

Education- A weapon to fight for one own-self

Education has many dimensions; everyone has their own definitions of education. For some its literacy, for others it's the process of building up of character and thoughts. Still, for some others it is the way of fighting for one own self.

Education gives a person confidence, no doubt about that. This is the consequence of the fact that education does not only include literacy but also includes information about one's rights and duties. The higher is the education, the higher the knowledge and higher the confidence.

A lady, well educated in the face of harassment from society knows that she has to file a complaint and also knows about the institutions to contact in case the cops are non-cooperating. An uneducated lady, however, would know about the cops but would be helpless in case she doesn't get needed help.

This is the general presumption. But sadly, it's not always true. True that education means a whole package of literacy, degrees, jobs, character and thought building, confidence. It's also true that education empowers one but there is a difference between truth and reality. Reality is that education is just literacy, degrees and jobs and education does not imply empowerment.

We really need to worry about this. Education doesn't imply independence in every case. Even if people know what to do in the face of difficulty they don't have the courage to take any step. Education should make people fearless and determined but instead we are moving in an era of indifference where people just ignore the wrong, even if it's happening to them, and move on. It has become the cause of many problems that we blame our society for and no amount of efforts to solve those problems will work until and unless we find a way to impart proper and sustainable education.

It is not the way of telling students the difference between division and multiplication but the way of telling them how to decide between right and wrong, never to sit quietly and ignore anything wrong that's happening around them. It is the way of telling people not to knit an imaginary safe boundary around them but to accept the truth that they could be the next victim and to tell them the right steps they could take.

But these steps are futile if the bureaucrats and needed institutions do not provide needed help. Again, proper education can help. Kids at primary level have to be taught what's morally right and wrong, that they should help one who is in need and punish one who is wrong. Of course this is done by parents and teachers even now through story-telling but the kids obviously see their elders doing something not acceptable, they see them ignore all the crimes that are happening around them and lead a peaceful life of ignorance so they take these lessons as just lessons, learn in every standard and then forget them as soon as exams are done.

We have to make education power, a weapon to fight for one own self. We have to start from the root and make sure we practice what we preach.

