

Introductory Session: Response to Video

Social studies is one of the main topics that when taught to students greatly affects them in and out of school. One of the main teaching techniques teachers have been able to teach students with is connecting the past to now. Social studies can be made interesting to students with the way the teachers are able to expose them to it.

A Lot of times growing up we are exposed to stuff we do not understand, through social studies teachers may be able to help the students understand their surroundings. It is important to note through social studies and interactive education students are able to connect to the lesson. In this video it greatly showed the importance of creating a safe space when teaching students about culture and religion or beliefs. One of the main examples of this, in the video teachers were discussing the conflict of palestine, students were instructed to not discuss the claims or the association of the religions but rather only the facts that were given. Through the teaching of social studies it is important to educate students and have them become effective citizens. Being an effective citizen means having your voice heard by voting and becoming one with society. It is not just obeying the law, it is a citizen who is involved in their government.

Engaging students with school is difficult but it could be interesting for students if some of the techniques that workshops used are incorporated. For example making the students a part of the lessons through group work. In the group work I would label the students as countries, topics, or issues and have them work amongst each other to find a solution for the controversial issue. Also when exposing students to social studies I could encourage for there to be different ideas even if they were controversial as long as it did not tamper with the safe space I have

provided for the classroom. Social studies values unity and diversity of society, and mimicking so in a classroom would encourage cooperative learning.