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Pure Drinking Water as the Foundation of Public Health and Social Stability: A Sociological Perspective

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Abstract

Access to clean water is a matter of human survival, population health and social stability. As well as its vital biological importance, water is also a key social determinant of health that influences trends in disease, inequity and societal development. It is a work of sociology about pure drinking water as the foundation for both personal health and social order in aggregate. This research is rooted in sociological theory as well as public health and institutional literature, including World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF reports that highlight the unequal access to safe drinking water both as a product of structural inequality and also a motor for such inequalities. We use various theoretical concepts —political ecology, biopolitical model, integrated social determinants of health framework etc. A particular emphasis is put on the Indian context where there exists an imbalance in the rural and urban people which stresses on where infrastructure and governance meets social stratification. It has been demonstrated that though the provision of clean drinking water is not a technical or environmental issue alone, it is very sociological one too which have impacts on human dignity social stability and even developmental outcomes. Therefore, it is imperative not only to increase the healthy living standards of people but also to address social justice and sustainable development in society by ensuring equitable access to safe drinking water.

Keywords: *Pure drinking water; Social determinants of health; Structural inequality; Water access and social stability; Political ecology.*

Introduction

Water is one of the most essential and multi-useful resources, as it covers a primary biological necessity. Access to clean drinking water is not just a survival requirement physically, but also vital for the maintenance of health and prevention of disease; social stability, functioning society. Despite being an essential resource, access to safe and clean drinking water is heavily unjust across and between societies as well as a broader issue of social injustice/economic inequality/institutional capacity. The sociological understanding of water is that it is not a natural resource, but rather a socially mediated necessity, as constructed by governance systems, infrastructure and power. Today, unsafe drinking water continues to be a large threat to human health in low and middle-income countries. International health organizations have stated that polluted water is a leading cause of cholera, dysentery and typhoid, among other diseases that typically slay the weak—children, the poor and marginalized communities. These health outcomes result not only from environmental conditions but also the social structures that determine who has access to safe water and who does not. Thus, the question of water accessibility constitutes one important intersection of natural resources and social equity.

From a social perspective, clean drinking water can be considered as a social determinants of health. The concept of the social determinants underscores that biology is not the sole arbiter of health outcomes, but rather, health is shaped by social and environmental conditions as well as socio-economic processes. Water is one of the fundamental needs and has a central role in this set-up. The communities which do not have access to safe drinking water cannot enjoy the benefits of good life, high productivity, and disease rates are high. These are not restricted to the personal level of suffering, but are also manifested in the wider social stability and developmental trends [1].

The unequal spread of pure drinking water is also a manifestation of structural inequalities that form part of the societal systems. The disparity in income, geographical location, social status, and political representation affects the access as well as the quality of water infrastructure. The rural communities, the informal settlements, and the economically disadvantaged people are often deprived of access to safe drinking water, and most people who are more privileged and politically active have access to sanitary water supply. These inequalities reveal the impact of social structures on the access to basic resources and show how inequality is reinforced by infrastructural and institutional frameworks.

The problem of the accessibility of pure drinking water is the most important in the Indian context because of the great number of population, the diversity of geography, and the level of the advancement in India. Although there has been significant gains in enhancing access to water via the government program, there are still inequalities in access between rural and urban regions and within various social-economic classes [2]. These differences prove that access to clean water is dependent not only on the technology available, but more importantly on good governance, policy implementation and social organization. This essay is a sociological overview of pure drinking water being the basis of societal health and social order. It investigates how social structures, institutional arrangements and power relations impact access to safe drinking water [3]. Through the integration of both sociological and public health theories, the paper will argue that access to safe drinking water is not just an environmental or technical issue but a deep societal one as well. Understanding access to water from a sociological point of view is part of the solution to reducing health inequalities and social justice, and sustainable development of society.

Theoretical Framework

When looking at pure drinking water, one needs to move from only a biology or environment perspective to a sociology perspective placing water and access in the context of larger structures, power systems and inequalities. Important methods of analysis of the impact of institutional structure, economic drivers, and political power on access to water by sociological theory. This section will be based on four theoretical views as follows: the social determinants of health framework, structural inequality theory, political ecology, and the notion of biopolitics.

Social Determinants of Health

The social determinants of health model highlights that the biological or personal behavioral factors do not define the health outcomes but rather social, economic, and environmental conditions significantly affect the health outcomes. Based on this view, conditions like housing, education, income, sanitation, and access to clean drinking water are central in determining trends in health and disease among populations. Pure drinking water is consequently a determinant of health in its own right since it has direct influence on exposure to pathogens, hygiene and general physiological functioning. According to the sociological perspective, these determinants are not randomly or naturally distributed. On the contrary, it is a mirror image of social organization and institutional priorities. The poor or less influential communities tend to have poor water infrastructure thus become more exposed to water-borne diseases and also have poorer health outcomes. On the other hand, more economically and politically powerful populations have access to secure and safe water systems. In this way, water access can be considered one of the primary ways in which social inequalities are converted into health inequalities [4].

Structural Inequality Theory

The structural inequality theory offers an approach to explain how the social systems create and reproduce unequal access to resources, such as water. The problem of inequality is integrated into economic order, governance and spatial organization which result in constant inequality between various social classes. Availability of pure drinking water is influenced by social economic status, geographical location and political representation. Infrastructure, such as water supply systems, can be indicative of more general trends of economic investment and political decision making. The urban centers and wealthy communities are usually given more infrastructural investment and neglected countries and marginalized groups are given less or no infrastructural services. These trends indicate that access to water does not merely depend on natural availability but the social priorities and institutional choices. The structural inequality theory emphasizes how inequalities in water access are reproducing larger social inequalities to support the cycles of poverty, illness, and social exclusion.

Political Ecology of Water

Political ecology is a critical approach to the association between power and environmental resources. This strategy underlines the idea that the access to natural resources, such as water, is influenced by political, economic and institutional processes, and not only by pure ecological processes. The decisions of governance, policies of resource management, and economic priorities often lead to water scarcity and unequal access.

Political ecology questions the presumption that water scarcity is a purely natural occurrence. Rather, it focuses on the fact that scarcity and uneven allocation is often created by society. Water infrastructure decisions, allocation and management are all based on power relations in society. Governments, corporations, and institutions are at the forefront in deciding on the distribution of water resources and those who should access them. This point of view emphasizes that governance and institutional accountability are essential in achieving equitable access to clean drinking water [5].

Power and Politics in Biology

Sociologist Michel Foucault came up with the concept of biopolitics which further illuminates the sociological importance of water access. Biopolitics are the forms of how the contemporary states control and govern populations by managing the resources and conditions of life. Availability of clean drinking water is one of the major aspects of this form of governance since it directly influences population health, productivity and survival.

States control the biological conditions of their populations through the creation of water infrastructure, sanitation systems, and policies governing the health of the population. This is because providing safe drinking water helps to maintain a healthy workforce, decrease disease transmission, and help the economy remain productive.

On the other hand, lack of proper provision of water infrastructure leads to health hazards and social unrest amongst the population. In this sense, the infrastructure of water is not only a service to the population but also a system of government and social control [6].

Integrating Sociological Perspectives

A combination of these theoretical views proves that social structures, institutional systems, and the relations of power affect access to pure drinking water. Water is not just a natural resource, but a socially mediated need, enshrined within systems of inequality, governance and development. The access to water can be understood in these sociological terms and this will enable a deeper examination of the influence of water on the formation of health outcomes, social stability and societal development. It is based on this theoretical foundation that water can be explored as a key determinant of social organization and health of the population.

Water as a Social Determinant of Health

One of the most basic determinants of human health, access to pure drinking water has an impact on the well-being of individuals and the health outcomes of a population on a large scale. In the context of the social determinants of health, water takes one of the main places since it has a direct impact on physiological processes, disease prevention, hygiene and the quality of life in general. Drinking water is an important factor in explaining health disparity and health outcomes in a society because the availability, quality and accessibility of drinking water determine the trends of health and disease within societies.

Safe drinking water is also important in averting the spread of waterborne diseases which are a major health issue of concern to the population in most regions of the world. Polluted water is a carrier of disease-causing pathogens like cholera, dysentery, typhoid and hepatitis A. The diseases also impact unevenly between populations with access to safe and reliable water sources. The disease burden is not evenly spread but rather skewed towards the economically disadvantaged and marginalized groups and thus the relationship between social inequality and health vulnerability. Therefore, the direct relationship between the availability of pure drinking water and the elimination of disease prevalence, longer life expectancy, and population health is observed [7]. In addition to the prevention of diseases, safe drinking water is helpful in facilitating basic hygiene habits, which are necessary in keeping healthy. Handwashing, food preparation, and sanitation also demand water and help avoid infections and keep the human body healthy. Access to clean water is limited and this limits these practices, which puts more people at risk of being sick and compromises the health initiatives of the people. Poor water supply, also impacts nutritional outcomes because dirty water may hinder digestion, lead to gastrointestinal illnesses, and reduce the effectiveness of the body to absorb nutrients [8].

This is a vicious circle where lack of access to water leads to poor health, which subsequently affects the ability of an individual to work, learn and contribute effectively in the society.

The pureness of drinking water in social frameworks implies higher-level perspectives on the overall direction of a community as well as more bottom-up interpretation of resource allocation. Communities which are well established with good systems in place and governance, again, are going to be more likely to have a system in place where they continually have access to clean drinking water leading to better health outcomes for the populace. On the other hand, when proper infrastructure is not in place, normally communities implement water sources or an unsafe and unreliable one and puts the community on a risk of illness continuously. Apparently, this difference indicates that it is not individual behaviors with access to the necessary resources that result in health outcomes, but rather structural conditions, which systematically aim for predetermined outcomes [9]. The situation with pure drinking water in India is that it has been getting better over the past years with governmental efforts to increase water infrastructure in the country. Other programs like the Jal Jeevan Mission have attempted to avail safe drinking water to the rural homes by enhancing piped water supply systems. But yet there are still inequalities between the rural and urban regions, and the various socioeconomic classes. Challenges associated with water quality, availability and infrastructure reliability are usually experienced in rural communities, especially. These inequalities demonstrate the impact of geographic location, economic resources, and institutional capacity on safe drinking water access and, therefore, health outcomes [10]. The availability of pure drinking water also has extended social productivity and economic stability consequences. Healthy populations will be more able to engage in education, employment, and social life, which will lead to the development of the society in general. On the other hand, poor health due to inaccessibility of safe water decreases productivity, escalates health expenditure, and burden families and communities. These are not isolated impacts on the health of individuals, but the economic performance and social stability of society. Therefore, access to clean drinking water should not be perceived as a mere need but as a social determinant that defines the health, social involvement, and social activities. It is thus necessary to ensure fair access to safe drinking water to enhance the wellbeing of the populace, minimize inequality and enhance sustainable social development [11].

Structural Inequality and Water Access

Even the distribution of access to pure drinking water is not evenly distributed among people, but rather organized in larger systems of social, economic, and political inequalities. Structural inequality is defined as the enduring and institutionalized differences in the access of resources, opportunities and services based on socioeconomic status, geographic location, and social power.

Access to water as a basic need indicates these inequalities and is an important indicator of more general trends of social stratification. Economic disparity is one of the main aspects of structural inequality of water access. The more financially endowed communities are likely to enjoy the more reliable and safe water infrastructure such as piped water, filtration systems, and controlled supply systems. Conversely, vulnerable populations, due to their economic status, tend to use unsafe or unreliable water supplies, like untreated groundwater, surface water, or informal supply networks. Such conditions expose one to contaminants and heightens the chances of being infected by waterborne diseases. The imbalanced nature of water infrastructure is indicative of larger economic inequalities, which proves the effects of affluence on access to life-supporting resources [12].

Geographic disparity can also contribute to the accessibility of pure drinking water to a considerable degree. Lack of infrastructure development in rural areas is common as opposed to urban areas. This gap is usually due to historical trends of investment, population density factors, and administration priorities. The urban areas, especially those with economic potential, will be a focus of more infrastructural support because of their economic significance and political presence [13]. On the other hand, rural and remote areas might have poor or slow development of infrastructure which leads to poor access to safe drinking water. This geographic disparity shows the impact on the spatial location on the distribution of resources and accessibility to the services of the population. Besides economic and geographic, social stratification also affects water access based on the political representation and institutional responsiveness. More politically influential and better-connected communities are much more likely to receive government support for infrastructure and services. Neglect or slow service delivery may target marginalised groups, such as factions with limited political leverage or social standing. The chart illustrates that water is not just a material issue, but also one of social power and institutional priorities.

Urban and rural groups as well as across a host of social economic groups, the structural inequities in water access within the Indian scenario show. In contrast, city centers have a better-equipped water supply infrastructure and in rural settings it is the population that has access to easily-contaminated groundwater reserves that fluctuate with the seasons. Moreover, despite being located in urban settings, informal settlements and economically disadvantaged urban populations may face sporadic or non-stable provision of water. These inequalities for your situation as structural inequality working on geographic and socio-economic scales.

Similarly, structural water access inequality works towards perpetuating deeper inequalities within the social system. Lack of access to clean drinking water has negative health, productivity and education outcomes reducing the possibilities for upward social mobility.

When people and communities experience limited access to water, it translates into high expenses on medical care, fewer working conditions and compromised quality of life. The effects of water access inequality reinforce existing disadvantage patterns and create more broadly entrenched social inequalities [14]. From a sociological point of view these differences indicate that the availability pure drinking water is determined by factors other than purely natural factors, namely institutional patterns and social organization. The investments in water infrastructure demonstrate the priorities of society, reflect investment trends and how effective governments are. However, this will also require substantial structural and institutional changes to allow for a more equal distribution of resources. Water inequality cannot be solved through technical solutions only. The concept of water access as a structural inequality dimension would make it a crucial matter of societal health and a social justice concern. The need to promote equitable access to safe drinking water is vital in reducing health disparities, enhancing social outcomes, and fostering more equitable and stable society.

Water, Development, and Social Stability

A basic need to the development of society and preservation of the social balance is access to pure drinking water. In addition to the direct effect on personal health, access to clean drinking water shapes economic performance, education levels, population stability, and institutional performance. Water can sociologically be viewed as one of the major infrastructural resources that sustain the operations and existence of social systems. It is in societies that have a consistent and good access to safe drinking water that human development thrives whereas where access is always poor, the societies are always beset by health crises, economic restraints and social instability [15].

Among the greatest effects access to pure drinking water has on development is the effects on human productivity. The healthy people are in a better position to engage in economic activities, education and social life. With access to safe drinking water, the rate of waterborne diseases reduces, saving absenteeism to work and school. This increases productivity of labour, boosts economic growth and increases the efficiency of the whole society. On the other hand, inadequate access to potable drinking water leads to ill health conditions, a decrease in workforce, and economic burden on families and healthcare. These impacts have shown that water infrastructure is not merely a public health investment, but a major element of economic growth. Safe drinking water also is a crucial factor in promoting educational attainment. When children are affected by waterborne diseases they are more prone to skip school, have compromised cognitive growth, and suffer educational setbacks in the long run. Children in a community that has access to clean water are also healthier and have higher chances of going to school, thus, leading to higher education achievement. Education, on the other hand, is a decisive factor of social mobility and economic progress.

Therefore, access to water indirectly helps to expand more general tendencies of social development because it allows the educational and intellectual development of the population [16]. Under the social stability, availability of pure drinking water helps in legitimacy and effectiveness of the governance systems. A government that offers basic amenities like clean drinking water, enhances trust among the people and instills institutional legitimacy. Solid water infrastructure is an indicator of state capacity and responsiveness, and it is part of social cohesion and stability. On the other hand, inefficient water supply may lead to dissatisfaction among the population, social instability, and mistrust in the institutions. Lack of access to necessary resources by populations can destroy trust in the governing systems and may lead to social tension and instability.

Water access is also a factor that determines migration and urbanization patterns. Population displacement may occur in communities that have a serious shortage of water or unsafe water supplies as people may move to seek better livelihoods. This movement is capable of increasing urbanization causing pressure on urban infrastructures and services. These dynamics portray the effect of water access on population demographics and the spatial structure of populations. When water access is balanced among regions, it can thus address forced migration and facilitate more balanced and sustainable developmental trends [17]. In India, the availability of clean drinking water has been identified as an important aspect of national development. The government programs like the Jal Jeevan Mission are focused on increasing the piped water supply to the rural families because it is being realized that water infrastructure is needed to enhance health, economic productivity, and rural development. These are initiatives aimed at correcting the imbalance in the provision of infrastructure in the past and enhancing the general social welfare. Nevertheless, there are still difficulties related to the maintenance of water quality, infrastructure, and fair distribution among the different parts of the country.

Sociologically, water infrastructure is a type of social investment which contributes to the stability and functioning of the society. Availability of clean drinking water allows people to stay healthy, engage in economic and social activities, and leads to the development of society. It also enhances institutional legitimacy and social cohesion as it illustrates the ability of governance systems to fulfil fundamental human needs [18]. Therefore, the right to clean drinking water should not only be perceived as a health need but also as a cornerstone of social progress and stability in society. In order to ensure economic growth, better educational attainment, better governance and social order, it is important to ensure equitable and reliable access to water.

Governance, Power, and Political Ecology of Water

Governance systems, institutional arrangements, and power relations have a profound influence on access to pure drinking water. In political ecological terms, water is not a natural resource, but a socially controlled and politically mediated resource. Its allocation, control and accessibility are decisions that are made by governments, institutions and other players, who have powers to allocate resources. Such choices dictate who can access clean drinking water and who will continue to be at risk of the lack and pollution. Water access therefore is directly connected to governance, political power and institutional effectiveness [19]. Governance is at the heart of the supply and quality of drinking water by creating and sustaining infrastructure, regulations, and public health policies. Good governance means construction of water supply systems, water quality monitoring, and fair distribution of resources. When there is effective governance systems the population will have a good access to safe drinking water hence enjoy better health conditions and are more stable socially. On the other hand, poor governance, institutional ineffectiveness, or absence of accountability may lead to poor infrastructure, water quality, and disparate access. Political ecology underlines that power relations in society influence resource distribution. Political priorities, economic interests and institutional capacity affect access to water. The more politically represented and socially influential communities have higher chances of being invested in water infrastructure and the marginalized populations might be neglected or delayed to receive the services. This dynamism depicts that access to water does not entirely rely on the availability of environmental factors but on political decision-making and social power. Inequality in the distribution of water is a manifestation of larger inequalities and priorities in governance [19].

Biopolitics as defined by Michel Foucault also sheds more light on the nature of the interaction between water and governance. Biopolitics is the manner, in which contemporary states control and govern the biological states of people. Access to clean drinking water is an important aspect of this governance since it has a direct impact on the population health, survival, and productivity. The availing of safe drinking water by the states adds unfairness to the accessibility of such a fundamental resource and compromises the health of the people, decreases economic efficiency and disrupts the cohesiveness of the society. In this regard, water infrastructure is a tool by which states can have responsibility and power over population well-being [12]. Water governance in the Indian scenario is associated with advancements and challenges. The Jal Jeevan Mission by the government is an initiative that is aimed at increasing access to safe drinking water, especially in the rural regions which have traditionally experienced infrastructural disregard. These programs speak of the state role in dealing with inequality and enhancing the health of the population by investing into infrastructures. Nevertheless, some of the challenges are connected to the maintenance of infrastructure, monitoring of water quality, and its fair distribution across the regions. The differences in administrative capacity, effectiveness of local governance, and the distribution of resources affect the results of such initiatives.

Another view, which is brought to the fore by political ecology, is the importance of environmental sustainability as a component of water governance.

The availability of safe drinking water in the long term may be endangered by overuse of groundwater, contamination of water sources and poor environmental control. These problems are commonly associated with economic activities, the rise of the industry as well as the population. Good governance should therefore strike a balance between economic growth and environmental sustainability so as to be able to provide safe drinking water to the current and future generations. The concept of governance and political ecology of water access shows that water is not merely a natural phenomenon but a social construct and the decision of institutions. It is imperative that in the quest to safeguard fair access of pure drinking water, there must be good governance, accountability of institutions and policies that consider the health and social welfare of the people. Water being a life-sustaining resource takes a key center stage in the definition of the connection between governance, power and stability of the society [13].

Discussion

Sociological analysis shown in the paper has revealed that the availability of clean drinking water goes much beyond its biological need, and serves as a cornerstone of the social stability, health and development in the society. In placing water within the context of social determinants of health, structural inequality, political ecology and biopolitics, it can be seen that water access is firmly integrated into social structures, systems of governance and power. All these theoretical approaches help us to see that the problem of pure drinking water access is not only an environmental or technical problem, but rather a sociological problem, which indicates and represents the more general patterns of inequality and social organization [7]. Among the primary lessons of this analysis is the fact that the access to water is an important mechanism by which health inequalities are created and reproduced. The communities that do not have access to safe drinking water become more exposed to illness, their physical health is worse, and they are less able to engage in economic and social activities. Such health inequalities are not due to chance but go hand in hand with structural factors like poverty, geographic marginalization and poor infrastructure. This supports the thesis that to enhance population health, the social determinants, including equitable access to basic resources, such as safe drinking water, need to be improved [12].

Another aspect of structural inequality that is emphasized by the analysis is its influence on water access patterns. The allocation of water infrastructure and services is affected by economic differences, geographic location, and social power. Higher economic and political power means that more populations can enjoy access to good water systems, whereas marginalized populations tend to lack access to water or experience poor-quality or dangerous water supply. Such inequalities indicate that infrastructure development is indicative of further trends of social inequality and institutional priorities.

Access to water then becomes not only a manifestation of pre-existing inequality, but also a process that recreates inequality between generations. The political ecology approach also stresses that governance frameworks and institutional decision-making influence water access. Policies, resource management practices, and political priorities affect water distribution. Good governance is critical in the provision of fair access and poor or unequal governance may lead to imbalances and instability. This view contradicts the belief that water scarcity is a mere natural process, but rather emphasizes the contribution of human organizations and political power in the process of resource allocation. [14].

Biopolitics can further explain the connection between water access and the state responsibility. States help in regulating and protecting population health by providing access to safe drinking water. Water infrastructure is a type of social investment that contributes to economic productivity, lessens disease burden, and increases stability in society. On the other hand, poor water supply will be an indicator of lack of governance capacity and its inability to sustain social cohesion and trust in institutions. The national initiatives in India to enhance access to pure drinking water show that there is awareness of the role that water infrastructure plays in the health and development of the people. Nevertheless, the existence of unrelenting differences between the rural and urban regions, along with disparities between various groups of the population, demonstrate the constant struggle relating to the attainment of equal access. Such inequalities underscore the need to invest more, govern properly, and make institutions responsible in curbing structural inequalities in water access [15]. This discussion highlights the fact that the provision of access to clean drinking water should be the priority to not only enhance health outcomes but social justice, economic growth, and institutional legitimacy. The right to water is inherently connected to human dignity and the possibility of individuals to be involved in the social and economic life to the fullest extent. To manage water inequality, an all-inclusive solution must include both infrastructural development and good governance as well as social policy interventions. Finally, the sociological perspective of pure drinking water shows that it is the key to defining human health and the functioning of society. Safe drinking water should be provided with equity and not simply a technical issue, but an important aspect of constructing healthy, stable and equitable societies [19].

Conclusion

Pure drinking water is a key requirement to human health, social stability, and societal growth. As shown in the present paper, safe drinking water is not just a biological need but a profoundly sociological resource, which is defined by social structures, institutional organization, and power relations. Through the application of the sociological concepts including the social determinants of health, structural inequality theory, political ecology and biopolitics,

the analysis has illustrated that the access to pure drinking water has more expansive patterns of inequality, governance capacity, and social organization. The results underline the fact that access to clean drinking water is critical in determining health outcomes because it decreases the exposure to disease, promotes hygiene practices, and enhances health in general. Societies that have good supply of clean water have reduced disease rates, high productivity and quality of life. Conversely, there are consequently higher health risks, economic and social vulnerability among populations that do not have such access. These inequalities reflect the ways in which water access is both a means by which social inequality is replicated and manifested. Structural inequality has also been noted in the paper in relation to affecting water access. The availability and quality of water infrastructure are based on economic differences, geographical location, and institutional priorities. The disadvantaged populations tend to have a poor access to clean drinking water, which is further supporting the social and economic deprivation trends. To solve these inequalities, it is necessary not only to implement technological solutions but also structural interventions to encourage equal distribution of resources. In the sense of governance and political ecology, policy choices, institutional performance, and political interests influence the access to pure drinking water. Governments are playing a key part in making water accessible by developing infrastructures, regulating and promoting health among the population. Better governance contributes to a better public health, social stability and institutions legitimacy; while poor governance can aggravate inequity and undermine social cohesion. In the case of India, increasing access to safe drinking water is a reflection of having recognized its importance for national development and overall welfare. Water infrastructure improvement programmes indicate progress in bridging some gaps but different continents face challenges related to availability of equitable and sustainable water supply. What is needed to achieve drinking water for everyone — in addition to investment, of course — is solid enforcement and holding institutions accountable. Lastly, the right of access to safe drinking water must be regarded as part of a healthy and stable environment. Equitable access to this key resource plays a vital role in improving population health, reducing social inequities and fostering sustainable development. Water as a parameter of sociology is not simply a natural as social concern clarifying and commanding the surrounding human condition. It is therefore imperative for social justice, empowerment of governance and the long-term well-being of societies to resolve inequalities in access to water.

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