

ECE 410: Discipline of Children

Dr. K. A. Korb
University of Jos

Key Terms

- **Punishment:** The infliction or imposition of a penalty as retribution for an offense
 - Punishment is **not** limited to beating
- **Restitution:** Make amends for loss or harm suffered

Key Terms

- **Discipline:** The practice of training people to obey rules and using punishment to correct disobedience
 - Comes from the Latin **disciplina**: “instruction, knowledge”
 - Comes from the same word as **discipline**: “to learn”
 - Similar to the word is **disciplined**: showing a controlled form of behavior or way of working
- **Mistaken behavior** (Gartrell, 2004): Young children are learning appropriate behavior and making mistakes is part of the learning process.
 - Misbehavior may be an error, not necessary disobedience
 - The cause of the misbehavior should influence the teacher’s intervention
- **Restorative discipline:** Misbehavior requires corrective discipline to educate a child about appropriate behaviors

Discipline

- Three important elements of discipline:
 - Discussion that clearly identifies the child’s wrong behavior
 - Instruction on how the child can behave better in the future
 - A consequence for the misbehavior (e.g., restitution or punishment)