

The National Curriculum Framework (2005) quotes from the Secondary Education

Commission (1952), "Citizenship in a democracy involves many intellectual, social and

moral qualities...a democratic citizen should have the understanding and the intellectual

integrity to sift truth from falsehood, facts from propaganda and to reject the dangerous

appeal of fanaticism and prejudice ... should neither reject the old because it is old nor

accept the new because it is new, but dispassionately examine both and courageously

reject what arrests the forces of justice and progress....". The quote reaffirms the

commitment of our education system to democracy and reiterates that citizens in a

democracy should be able to think for themselves and be able to sift truth from falsehood.

In other words, education should necessarily help learners develop independent and

critical thinking, among many other capabilities.