

In UK, to what extent has the introduction of market principles eroded the morale of teachers since the 1980s?

Teachers play a key factor for the improvement in the quality of education that we have today. Their participation is critical to improve the lives of many people through education. These people are also representing the most important venture in the allocation of the public sector's funds (2005b).

In the United Kingdom, there is a great pay inequality, wherein the payment to the top executives of the land is considered as a breach in the market principles. These people who are getting overpaid because the quality of work they are doing bear very little risk, as compared to other jobs, including the teaching professions. Because of this, the concept of the fair and just reward for a corresponding deed is being worn away. This gives a shadow of doubt on the quality of work done by those jobs who require great efforts from the worker themselves, yet they are paid with only the exact amounts just to make ends meet (Clement, 2006).

When you look at it closely, the jobs requiring a qualification that gives access to a wide range of career trail would be greatly be affected by the salary and conditions of service offered to the worker. For teachers, this aspect has a significant impact on the composition of the job itself and the quality of teaching for these teachers. The decision of qualified individuals to go into teaching or to remain as a teacher would greatly depend their salaries and their earning prospects. This also affects the type of work a

certain person do, concerning how hard he works or how dedicated he is in teaching the students and their outlook in the teaching profession itself .

As the time passed, the earnings of these teachers have slowly declined, as compared to the other working groups. This was an outcome of the worldwide increase of the number of able and knowledgeable people, where teaching has been a main job that they are aspiring – and competing to work into. As the competition grows, the more it is difficult for the teachers and the aspiring teachers to find a suitable job with a good pay. When the market principle is applied to this specific job, teachers would greatly erode their morale because of the great number of people .

If you would apply the consumer choice in the aspect of teaching, the market would provide consumers with variety of choices. This would be a problem to the teachers applying for the job because if you provide them with a certain choice, you are telling them to choose a certain type of teacher and those who are not chosen would end up jobless, or underpaid. Another implication of the market principle is the introduction of competition between teachers. This could mean that teachers would be more concerned on what they would do in order to keep up with their competition with other teachers. This could mean that they would overlook the sole purpose of teaching, which is the welfare of their students to acquire knowledge. Another problem that could be overlooked is the costs and efficient pricing. The implication is again on the quality of work done by the teachers, because they would attune it to how well or how poor they are getting paid, thus the learning purpose for the students are jeopardized (2005a).

References:

(2005a) Market Principles.

(2005b) Policies for better quality.

CLEMENT, B. (2006) Free market principles undermined by executive pay.

Sample - EssayMasters.CO.UK