SPECIFIC FEATURES OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF MODERN FAMILIES

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Abstract. This article examines the development of modern families, changes in family relationships, the role of national and universal values in family life, and current issues related to child-rearing. It also analyzes the social functions of the family in modern society, parental responsibility, the impact of digital technologies on family relationships, and ways to ensure family stability.

Keywords: modern family, family relationships, family upbringing, national values, universal values, child-rearing, digital technologies, family stability, social environment.

Introduction

The family is the fundamental unit of society and an important environment for human development and spiritual formation. A person's early upbringing, worldview, moral principles, and attitudes toward social life are shaped within the family. Therefore, family stability is essential not only for the well-being of individuals but also for the sustainable development of society.

Today, globalization, the rapid development of information technologies, and economic and social changes are significantly influencing family lifestyles. Child-rearing, relationships between spouses, the distribution of family responsibilities, and communication between generations are evolving. These processes require families to adapt to new circumstances while preserving their traditional values.

The primary function of a modern family is not limited to meeting material needs. It also involves raising children to become morally mature, independent-minded, responsible individuals who actively participate in society. Therefore, studying the specific features of modern family development is an important issue in contemporary educational and pedagogical research. One of the main characteristics of modern family development is the changing nature of family relationships. In the past, traditions and the experience of older generations played a central role in family life. Today, mutual respect, the exchange of ideas, personal responsibility, and cooperation are also receiving considerable attention. Mutual understanding between spouses, resolving problems together, and making decisions through consultation have become increasingly important.

The distribution of responsibilities within the family is also changing. In many families, men and women cooperate in providing financial support, raising children, and managing household duties. This approach strengthens the sense of responsibility among family members and helps build mutual trust. A fair distribution of responsibilities, appreciation of each other's efforts, and resolving problems through communication contribute positively to family stability.

Another important characteristic is the family's ability to adapt to social and economic conditions. The labor market, employment patterns, migration, housing issues, and rising daily expenses can influence family lifestyles. Consequently, planning a family budget wisely, balancing income and expenditure, and saving for the future are becoming important skills for modern families.

Families are also paying greater attention to children's education, the development of their abilities, and their future career choices. Parents seek to raise children who are not only knowledgeable but also independent-minded, creative, and capable of making sound decisions in everyday situations. In this process, it is important to consider children's interests, avoid placing excessive pressure on them, and

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support the development of their individual potential. National values play an important role in the development of Uzbek families. Respect for elders, care for younger people, kindness, hospitality, mutual assistance, honoring parents, and maintaining family ties are part of the spiritual heritage that has developed over centuries. These values serve as important means of creating a healthy family environment and providing moral education for the younger generation.

However, the development of a modern family is not limited to preserving national traditions. Universal values such as respect for human rights, equality, tolerance, justice, mutual trust, and personal responsibility are also essential components of family life. The harmony of national and universal values helps create a healthy moral environment within the family. Instilling values in children cannot be achieved through advice alone. The most effective method is the personal example set by parents. Children observe how their parents treat one another, communicate with older people, approach work, and behave in everyday life, and they learn from these examples. Therefore, it is essential to foster relationships based on sincerity, honesty, patience, and mutual respect within the family. Strengthening relationships between generations is another important issue for modern families. Older generations pass on life experience and national traditions, while younger generations introduce new knowledge, modern technologies, and innovative ways of thinking into family life. Exchanging ideas and listening to one another can reduce generational differences and strengthen family unity. The development of information and communication technologies is changing the lifestyles of modern families. The internet, mobile devices, and social networks enable family members to communicate with relatives who live far away, access educational information, and organize daily activities more efficiently. Digital learning tools, in particular, help children acquire knowledge and develop additional skills. At the same time, excessive use of digital technologies may lead to reduced family communication, poor time management among children, and exposure to inappropriate online content. Even when family members are physically together, their individual use of electronic devices may limit meaningful conversations and shared activities.

To prevent these problems, it is necessary to develop digital literacy within the family. Parents should teach children how to use the internet safely, protect personal information, assess the reliability of information, and follow appropriate online communication etiquette. It is also advisable to make time for family conversations, reading books together, going for walks, and sharing household responsibilities.

Thus, digital technologies represent both an opportunity and a source of responsibility for family life. Their rational use can expand the educational, spiritual, and communicative opportunities available to modern families. Family stability primarily depends on trust, respect, love, and responsibility among family members. Problems and disagreements may naturally arise in family life, but the way they are resolved is particularly important. Listening to one another, expressing opinions calmly, seeking solutions rather than assigning blame, and reaching compromises help strengthen family relationships.

A consistent approach by parents is especially important in raising children. It is necessary not only to set expectations but also to listen to children's opinions, understand their feelings, and assign responsibilities appropriate to their age. Excessive strictness may hinder the development of independent thinking, while unrestricted freedom may prevent children from developing an adequate sense of responsibility. Therefore, maintaining a balance between discipline and affection is essential.

Improving parents' pedagogical and psychological knowledge is another important task for modern families. Considering children's age-related characteristics, interests, and individual abilities increases the effectiveness of educational efforts. Involving children in family discussions in ways appropriate to their age, appreciating their efforts, and allowing them to complete independent tasks help develop essential

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life skills. Furthermore, cooperation between families and educational institutions has a positive influence on children's development. Parents should communicate regularly with teachers and discuss children's academic achievements and difficulties together. Consistency between the upbringing provided at home and the expectations of educational institutions supports children's social adjustment and personal development.

Another important responsibility of a modern family is promoting a healthy lifestyle. Proper nutrition, physical activity, a balanced rest schedule, and emotional well-being contribute to the overall welfare of family members. Spending time together, maintaining family traditions, and creating an atmosphere of mutual support strengthen family unity.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the development of modern families is closely connected with social, economic, spiritual, and technological changes. The distinctive characteristics of contemporary families are reflected in the changing distribution of family responsibilities, increased attention to children's education and development, the use of digital technologies, and improvements in communication culture. To ensure family stability, it is necessary to preserve national values, uphold universal principles, increase parental responsibility for upbringing, and promote healthy communication among family members. Furthermore, the rational use of digital technologies, collaborative resolution of family problems, and support for children's independent thinking are important responsibilities of modern families.

A strong family is a fundamental condition for raising a spiritually mature, responsible, and active generation. Therefore, supporting the family institution, improving family upbringing practices, and fostering a healthy moral environment remain important priorities for the development of society.

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