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Early Childhood Care and Education

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Effective Interpersonal Communications

ECC 157 / CVS3 & CVS4

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**Running Head: INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION 1**

**Movie Assignment**

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**INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION 2**

Shrek is a terrifying big green smelly ogre who lives alone in the woods, in a swamp,

feared by all the people in the land of Duloc. All of a sudden Shrek’s swamp is invaded by fairy

tale characters. They were banished from their kingdom by Lord Farquaad, the evil ruler of

Duloc. Shrek loses his peaceful life so he sets out to find Lord Farquaad to ask him to return the

fairy tale characters back to their kingdom. Lord Farquaad agrees with Shrek’s request, under

one condition, that he brings Princess Fiona back to Lord Farquaad so they can be married and

Lord Farquaad can become King. To find the tower, guarded by a fire breathing dragon “Shrek

goes on a quest to rescue the feisty Princess Fiona with the help of his loveable Donkey and win

back the deed to his swamp from scheming Lord Farquaad” (Dreamworks, 2020). On their

journey back Shrek begins to fall in love with Princess Fiona, and Princess Fiona is trying hard

to hide your secret.

Interpersonal communication is “communication in which the parties consider one another as unique individuals rather than as objects. It is the characterized by minimal use of stereotyped labels; unique, idiosyncratic social rules; and a high degree of information exchange” (Adler, R.B., Rodman, G. & Sevigny, A, 2019, p. 7)”.

The 3 concepts of interpersonal communication I will be addressing throughout the movie are:

1. Non-Verbal
2. Self-Concept
3. Stereotype
4. Non-Verbal: Over half of our communicating interactions with others is send and received via non-verbal messages. “Non-verbal communication, messages expressed by other than linguistic means” (Adler, R.B., Rodman, G. & Sevigny, A, 2019, p. 137). Non verbal messages can be expressed through “a facial movement, a touch, a body movement, a gestures, a eye movement or passive non-verbal, meaning not sending a non-verbal when one is expected” (Iman, G. (2015)

The Shrek movie clip “Love in the Air Scene” shows non-verbal communicating interactions between Shrek and Princess Fiona. It starts when the Princess is having trouble removing an arrow from Shrek’s bottom. As she pulls on the arrow, the pain from the moving arrow makes Shrek roll over and the Princess falls on top of him. Princess Fiona smiles as they both glaze into one another’s eyes. As they continue to walk there are no words expressed, only non-verbal communicating is present. They smile at one another, Shrek holds down a tree for Princess Fiona to walk on to across the stream, as she moves she sways her hips softly from side to side, gently taps him on his back when she passes he, which make Shrek smile. Shrek lets the tree loose and is oblivious to Donkey being flung for the tree. Next the Princess catches flies to make Shrek a cotton fly stick. Shrek’s soft eyes and smile show caring emotions towards the Princess. When Shrek shows wide frightened eyes and open mouth, while looking at a snake, the princess grabs the snake and turns into a balloon for Shrek. As they continue to walk the tap one another’s shoulders while smiling and laughing.

Through this clip you can clearly see and understand the warm and loving connection between Shrek and the Princess. Donkey can also understands the non-verbal connection they have been one another, when he express “Look, if you want to be alone all you had to do was ask, ok.” He also has wide eyes of surprise when the Princess is catching flies. From the impact of the non-verbal communicating interactions not only do the characters feel positive emotions, we as an audience can see, understand and feel them too.

1. Self-Concept: “The relatively stable set of perceptions each individual holds of him- or her. The self-concept includes our conception about what makes us unique and what makes us similar to and different from others. To put it differently, the self-concept is like a mental mirror that reflects how we view ourselves: not only physical features but also our emotional states, talents, likes and dislikes, values, and roles” (Adler, R.B., Rodman, G. & Sevigny, A, 2019, p. 58).

Self-concept is also the holding umbrella to self-esteem, self-worth, self-image, self-efficacy, and self-awareness.

The “Hallelujah Scene” From the Shrek movie shows and demonstrates ones self-concept. Through Shrek’s emotional state he angrily conveys his own concept of living alone. Donkey is running to catch up with Shrek to let him know he talked to Princess Fiona. Shrek already in a angry frame of mind, knew Donkey had talked to her last night expressing to Donkey in a depressed escalating into an angry emotion “You are great pals aunt yeah. Now if you two are such good friends, way don’t yeah follow her home” Quickly Donkey says “Shrek, I want da go with you.” Shrek says “ Hay, I told you didn’t I, you not coming home with me. I live alone. My swamp. Me. Nobody else. Understand. Nobody, especially useless, pathetic, annoying, talking donkeys” Donkey replies quietly “But, I thought...” then Shrek interrupts angrily “Yeah, you know what you thought wrong,”

Shrek continues to walk, alone, to entre his home. Princess Fiona stands alone dressed in her wedding dress inside her castle bedroom (sighing) to soon marry Lord Farquaad. The movie switches back and forward from Shrek, Princess Fiona and Donkey showing each of their emotion states, angry, sadness, heartbroken, alone, a feeling of lose, disgust, envy, shame, remorse.

This scene is accompanied with the song “Hallelujah”. This song has many interpretations of one’s emotions, and about one’s concepts of their own life. Is it filled with beauty, lust, joyfulness emotions – “Hallelujah”. Or is one’s life filled with mournful, brokenness, cold, sad emotions – “Hallelujah” Or is it a test with in the heart of the value of beauty and love, or of the cool and broken relationship – “Hallelujah”. This scene shows the characters attitudes and behaviours which impacts their interpersonal communication, and affects how others react to them. Having self-awareness to help us understand our self-concepts, will help us to interact and communicate in a positive manner. Our self-esteem, self-worth, self-efficacy, and self-image will also improve.

1. Stereotype: “A stereotype is an over-generalized belief about a particular category of people. It is an expectation that can; it can be. For example, an expectation about the group’s personality, preferences, or ability. Stereotypes are generalized because one assumes that the stereotype is true for each individual person in the category” (Wikipedia. (2020).

From the movie clip “True Love’s Kiss Scene” the Shrek movie shows beliefs of stereotype and addresses the stereotype of appearance.

“By night one way, by day another” says Princess Fiona. At this moment in the movie the Princess wants Shrek to know who she really is. She is an “ogre”. When Princess Fiona’s character changes from a beautiful, tall, slender, blonde hair, lady like princess, to a well groomed, short, curvy, red head, lady like princess wearing her crown, green “ogre”, there is evidence of assumptions from the people from the kingdom. A lady faints from the slight of seeing another “ogre”. Lord Farquaad announcing Princess Fiona is “disguting” and orders the guards to get both Shrek and Princess Fiona and hold them so he can marry Princess Fiona so he can become King not because loves her. Shrek flights back for the love of his life and with the help from Donkey and the dragon. The dragon grabs Lord Farquaad and gobbles him up as a light snack. With a burp the dragon brings up the Lords crown and spits it on the floor. Donkey then shares a stereotype comment “Celebrity marriages they never last do they”.

When Princess Fiona changes into an ogre, Shrek made a comment “Well, aww, that explains a lot” with a look of surprise and happiness.

Later in the movie Shrek and Princess Fiona express their love for one another and seal it with a kiss. Even though Princess Fiona’s appearances changed Shrek still thought she was beautiful and recognized she is still the same person he fall in love with. Her appearances did not change how Shrek felt about her. When Princes Fiona felt feeling for Shrek she can see the kind and gentle ogre he was and still is.

Stereotypes are made up from assumptions of our first impressions of an individual or members of a group. Without proof, evidence, fact, how do we know our assumptions of an individual or group member are true? By constantly rechecking our own beliefs in regards to stereotypes, our behaviour towards meeting a new individual or new group member will be clearer.

Through the process of understanding interpersonal communication I have learnt perception, one’s self, communication – verbal and non-verbal, language and listening can be distorted when we receive and send messages. When learning new skills to improve communication interacts and connections with others, it can be exciting and refreshing along with uncomfortable and challenging. When learning about different interacting communication types, intrapersonal – individual, dyad – 2 individuals, interpersonal – 3 individuals in small groups, and public and mass -large groups, we learn more about relationships and behaviours of ourselves and others.

With an open mind, clear language and successful listening skills, we can develop effective communication skills and then, we will be able to truly understand and supports others.

**References**

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