

International Higher Education and Character Formation: Role of Mentorship Programs in Universities

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MANDATE OF UNIVERSITIES

- * Universities are meant to equip learners with expertise, knowledge and training to steer countries and international community to prosperity and innovation.

WHY MENTORSHIP?

- * **Mentoring:** supporting people to develop skills
- * Increase their potential to achieve life goals and become leaders
- * Bridging skill gaps: experienced professionals nurturing knowledge and skills of less experienced youth
- * **Coaching:** solution focused process where mentor facilitates personal growth

FACTORS INHIBITING CHARACTER FORMATION

- * Fading African societal values
- * Globalization /social change
- * Technological Advancement
- * Lack of congruence in values

WHY MENTORSHIP?

- *Sustainable Development require skilled workforce with values

CURRENT EDUCATION SYSTEM

- * learning of values is marginalized
- * Material possession earns one higher economic and social status

CORRUPTION & INJUSTICE



PROBLEM STATEMENT

- * **Value Crisis** : stealing, dishonesty, sex offences disobedience, truancy, assault and insult, drug and alcohol abuse, suicide, strikes or mass demonstrations
- * crimes being committed by highly educated people in this continent

CULTURE OF VIOLENCE AMONG UNIVERSITY STUDENT



GENDER VIOLENCE



CHANGING TRENDS IN GENDER VIOLENCE



What has H E to Do with Environmental Degradation?



From Don't Care to Caring Attitude



UNIVERSITIES' POTENTIAL TO MENTOR YOUTH

- *Universities are preparing leaders; every politician, civil servant, judge, doctor, priest and virtually every business executive will attend a university**

PEDAGOGICAL SHIFT

Apprentice model; mentee observes the mentor and learns.

competency model; systematic feedback on performance and progress to mentee.

Reflective model; reflective, intentional, nurturing and insightful experience for mentor and mentee

Social leadership Development model: undergraduate students work with faculty

ROLE MODELING: AFRICAN TRADITIONAL PERSPECTIVE

- * Boys learns by observing and working alongside fathers & mothers as a formatter for the girls
- * **Adults narrate experiences assuring youth they care about difficulties they are going through**

MODELING FROM CLASS TO REAL LIFE SITUATIONS



MODELING



ALLOWING MENTEES TO MAKE MISTAKES & LEARN



BENEFITS OF MENTORSHIP

- * Empowering learners to be responsible for their own destiny and that of the society
- * Cultivating sense of empowerment and self confidence in career development
- * Transmission of values (respect of self and others)

CONSTRAINT IN DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE MENTORSHIP PROGRAMS

- * Youth closed culture manifested in high level carelessness, disorder and lack of focus
- * Moral decay in the wider society
- * Failure of families to take up parenting roles
- * Dynamics unfolding in family ;Single parent, death of both parents resulting to orphans

MENTORSHIP & SDGS (4)

- **Effective integration youth in social economic Development for common good**
- **Transfer of skills from generation to another**
- **Increased productivity and performance**
- **Increased readiness to learn; learning organizations**
- **Increased commitment and motivation among youth**
- **Desired change supported with innovations**

Parental Negligence



SCHOOL RELATED CHALLENGES

- * **Poor curriculum** orientation that dictates what is to be taught when and how (rigid)
- * **Inadequate Resources** to support rich curriculum in universities are inadequate
- * **Capacity of staff** to engage in mentorship effectively
- * **Research support** to inform policy formulation and review

OPPORTUNITIES

- * Confidence in university education as a tool for social economic development
- * Expansion of higher education in Africa; Ever-growing demand for higher
- * Opportunities for partnerships both local and international
- * Demonstrated readiness by youth to participate in mentorship initiatives

Cont.

- * Attitude change mentors/mentees ;
peer Potential
- * Integration of ICT in mentorship
- * Targeting non traditional clientele
- * Partnerships; local & international
- * Tapping

PROPOSED MODEL SDGS



**Are you willing to hold a hand of
a Youth & Mentor?**

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THE END
Thank you