Role of psychologist in special and inclusive education

Ravi Gunthey
Jai Narain Vyas University, India

Psychology has a pivotal role to play in the global world and holistic living. Application of psychology is being a witness in multiple areas and is a matter of grave concern that, where we are needed most, there our place is being filled by scholars of other discipline. Have we ever paid attention to the thousands of P.G. students who yearly come out of 5000 colleges of about 200 universities? Are they being employed in the field of Psychology? The areas meant for psychologists are mentioned herein and are being encroached by other disciplines. One such area is the area of Special Education which teams with job opportunity and in replete with job satisfaction. The mandate given to RCI is to regulate and monitor services given to persons with disability and to standardize syllabi. Only one solution of all these issues is the role of psychologist in this area—they have behaviour assessment techniques, can counsel parents to bring their children to mainstream of society, can improve social interaction, awareness about misconceptions, initiating to establish special school in reference to inclusive education and application of behaviour modification techniques. UNICEF, few years back suggested that there are at least 93 million children with disabilities in the world. Intellectual impairment is a term used when a person has certain limitations in mental functioning and in skills such as communicating, taking care of oneself and social skills. It is generally present in an individual who has an IQ test score of approximately 70 or below. Inclusive education is the new concept of education in which the disabled children are taught with the normal children in the regular classrooms. It also involves removing barriers in the environment, communication, curriculum, teaching, socialization and assessment at all levels.

Biography

Ravi Gunthey is the Head of Dept. of Psychology, JNV University, Jodhpur (India). He has his expertise in the field of Special Education and Mental Health. He has 30 years of research experience; has more than 50 papers published in Indian and international journals, and supervised 22 PhD scholars. He has research experience in the field of Special Education. He is the Editor of Indian Journal of Developmental Disability. He was the Keynote Speaker at InSPA (International School Psychology Association) in year 2011, Vellore (India). He presented a paper at 32nd Annual Conference of International School Psychology Association at Trinity College, Dublin. He is the Director of ‘Centre for Differently Abled Person’, JNV University, Jodhpur, since 2006.

guntheravi@yahoo.co.in