

## Social Work vs the Youth: A Sociological Appraisal

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### ABSTRACT

Sociologically speaking, to a large extent, social work can solve the existing and even the potential problems within the youth. Thus, the growing young population needs help from social work in the current changing world. Youth being a source of inspiration, quick receivers and urgent transmitters, they are sources of development and change in any area as well. Young people being subject to change, they are highly in need of counseling/ social work. Youth helpers often work in youth organizations, youth centers and the like—helping boys or girls. Such centers are there in developed countries, whereas the developing countries are usually deprived of it. Such schemes explore, identify, and reinforce the specific abilities and capacities of young people. Therefore, launching youth study projects would eventually affect local and regional development as well. As Social work has received little attention in less developed countries, many young people feel weak or deficient in various ways. However, the lack of involvement of social workers/ counselors in such situations causes young people feeling and facing a variety of abuses.

**Keywords:** Social work. The youth. Social change. Sociology. Social problems.

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### Introduction:

Social work as a practice-based profession is highly concerned with the youth who are widely exposed to social, economic and industrial change in every country of the world. Youth are facing increasing problems in all societies of the world, especially in those which are less developed. In such countries, social work is also less known and used. In addition to all the groups and communities to whom social work is concerned with, it is emphatically concerned with the youth community—a population with increasing needs and shortage of means (What is Social Work, 2019). The social work profession developed in the 19th century with some of its roots in voluntary philanthropy (Gary, 2008). The effects of the Industrial Revolution and of the Great Depression of the 1930s placed pressure on social work to become a more defined discipline (Social Work Profession, 2017). However, youth have to be guided and led socially and educationally. Demographically

Speaking, youth are on increase with special reference to the developing world. As the world population will surpass 10 billion by the year 2050 (WPDS, 2020), the youth number will

also increase at the same rate by then. Today's social workers are advocates, community developers, and human rights activists with special reference to the youth. While the UN defines youth as persons aged 15 to 24 years (Population Facts, 2015), the number of youth in Asia is projected to be 619 million by 2060 (www.unesco.org).

Young people today make up a large proportion of the population, especially in developing countries. While not all the needs of the young population have grown in proportion to the number of the "young" population, this growing gap or difference between material, work, etc. conditions, on the one hand, and the growing number of the young population, on the other, It has brought many challenges for the young generation. Because there are more interactions between young people today than ever before through educational institutions, clubs, etc., they need social assistance more and more (Smith: 1991). To a large extent, social work can solve existing and even potential problems for the younger generation. Thus, the growing young population needs help from social work or, more precisely, youth work. In this article, while introducing the young population, he tries to

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identify and introduce the social work needed by "Community". Whereas from 1850 onwards youth aid came from England; Initially active as youth clubs; Thus, the social work of the youth found its role (position). As a significant proportion of young people in industrialized countries migrated to urban areas in the mid-19th century, this movement created many new needs for young people. Youth work in various dimensions began about 160 years ago in these countries to help young people. This movement itself largely organized, organized, managed, and guided the youth; In such a way that the capacities of this population were used in the desired format. The result of this movement has been economic and social development, the use of the capacities of the youth and the like; In other words, this movement itself created a new culture. Following the social development and urbanization, youth culture is always evolving; That is, as they enter adulthood, their cultural interactions also change (Griffin: 2001).

### Method of Research

Methodology used in the present article is of qualitative type. In that, various paradigms have been used to find out about the facts regarding pandemics during the history. Qualitative research usually studies people, events or areas in their natural settings. In finding facts for the research, the researcher engaged in careful data collection and thoughtful analysis of what was relevant. In the documentary research applied for the present research, printed and written materials were widely regarded. The research was performed as a qualitative library-type in which the researcher had to refer to the relevant and related sources. In the current research, various documents were thoroughly investigated, and the needful inferences were made. The data fed by the investigator in the present article is hopefully reliable. Though literature on pandemics is very limited, yet the author tried to investigate many different resources in order to elicit the necessary information to build up the text.

### Youth

This social group itself is a source of inspiration, quick receivers and urgent transmitters. While they are sources of development and change in other areas, they are also very effective in service delivery or "social work". Given that the present era is witnessing a large volume of young population in most societies, development, utilization of services and capabilities of young people are also very effective and meet the needs of

This generation is on the rise. Given the rapid development and change in most societies, young people are inevitably affected; They also need individual counseling (HM Treasury: 2007). In many cases, following the distancing of opportunities from expectations, many challenges and various social, economic, etc. problems appear for this population (youth). At such a time, the use of social work related to youth is very instructive and effective. Youth helpers prevent their isolation, and involve them in social services (Jeffs & Smith: 2001). Youth Development Assistants deal directly with

youth, smaller community groups, students, and the like. Such social workers, the desired clients; That is, the age groups of 15-29 years old, both girls and boys, should be studied and studied with help; Identify their needs, and respond to their requests through the relevant centers, depending on the possibilities. Such centers, as well as this mode of social work, have been used in industrialized countries since the 1850s, and young audiences have been supported in various ways. This has led to the strengthening of public efficiency and production capacity in various sectors in such societies as much as possible. Therefore, training your young workforce contributes to the productivity of a target community. The opposite of this situation; That is, lack of attention to the younger generation and not responding to the needs of this population, reduces productivity itself, or keeps it at a low level.

Youth Development Helpers "Youth helpers" often work in youth organizations, youth centers, and boys 'or girls' clubs. This type of social work, which often takes place in industrialized countries, studies the young population in these centers, including girls and boys; Thus, it provides opportunities for progress and development, utilizing the capacities of the young population and the like for this population group. Social work enables young people to take responsibility for joint work (Doyle and Smith: 1999). Such helpers work with young people, families and other staff, who are active in youth entertainment, services, youth art and other learning projects. Youth workers generally try to identify and strengthen many of the abilities and capacities of young people. They provide a lot of opportunities to satisfy the youth as much as possible. Because in the present age, young people are more widely involved in social, cultural and economic relations than in the past, the role of social workers in these areas is very valuable and effective in helping young people. Likewise, young people today are exposed to many social and cultural changes. Social workers play an important role in adapting this population to the current situation.

Such schemes explore, identify, and reinforce the specific abilities and capacities of young people. Therefore, launching youth study projects, and connecting with them in different age groups, while helping such young people, this movement also affects local and regional development. While youth social work institutions have not been very active in less developed countries, significant initiatives can be made available to young people by launching such initiatives and centers. In this way, young people are helped to find and grow their power and strength individually and collectively. Pre-industrialized societies have generally used such schemes, in which they have identified and strengthened the capacities of the young population individually and collectively. The result of such interactions is the all-round development of these societies. Therefore, young men and women in less developed societies should be identified and evaluated more and more in a sustainable way; In this way, the general productivity of the youth in the target communities can be strengthened as much as possible. This type of service has even more guarantees for the next generation.

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Youth development workers are generally creative, strong, and unshakable. In doing so, they take important steps, and consequently provide basic assistance to their community. Youth development workers are generally in search of the growing demands of this growing population; This means that in recent decades, in addition to the increasing proportion of young people in most societies, their material and immaterial wants and needs have also been growing more rapidly. This movement itself creates a kind of gap between the needs and facilities within the young society. In such a situation, youth social workers, as a bridge, adjust many of the needs of young people.

Developed countries realized this important "phenomenon" earlier than other countries, and subsequently activated youth assistance in their communities. Youth workers are always trying to protect young people from risk factors. For example, they prevent them from engaging in irrational activities and criminal groups, and in turn turn this population towards security agents; For example, they lead to pro-community friends and peers and stable people. Hence, youth assistance plays a major role in reforming youth and guiding them to positive roles and effective activities. As mentioned earlier, in the absence of youth oversight, many high-risk situations await this population. With more young people now living in urban areas, and exposed to more communication and interaction than ever before; The use of youth assistance has a decisive role in the social reform and construction of this population. While young immigrants today play a crucial role in the urban development and industrialization of communities, monitoring them through youth assistance is of considerable importance (Warner: 1962).

Teacher-product or "assistant-client" collaborations, in which each person receives material from the other, themselves give rise to a kind of culture of shared power. One of the main goals of social work, especially in cooperation with young people, is to establish a joint relationship between the two groups of helper and client. In such situations, social workers generally establish a continuous and continuous relationship with their clients; In such a way that even after the correction and treatment of this type of youth (client youth), they remain in contact with their counselors or helpers.

Because youth social work has received less attention in less developed countries, many young people feel weak or deficient in this way in various ways. Supportive skills are a powerful tool in supporting young people and their families in challenging spaces (environments) themselves. Because social work itself is so specialized and emphasized today, many young people, both boys and girls, need specialized skills in this area, which must be provided by skilled social workers. In this way, many of the potential injuries and deviations of young people can be controlled. Less developed countries and societies, which generally have a high proportion of young people, do not have specialized social workers who are able to meet the diverse needs of such young people to a satisfactory level.

### Helpers as protectors

Social workers who play a protective role work with many stakeholders, including young people themselves. Social workers are to a large extent associated with young age groups, and if they continue to communicate effectively and effectively with such clients; They can prevent many potential deviations. Therefore, how to communicate and the degree of intimacy of such helpers with their stakeholders is very effective in how to correct and treat them. In this way, by influencing the behavior of young people, they prevent them from deviating; That is, they avoid abuse, violence, depression, all kinds of pressures, and so on.

Young people, especially in less developed societies, and in situations where their number and proportion are generally large, in many cases face many injuries, or in other words, are on the brink of collapse. In such situations, social workers intervene to protect young people from facing worse situations. However, the lack of involvement of helpers and counselors in such situations causes young people with more violence to face a variety of abuses; That is, anti-social behaviors that, in addition to harming themselves, also destroy the larger community in some way. Therefore, the role of protective assistants in this field is very effective and prominent. Caregivers facilitate and achieve a collaborative environment among young people. Social workers in this area can to a large extent save young people from potential deviations, and create effective elements from them; In a way that by using their cooperation and assistance, while the youth themselves are reformed as stakeholders, the society also benefits from reforming their behavior in various ways.

Social workers assess the needs and resources of young people, identify their goals or programs, and ultimately measure the impact of the programs as much as possible. One of the main tasks of youth helpers is to identify the needs and wants of young people, the necessary conditions to meet such needs, as well as foresight of young people in question, or studied. Likewise, social workers must anticipate the effects of the plan implemented on young people. For example, if special training courses or educational development is implemented for young people, finding job opportunities, anticipating employment opportunities in related specialized sectors, etc., should be considered and foresighted. In this way, public trust, youth trust, as well as social trust can be gained in a society, and ultimately social and economic development through youth in a society can be promoted.

While social workers encourage young people's commitment to their common role and contribution, and their shared responsibility (s), their financial, human, and social needs are identified by social workers and transferred to the relevant departments for provision. Many young people have common needs, as well as common roles in their community. Such young people themselves need social, human, financial and similar support. In such a situation, social workers should identify and classify such needs of young people, and subsequently refer the obtained "requests" to the relevant organizations, in order to respond to their provision by the relevant organizations.

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Many of the problems that young people face are rooted in the dangerous social and physical environments caused by poverty and the hardships of life. In the present age, young people are always faced with many new needs, new patterns and new changes, which themselves are different in terms of social, cultural and similar environments. Collectively, the present age is witnessing rapid changes and needs that are constantly emerging in different societies. Therefore, the planning system with emphasis on youth should provide and use various resources, so that such needs of young people can be met as easily and as much as possible. Today, many African, Asian, etc. countries face many challenges and contradictions in meeting the needs of young people. Therefore, helping your young people requires working with them at home or in the neighborhood, gaining access to different and alternative experiences and conditions, receiving appropriate services, and so on. Young people in various forms need such social and assistance services. In this way, by accessing different trainings, different approaches and different methods, they can follow their normal and daily activities. Otherwise, a kind of frustration and despair among young people in any society can emerge. Therefore, given the importance of monitoring and protecting young people, an adequate budget should be allocated for this; In such a way that the mentioned services can be provided to them.

Another major task of a counselor or helper is to get the person back to normal, help young people identify the situation, and adapt them (young people) to critical situations. While societies in transition face various challenges and crises, social workers should, as far as possible, provide the conditions for young age groups to be more tolerant and adaptable; Otherwise many disturbances between this population and within society can be expected. As the demands of the youth are constantly increasing, creating opportunities for flexibility and flexibility among this population makes it possible to maintain social order as much as possible. Developing societies today face this phenomenon (young maladaptation) in contradictory social conditions.

Organizations such as welfare, counseling centers, media, educational institutions, etc. have a major role in making young people adapt to the current situation. In some cases, young people have to face social, cultural, economic and other pressures. This point refers to the adaptability of young people in different areas. Young urban people in general, who are always influenced by the social, cultural, artistic, etc. effects of their society, must develop a spirit of tolerance and tolerance in them in various forms. In this way, these effective and changing strata can gradually play their social and economic roles in their society. It is noteworthy that unemployment conditions, delays in the age of marriage, weakness or lack of social security, etc., are among the cases that are widely seen in developing societies, and are mostly aimed at young people. In general, following the development of societies, globalization, greater division of labor in societies, specialization of occupations, gender inequalities in occupations, etc., the need for counseling and social work is felt more than ever among young people (Meyer: 2003).

### **The professional role of caregivers**

One of the main tasks of social workers is to develop young people and build their society as well as possible. Because young people as a social group are constantly evolving, and many social and cultural changes are focused on them, social workers generally have a heavy responsibility to this society; In a way, any modification, orientation, and improvement of their role is related to how social assistance is applied to them. The pivotal role of social workers in relation to youth is to build capacity, and assist young people in designing, planning, completing, and evaluating projects that enhance the social and physical environment. Therefore, any general progress of the society also depends on the promotion of the youth. Social workers have a decisive role to play in this regard. In other words, the improvement and rehabilitation of young people is largely the responsibility of social workers in any society. Projects for young people and surveying and assessing their needs also provide social justice. As mentioned earlier, young people are generally more culturally and socially influential than others. Therefore, measuring and measuring the wants and needs of their youth causes, while providing their satisfaction, social justice to be achieved in some way. Otherwise, the social distance and separation of young people from society becomes more and more between them. Thus, integrating young people into society, connecting them to a larger community, and making them interested in fulfilling social commitments depends on the studies and evaluations that are conducted on them. In this movement, the role of social work is very important. Wise and skilled social workers strive to strengthen and develop social norms; Promote civic culture and work collaboratively with maladapted age groups. Social workers also support the authority and empowerment of young people in such efforts, and their participation in other areas. Thus, building more trust among young people and institutionalizing many social norms and norms within them, causes even incompatible groups, and in some cases anti-social ones, to change their behavior and accept more participation in different social, economic and cultural sectors. In this way different social cycles can be kept in motion.

### **School social worker**

Schools not only maintain the socio-economic system, but also challenge it (Carnoy & Levin: 1985). Schools are one of the most important centers in which social workers play a major role despite the young population. Because the student population always has its own dynamism, curiosity and change, and also because this population generally comes from different cultural backgrounds, the role of social workers in creating coordination between this social group is very decisive and effective. In the absence of social work in schools, dropout, dropout and in some cases even behavioral deviations occur among the student population. Therefore, the education system should allocate a special budget for this purpose, and use social workers as needed.

In industrialized societies, many social workers are active within the school system, and others participate in

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programs related to schools (related to school services). Social workers in developed societies, while getting to know the student population and their families, also monitor their desires and interests, and accordingly guide the student population during their education. In this way, cases such as academic failure, dropout and other possible deviations among this student population can be prevented. Such professionals are expected to convey their reforming views in a comprehensive manner to the young people with whom they interact. Developed countries generally deploy experts and specialists in the field of counseling and assistance in schools alongside the teaching staff. In this way, the educational efficiency increases more and more.

In many cases, such helpers also consult and cooperate with their families in order to return young people to normalcy. In recent years, the role of such professional social workers has become very prominent. They pursue conservation, educational and cultural projects for young people, and so on. Like other types of social work, school social workers often help young people and their families to adapt to different situations, and to get the services they need with the help of other centers and institutions. Services such as leisure, sports, activities and group tours are among the needs that the school's social workers are always trying to provide for the student population.

### Types of social work

While youth welfare itself is a part of social welfare that focuses primarily on the young population, the explanation and segregation of types of social welfare largely removes ambiguity. The classification of social work has made it possible to study different social groups "including different age groups" in a specialized format, and provide them with the necessary services. Social work means helping people who are dealing with various issues such as homelessness, unemployment, illness, poverty, disability, drug and alcohol addiction, communication issues, mental health and other challenges they face. Social work is pursued with the aim of helping people overcome their problems. Thus, social work is a reciprocal movement in which both the helper and the client must play their role well, or in other words, participate in the process.

Individual problems can also be caused by racial discrimination and for different social groups. To be eligible for social work, one must have completed at least a specialized or bachelor's degree. Helping young people includes working with young people. This specialty requires youth studies, in which the young person studies or matters related to a youth organization, and offers solutions. The main goals of youth assistance are:

1. Youth assistance communicates with families in many cases; In a way that helps them find the necessary solutions for the health and protection of their children. These helpers help young people to feel more responsible, to correct their behavior, and to make a deliberate progress in life.

2. Helping young people also brings more health to young people; actively promotes them, and paves the way for

a positive future for them. In some cases, youth assistance selects, recruits, and educates needed caregivers to help children and young people who are not able to live comfortably in their place of residence; As a result, by achieving normalcy, they can play their roles in their respective society. Youth work can help reduce inequality and discrimination among young people (Beteille: 1985). This area of social work improves the social status of young people. At the same time, so far no human society has been found in which there are no differences due to wealth, power and prestige (Lenski, Lenski and Nolan: 1991). The emergence and application of science in the form of social work, especially among young age groups, is very effective in correcting this phenomenon.

### Conclusion

In increasing cases, following the distancing of opportunities from expectations, many challenges and various social, economic and cultural problems appear for the youth. At the same time, the use of social work related to youth is very instructive and effective. Youth helpers prevent their isolation, and involve them in social services. Therefore, youth development assistants/ social workers directly deal with the youth, students and the like. Such strategies have been used in industrialized countries since mid nineteenth century through which increasing number of youth have been supported in various ways. On the other hand, lack of attention toward the youth, and not responding to their needs, leads to the reduction of productivity, underdevelopment and inefficiency within the youth. As a result, social work enables the youth to take responsibility for joint work and the like.

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