positions.

KEYWORDS: Moral Decay, Psychological Assessment, Students

INTRODUCTION

A psychological assessment deals with thinking, learning, behaviour and social moral adjustment. During assessment the following are involving interviews, observation, testing and consultation with others professional like student's teacher. On top of that, this psychological assessment includes more than just administering psychometric tests (Mahoney, 2015). Moreover, assessment also is defining a stage of gaining some basic information about the student relevant to the referral question, can takes place by using standardized tests and informal assessment procedures such as observation, interview and by the using of screening instruments and Questionnaire (APS, 2014). Likewise, psychological assessment takes up the individual life conditions of the child who is undergoing in a certain education and /social setting while taking the data from the three foundation sources of history, observations and formal testing (Mahoney, 2015).

However, Tharinger et al. (2008) argues that in order to do psychological assessment to the students an assessor must internalize carefully about what emotional tone they want to project and again the language which plays a significant role in understanding information that assessor should be mindful that that words and concepts additional psychological testing in school have different connotations in different languages. Additional psychological testing in schools is conducting through test results, personal history forms, clinical interviews data and behaviour observations, most of our parents, teachers and administrators understanding psychological testing in schools as helping tools that pushing and reinforce children in studies (Gichinga, 2003). On top of that psychological assessment is useful to the youths, students, children due to the fact, we can recognize and handling certain issues facing the students and also from the major psychological disorders such as anxiety disorders which is in reality even most of us in one way or another experience anxiety, a feeling of apprehension or tension in reaction to stressful situations (Feldman, 1996)

According to Kennedy and Charles (2001), most of the cases which psychologists are attended are mainly comes from the challenges which counsellors faced them during his works in or within the school, counsellors are attended many issues facing the students such as poor performances, poor attendance record, relationship. Schools' administrator is normally those cases to the counsellor so that they can be a source of the solutions to the problems. Furthermore, Samson and Allida (2018) assert that there is a problem of moral decay in societies and especially among the students in secondary school in this present age. Globally there is still a challenge of moral decay in schools and outside school. Thus, why the issue of homosexual is noticed in most schools, and by surprisingly it is being motivated by some religious leaders (Samson, 2018).

Apart from psychological assessment, another important issue is moral decay in our society, particularly the students who are victims of it. It is found that moral decay is still a talking point and debate to the society (Mwarabu et al. 2021). Moral decay has become problematic to the societies; we found immoral behaviours and actions like rape, sexual abuse, and killing (Masath, 2013). On another hand, Muhhsa (2022) reported that in Kagera region one student of secondary school was stabbed and admitted to Bukoba hospital for allegedly been demanded 3,000Tshs, he had borrowed from a classmate. This among other incidents prove that moral education in Tanzania is not given priority in schools and students are just taught a few moral disciplines such as social sciences, and general studies (Masath, 2013).

RELATED LITERATURE
Global empirical review

Sartain et al. (1973) argue that the use of psychological tests has become that they are touching an ever-increasing number of people before the young child is admitted to school, he or she may be subjected to tests to see his level of mental maturity and his reading readiness. Larkin (2018) says that by applying the assessment methods in the school, the psychologist can be successfully in two ways at once while also maintaining the large goal of assisting students succeed academically, socially, behavioural, and emotionally. While Halmatov (2018) maintain that before the child begin the school, it is important to prepare them for academic life as well to prepare them psychological to the school. However, it is great importance for parents to open their mindset about what their children can and cannot do in environments (Halmatov, 2018).

Likewise, according to Varghese (2012), during the time of adolescence development, the young person is confronted and challenged by a wide range of moral decision. Kohlberg suggest three stages of moral development that is one pre conventional morality (aged 4-10) in this stage the individual will do good or avoid wrong doing with motive of either punishment or receiving reward (Varghese, 2012). Also, the conventional morality (aged 10-13) during this time adolescent study how to confirm to society in which they present and the motive for doing good or avoid doing wrong depend on the approval orders. And the last one is post conventional morality (aged 13) whereby during this stage the individual develops a sense of human rights and starts develops conscience (Varghese, 2012).

Yang (2021) in China found that it is generally believed that China is more prosperous than ever, but many have seen how moral disorders are becoming more prevalent and how ineffective moral education in schools is. Some of the factors leading to moral decay in China includes overemphasizing school-based values education and moral agency; ignoring the impact of contextual factors; and ignoring the significance of proximal processes that mediate the individual and contexts has been contributing to China's unsuccessful problem-solving efforts. As a result, moral education in China should emphasize context at all levels, support proximal processes, and finally create moral ecosystem systems where people can develop ethically.

Ravens-Sieberer et al., (2021) in Germany found that children and adolescents' health-related quality of life decreased during the pandemic, and emotional issues, peer-related mental health issues, anxiety, depressive symptoms, and psychosomatic symptoms rose over time. However, there was little to no change in the overall prevalence of mental health issues from wave 1 to wave 2, and some changes were insignificant. Children from mentally challenged parents and those who are socially underprivileged are particularly at risk for poor mental health, but older age and gender are linked to fewer mental health issues. During the pandemic, children and adolescents' mental health was supported by a supportive family environment and social network.

Local empirical review

Studies found that moral development must begin before the child begin the academic life and afterwards, by teaching and impart the moral values by words and deeds (Sanga, 2022; Mwarabu et al. 2021). Furthermore, Mwarabu et al. (2021) sees the necessity of guidance and counselling sections in our different schools in order to help the students when they meet challenges which they experience in their daily life. According to Mutie and Ndambuki (1999), moral decay among the young one's happening when they try to make poor friendship choices. However, it very unfortunate that today's youths are ethically corrupt due to several reasons such as lack of psychological assessment, lack of serious guidance and counselling, as well as modern parents who are not strictly to their children, are the sources or cause of moral deterioration (Nzusa (2009, Mwarabu et al. 2021).

Ntilisinda (2017) argues that moral decay persists because the majority of students in Tanzania are not aware of the counselling services offered in schools. Only a small number of students were aware of the services, but there was less of a tendency for them to seek therapy. Ntilisinda (2017) also discovered that the majority of counselling services offered to students focused on their personal, social, academic, and professional development. In addition, the study discovered that a lack of offices and resources, a shortage of qualified teacher-counsellors, and a lack of funding all undermine the efficiency of guidance and counselling services in schools. Although Tanzanian secondary schools offer advice and counselling services, there is little to no evidence on how well those services are really delivered. This uncertainty is fuelled by the fact that numerous studies have shown that the nation's students struggle with major behavioural issues. These issues significantly increase the likelihood that kids will drop out of school owing to truancy, teen pregnancy, and other bad behaviours like fighting, stealing, damaging school property, and abusing alcohol and illegal substances (Aroko, 2014; Ntilisinda, 2017).

Poor academic performance and moral decay of pupils in recent years was attributed by recent research by Aroko (2014) to insufficient guidance and counselling services. Discipline in our current school system is a serious issue (Ntilisinda, 2017). Teenagers face a wide variety of societal issues that drive them to moral decay. According to Ndondo (2004), some students indulge in antisocial behaviour including drug and alcohol misuse and irresponsible sexual behaviour, which causes moral integrity to deteriorate since they don't know how to manage their free time well.

METHODOLOGY

Study Design

The researcher employed the critical research design, which is appropriate for studies that are evaluative in character and concentrate on identifying the advantages and disadvantages of a particular system or practice mechanism. The eclectic nature of critical discourse analysis also grants the researcher some freedom in the formulation of new perspectives that aid in translating the theoretical presumptions into critical instruments of analysis, making it the central component of philosophical consultancy from a methodological standpoint.

Data Collection Tools and Procedures

In this study, a documentary review was employed to gather data, and some of those sources were used to compile a literature review. These include books, conference proceedings, university libraries, theses, and dissertations; government or corporate reports, particularly those created by government departments and corporations commissions; and government or corporate reports. Journal articles are particularly helpful for analysis of psychological assessment and escalating moral decay in Tanzania because they provide a relatively concise, up-to-date format for research (published findings). The internet and each of these sites both provided helpful information (the fastest-growing sources of information).

Study Findings

The study findings from the reviewed documents revealed conscience formation, victims of sexual violence, participation at home, los and grief, as well as resisting negative peer pressure as factors for moral decay in Tanzania.

Conscience formation

One of the best approaches to moral development is the conscience formation among the students. According to Podimattam (2012), the moral life is the hunger and thirst for fullness, unquenchable desire for peace, endless longing for healing. It is our common search that brings us together as friends. Haltam 2010) asserts that schools can do it in conscience development by introduce themselves as normative communities.

Victims of sexual violence

We hear many cases about the sexual violence in our county Tanzania, particularly girls. According to Moloney (2013) sexual violence is the use of power or strength or authority or position to violate someone's personality sexuality. This can range from verbal sexual harassment at one end of the scale to rape at the other. According to the Daily news reporter (2022), the interviewed which conducted by action aid in Tanzania and daily news revealed that the experience prove that cases of boys who are being sodomised by unfaithful elders keep on mounting, the serious physical-psychological atrocity which calls for collective efforts to be timely eroded.

Participation at home

In the present situation we found many parents have little time to stay with their children or families due to their working conditions and also the time of reaching home from their daily routines, this lead also some parents are unable to participate the schools activities or to make follow up the behaviour or the progress of their children at home (Durisic and Bunijevac, 2017). However, it is found that most parents experience from low self-esteem and others were not successful in their academic life and due to this lack the knowledge and confidence to help their children (Durisic and Bunijevac 2017).

Los and grief

Most of the student is experience difficulties in their academic or in their daily life; we need seriousness assessment and counselling in order to help the students who experience these conditions. Grief is a person's reaction to loss., however the most tragic and devastating loss is t death of a loved one like mother and father (Moloney,2013), moreover grieving is natural which takes time and also which helps the affected person deal with loss. Anticipatory grief is the response to the awareness of an impending loss such as through a terminal illness.

Resisting negative peer pressure

I'm most case peer pressure is the most influential group among the students. In order to help the students from peer pressure we need a consideration of group work can lead naturally to the idea of training peer counsellors among students, for peer counselling, to be successful, it is crucial that the peer counsellors maybe started with students who have already learned about counselling skill. (Moloney, 2013), moreover the counsellors can help the students to know about the good or wrong of peer group and help them how to deal with it.

Moral Assessment

On the other hand, moral assessment from the reviewed documents suggested the following approaches to be employed: permissive parent and moral decay, the necessity of moral education, and the implementation of sex education.

Permissive Parent and Moral Decay

One of the reasons of moral decay to the most of the students are permissive parents behaviour, it is whereby the parents are not strictly to their children, they cannot correct the behaviour of their children when they are wrong or not, according to Samson and Allida (2018), parental influence can affect the way that a teenage behaves and makes choices. In this matter parent are play major role to the behaviour of their children, they should be able to guide and teach them in a good manner.

The necessity of moral education

One of the thing which we lack in most of our school curriculum is about moral teaching,. Nowadays many parents are looking for the better schools which they perform better in the academic .in this case our President of Tanzania Dr. Samia Hassan Suluhu reminds

strongly our religious leaders and societies in large to collaborate to identify the root causes and where the society has messed up (Odunga, 2022).

However according to Sanga (2022), the maximum use of internet, websites, social media are the factors which contributed to the immoral behaviour and character among the students as well as the students, therefore we need strongly restrictions on making use of them. However, in our country we need to make moral education compulsory and part of our curriculum, and we should apply different methods of moral formation and transformation that would help the corrupted students rather than basing on the religiously approaches (Samson and Allida,2018). Therefore, there is necessity to polish the present used approach of moral transformation among student.

The implementation of sex education

The study found that still now there is clear policy as well the curriculum which related to the provision of sexuality education in Tanzania (Mkumbo, 2009). Meanwhile the government and stakeholders must see this as important areas and sensitive to be taught to our students. According to Kapinga and Hyera (2015) revealed that the education about sex and reproductive health is necessary because it helps the students to behave well and makes them aware during the time of transition period from childhood to an adolescence. However, teacher understands that by introduced sex and reproductive health can be useful for good health of the students.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The psychological testing is very essential to the preliminary stage of the students since it deals with thinking, learning, behaviour, therefore there is a need to introduce in our schools the counselling sections where by the administrators and head of schools they should employed some expertise or professional psychologists who can help the students to face their challenges.

Teachers, school administrator are important persons in the schools, therefore they need to get frequent training, seminar and short courses concerning the guidance and counselling where they turn and share this knowledge to the student as well as their fellow staff members.

However, the government and stakeholder s they should come together and making study and introduced the syllabus about the moral education to the student rather leave it alone for the religious leaders and parents.

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