

ME IN TODAY'S EDUCATIONAL CONTEXT



I, a white, upper-middle income female, currently teach preschool at Bobier Elementary School in Vista, CA .

Bobier's demographics:

- 93% Hispanic/Latino student body
- 95% on free and reduced lunch
- 65% English Language Learners



3 out of 4 school-age children in California are non-white, leading to rising diversity in the classroom (Spring, 2016, p.143).



However, almost 75% of California's teachers are white, leading to cultural clashes between the student body and teaching staff (Spring, 2016, p.169).

PROGRESSION OF A TEACHERS' ROLE

Early 1800s:
Moral leader
(Spring, 2016, p.266).

1950s:
Trainer of winners
in technological
race (Spring, 2016,
p. 268).

1970s/80s:
Lead students into
labor market
(Spring, 2016, p. 268).



Late 1800s:
Vocational
trainer (Spring,
2016, p. 267).

1960s:
Warriors in War
on Poverty
Programs (Spring,
2016, p. 268).

Present:
Prepare students to
compete in global
economy (Spring,
2016, p. 265).

My Role: A Culmination

My current role involves a combination of the above mentioned roles. While I need to prepare my students to succeed academically for the grades ahead of them and for the economy they will eventually enter into, I also have a responsibility to teach them to be upstanding citizens. Teaching a child how to effectively use their words in order to express their needs and feelings, and also to build up others, takes a high priority in a world where they will need to navigate complex and diverse social interactions.

PLAN FOR PROFESSIONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

In order to prepare my students for a diverse society, I need to recognize my privilege, values and biases I bring in to the classroom. Continuing to attend workshops on how different student populations experience the education system and how to enhance cultural competence in the classroom will be key to creating an equitable classroom environment. Involving parents and the community in creating curriculum and participating in family nights will also be crucial to give a voice to the diverse backgrounds each student brings with them. Lastly, collaborating with other teachers will assist me in broadening my perspective in regards to different teaching methods in order to best serve my students.