RESEARCH TRENDS IN MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION: A QUALITATIVE STUDY

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ABSTRACT:

This study focuses on ***"Multiculturalism, A Recent Trend in Education"****. The effects of multiculturalism on classroom practice are the focus of this research. Fifty Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) students from Anand District of Gujarat served as participants in this study. The information was gathered with the help of a questionnaire and some casual conversation. In today's world, trends may be found in virtually every industry. A situation's trend describes the general direction of change or development. As a result, current educational trends emphasize the importance of methods of instruction that are both widely applicable and personally rewarding. Trends in today's education emphasize experimentation, adaptability, and ease of use in order to effect global change. The current fads inspire the youth to be more resourceful, creative, and productive in their pursuit of education so that they can better compete on a global scale. Multicultural education is becoming more commonplace in classrooms. India is a country with many different cultures because of the welcoming nature of its people. College campuses with a wide range of racial, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds are good for the country as a whole. By fostering mutual understanding and fair treatment, a multicultural education empowers students from all walks of life to participate fully in modern society. The foundation of multicultural education is providing equal access to and outcomes in the classroom for students of all ethnic origins. Students in multiethnic settings report increased opportunities to learn about and practice empathy and conflict resolution. Multicultural education is crucial in today's fast-paced society, and we may use some successful ways in the classroom to provide it. The results demonstrate that Multicultural education is both a current trend and an effective strategy.*

Keywords: Research, Trends, Multicultural, Education, Qualitative

INTRODUCTION:

A trend is the general movement or development of an area. As a result, current educational trends emphasize the importance of methods of instruction that are both widely applicable and personally rewarding. The term "multiculturalism" refers to the presence of, or tolerance for, a number of culturally or ethnically different groups within a society. When persons of diverse cultural origins are taught together, they are able to better understand each other's histories, texts, values, beliefs, and points of view. Maintaining environmental equilibrium promotes societal peace and harmony, while multicultural education promotes equality, equity, and justice. Children raised in a multicultural environment learn not just about diverse languages, cultures, values, food, and clothing, but also how to work together as a group, develop their own sense of identity, and improve their interpersonal skills.

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Culture and Multiculture:

Culture is an umbrella phrase that encompasses and reflects the attitudes and behaviours of individuals of all racial, ethnic, national, linguistic, religious, socioeconomic, and sex orientations. Multicultural policies facilitate the development of positive linkages between members of minority groups and the state. A healthy sense of identity can be fostered via exposure to the history, cultures, and contributions of many communities. It promotes a level playing field in corporate settings.

Need and Significance of the Study:

There has been a significant shift toward Multicultural education. Students flourish in the Multicultural setting because they learn to adapt to new situations, to think critically and creatively, to work with others, to be patient and respectful, and to value and appreciate diversity. Students' sense of dignity is bolstered as a result. Learning a new language is a great way to expand career options, gain self-assurance in the face of adversity, get insight into other cultures, and hone your interpersonal skills in today's globalised world.

Teachers with diverse backgrounds are better able to comprehend their students' requirements, attitudes, knowledge, the appropriate application of learning aids, and teaching styles that encourage all pupils. Schools are the hub of a complex triangular process known as education, and when students leave for the labour market, they find themselves immersed in a society that is increasingly diverse and Multicultural. This means that in the present, students need a Multicultural education in order to succeed.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

Based on the literature analysis, we know that Multicultural education is an educational reform movement that seeks to provide a safe and inclusive learning environment for kids of various backgrounds, races, and ethnicities. In addition to these benefits, it also fosters a calm social life in society by teaching people to treat one another with respect both in and out of the classroom.

Students have almost no opportunities for cross-cultural communication in today's educational system, which is particularly monocultural in Gujarat. They only have their own tongue and culture to express themselves. This prevents kids from acquiring the language. If they adopt a Multicultural curriculum and hold various ethnic celebrations, they will foster a sense of community and help shape better members of society.

Principles of Multicultural Education:

- Delivery
- Content
- Teaching and learning materials
- Perspective
- Critical inclusivity
- Social and civic responsibility
- Assessment

Dimensions of Multicultural Education:

Content Integration: Real-world scenarios from different cultures and races are used to clarify the material and provide context for the fundamental ideas, overarching themes, and vexing problems discussed.

Knowledge Construction Process: In the course of their education, students have the opportunity to grow in self-awareness and competence in areas such as critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, and exploration. Eliminating bias Students can overcome feelings of inferiority and cultivate a healthy appreciation for education by learning about and appreciating diversity in the classroom.

Equity Pedagogy: To ensure that all students benefit from equity pedagogy's equal possibilities, educators must adapt traditional classroom tools and methods.

An Empowering School Culture: All children from different cultural backgrounds benefit from a level playing field provided by a Multicultural education. The result is a more cheerful atmosphere, stronger relationships, and a greater emphasis on democratic principles.

OBJECTIVES:
1. To know about Multicultural background in the current scenario.
2. To analyze the Multicultural Education as a recent Research Trend in the current scenario.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:
1. Why do you think Multicultural Education is a recent trend in education?
2. What are the problems and challenges facing the system in promoting Multicultural Education?

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:
The study entitles as the "Research Trends inMulticultural Education: A Qualitative Study".

METHODOLOGY:
This research was conducted to gain insight into the current trend of Multicultural education and its impact. The study involved 50 B.Ed. students from Anand District of Gujarat and was conducted using a qualitative research method. Multicultural background questions included on a questionnaire and discussed informally. Percentage analysis was then used to make sense of the information gathered.
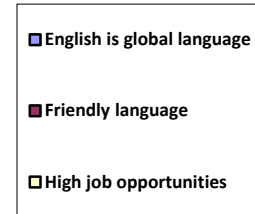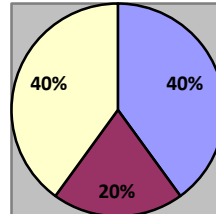
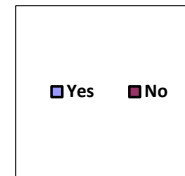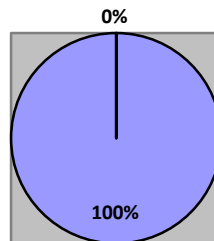**RESULTS**
Questions and Analysis
1. Most of the students interested in English language. What is the reason?
    - English is a global language
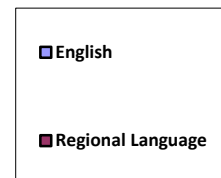   - Friendly language
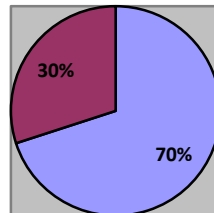   - High job opportunities.

2. Do you like the Multicultural celebrations in your institution?
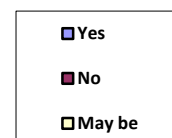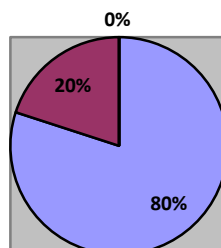   - Yes
    - No

3. Which language helps you in understanding content clearly and deeply?
    - English
    - Regional language

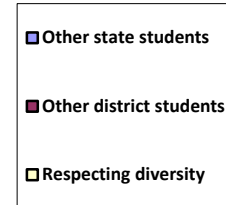4. Do you think learning in English would be helpful for academic performance?
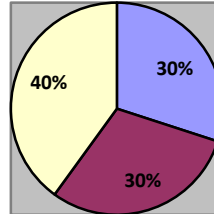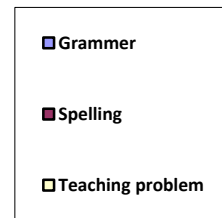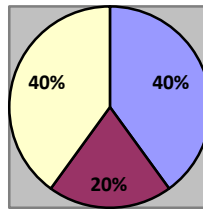   - Yes
    - No
    - Maybe

5. Do you feel that your institution is a Multicultural institution?
- Other district students
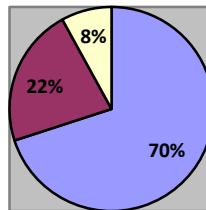- Other state students
- Respecting diversity

6. What are the difficulties do you face in learning English?
- Grammar
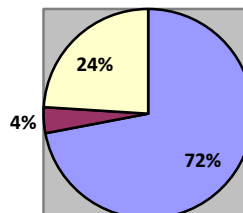- Spelling
- Teaching problem

7. Do you get comfort in Multiculturalclassroom?
- Yes
- No
- Sometimes

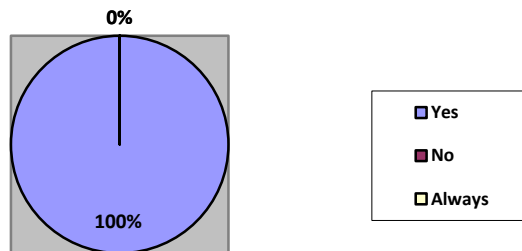8. Which language do you prefer to your learning?
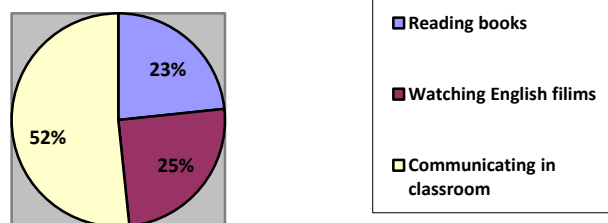- English
- Hindi
- Gujarati

9. Do you respect all the religious beliefs in Multicultural classroom?
- Yes
- No
- Always.

10. How can we improve our English language skills?
- Reading books
- Watching English films
- Communicating in classroom.

Major Findings:
- Majority of the students like Multicultural education.
- Students think that Multicultural education is really a positive approach.
- Students believe Multicultural education has an important role learning English language to obtain good job.
- The young generation prefer to Multicultural education to develop universal brotherhood.

Informal Discussion Questions:
1. What is Multicultural thinking?
2. What is pluralism? Does Multiculturalism bring a positive change in our society?
3. What are the problems and challenges facing the school in promoting Multiculturaleducation?

In this casual conversation, students openly shared their thoughts, fears, and hopes for the future. They agreed that today's youth prioritize academics over moral concerns. Today's youth have become increasingly materialistic and valueless. Multicultural education in today's advanced society places great emphasis on developing strong moral principles. Students' intrinsic strengths can be brought out to the fore in the classroom through Multicultural education. Although English is spoken over the world, many students report finding it challenging to do so when exposed only to one culture. Students who actively pursue a Multicultural education have a much better chance of mastering the global language and achieving their goals. All fields, including education, now require fluency in English. Therefore, in this casual talk, students stress how Multicultural education fosters a welcoming atmosphere conducive to achievement. They talked on how children's intercultural education helps them grow and change for the better.

CHALLENGES:

Teachers that are able to meet the requirements of their students in a Multicultural classroom are essential. Teachers need to be well-versed in their subjects, articulate, creative, and resourceful in order to succeed in the classroom. Teachers must deal with a diverse student body that ranges in race, ethnicity, and culture. All children are given the same opportunity to learn and grow, and teachers actively work to eliminate bias and discrimination.

SUGGESTIONS:

- Equity pedagogy
- Collaborative approach
- Cooperative learning
- Heuristic approach
- Innovative solutions
- Professional communication
- Avoid gender discrimination

CONCLUSION:

Multicultural backgrounds are the norm in today's classrooms, especially in Gujarat. If students learn to appreciate and value their own traditions, they will bring about a social and academic miracle. A Multicultural education fosters the growth of well-rounded individuals. The most powerful tool for advancing civilization is education. Multicultural education strives to produce well-rounded individuals who can contribute positively to society at large. To accomplish Multiculturalism, which is crucial to the nation's unity, the government should have developed positive educational programmes. People's pride drives them to commit acts of violence today. Multicultural education, however, eliminates such normative mirrors to pave the way for students' achievement.

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