

Globalization and its impact on America in the 21st century

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Abstract

This study looks at the various ways that globalization has affected American social life, employment prospects, economic possibilities, and the educational system in the twenty-first century. The United States has seen substantial changes that are indicative of the impact of global dynamics as the globe grows more linked. The research looks at how social connections and cultural exchanges have changed as a result of globalization, promoting more variety and awareness but also posing issues and challenges. In terms of the economy, the study explores how globalization has changed conventional employment environments and produced new job prospects, emphasizing both the advantages and inequalities in access to these opportunities. This article focuses on education with the ultimate goal of educating policymakers, educators, and community leaders about the necessary adaptations to promote resilience and inclusivity in a world that is changing quickly, this thorough investigation aims to shed light on the intricate interactions between globalization and many facets of American life.

Keywords: Globalization, America, Changes, Education, Social life, Economics

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Introduction

Throughout the 1990s and into the present decade, the educational system has undergone major changes. In the context of economic growth, political stability, and consensual policies, public expenditure in education more than tripled, and private expenditure increased accordingly. A range of major programs for improvement of both quality and equity of education were agreed upon and implemented, and a set of reforms, including curriculum, and the time frame of institutional features regulating the teaching profession, were accomplished.

In such a favorable social and political context for educational reform, the objectives of this paper are the changes in education and lifestyle in America.

Modern forms of production and consumption frequently precede changes in existing political and social institutions; and just as frequently, resistance to the emerging logic underlying economic change is more pronounced in those communities where such changes appear less advantageous.

Education today is oriented toward promoting the values of an urban, competitive consumer society. Thus, while we cannot totally criticize our present education, there are some issues which need our urgent attention, if we are really concerned with a better future.

Almost every element of American society has been profoundly impacted by globalization, which has been one of the most revolutionary forces of the contemporary century. This is especially true of education and daily life. Globalization has given both benefits and difficulties to American culture via the quick flow of ideas, commodities, and information (Roberts & Lamp, 2021). It has affected everything from economic practices to cultural variety and forced a reassessment of the way education is organized and provided.

Research Question

Globalization has various dimensions in cultural, social, and economic fields. It has lots of benefits and positive impacts but also has disadvantages leading to challenges in these fields. The research question of the article is the following:

"What is the impact of globalization on the social life, education, economic, and work opportunities of America?"

Globalization and Education

The most obvious impact of globalization on American education is a global viewpoint in curricula as more world history, global ideas, and international relations challenges are included in their curricula nowadays. The main reason for including global issues in their curricula is to link their lives to the world for better interaction in the future. As a result, this leads to American students' development and having the cross-cultural abilities and knowledge to comprehend economics, politics, and culture worldwide (Rizvi & Lingard, 2018).

Learning and teaching languages are now a vital part of American school curricula as this helps them more to gain knowledge about different countries and people. Furthermore, this enhances the acquisition of languages like Mandarin and Arabic rather than the languages used in Europe, due to the need for cross-cultural communication skills in the global fields. This eventually results in the readiness of students to work in multinational companies where multilingualism is vital.

The emphasis on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) in US education has been enhanced due to globalization. To understand global economics more, American educators encouraged learners to focus on STEM (Penprase, 2020). Nowadays, more students have abilities, for instance, technical skills, to overcome the challenges of a global economy due to initiatives like

robotics competitions, etcetera. STEM-focused schools have.

Cultural Diversity

As a result of globalization various cultures entered American schools as more families with different nationalities relocated to the USA. Students from different cultures, linguistic and ethnic backgrounds are now enrolled in American schools making them more internationalized (Collins, 2019). Due to these changes and a number of varieties, the learning and teaching environment has altered in schools and the students are teaching each other different viewpoints or life experiences.

Teaching also altered as a result of globalization in American schools as teaching strategies had to be changed as well due to multiculturalism. In American curricula, inclusive teaching strategies were implemented (Banks, 2019). It led to different thinking skills activation, nowadays teachers ask students to analyze the situation from various perspectives by focusing on topics like literature, history, and social studies from a range of global perspectives. Moreover, focusing on global issues from different perspectives encouraged the students to acquire not only a grasp of global issues but also more empathy and as a result become more sympathetic global citizens.

However, there are some drawbacks to cultural variety increase. Schools have to make more investments in teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) and teaching methods should be altered due to culturally sensitive content. The teaching methods should take into consideration cultural differences, language difficulties, and sensitive content usage. This will enable all students to have equal opportunities and educators have to create inclusive settings for all background students (McKamey, 2022).

Technology in Education and Globalization

Owing to Globalization, technology and its tools developed profoundly and its implementation in schools has a vital effect on American education. As a result, geographical boundaries disappeared as the internet and the usage of digital tools enabled students to acquire global knowledge in various fields. Nowadays, students are able to do some projects and learn vast materials from all over the world (Zhao, 2019).

Enhanced global connectedness enabled the students to access a lot of information and subjects worldwide. For instance, American students can get introduced to newspapers, films, art, architecture, etcetera. from overseas, which helps the students to comprehend various cultural differences. Because of the online mode, online learning opportunities, and its advantages, students can learn a subject that might not be available locally.

Globalization and Economics

Globalization has affected not only education in America but economics as well, impacting employment availability worldwide and competitive salaries. The outsourcing of labor to lower-cost locations by American firms has resulted in major reductions in several industries, especially manufacturing. Communities that formerly relied on industrial employment for economic stability have been significantly impacted by this change (Bertho, 2010).

The shift to a knowledge-based, service-oriented economy has also raised the demand for highly qualified workers in industries like healthcare, finance, and technology. The growing gap between low-skilled, low-paying occupations and high-skilled, high-paying careers is a result of globalization, and it has a negative impact on the quality of life for many Americans. Since education equips students with the skills, they need to succeed in a labor market that is becoming more complicated, it is essential to resolve these discrepancies.

But in the United States, globalization has also opened doors for innovation and entrepreneurship. Online platforms have made it simpler to establish enterprises with relatively modest initial expenses, and access to foreign marketplaces has enabled American entrepreneurs to reach clients worldwide (Hisrich & Peters, 2023). This worldwide reach has promoted an innovative culture by motivating individuals to investigate fresh concepts and solutions that appeal to a wide range of global consumers.

American Lifestyle and Globalization

American cultural standards and tastes have changed as a result of globalization. With influences from throughout the world evident in music, fashion, entertainment, and food, American culture is more culturally diverse than ever (Crothers, 2021). For instance, international cuisines for example, sushi and tacos have become mainstays in American diets, and American retail establishments also frequently carry design trends influenced by many cultures. By introducing Americans to a variety of customs and practices from throughout the globe, this cultural interchange enhances American life.

Globalization has also had an effect on American social ideals. Discussions about social justice, environmental sustainability, and human rights have gained prominence as a result of the unrestricted flow of ideas across national boundaries. People may engage with global movements, especially through social media, which encourages advocacy and dialogue on topics like equality, climate change, and democratic liberties (Crothers, 2021). Particularly younger generations are more aware of and involved in global concerns, and they are pushing for policies that have a global rather than just a national viewpoint.

Obstacles and Things to Consider

Although there are numerous advantages to globalization, there are drawbacks to American education and culture as well. For example, many

Americans are experiencing more stress in their academic and professional lives as a result of the need to be competitive in a global economy. While professionals are frequently expected to work longer hours and continuously update their abilities to be relevant in their industry, students are under pressure to do academically well and acquire competitive skills (Lingard & Aurini, 2021).

Additionally, there is a conflict between the desire to uphold American culture and ideals and the impact of the rest of the world. Concerns over the erosion of cultural identity are raised by certain Americans who believe that globalization weakens customs and traditions. For American society, striking a balance between these worries and the advantages of globalization is a constant problem.

Research Findings

Ten questions regarding changes in American life were included in the survey. 54 people, 41 of whom were female, 13 of whom were male, and 74% of whom identified as Americans, were expected to complete the survey online. The purpose of the questions was to examine social, economic, and cultural elements of life transitions. Positive changes in social connections and mental health were reported by most subjects. As employment patterns have changed, remote and hybrid work formats have grown commonplace worldwide. Overall, a significant percentage of respondents gave their life changes a good evaluation, indicating a greater feeling of community connection and diversity perception.

According to 62% of participants, globalization has improved their social relationships by making it easier for them to engage with individuals from different cultures and backgrounds, mostly through online platforms. A significant number of participants (38%) conveyed gratitude for the opportunity to participate in cross-cultural discussions

and share ideas with people throughout the world, which they feel has expanded their horizons.

According to 60% of participants, globalization has increased the cultural diversity of their communities, creating a more varied tapestry of customs, cuisine, and cultural experiences. Participants pointed out that new work prospects have been brought about by globalization, especially in the tech and service sectors. 40% of respondents said that being able to work for multinational corporations had increased their employment options.

Due to globalization, which has made it possible for organizations to function globally, 48% of respondents switched to remote employment. Working in global teams improved American citizens' work-life balance, however, 25% of participants stated that working remotely affected their inclusiveness and interactions with co-workers.

Globalization helped to connect American and foreign institutions and 80% mentioned that the majority of schools have exchange programs all over the world. This leads to new opportunities and chances

to be exposed to a variety of educational and cultural norms. More than 75% of participants mentioned that they have used online platforms focusing on podcasts, lessons, and resources related to different fields in various universities worldwide.

The findings show that individuals' lives have changed due to globalization in different ways. Globalization enabled people to have more social connections, and employment opportunities, and encounter different cultural norms.

Conclusion

Globalization has a significant impact on American citizens, having advantages and disadvantages. American education has changed because of globalization, implementing cultural differences, worldwide viewpoints and technological advances in curricula. Globalization has lots of benefits making society more dynamic by sharing social ideas, cultural norms, and development in economics. To create a successful future, Americans must use the benefits of globalization and tackle the drawbacks.

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