

Behaviorism

Education



Behaviorism Part Learning process has been a crucial consideration for the early educators and philosophers and has been continuous to date. A retrogressive approach to research in the development of learning process and concept reveals behaviorism as one of the major theories that significantly influenced learning process up to the 20th century. In relation to the theory of behaviorism, students were expected to learn only basic skills such as arithmetic, reading and writing. According to behaviorism theory, learning is a permanent change in behavior that has little to do with the mental process; thus the learning process would be shaped more by the environment. Alteration of the environment would thus aid in influencing feelings, thought and behavior (Jay Moore, 2013).

Behaviorism survived as the core theoretical basis of education and training in the United States due to immediate need for results and performance. Industrial development in this era required employees who could be specialized in performance of a duty without necessarily knowing the intellectual concepts of the duty. Behaviorism theory thus helped in the provision of workers who would perform specific tasks due to conditioning leading to high productivity, thus carving a space as one of the best learning theories during the era. Nevertheless, with the development of technology, learners must acquire intellectual skills for performance of tasks thus rendering behaviorism obsolete (J. Moore, 2011).

Part 2

Positivity philosophy holds that there could be scientific discovery and construction of knowledge. According to this theory, everyone regardless of the topic of pursuit can discover the truth about the world. Positivity philosophy attempts to predict, confirm and investigate patterns of behavior.

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In relation to behaviorism theory, Positivity philosophy holds that different individuals have a different pace of recognition and identification of scientific patterns of nature. The difference in duration for the discovery of the truth is equally influenced by the environment with which an individual is exposed (Williamson, 2008).

In a move that can be intellectually interpreted as support for Positivity philosophy, behaviorism holds that the environment influences the learning process. Through conditioning of an individual to particular environmental factors, the individual learns to understand the environment in a closer aspect that would lead to the discovery of the truth about the surrounding. Discovery of environmental uniqueness would thus form the basis of the philosophy of Positivity.

References

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