



SOCIAL FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO THE FAMILY CRISIS

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Abstract: This article analyzes, from a socio-philosophical perspective, the role of the family institution in social life and its importance in shaping individual spirituality and social relations. It examines the social factors contributing to the family crisis, particularly economic difficulties, unemployment, low income, housing problems, changes in relationships among family members, and social inequality. It also analyzes the changes that have occurred in the functions of the family under traditional, industrial, and post-industrial societies and demonstrates their impact on family stability.

Keywords: family, family institution, family crisis, social relations, social inequality, economic problems.

Introduction

The family is one of the most important and historically established social institutions of society. An individual's spiritual world, moral views, values, and initial attitudes toward social relations are formed, first and foremost, within the family environment. Therefore, family stability is of great importance not only for an individual or family members, but also for the social development of society as a whole.

The role of the family is invaluable in transmitting the spirituality and values characteristic of each nation from generation to generation. The initial foundations of such human qualities as kindness, goodness, compassion, nobility, honor, modesty, and responsibility are formed within the family. In this sense, any social or moral problem arising in the family may also affect the upbringing of future generations.

The socio-economic transformations taking place in modern society are also having a significant impact on the institution of the family. Unemployment, income disparities, increasingly difficult living conditions, reduced communication among family members, and changes in social values are creating new problems related to family stability.

The Importance of the Moral Environment and Upbringing in the Family

The family environment plays a decisive role in the formation of a child's personality and worldview. Especially during the early years of childhood, the behavior of parents and other family members, their relationships with one



another, and their culture of communication directly affect the child's moral and ethical development.

If compassion, respect, responsibility, and moral values prevail in the family, favorable conditions are created for the development of similar positive qualities in the child. Conversely, rude treatment, a lack of mutual respect, constant conflicts, and an unhealthy moral environment may lead to the formation of negative traits in the child's character and worldview.

Therefore, it is appropriate to regard family upbringing not merely as a process of teaching a child certain rules, but as a continuous process of socialization carried out through the everyday life, relationships, and personal example of family members.

Impact of Economic Factors on Family Stability

One of the important factors contributing to the family crisis is economic problems. Unemployment, the absence of a sufficient source of income, debt, and housing-related difficulties may increase social and psychological pressure on family members. As a result, conflicts may arise in family relations, negatively affecting mutual trust and cohesion.

In analyzing family relations, M.Q. Pardayev and F.H. Nabiyeu draw attention to the fact that relationships between parents and children in Western and Eastern societies have been shaped on the basis of different values. While respect for parents and the priority of the status of elders occupy an important place in Eastern family models, a relatively equality-based model of family relations is widespread in Western societies.

Along with the economic development of society, the internal structure and functions of the family have also changed. In agrarian society, the family functioned not only as a social unit but also as a unit of production. The joint labor of spouses and the predominance of the multigenerational family form were connected with economic conditions.

The development of industrial society led to the separation of work and family life. Men working in industrial enterprises, while women were mainly engaged in household work and child-rearing, contributed to the widespread adoption of the nuclear family model. Later, under post-industrial society, the active participation of both spouses in the labor market led to a reduction in the time family members spent together.

It would not be correct to regard these processes as entirely negative. However, disruption of the balance between employment and family responsibilities may intensify problems related to family communication, child-rearing, and emotional closeness.

The Main Social Functions of the Family

The family performs a number of vitally important functions in society.



Among them, the reproductive, existential, and socialization functions are of particular significance.

The reproductive function ensures the continuity of generations. The existential function is related to the daily life of family members and the satisfaction of their material and spiritual needs. The socialization function is manifested in preparing children for life in society and instilling in them certain values, social norms, and moral standards.

In this sense, the family also serves as an important intermediary institution between the individual and society. By raising children, parents ensure not only the future of their own family, but also the formation of society's human resources and moral potential.

For thousands of years, the family has contributed to the sustainable development of society precisely by performing these functions. However, under the influence of modern social processes, the forms in which these functions are performed are changing. This creates a need to ensure a balance between the traditional roles of the family institution and new social demands.

Social Inequality and the Family Crisis

Another important factor affecting family stability is social inequality. Sharp disparities in income, education, employment, and access to social opportunities in society directly affect the living standards of families belonging to different social groups.

In analyzing social change, P. Sztopka identifies inequality as one of the important categories for understanding transformations taking place in society. Based on this approach, it can be said that disparities in economic and social opportunities among families may contribute to a growing sense of social injustice.

S.D. Norqulov emphasizes that a person's everyday empirical experience plays an important role in the formation of economic consciousness. Earning the funds necessary for living, providing for the family, and balancing income and expenditure are important factors shaping a person's economic consciousness and social relations.

The economic condition of the family does not exist separately from its moral and social environment. Persistent problems with material provision affect family members' moods, confidence in the future, and mutual relationships. Therefore, the prevention of family crisis should be considered not only within the framework of personal relationships among family members, but also in connection with broader socio-economic policy.

Social Justice and Family Stability

Social justice is important not only for the stability of society but also for the strength of the family institution. The principle of justice is reflected in



social policies aimed at creating equal opportunities for people, improving social protection mechanisms, and reducing sharp social disparities in society.

According to S.S. Hamroyev, the issue of justice acquires particular relevance at important stages of social development, especially during periods when profound socio-economic reforms are being implemented.

This approach is also important for family relations, because ensuring social justice in society is directly connected with the economic security of families, their access to educational and employment opportunities, and their ability to provide the conditions necessary for raising children.

The principle of justice is also important within family relations themselves. A reasonable distribution of responsibilities among family members, respect for one another's rights and interests, a sense of responsibility, and mutual support are among the essential conditions of a stable family.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the family crisis cannot be explained by a single cause or an isolated social phenomenon. It is a complex social process formed as a result of the interaction of economic, social, moral, and cultural factors.

While unemployment, low income, housing problems, and debt negatively affect the economic stability of the family, social inequality and disparities in opportunities may intensify a sense of social injustice. At the same time, weakening communication among family members, deterioration of the moral environment, and the weakening of the principle of personal example in upbringing also increase the likelihood of a family crisis.

Therefore, in order to ensure family stability, it is important to improve the socio-economic well-being of families, strengthen the moral and ethical environment within the family, develop relationships between parents and children based on mutual respect and responsibility, and ensure social justice and equal opportunities in society.

The strength of the family is not merely an issue confined to an individual household, but an important factor determining the moral, demographic, and social stability of society. Therefore, improving social mechanisms aimed at strengthening the family institution remains one of the priority tasks of the development of modern society.

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