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BACKWARD CHILDREN

P.G.SEM – 3

Educational Psychology

BACKWARD CHILDREN

- The term Special Needs is a short form of Special Education Needs and is a way to refer to students with disabilities, in which their learning may be altered or delayed compared to other students. . Children with special needs may have developmental delays ,medical conditions, psychiatric conditions, and/or congenital conditions.

DEFINITION

- “Backwardness in general is applied to cases where their educational attainments are lower than what they are capable of”. - **Burton Hart**
- “Backward pupil is one who, compared with other pupils of the same chronological age, shows marked educational deficiency”:
- **Schonell**

CONT..

- “Backward child” is one whose Educational Quotient (E.Q) is less than 85”. Educational Quotient (E.Q) is derived by the formula given below:
- *Educational Quotient (E.Q)*
= Educational Age × 100 / Chronological Age

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- Backwardness may be in physical, emotional, social and intellectual developments of an individual.
- Generally, backward children are classified into two distinct categories -
- In first categories backwardness is determined on the basis of IQ of the children, called mental retardation.

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- In second category the backward child is treated in terms of his academic achievement in the school subjects, comes under educational retardation.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR EDUCATION

- There are three possible alternative arrangements for the education of backward children –
 - 1. In a regular class with other children
 - 2. In a separate class within the same school
 - 3. In separate schools

ARRANGEMENTS CONT...

- **In regular class –**

- Under modern school conditions where the consideration is given to individual differences and social development is the major consideration for promotion, much less frustration is the rule.

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- But in regular class teacher has no more time to furnish endless repetitions necessary for the adequate learning of the backward children
- Thus, the sufficient individual attention can not be provided to backward children in regular class arrangement.

CONT...

- **The special class –**

- To remove defects of regular class-room teaching of backward children, the special class arrangement has been developed. In such class children from IQ 60-75 are placed.
- In such classes, only 15-20 children are kept.

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- **The special schools –**
- Special schools may be opened for mentally handicapped children with special arrangement of equipment and specially trained teachers for backward children.

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- **Co-curricular Activities:** Co-curricular activities in the form of dramatics, music, art, painting and other hobbies should not be ignored because it helps in making teaching effective and interesting.

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- **Taking the help of experienced Educational Psychologists:** For planning of the education of backward children, the service of an experienced educational psychologists also prove more valuable. He may give valuable guidance to the teachers as well as parents for taking remedial steps for removing the causes of backwardness in their problem

CHARACTERISTICS

- Backward children have the following characteristics:-
 - Their Educational Quotient is below than 85.
 - They are slow in academic, social, emotional and physical areas.
 - They are slow learners and find it difficult to keep pace with the normal school work.
 - They are unable to handle abstract and symbolic materials.

CONT...

- They need repetition and drill work to remember
- They may show backwardness in one subject or more than one subject or in all the subjects.
- They are unable to understand complicated games.
- Usually they remain in same class for a number of years.