

**ROLE OF EDUCATION AND IDENTITY
FOR QUALITY EDUCATION**

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Abstract

Education develops a country's economy and society; therefore, it is the milestone of a nation's development. Education provides knowledge and skills to the population, as well as shaping the personality of the youth of a nation. Education can cultivate the person's identity or sense of belonging to the nation. Education is very important for an individual's success in life. It can give a big impact on human opportunity in continuing their life quality. Education is generally seen as the foundation of society which brings economic wealth, social prosperity and political stability. Economic and social status depends on education obtained by individual since education contributes to individual capability in managing quality of life. Our identity is the very core of who we are as human beings. From birth, we are subject to how we are thought about, treated, and cared for by the significant persons in our lives as well as by others in multiple environments. Our ideas about self are largely a reflection of others' ideas about us, good and bad or in between. Schools have an enormous influence on how we come to see ourselves, the hopes and dreams we acquire, and our achievement motivation. One's identity has a major influence on how they perceive others, their self-esteem, self-confidence, aspirations, motivation, and effort expended in various aspects of their life. Present paper is an attempt to find out the role of education to build up the identity of an individual and how identity helps for quality education.

Keywords: *education, identity, quality education, teacher*

Education is very important for an individual's success in life. It can give a big impact on human opportunity in continuing their life quality. Education is generally seen as the foundation of society which brings economic wealth, social prosperity and political stability. Economic and social status depends on education obtained by individual since education contributes to individual capability in managing quality of life. It can help one's individual to avoid from poverty, build up harmony and democracy society. Education also capable to give power for them to voice out their views, expose to them their real potential, lead them to become a better person and widen their views in certain area. Education is the key to move in the world, seek better jobs and ultimately succeed in life. Education is the best investment for the people because well educated people have more opportunities to get a job which gives them satisfaction. Educated individuals enjoy respect among their colleagues and they can effectively contribute to the development of their country and society by inventing new devices and discoveries. Main purpose of education is to educate individuals within society, to prepare and qualify them for work in economy as

well as to integrate people into society and teach those values and morals of society. Role of education is means of socializing individuals and to keep society smoothing and remain stable. Education in society prepares youngsters for adulthood so that they may form the next generation of leaders. One of the education essential tasks is to enable people to understand themselves. Students must be equipped with knowledge and skills which are needed to participate effectively as member of society and contribute towards the development of shared values and common identity.

What is education?

Education means a change in man's conduct of life. It means the upgrading of a man's ability to choose the best alternative available in any circumstance he faces. It means the development of the person to prepare him to adopt the best approach to a problem at any given time. Education defined as 'adjustment ability to a changing situation and environment'. Education is more than an economic investment: it is an essential input upon which life, development and the survival of man depend. We all know that it is the responsibility of everyone in a country to educate; whether we are parents, adults, children, or teachers, in the public or private sector, education is the responsibility of everyone. But however we see the needs and problems, most of us would agree that the role of education is to help provide the opportunity for all people to develop as fully as possible. Education should be a means to empower children and adults alike to become active participants in the transformation of their societies. Learning should also focus on the values, attitudes and behaviours which enable individuals to learn to live together in a world characterized by diversity and pluralism. Education therefore has a crucial long-term role in developing a knowledge and understanding of human rights, the values base they represent and the skills required to strengthen a democratic culture.

Roles of Education

The role of education is inevitable in producing new generation that enable in solving the real problems in our society. Today's ever growing numbers of people mostly are not satisfied with their basic education and try to get secondary or tertiary education in order to meet the demands of contemporary society. They sacrifice their time and money and sometimes even their health to raise educational level because they realize that education is their passport to the future and for tomorrow. The school also can play a role in supporting youths' development toward a positive sense of ethnic identity. For instance, they can organize several programmes that can build up their sense of interaction among the ethnicity. At the same time, they can improve their understanding on other ethnics. When the students have full understanding in ethnic identity, they will become more tolerate and respect on others ethnic group. Community service is another area of the curriculum that can help in cultivating and instilling the sense of national identity. It can be an important part of civic education, provided it is properly conceived as being more than just

doing good deeds. It can contribute to the effort in instilling the value of solidarity among races especially the teenagers. It includes the activity that stressed about tolerance and harmony value regardless religion and race aspect. By doing community service, students will also develop a sense of civic duty and commitment to the nation.

Identity via Education

Education can be regarded as systematic efforts that build up by the society in order to deliver the knowledge, value, attitude and skill among their group members towards an effort to enhance individual's potential and changes that occurred in themselves. This definition is consistent with Education Philosophy whereby "Education in India is an on-going effort towards further developing the potential of individuals in a holistic and integrated manner, so as to produce individuals who are intellectually, spiritually, emotionally and physically balanced and harmonic, based on a firm belief in and devotion to God. Thus, all the science of education both in terms of skills, academic and personal is very important to the country in forming the personality of youth today. Education received by students is what shapes the identity of the country where education have a substantial impact on life opportunities to acquire good quality and identity. Therefore, quality education is a dynamic concept of change and evolves over time and changes in the context of social, economic and environmental. According to Ross and Wu (1996), education level of individuals incapable of managing the quality of life for economic and social development depends on the education received. Through education, individuals can build self-esteem among them the confidence to face the world and society and to understand the heart's desire. Wehmeyer (1996), states that self-assertiveness is the foundation of one's life. With firmness, individuals are capable of making choices and decisions on actions and break free from outside influence or interference that is not beneficial. Assertiveness and confidence is a knowledge derived from education. Without education, ones self-esteem is not as strong as a person who acquires knowledge in education. Obviously education has a very important role in transmitting and fostering values that determine, in turn, behaviours, attitudes, reactions specific of responsible citizens. According to DeniHardianto (2005), failure of education in shaping the identity is due to the components in the education system. All members of society including teacher, educational facilities and government's commitment need to get involved in improving education. For instance teachers also must have a strong identity and at the same time strong commitment in cultivating the sense of identity to the students. The government needs to play an important role in the development of national education. It includes provide adequate education, take care of teacher's welfare and avoid making education as a political medium.

Definition of Quality Education

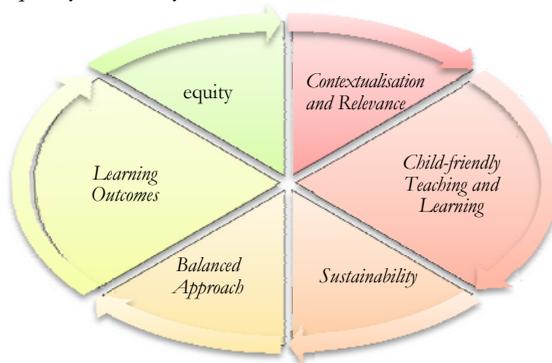
"A good quality education is one that provides all learners with capabilities they require to become economically productive, develop sustainable livelihoods,

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contribute to peaceful and democratic societies and enhance individual well-being. The learning outcomes that are required vary according to context but at the end of the basic education cycle must include threshold levels of literacy and numeracy, basic scientific knowledge and life skills including awareness and prevention of disease. Capacity development to improve the quality of teachers and other education stakeholders is crucial throughout this process."

Six Crucial Dimensions of Quality Education

Education leads to *empowerment*, a process of strengthening individuals, organisations and communities so they get more control over their own situations and environments. Quality education is a crucial factor in combating poverty and inequality in society.



Six Dimensions of Quality Education

Equity: Equity in education means that personal and social circumstances such as gender, ethnic origin or family background are not obstacles to achieving educational potential and that all individuals reach at least a basic minimum level of skills.

Contextualisation and Relevance: Quality education cannot be based on a blueprint that is applicable in all situations. Solutions and adaptations of education systems must be based on the real needs of a country and/or community.

Child-friendly Teaching and Learning: Quality education puts the child in the centre and helps it to reach his or her full potential. Quality Education requires children's active participation.

Sustainability: Educational change processes often need time to be realised. By enhancing the capacities of local education authorities,

Balanced Approach: Quality education aims at developing a balanced set of capabilities of children they require to become economically productive, develop sustainable livelihoods, contribute to peaceful and democratic societies and enhance individual well-being.

Learning Outcomes: After completing a certain level of education, children must have developed a minimum standard of skills. Quality education requires a results-oriented approach.

Influences on Identity Development

One's identity has a major influence on how they perceive others, their self-esteem, self-confidence, aspirations, motivation, and effort expended in various aspects of their life (Smith, Walker, Fields, Brookins, & Seay, 1999). When schools don't aggressively try to facilitate positive identities by all their students, including their racial identity, there are consequences. A growing number of immigrants from all over the world who are students in our public schools, in addition to many diverse native-born students of colour, are subject to stereotypes and low teacher expectations. Such bias increases student concerns about social acceptance and increases their feelings of inadequacy when it comes to academic performance (Altschul, Oysterman, & Bybee, 2008, 2006; Jackson, 2011). Identity development, especially among minority students with complex beliefs about ethnic identity, can influence the nature and depth of conflicts with diverse others, and also how well they do in school (Glenn, 2003).

The personal strengths individuals develop or expand, as well as their degree of resilience when facing difficulties, may strongly influence their personal identity or be the result of their personal identity. The choices and priorities students embrace, as well as their perception of personal life chances and potential, are to some extent a reflection of the factors making up their racial/ethnic identity (McHatton, Shaunnsey, Hughes, Brice, & Ratliff, 2007; Noguera & Akom, 2000). Our identity may be more influenced by what others believe about us, their impressions of us, and how they react to our actions. Students need to both feel smart and be smart, the ways students express their identities can sometimes undermine their achievement and goals.

Domains of Identity Safety

There are four domains that works together to create trust, autonomy, belonging, and competence and create a sense that each child's interests and skills matter. With each domain, include a few suggested practices.

1. *Student-Centred Teaching*: This domain promotes autonomy, cooperation, and student voice. Student-centred teaching forms the foundation of a classroom by helping students learn self-efficacy and cooperation with ways to contribute ideas, thoughts, and feelings.

Have students set social and academic goals, reflect on how they are working together, and propose ways to improve; Encourage students to help one another.

2. *Cultivating Diversity as a Resource*: This domain includes using diversity as a resource for learning while demonstrating high expectations through academic rigor and challenging curriculum. Diversity is not an add-on, but an integral part of having students co-create an exciting curriculum by drawing on their unique backgrounds.

Every day (not restricted to a specific month or holiday), include diverse music, art, games, stories, and activities that reflect the backgrounds of each student;

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Convey high expectations through positive presuppositions, phrases that assume a student's best intention and effort.

3. Classroom Relationships: This domain includes teacher warmth and availability for learning and positive student relationships as foundational for trust. Teachers achieve this through caring, attentiveness, and ensuring that students treat one another kindly and fairly. Genuine warmth and friendliness go a long way toward creating a sense of belonging.

Blend humour and light-heartedness with meaningful academic content; Ensure that nobody is humiliated or criticized, but rather that everyone is learning together from mistakes.

4. Caring Classroom Environments: This domain focuses on students' emotional and physical comfort and attention to prosocial development in the classroom environment. The emotional tone of a classroom determines whether or not the students feel physically and psychologically safe and comfortable. Attention to their prosocial development along with academic growth will support development in both areas. This practice comes with built-in management because the teacher communicates clear expectations and students feel able to manage themselves in a classroom that doesn't feel chaotic.

Put every student's work on the wall, whether or not it's perfect; Include posters and displays that include other people who look like your students; Incorporate both social skill building and practice into academic and non-academic moments; Imagine the classroom from the point of view of different students; One approach is sitting in their seats to imagine how they feel in class.

Why is Identity the Latest Focus of Education?

One of the major talking points in education around the globe isn't a subject nor is it to do with exams or teacher ratings, it's actually identity. How we see ourselves as people in the world has always been important but the reason schools and policymakers are honing in on this often ephemeral subject in today's world is unique to this time in history.

Firstly, neuroscience and the idea of the self (and the implications of this) has massively developed over the last few decades; we are only just now truly coming to understand both from a philosophical and scientific level how our identities shape us and our societies. Secondly, due to globalization and countries finally owning up to their less-than-perfect pasts the idea of national identity is under reconstruction. And in a time where extreme beliefs are being given a voice once more, it is more vital than ever to bring people together – no matter their religion, race, sexual orientation or gender – into a common identity. Governments around the world are looking to schools to help them create a cohesive country by interweaving national identity throughout the school day. The approach to this differs depending on the country. National identity is just one thread of what it is that makes us and although creating a cultural dialogue where we all agree on a set of values (tolerance, free speech,

inclusion) our personal identities also shape our societies and should therefore be of high priority to governments and schools alike.

The Teacher's Role in Finding a Student's Self-Identity

Every aspect of the life of a student plays its own role in identity development. It's important to keep a clear mind and to follow up on a student to lead them in the right direction, without deciding what kind of person that students should be; As a teacher, you can teach your students the right and wrongs in the world, but never impose a biased opinion. Figuring out what opinion they have and how students interact with certain topics are a huge part of discovering out their self-identity; That is, if they have their own opinion. It's very common that students just don't really know what they stand for. These students often follow the stream and collapse under peer-pressure. That's why helping students find their self-identity is very important; Finding out what a student stands for is part of finding self-identity. What opinion a student has and how they react on certain topics reflects a personality immediately; Push students to dig deeper. Ask about their interests and expertise; Let your students introduce themselves; your students have to present themselves as unique as they are.

Conclusion

As a conclusion, education plays a significant role in achieving a good quality of life. It is because education is importance guidance in human's life. It can be regarded as important medium in changing the paradigm shift in one's individual. Generally, education is always associated with the process of delivering skill, disseminating knowledge and internalizing value. Research revealed that teachers can create identity-safe classrooms, defined as places that foster belonging and value for students of all backgrounds. Practically, individual who equipped with knowledge can be able to internalize and apply the knowledge in every day's life. In children's context, education can be seen as continuing process of their development, so that they can practice and apply their knowledge as preparation in the future. Thus, education is major aspect of development of any modern society since if there is a deficit of educated people then society will stops its further progress.

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