



ADVANCEMENTS IN INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH: A SOCIO-LEGAL PERSPECTIVE.

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ABSTRACT

Modern Spheres are continuously appearing as the outcome of the advancing edges of Interdisciplinary research but it is significant to reminisce that current interdisciplinary research often ends up as tomorrow's conventional branch of learning. This paper is an endeavor to pen down the reasons for encouraging the interdisciplinary research and the obstacles in its advancements. Further the author has pen down justifications for the socio-legal Interdisciplinary research and measures for enhancing the socio-legal interdisciplinary research are also ventured.

Key words:

Socio-legal interdisciplinary research,
Disciplines, Teamwork.

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INTRODUCTION

Interdisciplinary research requires involvement of academicians, students and researchers in the purpose of connecting and integrating several schools of thought, professions or technologies along with their specific perspectives in pursuit of a common task. It may be applied where the subject is felt to have been neglected or even misrepresented in the conventional disciplinary structure of research institutions. Interdisciplinary research concerns interaction between various disciplines. The researcher needs to avoid a fixed, alone and single disciplinary framework in order to perform a good interdisciplinary research. With the globalization, industrialization and modernization research in the social sciences has taken a new turn. Modern Methodologies have been developed in balancing problems from different angles resulting in more accuracy and scientific conclusions by technologically equipped researchers. Such methodologies and technologies have an impact on all disciplines which includes social sciences and Law as well. Socio –legal interdisciplinary research undertakes theoretical and empirical analyses of the nature of law and its relationship to society and the State in the context of a rapidly changing world. It analyses, both historical and contemporary, of the social, economic and political factors leading to the development of the law and legal process; Socio –legal interdisciplinary research examines Law in Courts and the law offices.

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Causes/ reasons for Interdisciplinary research

Following are the reasons for carrying out interdisciplinary researches

1. Interdisciplinary research splits the workload and exalts the success.
2. It extends our knowledge about some aspects of law.
3. It tests the appropriateness of existing theories and constructs new theories.
4. It develops new views and adds new dimensions to the conservative theories and principles.
5. It evaluates the effectiveness of policies useful in solving everyday problems and issues.
6. This research makes it more result oriented and valuable.
7. It pursues gathering of information for answering questions relating to socio-legal aspects.

Justifications for Socio-Legal interdisciplinary research: (SLIR)

1. Encourages teamwork which is more authentic for practical purpose.
2. Assists in smooth conduction of survey research which involves administration of questionnaires or conduction of interviews of large group of people. For a single researcher it's very cumbersome to collect all data and look into the problem from so many angles. For better results two or more researchers play more effective role.
3. Assists Legal research scholars to conduct empirical research on social issues to take help of sociologist,

psychologist, medical practitioners for making effective questionnaire for more appropriate outcome from all angles. e.g. Impact of COVID 19 on Human Rights.

4. Socio legal research is cost effective as two or more researchers in a team can always share the burden of the project and encourage in the smooth conduction of research.
5. It involves diversity in research work as not only legal but also social and economical sides of the problems from all angles are covered.
6. Teamwork aids in time management and overall administration of the research work. Division of work and responsibilities are equal. It involves overall development of the researchers as they become confident and take accurate decisions.
7. Team work leads to progress of all the researchers and society whereas individual work is only solo progression.

Obstacles

1. Disciplines and disciplinary attitudes (attitudinal barriers) of the research scholars in a socio-legal interdisciplinary research trap them in failures.
2. Lack of commitment to socio-legal interdisciplinary research makes the research futile.
3. Lack of funds leads to pinning the ideas in buds as many a times researchers lack in collecting funds from government or private sectors or fail to find sponsors.
4. Research scholars are not given sufficient autonomy which leads to loss of interest and failure of project.
5. Lack of communications and interactions amongst research scholars end up the progress of research.
6. Lack of leadership qualities and coordination amongst researchers obstructs the progress of the research.

Measures

1. Research scholars and students involved in interdisciplinary socio-legal researches must be equipped with effective guidance and training in disentangling the tussles and accomplishing a lucid perspective of the subject.
2. In order to render reasoned decisions in India, experienced citizens, academicians, leaders, Jurist persons (retired as well) equipped or trained in evaluating, analyzing and amalgamating information from different sources must be deployed in socio-legal interdisciplinary researches.
3. Ethical thinking must be considered to deal with pertinent ethical issues which may arise in socio-legal researches.
4. Emphasis should be more on training research scholars, academicians and students on analyzing qualitative and quantitative data.
5. Researchers should be equipped with excellent conduction of semi structured and unstructured interview techniques.

CONCLUSION

Socio-legal interdisciplinary research lays the way for extensive social reforms which widens the knowledge and outlook of executives, legislators and judiciary. Legal

problems are connected with social, economic, political and psychological issues so the legal researchers/students and teachers must undertake and arm themselves with interdisciplinary research. The students, researchers and academicians should master themselves in empirical research first before embarking into socio-legal interdisciplinary research.

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