

Essay Writing

Higher Education vs Skill Acquisition

1) Introduction

It is no doubt that higher education of individuals fosters the socioeconomic development of the society. However, to some critics, skill acquisition is step ahead as it enables the individual to develop economically earlier, which becomes a building block to develop in other domains.

2) Conceptualizing the difference between higher education and skill acquisition

3) Higher education fosters socio-economic development of society by:

3.1) by enhancing critical thinking and innovation

Case in study: Finland integrates problem based learning (PBL) into its curriculum, encourages students to analyze real world problems and come up with innovative solutions

3.2) creating skilled professionals for key sectors

case in study: role of scientist in developing vaccine BioNTech for combating corona pandemic.

3.3) fostering economic development

case in study: According to Pakistan economic survey, services sector contributes to 58.6% of GDP.

3.4) bolstering socio cultural growth of society

case in study: ^{Singapore} ~~North Korea~~ designed curriculum to foster multiculturalism to promote tolerance and coexistence of the different ethnicities

4) Skill acquisition is fundamental ingredient to economic development of society which is the building block to develop in other domains & via:

4.1) Quick entry into job market

case in study: China's vocational training program led to the development of sufficient market labor for industrial growth.

Rebuttal: integrating education and skill development fosters economic growth in best possible manner

case in study: Germany's dual education system equipped individuals with critical thinking via education and advanced technical skills via training programs.

4.2) meeting the demands of job market

case in study: The US tech industry has embraced coding bootcamps with companies like Google, Apple, and IBM.

Rebuttal: skill acquisition could lead the markets to overflow and disrupt demand and supply ratio.

case in study : The International Labor Market Organization (ILO) has published report emphasizing skill mismatches in the labor market has bolstered labor market imbalance and unemployment.

4-3) more accessible and cost effective

case in study : In Pakistan National Vocational and Technical Training ~~Programs~~ Commission (NAVTEC) offers cost effective programs for skill acquisition rather than sky rocketing fee structure of universities like NUST and LUMS.

Rebuttal : acquiring professional degrees offers long term professional advantages

case in study : Dr. Zafar Iqbal, graduated from International Islamic University Islamabad

recognized for his contributions in Pakistan's Scientific community particularly in the fields of genetics and biotechnology.

5) A balanced Framework is required to encourage development of society

5.1) integrating higher education with vocational training

Case in study: Switzerland's

Vocational Educational Model, on the basis of which students acquire 60% education and 40% vocational training

5.2) reforming the policy framework in education sector

Case in study: Germany and Finland are prime models to invest in education sector and make higher education cost effective and accessible

6) Conclusion