

Social Development of Adolescents

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Meaning of social development

- ▶ Social development refers to the development of an individual as a social being. He adapts to the norms of the group of the society to which he belongs.
 - ▶ By nature, man cannot live in isolation; he is compelled by biological, psychological and social needs to live in a group or society.
 - ▶ We all are largely a social product.
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Definitions of Social Development

- ▶ According to L.D. Crow, “Social development means acquisition or the ability to behave in accordance with social expectations.”
 - ▶ E. B. Hurlock notes, “Social development means the attaining of maturity in social setting.”
 - ▶ James Drever says, “Socialization or social development is a process by which the individual is adapted to his social environment and becomes recognised, cooperating and efficient member of it.”
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Characteristics of Social Development

- ▶ Social development begins with the infant's first contact with other people
 - ▶ Social development continues throughout life.
 - ▶ Social development is the result of a child's constant interaction with his social environment.
 - ▶ Social development helps in learning and acquiring social qualities of character.
 - ▶ Social development enables the child to adjust himself to his social environment and to maintain social relationships.
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Importance of Social development during Adolescence

- ▶ For proper adjustment in the society social development of a child is very crucial.
 - ▶ Adolescence is a period of rapid changes and adjustment; in the social sphere also it has greater significance
 - ▶ The most significant characteristic of social development is the increased influence of peer groups. The friends or peer groups often shape the behaviour of adolescent to a great extent.
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Importance of Social development during Adolescence (contd.)

- ▶ During adolescence emotional behaviour dominates social characteristics and qualities of adolescents.
 - ▶ An adolescent is highly sensitive, idealist and social reformer by nature. At this stage, they are always ready to do some sort of social and community service.
 - ▶ Adolescents are socially very conscious and active.
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Factors affecting Social Development

Influence of culture: An adolescent's social behaviour is regulated by the culture of the society he lives in. The culture of one generation is passed on to the next. These cultures shape our outlook and overall personality.

The family: The family makes the first and the most significant influence on the social development of the adolescents. It provides the hereditary transmission of basic potential for his development.

Factors affecting Social Development (contd.)

Religion: Like home, religion is regarded as a primary social institution. Religion plays a dominant role in the social development of the adolescents.

Peer groups: the peer groups satisfy various needs of the adolescents like acceptance, achievements, affection, approval, belongingness, fame, recognition, expression of opinion etc.

Factors affecting Social Development (contd.)

School: The school life plays a crucial role in the social development of the adolescents. Its curriculum, co-curricular activities and teacher's influence have a great impact on their social development.

Community: The environment prevailing in the community has a great influence on the social development of the adolescents.

Mass Media: Agencies like cinema, newspapers, radio and television etc. play a major role in bringing about social changes in adolescents.

Factors affecting Social Development (contd.)

Bodily structure & Health: Development of social behaviour is influenced by the physique and health that one possesses. A healthy adolescent with a normal physique develop self-confidence along with a sense of self-respect. The adolescent that suffer from illness or having poor health or any other deformity develops the feelings of inferiority and faces difficulty in social adjustment.

Factors affecting Social Development (contd.)

Emotional development: Emotional development of an adolescent bears a positive correlation with his social development. Emotional adjustability is one of the very important elements of social development.



Conclusion

Adolescent is a period of storm and stress. Various development like physical, mental, social, emotional, personality, spiritual, moral etc. occurs at this stage which greatly affects the future life of the adolescents. Therefore it is the turning point of life and so utmost care should be taken to mould the balanced development in all dimensions in order to form a balanced conduct of the adolescents.

THANK YOU