GP Essay for week 2

1. ‘We are the product of our society”. To what extent do you agree?

2. To what extent is your society considered egalitarian?

3. ‘Achieving economic progress is the priority of the government.” Do you agree?

4. It is the responsibility of the government to take care of the people in the nation. Do you agree

3. ‘More so now than ever, we need to live a life of simplicity.’ Discuss.

Introduction

 As or world becomes more sophisticated and modernises, values and norms are changing that shaping life to be more complicated and difficulties. This makes many become entrapped in lives when they are succumbed to difficulties, complexities and complications. This draws out a need to develop a way on how we can live our lives in this increasingly complex world and it is proposed that we need to have a life of simplicity to handle this changes more now so than ever. Those who are optimistic would disagree with this view as they find that one must be forward looking in their approach to life while the less aggressive ones are reserved would see life must be simple. In view of these polarizing perspectives, this essay agrees with the view that a life of simplicity is needed more so now than ever.

Main Body

1. Opposing view

 Given the complex modern society, we cannot live a life of complexity as we need to simplicity in our lifestyle to adjust to the complicated and fast-paced of life

2. Rebuttal

 However, applying a philosophy of complexity of life may not be the correct attitude as there are other ways a person can overcome the challenges now so more than ever.

3. Supporting view 1

A simple lifestyle is good for the modern society as it helps one to overcome the allure of the vices which is one of the rising complicated challenges in modern lifestyle.

4. Supporting view 2

 A simple lifestyle is also helpful to fend up individuals against financial complexities and challenges in our modern society as the rising affluence makes many spend beyond their means.

5. Supporting view 3

When one is simple in their attitudes towards the increasingly confusing modern world, it would be easier for individuals live life in a positive and meaningful way.

 It is not easy for a person to live well, purposeful and correct in life, especially when the world has become more complex and complicated in this day and age. More now so than ever, a right mindset is needed and a life of simplicity is this mindset we need to apply as it offers an easy and direct way to handle difficulties that surface from modern culture.

**1. ‘We are the product of our society”. To what extent do you agree?**

Introduction

 When sociologists made the statement that ‘we are the product of our society’, it posits that we have become a member of the society who shares the values and behaviours of our society. In this development and cultivation, we inherit a set of values and behaviours that nurture this sense of belongings, attaching us to our community. However, such a view may not be true as our complexities and other modernised ways of development influence how individuals think and behave which may not be constructed by society, rather by the pursuit of individual freedom. Therefore, it is important to examine the validity of this statement by observing how we are influenced by the modern society to decide the extent of agreement to the proposition.

Main Body

1. Proposition 1

We are indeed the product of our society as we cannot deny the influence of cultural heritage which shape how we form our cultural acumen.

2. EOA 1

However, the influence of cultural heritage does not play such a pivotal impact on individuals as traditional cultures are losing their grips on our values and behaviours of individuals in modern society.

3. Proposition 2

Individuals are still unable to deny the influence of our society as our social protocols are greatly significant in our way of life, shaping who we are.

4. EOA 2

As the world becomes globalized, our social protocols are fused up by different social contexts of different societies which changes who we are.

5. Proposition 3

Politically, the structure and leadership of the political entity shapes our thinking and makes us uniquely the product of or society as the ideological indoctrination and regulation of the state would shape our order of life.

6. EOA 3

However, such a revolution is less applicable in this era where free will or individual rights are promoted as core values that shapes who we are, allowing us to choose who we want to be.

Conclusion:

In retrospect, the statement in this question contains a high degree of validity as it affirms the influence of society on who we are as our values are very entrenched in us in our cultural evolution. However, as society becomes more liberal and changes with higher degree of empower, our society loses the control as can choose the course of our life as what we deemed to be right or appropriate for us, denying the statement that we are product of our society.

**2. To what extent is your society considered egalitarian?**

An egalitarian society is an utopian society that strived by those who believes that all members of the society is of equal status. In this doctrine, it is generally characterized by the idea that humans are equal worth or moral status. However, to assess whether our society is considered egalitarian, we need to look beyond the moral or equal status and examine different aspects of Singaporean society to come to a view on how egalitarian is Singapore as a society.

Proposition 1

Politically, everyone in Singapore considered as equal as we live in a democracy where everyone is entitled to the same rights and entitlements, showing that we are an egalitarian society.

EOA 1

However, political status is not a good measure for equality as individuals are not often bestowed with the same treatments and benefits as one’s contributions and political status has affected their status.

Proposition 2

Another yardstick that explains why Singapore is an equal society is seen from how we strive for a society which provides equal opportunity for personal growth and development for every Singaporeans.

EOA 2

However, our meritocratic system is turning the other way as our society becomes too elitist, tipping away the equal social status which we try to promote.

EOA 3

Our society cannot be equal as the economic system has promoted wage differential that leads to unequal distribution of income and wealth.

Conclusion

In retrospect, the notion of egalitarian society is an utopian vision and it is realistically difficult to develop as our society is complicated and engrained with many complex values, doctrines and structure. However, there is still a need of a yardstick to follow as strive for the betterment of everyone in society where the status of equality is respected and manifested, overcoming the complexities we have constructed that impede the formation of an egalitarian society.