

Role of Teacher in Inculcating Values Among Students

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Abstract

Values should be integrated in numerous facets of life. Values go a long way in edifice a person's charisma. Education without strong character is like a ship without a captain. Good education is incredible if it fails to inculcate values which are necessary for a holistic life. Experiences and skills are vital in the accomplishment of an individual but without values he is imperfect as a person. Value is such a code of conduct or the integration of virtue following which, man develops his disposition and spirals up being influential and reliable in society. Values are supervisory principles or ethics of Behaviour which are observed needed, important and held in high esteem by a specific society in which a person exists. Values are important for carrying required changes in an individual. The national policy on education (1986) calls for an emphasis on development of science and technology and the "cultivation of personal and social values" so that "the educational system produces young men and women of character and ability committed to national services".

Keywords: values, values education, teachers, educational system

Introduction

Human beings are a social animal who needs to endure in society and values help them to grow in society. Human values are the kindness that one individual preserves in awareness while interacting with the other one which includes reverence, affection, gratitude, love and many other things towards another person. Schools are one of the significant places where students spend their major time and acquire most of the things from there whether it is through the curriculum, teachers or friends.

Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, our honorable president in his book "India 2020: A Vision of the New Millennium" has rightly remarked that "If you are a teacher in whatever capacity, you have a very special role to play because more than anybody else it is you who are shaping the future generation. A teacher has a higher responsibility as compared to other professionals as students look upon the teacher as an embodiment of perfection. Education has become a business today. This has changed the outlook of the students as well as the parents and it has further resulted in deterioration of respect for teachers and all those who are a part and parcel of education system.

Gautama Buddha has rightly preached “Desire is the root cause of Evil”. Students are told not to fulfil their desires by improper ways, by adhering to immoral activities. The present paper is an attempt to state the importance of value education in the present education system so that the future generations will nourish high ideals and values to contribute in the development of the society and the role of a teacher in imparting values.

Transmission of human values is to be made feasible by the essential role played by the teacher in the ground. Teacher is the exact person to develop consciousness and compassion of duties and values amongst the children. A teacher must succeed in assigning the larger ideals of service to the community, virtues of tolerance and respect for all beliefs, the importance of character and the value of our heritage and culture. An efficient teacher aims at enlightening the minds and illumining the hearts of individual. Holistic development of a student is incomplete if moral values are not paved as a foundation of education.

What Is Value?

The value means to prize, to esteem, to appraise, to estimate. It is an act of appreciating something, holding it dear and also the act of passing verdict upon the nature and number of values as compared with something else (Dewey, 1948). Dictionary of Education (1959) explains value as, “the things in which people are interested- things they want, to desire to be or become; feel obligatory, worship or enjoy. Values are the forces that govern behavior at the core of the personality. Behavioral temperaments of the individual are ruled by value-orientations, attitudinal dispositions, and belief systems with specific reference and relevance to broader social context of the individual.” A value orientation is important for the preparation of a good future for mankind. It is a matter of experience that mankind reacts to human behavior sometimes with approval and sometimes with disapproval. Not only the individual but society makes judgments on various kinds of human behavior.

Imparting value education and reforming the society were the only aims and objectives of the teachers of ancient age. But in the present scenario, due to manifold changes in various aspects of our civilization such as population explosion, advancement in science and technology, knowledge expansion, rapid industrialization, urbanization, mobilization, IT revolution, liberalization, privatization & globalization as well as the influence of western culture, present society has become highly dynamic. Growing global poverty, pollution, hunger, disease, unemployment, unsociability, caste system, child labor, gender inequality, ill-treatment of women, violence, disability, exploitation of natural resources and many such evils have caused

value- crisis on the globe, adversely affecting the core human values such as honesty, sincerity, morality and humanity. To overcome the problems of the present era, inculcation of values among individuals and promotion of values in educational system, as well as society, is highly essential.

The need of values as follows:

- To guide the human beings in the right path, to inculcate the concept of Universal Brotherhood and to achieve the absolute values of Truth, Goodness and Beauty.
- To give direction and firmness to life and bring joy, satisfaction and peace of life to preserve our culture and heritage and to develop morality and character
- To bring the behavioral changes towards positivism
- To promote the peace and harmony in the individuals and society
- To bring quality of life and sustainable development in the society.

Above all, the most important need is to inculcate the core values such as truth, righteousness, peace, love and nonviolence among the people to make them good human beings in true sense. Education should foster universal and eternal values, and be oriented towards the unity and integration of our people. It is therefore, essential to explore and identify the concrete devices for the incorporation of values in education.

Importance of Value Education

In the current times, Teachers concentrate on imparting technical education to their students so that the increasing needs of the information technology (IT) industry are met with the students. Success is perceived in terms of equipping students with scientific and technical knowledge rather than in developing human beings who possess a sound understanding of good human values. Education is not just about learning skills (how to) but also about the ability to decide on what (what to do?) and why (why to do?). It should lead to the development of critical ability in students towards distinguishing between essence and form, or between what is of value and what is superficial in life. It should develop their understanding which is a pre-requisite for a movement from a rule-based society to a relationship-based society. Developing the right understanding about oneself and the rest of reality through self-exploration and realization of the inherent co- existence, harmony and self-regulation at various levels of existence is seen to be the real basis of imbibing universal human values and ethical human conduct. This is what will affect transformation towards a holistic worldview (human consciousness) which happens to be the prime purpose of value education.

Values are a set of desirable behavior which is good for the individual and also the society. Values are not taught, lectured about or professed; they are only demonstrated. The parents and teachers make maximum impact on the personality of an individual in the formative years of life which remains all through the life.

In order to train students on importance of good human values, educational institutions such as school, colleges and universities need good teachers and mentors who can serve as role models. Training of teachers is an extremely important pre-requisite for implementation of any value education program in any institution. Just as for a course on engineering design, it is important that the teacher himself should be a good designer, it is even more important that a teacher involved in value education is himself a value driven person. Teachers of value education have necessarily to be role models for their students.

Value Education: Need of The Hour

Values are standards or principles considered important in life. They come from within and also by practicing. They are the foundation of human existence. Without the knowledge of values society cannot sustain. Values tell a man to differentiate between good and bad, what one should do and what one should abstain from. They make our life meaningful. Due to dearth of values in the present generation the curriculum must give prominence to value education. Value education has never been out of style. It is very relevant in almost all the fields concerning human activity. Dr. Gururaj Karajagi, Academic Director of Jain International Residential School, Bangalore states the dichotomy staring at us in life. He says we have outstanding doctors who are in to organ robbery, brilliant engineers whose bridges collapses soon after their bills are passed, accountants who rob government treasury by manipulation, civil servants who rule as emperors, politicians with fake promises. All of them are best educated and trained but their intellectual dishonesty is horrifying.

Role of Teachers in Inculcating Values

In school, children are members of a small society that exerts a tremendous influence on their moral development. Teachers serve as role model to students in school; they play a major role in inculcating their ethical behavior. Peers at school diffuse boldness about cheating, lying, stealing, and consideration for others. Though there are rules and regulations, the educational institutions infuse the value education to the children in an informal way. They play a major role in developing ethical behavior in children. We should visualize education as a whole, having to do directly with all disciplines. Being a teacher involves being so many things at the

same time that it might amuse you...you become a second parent to those students, many times a social worker, a psychologist, a therapist, a simple listener. You are also a model for them to follow. It is in the teacher's compromise towards education to try to help those students to be the best they can be, and if that involves trying to teach them the morals of society, then that are what a good teacher does. In Puerto Rico, it is indispensable for teachers to teach moral values, we must dedicate at least 5-10 minutes of our 50-minute classes to the discussion and the teaching of moral values. There must be no religion involved: just the teaching and review of values like love, integrity, sharing, dedication, responsibility, self-esteem, truth, tolerance...and so on. It's our responsibility as teachers to lead students to success, to a good and healthy life, to a life where hate, defiance, challenge of authority and disrespectful actions are not the answers to our problem.

Dealing with values and moral issues is recognized as an integral part of teachers' roles. Especially in culturally heterogeneous societies teachers face multiple values that students and their families may hold. The study reported in this article explores different conceptions of teachers' moral roles aiming to develop an instrument for assessing teacher beliefs about those roles that could be used in teacher development. Paternalist, liberal and social-relativist conceptions of teachers' moral roles were operationalized using data collected in three focus groups with teachers from Bosnia & Herzegovina and Serbia discussing cases of school practices involving value-laden issues. Initial items for construction of a questionnaire for teachers were generated from teachers' utterances to ensure ecological validity. Implications for teacher development and future research are discussed.

A teacher can maintain values and nurture them. A teacher has an immense potential of bringing about a sea change in the society by demonstrating essential values of head and heart. Teacher can impart values in students by giving them instructions through discussion, experimentation and lectures and by the following mentioned ways:

- Teachers can maintain a case-study register to closely observe the students and note down the positive and negative traits of their personality.
- Teachers should also tell the students to maintain a spiritual diary in which they will surrender themselves to God and take an oath to follow the path shown by him.
- By organizing cultural and sports events values like team spirit, sharing, spirit of cooperation, patience, courtesy etc. can be imparted.
- National and religious festivals must be celebrated to foster a feeling of homogeneity.

- “Thought for the Day” should be employed in assemblies. Moral thoughts trigger in them moral thinking.
- Teachers should give importance to cooperative learning.
- Skits, role plays propagating moral values can be performed by students under the guidance of teacher.
- Teacher must tell the students to go to the libraries- the treasure house of knowledge. Classics available in the library are morally rich and inspiring.
- Teacher must explain the students the importance of meditation & yoga practices for realization or the attainment of oneness with God.
- Every day a teacher must spend at least 5 minutes on moral lecturing.
- Impart knowledge of foreign languages to make them know different cultures.
- Organize games, excursions, visits to places of historical importance. Club activities like nature club, literary club, wildlife prevention club, social service camps, blood donation etc.
- Suicidal tendencies in students should be curbed. They must be prepared by the teacher to face the challenges of life fearlessly and with courage.

Educational institutions can also inculcate value education through the following ways:

- Cleanliness Programme in the institution
- Community service programmes
- Social service programmes
- First-aid programmes
- Celebration of national days and festivals, dramas depicting values
- Student participation or self-government in institutions
- Silent meditation
- Observation of punctuality by all
- Equal treatment to all in the institutions
- Lecture or talks emphasizing on the unity of all religions, harmony and national integration.

The most important agent for building the character of the student is a teacher. Swami Vivekananda says that “character is nothing but a bundle of habits formed through repeated acts. It comes through “**Samskaras**” or past impressions. Character building can change the nation.

As strong foundation is required for a strong building, strong character is required for nation-building.

Conclusion

Thus, Teachers perform a significant character in the nation building by character building of the students. The greatest and the extreme profession in the world is that of a teacher, because the future of a nation depends upon the type of teachers who shape the future generations. Every teacher plays the most important role in shaping the students as enlightened citizen.

Swami Vivekananda's words should not be forgotten by the teachers - "Arise, Awake and Stop not till the goal is achieved".

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