



www.hope4thewounded.org

21 QUESTIONS ON EMPATHY, WOUNDED STUDENTS™, & EDUCATION

****KEY**** [7] Agree Strongly; [6] Agree Moderately; [5] Agree Slightly; [4] Neither Agree nor Disagree; [3] Disagree Slightly; [2] Disagree Moderately; [1] Disagree Strongly

1. I am able to identify wounded students™ (children beyond at-risk) in the classroom/organization.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1 _____

2. I feel that overall, those I work with know the signs that might identify a student as wounded.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1 _____

3. I understand how to work with wounded students in the school, classroom, or community.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1 _____

4. As an educator/child advocacy professional, I know how to approach a wounded student™ who may need an empathic connection.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1 _____

5. I believe I can help students transform their lives through education and community support.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1 _____

6. I am intentional about developing strategies to help wounded children™ achieve transformation in their lives.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1 _____

7. I feel my school/organization as a whole has an understanding of wounded students™.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1 _____

8. I feel my school/organization as a whole is effectively reaching wounded students™.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1 _____

9. I feel I have received adequate training for working with wounded students™ in my school or classroom.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1 _____

10. I believe helping a child develop their identity is critical to their academic and life success.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1

11. I understand the basic concepts of brain development and how it pertains to learning, relationships, and behaviors.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1

12. I understand how trauma affects behavior.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1

13. I feel I have a clear working definition of empathy.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1

14. An empathic connection between the teacher/adult and student is essential to the learning process.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1

15. I feel adequately equipped as an educator/professional to be empathic towards my students.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1

16. I routinely observe empathic connections between other teachers/adults and students in my setting.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1

17. When I was in school, educators developed an empathic connection with me as a student.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1

18. I believe that teaching empathy can have a positive effect on bullying in schools and communities.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1

19. I understand what compassion fatigue is and how it is different than burnout.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1

20. I understand how compassion fatigue can impact my effectiveness as an educator/professional.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1

21. As an educator/child advocacy professional, I believe I am significant in the lives of my students.

7 6 5 4 3 2 1

TOTAL

Divided by 21 for Average



Utilizing Dr. Hendershott's 21 Questions on Empathy, Wounded Students™, & Education, calculate your average score and see responses below.

Average Score of Below 4

Your scores indicate a need for a greater understanding of wounded youth and their social, emotional, and academic needs. This is not unusual at all!

Many, many educators that we have met over the years have said they felt well-prepared in their areas of expertise to develop lesson plans and deliver their content, but meeting the unique challenges of children who have experienced trauma was not something typically addressed.

Unfortunately, we live in a world where 47.9% of children have experienced some type of trauma in their lives. Understandably, those experiences can have a profound impact on a child's ability to function in the classroom, which is why having an understanding of these challenges is imperative for educators. I would encourage you and your colleagues to continue in your pursuit of understanding, not just for your students' sake, but for yours, as well.

Being an educator may be considered a noble profession, but it's also a tough one. If you're constantly experiencing frustration and a lack of connection with your most challenging students, you can quickly find yourself experiencing compassion fatigue. Seek out conferences and trainings that are geared towards an understanding of the effects of trauma and inspire fresh ideas for building community. Please feel free to visit my website for information about upcoming conferences as well as the training offerings I have for whole schools as well as individual, online training. Whatever you do, seek to rediscover your original passion for being significant in the lives of young people!

Average Score of 4-5.9

Your average score indicates that you might feel at this point like you have some areas of strength, but overall you are only experiencing pockets of success personally or within your organization.

Don't be discouraged!

Your score also indicates that some good things are happening. You might just need to keep the discussion going. Try to get more team members on the same page with the understanding that you have about wounded children.

Some schools have opted to use one of my books as a book study. It is a great way to spark some discussion and inspire some ideas for being intentional with wounded students. I also encourage districts to utilize professional development days to provide training specific to understanding wounded students and how childhood trauma affects behavior, learning, and relationships.

Most educators are already masters at delivering their content! Providing training geared toward the day-to-day challenges that educators today are facing is both encouraging and empowering. I believe that's what every educator needs in the midst of all the demands they face.

Be cognizant of compassion fatigue and how to combat it among fellow educators. One thing I feel most honored to do is provide face-to-face training for districts about working with wounded students, which includes discussion about compassion fatigue. If your district is unable to provide training at this time, I would encourage you to explore opportunities for growth on a personal level.

Feel free to explore my website for different resources that might be of interest to you! But whatever you do, don't give up! Keep reminding yourself of your original motivation for working with children...you have the power to influence generations to come!

Hope 4 The Wounded, LLC, 21 Questionnaire Responses to Averages, Cont.

Average Score of 6 or Above

Your overall average score indicates that you have much to feel encouraged about with regard to working with wounded students!

Do you find that you're seeing pockets of success or a cultural change happening in your building? A cultural change is the goal! It means that the attitude of the team is to consistently and collectively understand, reach, and then help in the transformation of the lives of our wounded students through connection and community.

Celebrate the things you are doing well and continue building on them with community members, parents, and others who work with wounded children in the extended community.

If you feel like the strength in your score is more indicative of personal pockets of success versus a cultural change, I would encourage you to keep modeling inclusive strategies for engaging wounded students and strengthening your personal knowledge and conviction for reaching this marginalized student population so that you can become a leader in the movement for change.

Keep feeding your passion to make a difference!

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