Creativity of the Children

Parvaneh Abdideh, Masoumeh Mashhadi, Alireza Lashgari

Zemzeme Sabz Javanan Institute
Abstract:

1- This report has been obtained on the basis of research of Zemzeme Sabz Javanian Institute during educational courses of children’s creativity training. With regard to the fact that childhood is basis of any human being’s life and its ignorance is regarded as expressed violation of human rights, this institute believes that enough attention to children’s creativity training is very important for training them as human beings capable to face problems and difficulties of life.

2- In Islamic Republic of Iran, in spite of considerable efforts of some governmental and nongovernmental departments and organizations in the field of creativity, there is urgent need for formulation of law and selection of a reference organization as authority of training and supervision on children’s creativity training in family environments and external environments especially educational environments in the society. In this report, we try to refer to incoming barriers and problems by showing importance of education and training of creativity in childhood and its status in the country.

Introduction:

3- Zemzeme Sabz Javanian Institute has started its work voluntarily as a nongovernmental, nonpolitical and nonprofit institute since 2003 through license received from the Young National Organization of Islamic Republic of Iran. This institute relying on ethical principles and values and utilizing participation and capabilities of the Iranian young people for promoting awareness and knowledge level of the women and young girls especially in sociocultural fields with use of new training, informing and consulting methods. This institute has taken action regarding holding varied educational courses under titles of living skills, entrepreneurship skills and business commissioning skills. Our experience shows that we have to train the persons who can try to achieve their goals in order to achieve social justice. Therefore, necessity of training from the childhood is undeniable necessity of human rights of each person.

Problem statement:

4- Kant, philosopher of enlightenment era points out that the children should not be trained only for the present but for the future. Rapid growth of knowledge in the present era
indicates that education should change its adaptive role to regenerative role. Today, information is regarded as raw material not end product, therefore, creative learning should be considered for training the children. On this basis, one can say that creativity is one of the essential issues of education in the world. Therefore, creativity and being creative are rights of all human beings which should be considered as necessity for life. Practical finding emphasizes that the most important age in creativity training is childhood when trainings can have permanent effect on their personality.

5- Result of indifference to creativity training in the children is ignorance of human rights in them which can have irreparable consequences in their future life. In the developed countries, abundant extensive efforts have been made to promote children creativity such as efforts of Maito Limpan to help the children grow their creative thinking through subject of philosophy of thinking in the children and to prepare them for living in present and future complex world.

6- For passing the information era and entering future world of the children, we should train the children to be capable and creative so that they can enjoy living enthusiasm and tolerate in competitive world in the future. If our children are not trained for the future, our future young will fail in hard competitions of life and will be socially damaged by losing their self confidence.

7- For training creativity of the children, it is undeniable to have informed parent and trainers in family environment and schools. Therefore, design of an efficient training system inside the family and training centers is very important for training the creative children. Unfortunately, in spite of rich sources and Islamic rules regarding children training, most of the Iranian parent lacks sufficient scientific and religious knowledge regarding correct child training methods with creativity. While creativity is a capability which emerges as a result of interaction of internal and external environment of the person and family and parent are the most important social environment in which child is born and play important role in training and promotion of creativity.

8- Training of the parent is very important for reinforcing creativity factors in childhood and removing barriers of creativity. Children education and training method is not correct. In fact, education and training form is only presentation of information for filling minds of the children. Experts say that defect of our training method is that it has been predetermined
while children should search information themselves and face any creative subject. But in Iran, emphasis on mark of the students as criterion of goodness, teacher-oriented traditional teaching methodologies, lack of creative activities of the students, indifference to individual differences of the students and unawareness of the teacher with creativity are of limitations of training. Training of kindergarten trainers is very important for attracting their attentions to training and importance of creativity in the children.

9- Zemzeme Sabz Javanon Institute found while doing research and holding more than tens of training courses of “Children Creativity Training” concluded that unfortunately there are no governmental or nongovernmental centers organized as custodian for presenting information, awareness and knowledge and even providing systematic consultation for training creativity for reference and training of the parent, children and other trainers in house, kindergarten and schools and scattered and limited trainings in some private and public centers don’t fulfill needs for this important case.

10- By asking most of the parents, we find that limited number of the educated and well-off parents in large cities is sensitive to creativity of the children and most of them feel that they don’t need for children creativity training due to lack of enough awareness with training.

11- By studying more than 500 trained children, we found that unfortunately most of the children have faced creativity barriers in internal and external environment in education system and this leads to loss of creativity in them.

12- During the performed studies, no law has been predicted regarding necessity of special creativity for the children and parent in schools of the country.

Weaknesses and barriers, opportunities and advances

13- in family environment, with regard to excessive emphasis of the parent on intelligence and memory of the children, many parent train and direct their children ignorantly only by aiming at reinforcing memory skills and jamming the lexical in information into their minds and ignore to train other mental abilities of their children of which the most important one is creative thought. On the other hand, excessive emphasis on gender of the child is one of the most important barriers of creativity growth in the children and their creative tendencies are suppressed in them due to imposition of culture and environment on them. Unawareness of the parent with concept, importance and necessity of the creativity training is one of the other
factors of creativity loss in children. Repetitive criticism of the child and ignorance of the child creativity is also one of the other barriers of creativity in family environment.

14- In external environments especially educational environments, these barriers emerge in expression of creativity in different ways of which the most important one is indifference to child training with use of exploration or problem solving and inference explanation methods in children training. Lack of formulated law in parent, kindergarten trainers and teachers training is one of the other serious weaknesses in children creativity.

Suggestions and strategies:

15- As Gutte, great German poet and writer, you don’t become father and mother by giving birth to a child. One should say that role of the parent especially key role of mother in creativity training is undeniable. In fact, family environment is one of the most valuable educational opportunities of which proper application will lead to training of a creative person. Therefore, it is suggested that parent training especially mother training is very necessary in terms of concept, importance and necessity of creativity training.

16- Training of the kindergarten trainers and school teachers can be effective on children creativity training.

17- Establishment and commissioning of a localized and specialized centre can be effective for presentation of the information, knowledge and increase in awareness and achievements regarding children creativity in the country level as a national position for utilization of collective wisdom of all experts and authorities of creativity.

18 -supporting nongovernmental structures active in the field of education and promoting culture of creativity application and correct and coordinated orientation in order to prevent from parallelism in creativity training and research

19- Commissioning national site in the field of children creativity for presenting the latest achievements, activities and reports and linking the related sites for those interested from all parts of the country and exchanging ideas with the foreign experts