A sociological Analysis of Influences of Ideal Culture on the Socialization of Children

Social Sciences

**Abdul Haleem[1] , Muhammad Zakir[2],
Dr. Siraj Bashir[3] & Dr. Mir Sadaat Baloch[4]**

Abstract

Every society has its own ways of life in the form of its culture and uses its own methods to socialize their members especially the children. Today the world has become a global village that is why different cultures are mixing together and the ways of socialization of the individuals are changing rapidly, because today people idealize the cultures which they think are advanced than the cultures in which they are living. This research was conducted in order to find out effects of ideal culture on the socialization of children. This research was conducted in Quetta city, the respondents of this study were married people of Quetta city. The sample of this study was chosen through purposive random sampling technique. The sample size of this study consisted of 267 respondents. The data of this study were analyzes through different statistical tests in SPSS. Findings of this study suggested that ideal culture has influenced the techniques of socialization in terms of children.

Key Terms: socialize, children, global, culture, socialization, ideal, real, culture, influence.

Introduction

Today in modern world people try to find new ways of life. They keep striving for bringing change in their lives. Changing life patterns have brought changes in the methods of socialization. As for as the socialization of infants is concerned it is carried out according to the culture of the society.(Lee,

---

[1] M.Phil Scholar, Balochistan Study Center, University of Balochistan, Quetta
[2] Lecturer, Department of Sociology, University of Balochistan, Quetta
[3] Lecturer Department of Social work, University of Balochistan, Quetta
[4] Assistant Professor, Department of Istutite of Management Sciences, University of Balochistan, Quetta

2006).In this study I will try to find out the influence of the ideal culture on the socialization of the children. Ideal culture and the real culture are two types of culture. Real culture is the actual culture of the society and people act according to it collectively, while ideal cultural is something which is idealized by the people and they want to act according to what they think other than their real culture.

Culture

The word culture originates from the Latin word 'Cultura' which is derivative of word Colo which means 'to tend', 'to till' or 'to cultivate amongst other things. (Tucker, 1931). It may take objectives like agar which refers to agriculture which means 'telling fields. The wordColo may also possibly have the objective like 'Animus' which means 'character'. The overall expression would refer to the cultivation of the human beings. Consequently the Latin word Cultura can be associated with the refinement and education. (Velkley,*2002*)

If we talk about the etymological analysis of the culture which is quite uncontroversial but while talking anthropologically we face a very complex situation. For an example Kroeber and Parsons gave a complex definition in 1958; "Transmitted and created content and patterns of values, ideas and other symbolic-meaningful systems as factors in the shaping of human behavior". (Kroeber, 1958).White gives another less comprehensible definition. "By culture we mean an extra somatic, temporal continuum of things and events dependent upon symbols".(White, 1959).

Human societies are shaped along with a definite shape it has some certain purposes and meanings. All those meanings and purposes are expressed through institutions.(*Chigbu,2015*).A society comes into existence when all these meanings come into a direction, and it grows under the influence, contacts, experiences and discoveries. All these meanings that combine a society and its pressures, experiences during the contacts of the people form a compact code of conduct and the ultimate shape of that code of conduct is the culture.(Kant,1784).Culture has two aspects: First of them is the meanings which all the members internalize and are well trained of. The second aspect is known as the directions. Directions make the meanings clear that how and why the certain meanings are used and understood in a social setup.

Cultural Transmission

Transmission of the culture is a process by which people acquire attitudes, behaviors, norms, values customs, traditions or technologies through conditioning, imitation, imprinting, learnings and active teachings or through combination of all of these. Quantitative theory of evolution of culture requires the modeling that who transmits what and to whom, the numbers of transmitters per receiver, relationship between the transmitter and the receiver and their ages. (Sforza, 1975)

The first step of analyzing the cultural transmission is to consider the discrete values traits and relationship between the parents and their offspring. When the transmission of the culture is between parents and their children it is called vertical. In vertical transmission of the culture generation is the discrete unit. On the other hand when culture is transmitted between the members of the same generation it is called horizontal. In horizontal transmission there is a restricted context of the age, peers, teachers and media. (Jennings, 1947)

Ideal and real Culture

Ideal and real culture can be understood by the differences that what people think or believe and what they do. The gap between the guidelines of culture and the behavior of the people, this gap is known as the real and ideal culture. Those cultural commands which are collectively accepted are ideal culture while real culture is what people actually do. (Shepard, 2002). Sometimes ideal and real culture corresponds that which value in the society is ideal. The clash between the ideal and real culture is seen when people accept some norms or values in public but behave differently when they are alone contradictory to what they do in gatherings. The patterns guided by the real culture are passed from generation to generation. (Popenoe, 1995)

Idealization of the environment through culture

A child undergoes the process of idealization through cultural iteration with other people and culturally determined things which helps the child to become a rational person.*(*Haviland,2011).A child from his birth sees conventional objects which surround him. He is socializing and nourished through culturally approved methods, it's not important to which race or group he belongs instead he learns to act or behave according to the standards

and traditions present in his social environment.*(Baillargeon,2002).*An individual who is brought in one social or cultural environment may find the standards and traditions of others as alien, because he has idealized his own culture and has made a clear imagination of his own norms and practices. Simply he has become habitual of the environment in which he has born. (Goodall,1986).

Methodology

A theoretical and logical frame work that is followed in order to investigate facts and achieve certain systematic results is known as the methodology. Exploratory research was adopted as the research design for this study. The aim of exploratory research is to formulate a certain problem and clarify the concepts. It can begin with searching literature, a case study or with a focused group discussion. A researcher conducting exploratory research looks for the population which is knowledgeable about a specific topic than sample it out in order to collect data from it. It typically tries to formulate hypotheses rather than testing them. The data gathered from exploratory research tend to be quantitative and qualitative, but in the case of this study the data is in quantitative form.As per the nature of this study quantitative research was adopted for this study. "Ideal culture" was the independent variable of the study. "Socialization of the children" was the dependent variable of this study. Quetta city was set as the universe of this study because Quetta city is a multi-lingual and multi-cultural metropolitan city and it is the capital city of Balochistan.Quetta city consists of a total of 1,001,205 people according to the government records. (PBS, 2017). This study had 267 respondents has its sample sizes.

Statistics for Demographic scales

Demographics of the study consisted of gender, age, marital status, qualification and profession of the respondents. The respondents were married individuals of Quetta city both male and female across the religions and ethnicities. The frequency test of the demographics was carried out in which mean, median, mode, standard deviation, variance, range, minimum and maximum values of all the demographics were taken. The details of the demographics of the study are given in the Appendices of the study.

Table 4.1 Statistics

		Gender	Age	Marital Status	Qualification	Profession
N	Valid	267	267	267	267	267
	Missing	0	0	0	0	0
Mean		1.09	29.51	1.00	3.07	3.00
Median		1.00	28.00	1.00	3.00	3.00
Mode		1	28	1	1	3
Std. Deviation		.287	3.637	.000	1.671	1.434
Variance		.082	13.228	.000	2.792	2.056
Range		1	20	0	5	4
Minimum		1	25	1	1	1
Maximum		2	45	1	6	5

4.1.1 Gender distribution of the study

The following table shows the details of the gender variable of the study. In this study 267 respondents were sampled out in which 229 were male respondents with a percentage of 85.8% and 38 were females making 14.2 % of the overall number of the respondents.

Table 4.1.1 Gender

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Male	229	85.8	85.8	85.8
	Female	38	14.2	14.2	100.0
	Total	267	100.0	100.0	

4.1.2 Age distribution of the study

The study revolved around the married people that is why the respondents were not under the age of 24. The following table shows the age vise distribution of the population.

Table 4.1.2 Age

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	24	1	.4	.4	.4
	25	27	10.1	10.1	10.5
	26	33	12.4	12.4	22.8
	27	13	4.9	4.9	27.7
	28	47	17.6	17.6	45.3

29	26	9.7	9.7	55.1
30	33	12.4	12.4	67.4
31	5	1.9	1.9	69.3
32	11	4.1	4.1	73.4
33	17	6.4	6.4	79.8
34	13	4.9	4.9	84.6
35	8	3.0	3.0	87.6
36	8	3.0	3.0	90.6
37	3	1.1	1.1	91.8
38	5	1.9	1.9	93.6
39	3	1.1	1.1	94.8
40	4	1.5	1.5	96.3
45	3	1.1	1.1	97.4
46	1	.4	.4	97.8
50	1	.4	.4	98.1
51	2	.7	.7	98.9
52	1	.4	.4	99.3
58	1	.4	.4	99.6
64	1	.4	.4	100.0
Total	267	100.0	100.0	

Marital distribution of the study

The study was conducted on the married individuals so all the respondents were married. Following table contains the details of the marital distribution of the study.

Table 4.1.3 Marital Status

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Married	267	100.0	100.0	100.0

Qualification distribution of the study

Following table shows the information about the Qualification variable of the study. The Sample included 3 respondents having the qualification of intermediate with 1.1%. There were 95 respondents, who had Bachelor's degree making 35.6%, 151 were of masters' level with 56.6% of the overall sample. There were 15 postgraduates and 3 Ph.Ds. having 5.6 and 1.1 % respectively.

Table 4.1.4 Qualification

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Intermediate	3	1.1	1.1	1.1
	Bachelors	95	35.6	35.6	36.7
	Masters	151	56.6	56.6	93.3
	Postgraduate	15	5.6	5.6	98.9
	P.hD	3	1.1	1.1	100.0
	Total	267	100.0	100.0	

Profession distribution of the study

The profession of the study included 67 teachers, doctors/engineers 30, lawyers 38, students 38 and there were 109 others making 25.1%, 11.2%, 14.2%, 8.6% and 40.8% respectively.

Table 4.1.5 Profession

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Teacher	67	25.1	25.1	25.1
	Doctor/Engineer	30	11.2	11.2	36.3
	Lawyer	38	14.2	14.2	50.6
	Student	23	8.6	8.6	59.2
	Other	109	40.8	40.8	100.0
	Total	267	100.0	100.0	

Reliability test of the study

Through reliability test of the study the internal consistency of variables is examined.That is why Cronbach's alpha test was brought in use, which indicates the consistency. (Bryman, 2009). The consistency of the variables depends upon the value of the Cronbach's Alpha if the value comes between 0.07 and 0.9 then the data is consideredvalid. In this study the value of Cronbach's alpha is $\alpha = 0.366$ which show the data is significant and reliable. Reliability test of the study is shown in the following table.

Table 4.1.6 Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	No of Items
.366	17

Conclusion and Recommendations

The study was concerned finding out the influence of ideal culture on the socialization of children. This study was qualitative in nature in order to find out influences of the ideal culture on the current patters and methods of the socialization of children. In order to dig out new data about the study a systematic and a scientific questionnaire was constructed and the questionnaire was applied in the field to gather firsthand information from the people about the study. The study carried out as systematically as possible in order to bring more reliable data before the audience and the study brought forward so many new information about influences of the ideal culture on the socialization of the children. After a complete analysis of the data it came forward that the socialization methods have changed over the past years.

It was indicated in the results of the study that ideal culture has left remarkable effects on the traditional ways of socialization patterns of the children. Here are some of the systematically gathered information about the socialization and its evolving methods; today parents prefer to socialize their children according the cultures that are new to them, the study also gave information that parents are compelled to socialize their children according to the dominant cultures found outside their vicinities. Children find a different culture at school because there they are socialized according to the ideal culture followed at educational institutions and the real cultures of Balochistan that have traditionally been followed and practiced in terms of socialization of the children are under the dominance of the ideal culture today. Some of the causes were also dug out during the course of this study such as; technological advancements, media (TV, dramas, movies, programs and cartoons) etc have left their effects on the socialization of the children because they are an effective source social change. Moreover, exposure of the people to cultures other than their own culture and increasing literacy rate have also undermined the traditional ways of socialization children.

The study was conducted in Quetta city. In order to gather more reliable data only the educated parents of Quetta city were sampled out. The total sample size of the study was set as 267 respondents. The study had two types of objectives such as specific objectives and general objectives. The specific objective of the study was to find out the influence of ideal culture on the socialization of the children and there were two general objectives; to find out the changes in the socialization methods of children and to unearth the

causes of change in the socialization methods of children. In order to analyze the results, reliability and frequency tests of the scales were conducted in order find out reasonable and reliable results of the study.

References

Baillargeon, Rene (2002), "The Acquisition of Physical Knowledge in Infancy: A

Summary in Eight Lessons", Blackwell Handbook of Childhood Cognitive Development, Blackwell Publishers Ltd, pp. 47–83,

Chigbu, Uchendu Eugene (2015). "Repositioning culture for development: women and

development in a Nigerian rural community". Community, Work & Family.18 (3): 334–50.

Haviland, William A.; McBride, Bunny; Prins, Harald E.L.; Walrath, Dana (2011).Cultural Anthropology: The Human Challenge. Wadsworth/Cengage Learning.

Jennings, H.S. (1947). Prometheus, or biology and the advancement of man. New York: E.P. Dutton & Co.

Kant, Immanuel. 1784. "Answering the Question: What is Enlightenment?" (German:"Beantwortung der Frage: Was istAufklärung?") *BerlinischeMonatsschrift*, December (Berlin Monthly).

Kroeber, A., and T. Parsons. 1958. The concept of culture and of social system. American Sociological Review 23: 582-583.

Lee, N. L., &Johson-Laird, P. N. (2006). Are there cross-cultural differences in reasoning? In R. Sun (Ed.), 28 Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society. New Jersey: Erlbaum.

Popenoe, D (1995). "Sociology" (tenth anniversary edition). New Jersey: Prentice Hall.

Shepard, Jm (2002). "Sociology" (eighth edition). Australia: Wadsworth. Smith, RW and Bugni, V (2006).

Velkley, Richard L (2002). *"The Tension in the Beautiful: On Culture and Civilization in Rousseau and German Philosophy". Being after Rousseau: philosophy and culture in question. Chicago:* University of Chicago Press. pp. 11–30.

Whiting, B. B. (Ed.). (1963). Six cultures: Studies of child rearing.

New York: John Wiley. First Published July 20, 2010 Otherhttps://doi.org/10.1177/0022022110362567