Introduction

Who is Nel Noddings?

Born January 19, 1929 Nel Noddings had many influences while creating her theories in ethical care. These influences included her own experiences in school, raising ten children and her educational background.

Her degrees include Bachelor and Masters degrees in mathematics as well as a PhD in education.

She took an analytical and continental philosophic approach which lead her to her concern with ethical concern in the classroom.

Nel Noddings’ Bibliography

2011 - Peace Education How We Come to Love and Hate War
2011 - Philosophy of Education
2010 - The Maternal Factor Two Paths to Morality
2007 - Critical Lessons What Our Schools Should Teach
2007 - When School Reform Goes Wrong
2005 - The Challenge to Care in Schools an Alternative Approach to Education Second Edition
2004 - Happiness and Education
2003 - Caring a Feminine Approach to Ethics and Moral Education Second Edition with a New Preface
2002 - Starting at Home Caring and Social Policy
2002 - Educating Moral People a Caring Alternative to Character Education
1998 - Awakening the Inner Eye Intuition in Education
1995 - Philosophy of Education
1993 - Educating for Intelligent Belief or Unbelief
1992 - Women and Evil
1992 - The Challenge to Care in Schools an Alternative Approach to Education

“Care is basic in human life— all people want to be cared for”

- Nel Noddings
“The student is infinitely more important then the subject matter” -Nel Noddings

The Process of Caring for and Caring about the Individual

Caring for someone includes
- Caring for is investing in the individual making connections between their experiences and your own and being able to build a relationship focused on reciprocity.

Caring about someone includes
- Applying the foundations of caring for an individual to more global matters of social justice.

Caring for one another creates positivity and therefore provides motivation to adhere to social issues.
- Caring for every individual regardless of background or personal feelings to enhance unity.
- Looking for social justice and growth of the individual and relationships

Veering away from the predominate focus of academic success
- Placing focus on the significant of caring and building of relationships.

Foundations of Ethical Care Giving
- Care is a basic human right.

- The Four Needs in Education;
  Assessing the Needs of Your Students Before Implementing a Care System
  - *Inferred Needs* - The needs of students that are not internalized they are the needs established by educators and school system.
  - *Expressed Needs* - The needs directly expressed by the individual themselves.
  - *Basic Needs* - Elements of Survival required by all individuals.
  - *Overwhelming Needs* - Needs that are internalized by the individual that require extensive support often by trained professionals.

- The Four means of Establishing Care in the Classroom
  - *Modeling* - Educations show in their behavior what it is to care through demonstration.
  - *Dialogue* - To engage in caring conversation with individuals where positive relationships manifest and contribute to personal growth.
  - *Practice* - Continual efforts in experience create a mentality surrounding ethical care.
  - *Confirmation* - An act of infirming or encouraging the best in others. Incorporating trust and understanding into your relationship.

Criticisms:
- Issue surrounding the teacher becoming a martyr or slave to the child where their personal caring or self-importance is not provided for.
- Children can lose sense of individuality through forms of smothering or over-care by the teacher.
- Inappropriate relationship between child and teacher where family dynamics differ and can cause imbalance.
- A huge issue within the feminist community where they feel they’re being pushed back into a particular traditional lifestyle of the motherly role.
- A child will learn dependency and lose focus or control on how to be independent.

“Everything we do, then, as teachers, has moral overtones”. ~ Nel Noddings