1. Highlight the role of home and school in imparting family life education.

**Ans:** ROLE OF SCHOOL IN IMPARTING FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION

Home is the ideal place to tell the story of life and to give training in family life. This is because parents have a continuing relationship with their children over many years. This relationship is crucial in developing attitudes as well as in sharing information. The way people act in adult life is strongly influenced by their experience and training in the early childhood at home.

The basic attitudes established in the home during the early years will dominate later attitudes. So the family has to take up the major role in imparting education at the various stages of a child’s development i.e. physical, emotional, intellectual, social and spiritual. These are the basics for successful family life.

Parents as Educators

Home is the school of schools and parents are teachers ‘par excellence’. The child’s intimacy with the parents during the formative years influences the personality of the child. Again the personality of an adult individual is generally influenced by the childhood experiences at home.

Role of Home in Character Building

How does character affect family life? The success of a family depends upon the character of the main couple. Home has an important role in training the character of its members. Success or failure, good or poor adjustment, happiness or unhappiness are much more a matter of character than of intelligence.

Education for Marriage at Home

Who should start imparting education for marriage? As you have seen, home is the starting point for all education. A child’s image of his role as a boy or girl, husband or wife, father or mother is patterned very early in life by the emotional and social atmosphere enjoyed at home.

Home and Personality Building

What is the role of home in building one’s personality? What a child becomes is more important than what a child knows. A good personality is the most valuable gift that parents can give their children. For normal development of personality, child should have a satisfactory family life. Homes in which parents and children share their joys and troubles, where they participate in recreational activities with friends and relatives, where there is always peace and happiness, will produce well adjusted and socially confident individuals. These children will have personal adequacy and personal responsibility in their relationship with others.

Role of Home in Sex Education

Are sex education and family life education identical? Even though they are mutually related, sex education cannot be equated with family life education. Of course, sex has a vital role to play in family life. Today, researches show that intimacy, love and companionship are the most important needs of couples. These needs are satisfied mostly from sex relations. This elevates sex to a position of new importance in marriage. According to many people, the success or failure of marriage depends upon satisfactory sex relations. This emphasizes the importance of sex education for a successful family life.

**ROLE OF SCHOOL IN IMPARTING FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION**

Can the school do anything to impart family life education? Many people underestimate the role of the school. Even though the family has the primary responsibility for family life education, the school also has an important role. School is an extension of the family. Since the school has a regular and continuous contact with all children, it has a unique opportunity to supplement family training. School age is the period at which a child’s world widens gradually. He/she comes into contact with other socializing agents such as teachers, other adults and peers. So school can provide more opportunities to learn about family life.

Why should the school interfere? Many parents do not have the technical knowledge to answer all the questions their children may ask about sex and family. They are not able to help children to develop healthy attitudes and to make correct decisions and choices as they grow up. The informal education given by parents often fails to achieve the goals of family life education.

In many Indian homes the parents are illiterate and not competent enough to give training in family life. Many of the old values and norms of family life are changing, in these circumstances, the school is a more reliable agent than the home to impart family life education. The school can give more detailed and systematic teaching than the parents.

Role to Teacher in Imparting Family Life Education

In school a teacher is the key person in imparting family life education to children. The teacher should be competent, gifted and a prudent person. Every teacher in school can teach family living. Every subject and every activity at school can contribute to a better understanding of life. Experiences in school enhance the formation of ideals and values. This in turn helps to mould the character of children. It also leads to personal and social adjustments.

As said earlier, sex education is one of the most important aspects of family life education. A teacher can give this education without much inhibition can impart a noble understanding to this deepest personal mystery. Students tend to approach their teachers with personal and general problems. Children prefer various issues to discuss with teachers than with parents. They believe that teachers are better informed and better adjusted persons.

The Role of the Peer Group

What is the contribution of the peer group to family life education? Once they begin to attend school, children spend most of their time outside home, with members of the peer group. So peers have a greater influence on the attitudes, interests and behaviour of a child than the family has. The peer group helps the youth to get socialized conforming to social patterns and norms. The youth is more open and free with peer group. Again the peer group serves as a laboratory for developing variety of physical and social skills and