

Values in Education : Teachers' Perspective

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ABSTRACT

In the context of globalization and greater access to advanced technology teaching profession needs to be understood properly. Teaching has always been described as a "journey of the heart" (Bogue, 1992). From this perspective, even sometimes without realizing that they are teaching values, teachers are involved in value education and values are therefore interwoven in all aspects of teaching. The National policy on Education (1986) highlights the urgent need for value education on view of the growing erosion of essential values and increasing cynicism in society. With a well designed system of education, it is possible to make education a powerful tool for the cultivation of desirable ethical moral, spiritual and social values. The teacher is the key person who can inculcate all the required values in students.

Keywords: Basic values, value education,

Introduction

In the context of globalization and greater access to advanced technology teaching profession needs to be understood properly. Teaching has always been described as a 'journey of the heart' (Bogue, 1992). From this perspective even sometimes without realizing that they are teaching values, teachers are involved in value education and values are therefore interwoven in all aspects of teaching. Students are connected via web and due to globalization students are nowadays more accessible to greater communication students are nowadays more accessible to greater communication and advanced technology. Consequently there is deluge of informationnews, entertainment,opinions, advertisements etc. So teachers need to ask questions like how can they train the young minds to cope up with all these stimulations and how can the teachers make their students well equipped to cope up with all these devices. Here lies the question of value education.

Basic values

The world is rapidly changing, but there are some basic values which are not really different to those that were taught in bygone generations. So, the teachers need to teach those basic values which remain same over the years, only their applicability has been changed . These are-

- Students should learn to be respectful to others especially When they are using forums, social media or mobile devices, he/she should keep in mind that where they are posting. If it is a social media, they will have to handle it carefully and responsively so that it should not attack anybody's respect and peace.
- Students should learn to respect to non-discrimination where they must learn to recognize different cultures and ways of thinking. They should not possess any kind of prejudices which may block their ability to think.
- Teachers need to develop values like good citizenship, or rather good digital citizenship. Students must learn to avoid misuse of information and must learn to avoid disrespecting other's rights to peace and privacy.
- Another basic value is showing respect to environment, as environment is our third educator.(after family and school). Students must be encouraged to reduce screen time in time in order to enjoy and appreciate the knowledge and stimulations available to them in natural off line world. Students can learn a lot of aspects from on line world, but unless and until they are coming into contact with natural environment, they won't be able to instill those attributes in their personality. So learning from environment and showing respect to the environment is vital for the students.

Types of value

Values can be classified in several ways. According to plato there are three types of valuenamely Truth, Beauty and Goodness. Spranger says there are six kinds if values namely theoretical values, economic values, affective values, social values, political values and religious values. According to Everett, there are

eight types of values namely economic values, bodily values, recreation values, values of association, character values, aesthetic values, intellectual values and religious values. NCIRT lists 83 values in one of its documents on value education. These eighty-three values have been grouped under five major values namely truth, right conduct, peace, love and non-violence.

Quick Tips for Teachers to Teach Value Education

To teach those values, teachers have a central role to play in value education. There are some quick tips for the teachers which will help them to teach values.

These are:-

- **Lead by example** – It is the responsibility of the teachers to lead by example. Teachers are the role model for their students of caring personality, of fairness, of just, of intelligence, of dress and so on. Teachers should lead their students by his/her own example. For example-if the teachers want solidarity on the part of the students, he/she must be supportive. If the teachers want that their students must show respect to non discrimination, it is the responsibility of the teachers to be respectful to diversified students and to their diversified and varied needs.
- **Embrace challenging situations**- Teachers can create a challenging situation where the students will be confronted with a problem and they will be encouraged to come up with the solutions by examining and understanding different points of view and this is very important to develop a greater sense of maturity.
- **Use external resources**- apart from classroom lectures, discussions and readings, teachers can show their students any short films, documentaries where by the students will learn to explore new situations that may otherwise be impossible in the context of the class.

Apart from the above mentioned quick tips, there are some general techniques also which can be used for imparting value education. These are as follows :-

General Techniques

Values can be taught directly when certain behaviours are expected from the students. For example, teachers can come to the class and can say "stand straight", "work neatly", "do your homework carefully" etc. So, values are taught through certain frames of rules. Teacher can give example of real life heroes, their accomplishments and principles to make their students to be aware of their values and to show positive respect and admiration to them.

Story telling

It can be another technique which can be used to impart value education. Stories show how to behave. In each story there is a lesson embedded in it. Right behaviours are rewarded in the story. Since stories have plots, sequence and characters, they are very interesting and memorable for the students too. Also stories give opportunities for discussions, thinking, questioning and for comparing one story with the real life experiences of the students.

Through practical activating values can be taught. Like:

- Activities relating to maintaining school campus/classroom.
- Organizing campaigns on community sanitation, literacy, environmental awareness and AIDS prevention awareness etc.
- Organizing yoga, meditation and prayer sessions
- Organizing campaigns on eradication of social evils, like gender inequality, dowry and alcoholism etc.

COMMITMENTS

Working with the value system requires strong commitment on the part of the teachers. Teachers need to be caring towards the immediate interests of the students both inside and outside the classroom. Teachers need to be accountable and responsible towards his/her task to teaching, which will help the teacher to reflect upon what has already been taught and what can be done further to improve the effectiveness of teaching. Teachers should listen to problems of the students with calm and patience and should try to find out the solutions of the problems. Not only that but also teachers need to communicate the solutions to the students also. This shows teacher's cooperativeness towards his/her students. Teachers should try to promote social justice by treating all students equal in his/her classroom. Teachers need to be fair, impartial and unbiased while dealing 'Individualized Educational programme' (IEP) to cater to the individual needs of the students.

REFORMS

So, to work with all those commitments and to work with proper value system, various educational reform categories have been identified.

Like –

- Equality oriented educational reform-which will emphasize on social equality, democratic justice, equality of educational opportunities and education for all.
- Restructuring oriented educational reform-which will focus on adjusting school size, class size, pupil-teacher ratio etc.
- Financing oriented educational reform-which will talk about adjusting the fee structure in the field of education, privatization and reducing cost per student etc.
- Standard oriented educational reform-which will focus upon improving the quality of education, proper evaluation assessment and proper inspection.

CONCLUSION

Thus it can be concluded by saying that teachers need to work with the value system and need to identify different reform categories in order to understand different arrays of teaching-learning, for its proper application in the complex classroom situation and for dealing with diverse students with varying abilities. All these will help the teachers to cope up with the challenges in complex social and cultural context. Compatibility of technology with the value system can only help a teacher to get connected with the students and to make a real difference.

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