ABSTRACT

Education has a tremendous impact on the human society. It begins at birth and continues until a person’s last day on earth. Human beings gain knowledge and information through education, and use them constantly throughout their lives. Leaders of nations have been thinking constantly how to educate their citizens, because of education’s role as a vital instrument in the development of an individual and society. There are different forms of education that exist in the human society. The most obvious one is the public education. The society offers the public education to its citizens and citizens are required to take proper education in order to become vital members of the society.

The importance of female education in India cannot be overrated. It is only when the mothers are educated that the foundation can properly be laid at home, which is its most appropriate place. Moral and religious training is so very essential for the welfare of each generation, and the greatness of the race. The biographies of the most illustrious men of all ages prove the truth of the remarkable fact that those who have been eminent for goodness, greatness or virtue have generally owed their excellence to the teachings, the example or the influence of mothers.

It appears on the whole, that the scheme of study in girls’ school has been formed too much on the model of that for boys. The history of female education in modern India would lead us to expect this. It has been devised and set on foot by men as an addition to the system established for boys. Many women have indeed devoted themselves to this work, and have been the real agency in introducing and fostering female education.

The present system may perhaps serve to turn out a certain number of girls instructed up to a certain standard. But how girls may be fitted to fill efficiently and intelligently the very peculiar place appointed for them in the life of this country, is a matter, the consideration of which requires at once an enlightened sympathy with the female mind, and a close acquaintance with the conditions and customs of Indian women.

The most marked of the differences between the two sexes are to be found in the field of social development. Every society has its standardized concepts of what is fit and proper for a boy or a man and what is fit and proper for a girl or a woman.
The Buddha emphasizes the fruitful role the women can play and should play as a wife, a
good mother in making the family life a success. In family affairs the wife was expected
to be a substitute for the husband when the husband happened to be indisposed. In fact, a
wife was expected even to acquaint herself with the trade, business or industries in which
the husband engaged.
The importance of a girl’s education is stressed in the Atharva Veda which states, “The
success of woman in her married life depends upon her proper training during the
Brahmacharya (student period)”. The girls were entitled to Upanayan (to receive sacred
thread) and to the privilege of studying Vedas; just as the boys.
In this country even more than in others, the life of a woman is a thing apart from that of
men, and it is unlikely that books prepared for boys will be either interesting or suitable
to girls. Morality, no doubt, is the same for both sexes and for all classes; but a special
role is played by the girls in passing this morality to the next generation. The paucity of
values like tolerance, patience, obedience, sincerity and respect for humanity can be
overcome if we can fix the connection of morality from one generation to another.
“If man represents one side of the divine nature, woman does the other. If man has courage and perseverance, woman has tenderness and modesty; she has purity and subtle insight into the operations of human nature and possesses an indomitable power of endurance. She has a kind of refined intelligence which though at times does not show forth on the outside very much, but which goes deep into nature of things and influences man in spite of himself. She excels man in imagination and is more found of beauty. What will man be without the affectionate tenderness of a mother, the soothing love of a wife, the loving care of a sister and the sweet endearments of a daughter? With such a fine material at our disposal it is but certain that the right sort of education to develop it will yield results beyond expectations.”

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