


Realities on Participation of Scheduled Caste in India: The Benefits of Social Inclusion in Higher Education through Social Work Interventions

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Abstract

Education plays a crucial role in empowering individuals and building a society that is driven by knowledge. In India, higher education focuses on instilling values, attitudes and skills in students for their personal growth and the betterment of society. The core principles of higher education in India revolve around social justice, equality, democratic participation and equity. However, despite the constitutional promise of equality and social justice, the Indian social structure still adheres to the Caste system. This leads to social exclusion and creates a significant gap in access to quality education for marginalised groups, particularly the Scheduled Castes (SCs). This article examines the participation trends of SC students in higher education, highlighting the challenges within the education system and policies. It emphasises the need for inclusive education to empower SC students and uphold the principles enshrined in the Indian Constitution. Moreover underscores the value of social work intervention in encouraging the active involvement of SCs in higher education.

Keywords: higher education Scheduled Castes, social development, social justice, social inclusion, social work, participation

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