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**Cultural Peer Pressure and its Impact on Society**

Cultural peer pressure, these three words have had quite the impact on the society. Either school, colleges, universities, household setup or office, there is always a certain cultural peer pressure that an individual feels. A person is expected to behave in a certain manner to be accepted as a part of society. This fact has made our society quite mechanical, most people let go of what they want to do to fit in. While this pressure has made things motorized, there are certain setups in which this pressure has led to people taking a violent route in life. This is especially the case with teenagers and young adults. The pressure of being a certain way that is culturally appropriate has made people take the route of drug abuse and alcohol. This paper will reflect on whether cultural peer pressure has an impact on the society or not.

The culture expects both the genders to behave in a certain manner. If either one of them deviates from the set direction fingers are pointed or violence takes hold. Unfortunately, there are still certain cultures that endorse women living a restricted life. There is patriarchy and a man is considered the head of the family. If the women try to speak up for themselves they are made the victim of both physical and verbal abuse, which makes the society in general toxic. This pressure to follow the patriarchy is set by the culture and that is why most women of society follow it. While the world has progressed but certain set standards are restraining the society to progress as a whole (Deng et al., 18003).

The LGBTQ community has suffered the most because of this cultural peer pressure. There are a lot of youngsters who end up losing their lives in trying to fit in. If they do not suffer from domestic abuse, they suffer bullying in schools because they are different from the set standards. Further, there have been many cases where young children have taken their own life because they could not fit in with the set values that their peers and society have created. Peer pressure is a very toxic concept, it has an overall negative impact on society (Ivanova). Also, there are times when cultural pressure pushes individuals to move at a faster pace in life. There is one thing that people need to understand that everyone has their timeline and they should not try to surpass it.

Behavior, music, fashion, thoughts, in general, have an impact on the society that is skin deep. Individuals specifically the youth usually get under the influence of the lifestyle that their peers have. It is very common for a person to do what the crowd does. It is the culture that makes it evident that to fit in an individual must follow the societal norms and everything out of the ordinary will be eyeballed. This is where parents play a vital role, they should make sure that they do not teach their children to give into cultural peer pressure. There should always be acceptance for difference and change.

Yes, the cultural peer pressure has a very strong impact on society. The standards that have been set by everyone have made the society less inclusive and anyone different is not given the chance to live freely. The people, in general, need to make sure that they are not supporting a concept that might be limiting for others. The pressure to fit in like everyone else makes a mechanical and toxic society that hinders the growth of many unique people who look at life differently. As they say, every individual's consciousness reacts to a given matter or life in general, differently. So, there should not be any cultural peer pressure to hinder novelty.

**Work Cited**

Deng, Chuang, et al. "Peer pressure and incentive mechanisms in social networks." EPL (Europhysics Letters) 121.1 (2018): 18003.

Ivanova, Maria. "COP21 proved the Power of Peer Pressure." (2015).