

REIMAGINE ADULT EDUCATION AND LIFE LONG LEARNING PROCESS

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ABSTRACT

Reimagine things is about to begin a change for its betterment. Here, we talk about reimagine the education for a better future of our youth. As we all know that the pandemic before 3 years hit every sector very badly all around the world. Education sector is also not spared from this. In that mean time, education linked with technology very much but thousands of children did not get the resources for that. As so many childrens need to discontinue their education. It was very difficult situation for teachers also because they were not so friendly with online education. In the era of digital and smart education ,teachers are going through a holistic transformation both in terms of teaching and learning. Learning changed its main focus from being teacher centric to learner centric. From that time we need to reimagine the education specially for adults because they are the future of our country. There is always different methods of teaching for adults than child. Adult education is a practice in which adults engage in systematic and sustained self educating activities in order to gain new forms of knowledge, skills, attitudes, or values. Education is after all a lifelong journey and for some people, the right type of education might be something they will find later in life. No one is to say that the path you will choose as a young person will be the path that you will take at the end. Lifelong learning begins from childhood and continues throughout the life in different ways, like: family, friends, school, workplace, neighbourhood, etc. Education is the thing which we get from anywhere. Every human even animal may learn something new daily in their life. Lifelong learning is the process to enhance your skills and personality. We must be prepared to rethink all aspects of education, which is not easy and the most important social task we are entrusted with. In this process, society must accept its responsibility for education throughout life. Education must also be particularly sensitive to overcoming social inequalities, to the context to which it can contribute to this task.

Keywords:

- Reimagine
- Adult education
- Life long learning
- learner centric
- Transformation
- Digital and smart education
- Realistic teaching methods
- Future goals with technology

INTRODUCTION

“As we all know that education is the most Powerful weapon that can change the world”.

Education is very important for all age group people and it is life long Process. Education process is not limited to any age ,person ,place or other limitation & problems in life . It goes from childhood to death . Education surely decides the nature of person’ s life .Adult education mainly works on imparting education to the one who does not get the opportunity to study during childhood . It states

that type of education that makes an adult responsible towards the younger generation . It helps in widening of minds , so that society flourish well .Adult education helps in achieving skills that help adult to do whatever they want . Government has organized various programmes like vocational training , professional development programmes to help adult education .It mainly aims at extending educational options to adults who feels learning of any type including literacy ,basic education ,equivalency ,skill development , vocational education and continuing education .

According to US department of education (2018), adult learners are aged 25 & above. They make up 40 percent student population & the figure is expected to rise over the next decades.

There are three major characteristics that define adult learning:

- ❖ Learner Centerdness
- ❖ Self - directed learning
- ❖ Humanistic Approach

In 21st century Adults can learn skills like digital literacy, communication, critical thinking, problem solving collaboration, creativity & Imagination in order to able to identify the learning activities. While pursuing personal interests & Passions or changing professional ambitions, it can help to achieve personal fulfillment & satisfaction.

ADULT LEARNING THEORIES: A BRIEF HISTORY

Early studies about adult learning began in the mid-1960s when educators began exploring different theories, models, and frameworks. It explain how adult learners are different from children. Few theories are as follows:

1. **Andragogy:** It means the understanding of science and practice of adult learning. This contrast with pedagogy which is about children learning. e.g. when an employee is learn a new software program.
2. **Self directing learning:** A learning strategy which allows learners take charge of their own learning process (diagnosis learning needs, identify learning goals, select learning strategies, and evaluate learning performances and outcomes). **e.g. Complete a chore without being told.** Independently ask for work when you don't have a lot to do.
3. **Transformative learning:** The purpose of transformative education is to empower learners to see the social world differently and through an ethical lens, so that they will challenge and change the status. Transformative learning, as a theory, says that the process of "perspective transformation" has three dimensions: psychological (changes in understanding of the self), convictional (revision of belief systems), and behavioral (changes in lifestyle). **e.g. doing what one does not yet know how to do, for reasons one does not yet grasp.**

IMPORTANCE OF LIFE LONG LEARNING PROCESS IN ADULTS

Lifelong learning is about to getting education or learn something throughout the life. It recognizes that humans have a natural drive to explore, learn and grow and encourages us to improve our own quality of life and getting inspiration.

The reality is that most of us have goals or interests outside of our formal schooling and jobs. This is part of what it means to be human: we have a natural curiosity and we are natural learners. We develop and grow thanks to our ability to learn. Lifelong learning recognizes that not all of our learning comes from a classroom.

**For example, in childhood, we learn to talk or ride a bike.*

**As an adult, we learn how to use a smartphone or learn how to cook a new dish.*

BENEFITS OF LIFELONG LEARNING

Lifelong learning can offer many long-term benefits, including:

1. Renewed Self-Motivation:

Sometimes we get stuck in a rut doing things simply because we have to do them, like going to work or cleaning the house.

2. Recognition of Personal Interests and Goals

Re-igniting what makes you tick as a person reduces boredom, makes life more interesting, and can even open future opportunities.

3. Improvement in Other Personal and Professional Skills

While we're busy learning a new skill or acquiring new knowledge, we're also building other valuable skills that can help us in our personal and professional lives. Skill development can include interpersonal skills, creativity, problem-solving, critical thinking, leadership, reflection, adaptability and much more.

4. Improved Self-Confidence

Becoming more knowledgeable or skilled in something can increase our self-confidence in both our personal and professional lives.

**In our personal lives, this confidence can stem from the satisfaction of devoting time and effort to learning and improving, giving us a sense of accomplishment.*

**In our professional lives, this self-confidence can be the feeling of trust we have in our knowledge and the ability to apply what we've learned.*

ASPECTS OF LIFE LONG LEARNING PROCESS IN ADULTS

As technology advances quickly, lifelong learners have to learn new skills and adapt to rapid changes in professional and personal environments. Lifelong learning encompasses all learning activities undertaken throughout life with the aim of improving knowledge, skills and competences, within personal, civic, social or employment-related perspectives. Becoming more knowledgeable or skilled in something can increase our self-confidence in both our personal and professional lives. Confidence stems from the satisfaction of devoting time and effort to learning and improving, giving us a sense of accomplishment.

These resources should encourage lifelong learning as a kind of independent and creative learning experience that helps learners survive in a rapidly changing society. Therefore, the three essential characteristics are that the learning is **social, individually motivated, and spanning across the lifetime.**

NEED TO REIMAGINE ADULT EDUCATION.

After 1990 reforms from the government, there was a steady acceleration in literacy rate up to 79.5% in 2019. But due to the lockdown in 2020, the literacy rate had a downfall of 2% which 77.7%. Literacy in this context does not only encompass reading and writing, but also numeracy, critical and ability to learn efficiently. As low skills jobs become automated at an increasing rate, adult education becomes more important than ever, and education providers looking for new, innovative ways to support adult learning.

The challenge

Many adult learners are socio-economically weak, living in rural (hard to access) areas are culturally under-represented, have full or part-time work, and care for children in the home. The existing

adult education model was simply not meeting the complex needs of these individuals. Instructors and education service providers were frustrated with the lack of consistency in the province's adult education model. Resources were not being distributed equally, and the curriculum varied too much from organization to organization.

To me, reimagining education refers to critically re-examining its aims and understanding how they must be renewed and broadened to become truly inclusive.

I see three main challenges for the future of education that deserve to be focused on:

- When education should happen, or what we mean by lifelong learning, and how seriously we want to take the concept.
- Who should be responsible for ensuring education for the life course, or
- What should be the aims and content of education at different phases of lifelong education.

The purposes of reimagining education is also Digitalisation because it will open unknown possibilities. Digital technologies invite people to think of the ways to their best and induce collaborative learning. This has profound consequences for the purpose of education. Knowledge about education is turning into the most valuable resource for education itself. Indeed, the growth in science and research is also enhancing the transformative capacity of education systems. New knowledge about education is created at a very rapid pace, renewing the knowledge base on which education thrives. This offers major opportunities for education systems to rethink their purpose, design, and delivery.

COVID-19 began and stopped learning for over 325 million children in all over the world. While there will be difficult challenges ahead, this moment should also act as a trigger to reimagine the way adult should learn, no matter who or where they are.



We cannot let this happen again

We should not go back to what was. Even before school closures, far too many children were being left behind. That is why this is the time to protect and reimagine education systems"



Use and importance of Realistic teaching method in Adult education

The realist approach is very much needed for adults, which combines three social science principles

- * Causal explanations are achievable,
- * social reality is mainly an interpretative reality of social actors,
- * social actors evaluate their social reality.

Realism has a definite background and outlook which influence considerably the class-room procedures and the preparation of textbooks. The method of teaching, according to realism, is to abstract from the personality of both the teacher and the pupils and allow the facts to speak for them. In the process of presenting facts, the teacher is not expected to express his subjective opinion on the matter. The method of teaching should be strictly objective. Therefore the teacher should become a faithful translator so that through him the facts themselves may become real and impress themselves on the pupils. The facts must be presented in a clear and distinct manner and no detraction from the facts should be allowed. The facts should be logically classified and one part should lead to another automatically. Adult learners bring a very different set of skills, knowledge, and expectations to the classroom than do children. Those differences can be tapped by the instructor to make the class more fruitful and productive for the learners.

The realist method of teaching coincides with the attitude of the scientist as Holt says, "The conscientious scientist ... knows perfectly well that he 'constructs' nothing; and that, indeed, his prime concern is precisely not to construct anything. It is his purpose to efface the personal will, and if it were possible he would transcend the limitations of his sense organs, so as to be an impartial witness of the events." The realist method of teaching starts with the parts and considers them real in themselves. It regards the whole as a product of the parts which while contributing to the building up of the whole, retain somehow their individual independence.

Few examples of realistic teaching is:- Field trips, group work, projects, demonstration, worksheets, group discussions, recitation, questioning technique, role playing, storytelling, technology based, etc.

15 Strategies for Teaching Adult Learners

- Keep your lessons relevant.
- Tell stories as you're teaching.
- Break up the information to avoid cognitive overload, Get everyone involved, Keep them engaged.
- Focus on your learners' life experience, Be mindful of different learning styles.
- Make your material visually stimulating, Let them explore on their own
- Encourage questions and discussion
- Provide feedback, etc.

RE-IMAGINE EDUCATION CAN LEADS TO GOOD FUTURE OF ADULTS

Our humanity and planet Earth are under threat. The pandemic has only served to prove our fragility and our interconnectedness. Now urgent action taken together is needed to change course and re-imagine our futures. This report by the **International Commission on the Futures of Education**, acknowledges the power of education to bring about profound change. We face a dual challenge of making good on the unfulfilled promise to ensure the right to quality education for every child, youth and adult and fully realizing the transformational potential of education as a route for sustainable collective futures. This new social contract must be grounded in human rights and based on principles of non-discrimination, social justice, respect for life, human dignity and cultural diversity. It must encompass an ethic of care, reciprocity, and solidarity. It must strengthen education as a public endeavor and a common good. This report, two years in the making and informed by a global consultation process engaging around one million people, invites governments, institutions, organizations and citizens around the world to forge a new social contract for education that will help us build peaceful, just, and

sustainable futures for all. The visions, principles, and proposals presented here are merely a starting point. Translating and contextualizing them is a collective effort.

We have lived in a human centric society for the past few decades where decisions were made based on knowledge, experience, and internal processing by the human mind. Over the years technology has increasingly enabled the human mind to make better decisions. I predict that the future will be quite different.

When did you last drive to a known destination against the direction given by Google Maps? When did you last override the music playlist created by your music app? Humans delegating decision-making to technology is only going to increase as we start trusting machine algorithms more than our own minds. There is another reason why this evolution is unstoppable and may even be good for humanity. This change is positive as long as we find better ways to engage the human mind. For example, hiring decisions would surely move over to the machines; however, despite evolution in facial recognition technology, I still believe a human would be inspired by another human. So how should we reimagine the skills for the future that we would need to engage the human mind? How do we reimagine our education system to create the needed skills? How do we ensure that children in government schools with limited resources will not left behind?

Top Career Options in future:

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) Specialist
2. Data Scientist
3. Software Developer
4. Cyber Security Expert
5. Cloud Computing Experts
6. Digital Marketing Specialist
7. Management
8. Web Development
9. Product Manager
10. Medical Professional
11. Medical Technologist
12. Mental Health Specialist

CONCLUSION

This paper is about to focus on education after pandemic and about the curriculum before it and now. Technology induce a different methods in teaching and to learn them teacher should be realistic and flexible. Edu-tech is about to bring changes in adults education as this generation is most effected by digitalisation. But we make sure they know the good use of technology for their better future. It is the responsibility of teachers and society to believe and trust new era of education. Education never stops, there is no age bar to become educated and in this time it is more easier because you get education from anywhere through smart phones or different gadgets. The main point is to EDUCATE EACH AND EVERY CHILD.

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