

ROLE OF EDUCATION IN SOCIO-CULTURAL **CHANGES**

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Abstract

This article highlights the role and importance of education in socio-cultural changes, as well as some ways in which education can contribute to cultural changes.

Keywords: education, gender, cultural consciousness, cultural practices, mother tongue, socialization and norms.

Introduction

Education plays a decisive role in socio-cultural changes in society. Education and sociocultural changes are necessarily interrelated. It is through education that knowledge, values, attitudes and skills are passed from generation to generation, influencing people's way of thinking, behavior and attitude towards each other. Understanding these complex relationships not only illuminates the role of education in changing society, but also shows that education can be used as a tool to achieve desired social changes.

Social changes directly affect the content and approach of education. For example, issues such as climate change and gender equality are now echoing in educational programs.

One of the main tasks of education is to prepare a person to live in a complex and diverse society. Education can be a powerful tool for changing a society's culture and values, especially if it is aligned with people's aspirations and needs.

Education plays a crucial role in cultural empowerment because it provides people with knowledge, skills and a deeper understanding of their own culture. By providing access to education, individuals can develop a sense of cultural identity and pride, which in turn enables them to contribute to the preservation and promotion of their cultural heritage.

Some of the ways that education can contribute to cultural change are:

- 1. Education develops cultural awareness: Through education, people learn about the history, traditions and values of their culture. This knowledge helps them appreciate their cultural roots and develop a sense of belonging to their community.
- 2. Preservation of Cultural Practices: Education equips people with the necessary tools to preserve and pass on cultural practices to future generations. By learning about traditional customs, rituals and arts, individuals can actively participate in cultural activities and ensure their continuity.
- 3. Empowerment through language: Education provides an opportunity to maintain a mother tongue and a strong cultural identity.

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- 4. Promotion of cultural diversity: Education encourages people to accept diversity and appreciate different cultures. By exposing students to different cultural perspectives, education fosters tolerance, respect and understanding between different communities.
- 5. Socialization and Norms: Education plays an important role in socializing individuals and reinforcing cultural norms and values. In schools, students learn the demands of society, moral values and standards of behavior. However, education can be a catalyst for questioning and challenging existing norms, especially when it encourages critical thinking and open communication.
- 6. Education and Social Movements: Throughout history, education has been closely related to social movements and cultural change. Educational institutions are often hotbeds for activism, where students mobilize for causes such as civil rights, environmentalism, and social justice. Education can provide people with the knowledge, skills and platforms they need to organize, advocate and influence change in their communities.

It should be recognized that education is not the only factor of socio-cultural change. Factors such as technological progress, media influence, political changes, and economic changes also play an important role. Nevertheless, education remains a powerful tool for educating citizens, developing cultural understanding, and promoting positive cultural change in societies.

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