

Abstract

Decoding Right Education: A Discourse on Objective, Foundation and Methodology

By

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First thing first, let's set the objective right. Transmission of information from teacher to student is a relatively lower level of objective that education in the present era mostly serves. A number of projects, including the famous "Hole in the Wall" experiment of Prof. Sugata Mitra, proved that the children are intelligent enough to learn complex subjects by themselves given the study materials and encouragement. Thus, any traditional educational organization only serving the purpose of transmitting the information is bound to prove obsolete when the self-learning students can consume the resources from the classes in the cloud like Coursera, Udemy, edX etc. Education, in the true sense of the term, has a higher purpose to serve. Education should enlighten the mind to bring an inner transformation of the person at the micro level and thereby a societal change would take place at the macro level.

Secondly, the foundation of the mind needs to be strong to let education achieve its highest purpose. The students should develop a sharp mind to introspect the qualities and contaminations the mind has accumulated through the conditioning of the society and culture. Deconditioning and reengineering of the mind is required to develop the right consciousness. An unblocked mind is essential to let education percolate through it. Evidently, spiritual practices like meditation and communion with nature play a paramount role in developing the right foundation.

Last but not the least, it's imperative to figure out the right methods of imparting education after setting the objective right and the foundation strong. The traditional teaching centres need to be transformed into thinking centres such that knowledge is co-created by the teacher and the student through critical thinking. The teacher's role will primarily be to ignite the student's mind and let them think, challenge and question instead of a one way transmission of information. As far as the pedagogy is concerned, debates and discourses should replace lecture. The environment of the educational institutes should be open enough to encourage free thinking and creativity. Thus, the present paper stimulates the mind to envisage the road ahead in achieving the right education.

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