CHALLENGES TO SOCIAL SCIENCES IN KARNATAKA: A DISCUSSION

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Evolution of social work is the contribution of Enlightenment, Technological Advancement and Industrialization. The emergence of social work dates back to the late nineteenth century and continued on through the first half of the twentieth (1890s to 1940s). Social work deal with different aspects of human life: i.e. social, political, economic, cultural and aesthetic behavior of man. They use various methods of empirical investigation and critical analysis to develop a body of knowledge about social order and social change. Social work covers a wide spectrum of subjects, including economics, political science, sociology, history, archaeology, anthropology, and law. There are two goals for the theoretical study of social works, the first group believes in the application of theory and the second aims at better understanding of the working of the changing social world.

Social work today suffers a lot due to Liberalization, Privatization and Globalization. The disciplines like Sociology, History and Anthropology are getting weaker day by day. In recent years Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics have received the majority of investment and support from government, universities, etc., while these subjects are no doubt important, but the theoretical sociology is necessary for reformation of society. There is a kind of thinkers who believe that Sociology and History creates a peaceful and ideal society.

If we understand ideal society as a perfect society, for many years, treating a perfect society has been a wish of everyone all over the world, but it is a very difficult task to do. Social work and Ideal society will not go together, because sociology uses an idealistic approach to deal with the society, whereas idealistic society is materialistic one.

Ancient perspectives on perfect society:

There are various definitions on perfect society and ideal society given by different thinkers from the beginning of society. Buddha, Jesus, Mohammed Pygambar and other saints and seers taught the ideal way of living. For these social reformers social values, human values and religious values become important. Want is the sole reason for all misery of man for Buddha. He did not attempt to gain political control, but he had the ideas about how rulers should govern. He taught that they had an obligation to the people who ruled. He taught that in the peaceful society rulers would be fair and obey their own laws, and would freely provide grants to their subjects so that they could set up businesses.

Plato argued that societies are invariably formed for a particular purpose. Individual human beings are not self-sufficient; no one, by working alone, can acquire all of the genuine necessities of life. Therefore, we gather together into communities for the mutual achievement of our common goals. Plato did not believe in money because he understood its power to corrupt. He believed that a society would be happier without money (Lewis Coser; 1996).

More than any other country, India needs all branches of social works, for its diversity. Most of the concepts of social work born in the West becomes relevant to India, e.g. Feminism is conceptualized in America but it is much more debated in India. The considerable role of social work confined to Indian society is discussed as follows.

To focus on the Marginalised:

Marginalised Society is considered to be backward in all spheres. The government and Non-governmental agencies try to bring them to mainstream of society. The basic precept of sociology that every social group - scheduled caste, scheduled tribe, women, children, aged, differently abled and LGBT etc. have their own identity is thrown to the winds. Hence these societies lose their identities and sustainability. Community identity is turning to communalism. Modernity paves the ground for all types of violence. Dominance: political, economic, community and caste must be dealt with scientifically. De-settlement of beliefs and practices should be studied in a different way. Inclusive development is necessary for the country, where we can utilize the knowledge and potentialities of the total human resource. It needs an interdisciplinary approach between the social works.

Prevention of Violence:

In a country where there is no conflict or disagreement people generally live contently. In India as we all experience crimes such as murder, burglary, arson, robbery and fraud in the name of religion, caste, race, language, political ideologies, gender etc. these are increasing and it makes people to live in fear. Intervention is needed in the psychosocial development of individuals to reduce their potential for violent behaviour. Government must take actions reduce the impact of violence related commodities including firearms, alcohol, and other psychoactive drugs.

In order to create a good community, there are a number of things to be achieved. Everyone in society should get to know each other and learn to forgive and forget. For instance, if a person does something wrong, other people in the community have to correct that person's mistake by telling him or her with kind words. Also, solidarity within a country is significant because it can lead people to success in doing everything. It is the time for alternative disciplines, not as a smaller part of societal study.

Deliberation of Gender Issues:

Gender based discriminations and violence is increasing and became common all over the country. There should be shared action among various sectors including at the community level. Thus it is timely and no wonders for making the gender issues information available at the grass-roots level. The gender issues and discriminations are not only the review of literatures but also the result of observation. Continued effort for better ways of addressing it at the grassroots level is essential. The sociology of gender examines how society influences our understandings and perception of differences between masculinity and femininity and in turn, how this influences identity and social practices.

Improving the Poverty Measure:

The social and economic policy changes of the last three decades have far outpaced the measure of poverty used in this country. The poverty measure is now used to gauge the well-being of Indians for two purposes. First, it shows how many Indians are poor, that is, do not have the financial resources to meet their basic needs. Second, it is used to establish eligibility for various programs i.e. Medicaid, Medicare, and food stamps.

The definition of poverty was designed for convenience in a rapid study and was never given the full attention it deserves. It focuses only on the need for food and reflects the circumstances of many poor families in the 1960s, not the situation today. As we have already noted, many more women go outside the home to work, and this creates a new need for child care. Medical costs were lower in the past than today. Furthermore, the poverty measure does not reflect the tax burdens on the poor. Social workcan create such awareness on the communities around.

Social Work and Medicine:

Among the important roles that social work can play is in fighting the spread of infectious diseases. The best example is the recent Ebola crisis in West Africa. While part of solving this problem naturally rested on developing a clearer understanding of the pathogens involved and increasing investment in drugs, there were a number of social work needs as well. In particular, it was necessary to understand the people who were suffering from the disease as well as the wider society in which they were living. Doctors needed to understand how people's attitudes were shaped towards such things as hand washing and other sanitary behavior. It was also necessary to inquire into larger societal questions such as why do states fail, and how can they be rebuilt and strengthened.

In other fields of medicine, social scientists again have much to offer and are working with a variety of organizations. Researchers are currently studying how cancer patients and their carers understand the recent, and on-going, changes in cancer science. Social scientists are also working with the National Institute of Health to provide a clearer picture of patients' experience with community hospitals. Sociologists are working with the Medical Research Council on the possible causes of poor sleep patterns.

Defense and the Social work:

Social work has its own scope in defense in India and abroad. The United Kingdom's Ministry of Defense uses social scientists at think tanks and universities in order to better understand the world and be better able to handle the defense and security challenges it faces every day. Another interesting example, the UK's Home Office has brought together engineers, criminologists, and auto manufacturers in order to figure out how to build cars that are more difficult to steal. The insight that criminologists can provide into the reasons why people steal, as well as their methods, is of particular importance to this project. Hence Criminology, an important discipline must be taught to Indians in one way or other.

Social work and Business:

Social scientists are also of great demand in the business world. For example, Consumer Data Research Centre, which uses geo-demographic mapping to provide information to the airline about its customers' use of services, travel patterns, access to airports, and much more. Social scientists have the skills to see the world as others do, as well as find data that others may have missed. Business and social life must go together.

Good security system will attract more investors, which helps to improve the country's economy. Moreover, a perfect society must consist of sociable and kind people, who help and support each other when they are in some kinds of terrible situations.

Conclusion:

Even though the Physical sciences become important, the importance of social work should not be ignored. In fact, in areas such as social and primary care, the justice system, and business, to name just a few, social work is extremely important, and necessary. It is therefore very important that this educational imbalance be addressed and more support provided to the social works. In particular, social scientists are equipped with the analytical and communication skills that are important throughout many industries and organizations.

It is an ideal time to study the displacement with the theoretical background of sociology. However, if every one reads sociology we can make society better by improving social ties. The modern state should restructure the disciplines according to its needs. Sociology should be studied with the need based braches like Criminology and social psychology. Today, in India, the concentration must be on 1). Clean Environment (Swatch Bharath), 2) Science of Plastics, 3) Science of Sustainability, 4) Welfare Sociology, 5) Role of Social scientists in policy making etc. Moreover, teaching Social work for all would bring unity and solidarity in the country. Social work is already increasingly engaged in collaborative cross-disciplinary work in diverse fields such as engineering, medicine, computing, biology, and mathematics. It is clear that no subject area can stand alone, and that social work can play an important role in all fields.

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