The Most Important Roles in Eliminating Intellectual Deviation among Egyptian Youth

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Abstract: Society does not thrive without the youth's mettle and energy. They are supposed to be the foundations and the reasons for growth and development. The objective of the proposed work is focused on the intellectual deviation of Egyptian youth. The peril of intellectual deviation lies in the fact that it isn't like ethical deviation, which can be treated with words of advice, guidance, or preaching. The ways in which youth can prevent intellectual deviation are presented and discussed. This study highlights the importance of fostering critical thinking and creativity as essential tools for combating this issue. By creating supportive environments that encourage dialogue and diverse perspectives, we can equip young people to face contemporary challenges. Ultimately, investing in the intellectual growth of youth is crucial for building a resilient and progressive society. His study concludes that a comprehensive strategy incorporating these roles is essential for addressing intellectual deviation among Egyptian youth.

1. Introduction

Generally, youth are considered as a distinct group in any society [1]. They are the most active groups in any society, and the most important factor society [2]. Governments are supposed to help and take care of them.

Youth stage is the most important interval of human life which is characterized by some variables (psychologically, physically, and socially) and it is one of the challenges faced by the family. This interval has never passed without being exposed to any challenges, related to themselves or others such as family or friends. The most important is the need to create a suitable environment for these young people to safely move beyond this stage [3].

Many philosophers and writers have long been concerned with the ethical values of young people as the basic of society's stability and progress. Currently, many researchers have also been interested in conducting research and studies on their values and importance [4].

Since the mid-20th century, Egyptian society has experienced a range of political, social, economic, and technological changes that have significantly impacted its core values [1, 5]. Social service, as an applied science, is dedicated to addressing social issues and challenges within society. It works alongside other scientific fields and collaborates with various professions to prevent harm and maintain social stability [6].

Therefore, social sciences, especially social service, sociology, and psychology are concerned with the study of youth, their attitudes, values, needs, and problems, with an emphasis on the rights and the issues of youth and their connection to the social, economic, and political context of the society. It is also works together with the environment to face the problems with prevention and treatment. It is an attempt to remove all obstacles and challenges that prevent youth from investing their energies [7].

The most important type of youth deviations will be studied in the present study is the intellectual deviation. The peril of intellectual deviation lies in the fact that it isn't like the ethical deviation that can be treated with advice words, guidance, and preaching. The destruction of the society can happen if the intellectual deviation is spread out among young people of the society.

The concept of intellectual deviation is considered by one society and it is different from others due to different religious, social and cultural values and standards in each society. Therefore, the reasons for the intellectual deviation of Egyptian youth are applicable only on Egyptian society.

The causes of intellectual deviation among Egyptian youth, highlighting various factors such as scientific, educational, psychological, religious, family, social, media, economic, and political influences have been identified [1]. It revealed that these interconnected reasons significantly contribute to negative behaviors in society, including crime and moral corruption.

A study identified measures taken by Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries to address intellectual deviation among youth, aiming to uncover its causes and propose a program for prevention [8]. The findings revealed that economic measures were the most commonly implemented, followed by institutional and social measures, while media efforts played a role in fostering societal cohesion. It recommended collaborative efforts among state agencies, community institutions, and families to detect early signs of intellectual deviation, along with strategic plans for sustainable youth development in the GCC.

A study investigated the effectiveness of a comprehensive school-based prevention program, specifically the Life Skills Training, in reducing youth violence and delinquency [9]. The findings revealed significant reductions in violence and delinquency among students in the intervention group, particularly for those who engaged with at least half of the program, highlighting the program's potential to address these issues effectively.

From the limitation of the authors' knowledge, there are a few studies which deal with the reasons for intellectual deviation of Egyptian youth. Nowadays, the studies which present some reasons for the intellectual deviation are not suitable according to the changes occurred in the Egyptian'society. The main purpose of the current study is to identify the ways in which youth can be prevented from the intellectual deviation.

2. The concept of intellectual deviation

Deviation is often defined as behavior that strays from societal norms and expectations, a concept widely recognized among sociologists [1]. It can also refer to harmful or negative actions exhibited by adolescents that directly impact both themselves and those around them [2].

Intellectual deviation is often characterized as a tendency toward extremism, fanaticism, and terrorism [10]. It can also be understood as a distortion of an individual's thinking, where negative thoughts take root and lead them away from sound reasoning. This deviation can result in actions that are widely rejected by society, ultimately harming both the individual and those around them [1, 2].

3. The most important roles proposed to address the intellectual deviation

The propose of studying any problem is to develop appropriate solutions to address it. There is

no doubt that intellectual deviation among young people, and searching for the suitable mechanisms to prevent it before eliminating and facing it is a civilized demand for any society or nation. This is due to its serious effects that make us think of reducing it, especially after the spread of this dangerous phenomenon among young people. Therefore, it is necessary to carry out a set of political, cultural, economic, social, and other roles to reduce it. The most important roles in order to eliminate the intellectual deviation among the Egyptian youth are as follows:

3.1 Scientific and educational roles

- Primary schools should provide good environments for the preparation of generations, by addressing and preventing any forms of violence and intellectual deviation in some students.
- Summer activities play a crucial role in reinforcing the foundations of Islamic education. Additionally, teacher leadership is essential in guiding both indoor and outdoor student activities, helping to create a well-rounded educational experience [1].
- The importance of teaching national history in institutes, universities, research centers, scientific and literary clubs, and others; as practical means to acquire the skills of citizenship in the Egyptian society.
- Consolidating interest of the education in human security and equality for spreading the ideas of the peace, which is consistent with the views of intellectuals, and also in line with the orientations of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and other international organizations.
- Emphasizing the role of education in reducing intellectual deviation by raising awareness among young people about its dangers [1]. Educating youth on these issues can empower them to recognize and resist negative influences and showing young people the effects of the intellectual deviation on the young, family, and society, which makes the young man move away from deviation and walking in the right moderate way.
- Emphasizing the importance of the role played by intellectual and educational institutions, especially universities, to combat the extremist ideology and intellectual anomalies by strengthening the universities' mission and the ability of their professors to eliminate the radical thought.
- Researchers believe that problem-solving skills and the training of students on it in schools are educational mechanisms that lead to achieving a new generation has high skills in solving any problems [11].
- Emphasizing the importance of the basic function of the teacher which is to train the student to make the right decisions [12].
- Educators emphasize that the education of tolerance is a proposed educational formula to prevent the youth from intellectual deviation.
- The schools should educate students to be open to each other, and showing them the rules of democracy as a dialogue. But the openness must be under certain rules so as young people don't deviate from the customs, traditions, and cultures of Egyptian society.
- Emphasizing the tasks assigned to the teachers to do their roles in education for reducing the intellectual deviation.
- Taking into account the general aspect in the words of the scholars in detail and statement, and the response to any suspicions or deviations coming from indoors and out, especially in matters that may be raised suspicions about the common folk because of the quasi-scientists.
- Opening a constructive dialogue and critical believe in the educational process, rather than the memorization method.
- Maximizing and highlighting the status of science field and scientists, and the statement of their qualities and conditions, so that the student knows who is returning to when the descent of sedition.

3.2 Psychological or personal roles

- The task of reform is not directed at the delinquents in particular, but for good persons and the delinquents, for reforming and evaluating, and for the good person is for encouragement and urging.
- The need to clear the mind and free oneself from negative concepts is the first serious stage in the dressing process of the intellectual deviation [13].
- The repression causes extremism and not a cure for it, and the best method of preventive education and the treatment of deviant thought are the purification and development of the mind. The right thought is balanced with a good thought.
- A key aspect of this process is the necessity of clearing the mind from negative concepts that can cloud judgment and promote extremist ideologies. By encouraging young people to engage in self-reflection and mental purification, we can guide them toward more constructive ways of thinking. Rather than relying on repression, which often exacerbates extremism, we should focus on nurturing balanced and positive thoughts.
- Promoting mental well-being is essential; it not only helps prevent the onset of deviant ideologies but also equips youth with the resilience needed to resist negative influences. By fostering an environment that values open dialogue, self-awareness, and personal growth, we can empower young people to make informed choices and develop a strong sense of identity rooted in moderation and understanding. Ultimately, these psychological and personal roles are fundamental in guiding youth away from intellectual deviation and toward a more positive and constructive future.

3.3 Religious and belief roles

- Identifying the deviant ideas like the ideas of exteriors, which leads to the bombing, murder, and terrorism, and fortifying the young people against them, and showing them how to deal with these wrong ideas.
- Activating the role of social places such as mosques and sport clubs, and employing the technology to develop a generation of preachers (Imam) who specialize in dealing with internet quickly and professionally, while enjoying the ability to address the deviant ideas, and respond to the suspicions.
- The need to raise and bring up the children on the moderation of Islam before young people fall victim to the tide of ignorance, extremism, violence, and terrorism.
- Contemporary education should embrace Islamic teachings to help individuals critically analyze various forms of extremism, violence, and injustice. This structured approach to Islamic education equips people with the knowledge, behavioral skills, and values that form the foundation of Islamic culture [1].

3.4 Family and social roles

- Providing the full opportunity for dialogue within the rational society, which means the evaluation and treatment of warp, because of the alternative of the interaction, is the circulation of the deviant ideas in the secret ways.
- The necessity of adoption on the efforts of all active institutions in the society to work on the prevention of the intellectual deviation before treatment (educational - functional - religious ...)
- Responsibility of reforming all the groups of society, because the facing of intellectual deviation is not the responsibility of scientists and guides, but all members of the society; religious scholars and educators, professors and staff, academics, and others.
- Emphasizing role of society and family; both play a large role in shaping values and ethics,

through impact on individual during childhood and youth stages.

  - Conscious observation of the sons and daughters, and devoting more time to follow their activities, in order to verify that they are walking on the right way and be careful not to get involved with the deviant and suspicious currents.

  - Emphasizing the role of family to create healthy family environment in which children can find the consensus, meaningful dialogue, and mutual respect.

  - Linking schools and universities with the local community, through development of new approaches to prevent crime and delinquency.

3.5 Media roles

  - Loading Egyptian satellite channels with the task of fulfilling their legitimate and moral responsibilities, as they direct their programs to a nation of faith, identity, and values. They must prevent possibility of extremists from threatening belief.

  - Warning the seriousness of the deviation and its forms, and explaining negative effects of the deviation on individuals and societies, especially youth, because youth groups is the largest proportion in Arab and Egyptian societies.

  - The necessity for establishing the national forums and sites foster dialogues among all the groups of society.

  - The necessity for opening fields for the other opinion, accepting the dialogue with him, and the using of the argument and proof.

  - Emphasizing importance of role of the media in combating the extremist ideas that fuel the terrorism and violence by supporting ideas that raise the morale among citizens in face of the terrorist incidents.

  - Emphasizing for hosting specialists in science of Sharia and life for clarifying intellectual slips which adopted by deviant thought, and for responding to it objectively.

  - The availability of television channels that address young people in an easy and simple way and its role should be simply to deliver assets of religion.

  - Journalists, announcers, and radio reporters should not exaggerate mention of certain events which can disrupt thinking of young people.

3.6 Economic and political roles

  - The adoption of any project of reconciliation with people that reflects transparency and openness with it, such as the youth, conferences that began with beginning of rule of President Al-Sisi in Sharm El-Sheikh in October-November 2016, and the Sharm El-Sheikh Conference (World Youth Forum) in November 2017, and through that year, in Aswan, Ismailia and Alexandria conferences in January, April and July, respectively. These conferences can yield many benefits if they used well.

  - Adopting channels of direct communication with young people and with all members of Egyptian society such as initiative "Ask the President" which started in April 2017 as one of the activities of the National Conference for Youth in Ismailia. However, it is necessary to form a neutral committee whose work is to collect and analyze all the questions and inquiries of youth and convey them directly to the president. Then the president should answer these questions in a transparent and clear manner.

  - The necessity to establish specialized centers for the national dialogue among all groups of the Egyptian society.

  - The Egyptian government should give permission to all the groups of the society for practicing the democracy in their daily life.

- Emphasizing establishment of specialized intellectual centers and organization to combat the deviant thought, whose members are of all disciplines. This organization searches and studies the reasons that contributed to spread out the intellectual deviation, and searching for the persons or groups who promoting dangerous phenomenon.

- Consolidating concept of multiculturalism, tolerance, and democracy.

- Stimulating extremists, both individually and collectively, to return to the centrality of Islam. Strict punishment and decisive deterrence are required, but they are not enough to achieve the desired results. Intellectual transformation should also be at levels inside and outside prisons and on social networking sites through international information network.

- The Egyptian government should adopt a project to study problems of young people, and a research team should develop its basic role in addressing young people, finding out their problems, and communicating with them to reach optimal solutions to avoid the deviation of youth.

- The Egyptian government should adopt projects to develop the young people's skills and recruit young people in the right places for them. This increases their love for their countries, as the governments pay attention to them and take into account their interests.

4. Discussion

Addressing intellectual deviation among Egyptian youth requires a multifaceted approach that encompasses various roles within society. Each of these roles plays a crucial part in creating a environment that nurtures critical thinking, resilience, and a commitment to moderation.

4.1 Scientific and Educational Roles

Education serves as the first line of defense against intellectual deviation. A strong emphasis on Islamic education, particularly at the primary level, is essential for safeguarding young minds from extremist ideologies. Schools must create supportive environments that encourage open dialogue and critical thinking. By integrating lessons on national history and human rights, educational institutions can help students develop a sense of citizenship and awareness of their societal responsibilities. Furthermore, empowering teachers to foster problem-solving skills and tolerance will cultivate a generation capable of navigating complex social issues without resorting to extremism.

4.2 Psychological or Personal Roles

The psychological well-being of young people is equally important. Reform efforts should not only target those at risk but also encourage positive behaviors among all youths. Clearing the mind of negative influences and promoting mental health can help prevent the onset of extremist ideologies. Creating spaces for self-reflection and open dialogue fosters resilience and empowers young individuals to make informed choices. By prioritizing mental wellness, we can guide youth toward a more constructive and balanced outlook on life.

4.3 Religious and Belief Roles

Religion plays a significant role in shaping values and beliefs. Demonstrating the moderation and balance of Islam is crucial in combating extremism. By educating young people about deviant ideas and how to counter them, we can fortify their understanding and resilience. Social institutions like mosques and community centers should be leveraged to train knowledgeable leaders who can effectively address and dispel extremist ideologies. Instilling a sense of moderation in religious

teachings can help youth navigate the complexities of faith in today's world.

4.4 Family and Social Roles

Families and social networks are fundamental in shaping the values and ethics of youth. Active engagement and open communication within families can prevent the circulation of deviant ideas. Society as a whole must take responsibility for reforming the youth, recognizing that the fight against intellectual deviation requires collective effort. By fostering healthy family environments and community connections, we can create a supportive network that encourages positive development and moral integrity.

4.5 Media Roles

The media has a profound influence on shaping societal narratives. It is crucial for media outlets to fulfill their responsibilities by promoting positive values and addressing the dangers of intellectual deviation. By highlighting constructive dialogue and showcasing voices that advocate for peace and tolerance, the media can counteract extremist ideologies. Furthermore, providing platforms for discussion among diverse groups can enrich public discourse and foster understanding.

4.6 Economic and Political Roles

Lastly, economic and political initiatives play a vital role in addressing intellectual deviation. Engaging youth through transparent communication and addressing their concerns can foster a sense of belonging and agency. Initiatives that promote skill development and job opportunities can redirect young people's energies toward constructive pursuits. By investing in programs that encourage civic engagement and multiculturalism, we can help cultivate a generation that values tolerance and democracy.

In conclusion, a comprehensive strategy that incorporates these roles is essential for addressing intellectual deviation among Egyptian youth. By working collaboratively across various sectors of society, we can create a nurturing environment that promotes understanding, resilience, and a commitment to moderation, ultimately guiding youth away from extremism and toward a brighter future.

5. Conclusions

Addressing intellectual deviation among Egyptian youth is a complex but essential endeavor that requires a multifaceted approach. The present study highlighted the critical roles that education, psychological support, religious guidance, family involvement, media influence, and economic and political initiatives play in shaping young minds.

Education stands as the cornerstone of prevention, fostering critical thinking and resilience. By integrating comprehensive curricula that emphasize human rights and citizenship, schools can empower students to navigate societal challenges without resorting to extremist ideologies.

Furthermore, promoting mental well-being is vital; encouraging self-reflection and open dialogue can help youth develop a balanced outlook on life. Religious institutions also have a crucial role in instilling values of moderation, equipping young people with the tools to counteract negative influences.

Family and community engagement is equally important, as these social networks provide support and guidance during formative years. Lastly, economic and political initiatives that prioritize youth development can foster a sense of agency and belonging, steering them away from

harmful paths.

In conclusion, a collaborative effort across various sectors of society is necessary to create an environment that nurtures understanding, resilience, and moderation. By investing in these areas, we can guide Egyptian youth toward a positive future, free from the perils of intellectual deviation and extremism.

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