# The Shortcut of Education

# “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world” was written by Nelson Mandela. Because education is very powerful, students should be able to learn how to control this weapon according to their own skills not be rushed by the teachers or dragged by the slow moving curriculums. Nelson Mandela probably also came from a Ability Grouping school.

# Ability grouping not only benefit the students but also benefits the teachers. Ability grouping helps students develop their skills in critical thinking, active social interaction, collaboration abilities and the ability to understand other points of view (Thompson, n.d.). With ability grouping, students are able to learn new techniques rather than waiting for the teacher to explain the same subjects over again for the students who don’t understand. This may even delay one students’ development. Ability grouping also lightens the teacher’s work because it helps the teacher to adjust to the pace of instructions for student need as a strength ability grouping (Sosnowski, n.d.). As a result, teacher can easily focus on the students’ specific needs. Since the same level of students will be in the same class, teachers don’t have to worry about going too fast or too slow with their plans. With all of these benefits about ability grouping, why cancel this wonderful program?

# The National Education Association points out that advocates of ability grouping emphasize the ability to tailor a student's educational plans to his/her specific needs (Sosnowski, n.d.*).* The gifted students can take more challenging classes instead of being dragged behind. On the other hand, the struggling students can receive extra time and teacher’s attention, which can help them to raise their grade. Ability grouping also increases students’ chance of attending a college. Finland, a country that doesn’t support ability grouping, only has 66% of student who attend college every year (Talyor, 2011). One the other side, China, a country that does support ability grouping, has over 85% who attend college every year. In conclusion, Ability group does have a strong effect on the rates in which students attend college.

# Every aspect have its negative side, including ability group, as a result some sources say, “Some students will experience discomfort with being placed into a group that is considered a lower or higher learning level” (Vasilopoulos, 2012). On the other hand, studies have supported that gifted students actually get motivated throughout the academic without having to lose the momentum while other students are still caching up (Vasilopoulos, 2012). In a non- ability grouping classroom, the lower learning level students sometimes have diffident issues due to the presence of more intelligent students who grab the upper ranks in class. However, when ability group is present classroom, the students in the class are about the same level. Thus, it boosts the lower learning level students’ self-confidence and determination (McKee, n.d.)

# Ability grouping is a great method to improve the school in many ways. It benefits the students by tailoring student’s educational plans to his/ her specific needs. It also benefits the teachers by lightening his/her heavy works. The best part of ability grouping is that it increases students’ chance to attend a college. Last but not least, ability group helps to motivated all levels of learning students. If you want your children to learn how to properly use the most powerful weapon in the world, then go to your school board and suggest ability grouping. And give your child a better future.

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