

Magnified



CHRIST
UNIVERSITY
BENGALURU, INDIA

Declared as Deemed to be University under Section 3 of UGC Act 1956

Vol No. : 1

Centre For Social Action

July 2016

Young Minds *a critical age*



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CENTRE
FOR SOCIAL ACTION

Together We Can

A group of young women are shown from the chest up, smiling and laughing joyfully. The woman in the foreground on the left is wearing a blue and gold patterned jacket. The woman in the foreground on the right is wearing a black turtleneck. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people and what appears to be an outdoor setting.

“

*The biggest
gift one can
give to
someone is
reasons to
smile.*”

Education: Utilized OR Exploited?

Anyone who stops learning is old whether he is 20 or 80, but anyone who keeps learning stays young. To start with education is the key that allows people to move up in the world, seek better jobs and succeed in life. As the saying goes, well educated population represents a well secured, a well developed and a strong nation. Education definitely is the fourth necessity of man after food, clothing and shelter. Now the question that arises is, what can education do?

It is the tool which alone can inculcate national and cultural values and liberate people of false prejudice, ignorance and representations. It provides them required knowledge, technique, skill and information that enables them to know their rights and duties towards their family, society and towards motherhood at large. It not only expands an individual's vision and outlook but also increases the capability to fight ignorance, violence,



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. "
Nelson Mandela

disparity and communalism which perhaps are the greatest hazards to the progress of the nation. Aristotle once said that educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all. Getting the education does not just help the mind, but also helps us to deal with people, how to think properly, and also how to interact with fellow beings. But even inspite of all this education is considered as a threat in few cases. Why is that so?

Right from childhood, it is fed into the minds of tiny



tots that the only thing they should know is that he/she will be a doctor, or an engineer or an IAS officer. Since the beginning they are pressurized to outperform others of their age. They need to pass in a number of tests even to get an admission for nursery, because they are supposed to be best in their school. All that matters is your marks, your grade and so on. Due to all this comparison between children of their age, the child who is usually a stress buster and a source of happiness for everyone else at home, is confused and tensed. It is high time that human being's own capabilities is realized and given proper space for development. The agenda of life should become living and not just existing. When no

two individuals in this world are meant to be same, then from where is this whole concept of competition arising. Let all of us take one step forward in maintaining the individuality and uniqueness of oneself.

By-

Ashish Agarwal
3BTCS



The Brightest Minds in the Darkest

A mixed set of emotions befalls most people when somebody asks them to imagine living life in a slum. No electricity, no running water, no proper shelter, barely any food. It sounds like its own kind of hell which nobody wants to be a part of. And yet, there are scores of people who are born, live and die, having spent a lifetime in the confines of a slum.

The Oxford dictionary defines a slum as a squalid and overcrowded urban street or district inhabited by very poor people. It also defines a slum as a house or a building unfit for human habitation. To an outsider, this seems like



like a hopeless mass of people, stuck in perpetual poverty, their lives devoid of any hope or aspirations. But

this is where outsiders' thinking is flawed.

Slum-dwellers aspire to live better lives. They

do not waste their time sitting around, pondering whether it was fate that put them in the predicament of

of abject poverty. These people will go to any length to make a better living for themselves. They work hard and live tough lives, all in the hope of building themselves a better future. People seldom hear of these kinds of people making a name for themselves. But the list of people who arose from similar backgrounds and achieved far more than they had dreamt of is remarkably long.

One such achiever is Dhirubhai Ambani, who was born in the village of Chorwad in the district of Junagarh. His father was employed as a school teacher while his mother was a homemaker. Raised in frugal living conditions, right from an early age, he was aware of the insufficiencies that the family dealt with due to the meagre income of his father and large expenses. Fiery instinct, futuristic outlook, indomitable will, and a burning passion was all that Dhirubhai Ambani had when he set out to work his way for a living in the lanes of Bombay, way back in 1958. From being a spice dealer to a cloth merchant to a textile producer, it was his overarching ambition, from, inexhaustible energy and never-say-die spirit that led him through all the obstacles to emerge as the business tycoon of India.

He established and laid the foundation for Reliance Industries,



which has become one of the largest conglomerates of India today.

By-
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The ability of inability

God, the Supreme power, who created the universe in all of its magnitude and creative details, is able to be known, by us. "Life" is a very small word that incorporates a vast thesis. It is a big deal. Life is never about having it only once, it's about what you choose to do with it, who you choose to spend it with and making history when you leave. So it does have many challenges. Most of us have one or more core issues or life challenges which surface repeatedly over the course of our lives. These issues are usually rooted in deep unexpressed fears. Depending on your perspective, core life challenges either cause all sorts of problems, or present many opportunities for transformation. When you choose to look at the core challenges

of life as an opportunity, you are much more likely to transform your fears into learning tools which lead to a better life. "Children are gifts from God"

Children give the real meaning to life. For an individual, life entirely turns in a diverse path when he/she becomes a parent of a child. They are the flowers which makes our life very colorful. If children with normal abilities are flowers, then 'handicapped children' are very beautiful flowers.

Who are "Handicapped Children"?

Earlier, the handicapped children were the children, who were disabled physically or mentally. But nowadays, these children are known as "Differently Abled. This is because they have proved themselves as differently abled to our society. While normal children criticized, they proved that they are different by praising. While normal children showed their brilliance, they proved that they are different by being super brilliant. While normal children betrayed the thesis of life and became flowers, they proved that they are different by sacrificing and they in turn became beautiful flowers. These beautiful flowers tell not only to the normal children but also to the fate of justice that:

Life is a battle which has to be fought for cure If there is darkness, there comes light for sure

Never let confidence to go low
This will surely lead life to glow
These children are the real; precious gifts of God, because they are the only people who deem their disability as a blessing!

By-
Raghul M
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*"The only
disability in life is
a bad attitude."
Scott Hamilton*





THE SIGHT OF LIFE

An unbolted door is half open,
as the teary eyes which are half
closed.

One unlocks sight,
the other, blocks light.

The state of a pupil peeping into a
room, at night,
filled with hidden unknown truths of
life.

Says:
Maybe,
I might be slow,
but I'll keep up with my pace.

Meanwhile,
In seek of land to sow,
might just seal my place."

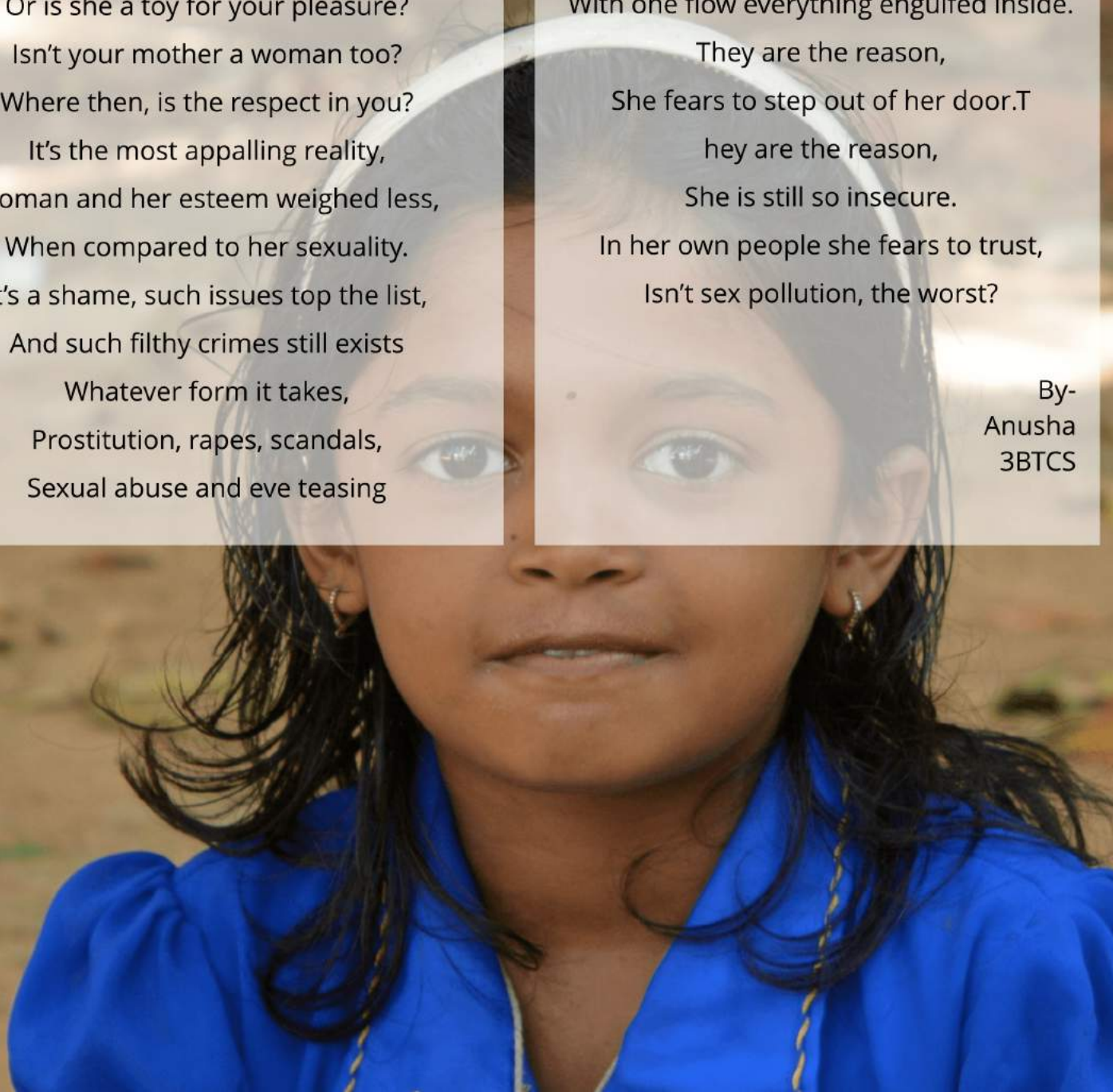
By-
Nelson Paulose
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SEX POLLUTION

Pollution, a popular term,
Land, water, noise or air
Sex Pollution, now spread in the nation,
Let's take our step to become aware.
Whenever a woman comes across a man,
She should ask, "What is womanhood for
you?"
Is a woman a showpiece in your treasure?
Or is she a toy for your pleasure?
Isn't your mother a woman too?
Where then, is the respect in you?
It's the most appalling reality,
Woman and her esteem weighed less,
When compared to her sexuality.
It's a shame, such issues top the list,
And such filthy crimes still exists
Whatever form it takes,
Prostitution, rapes, scandals,
Sexual abuse and eve teasing

Why a girl is always made a victim?
And on her alone 'the blame of
obscenest' fall.
Though nothing was right,
She has always been quiet.
When her wrath breaks this silence,
It will bring an end to violence
As a silent sea often misguides,
With one flow everything engulfed inside.
They are the reason,
She fears to step out of her door.
They are the reason,
She is still so insecure.
In her own people she fears to trust,
Isn't sex pollution, the worst?

By-
Anusha
3BTCS



THE YOUNG MIND SPEAKS

A young mind is malleable,
But believes it's infallible.
It's rather odd how that works,
I'd sooner leave that at shirks.

Nonetheless the last generation,
Has proven that as a nation,
We've come quite slowly, uniquely far,
Though maybe stuck in a little tar.

Our women have quietly come a long way,
To burn with their husbands isn't the order of the day.
Our children have food as incentive for school,
Although we continue our disdain for rules.

The wheel's been turning,
New iPhones churning.
The best and the worst of the market we embody,
Being the world's 7th biggest economy.

But back to the notion of malleable minds,
This nation is largely of youth we find.
Perhaps then it does good to remind them they take charge
Of all that has been left behind in progress' barrage.

An overtake here, a gutter there but a helmet in place,
Maybe the road could be a safer space.
Respect here and everywhere, a defence class there,
We dream days the deafening term "rape" should be rare.

A regulation here, a filter there,
Perhaps we could breathe less filthy air,
A drain pipe here, a jute bag shared,
Perhaps our water could last us longer fares. Really much of this goes without saying,
We've been fighting for ages, side-stepping mayhem.
Still with minds that can change yet it does,
To remember just a little more thought could save most of us.

By-
Divyank Dhar Dubey
5BTEE



BORN A GIRL AGAIN

Lost in the world of strangers,
Still finding her own place.

She does not fear any other creature,
But more animals are the people of her own
race.

She finds shelter to hide,
Her home even is not safe.

One can escape from unknowns,
But what if the beast lives in her own cave?
She has questioned her dignity to the justice,
Might get compensation, But there also she
doesn't find peace.

She knows she is a toy,
Played with and left broken.
Her respect is never valued,
It was sold as a token.

People are silent, as silence is the easiest way,
But this silence has made her cry each day.
She finds either accusation or sympathy in
every eye,

Life becomes shameful, she hangs and dies!

The irony is those ravishers roam free,
But she gives herself, 'The Death Sentence', So
that she can rest in peace.

People burn candles,
But that has always ignited news and scandals.

In life, she gets only infinite pain,
Even the judgement of God is merciless,
She is born a girl again.

By-
Anusha
3BTCS



The Scam of Beggary

A social issue that is most prominent in India. Beggary. But is it a sad truth or a clever scam? What it really is, is a profession which makes it both a sad truth and a clever scam. Unfortunately, this is the only profession that encourages an age requirement of below 15. It truly is depressing to see children go around in trains, tourist spots and signal stops begging for money. And most of these children do not have the liberty of making choices. They are made to beg for a living. About 70 to 80% of them are under the control of larger gangs that assign territories for these children to look poor and convincing and plead for money. At the end of the day they'd go back to their authorities who would give but only a small amount of the total money to these children. The children don't mind because at the end of the day they are earning themselves some money. The poverty and instability that they live through everyday forces them into this profession. The little they get from it gives them some satisfaction and a meal or two for the day. The future of children in the country would be in danger if this continues. As babies, they are rented and given to women beggars. Their childhood is spent under the control of gangsters. They spend their adolescence rebelling against the violence that is poverty usually resorting to minor crimes such as pick-pocketing and chain-snatching. Basically, this sort of a living has a psychological effect on children and they not only tend to lose their way but also their minds. As part of the society, we are sorry when we relieve these beggars and we are sorry when we don't. Whether we give to them or not, their existence puts us in the wrong. These are the young minds of the country. They need some attention, some development and some refinement. To start from scratch, poverty must be eliminated. This would require the government's dedication, stricter laws on free education, assistance of devoted NGOs etc. But as citizens, to really help the situation directly, the best we can do is stop giving to them. This may seem cruel and harsh. It probably defeats the whole point of charity but the aim is to slap the people with the truth. And the truth is giving to them does more harm than good. Because sometimes kindness can really kill.

By-

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PEER PRESSURE: A NECESSARY EVIL

Have you ever taken any decision in your life only because your friends want you to do that? Have you ever been in a situation where replying no seems really uncool? Have you ever tried a cigarette puff or beer sip to experiment thrills and fit in the gang? If your answer is yes, you are the right one to read this article!

Well no one in this world can react to any situation solely. Our thinking process is constantly influenced by a number of factors like situation and people. Research says that an adolescent brain reacts to any stimuli or situation faster and prefers to make impulse decision in reflex of a situation. Such rushed decisions are often influenced by peers. They seem exciting but sometimes cause life altering circumstances and involve risks. Recent research reveals that although human brain reaches its maximum size by age of 12 or 14, the brain development process continues till late 20s. During this age of puberty, the brain is under developed and the adrenalines are fueled up, hence experiments in food, fashion lifestyle etc. is observed the most. Psychologist say that during this phase of our life as we spent more time with our friends, acceptance among them becomes a major need, and our way of thinking is largely affected by them. There are innumerable cases of peer pressure leading to drug abuse, inflaming crimes like rapes, molestation, ragging etc., rash driving and many more. How important it can be to fit in a group that young generation is ready to do literally anything! Peer influence is not something like a curse. After all it is good to have people of your age who sometimes seem more understanding than parents. But it is your call to choose wisely whom to give such an important space in your life. Like a good legal advisor is a backbone of a company, good company is yours! Positive peer influence caters competitive growth, creative endeavors, skill building etc. and also encourages being socially active. Every coin has two sides. And so does peer pressure. Few simple tips or suggestions which might help you to avoid some ugly situations in a group-

Choose your friends wisely. It is rightly said, "Be more careful while choosing your friends than foes".

Though how difficult it seems, "learn to say no".

Be polite but firm to express your opinions.

Don't let anyone take charge of your life.

Don't give much heed to judgments.

Think twice before making decision.

Well it is good to have friends. But remember that you always have these two best friends; your parents and your inner self. No matter what but they can never harm you. So believe in them, you may never be a victim of peer pressure again.

By-
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Special Thanks

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*Upcoming
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