



Role of Different Educational Agencies in Value Based Education

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Introduction:

Values are the standards and codes of conduct, which are conditioned by one's cultural tenants, guided by conscience, according to which one is supposed to conduct himself and shape his life pattern by integrating his beliefs, ideas and attitudes with a view to realize the cherished ideals and aims of life. High values lead to fair and correct decisions and actions and ensure the welfare of all concerned, while low values carry out exactly the opposite. Values are essential for physical, intellectual, emotional, and spiritual dimensions of an individual. Value is the relationship between a person and environmental situations, which evoke an appreciative response in the individual. Values contribute to the welfare of the larger social unit such as family, the community and the nation of which the individual is member.

Today is the time when we are badly in need of Value Based Education and Teaching System which inculcates among the young students values that they need to imbibe and embalm within, because there found a crisis of values among all- somewhere little, somewhere huge!. Value is the major determinant of accepted behavior and guiding principle for interaction in all human societies (Olyai, 2005)¹. It is the extent to which a behavior conforms to the value system of the people that determines the acceptability of such behavior. Value based education is the prime need of today's world as it imparts social, moral, integrity, character, spirituality and many more. It builds the qualities of humility, strength and honesty in a person; so that, they can become better citizens of the country. People with high ethical values will never cheat others. Through values education, People are taught to co-operate with each other, they make their life happier; and work hard to make others happy. Value Based Education is the only means which can give the younger minds the right direction.

Different Educational Agencies and their role in Value Based Education:

The prime concern of education is to evolve the good, the true and the divine in man so as to establish a moral life in the world. It should essentially make a man pious, perfect and truthful. The

¹ Olyai, T. (2005): Principles of Excellence in Values Education. *Journal of value education*, 1(2), 106-111.

welfare of humanity lies neither in scientific or technological advancements nor in acquisition of material comforts. Rather the main function of education is to enrich the character. What we need today more than anything else is moral leadership founded on courage, intellectual integrity and a sense of values.

Since education is a powerful instrument of social change and human progress, it is also a powerful tool to cultivate values in an individual. Therefore all the educational institutes have greater responsibility to impart learning and cultivation of values through education.

Modern educators are also defining character and value education differently. Anderson (2000) stated that character is defined as moral excellence and firmness where integrity refers to a firm adherence to a code of moral values (Anderson, 2000)². Good character consists of the virtues where virtues are objectively good human qualities such as, wisdom, honesty, kindness, and self-discipline. Values education encourages intellectual growth in the child and supports his aspirations and good values. The various educational agencies that can impart values education, and can help to bring up a child harmoniously; and also to bring an all-round development of the individual can be broadly considered as:

- a) **Mother:** The mother is the primary role model for the child. By being gentle but firm, she can guide the child. Mothers play in the midst of various changes and challenges in bringing up a better generation equipped to face all the situations positively. Mothers' roles- in the society, family and in the lives of the children, is very much expanded. There is no one perfect way to be a good mother. As each moment and each situation is unique in itself, and also each child is different; and hence each mother has different challenges, different skills and abilities; but one thing is common above all i.e., the bond of mother and child is unique, what morale and values can teach none else can teach. Thus, the role of mother in today's scenario has become more complex, as today the role of mother includes career issues, responsibility for total home care, education of children, healthy life styles for family, and most importantly- instilling children the right ideals and values of life by being the positive role model for her children.

- b) **Family:** After mother alone, there comes the whole family as a major agency of socialization, which has great influence and bearing on value inculcations. It is the home which sets the pattern for the child's attitude towards anything and everything. It is the family which sets religious and cultural values together within the child and restricts him never to indulge in dishonest deeds. It is what the children learn at home that they practice later on also it helps the children to develop the sense of discrimination between rights and wrong so that they would be able develop their own value judgement.

² Anderson, D. R. (2000): Character education: Who is responsible?;- Journal of Instructional Psychology, 27 (3), p.139.

- c) **Society:** Society inculcates values through its various bodies and tools. Next to family, it is the society that teaches children about social values. It is the society through which young children start getting social acceptance from friends. The society also provides a place for social disapproval for anti-social conduct. Morals, values, and ethics are strongly attached to society, spirituality and culture (United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization, 1991)³. The role of society is very important for the social and moral development of child. Individuals who get more opportunities to take up social roles and responsibilities are better equipped to take moral decisions in their life.
- d) **Teacher:** Teachers can guide and instruct properly so that young people acquire good habits of honesty, courage and fairness from parents, guardians or teachers who themselves should display such virtues. And teachers can explore the scope of formal educational opportunities to inform and exercise the reflection, slow and careful consideration, and evaluation; for building a superb character (Arthur & Carr, 2013)⁴. Good teachers are always needed in order to impart values education; we need teachers at all levels of education system, which can be effective in molding the minds of the students for understanding and practice of values. In order to intensify the establishment of an integrated education system, on the basis of peace, human rights and democracy, training of teachers in value education becomes essential. The personality of the teacher must be the embodiment of values. The teacher must possess qualities of head and heart. There is great need to infuse civic consciousness, patriotism and discipline among the students. In higher education the teacher is the central figure in whom the university sees its past glory and around him it builds its future dignity. A teacher must be constantly searching, researching, criticizing, and learning and making fit for teaching.
- e) **School:** School is a well-structured form of the complete society. In schools the education in its aims, curriculum and methods, all is linked with values. It is through school and education that society seeks to preserve and promote its cherished values. Whatever is learnt and imbibed will determine to how students will live out their lives in future. School and Educational institutions provide a structured environment where children learn values of cooperation, hard work etc.
- f) **History:** Small stories from epics and history and linked to the value inculcation, would generate interest amongst the young learners, and could familiarize them with the cultural evolution and

³ UNESCO (1991): Values and ethics and the science and technology curriculum. Bangkok, Thailand: Asia and the Pacific Programme of Educational Innovation for Development.

⁴ Arthur, J., & Carr, D. (2013): Character in learning for life: A virtue-ethical rationale for recent research on moral and values education, *Journal of Beliefs & Values*, 34 (1), p. 26-35.

heritage. This would also lead to understanding of the culture and heritage of different communities and gradually help in developing respect for religions, languages and culture practices which may be different from that being practiced and evolved in the learner's home surroundings.

- g) **Mythology:** Religious and ethical values engrained in the minds of children encourage them to obey the moral values, and also stimulates them to be a man of morality. Our mythology teaches us of excellent values education. We have not to go out anywhere to seek for ideals. We have everything to learn from our mythology. But what is needed is that they be not decorations on our walls; but should be a source of enlightenment within.
- h) **Environment:** Environment or surrounding (and the people all around us) has also a great impact on an individual. Environment is also a teacher- may be good one or a bad one! Environment also, teaches and inculcates certain set of values in an individual. The values learned through environment are long lasting, thus we should work to improvise our environment, which can motivate everyone to perform the morality in all situations of life. Education is intended to promote among citizens the awareness and understanding of our relationship to the environment and our surroundings; and, the concern and responsible action necessary to assure our survival and to improve the quality of life with a complete and wholesome set of values.
- i) **Self:** The learning of, and commitment to, values is part of each person's personal quest for meaning in his or her life.⁵ Every human being carries hidden within him the possibility of a greater consciousness which goes beyond the bounds of his present life and enables him to share in a higher and a vaster life. Indeed, in all exceptional beings, it is always this consciousness that governs their life. Hence, our 'self' is the most important agency in learning and adopting the value and morality in our lives.

Reasons of our moral failure: It is ironic reality today which illustrates the absence of values among almost everyone. Lack of tolerance, compassion, consideration of others, respect, and caring Lack of family structure, divorce, empathetic behavior, how kids are raised Declining religion and faith Lack of morals Dependence on the government, sense of entitlement Greed, selfishness and so forth. Another problem is the increasing dishonesty such as truancy, cheat, stealing. It is observed that there is a wide gap between our values and the reality we perceive around us, today.

⁵ Rodney F. Allen (1975): "But the Earth Abideth Forever: Values in Environmental Education., ETC", Wilfrid Laurier University Press, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, p.1

And it is even more astonishing is dishonest attitude is not only happening in the students. As a result of the depletion of personal, spiritual traditions in general cause bad effects; social issues and moral issues that is arising in today's scenario is doing a great destruction of our environment and our values. Thus, we should demonstrate a moral and ethical attitudes and not to become like those who are not being educated.

Lack of moral values- cause of all problems: Decline in moral values is the root cause of corruption⁶, and that is actually the reason for the downfall of moral values. Corruption in the human hearts lead to all problems, which is prevalent in today's time. And Values education is the remedy for this, as value education is an education which makes an individual a man of values. Implementation of values education is becoming very important as a moral crisis chronic happening all around the world. Through values education it is actually intended to achieve personal or group interests of the students, and we are failed because preventive measures are not considered properly. The reasons for the importance of moral education in schools there is poor moral education in schools make education produces sophisticated criminals in the future. Humans are moral worth. Education is educating life, life is not just a coincidence but there is meaning and purpose in it. There, the students learn not to just learn cognitive knowledge, but also how to implement of their knowledge to make their life meaningful, both in individually and in community. Today, there found a crucial lack of moral values all around the world, which is really a cause of all problems prevalent in present time. So without a good moral life whole life becomes meaningless or even be very negative. For what they are alive and exist in the world, if only become destroyers and destroyer of society, bringing disgrace to the family, the environment and the nation.

Conclusion: Today we're a witnessing to a continuous and steady deterioration of values in Moral Standards all over the world. We all try to inbuilt and inculcate the moral values in the learners at all levels, through all means; and in every moment & at all places! So, it wouldn't be correct to say that school, parents, teachers, society or anyone of it, discourages to implement value education in our lives. But, the irony is that we are failing in our practical aspects in implementing and adopting the values in our daily lives; like corruption- the child learns from every agency, not to be corrupt in any situation of life; but the child acquires the skills of becoming corrupt from the same environment, irony! The biggest reason of our failure of 'being a perfect model of humanity and morality', is our hypocrisy; hypocrisy of being good, but we are not actually the same in reality.

Environment and surrounding is a teacher and an examiner too; and so with the individuals, whatever he learns from environment, he transfers the very same to others. Every agency lays stress on any individual but it is often observed what environment teaches, impacts greatly (like nothing else) on the individual. But, apart of environment, only self can control the behavior, conduct, morality will

⁶ Ganesh Prabhu (March 24, 2016): Decline in moral values is the root cause of corruption-(Newspaper article) The Hindu.

condition the values that an individual possess. Because, no educational agency, (except the self and environment) will always be around the children, and in this point, the child will have to apply the moral *values* what has *inculcated* (through all educational agencies) in them in all the odds of life. And, also curriculum must be developed to make students more respectful, critical thinkers, problem solvers and visionaries. Hence, ethical, moral and religious values should be emphasized at all levels through all means for making the children a better human and the good citizens of the nation.

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