



ROLE OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES IN DEVELOPING THE STUDENTS' PERSONALITY

Prin. Dr. L. K. Shitole

**E. S. Divekar College of Arts, Science and Commerce,
Tal. Daund, Dist. Pune.**

ABSTRACT :

Today's world is so dynamic that we find day in and day out some new changes are taking place. Today, the marketers face stiff competition and survival of the fittest has become the rule of the day. Therefore, everyone is on his toes to ensure that he is updated on all the fronts to retain his identity. Against the above backdrop whether one is employed or self-employed everyone has to pay greater attention to assume enviable personality apart from the other business merits. According to one view the combination of characteristics or qualities that form an individual's distinctive character. In psychological parlance, "personality" refers to a person's unique and enduring pattern of thinking, feeling, and behaving. With conscious efforts personality can be developed. It is very important to maintain a good physical health for a good personality as well as for a healthy life. Confidence, Communication skills, positive attitude, self-presentation, speaking style, knowledge, mannerism and etiquettes are the major facets of personality. Schools and colleges can contribute a great deal to the personality development. The paper has discussed in brief the role the schools and college can play in this regard. With the discussion on the concept and all aspects of personality development, and the input to be provided by the schools and colleges, the students when they complete their academic education (at least the graduate level) they will be well prepared to face the challenges in the real life situation. Schools and colleges can do a lot.



KEYWORDS : *personality development, confidence, communication skills, self-presentation, positive attitude, pursuit of knowledge, mannerism and etiquettes, role of schools and colleges.*

INTRODUCTION:

Today's world is so dynamic that we find day in and day out some new changes are taking place. New inventions are there. Particularly after the globalization the world has turned into a knowledge world. Globalization has brought about the whole world quite closer. After the establishment of the World Trade Organization (WTO) the entire world has become a single market place. Today, the marketers face stiff competition and survival of the fittest has become the rule of the day. Therefore, everyone is on his toes to ensure that he is updated on all the fronts to retain his identity.

Against the above backdrop whether one is employed or self-employed everyone has to pay greater attention to assume enviable personality apart from the other business merits. Having merely extraordinary academic qualifications is not enough; one should have a pleasing personality. The foundation of sound development of good personality needs to be laid down right from the school and college days. Let us now understand facets of personality and how the schools and colleges can contribute in shaping the student's personality.

CONCEPT OF PERSONALITY:

The term personality has been expressed in number of ways. According to one view the combination of characteristics or qualities that form an individual's distinctive character. In psychological parlance, "personality" refers to a person's unique and enduring pattern of thinking, feeling, and behaving. When viewed in this manner it becomes evident that "personality" encompasses nearly every aspect of human experience. There is significant relationship between our personalities and our thoughts, feelings, and behavior. In simple words personality is the set of emotional qualities, ways of behaving, etc., that makes a person different from other people. Attractive qualities (such as energy, friendliness and humor) make a person interesting or pleasant to be with.

There are four personality types which include: Average: The most common **types** are people who are high in neuroticism and extraversion while lower in openness. ... Role-models: These people are natural leaders with low levels of neuroticism and high levels of agreeableness, extraversion, openness and conscientiousness.

IMPORTANCE OF HAVING A GOOD PERSONALITY:

It is very important to maintain a good physical health for a good personality as well as for a healthy life. A body burdened with a disease may get pity for others but it is very difficult for that person to maintain an attractive personality. It is very important to work out regularly and maintain a healthy physique. Personality as a whole means a combination of characteristics and appearance of an individual that includes the pattern of thought, feelings, attitude, his behavior, communication ability and physical features. Every individual is different from the other and possesses a different personality that is unique from the others. Today personality development has become very important from the career point of view. Personality does not mean that one should have good appearance; it is a wider aspect wherein good looking is one aspect. For a good personality one needs a lot of other characteristics like communication skills, politeness, good listening skills, vocabulary, the art of engaging communication, neatness and attitude. These all combine together to make up a good personality.

Once we understand what is meant by the term Personality and its importance one will come to know that it is necessary to cultivate certain qualities right from the school days. Neatness, focusing on sound physical health, developing sound vocabulary, communication skills can be developed during the school and college days. Unfortunately this vital issue of developing sound personality has not been receiving the attention that it needs. Some good habits, manners are required to be taught during the school and college days which go a long way in developing personality. Let us discuss the various vital aspects of personality development which should be inculcated right through the school/college days.

Self Confidence: Sound personality boosts the confidence. Knowing the right things to say and how to conduct yourself increases your confidence. Confidence enables to have a hassle free conversation. Good confidence level produces very good impact on the others.

Communication skills: One may have a tremendous knowledge but if he is not good at communication he loses the impression. For success in professional career good communication skill is a sound asset. Communication skills can be developed for which pre requisite is sound vocabulary. One should have command over language.

Positive attitude: For the progress in life the positive attitude makes a lot of difference. Our focus should be on finding a solution and not the lapses or lacunas. A positive attitude helps you cope more easily with the daily affairs of life. It brings optimism into your life, and makes it easier to avoid worries and negative thinking. If you adopt it as a way of life, it would bring constructive changes into your life, and makes them happier, brighter and more successful. There are many advantages of a positive attitude at work, and some of the advantages and benefits are: Creates a positive environment, helps to Achieve Goals and Career success. Stress reduction and management. A positive

attitude is important because your attitude will determine your actions. A team leader cannot have a poor attitude and at the same time expect the team members to be positive. The positive attitude of a leader not only fuels the leader, but it also encourages the team to keep pressing on until they succeed.

Self-presentation: It is very important to have a proper dressing sense and picking up right dress for you. Your dress plays a great deal of role in your overall looks and confidence. Remember smartly dressed person is admired everywhere. It is the moral responsibility of every person to recognize that every person has his own value.

Strive hard for knowledge gain: Knowledge is power. Remember nobody is impressed with a person who doesn't have the knowledge about his work as well as surroundings. Knowledge can be enhanced by reading content rich books, watching informative programs on TV, keeping updated by reading newspapers and articles in the journals.

Physical Exercises: In order to remain physically fit one has to have daily regular exercise coupled with good diet. You should eat rich and healthy food and be away from the fast food.

Speaking Style: Speak clearly and politely. Be careful about your body language. Be calm and quiet. Develop command over the language. In a group discussion exercise, be a patient listener and ensure that everybody gets a chance to speak. Focus on your points.

Role of the Schools and Colleges: At the school level it is expected that the school teachers emphasize strict discipline. They should pull the student who has not dressed in neatly. Motivate the students to have extra reading of their choice so that reading habit will be developed. Encourage participation in the elocution competition. Guide the students on the body language and mannerism. Discuss the personality traits of great personalities. Motivate the students to participate in sport competitions. Create an atmosphere that the students are socialized. They are prepared for accepting the defeats and respect the umpire's decisions. In the college level the college can organize expert's discourses on personality development, use developed technology to show audio visual clips of great personalities and discuss it. Organize group discussions on a given topic and observe the performance of each individual. Jot down the inadequacies / lapses and after the discussion also appraise the participants what went wrong and how it can be corrected / avoided. At the higher level give them case studies based on real life situations and encourage the groups to discuss those. This will be a rehearsal for the graduate level students for preparing them for personal interviews in the real life. Particularly students at the graduate level are relatively weak in English language. Therefore, it is suggested that the colleges should conduct special courses for improving the English language as well as English speaking classes. Resources should not be the constraints. The colleges should prepare the graduate level students to face interviews and competitive exams. Mock drills for interviews will equip the students for interview. Today there are number of books available in the market which are specialized on the Personality Development. Make these books available in the college library. Certain aspects from the books be collectively read out and discussed. Interview giving is a technique and it can well be developed if one consciously prepares for the same. In the urban and metropolitan cities some professional organizations conduct Personality Development Classes of short duration. The colleges may depute one enthusiastic staff to such a course and entrust the coordination role for the various activities to be conducted in the college in regard to the personality development.

CONCLUSION:

With the above discussion on the concept and all aspects of personality development, and the input to be provided by the schools and colleges, the students when they complete their academic

education (at least the graduate level) they will be well prepared to face the challenges in the real life situation. Schools and colleges can do a lot.

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