

The Role of Civil Society in Promoting People, Democratic Space and Social Work

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Abstract – Civil society formation and dissemination demonstrates society's solidarity and maneuvers towards authors. According to civil society's origins, civil society means that civil society demands are shown in a nonviolent and organized manner in such a way that civil society is quickly reactant to the divergence of authoritarians from the interests of society and the land. The government is responsible to the people and is able to persuade society to make its choices. The civic society movement is most significant because of the importance of public interests.

Keywords – CS (Civil Society), Promoting People, Democratic Space, Social Work

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INTRODUCTION

Under the Neoliberal Doctrine of 'downsizing' the state and the World Bank, the role of civil society, in all its manifestations, has recently acquired meaning. The current debate about globalization has also tended to strengthen the role of civil society in managing a large number of socio-economic sectors that formerly belonged to the State. The State is now being planned as a facilitator and coordination officer for the commercial and non-governmental governance sectors. Several new innovations have led to various kinds of civil society groups which start influencing governmental choices. These include a fundamental shift to state welfare commitments, decrease of social security benefits and disillusionment of individuals with government politics. & government policies. The collapse of East European States after the Velvet Revolution is another important reason, as is worldwide emphasis on State minimalism, the increasing role played by diverse players in governance, and the success of voluntary enterprise efforts. As a consequence, a feasible proposal to augment or supplement state functions and the market is made in the civil sector or civil society sector.

Development is one of the country's most significant pillar. It is thus essential to examine development. Overall planning is necessary for economic, political, cultural and comprehensive growth. Civil Society has been effective in complete development based on the experiences of nations with the greatest cooperation with communities. Because civil society is the direct power of the people to supervise the leaders and authorities and to acquire power through the inclusion and movement of the people. Civil society has thus turned towards organization and distribution. Guilds,

parties, media, trade unions and any group of individuals who serve have been converted to interlocutors in the performance and choices of government. That way, people do something if decisions are harmful: protest, strike and impeding civic activity, expressing their desire to prevent confrontation, stay so confident as to be persuaded. This process is stronger than regulating the various aspects, like: parliamentary surveillance, inspection and the involvement of society in political and social issues. In nations where the constitution respects people's and civil society's status in preserving legal freedoms and basic people's rights, the pace of growth and the reduction of corruption is clearer than those which have not complied with the constitution.

CS and democracy

Democracy: is a political system that involves people in its governing mechanism; allowing society to take part in its policies (Eken, 2008, p. 71). Democracy is against a dictatorship in which people are severely limited or, at worst, missing from involvement in political decision-making. Therefore, any debate on democracy was essential to the concept of CS or civic involvement in decision-making. CS and democracy are so intimately interconnected and inseparably interwoven that one can't operate effectively without the other. In the political realm or even in a subset of democracy CS is regarded as a sociological counterpart of democracy (Calvert & Burnell, 2004, p. 279).

Although the role of CS is almost fully emphasized as a conducive, compensating and additional to democracy, the dysfunctional role of CS seems to be less considered. CS is seen either as a force capable

of bringing democracy where it is missing and enhancement where it currently exists or as a negative factor capable of dysfunction democracy. It is thus essential that the benefits and vices of CS's position in democracy are taken equally into account.

Types of dysfunctional CSOs are groups representing ideas and objectives which interfere directly with democracy and human rights. Such organizations, which directly threaten social plurality and democracy, have been established to promote racism and fanaticism. Such rigid and unequivocal objectives are not democratic. Non-democratic organizational processes, aims and tactics preclude CS from becoming a successful political socialization agent, and may at best create, maintain and exacerbate overtly non-democratic ideas and behavioral patterns.

The equilibrium between CS and the state requires structures, both guaranteeing their separation and regulating their interaction. The objectives of CS groups must be firmly in line with democratic, pluralistic and human rights credentials. CS only helps to a democratic political socialization via democratic organizational conduct. In contrast, nondemocracy objectives, processes and/or tactics limit the ability of CS to create democratic behavior patterns and attitudes unless they are perverted. In promoting democracy, an active and varied CS frequently plays a vital part. It may discipline the state, ensuring that public interests are treated seriously and encourage greater involvement in civic and political life.

Then, via plurality, civic and political engagement CS supports democracy. Effective, healthy and meaningful democracy promotion can occur however only if free mobility and freedom of speech is provided by the state. In this regard, it is essential that the relations between State and CS be mutually recognized and balanced.

Civil society development and influence

In the past developments, as suggested in development, were seen as unidimensional with a view to economics, politics, and culture, but now they are viewed as a whole.

Close links and closeness between nations and cultures and movement toward globalization are making the effect of the lack of development in one country on other ones clearer and more apparent. If development is taken into account with economic growth, including an increase in per capita income and GDP and policies such as: pluralism, tolerance, freedom of expression, culture of development and cultural consolidation, and the opening of the cultural atmosphere in cinema, music and writing, then the practical ways of the countries that were: It is not only the majority of these methods, but also the majority of them, that are in every nation, so long as some modifications are made in keeping with the culture. Where there is a dependence on the law and constitution of any country for the development of civil

society, the allowance (involvement) of the admission of civil society, and application for the optimization and planning of executive processes, requires the stability and development of civil society. This is supposed to be the preconditions within which civil society actions are prepared. What impact this assumes is on the development of a two-pronged approach that means that on one hand society empowers the executive forces to enforce the laws that are enforced in accordance with public requests, and, on other hand, society gives the executive forces sufficient authority to enforce the laws that are enacted according to public demands. Civil society at this point has an extremely significant role to play, prevents and places on the truck from deviating and opposing the interests of society. Civil society is responsive and correct by lateral and multilateral discussions as representatives of its country and solves the issues rationally and removes barriers to the advances in all fields.

Role of Civil Society in Ensuring Democracy

Democratic leadership is seen as a regime that focuses on people. The institutional foundation enabling involvement of all people in economic and political activities is democratic governance. Each person has the chance to choose his or her governing system according to his or her own choice. A common man is aware of policy laws, implementation and greater awareness of his breaches. Freely and fairly, free judiciary and free press contribute to people's well-being. In the long run, this contributes to increasing people's socio-economic and political independence. Civil society has the capacity to contribute to democracy in this instance. In helping to promote democracy, a vibrant and varied civil society frequently plays a significant part. It gives the legitimation of democratic government a normative foundation. It may discipline the state, take public interests seriously and encourage more civic and political engagement. Various socio-economic and political variables constantly influence the state apparatus. Moreover, the structural shifts in globalization have also brought subtleties to national democracy. The modern space is not democratic in this age of globalization. We have no scenario in which the Governed have given existing regimes the right to rule. The rise of multinational companies has reduced autonomous, broad-based democracy. In policy development, public involvement, consultation and accountability seem inadequate. The underlying issues of poverty, lack of representation, inequality and related violence, corruption and division need complicated and long-term solutions based on reinforcing basic components and values of societies across the area. The demand for knowledge and thoughts provides a shared foundation for informed debate and decision-making by people, legislators and policy makers. Secondly, plurality is necessary and differences of view are respected. Thirdly, the requirement for consensus-building technology allows people to come to a compromise and establish shared goals for national and local life. Finally, more openness

and accountability in government activities are needed to guarantee that these common ideals are executed by elected representatives. Civil society offers a means to improve involvement, consultation, openness and accountability of the public in all this regard, which may support democratic government.

In fostering democracy, civil society plays an essential role with specific indications as follows.

Public Education and Mass Awareness

Civil society's broad awareness is an essential contribution to the arena of democracy. Informed people need to be aware of their governing systems for a successful democracy. The Civil Society Organization is able to raise awareness among the masses through different methods, such as manual publishing, information booklets, seminars and workshops, the dissemination of information in educational institutions, the advocacy by the mass media of certain political questions, etc. Civil society informs individuals on their rights and duties, life implications of certain policies and government strategies behind every agreement or treaty. It also plays a role in enhancing democracy by spreading democratic ideals and ideas to the elite and general people. They concern civil rights protection and freedom. By exercising their rightful and associational actions they urge people to engage in political issues.

Empowerment of Disenfranchised Communities

Civil society provides access to information, openness and engagement via decision-making processes, ensuring that political decision-makers consider the interests of those excluded. They aim for a fairer allocation of power and resources. They provide a forum for masses to take action to remedy their complaints. It offers parties the opportunity to disseminate information, analysis and management agencies (Scholte, 2001). It offers the poor and disadvantaged in a lay man's language microphones to receive information about their administration that they can't access other channels. This civic engagement is capable of participating in democracy that is unique to it. Civil society helps promote a fair and responsible democracy, which is its real spirit, by correcting complaints and strengthening its voice. They monitor government misuse at national and local level through access to media and monitor the government's delivery and access methods (Cheema, 2011). They also safeguard minorities, women and disadvantaged groups' human rights (Cheema, 2011). They influence public affairs by which people express their political, economic and social interests and exercise their rights.

Providing Space for Pluralism

Pluralism is one of the key elements of democracy which contributes to the deconstruction of the

framework for policies. People may get accurate understanding of the events and evaluate political choices. It facilitates, by means of discussion and presentation of the ideas which constitute the basis for effective democracy, the exchange of information across communities. Democracy is managed, as expected, by individuals from different socioeconomic and cultural events. Civil society helps in this way to uninhibitedly debate these different viewpoints. A variety of problems, interests and organizations are represented by civil society. In other words, they provide answers to a number of questions which bring different sections of society's views and requirements. Civic organizations, for example, contributed to a discussion over the so-called "Washington Consensus" (Scholte, 2001). They have also highlighted environmental issues, supported qualitative poverty evaluations, in order to make a common person aware of the decline of the democratic framework in the globalized world.

Promoting the structure of transparency and accountability

Public openness in global governance may promote civic mobilization (Scholte, 2001). As strong stakeholders, civil society may put pressure on the State mechanism in order that its law can be transparent. By connecting with mass media, a general public may become aware of any policy developed by the state to be available for public examination. They also strive to change public interest legislation, improve access by paralegal authorities to the needy, advocate and hold public officials accountable by alerting the media about breaches by public officials. public authorities also have access to justice. Civic organizations may also raise questions about what, at what time, in what form, via which channels, about whose choice, for whose purposes and for whose interests they make public, what kind of "transparency" official language they now know is presently popular (Scholte, 2001). The national democracy in a global context is no more immune to transnational government being gobbled up. In this instance, civil society helps ensure that the national democratic system is accountable to indigenous people by linking them with the people on the ground. The existence of different advocacy organizations, national policy interest groups keep people engaged in the development of policies and their implementation. Any oppressive policies should be discussed in the civil society's public forum. For example, civic players have urged and subsequently taken part in the World Bank and International Monetary Fund's independent policy evaluation processes (IMF; Scholte, 2001).

Establishing Legitimacy for Governance

Legitimacy is an essential aspect in every form of government. Without the government's ability to win broad support, its governance is meaningless.

Democracy calls for individuals to be authenticated. Consequently, individuals must recognize that an authority has a right to control them and to lay down guidelines. A democratic system can function smoothly once this consent is gained. The change of the regulation will not be necessary. Civil society thus also plays a key role in this case. It gives people a way of reaffirming their system of government via agreement. It promotes or raises awareness of public education on effective government involvement. It promotes public discussion, so that representative democracy is legitimized in any political party or organization. Civil society has played a part in reversing government by illegitimizing people's authority in the bad circumstances. The existence of media, schools, advocacy and organizations of interest bridges the divide between ordinary people and the government. The people at the grassroots level are updated through new ways of civil society with the center. Lack of red-tapism in civic society promptly engages its own players and warns others to certain imminent problems. Since civil society is not dependent on elections or huge bureaucracies, freedom of action is available. In other terms, it is a democratic legitimizing force.

Flexible and Innovative Structure of Civil Society

Besides its result, the promotion of democracy also needs its own functioning. Civil society is known as a highly adaptable and creative organization built on up-to-date information through simultaneous research. Due to its players' quick response, any change in government is immediately communicated to the people. They have excellent technological and management abilities to transfer information amongst individuals. The active human resources and extensive knowledge base help civil society to deepen any policy and critically assess the results for future distribution.

It is important for us to learn about the main players helping civil society in this matter, after examining the function of civil society in the promotion of democracy. A civil society serves in the promotion of democracy and its advocates as an agent for change or a catalyst. But she does not have her autonomous tool in all these tasks. Social work, which acts as an agent for this transformation, supports a civic society. It offers a civil society specific instruments through which it gains access to the public and interferes between politicians and ordinary people. A civil society organization is helped to link people and the governing mechanism by using social working techniques and core strategies. Therefore, to help civil society in the development of democracy we need to grasp such social methods.

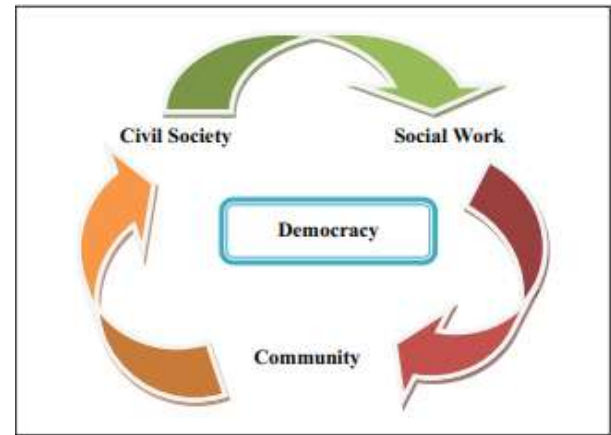


Figure 1. Civilian society, community and social activity for democracy development interface

Promotion of Social Cohesion and Solidarity

The profession of social work improves the reciprocal link between individuals via the support of established order and social connections. It creates human rights, social fairness and economic development via different advocacy activities at political level which eventually consolidate democracy. Civil society is trying to help states in smooth governance on the basis of various methods of social work. The state fulfills the interests of individuals when civil society initiates social cohesiveness. John Harriss says that social capital and civil society in development discourse have proved so appealing that they seem to be opening the possibility of democracy without any discomfort in dispute policy and a clash of ideas necessary to democracy. Figure 1 illustrates the partnership between civil society and social work in creating solidarity in order to restore the pro-people democracy.

Civil society thus has a very important role to play in fostering democracy. It gives its citizens stability, transparency, cohesion and empowerment to enable a process of responsible democracy. The ordinary guy may be linked to policymakers. Politicians are expected to correct the traumas and complaints of people because of the civil society's lobbying efforts. Civil society fosters harmony among the people that is essential to conflict transformation by establishing links of reciprocity and social connections.

The importance of social work in this situation must not be overlooked. It offers a place where masses may be redirected via public communication and lobbying activities towards their rights and privileges. Social work allows individuals to develop their integrity and unity via associations. It helps civil society to advocate specific policy reforms if ordinary people's interests are harmed. Civil society serves to reconcile the interests of the people and the state by organizing people based on social work approaches. Civil society, in other words, enhances democracy

through using social labor instruments, such as community mobilization and social lobbying.

Critical evaluation of the democratic role of civil society

Besides the power of civil society in restoring democracy, some criteria lack which invalidate their meaning in democracy. Some think-tanks question civic society's role in restoring peace and democratic space. The following are:

- Mark Robinson argues that the distinguishing between civil and political groups is sometimes difficult since the same or related organizations are engaged in both areas. His analysis of Hindu politics in India demonstrates how hardline nationalists are working to establish ideological hegemony via institutions such as the civil society, the media, research institutes, religious institutions, young groups and the political party in charge (Elliott, 2003).
- Civil society may be at a disadvantage in world government democracy if its actions in design and implementation are misconceived (Scholte, 2001). For example, activists may lack defined goals or have insufficient knowledge of global governance organizations' mandates and modus operandi, or may ignore important global policy areas that need democratization (Scholte, 2001).
- Civil society could harm global governance democracy if its representation is insufficient (Scholte, 2001). In order to fulfill its promises, all stakeholders must have access and ideally equal chances to engage (Scholte, 2001). Civil society may also perpetuate or extend structural disparities, gender, nationality, ethnicity, religion, urban and rural advantages, and so on, etc. (Scholte, 2001).
- Activities of civilian society may not be democratic (Scholte, 2001). Although civil society has overtones of politeness and morality, the development of democracy is not in reality on the agenda of voluntary organizations (Scholte, 2001). Instead, uncivil social aspects may really be aimed at undermining democracy. For instance, certain city organizations may use underhanded methods to pursue private interest privileges (Scholte, 2001).
- The characteristics of the voluntary association are shown in many places by local administrations rather than the state. They typically serve as lobbyists in favor of local concerns that face a hierarchical bureaucracy for people to engage in collective initiatives voluntarily. In Western countries, trade unions and employer organizations are frequently so intimately involved with government that it is hard to differentiate between government and civil society (Elliott, 2003).
- Certain think-tanks anticipate the impending cooperation of civil society with politics. They claim that civil society may expect political institutions to benefit and even organize individuals against their wellbeing. This political cooptation compromises the capacity of civil society to regulate impartially the observance of democratic standards and processes by state and political actors.
- Some propagandists are considered to be reflective of the skewed interest of civil society. Civil society is an open space, independent of its specific type, scale or social importance for the development of, organization and representation of any interest.
- Some writers overlook civic society's role in restoring democracy. They argue that the way in which civil society may participate and appreciate its democratic processes and rules by enabling more frequent and more rapid political involvement relies on the internal organizational procedures. In other words, it is unacceptable for any civic society to comply with democratic credentials.
- Critics were also chastised for the professional behavior of civic society. Some civil society organizations, which can assist the State in its efforts to restore mass prosperity, have excellent managers, policy makers and analysts.
- Civic society drive is inclusiveness and civil concept excludes those mainly acting outside the law. The mafia and criminal organizations; and the guerrilla and terrorist cell movements cannot be regarded as a civil society member. This is because they question not only recognized norms which safeguard the space of civil society; their use of violence contradicts the effectiveness of the discourse which links civil society with one another and with the State. Partha Chatterjee is the example of squatter communities in Kolkata living outside the law, conducting their own internal affairs, representing a civil society paradigm. These communities are unlawfully occupied by land; no police protection and no access to municipal services is available. But they have created methods for solving communal

issues and integrating a wide range of people (Elliott, 2003).

CONCLUSION

Civil societies are called upon to play an increasingly significant role, and the attempt to grow. This essay claimed that a number of problems, particularly those related to the promotion of development, are predictable for civic societies. We see this research as a step forward in the development of conceptual maps that may help improve civil society and the sector as a whole. Civil society may react to different new challenges/problems and help the state to restore democracy, by improving its internal structure. It may gain people's support via advocacy activities and lead the government in creating policies for advocates. Civic organizations may promote public education, offer forums, stimulate discussion, improve transparency and accountability and strengthen democratic government credibility. There may be anti-democratic aims, anti-democracy methods and anti-democratic outcomes for some civilian society organizations. But these dangers are certainly no cause for exclusion of civil society. The creation of social cohesiveness and solidarity by means of social work may use social capital, which forms the base of genuine democracy, to be bridged. The combination of social work methods with civil society may help individuals to develop their democratic principles and facilitate seamless communication between the state and themselves as the soul of democratic leadership.

The Civil society has assumed prima donna position in the present day world and helping the democratic institutions to be more responsible, accountable, and sensitive to the public need. The civil society functions as safety wall between the society i.e. the people and the government & its intuitions. The importance and significance of civil society is increasing day by day and the role of government is becoming minimal. However, the civil society should also realize and behave in a manner so not to become an impediment in the work of government and should work a bridge.

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