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FORUM IAS

- ① (i) Attitude and opinion are types
② of MENTAL CONSTRUCT which play an
important role in influencing the
BEHAVIOUR of an individual.

Attitude	Opinion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is a specific determinant of behaviour. It reflects the readiness of the psyche to act in a particular manner. It is tied to some object. Not vague in its nature. <p>eg: Are you going to vote today? Positive Attitude - <u>Yes</u> -</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is a general determinant of behaviour. It refers to the evaluation of a topic in a generalist manner (without-intention to act). It may or maynot be tied to an object. <p>eg: Should every person go to vote? Opinion - Yes, every person should vote.</p>

Differentiating between Attitude and Opinion is important in determining the behavioural tendency of a person.

(ii) Emotions are bodily arousals in response to a certain event.

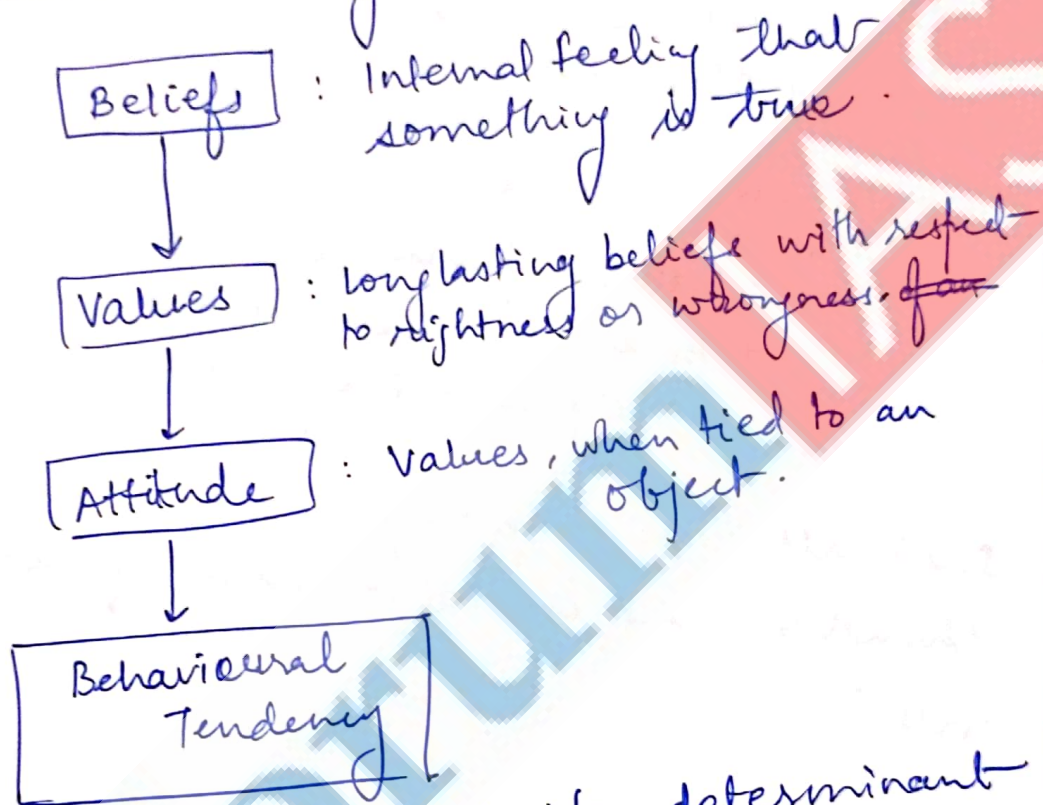
On the other hand, feeling is a psychological response to a certain event which may translate to become an emotion if sufficiently strong.

eg: when a person receives a gift, they feel happy.

but when a person receives an invaluable object as a gift from a close person, this happiness may transform into gratefulness.

①
②

Attitude refers to the lasting evaluation of an object or issue and reflects the readiness of the psyche to act in a particular way.



Attitude, being a specific determinant of behaviour, guides our behaviour in light of other factors like

- Subjective Norms and their strength.

- Individual capacity and self-efficacy

F.T.O.

There are two types of Attitude :

• Positive Attitude

- Enhances confidence
- Encourages person to take a calculated risk.
- Optimist -

• Negative Attitude

- Makes a person pessimist
- Discourage them to take risks or try something new.

Such attitudes, therefore, guide our thoughts and our approach in life as well.

2
a

Emotional Intelligence refers to the ability of an individual to reason with the emotions and use emotions in reasoning.

It implies that an individual is capable of :

→ Emotional Perception

To identify the emotion one is experiencing

→ Emotional Assimilation

To differentiate b/w different emotions.

→ Emotional Understanding

Understanding the cause of particular emotion

→ Emotional Management

To reason with emotions and manage them at will

these help in personal and professional life as follows :

1. Person is self-aware and knows his strength and weakness
2. Realistic goal setting as a result of self awareness.

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3. Frequent Goal Attainment.
leading to positive reinforcement
and enhanced self-esteem.
4. Individual and Organisation is
MOTIVATED to outperform themselves
5. Social skills helps the person navigate
personal & professional relationships.
6. Workplace becomes enjoyable and
rid of toxic cultures.
7. Reduced Ethical Dilemmas and
consequent peace of mind and
efficient functioning.

Hence, it can improve the quality of personal
life while promoting efficiency and
growth in professional life.

②

b.

Coercion refers to the practice of influencing individual's behaviour by use of threat or force.

Persuasion on the other hand, tries to influence an individual's beliefs, thoughts, behaviour and attitude by appealing to their reason rather than use of force.

eg: Complete your school homework.

Coercion: Made student to stand outside the class as a punishment.

Persuasion: Explaining the value of academic discipline and rewarding via positive reinforcement.

In context of SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION, ~~the individual~~ tries to attempt is made to influence the action of society as a whole.

Role of Persuasion versus Coercion

- More democratic.
- Long lasting transformation.
- Respects individual dignity and decision-making capacity.
- More effective as coercion can sometimes make a person defensive.
- Can address society's values and attitude and not only behaviour.

eg: Persuasion and bottom-up more relevant in bring religious reforms.

It is said that an army of principles can invade where an army of ~~coercion~~ soldier is also unable to. Persuasion, in this manner, can be a powerful tool of social transformation.

3
(a)

Political Attitude refers to the long term evaluation of person towards political institutions, norms and individuals such as:

- A Political Party
- A Politician
- A Political Ideology
- or → A Political Process.

INFLUENCE OF POLITICS

Politics refers to the means of securing and distributing powers.

Political Attitude gets influence by politics as:-

- Performance of politicians
- Walking the talk
- Following ethical values in Administration
- Underlying ideology and its implementation.

But an equally important role is played by society.

Impact of Society

- societal Norms of Accumulation of wealth
 - ↳ Capitalist
 - ↳ Socialist
 - ↳ Communist
- societal Norms on importance of religion.
- societal Perception of practice of corruption.
- Democratic decision-making at grassroot levels.
etc

3
b

Q. Ancient Hindu

Anger is a negative emotion which generates feeling of ill-will, jealousy and hatred in an individual.

An act done when an individual is under the influence of such an emotion might become counterproductive.

Ancient Hindu scriptures highlight that:

Anger

↓
Delusion

↓
irrational decision making

eg: we often observe that if we get late to reach office due to traffic, we might get angry and take out of our emotions on our subordinate staff.

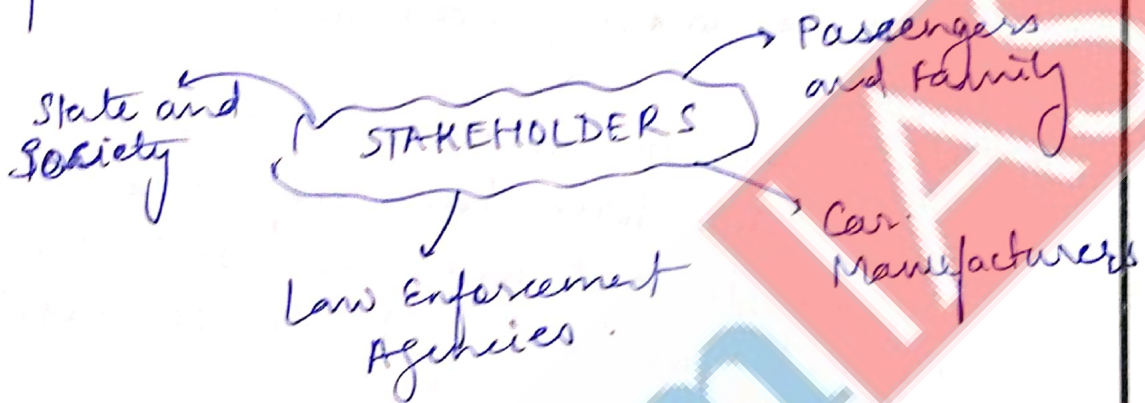
Here it becomes important that an individual is emotionally intelligent and channel their emotions effectively.

Then, not only will anger be the driving force behind a decision.

But, anger may motivate an individual to act with renewed motivation.

eg: The National leaders channeled the anger of India Public towards Colonial Govt. to forge a National Movement.

4. The fact situation highlights the issue of negative attitude towards seat belts in India as well as issues of non-compliance of traffic laws in absence of threat of penal action



REASONS for NEGATIVE ATTITUDE

Attitude of an individual is a result of the individual's evaluation of the issue in light of his values.

General Perception regarding seatbelts:

- felt to be inconvenient
- people perceive roads to be safe, especially in cities where travel speed is comparatively

lower.

- To ~~value~~ fulfill value-expressive function of being BRAVE and ADVENTUROUS.

as shown in the facts that Alok is perceived as 'SO SCARED'.

→ Ego-Defensive function

They might have been made fun of by peers, because of which they developed a negative attitude towards wearing seat belts.

→ The actors in movies or other such stars have been depicted earlier to not wear seat belts or helmets as part of their 'coolness'.

Hence, all these factors, combined with lack of awareness regarding consequences of accidents and potential of loss of life is the reason for negative attitude towards wearing seat belts.

P.T.O.

MEASURES THAT CAN BE TAKEN

(i) Generating Awareness

Highlighting the fact that 15 deaths occur every day due to not wearing seat belts can influence the attitude of many people.

(ii) Role Models

Celebrities and important public personalities can change public perception regarding seat belts from Being scared to Being Responsible.

(iii) Positive Reinforcement

People wearing seat belts can be applauded in subtle ways like quotes on highways

(iv) Commitment and Consistency

People may be asked to take a public oath either periodically or at the time of approval of Drivers license.

(v) Developing a Habit

Some cars do not go beyond a certain speed or continuously alarm the driver if any occupant is not wearing seat-belts. This generates a habit of wearing seat belt.

(vi) Fear Appeal

Certainty of being caught and some associated penalty can also go a long way in changing attitude.

Also, publicizing events of loss of life due to seat belts (in a sensitive manner) can generate the mild fear.

(vii) Following the law because it's the law

Socializing the individuals to comply with law is another important manner.

All these can cumulatively address the issue of negative attitude towards seat belts.

5. The fact situation highlights the issues of increasing stray dogs in a locality; the welfare of such dogs versus their impact on the residents.



Among the residents, we see two different sets of attitude. One group is exceedingly sympathetic while the other is very hostile.

REASONS for different Attitudes

(a) Values and Morality

Environment friendly, nature respecting and animal loving values produce a sympathetic attitude.

Indifference to animals, anthropocentric development etc. as values produce a hostile attitude.

(b) Past physical injury due to dogs

If a dog had cut a person in the past, such person is likely to be hostile.

(c) Economic Interests

Tourism Industry and food ~~ing~~ industry can be negatively impacted by stray dogs and might turn hostile to their presence

(d) Nature of employment-

Guards etc. are responsible to prevent the entry of dogs into buildings. This might make them develop a negative attitude

All these cumulative factors can lead to people developing contrasting attitudes.

(THE PROBLEM and its RESPONSIBILITY)

The root cause of stray dogs attacking people is dog-human conflict which is caused due to:

P.T.O.

~~अनुसूचित~~

(A) INACTION OF MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES

- They need to provide spaces for welfare of dogs
- Conduct sterilisation drives to control their population -
- Relocate dogs in case of population explosion.
- Frame guidelines for handling of dogs.

All this will minimise avenues for dog-human conflict-

(B) Residents

Both dog-loving and those hostile to dogs are also responsible for the attacks as:

Dog-loving: Can incentivise dogs to return to crowded areas.

Those Hostile: Can cause dogs to retaliate on being attacked.

A systematic and organised approach to the problem led by municipal authorities is the most appropriate means to address the issue.

6. The facts depict a situation where unaddressed and unresolved feelings of Jealousy lead to damage in relationships.

INTERESTS, EMOTIONS & NEEDS

Prakash

- Professional Growth
- Acknowledgement for efforts and ensuing successes.
- He seems to consider himself senior in profession to Meena - so expects to stay senior in hierarchy

Meena

- Professional Growth
- Acknowledgement for efforts and ensuing success from Peers including

Prakash

- didn't imagine a GLASS CEILING and rightfully so. Glass ceiling is with respect to her relative position to Prakash.

The initial bothomie got transformed to estrangement due to emotion of Jealousy.

Jealousy is a negative emotion which generates feeling of anger, mistrust and lowering of self-esteem.

CAUSES OF JEALOUSY

Prakash developed such negative emotions possibly due to:

⇒ Lack of Goodwill towards Meena:

He was happy for Meena as long as her interests didn't conflict with his.

⇒ Selfishness

He couldn't celebrate success of Meena, and was rather angry for his saturation in career progression.

⇒ lack of EI

Prakash was unable to reason with his emotion of Jealousy and let it affect not only his relationship but also his job performance.

Meena also lacked a few qualities :

⇒ Despite Prakash giving indications of his grievance, Meena didnot try to address the issue

It shows lack of Empathy.

⇒ further, as head of department she should be aware of emotions of her team members and manage them effectively

(b)

As common friend. I would implore Prakash and Meena to reflect over the causes of this situation and their role in it.

My primary aim would be to get them to honestly talk to each other and provide them a conducive environment where they can reach a MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE way out of the situation.

Here, I would also advice them to :

- Forgive each other but not forget the event
- Work upon themselves
- Apologise to all those hurt in this scenario. ~~and~~

(c) To prevent such a distressing situation again, two factors become important:

1. Non feeling Jealous

Negative emotions like jealousy are due to some underlying weakness of character. Working upon such weakness and self-reformation can lower the occurrence of such negative emotions.

2. Addressing Jealousy or other negative emotions

An emotionally intelligent person can deal with such emotions through self-awareness and capacity to manage emotions. Our ancient literature prescribes such a man as 'Sthit Pragyanya'