



EDUCATION AND ITS IMPACT IN PREVENTION OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY.

Law

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ABSTRACT

Education plays a very important role in the life of a child. Education is the backbone of a nation. The onus is on the parents to educate a child and teach the value of education early in a child's life. A large number of juvenile delinquents are illiterates or dropped out after primary education. Research suggests that lack of education and juvenile crimes go hand-in-hand. Social group influences, poverty, addiction to drugs etc., leads a child to abandon schooling. In order to educate people about the importance of education, necessary plan and action has to be undertaken.

KEYWORDS

Education, poverty, juvenile delinquency, illiteracy, crimes.

Introduction:

Education is a basic right of every child. It can play a very significant role in human life from birth to death. It is a known fact that around 58 million in the world don't have access to the school. In a competitive world a person requires education to tackle several situations in life. Knowledge opens the door of opportunity for a child. Education plays a very important role in promoting the growth of a child and also in the development of a country. The future generation need a strong foundation and education is the base to it.

Education has the power to change the thoughts of children and fine tuning their skill and knowledge level. An educated youth is able to differentiate good and bad and can carve out a way for himself or herself to lead a better life in the future.

Reasons for lack of education:

Innumerable reasons can be stated for lack of education among the children and a few of them are:

- Poverty
- Disability
- Child marriage
- Child labour
- No schools.
- Distance from home to school.
- Not being able to meet educational expenses,
- Human slavery
- Poor nutrition etc.

Poverty is a curse to humanity. It has its effects on many issues in the world and one among them is education. It is believed that around 1.2 billion people in India are below poverty line and the consequence of which is deprivation of education to children. A family which suffers from poverty has no option except to deprive the child of education and concentrate on survival by pushing them to work at an early age.

Children with disabilities are often denied access to certain schools. Education is universal human right. Factors such as discrimination, lack of proper teaching methods etc., leave them vulnerable to being denied education. Child marriage and child labour are still practiced in some areas and these factors are detrimental to the interest of a child.

In certain places there are no schools to provide education to children and the consequence of it is illiteracy among people. In some cases, children have to walk a long way to the school in order to get educated, the result of which in many cases is dropping out of the same.

Poverty and lack of education leads to human slavery as many children are pushed into forced labour in order to fulfill the commitments of their family.

Poor nutrition, hunger and poverty go hand-in-hand. Malnourishments can lead to several problems in the society and it affects the brain development of children.

Juvenile Delinquency and Education:

Juvenile delinquency refers to the children below 18 years committing crime and the age of 13 – 18 years is referred to as transition period. Research shows that majority of the children who commit crime are illiterates and dropped out after primary education. The World Bank states that "Education is one of the most powerful instruments for reducing poverty and inequality and lays foundation for sustained economic growth". There are various reasons for a child to crime and a few of them are poverty, peer group influence, parental criminality, school exclusion and exposure to media. Poverty also affects a child in committing crimes. The children who are excluded from the school are influenced by social group and exposed to criminal activity at a very early stage in the life.

The juveniles who are in conflict with law always have a poor background in education and are not good decision makers which create an impulsive action of committing crime. The behavior of a child who is not educated can result in committal of crime as the child is unable to distinguish bad from the good.

The researcher also states that it is important to take into consideration the emotional factor of a child as during the transition period it is difficult for a child to control emotion. The social environment of a child is one of the main causes that are leading a child to commit crime. The people in slums are abandoning the idea of educating their child and this leads a child to get involved in crime.

Conclusion:

The country's future lies in the children of today. Education to children is a basic human right but millions of children are not going to school because of various reasons as stated above. It is the duty of a Country to encourage people to send their children to school in order to attain basic educational qualification. As education can significantly change the thoughts of children, it is necessary to educate children and make education accessible to every child of the country.

On the contrary, lack of education leads to bad decisions with unstable mind and bad decision leads a child to commit crime. The juveniles who are in conflict with law once they are out of the homes completing secondary education has become a rare instance in the society. Juveniles in care and custody of Juvenile Homes are to be educated about the importance of education in their life and how it can shape up their life in future.

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