Changing trends in Indian family

By:

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• The following trends may be noticed in the modern Indian family:
  • A). Structural change
  • B). Functional change
A). Structural change

• 1) The joint family is undergoing a phenomenal structural change and the preference for the nuclear family.
• 2) Reduced Size of Family:
• 3) Exercise of authority
• 4) Changes in the relation between men and women
• 5. Changes in family norms
• 6. Control over marriage – selection of mates
• 7. Filo Centric Family: children determine the policy of the family.
• 8. Parent Youth Conflict:
Functional changes system of Indian family
Changes in the primary functions:

1. Traditional **reproduction** function of family.
2. The **childcare** functions of the family and socialisation have been shifted to certain external agencies like hospital, maternity homes, nurseries, kindergartens etc.
3. **Provision of Common** residence: The modern family fails to give traditional protection for the aged, diseased, mentally retarded, physically handicapped etc. The modern family is gaining increased attention in socialization of its newly members. It is giving more attention to the all round development of child personality.
4. Modern youngsters prefer to establish their own house for independent living.
B. Changes in the Secondary functions:

- Functions the family was performing as an economic unit have been shifted to market economy. Many external agencies are performing the economic functions, which the family used to perform in the past.

- The religious functions of the family have also undergone a great change. The religious practices have lost their traditional importance. More secular attitude and outlook is spreading day by day. This secular outlook has considerably reduced the importance of religious function family.
. Decreased control of the Marriage: The marriage contract today is entered into more autonomously by both men and women. Organizations and management completely changed traditional occupational system existed in India.
The recreational functions of the family have been shared by the external agencies like movies, hotels, parks clubs, youth organisations and other centers of recreation. These recreation centers are highly commercialised. Thus, the recreational function which was considered as one of the thread of cohesion has lost its significance.*
Emerging trends

• 1. The no. of fissioned families are increasing: That is sons prefer to live separately from their parents, But continues to fulfil their traditional obligations towards them.

• 2. There is more jointness in traditional communities and more nuclearity in communities exposed to outside influences.

• 3. Size of the family has become smaller.....
Factors Affecting Changes in the Family

- Industrialisation,
- urbanisation and migration of population from villages to the cities,
- general spread of education, especially among women,
- changes in occupational structures,
- conferment of political and property rights,
- Modification in the legal status of women and their taking up of various occupations,

--- are some of the main factors

• behind the transformations that are taking place in the Indian family.
Conclusion

• In spite of the above changes that have occurred in the functions of family in modern time the family is still persisting as one of the most important social institutions.
• This is because the traditional functions of family have been modified than lost.
• In this connection A.W. Green has rightly remarked, "Over the centuries, no permanent direction of change has ever been maintained. At some time in the future, the present forces of change may reach out in an unforeseen direction permitting family to regain its old strength and renew its old functions".
• The changes that have occurred indicate that the Indian family system is in a transitional stage.