

Role of Faith in Positive Social Behavior Change.?

Our world today plagued by a series of shocks and stresses that have significantly eroded hard-earned gains in the Sustainable Development Goals. From acute global health emergencies, staggering number of refugees and internally displaced people, spiraling food insecurity, and conflict and violence, to increasingly visible effects of the planetary crisis – these shocks and stresses are drastically adversely impacting lives and well-being of all.

Religious leaders and their institutions occupy a strategic and important platform that, when meaningfully engaged, contributes to outcomes that are tangible, sustainable and within reach of their communities. Their credibility, trust and knowledge of local dynamics is a key asset to interventions that are necessary for the well-being of the people and the planet. Religious leaders are present, responsive, and actively engaged in family and community life, behavior and cultures and are therefore key agents of change in transforming attitudes and norms for positive outcomes.

Faith plays an important role in positive social behavior change. It gives people a sense of purpose, a moral compass, compassion, hope, resilience, forgiveness, and positive role models. These components promote selflessness, advocacy, and acts of solidarity, kindness among individuals, all of which contribute to positive social change in the long term.