

Features of Children's Social Education and Factors Influencing Their Socialization

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Abstract.

Children's social education is a complex and multifaceted process that plays a significant role in shaping the future of society. Social education is not limited only to acquiring school knowledge; it also encompasses the development of a child's moral values, behavioral norms, communication skills, and sense of social responsibility. Through this process, children adopt the values, ethical standards, national and moral traditions, and principles of citizenship accepted by society. The main purpose of social education is to help children adapt to society, prepare them for social relations, and develop them into active citizens.

The factors influencing children's socialization are highly diverse, and the family plays a primary role in this process. As the child's first social environment, the family forms the foundation of their character, behavior, and worldview. The attention, attitudes, and educational methods demonstrated by parents directly influence children's future social behavior. School, on the other hand, is the main educational institution where social education is systematically implemented. Teachers' professionalism, the school environment, classroom relationships, and collective activities contribute to the development of qualities such as cooperation, responsibility, discipline, and mutual respect among children.

In addition, peer groups, the social environment, mass media, and social media are also significant factors affecting children's socialization. In the modern era, the widespread use of digital technologies plays an important role in shaping children's worldviews. Although the Internet and social networks provide children with new opportunities for knowledge and information, in some cases they may also contribute to the spread of negative behavioral patterns, social dependency, and psychological problems. Therefore, proper guidance of children within the information environment and the development of media literacy are of particular importance.

One of the essential characteristics of social education is its continuous and gradual nature. Educational activities carried out with consideration of children's age characteristics, psychological development, and individual interests produce more effective results.

Keywords: children, social education, multifactorial, contradictory, global, technological, category

Особливості соціального виховання дітей та фактори, що впливають на їхню соціалізацію

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Анотація.

Соціальне виховання дітей є складним і багатогранним процесом, який відіграє важливу роль у формуванні майбутнього суспільства. Соціальне виховання не обмежується лише здобуттям шкільних знань; воно також охоплює розвиток моральних цінностей дитини, поведінкових норм, комунікативних навичок і почуття соціальної відповідальності. У процесі цього діти засвоюють цінності, етичні норми, національні та моральні традиції, а також принципи громадянськості, прийняті в суспільстві. Основною метою соціального виховання є допомога дітям у пристосуванні до суспільства, підготовка їх до соціальних відносин і формування з них активних громадян.

Фактори, що впливають на соціалізацію дітей, є дуже різноманітними, і провідну роль у цьому процесі відіграє сім'я. Як перше соціальне середовище дитини, сім'я формує основу її характеру, поведінки та світогляду. Увага, ставлення та методи виховання з боку батьків безпосередньо впливають на майбутню соціальну поведінку дітей. З іншого боку, школа є основною освітньою установою, де соціальне виховання здійснюється систематично. Професійність учителів, шкільне середовище, взаємини в класі та колективна діяльність сприяють розвитку таких якостей, як співпраця, відповідальність, дисципліна та взаємна повага.

Крім того, важливими факторами соціалізації дітей є групи однолітків, соціальне середовище, засоби масової інформації та соціальні мережі. У сучасну епоху широке використання цифрових технологій відіграє важливу роль у формуванні світогляду дітей. Хоча Інтернет і соціальні мережі надають дітям нові можливості для отримання знань та інформації, іноді вони також можуть сприяти поширенню негативних моделей поведінки, соціальної залежності та психологічних проблем. Тому особливо важливими є правильне спрямування дітей в інформаційному середовищі та розвиток медіаграмотності.

Ключові слова: діти, соціальне виховання, багатофакторність, суперечливість, глобальний, технологічний, категорія

Introduction.

Children's social education is a complex process that plays a crucial role in the formation of personality, ensuring the learning and internalization of social relations and the application of behavioral norms in everyday life. Social education occurs through the child's interaction with family, school, peer groups, society, and the cultural environment. This form of education enables children to acquire social values, norms, and rules, develop responsible forms of behavior within society, and gradually move toward social maturity.

Research Methods for the Article. This study on children's social education and the factors influencing their socialization can be effectively conducted using a combination of theoretical and empirical research methods, ensuring a comprehensive and reliable analysis of the topic.

Firstly, theoretical research methods play a fundamental role in forming the scientific basis of the study. A literature review is essential for examining existing academic works on children's social development, socialization processes, and educational influences. Through this method, both national and international sources are analyzed to identify key theories and approaches. In addition, comparative analysis is used to contrast different theoretical perspectives, such as those of Bandura, Bronfenbrenner, and Vygotsky, in order to better understand how social learning and environmental factors shape children's behavior. A systems approach is also important, as it allows researchers to view social education as an integrated system influenced by family, school, media, peer groups, and cultural environment.

Secondly, empirical research methods are necessary to collect real-life data. The survey method (questionnaire) can be used to gather information from parents, teachers, and students regarding social behavior, educational influence, and social development. The interview method provides deeper qualitative insights by allowing educators, psychologists, and parents to express their views on children's socialization processes. Observation is another important method, as it enables researchers to directly examine children's behavior in natural settings such as schools and family environments. Additionally, the sociometric method can be applied to analyze interpersonal relationships within classroom groups, identifying social roles, leadership patterns, and peer interactions.

Main Part.

A child's social development depends on the purposeful implementation of educational influences. Children are not only biological beings but also social beings who, after birth, gradually enter into interaction with the social environment and begin to understand social roles. Their social education depends precisely on the quality of these interactions, the psychological climate of the family environment, parental behavior models, and the attitudes of people surrounding the child.

Parents are the first social models for children. Through daily interactions, they transmit patterns of behavior, communication, and responsibility. The warmer, fairer, and more open family relationships are, the healthier and more effective the child's socialization process becomes (Alakbarov, 2017).

Social education is also aimed at helping children internalize the cultural and moral values of society. During this process, children learn ethical rules of conduct, work culture, collective activity skills, and social qualities such as mutual respect and assistance. For example, the school environment occupies an important place in children's social education. School is not only a source of knowledge but also a place where children enter a system of social relationships. Teacher-student and student-student relationships develop mutual understanding, cooperation, and a sense of responsibility in children. In addition, collective activities held at school – such as events, competitions, and projects – develop children's ability to achieve common goals, distribute social roles, and strengthen leadership skills (Qasimova & Mammadov, 2019).

One of the main characteristics of children's social education is its systematic and gradual implementation. Social education is not a one-time influence but a continuous process that changes and deepens according to the child's stages of development. For example, in early childhood, the main goal is to teach simple behavioral habits such as sharing, obedience, and following rules, whereas during school years, greater emphasis is placed on responsibility, cooperation, and concepts of social justice. During adolescence, social education focuses on the formation of self-awareness, social position, and worldview (Hasanov, 2018).

Another important feature of social education is its multifactorial nature. Family, school, mass media, social media, cultural environment, and peer groups simultaneously influence the child's social development. When contradictions arise among these factors, confusion of social roles, distortion of values, and uncertainty in behavior may occur in children. Therefore, it is important to coordinate all sources of influence within the social education system and direct them toward a common purpose. For instance, the values taught in the family should complement rather than contradict the educational orientation at school (Rzayeva, 2016).

The essence of social education lies not only in helping children adapt to society but also in preserving their individuality as personalities. Well-organized social education does not suppress a child's individual qualities; on the contrary, it creates conditions for their beneficial development for society. The purpose of social education is to raise individuals who possess the ability to think, evaluate, and make choices independently, while understanding their social responsibilities rather than being shaped solely by stereotypes (Bandura, 1977).

Empathy, humanism, and communication skills play

an important role in this process. As children learn to understand others' feelings, share, and cooperate, they demonstrate more mature and independent behavior in social relations. Social education also contributes to the development of moral values, tolerance, and a sense of social justice in children. In the modern era, these qualities are particularly important because preserving empathy and ethical values in technologically advanced and competitive societies is one of the main conditions for healthy psychosocial development (Vygotsky, 1978).

Social education also develops children's sense of social responsibility. Responsibility means understanding the consequences of one's actions, respecting the rights of others, and feeling a duty toward society. In this regard, social education is an important educational category that ensures not only individual development but also social integration.

In the modern era, the essence of social education has expanded further under the influence of information technologies and global values. Children now socialize not only within family and school environments but also in virtual spaces. This creates new responsibilities for the educational system, making it necessary to guide children in information selection, online behavior culture, empathy, and digital ethics. Modern pedagogy and psychology consider it essential to rethink social education in accordance with these realities (Berk, 2018).

As a result, children's social education is a multifaceted process that ensures their integration into society and directs their moral, ethical, and behavioral development. It is not only the teaching of social rules but also the formation of a child's value system, self-awareness, sense of responsibility, and communication culture. Through social education, children gradually internalize social roles and learn to think and behave as members of society. Thus, social education is an essential condition for the harmonious development of children, the achievement of social maturity, and their transformation into healthy members of society in the future.

Human socialization is a complex and multifaceted process through which individuals become part of society, internalize social norms and values, and learn social roles and behavioral patterns. The factors influencing socialization have both biological and social characteristics, and each of these factors may produce both positive and negative effects on personality formation. From birth, individuals interact with family, school, peer groups, cultural environments, mass media, technology, and systems of social relations. Through these interactions, their worldview, values, emotional attitudes, and behavioral models are shaped (Santrock, 2020).

Family is the primary and strongest factor in socialization. Children gain their first social experiences within the family, where they learn love, care, work, communication, and behavioral norms. The positive influence of the family lies in providing emotional

security, moral support, and a stable environment for personality development. A loving, democratic, and caring family helps children feel valued, which forms the basis of trust and empathy in social relations. However, tension, violence, neglect, or weak parental supervision within the family negatively affect socialization. In such cases, children may develop distrust, aggression, social isolation, and emotional coldness. Family conflicts can lead children to develop negative attitudes toward social norms (Aliyeva, 2020).

School is the second important factor in socialization. Alongside knowledge, children acquire social values such as collective activity, cooperation, responsibility, discipline, and mutual respect. Teacher-student relationships, classroom cooperation, and overall school culture shape children's social skills. Positively, school facilitates adaptation to society, develops leadership and cooperation skills, and strengthens social responsibility. However, unfair treatment, unethical behavior by teachers, or exclusion among students may create negative social experiences. This can reduce children's trust in society and complicate their social adaptation process (Bronfenbrenner, 1979).

Peer groups also play a special role in socialization. During childhood and adolescence, peers provide an important environment for the practical application of social norms and values. Their positive influence lies in strengthening independence, cooperation, and sharing skills while providing social support and emotional connection. Such groups enable children to express themselves, demonstrate individuality, and improve communication skills. However, peer groups inclined toward destructive behavior, aggression, rule-breaking, or substance abuse may become negative role models. Under such influences, children may distance themselves from social values and adopt irresponsible and risky behavior patterns.

Mass media and modern technologies are increasingly powerful factors in the socialization process. Television, the internet, and social media expose children to broad sources of information and diverse cultures, ideas, and values. Positively, open access to information broadens children's worldviews, enhances creativity, and fosters global thinking. However, excessive and unfiltered information may confuse social consciousness. The promotion of violence, aggression, artificial lifestyles, and false ideals on social media can weaken self-confidence, distort values, create psychological dependencies, and lead to social isolation. Therefore, managing and guiding technological factors properly is considered one of the primary tasks of social education.

Cultural environment and traditions are also important in socialization. The historical, religious, moral, and aesthetic values of every nation determine the social orientation of the individual. Cultural values positively contribute by fostering national identity, moral stability, collective belonging, and a sense of community.

Through cultural environments, children internalize historical memory, etiquette, diligence, and respect. However, rigid cultural stereotypes or contradictions between traditions and modern demands may negatively influence socialization. If cultural systems restrict individual creativity and freedom, individuals may face difficulties expressing themselves socially.

Conclusions.

Economic factors also significantly influence the process of socialization. Financial well-being increases children's access to education, culture, and communication opportunities, thereby supporting the development of social skills. Conversely, poverty, financial difficulties, and social inequality may create psychological tension, low self-esteem, and social isolation. Such children often struggle to find their place in society and may become inclined toward negative behavioral patterns.

Another important factor influencing socialization is individual psychological characteristics. Each person's temperament, character, and emotional stability determine their level of adaptation to the social environment. Extroverted, sociable, and emotionally open individuals tend to adapt more successfully to social relationships. However, introverted or highly sensitive individuals may behave more cautiously and remain more closed to social influences, which can sometimes result in social isolation or misunderstanding.

Religious and moral values also play an important role in socialization. They strengthen qualities such as compassion, justice, helpfulness, and honesty. Religious and moral environments encourage individuals to behave ethically, responsibly, and beneficially toward society. However, fanatical or extreme promotion of religious values may negatively affect socialization by reducing tolerance and acceptance of diversity, thereby creating tension in social relations.

All these factors are interconnected and interdependent. Their harmonious combination ensures the formation of a healthy social personality. When positive factors such as family affection, a fair school system, supportive peer groups, cultural richness, and proper information flow are strong, individuals adapt more easily to society and demonstrate moral stability and social responsibility. However, when negative factors dominate, problems such as social maladjustment, moral emptiness, aggression, and social isolation emerge.

Human socialization is determined not only by external influences but also by an individual's internal value system and life position. For healthy socialization, a balance between the individual and the social environment is essential. Only under such conditions can a person live harmoniously both as a member of society and as a bearer of values.

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