

Self-Fulfilling Prophecy Homework

Read pgs. 425-428 and complete the following:

1. What is the self-fulfilling prophecy?
2. Describe what happened in each of the following studies:
 - a. The Rosenthal and Jacobson study in San Francisco.
 - b. The Steele and Aronson study on Stereotype Threat.
3. What is between-class ability grouping, and how does this differ from within-class ability grouping in schools?
4. Choose ONE of the following questions and respond in a paragraph:
 - a. Describe a time in your life when a teacher (or a coach) had an expectation or preconceived notion about you from the very beginning, before actually even working with you for long enough to really know whether that expectation or preconceived notion was correct. This expectation could be either positive or negative (For example, when I was in 11th grade my social studies teacher assumed from the start that I was a genius because my older sister had done so well in his class). Why, do you think, did that teacher or coach have that expectation of you? And how did this expectation affect you in terms of your performance and/or your overall experience?
 - b. How do you think our school should be organized in terms of ability-grouping? Currently at CCHS, most departments separate students by ability level (Honors, CP1, CP2, etc.). However, the social studies department does not do this. Which of the following situations do you think would be best for our school, and why? In considering this question, note that the self-fulfilling prophecy may come into play here... Regardless of a student's actual ability level, students may perform at the level of the label given to them, as this label is an expectation and an expectation tends to lead to its own fulfillment. (you don't have to agree with this necessarily, just consider it). Here are your choices:
 - **Choice 1** – ALL subjects, including social studies, should be organized by ability level. In other words, there should be Honors, CP1, CP2, CP3 for all subjects taught at this school.
 - **Choice 2** – keep it the way it is – all other subjects ability grouped, EXCEPT for social studies.
 - **Choice 3** – NO subjects should be grouped by ability. In other words, all subjects should be organized the way social studies is currently organized.

CHOOSE A STANCE AND DEFEND IT!