

Conceptual Analysis on Advocacy and Human Rights Awareness among Youth

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Abstract: All citizens are entitled to express their views. It requires a part in the creation of constructive spaces that promote mutual respect. By considering this worthy, the society provides more importance. Youth movements should be particularly focused on promotion and defence of human rights. A critical objective of educating the young would be to support their abilities and help cultivate all their values will be to prepare them for a bigger and better future. The present study analyses the role of youth and try to give an insight among youth to make them as advocate for human rights protection and promotion. The study conducted among youth in Kerala, India namely among National Service volunteers and members of Nehru Yuva Kendra's youth clubs. The poll sought to ascertain the state of human rights in the society and the extent to which youth are involved in promoting and preserving human rights. The level of youth understanding of human rights and their lobbying efforts for human rights promotion have been analyze. The study revealed the effort of youth for protecting human rights and developed an advocacy frame for promotion of human rights. It is as important to develop community and emotional and psychological maturity as it is to enhance intellectual capacities. In this context, brining human rights into culture is essential for sustainability.

Keywords: Youth advocacy, human rights education, community-building, development

Introduction

“Human rights are international moral and legal norms that spire to protect all people everywhere from severe political, legal and social abuses” [26]. It promotes an inspiring vision of a democratic, just, and prosperous world by establishing basic expectations for how individuals and organizations can treat others. They also inspire people to act to assert and protect their rights and others' rights. Human rights education is a mechanism for achieving this unity and social justice advocacy. “It is important for sustainable development and contributes to the development of communication skills and informed critical thinking crucial to democracy. It offers multicultural and historical insights on young human rights defenders fighting for peace and dignity” [7]. The youths are valuable human resource of any society. The responsibility for change, progress and innovation lies on their shoulders. The key purpose in educating the young people on human rights is to improve all their abilities and teach them to learn greater moral

qualities and to profoundly bind themselves to the noble values of harmony, democracy, integrity and equality and reverence and love for and for humanity. The magnitudes of violations of human rights are perpetrated every day, that threaten the peace and harmony of the people. In such situation, imparting human rights education to all possible sections of the society, especially to the youth is quintessential approach to defend human dignity. Action, or opportunities to bring new lessons and skills into practice, is an integral aspect of human rights education [23]. The educated youth can impart knowledge and create consciousness to the people. They can disseminate information on human rights through brainstorming, case studies, creative expression, discourses, campaigns, publications, dramatizations and multi digital forms. These strategies of human rights education can make youth as advocates of human rights and its propagation to the society.

“The youth of every country are its valuable human resource and the future of a country. Any idea of national development is just a myth without the active participation of youth in it. The youth are dynamic, passionate and inspired. Their bubbling enthusiasm has to be given direction and utilized. Their surplus energy has to be directed for welfare of the country. Proper guidance and direction can bring them in the forefront of national development. The youth who do this work are amazingly courageous and passionate” [17]. Witnessing and acting on issues and problems that need immediate attention helps to bring attention to issues and problems that need immediate attention. It encompasses being engaged in the democratic process, where people feel responsible for advancing and defending the interests of the general public. Nonetheless, people must be educated about this mechanism to be able to participate. Thus, human advocacy can only occur through the acquisition of knowledge and skills [9].

Every person has the right to speak his or her point of view. We are committed to creating a place of shared respect in our classrooms. When the society recognizes this important, it gives greater weight to the considerations [15]. The youth-based United Nations are well aware of the growing involvement in the fundamental goals of the organization, including world peace and social justice, and will be conducting more innovative means to assist them. Anything you do to secure, defend, promote, or uphold human rights is crucial to youth movements that are committed to peace, reconciliation, violence prevention [18]. A primary goal of education is to help the young to realize their full potential and enhance their values of humanity. It facilitates constructive discussions of human rights concepts and solutions for the youth as well as well as

presentation of human rights [16]. Developing emotional and academic skills and intellectual capabilities are just as critical. In this context, bringing human rights into culture is essential for sustainability. The present study analyses the role of youth and try to give an insight among youth to make them as advocate for human rights protection and promotion. The study revealed the effort of youth for protecting human rights and developed an advocacy frame for promotion of human rights.

Role of Youth

Youth has an active duty to engage in national growth, which in turn facilitates the promotion of human rights. To promote world peace and justice, human rights education is extremely useful to young people at the national, local, and even international levels [6]. Youth engagement in the human rights process contributes to human equality and justice. Youth education is the crucially important in developing human rights, as is doing so in line with basic rights[14]. Youth are an irreplaceable assets to nations that facilitate liberation from all forms of oppression and national harmony.

- **Youth as facilitators** - The role of the facilitator is to inspire and empower the people to do their best thinking and to create solutions and to meet group consensus. An all-out effort to engage the young as Facilitators would help empower their passion for and their willingness to implement human rights.
- **Youth as advocates** – If youth stand for their values and comprehend the results of their actions, they will show bravery, and exercise influence in the company of their families and communities.
- **Youth as researchers** - Identifying problems, obtaining information, understanding details, and coming up with strategies to address those findings, as well as starting projects, are all effective means of young people.
- **Youth as planners**- Program design involves programme creation, teaching, course preparation, and course development. Young people are drawn to activities because they lend credibility, have the potential to be innovative, and are suitable for applications that require big concepts or several individual effects.
- **Youth as organizers** – community mobilization takes place when community leaders build resources for improvement in the community. Youth. should work on topics that

matter to the youth; we inspire our peers and families and rally our community members to act.

- **Youth as decision-makers** – The other ways to involve young people in decision-making include creating rules. Caucuses, boards of directors, and other kinds of leadership, including becoming a member of a committee, help to ensure the active involvement of young members in the process.
- **Youth as advocates** – When young people stand for their values and are confident in their own worth, they can embody their families and communities with pride, demonstrating all three traits with equal facility, they can serve with dignity and contribution
- **Youth as evaluators**- The ability to foster youth voice is accomplished by tracking and reviewing programs, courses, events, and initiatives. They will learn that their ideas and actions have an impact on the world.
- **Youth as specialists** – Creating new opportunities for young people to contribute to communities is straightforward; nevertheless, envisioning new roles for the youth to learn is an immense challenge. Youth workers bring specialized skills to programs and institutions, teaching all ages how to be more effective.
- **Youth as mentor**- It's a way of passing on specialized information and skills from one who is more educated or aware to others who are less educated or aware of the content.
- **Youth as advisor** – A knowledgeable advisor who knows his or her stuff in the field of human rights can provide advice.
- **Youth as policy-maker** - Their decision may be correct, but they will not always make good decisions if they act on the policies and programs of the authority.

Conceptual Frame work of the Study

The last decades of the twentieth century have seen increasing awareness of human rights. Citizens know their rights and responsibilities as part of being members of a society [24]. However, unfortunately the violations of human rights have also figured quite highly in the state. As far as human rights issues are concerned, there is little distinction between developing and developed countries. Individual rights are not being respected in the way that they should be today due to the excessive commercialization of our culture [12]. In this context, the exclusive

and drastic change in the human rights situation is a setback for the state and the state is ashamed of lack of protection and promotion of human rights. Every individual has certain rights for surviving, developing, protecting and promoting life as a common individual in society. The human rights education has to be purposive and relevant to promote protective mechanism against discrimination and equity among the people [1].

Today's youth seeks to have their reputation restored, and is less willing to get involved in disputes and abuse until circumstances require them to do so. As young people, they demand the need for a positive sense of self-belief, integrity, and engagement in the mainstream. They're central to social change, economic growth, and technological advancement, and even the spread of world peace. Even though they keep the future of humanity in their possession, they are in reality a destabilizing force [13]. The task of the young people is to build a society with solidarity, justice and equality in opportunity for growth and development of every individual and group of people. Human rights education is a useful tool to accomplishing these senses of enthusiasm and well-being. Therefore, quintessence of effort of youth in human rights education is to evolve a culture in respect of human rights that is more sensitive to the basic needs of every human being.

Awareness on Human Rights

Every individual's right to life, liberty, and protection is essential, and our quality of life and our concept of human rights depend on each other[5]. It must stay alert and focused on fulfilling people's dreams for all mankind. Knowledge and education create a better human rights community, though it takes time, and it can't be seen in the near future, so if it is ever achieved it will eradicate human rights violations. Therefore, to promote social change, human rights awareness is crucial. Human rights is the ability to easily differentiate between different aspects of life, protection, faith, expression, and well-being. People have rights regardless of their status [10]

If people agree to grant people the same rights to other people, they analyze their own lives, families, and cultures through a human rights prism [20]. These principles reiterated, but an experience of human education often points out the discrepancies that were previously unknown. In other words, this sensitivity to human rights is not only a positive thing, but also the

need to act on the values we hold about human rights [11]. In order to foster respect for human rights and peace, the international community must have sufficient financial resources for educating youth. As well, youth should not necessarily take pride in full enjoyment of their rights, but strive to foster social and economic development in the same period [21]. It should encourage the active involvement of youth in the process of building a culture of justice and human rights because they will have great influence on future social movements. Educating people about their rights helps [19]. Academies allow others to realize their full potential and empower them to function as mature members of society.

In terms of trying to understand the root causes of human violations, helping people avoid human rights abuses, fighting against discrimination, and furthering the overall involvement of citizens in democratic decision-making [25]. “The Universal Declaration of human rights and international covenants on civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights are the basis for international obligation of human rights. These, are created for the recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family even defining the breadth and depth of human rights for the 21st Century and beyond” [8] . Knowledge of these tools, individuals' and groups' rights and responsibilities as well as those of states and nations, will enable generations of individuals and generations of people to hold true values such as human dignity and equality and human dignity for future generations to come.

Advocacy Effort of Youth

To them youth, age should not be seen simply as a threat to the future, but as one of the main players in both changing the world and improving themselves [20]. Youth advocacy helps young people help each other and makes them confident enough to be able to stand up to those in authority and credible to the voiceless. It can provide a valuable education on legal authority and decision-making, as well as elucidate the human condition. This allows individuals to examine the details that are a part of their day-day-to-day life [22] . Young people have a real self-worth when they are given the tools to better interact with the current social networks. It's a means for youths to discuss and convey their activism so that they can have a positive impact not just on the general public but also on those in power [4]. Young people's initiative to help has been recognized as the fight against human rights abuses is interlinked with advocacy and advancing

and recovery of perspective and giving the human rights system a hand in reversing oppression [2] . This advocacy frame for youth is depicted in figure 2

Anti- Oppressive Practice

Efforts to promote a cause through creativity must come from an enlightened point of view. It involves various practices for fighting human rights including anti-racism, critiquing, and hiring a laboratory. By making service users a priority, the method adopts a more egalitarian and inclusive approach. To challenge privilege, particularly the unfair use of power or prejudice exercised on the basis of any of ethnicity, age, gender, or skill. The youth must speak up for the interests of their clients regardless of their type of association or method of delivery. Micro and macro groups believe they want to help keep authoritarian power structures in check, defend human rights, and support the individual, and also encourage individuality. and they lost their human rights because an individual is no longer a human being

Strengthening and Restoration Perspective

Human rights, human development, and human security are linked because no viable society can exist without rule of law. Nonetheless, the community experiences crimes against females, racial minorities, and working-class citizens of marginalized social inequality. Mass shootings, extended incarcerations, systematic torture, strict censorship of thoughts and speech, and extreme free speech happenings are published every day. Strengthening and restoring humanrights is extremely necessary in this situation. It emphasizes how people deal with their issues and suggests how they campaign for social change and inclusively through engagement in a participatory democracy, cultural maturity, and empathy toward gender, or through public recognition of both oppress and abuse. This helps reduce the potential harms and handle the dangers, while improving possible benefits by ensuring that respect for human dignity, human autonomy, and privacy are upheld.

Empowerment Perspective

By empowering people to become conscious of their strengths and resources, help them by making them feel independent of the situation education seeks to empower individuals, collectives, and associations to improve human rights through an open-ended, creative approach It emphasizes human rights, protects from prejudice, and offers the possibility of freedom for self-expression. The approach to human rights education uses analysis as well as enabling people

to facilitate choices and action, resulting in enhanced life. For this reason, human rights education and human development are closely related.

Methodology

The purpose of this study is to examine the advocacy role and human rights consciousness of youth in Kerala, India. National Service volunteers and members of Nehru Yuva Kendra's youth welfare programs serve as a focal point for developing activities for student and non-student youth, particularly in rural regions, in order to give chances for personal and skill development, enabling them to act as vanguards in the process of development. The study examined their contributions to the field of human rights. The present study is being conducted among youth in Kerala, India namely among National Service volunteers and members of Nehru Yuva Kendra's youth clubs. The poll sought to ascertain the state of human rights in the society and the extent to which youth are involved in promoting and preserving human rights. The level of youth understanding of human rights and their lobbying efforts for human rights promotion have been analyzed.

Result and Discussion

The youth had a potential role to protect and promote human rights. Human rights awareness among youth and their advocacy effort were analyzed in the study. Majority of the youth (72.8 percent) have only medium level of awareness. The concept of human rights is clear but cannot be able to find out the exact form of human rights. The awareness level of female National Service Scheme volunteers and the male NYK members was found to be high as compared to others. Dignity (86.5 percent), Mutual respect (98 percent), liberty (87.2 percent) and right to life (79.6 percent) were the most acceptable values and principle of human rights and the awareness level of these were very high among youth. The youths' awareness on the rights related to economic efficiency, religious diversity, rights of family and voluntary marriage were comparatively low as per the result of the study. The right against severe punishment, arbitrary detention and trail, unlawful arrest are necessary to avoid ungraceful activities on the part of state or authority. Awareness among youth on domestic violence, education of girls, rights of aged, prisoners' rights, mainstreaming of marginalized sections of society, and reservation for persons with disability were moderately high. Youth awareness on human rights protective mechanism is also considerable good. The commencement of human rights commission tried to slow down the human rights violations in the society and ensure the relevance of human rights court. Human

rights NGOs is essential to protect human rights and free legal aid were the part of human rights for maintain peace has been highlighted in the study .

Advocacy effort of youth promoting human rights was analyzed with scale on the perspectives of anti-oppressive practice on human rights violations, strengthening and restoring of human rights mechanisms and empowerment through human rights education. The result revealed that 59.4 percent of youth were taking moderate effort and 28.6 percent were taking high effort for promoting human rights. The study revealed that NSS volunteers took higher effort than NYK club members. The study observed that the youth effort through anti-oppressive practice on human rights violations were highly appreciable because they accepted their ability to take action in adverse situations on child labour (83.3 percent), misuse of religion(71.3 percent), caste and gender discrimination, child abuse and beggary (87.2 percent) and violence against women. It is noticeable that, good governance and strategic planning; need based approach in development and accountability and transparency were the pre requisites for right based approach in development. The provision of reservation, prison rehabilitation services, people's participation in law making process, enriching with human right training programmes and promoting media effort for human rights were major source for strengthening and restoring human rights. The study ascertained that the empowerment of youth can be achieved through inculcating human rights into school and college curriculum and it helped to adhere to the growth of human development. The study revealed that human rights awareness of youth and their effort for rights protection are positively interrelated as awareness can lead to advocacy effort and this can be achieved through NSS and NYK programmes .

Conclusion

Consciousness on human rights are very essential for the social transformation. Every individual has certain rights for surviving, developing, protecting and promoting life as common individual in society. The human rights education has to be purposive and relevant. The quintessence of human rights is to respect the human rights and evolve a culture that is more sensitive to the basic needs of every human being. It should ensure social justice economic and political rights and provides equal opportunities for growth and development of every individual and group of people. Youths' awareness on human rights is very important because they became the strong force in social movements. They educate others about their rights. They help other

young people attain a higher level of Intellectual ability and to become qualified adults. Active participation of youth in the process of inculcating human rights skills and values for combat violations of rights and create a society with justice and peace. Though the human rights education for youth to utilize the abilities and interest of them for achieving sustainable social development.

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