Your Name

Instructor Name

Course Number

Date

The Development of Manners

Manners make a proper gentleman and a person is nothing without good manners. In order for a person to be well-behaved and polite, he or she should be equipped with good manners. Good manners shape the personality of a person and make him or her civilized. Good manners also give rise to a pleasant, healthy and livable society, where everyone takes care of each other and gives value to the other person’s opinion (Zhao). Good manners include many things like being respectful (to both elders and the juniors), listening to other people’s points and opinions with attention and respect, helping others, keep the home and society clean, respecting the property and privacy of others and table manners. But these manners are not acquired overnight, in fact, they are developed over a period of time.

The development of manners is not a new issue. Instead, it has been in the discussions for a very long time. Parents, sociologists, and psychologists have been trying for a long time to develop techniques so that a proper mechanism can be devised in order to give rise to a healthy society. The contributions of the Christian humanist, Erasmus, cannot be ignored in this respect. Erasmus focused on instructing the Europeans about table manners and control of bodily functions in the public. Erasmus focused on both these aspects because the physical movements, gestures and the behavior that a person exhibited on dining table, held great importance during the medieval times, especially, burping, sneezing and farting (Elias). Hence, in this way, Erasmus tried to turn his followers and the people around him into better and well-behaved citizens.

Works Cited

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Zhao, Kun, Eamonn Ferguson, and Luke D. Smillie. "Individual differences in good manners rather than compassion predict fair allocations of wealth in the dictator game." *Journal of Personality* 85.2 (2017): 244-256.