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SYMPOSIUMS: MAINSTREAMING FAMILY TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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ABSTRACT

The family plays a profoundly role in the society. It is indispensable to the welfare of society and to the individuals that comprise of it. In most societies, families are legitimized by a sacred bond of marriage and social norms governing power relations within the family differ from community to community. Families being controlled by patriarchal values are generally responsible for creating unequal relations that is detrimental for fostering healthy socialization. From the advent of civilization, family as an institution nurtures values and practises through processes of primary socialization. Social harmony is of utmost important for Gross Happiness of the individuals, which is a parameter for measuring sustainable development of nations. It is argued that this comes through social, economic, and technological empowerment of the families and the individuals. In this context, the Sustainable Development Goals were formulated in 2015 by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) as part of the Post-2015 Development Agenda, which sought to create a future global development framework to succeed the Millennium Development Goals, which ended that year. Among the 17 goals, five goals are directly linked to the mainstreaming of families like, no poverty; zero hunger; good health and well-being; quality education; gender equality. The SDGs emphasize the interconnected environmental, social, and economic aspects of sustainable development by putting sustainability at their centre. The family capital can be harnessed, and the capacity development of its members can be done for start-ups and social enterprises set up for poverty alleviation. The family food and nutritional security will lead to zero hunger. The physical and mental health and well-being of the family members will build up a sustainable environment for development. Strengthening Parent school relationship for quality education of the children and gender equality will foster an inclusive societal movement for a better life and living.

Keywords: Family, Hunger, Poverty, Health and Well-being, Quality Education, Gender Equality, Sustainable Development

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