

Social Problems

Our society is not free of problems. The anti-social elements and our bad practices are the results of the existence of social problems. The problems created in the society through superstitions and an anti-social elements which create disturbances in the development of the society is known as social problems. Girl trafficking, drug abuse, alcohol consumption, untouchability, discrimination regarding gender, caste, etc. are some of the social problems prevalent in our society.

Social problems create conflict in the society as there is always a gap between rich and poor, so-called high caste and so called low caste. The drunkards create a problem in their family. Moreover, their uncontrolled activities may result in harm to the society. Thousands of young boys and girls fall in the bad habit of drug abuse. On one hand, they degrade their life and, on the other hand, the country loses its strong hands. The discrimination between male and female is also a great obstacle to development. Female are always limited within the four walls of the house. Neither they are given quality education right from the start nor they are made to involve in creative works.



Deuki System

It is mainly prevalent in the Far Western Development Region. In this tradition, the girls are offered to the gods and goddesses in temples in the hope of getting one's desires fulfilled. Those who don't have daughters buy the daughters of the poor parents. In this way, the girls become helpless and have to live a terrible life without getting married.



Dowry System

This system is mainly prevalent in the terai region of Nepal and slowly it is extending all over the country. The bride has to provide a lot of wealth which can be gold, land or cash to the bridegroom. If the dowry is not brought by the bride, she is tortured or burnt alive. Dowry may not be a big problem to the rich parents, but the poor parents cannot afford them. So, as a result, many women die because of not bringing dowry and the parents have to be beggars having a huge loan to pay.

Social problems are the result of our misconception, ignorance and illiteracy. Poverty and unemployment are also the major factors. Due to illiteracy, the people blindly follow their ancestor's work thinking that they are their tradition whether it is good or bad. Poverty is also a main problem. Poor women have to follow prostitution just to maintain their livelihood. Theft and robbery are also the cause of unemployment and poverty. Social problems are created by us. So, they can be put into end by us. We should be aware of the malpractices and make other aware as well. The government bodies like VDC and DDC are working to end social problems through mass awareness. Gambling is prohibited by the VDC and it encourages people to involve in creative works. Besides the government bodies, NGOs and INGOs are also working to abolish social problems. For example, Maiti Nepal is working to abolish girl trafficking. We need to cooperate with them and help in their mission to abolish the social evils.

Corruption: A Major Social Problem

Corruption means to use the state machinery, authority and a power in an illegal and unauthorised way to get personal benefit in the form of commission or misusing public fund or budget. Corruption can be found in four ways. They are Bribery, Relatives tend, Misappropriation of government property and Exploitation policy.



Effects of Corruption:

- Government loses credibility.
- People are forced to pay undue money even for fair work.
- Poor and socio-economically deprived people don't get justice.
- It causes conflict and violence in the society.
- The Economic and social process of development will be affected.
- It hampers overall day to day in the administration of the country.



Image: Ending Corruption

Source: <http://cebudailynews.inquirer.net>

Measures to control corruption:

- Implementation of good governance, accountability, transparency and effective rules, and regulations.
- General awareness against corruption.
- Strict law, rules and monitoring.
- Civil society, media, etc. have to discourage the corruption by bringing it into the public.
- The corrupt officials and people against whom the charges of corruption are proven should be socially boycotted.

Drug Abuse



Drugs are substances that bring about changes in the functioning of cells in the human body. There are various kinds of drugs, such as opium, heroin, cocaine, hashish, bhang, etc. Some drugs act as a stimulant and some act as depressants. Due to this, functions of heart, lungs, liver, intestines, kidneys, eyes and other body organs are debilitated.

Drug abuse is a serious problem. It is both an individual and a social problem. It is usually found in teenagers. Many school students are habituated to the drug. Some sportsmen also take drugs. Drug trafficking has become a prosperous international trade. The drug is mostly taken for pleasure. Some teenagers take drugs due to peer pressure and curiosity. Some people become hopeless about their failure and start taking drugs. Some people are confronted with life due to failure and so they begin using drugs. But traffickers are the greatest culprit. In order to make money, they trap the young people.

Causes of Drug abuse:

1. Bad company
2. To reduce anger, anxiety
3. Not getting love, affection from parents, community etc.
4. Broken home
5. Strong network of drug dealers
6. Influence of advertisement etc.

Effects of Drugs:

1. Social isolation
2. Development of physical dependency
3. Chance of infertility
4. Nausea and vomiting
5. Loss of appetite, loss of weight and loss of memory power
6. Reduction in body immunity power
7. Intoxicated and high chance of accident
8. Effect on reproductive health and infertility
9. Socio-economic crimes and problems

Preventive measures

1. Develop strong will power to say no to drug and avoid including drug user in your friend circle.
2. Drug trafficking must be strictly controlled.
3. The good family relationship should be maintained.
4. During leisure, one should get involve in recreational activities.
5. Law and regulations on drugs should be enforced strictly.

International Organizations

Transparency International

Transparency International is an international non-governmental organization. It was established in 1993 AD. It is the global civil society organization leading the fight against corruption. It monitors and publicizes corporate and political corruption in international development. It publishes an annual Global Corruption Barometer and Corruption Perception Index, a comparative listing of corruption worldwide. The headquarters are located in Berlin, Germany. The organization defines corruption as the abuse of entrusted power for private gain which eventually hurts everyone who depends on the integrity of people in a position of authority.

Transparency International consists of over 100 locally established, independent national chapters as well as an international secretariat in Berlin, Germany. Each chapter tackles corruption in their respective country, constructing methods relevant to their national context in order to bring about change. The secretariat provides support and cooperation among chapters, as well as collaborating with these chapters in order to approach corruption on a global and regional scale. Transparency International is the global civil society organization leading the fight against corruption. It brings people together in a powerful worldwide coalition to end the devastating impact of corruption on men, women and children around the world. Transparency International's mission is to create change towards a world free of corruption. Transparency International does not undertake investigations of single cases of corruption or expose individual cases. It develops tools for fighting corruption and works with other civil society organizations, companies, and governments to implement them.



United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)

United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) was founded on 11th December 1946 A.D. in New York, USA. It is a United Nations Program that provides long-term humanitarian and developmental assistance to children and mothers in developing countries. It is one of the members of the United Nations Development Group and its Executive Committee. It was created to provide emergency food and healthcare to children in countries that had been devastated by World War II. Ludwik Rajchman, a Polish bacteriologist, is regarded as the founder of UNICEF and was its first chairman from 1946 to 1950.

Functions:

1. It protects child rights as well as takes care of women.
2. It improves the health of children and develops their skills.
3. It conducts various programs regarding nutrition, primary health care, and vaccination.
4. It protects children from being tortured or exploited.



Save the children

Save the Children Fund is an international non-governmental organization. It was founded in London, England, on 15 April 1919 by Eglantyne Jebb and her sister Dorothy Buxton as an effort to alleviate starvation of children in Germany and Austria-Hungary during the Allied blockade of Germany of World War I which continued after the Armistice. It promotes children's rights, provides relief and helps support children in developing countries. It promotes policy change in order to gain more rights for young people especially by enforcing the UN Declaration of the Rights of the Child. Alliance members coordinate emergency relief efforts, helping to protect children from the effects of war and violence. Save the Children has general consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council.