

**Course-506**  
**Understanding Children in Inclusive Context**  
**Solved Assignment-1**

**1. Write reasons, why it is important to know the relative role of heredity and environment for a teacher?**

**Ans.** The knowledge of relative role of heredity and environment is very important on the part of the teacher so that he can help his students in learning concepts better.

The knowledge of both the factors will help the teacher in finding out the individual differences among his students in learning either Mathematics or English as well as in adjusting his teaching methods and techniques accordingly, like project method and communicative teaching techniques. The teacher must plan to provide better education and better environment. By providing computer laboratory and adequate library facilities in each subject. He should study the child, his/her abilities as well as his environment and he/she must prepare scheme for the development. In this context, Sorenson has rightly remarked that to the teacher, knowledge, relative effect of the forces of heredity and environment on human development and their inter-relationship is of great significance. The high degree of scholastic achievement depends upon the school climate.

The school should aim at providing enriched programmed of curricular and co – curricular activities for the children like quiz and literary competition. They may have better educational, vocational, personal guidance and counseling and personality development programs. If their heredity and environment are known. The knowledge of heredity and environment is very much essential for a teacher in dealing with all kinds of exceptional children including gifted, normal, below average, and problem children, and first generation learners including educationally backward children.

1. The background of the learner: previous knowledge, intelligence, family background, lack of interest, aptitude and attitude play an important role. Some students who lag behind in some do better in the other area of achievement. Hence teacher must provide a congenial atmosphere for the students and treat them equally. The teacher must motivate them to adjust with the environment.

2. There are individuals who deviate from the norms of group due to many factors. Hence the classroom teacher should try to have the desired knowledge of the abilities, capacity, interests, and attitudes, aptitudes and other personality traits of his/her pupils and in the light of this knowledge he/she should render individual guidance for the maximum utilization of

their potentialities.

3. Different methods of teaching must be adopted in the classroom. This helps in catering to the needs of different individuals according to their interest and understanding level.

4. The school must be the place for personality development. The school should organized programmes on leadership group dynamics, keeping background the heredity and environment of the learner.

5. Every school must have a guidance and counseling centre.

**2. Do you feel gender discrimination exists in our society? Justify your answer with suitable examples.**

**Ans. Yes, I feel gender discrimination exists in our society.** It begins from the family and extends to schools, public places, work place, and appointment to jobs, police stations, courts, political parties, parliament, and legislations and so on.

Gender discrimination begins before the birth of a girl child. This is underscore by large instances of female feticide despite laws against this practice.

Preference of parents [society] for boy babies is too well known. Girls are largely neglected in the family while the boys get special treatment. The nutritional and health requirements of girls are generally neglected. This results in higher mortality of girl children.

We see basic inequalities in gender relations within the family. These inequalities can take many different forms. For instance, inequalities may exist in sharing the burden of household work and child care putting a huge burden on women and girls. This will have its impact on girls and women in areas of education, employment and promotion. It can also limit their understanding of the outside world. Many young girls have to assist in household work, take care of their younger siblings and hence are forced to stay at home. This affects their education and future apart from taking away their childhood.

When it comes to the choice of courses to be studied, gender discrimination operates in a subtle way. Girls are discouraged from taking up certain courses especially if she has to move away from parents. Restrictions on movement and travel, discouragement to earn a living, eve teasing, preventing woman from taking up a job of her choice, denial of property rights, denial of opportunity for expression and movement, sexual harassment in work places, eve teasing, domestic violence, physical abuse are some of the forms of gender discrimination. It is also gender discrimination to provide different working conditions. This may happen in salaries, hiring, promotion or bonus criteria. Gender discrimination can occur in admissions, selections, and placements or in athletic and scholastic opportunities.

We find gender discrimination with regard to ownership and use of property.

Basic assets such as homes and land are shared unequally between males and females. The absence of claims to property reduce the voice of women, make it harder for women to enter and flourish in commercial, economic and even some social activities. This type of inequality has existed in most parts of the world, though there are local variations. For example, traditional property rights have favored men in most parts of India.

The educational system in a way works to maintain the inequalities that exist between girls and boys. Firstly, the textbooks that are used in schools depict boys as tough, rough and mentally skilled people who are adventurous whilst girls are depicted as soft, gentle people who enjoy carrying out household duties. Even the uniforms for boys and girls are different. The uniform prescribed to girls often may not be suitable for certain school activities such as rough play or tree climbing. Secondly, when children start attending school they come with inequalities already shaped within them. This aspect is usually ignored by the school system.

We see many instances of discrimination operating through our social institutions. In many cultures, arranged or forced marriages are still very common, often resulting in sexual abuse. Women often do not have the same rights regarding divorce or inheritance. Polygamy is also a cause of gender discrimination. In many areas of work, especially in the unorganized sectors, women get paid less than their male counterparts for the same work. The parents discouraging girls from taking up a job is not uncommon