Reflections of Global Cultural Impact on the Sri Lankan Family

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Abstract

The family is the foundation of society, indeed of civilization itself. Some maintain it as the haven in a heartless world, but others argues saying it is the source of our problems and unhappiness. Thus it is essential to think of 'the family' as a whole as well as a network of 'families' which depend on each other. Family can mean many things; it could be a network of blood ties which supports one generation by the initial family. It could be a concept which is instinctual and not related to blood ties. In this research it is proved how the nuclear family is supported by the extended family invisibly.

The thesis under the topic of 'Reflection of global cultural impact on the Sri Lankan family.' Research data supports why the extended family has not disappeared, the pattern of its existence has changed although the nuclear family system is the current universal trend, at an invisible level the extended family co-exists within the nuclear family. This nuclear family is a recipient of the influence of globalization.

This globalized environment is supported by modern telecommunication technologies and tools; thus the family is impacted by social, cultural, political, economic, environmental biological and global variable factors. The family is transformed by global social impacts which have structurally changed the nuclear family; in an invisible level the extended family is operating as a network that supports the nuclear families. This is supported by modern telecommunication technologies and tools.

According to this research though the current global trend is for a nuclear family to exist as a single unit, the impact of globalization on the extended Sri Lankan family has not collapsed, instead it has adapted to them.