

Attitudes and Opinions of Teacher Candidates about Socialization

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Values and social roles making social life meaningful provide individuals with some solution suggestions and behavior patterns. These behaviors determined by values and roles are learned through socialization. From this perspective, socialization can be defined as the process of having individuals acquire values of the society or teaching and learning of the "roles" which individuals are to undertake in their social life. When it is looked from this perspective, it can be stated that teachers have an important place in the socialization of individuals. For this reason, attitudes and opinions of teacher candidates about the process of socialization are important. This study was carried out with the aim of determining the attitudes and opinions of teacher candidates about the process of socialization. For this purpose, the students at the Education Faculty of Uludag University were asked for their opinions.

The scale used in the study was administered to 439 teacher candidates. The participants were selected from among the 1st and 4th year students. The data collection tool used in the study was developed by benefiting from the scale developed by Şahan (2007). Based on expert opinions, the scale was administered to 137 students for the reliability and validity purposes. From the results obtained from the pilot study, it was determined that the scale had an acceptable reliability and validity level. In the study, the mean of each item was taken, the independent groups t-test was applied for paired comparisons and ANOVA for multiple comparisons and correlations were calculated to determine the state of the relationship.

From the obtained data, it was found that the teacher candidates "Generally" exhibited socialization behaviors ($X= 3.56$) and stated that they "Mostly agreed" to socialize ($X= 4.00$). It was observed that they had highest attitudes toward the items of "I prefer to behave respectfully toward value understandings in different cultures." and "I defend my rights and tell the truth even if I know others will reject me." and lowest ones toward the statements of "I mostly feel lonely in crowd." and "I refrain from establishing a dialogue with people I newly meet." It was determined that the teacher candidates' attitudes and opinions about socialization varied according to gender. Moreover, there was a significant relationship between the attitudes and the opinions of the teacher candidates about socialization.

According to the research results, it can be stated that the teacher candidates generally exhibited positive behaviors in relation to socialization. That the teacher candidates felt lonely in a crowd at the lowest level can be evaluated as a piece of data supporting this judgment. Another important result of the study was that the female teacher candidates' socialization behaviors were higher. Moreover, this might mean that females are more active in socialization. This result can be

evaluated as a finding explaining why the profession of teaching is preferred mostly by females in the educational process, which is a socialization process. According to the results of the study, it can be suggested that especially male candidates can be directed to activities related to the process of socialization.

Key Words: Socialization, teacher candidate, teacher training, primary education

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