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Assignment- Points for Argument in Class

Cons of Modern Education

The modern education has been turning out self-centered individuals who have no time for the well being of the society they live in.

1) Modern Education affects our morals.

Since an early age kids are asked:

“How much did you score?”

“You should strive to come first it is a very competitive world”

Things like this make kids believe that only thing that matters are personal level achievements. Everything else either comes next or just doesn’t. When we make marks and score the sole reason of education is ignored. Instead of asking those question, if elders asked:

“Did you understand what has been taught in the school today?

“Guide other students in your class who find it difficult to understand what you know.”

If we tell this to the kids, then they will learn to share knowledge, discuss with friends, and knowledge grows by sharing, and so do the number of those who *know*. But we instill self-centrism in our kids, which continues to grow even outside the schools. Parents pressurize their kids to learn what parents want, not what the kids are interested in. Eventually, kids stop enjoying what they are doing because of all the pressure and too many activities.

2) Impact on knowledge

There is a hugely negative psychological impact being made on every student, when parents, teachers, friends, relatives all look only at the scores in their marks sheet, and are not interested in their actual understanding and knowledge about the subject. The only goal of the student has become to score more marks, not to earn more knowledge. Teachers are equally guilty in this. I always hated the concept of “important questions”, “mark this for exams”, “this chapter is very important.” If those were the only important ones, then why did you include the other “unimportant” topics or chapters in the textbooks? This very concept of attributing importance again revolves around the probability of the related questions appearing in the examination paper, again focusing only on marks, not on knowledge. All this creates a false sense of “I know everything” in the minds of students who parrot and score more. This is also the primary reason why most of these students who pass with flying colors in their pre-college education fail miserably in the competitive entrance exams when they approach higher studies. Obviously you cannot parrot solutions to all combinations of problems, or answers to all scenarios.

3) Impact on Democracy

Democracy runs on the very assumption that individuals vote for a social well-being rather than for personal gains. The root idea of democracy is that all citizens strive to make their society a better place. But the moment a self-centered person is the voter, the electorate starts filling with those who vote for individual gains and personal benefits rather than for the collective good of the society. Votes will be cast by taking bribe, on caste and communal lines, and ultimately the institution of democracy suffers. Many of us don’t even go out and cast our vote! Many feel it is a waste of time. As a result, the very fundamental root of the democracy suffers. People start making lame excuses like “all candidates are bad”. We do so much of research on the Internet, reading reviews, understanding features, etc. while buying a new mobile or a camera or a Television. Why don’t we do it when it comes to electing our representatives? Self-centrism. We say that my vote doesn’t really matter. How can a single vote bring in a change? Well, small acts, when multiplied by millions of people, can definitely transform the world. Democracy fails when every voter ends up thinking, I don’t matter.

4) Impact in public life

When the quality of democratic process suffers, so do all the democratic institutions. How can we expect those who come to power riding on the votes of self-centered individuals to be social centered? Corruption, scams, power hungry leaders, favoring individuals or particular sections of the society over others, all follow as a result of this self-centered democratic electorate. Elected representatives stop representing the interests of their constituencies and instead start amassing wealth, power and doing favors for their inner circles.

5) Lack of Social Responsibility

Once on a rainy evening, when a person almost got washed away in a drain in front of a tea shop, when he mistook it for a road and stepped in, it was the poor Tea vendor who left his business and came running to help him. The supposedly educated crowd was enjoying his stupidity sipping their hot cup of Tea. The Teashop boy who probably hadn’t even been to a proper school had a better education nevertheless.  Reminded me of a Mark Twain quote: “ Don’t let schooling interfere with your education”.

6) Negative Effects of Using Technology:

Technology has a very bad impact on students mind. Technologies do not allow students to think on their own. The answers are all provided in Google. So students do not even bother to think about the question on their own. We generate our self to become a robot, where we just take everything for granted. What we need to understand is that, while computer memory is meant to remember, human memory is meant to understand. Computers trying to become humans, and humans trying to become computers – not good.