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Education and Social Reproduction in Schools

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Abstract

Education is important for all structures of the society. The structures of the society mainly classes are involved and tried to be educated in places which are separated deliberately for the aims. On the other hand, from society to society the aims and also the expectation can be changed. This article tries to explain and discuss the progressing of education as a perception for individual and society. The references will be found out according to the graduates those are the products of schools in the society and the education as a system for the classes in the structure of the society. As an instrument education needs to be given thought to on and reconsidered for the individual and social perspectives. Education is one of the main factors for the social reproduction in the society. That is a nature of the societies that they want to reproduce themselves as they are. So society cannot be separated from reproduction and education. Hence, in this paper, effort was made to establish the fact that education and social reproduction are the basic tools for cultural and individual function for the society. The paper asserts that education supports and helps social reproduction as one of the factors of socialization. For many years, in this way, education has done its duty in the society as a tool with its all stages formally or informally. The paper posits that social reproduction always goes on with its tools in the society. However it can be underline that education as a tool is changed and perception on education is considered in different ways for cultural and individual functions.

Keywords: education, social reproduction, schools, society,

Introduction

Education is a global system all over the world. Countries mainly governments and societies try to get more educated people according to their programs and need. The programs consist of the goals and aims. These programs are formally followed and taken place in school environment with classrooms by professional teachers. During the teaching and learning process, it is important that academic skills are tried to be developed, transferring of knowledge is focused and gaining the values is spread among the members of society. Education is a tool for national improvement with transmitting and maintaining culture for development and technological advancement (Ekanem&Ekefre, 2013). These activities and plans generally take places in schools. So schools are the most important centers for educating new members for the societies. Mainly schools are the places for the state to sell on the education program of the government and for the citizens to gain knowledge, abilities, success and their future with academic abilities (Brown, 2010). With this point education has two functions to accomplish from both sides. These are individual and cultural functions (Huitt, 2004). These two functions help and support the states and societies plans and wishes to reach their targets. Also the families have their positions in social structure part and try to get a better life or stable statues for their children with the education system. The nations are changing but every nation reaches a new better point with the development by getting new resources and products (Oshita, 2009). That is the school to get the social reproductions with its all functions through cultural reproduction in the societies (Bourdieu&Passeron 1990; Harker, 1990).

Education and Social Reproduction

Education plays visible role with all stages to socialize the nation in all societies. Society has institutions and those make society a dynamic, complex and alive organization. These institutions are family, education, media and peers etc. (Coser, et. al. 1987).). They socialize the members of the society by passing the social and cultural owned which society has. Social reproduction uses the same tools and equipment that society has to perpetuate its dynamic function. That is society wants to keep and continue itself by reproducing as it is. So education is one of the most powerful social institutions to reproduce the nation according the social system. Education reproduces the new members to statues, roles, jobs, positions and places. From the sociological view, social reproduction system works from reproducing the labor, relations, products, social functionalism to knowledge (Sezal, 2002; Dönmezer, 1994). However education has a great effect on the society because of controlling the young generation from the beginning of their lives (Wilson&Wyn, 1987). As an institution education decides the future perspective of those young generations with supporting social reproduction. Generally the National Policy on Education has objectives for the nations that enable attitudes from individual to society that include (Ekanem&Ekefre, 2013):

- Faith in the power of human knowledge

- Respect for the worth and dignity of the individual
- Faith in man's ability to make rational decisions
- Moral and spiritual values of interpersonal and human relations.
- Shared responsibility for the common good of society.
- Promotion of emotional, physical and psychological health of all children.

According to the aims of the education system the young generation morally and culturally rises up under one umbrella of the values and knowledge as a society. It is a functional process with the institutions in the society. It is functional because the process goes nation to nation that's why social reproduction is neither perfect nor complete (Harker, 1990), with its all process it is a journey to the future.

Changing Perception on or with Education in Social Reproduction

From the beginning of 20th century education as a formal system has been proceeding with all stages and grades. Education has a dynamic function and is alive with its consequences in communities. The time and the members of the nation change but education as a function of society has still been going on with renewing and social reproduction in all periods of the centuries. As an instrument education shows effectiveness and improvement with its positive and negative perceptions and impacts in the societies. According to social reproduction the process goes on as well. May be from one point, it is not important that education brings positive or negative reproductions in side of the society. Because the main point is social reproduction is going on and it is a need to be existed for a society.

On the other hand perception on education has been changing with the last nearly two decades. There was an understanding that education makes human a person or an individual with his intelligent mind, moralities and behaviors. But today education is mainly not to educate people. It is something to have a diploma or a job. It was an *instrument* to make life better with educated people, but now it is an *aim* to get life or to live in the society. From this view for people, education is not need but an obligatory to live and continue their life in the society. Because of having a diploma means a place or status in the society. Values, moralities and educating are getting less important for people. By thinking to survive in the society people are ready for getting what they are given to educate. So the countries' people can be shaped according to their education system (Haase&Charlton, 2008). As a result of this the citizen wants what tries to be given to him/her, with his/her wishes but considering with anxiety, by knowing if he or she has not an educational certificate means trouble in the future. People are struggling to get higher statues in the society but not mainly to be an educated person.

Another point is on learning. A general description for learning is changing behavior, mind and understanding. But today memorizing is getting more important than

learning which means “if you don’t learn and use you will forget.” Therefore theoretical knowledge is getting more visible but practicing is invisible. Researches show that a person learns more when he/she does something which means applying the knowledge by practicing it. More practicing means more learnings or vice versa.

Next point is about personal development. A person develops year by year psychologically, physiologically and biologically. But in education system the knowledge is important. A person is tested for these knowledge how much he or she knows. The potential, abilities or emotion of a person is not so considerable. It can be said they are important but through knowledge, they try to be understood. The assessment points are generally on competitiveness, efficiency and rationality (Haase&Charlton, 2008). A person cannot be known only with those terms (Illich, 1973). If a person gets more education on competitiveness, efficiency and rationality or think only about them with giving fewer moralities, he/she can become more dangerous (Brown, 2010).

Also with multiple choice exams a person’s knowledge can be learned but psychology cannot be understood -if it is not a psychological test-. For example students attend universities after a multiple choice exam. He/she has a right to study one of the educational departments and will be a teacher. There are not any evidences that he/she is psychologically well. A person may have a psychological problem like stress, neurosis, hypochondriasis, factitious disorder, paranoia, manic-depression, or narcissism etc. But passing the test is enough. If there is... he/she is going to be a teacher in schools and teaching and learning processes will be leaded by him/her. Only having multiple choice exams cannot identify the situation especially for some jobs. Some jobs candidates need to be paid more attention specifically those are relating, dealing or working with people. Especially teachers they are going to build up and raise the nation of the country, mainly teach our children.

The other point is memorizing the knowledge for a test or for an exam hours. But those knowledge cannot be applied or use for the other times. To memorize or to know for that period is enough it doesn’t matter it will be applied or used again. For example; a foreign language test in secondary or high schools, everybody knows that they don’t use or learn this language but thousands of exams are written. The students know that there is not any learning here, the memorizing is for that test. If they pass they won’t speak or use practically in their life. Another example is from the exam which helps students to attend the universities. In high schools especially for social departments’ students also learn more mathematics but some departments need may be the basic part of mathematics. In this case the students who are going to attend social department also must learn the subjects but they won’t use them after passing the university exam. For other courses and subjects can be find many example like this. The question is “If I don’t use it in my life why do I have to memorize it for a period of time?”

Related to this point is potential or abilities of the students can be ignored or killed by the system. For example a student is very well in physics but have some problem with history or vice versa. May be with his/her potential is able to be developed and can be a scholar or inventor. But he/she has to study or separate his/her time another course even can be dislike or hated by him/her with the psychological problems. So the abilities are atrophied by the system in which they are. For those students who have potential and abilities and have bright future can be some flexible norms. Otherwise the system tries to equal everyone irrespective of his/her potential and ability (Illich, 1973).

One more point about getting more knowledge but not using and producing anything is becoming a problem in the society. Because people can be intellectuals or know much knowledge and terms but if these ideas are only for debates, showing the intelligent level to others or talking but not producing anything for the society, after some time the society's members cannot find a technical person to fix home appliances, their cars and their clothes. The society needs both of them intellectuals and producers. If the majority of the people are intellectuals it means more than producers, there will be much talked about but little work to be done (Neil, 1960).

The last point is about the society's development and problems. It is normal that with more educated people life standards and living styles of the societies will be higher. It's normal that the individual's and sociological problems will be seen and consider less and less by the higher educating level of the societies. These educated societies' people can be more creative, have aims for the future and solving the problems in the society can be easier. It is interesting and need to be paid attention that the education level in the societies are getting more and more but the problems are increasing directly proportional. Some sociological problems are; divorcing, children abuse, using drugs, and inequalities in education system and in societies etc. Although the education systems are developing with technological equipment, these problems are getting more and more in modern societies and the societies, individuals must cope with them.

Conclusion

According to some sociologists we are not born as humans, society makes us human. So the human will be a person and an individual with his/her specialties among the people. For this aim the education can help person as an instrument to be an individual in that specific society. But the education should be an instrument, a tool as a perception not an aim to reach and finish learning and do everything. Otherwise education system is only developed the heads but not hearts, personalities and moralities.

Those are some criticizing about the education system. There can be found other negatives or many positive parts, too. But the social reproduction goes on inside of the societies and the people try to cope with their problems in daily life. How the

perception of the people inside of the society about the things, approaches, life styles and education system, the social reproducing spread over the society as it is. So the society should x-ray and reorganize its education system. The programs will go in schools and the new aims and targets can be applied. Social reproducing in schools can help and change the perception of the people in the society. That is everybody passes on his/her way from the school environment and gets in to the cultural and individual functions.

The education level of the world is getting higher and higher in each year. But respect and tolerance among the people are getting less and less. The question is “What education is for, Is it an aim or a tool for human life?”. Nowadays this question needs to be answered.

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