

EDP 7400 Social Psychology of Educational Issues

Group Discussion Activity #7

A. Using your own real-life experiences, provide examples of experiences of cognitive dissonance for the following reasons. Explain how the dissonance was resolved.

- Inevitability
- Irrevocability
- Inadequate External Justification
- Foot-in-the-Door
- “Those who *almost* live in glass houses are the first and hardest to throw stones” (i.e. tempted to do misdeed, but don’t)
- Justification of Cruelty (or other actual misdeed)
- Justification of Effort / Investment

B. Considering the various etiologies of aggression (e.g. chemical, environmental, frustration, social learning, rejection, etc.), discuss those that are most prevalent in schools. With those etiologies in mind, discuss specific intervention strategies for reducing aggression in a school environment. Be sure to incorporate specific social psychological principles, such as cognitive dissonance theory, conformity, etc.