

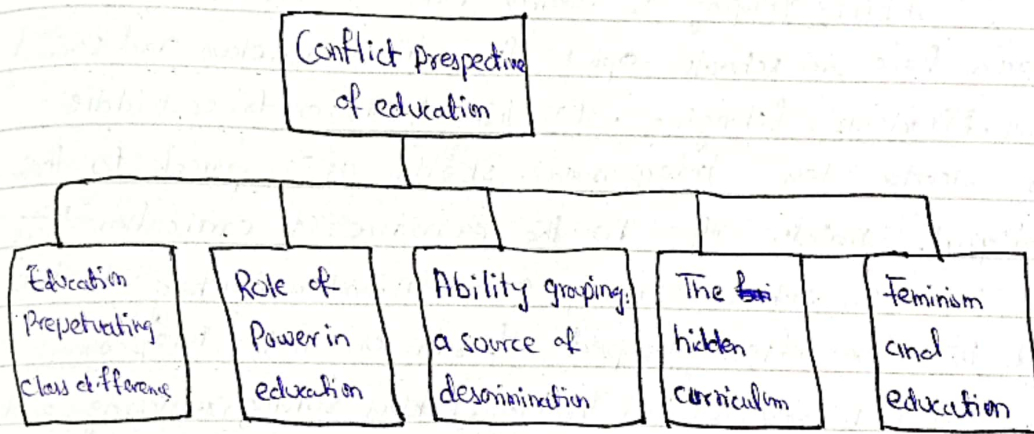
(D) Describe conflict and functionalist perspective on education as institutionalized activity.

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Introduction:-

Education is a social institution responsible for systematic transmission of knowledge, skills, and values within a formally organized structure. There are different sociological perspectives on education such as conflict, functionalist and symbolic interactionism which give different views about education. Given below are conflict ~~perspective~~ and functionalist perspective on education.

Conflict Perspective of education:



1. Education Perpetuating class difference:

According to Karl Marx, education as an institution reinforces class difference in society. Capitalistic class, who already has access to the resources, can easily access to the education while the proletariat does not have sufficient means to access education. If ~~are~~ some of Proletariat or middle class people are able to join the education institutions, they are discriminated on their social status. Students bring different cultural capital to school, but children with less cultural capital have fewer opportunities for success. This leads to indirect dominance of capitalistic class in education.

Role of Power in education:

Education institutions are developed and shaped by the elite class or people in power. They decide the curriculum or the content that is necessary to circulate in society to keep them in power. For example, nationalistic material is developed and perpetuated in society to ~~him~~ shape the opinion of masses. C. Right Mill, describes this relationship between people in and education as drawback of education system.

Ability grouping: a source of discrimination:

Ability grouping is another form of discrimination that children face in schools apart from the colour, class and social status. Students belonging to the middle or lower middle class develop less interpersonal skills as compared to their counterparts mainly due to the nature of curriculum they have in their ~~schools~~ primary schools. When reaching to high schools, they are often grouped based on their interpersonal skills which includes critical thinking, problem solving, reasoning, and communication. This leads to low self-esteem in students. Moreover, it also propels the class ~~c~~ among the poorer students.

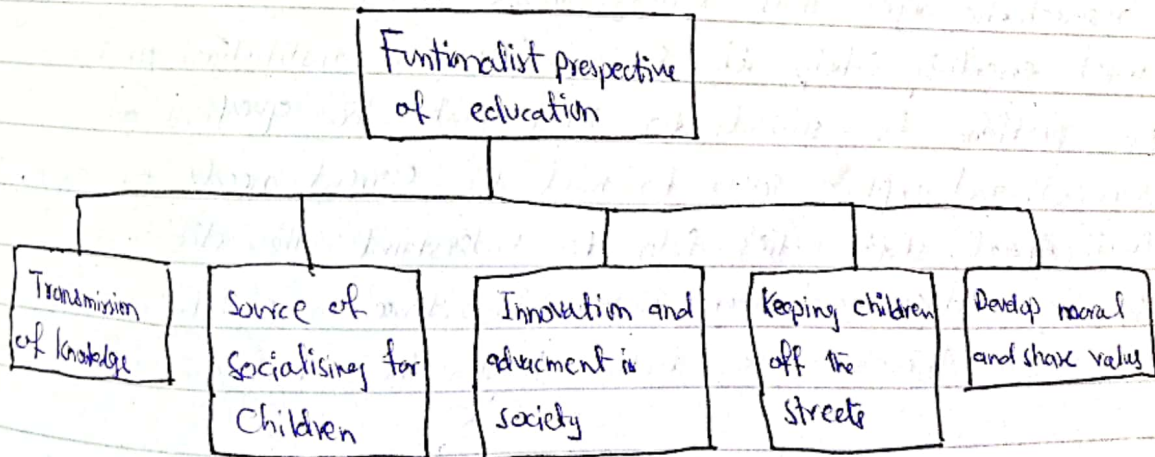
The Hidden Curriculum:

According to Mill, the curriculum in advance decides the place of different people their class and status. The ~~curriculum~~ schools attended by rich formulate curriculum which is based on ~~apply~~ applying ideas, reasoning and critical thinking. On the flipside, school operated in poor areas ~~or~~ have cramming and learning system which does not allow the children to develop their interpersonal skills. These children also have

lower chances of getting good jobs ~~and~~ ^{rich} and succeed in their career as compared to their counterparts. In Pakistan, the O/A level and intermediate ~~system~~ education system is evident example of this dual curriculum design. Important positions are held by people who have graduated from the prestigious schools.

Feminism and education:

Feminist perspective is also part of conflict perspective which focuses on gender discrimination in society. According to feminist perspective, the education institute reinforce the gender biasness by ~~providing~~ excluding women from education system. For ~~for~~ many years, did not allow women students to get admission there. Moreover, the work of women in arts, literature and science was not publicly accepted or published by their names. This systematic exclusion of women shows that education institution were used as mean to keep men as center of civilized society. By the time, the situation has progressed for women; however, the gender gaps are still wide in the education in many countries.



Transmission of knowledge:

According to Talcott Parsons, a major proponent of functionalism, education is one of the most important institutions of society. Its basic function includes transmission of knowledge from one generation to another. The education institutions provide a space for collective and collaborative learning for the children. The teachers are considered as an integral part of the education system who are responsible for the smooth transmission of their knowledge to students.

Mean of socialising:

Education institutions provide a safe space for children or students to engage with each other and socialise. Through socialising, they learn and develop behaviors. Therefore, education directly helps students in personality building and makes them a civic citizen of society.

Source of innovation and research:

Emile Durkheim, another proponent of functionalism, considers education institutions as a primary focus of innovation and research. He argues that society thrives on continuous learning which essentially helps it survive. Education institutions provide a platform for students to find out the questions of survival and explore ideas to meet the current needs of people. Multicultural studies help to understand the different prevailing cultures and their historic importance in society. The research on these cultures further broadens the understanding of students.

Keeping children off the streets:

The latent function of education is to reduce to the number of children on streets ~~which~~ who can be prone to sexual abuse, harassment, physical abuse, and child labour. Keeping children in schools or making education ~~as~~ mandatory for children reduces the chances of exposure to these harms. Therefore, governments focus on reducing the ~~ch~~ children out of school ratios in their countries. Education institutions thereby ensure the safety of children in society.

Helps develop moral and shared values:

Durkheim ~~argues~~ argues that education institutions help students moral and share values. Through education, society can ensure that its social and cultural remain alive in people. These shared values strengthen the bond among people and prevent any dysfunction.

Conclusion:

The two views provide different understandings of education. The conflict perspective views education as a means of reinforcing and perpetuating class inequalities through ability grouping and biased ~~curriculum~~ curriculum. Apart from it, power also plays an important role in designing the setup of education institutions. Feminists also consider education institutions as a source of reinforcing gender discrimination. On the other hand, functionalists view education as a fundamental part or institution of society which is responsible for transmission of knowledge, socialization, ~~source of~~ innovation, safety of children, and developing moral values.