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“Is value education a necessity in the present education scenario“

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I. INTRODUCTION

C.S. Lewis a British novelist, poet, literary critic, and a theologian says, “Education without values, as useful as it is, seems rather to make man a clever devil.” Mere education without value education will only make a person sophisticated fool. If we want better citizens for tomorrow then value education is the mantra. Basically, values are belief system or ideals in life that mean something to a certain person or group of people. Values shape the way people live their lives, how they interact with others and how they feel about themselves. Values are learned, usually passed down from generation to generation. However, one cannot do away with the fact that values decide who we become and what we achieve, how we relate to one another. It covers a whole range of human behaviors and way about. A family may decide to create new values depending upon what they find important in their own family. However there is greater need for Value Education. Therefore it is essential to emphasis its objectives, and critically look into its present scenario.

LITERATURE REVIEW:

- Sandhya (2007) undertook a study on extent of Value Attainment among student teacher and reported that student teachers gave highest priority to aesthetic values, whereas second priority was given to theoretical value while political and economic values were least preferred.
- According to Seetha Kunchithapadam in her article “need for value-based spiritual education in schools” Education is a process of evoking knowledge from the child, not giving knowledge to him or her. Education should lay a firm foundation in the child to stand upon a rock, a faith where he can say, “Well, the winds of the world can blow upon me, but they cannot shake me off this pedestal.” But unfortunately, today's education is only giving mere information to the children and nothing more” She is of the opinion that today's education has become competition oriented which teaches students how to earn money, but does not teach students how to live a value based moral life.

OBJECTIVES:

- To discover the Importance and the Need for Value Education in Educational system.
- To Study Whether Value Education Helps Students to Take Correct Decision

- To analyze the role of Teachers in Imparting Value Education

METHODOLOGY

The study is mainly based on the information collected through primary and secondary sources. To collect primary data for the study, questionnaire was prepared and circulated. The questionnaire was supplied to students and lecturers of two colleges in Mangalore. The colleges under the study were MSNM College and Padua College. Secondary sources of this data also include books, websites, and articles from magazines, journals and newspapers to supplement primary data.

IMPORTANCE VALUE EDUCATION IN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM.

In a world of limited resources, conflicting values, and competing individuals and groups, we all need to learn to live together in an atmosphere of peace, respecting ourselves and others. Values also very much depend on the religion. The values and ethics of the religion can help human beings learn to co-operate with each other and the rest of nature for the mutual well-being of all.

More than fifty countries have recognized the importance of value education in the school curriculum, and even those that have not, undoubtedly recognize the fundamental fact that children need to grow up with a sound system of values if they are to mature into good human beings and responsible citizens.

India is known for its rich cultural and philosophical heritage in fact value education is rooted in Indian philosophy and culture. Certain inspiration for value education can be drawn from the Vedas and Upanishads. During the Vedic period, in Ashram education system, the Guru used to insist his Sishya to follow certain values throughout his life. Further inspiration can also be drawn from the constitution of our country.

Need for Value Education:

- The progress in science & technology must contribute towards the welfare of entire human kind; it cannot happen without sufficient moral ground.
- As the traditional values are losing their hold on society, there is greater need for Common values to unite human beings.
- Increasing rate of suicides among students this is the clear sign of conflicting mind. They should be helped in developing the ability to make proper choices in such situations through value education.
- In order to increase the process of personal growth, value education assumes a special significance.

- Teachers pass values to the students both consciously and unconsciously through their conduct in and out of class rooms. Therefore the need for a consciously planned value education program is necessary for the greater good of the students.
- Value Education awakens curiosity, development of proper interests, attitudes, values and capacity to think and judge about oneself.

VALUE EDUCATION HELPS STUDENTS TO TAKE CORRECT DECISION:

"I think, therefore I am". French Philosopher, 'Rene Descartes' made following popular philosophical statement. According to him I exist or I am because I think. This phrase inspires me to state that 'I think, therefore I am, and I decide therefore I become what I am.' We make decisions every day; everything we say and do is the result of a decision, whether we make it consciously or not. For every choice, big or small, there's no easy formula for making the right decision. The best you can do is to approach it from as many perspectives as possible and then choose a course of action that seems reasonable and balanced at that time. When students have value system guiding them, they will be in a better position to choose what is important to them. Values like respect, responsibility, honesty, self-determination, self-control, commitment are crucial for decision making. And these decision not only effect an individual but also others. If we glance through the history books and read through the newspapers daily. We can clearly see the blunders and crimes that are committed because the individuals lacked proper value system and failed to take correct decisions. Therefore values are indispensable to make correct decision that affects oneself and others.

ROLE OF TEACHERS IN IMPARTING VALUE EDUCATION:

Apart from the parents who impart values to young ones, teachers are the ones who play major role in students' lives. Since students spend more time in educational institutes. It is in schools and colleges that a good value system can be nurtured. Every teacher plays the most important role in shaping the students as enlightened citizen. 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.

The 'Learned teachers' are like sign posts on the road, to tell you where the road leads to. The Teachers have the duty to help the students actualize their potentiality and bring out the best in them. A good teacher should be able to lead them towards a better tomorrow. A teacher's purpose is not to create students in his or her own image, but to develop students who can create their own image. Teachers are a role-model for the students. Their actions convey more than their words. Students learn values from what the teachers are rather than from what they say. Teacher makes a maximum impact on the personality of a student in the learning years. Students imbibe virtues and vices knowingly and unknowingly from theses role models. Hence, teachers

must have healthy attitude and should possess rich values. Above all teacher should act as a friend, philosopher and guide. If a teacher is friendly and approachable students feel comfortable to share their issue with the teacher. And the teacher will be in a better position to help the person in need. A teacher is not only a source of information but is also a mentor and guardian. If teachers love their students, in turn students will learn to love one another.

A decade back or so the role of a teacher was limited to being a source of information. But today this place is shared by books, coaching classes, multimedia technology etc. So the role of a teacher is marginalized. Role of a teacher has increased manifold. In modern times we are experiencing transition. 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.

FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS:

As a part of our survey, questionnaire was distributed to students and lecturers of two different colleges. With help of the survey conducted, analysis was done on the result obtained from the students and lecturers from the four colleges.

FINDINGS ON TEACHER'S RESPONSE:

- When enquired, is value education essential in the college, 50 % of teacher respondent strongly agreed and 50% of teacher agreed for the statement.
- 58% of teacher respondent strongly agreed that there will be change in behavior by providing value education, 33% of teachers agreed and only 9 % of teachers disagree the statement.
- Not surprisingly, all the teacher respondents are of the opinion that they are benefited from having value education classes in school / college.
- 25 % of the teacher respondents strongly agreed that the value education should take place in School/College whereas most of the respondents (75 %) feel that value education should take place in School/College, Home and University.
- When asked, whether value education brings quality and meaning to life, 33% of teacher respondent strongly agreed whereas 68 % agreed.

FINDINGS ON STUDENT'S RESPONSE:

- Not surprisingly all the student respondent agreed for value education helps in the development of character, good conduct, self discipline and responsibility.
- All student respondents agreed that value education should be given much prominence in the curriculum.
- 50% of student respondent strongly agreed that value education is the guidance and teaching of good behavior and values, whereas 50% agreed with the statement.

- All of the student respondents felt that value education influences the manners of the students towards others.
- When we enquired about, whether the emergence of technology destroys the values in students, all the student respondents agreed for the same.

SUGGESTIONS:

- ❖ College should arrange seminar to the students on different areas of value education through experts from different discipline.
- ❖ Students involvement in various activities related to value education must be increased .
- ❖ Collge curriculum Using stage and subject appropriate pedagogical strategies like discussion, role play, drama, composing poems, songs, debates, seminars, storytelling etc for providing experiential learning in value education followed by reflection.
- ❖ Value education should be effective in schools so that it • models the desirable attitudes and behavior like, patient listening, flexibility, being kind and caring, acknowledging one’s mistakes, respect for dignity of the child, being constantly aware of its impact on students.
- ❖ periodical training should be given to teachers ()
- ❖ The syllabus of study should include a glance of all universal religions, through stories which keeps the child glued.
- ❖ School should involve student centered teaching to provide necessary values required by child
- ❖ Value education syllabus should be flexible enough for teachers show their creativity in teaching
- ❖ Value education teacher should help the students to achieve their full potential and bring out the best in them

CONCLUSION

The tremendous emphasis on the scientific and mechanical ways of life is fast reducing human person to the status of a machine. Moral and religious values are being undermined. The fundamental principles of civilization are being ignored. Conflicts of ideas, manners and habits are spread through the atmosphere. Disregard for everything old is the fashion of the day. At this situation, the solutions for all these social and global evils is through value education. Emphasis should be laid on such education through which moral values can be developed among the students so that they can conduct their life morally. They can decide what is right or wrong; what is good or evil; what is justice or injustice. If we can make a student as a good human being, the development of moral values within him is the prior task of education. They are the foundation of human existence. 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. We have outstanding doctors who are in to organ robbery, brilliant engineers whose bridges collapses

soon after their bills are passed, and accountants who rob government. No doubt value education is the need of the hour. We cannot dream to have a better society without having better human person in it. A better human person does not fall from the sky rather arise from a family and gradually grows in through the educational institutes. Hence it is very important to have value education, and have it in an organized manner. Few steps have been taken in this regard but great work is yet to be planned and achieved. There is a need for a paradigm shift in the educational system. When a problem arises, it needs to be recognized, addressed and resolved. Instead of blaming people or institutions for the results of a lack of morality in schools, we should focus our efforts on finding ways of successfully implementing character education into schools. Changes have to occur in parents, legislators, communities, and the media and educational system so that children are taught how to behave.

Questionnaire

Dear Sir/Madam .We are conducting a survey on “**Is value education a necessity in the present education scenario**“. We request you to kindly give us your valuable time to fill this questionnaraire. We assure you that the data provided by you will be kept confidential.

1. Value education is essential in the college
 - a. Strongly agree b. Agree c. Strongly Disagree d. Disagree
2. There will be changes in behavior by providing value education
 - a. Strongly agree b. Agree c. Strongly Disagree d. Disagree
3. Are u benefited from having value education classes in School/College.
 - a. Yes b. No
4. Where do you feel value education should take place
 - a. School/college b. Home c. University d. All the above
5. Value education brings quality and meaning to life
 - a. Strongly Agree b. Agree c. Strongly Disagree d. Disagree
6. Value education helps in the development of
 - a. Character b. Good conduct c. Self discipline d. Responsibility e. All
7. Value education should be given much prominence in the curriculum
 - a. Strongly Agree b. Agree c. Strongly Disagree d. Disagree
8. Value education is the guidance and teaching of good behavior and values
 - a. Strongly Agree b. Agree c. Strongly Disagree d. Disagree
9. Education without values makes a man a clever devil
 - a. Strongly Agree b. Agree c. Strongly Disagree d. Disagree

10. Moral awareness develops through value education
 - a. Strongly Agree b. Agree c. Strongly Disagree d. Disagree
11. Value education helps students to show concern towards others
 - a. Strongly Agree b. Agree c. Strongly Disagree d. Disagree
12. Does Value Education promote equality
 - a. Yes b. No
13. Does value education influence the manners of the students towards others.
 - a. Yes b. No
14. Value based education plays an important role in strengthening the spiritual behavior of an individual's
 - a. Strongly Agree b. Agree c. Strongly Disagree d. Disagree
15. Does the emergence of technology destroy the values in students?
 - a. Yes b. No

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