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FATEHY EL AZAMI

TEMA:

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What is equality

Equality is an equivalence or conformity in the quality, quantity or form of two or more elements. In Mathematics, equality expresses the equivalence of two quantities. For example: 'There is equality in the results obtained'.

It also indicates an equitable treatment of people, for example, 'gender equality'. Equality among human beings is considered a right in many cultures, although in many cases there is no equality due, among others, to economic, racial or religious factors. In this sense, it is associated with other words such as justice and solidarity.

Gender equality

- Gender equality is a concept that establishes that people are equal in terms of rights and duties without taking into account their gender. Sometimes it also appears as 'gender equity'. Although it may seem contradictory, in order to achieve equality between men and women in a society, the same treatment is not always granted to all people regardless of their gender. That is, sometimes there are laws and measures called positive discrimination that seek to grant benefits to women to compensate for existing gender inequalities.
- In many places, gender equality does not exist, especially in societies where there is an institutionalized machismo. Usually, the topics in which gender equality is sought are family environment (for example, the differentiation of roles and tasks), education (right to education) and work (access to certain jobs, for example)

Social equality

- Different disciplines such as Philosophy, Sociology, Anthropology and Politics analyze the concept of equality among the members of a society. In a generic way, it is understood that social equality is a concept related to social justice. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations, for example, affirms that 'all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights'. Social equality is also one of the objectives of some political parties, organizations and associations.
- At the political level, there are different organizational models that seek to promote social equality. Throughout history, when there are situations of inequality between people or groups of society, there are confrontations or social conflicts that seek to end or counteract this type of situation. Social equality is a broad term and can be applied to different areas of society such as education, work or health and that includes other concepts such as gender equality and equal opportunities.

Equality before the law

Equality before the law is a legal principle that establishes a series of common rights, duties and guarantees for all citizens of a society. Therefore, discrimination of any kind (religious, ethnic, gender ...) and privileges (derived, for example, from titles of nobility) are excluded. It means that the application of laws on citizens is not conditioned by the type of person to whom it applies.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states in article 7 that 'all (human beings) are equal before the law and have, without distinction, the right to equal protection of the law'. In many countries, the principle of equality before the law appears in the Constitution. However, in most countries there is no real equality before the law, sometimes being a formality and not a reality. It is usually understood that the democratic system is based on the equality of its citizens before the law, although in many cases this principle is not fulfilled.

Definition of Equality of Opportunities

- The concept of equal opportunities is directly related to the ideal of justice. This means that it is considered that true justice can not exist if there are no social mechanisms that guarantee equality between individuals

The difference between equality and equal opportunities

- It is evident that there have been and there are differences between human beings. In fact, the differences are very diverse: economic, social, cultural or intellectual. These differences create inequalities, which causes a feeling of rejection in some people, who believe that it is unfair that some have much of everything and others have virtually nothing simply by some circumstance beyond their control (for example, having been born in a poor country). The idea of inequality would be the factor that unleashes an ideal of justice and, at the same time, the need to create mechanisms that equal us. In general, justice is considered to be based on equality and, in fact, in most constitutions the idea that all individuals are equal before the law is underlined (in other historical periods there was no equality before the law, not even from a theoretical point of view).

So that equality is not simply a formal and theoretical issue, it is necessary that equal opportunity policies be implemented in a society. In other words, equality of opportunity implies that all individuals, regardless of their origin or social status, should have the possibility of having the same resources or services (opportunities) to develop their lives. If we compare life with a career, we could say that there are equal opportunities if we all start from the same starting point, because it would be unfair if they had any advantage over each other for any reason.

Equal opportunities in education

- It is in the educational field where equality or inequality of opportunities between people is best appreciated. If there is no public education system that guarantees access to education for the entire population, there is a clear unequal situation in a society, as some children learn and others live in ignorance. In general, it is considered unfair that a child can not be educated because he is poor, because his parents force him to work or for any other reason.
- To coexist in a just society and with human values it is necessary that the education of a nation incorporates criteria of equal opportunities. The main one is the universal schooling of the entire school-age population. However, there are other mechanisms related to equal opportunities (not discriminate against any child because of their disability or because of sex or the non-use of strategies that may favor discrimination in some sense).