



**FAMILY AS THE FIRST AND BEST SOURCE OF CHILD'S EDUCATION
IMPLICATION TO EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT**

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Abstract

In this paper the research discussed, what is family, family education, types of education and family as the first and best source of child's education. The quality or performance of the child's education in formal setting of education depends on the quality of family education.

Keywords: Family, Source, Child, Education, Implication, Educational Management

Definition of Family

Family is an important social agent at large.

Ojiemhenkele (204) define family as two or more people who regarded themselves as a family and who perform some functions which family typically performs. These people may or may not relate by blood or marriage and may not relate by blood or marriage and may not usually live together. Gorden (2003) define family as a focal point, the centre around which our professional and social duties and even the academic responsibilities and comeback to be with the family is significantly because it has a beenregarded as the comer stone of human society. It plays a vital role in the formation of human society by binding men, women and their children in a stable relationship with each other. It is called nursery of human nature because the manner in which the children are brought up in a family decides, to great extent, the way they react to different situations in the absence of their family members,. In other words, the family lays down the foundation of human personality.

Eze (2004) said that:

It is known that children do not just find themselves in school immediately after birth. They are born at home and they remain in such homes till time is ripe for them to start school. During the period of time the child is at home, he or she is not there without receiving form of education or the other from the parents and other around him/her.

Each individual is part of one family or the other. We are born and brought up in different families. Without family upbringing we cannot be active in society. With the birth the children, the size of family enlarges. The society may include a number of relatives belonging to different generations.

Family education

A child cannot function well or participate well or fulfill a very vital function without a healthy informal family education. In addition, family education prepares individuals for various occupational roles. Family education contributes greatly to formal education. The big question one may like to ask at this juncture is which of the two places- home and schools contribute more to the general education of the child? (Eze, 2014). Children are what they are today because of the type of family education impacted on them yesterday. Parents are like teachers. They are the beginners of education, attorney of school teachers, supervisors, coordinators, transformers, character builders, etc. the list can go on in lieu of the parent's roles in various home activities from the above, one can see that the duties or responsibilities of parent are vast and vary widely.

When Western education was introduced, parents paid less attention to their duties (Family education), thinking that the western education is best for their children. Western education is not really the best without parent's duties/education. This fact has made some parents send their children to school without knowing who their teachers, friends, neighbours, relatives, etc. this is not the appropriate when education of the children should be left only to teacher, missionaries, government time when education of the children should be left only to teacher missionaries, government to handle. Parents do not care anymore for their children. They only focus on earning income (Eze, 2014).

On channel television 2015, a guest was invited and a statement was made "what Nigerian need is not a year national youth service corps, where youths need to be taught discipline, values honesty, integrity, nationalism, patriotism, and the likes. In the course of the

discussion, the presenter asked and said “is that not the responsibility of the family? But parents are too busy seeking and finding a source of livelihood. Therefore, they have little or no time for this”. The guest said that because of the western education, the family has paid less attention in their roles. Parents have the ability to influence their child’s personality, characters, interest, intelligence, attitude, values and their belief system if you start early. There is a popular adage saying; “Catch them young”. Parent can influence their children, however at home, school, and with friends, positively.

Definition of Education

One mind set, one opinion, one pen, one understanding one vice on educational issues can changes the society. The words, education, is powerful a super glue that interconnects societies and as well, disconnects societies. It can affect the society negatively runs into the powerful energies of the minds and hearts of a society, if actually they understand the meaning.

Many people see education as the transmission of right values (truth, right conduct, peace, love and non- violence forgiveness, compassion and wisdom), Ezemerihe (2013) called it human value. In Aguba (2006), Ukeje (1979) define education as the process of transmitting preserving developing and advancing the culture of a people. Here, Ukeje equals education with the culture transmission of a people. Fafunwa (1974) saw education as the aggregate of all the processes by which a child or young adult develop the abilities, attitudes, and other forms of behaviour which are the positive value to the society in which the lives. Fafunwa’s definition entails life-long experiences which cut across infancy and adulthood. Education is not all about reading and writing but doing things as human beings ought to do things. Doing the right things. Doing the right things at appropriate time, trying to adopt in the environment he or she lives and how to think for the growth and development of society. A man who doesn’t want the country to grow, support corruption, prejudice, injustice. Looting public funds and so on is he or she educated? They are introvert beings and not seeing, feeling, tasting, hearing and touching the way others do. There are society or family who as well integrate their young with wrong values, that’s why some society have terrorist, suicides bombers, Fulani herdsmen, inactive citizens and to mention but few, it all started from the smallest unit of society.

The following points could not be added from Plato’s definition of education in Aguba (2006).

1. Education is the first and fairest thing that the best of men can ever have.
2. Occupational training alone is not education. That one is a medical doctor, lawyers, teacher, trader; pharmacist without sound character does not make one educated.
3. Education is geared towards making a person virtuous and desirous of being an ideal citizen. An ideal citizen is both a good leader and good followers.
4. Training which is only directed at making a person rich or physically strong is not education.
5. Mere cleverness without justice and understanding is not education.
6. An education man is good and virtuous.

From our childhood we see the aim of education as the builder of characters, if only gives the child the ability to earn a living, but do not teach him how to be at peace with the world, and then what then is the use of education?. If we are surrounded with sophisticated weapons, what will be the form of our education? As human we adapt the environment with time. This statement is applicable to human especially at our childhood stage where we only need someone (mostly parents, teachers, leaders, peer groups, uncle and other relative) to direct them: children have infinite character in them.

Types of Education

We have two kinds or aspect of education which are western education (formal education) which is carried out within the four wall of the school and informal education (home upbringing).

Informal education, individual must participate consciously or unconsciously from parent. These types of education are reoffered to as best and first source of child's education which every member of the society must acquire to live a purposeful life in the society. It is otherwise similar to our present basic education, help parent impact the right values to children, will also help the children define their life-style. It is difficulty to divert/change by anyone in absence of his/her parent. In Abuja (2006), the philosophy of traditional education hinges on seven distinct but interrelated areas of human life (Fafunwa, 1974). These include development of physical skills development of characters, respect for elders, intellectual development, vocational training and active participation in family and community affairs and lastly, promotion of the culture heritage of the community at large.

On the order hand the aims of the western education were to convert the Africa pagan to Christianity and to suppress superstition and ignorance and the aim of Christian education

was to produce people who could read and interpret the bible (Aguba, 2006). Formal education is not necessary but with exception of professional field like doctor, architect, and lawyer and in Nigeria. Reasons are that, children who don't have good home upbringing becoming a threat to our society after schools, this is as a result of lack of good home training by parent. The child has no focus or defines his lifestyle, he needs direction. Secondly we see people contributing greatly to society without certificate, what do we call that? May be is good home upbringing some country are well developed their standard of education is not going down the hill and their tertiary institution are not listed as the best but they are known for center of researcher, invention, creative writing, innovation and shopping (Dubai).

Formal education is also a strategy for national development if we can start from our homes in upbringing up the children with right value and when they get there (school setting), at that time they can define their life.

Family as the First and Best of Child's Education

A little child's development is influenced by his/her genetic physiological make-up, as well as his/her environment as the family is the immediate environment for a child to grow up, the quality of parenting and parent child relationship have significant bearing upon the health development and academic development of the child's generation in all domains.

The family is a cell and social institution. As one of the basic social institutions. (Dong and Hung 2001: Tam, 2001), in Nguyen (2012), families reproduces people not only in term of physical appearance but also emotional spirits, soul culture-it means socializing the process changing a child from a creature into social person. The child who lacks education from families or are brought up in an improper family will be a challenged and difficulty in education and training his into an ordinary person. The process of changing a body from a natural organ to social person happens through educating-socializing. This refers to the second birth in spite of being humanly born; the baby will never become human if he is uneducated and entirely separated from society. According to famous American sociologist, Rober part in Nguyem (2012), human born is not already human, he only becomes human in educating process imply, educating process started from home.

Conclusion

The quality of a child in formal setting is seventy percent of family education. The character is exact same as education. The personality is known by the character possessed and it's gotten

from (home), during childhood the child have no choice but to undergo that types of education. Though difference is modification in characters between the family and the child. So as parent, let's try to impact the right value to our children. Family is the produce of their children's physical, spiritual, emotional and biological traits. Parents should be mindful of what they teach their children.

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