

Value Oriented Education: A Part of Syllabus besides Academics

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Abstract

Value-oriented education refers to a planned educational process aimed at the development of proper attitudes, emotions and character in the learner. It covers all the aspects of personality development. Value oriented education can take place at home if we teach moral values to the child at home, as well as in schools, colleges, universities, if we make it a part of the syllabus. Crime, violence, cruelty, greed and apathy to human suffering have spread to all aspects of our life-political, economic and social. Therefore the need of the hour is to make the children aware of the moral values and duties.

Keywords: Value - Oriented Education; Syllabus; Academics; Values.

Introduction

The Curriculum Framework (1988) defines values as: the beliefs we hold [1]. They are the ideas about what someone or a group thinks is important in life and they play a very important part in our decision making. Education is a "process through which the society trains its young in the art of living in that particular society" [2]. Education without value is equal to praying deity without "Bhakti". Values are standards according to which the behavior of individuals is judged. Value-oriented education refers to a planned educational process aimed at the development of proper attitudes, emotions and character in the learner. It covers all the aspects of personality development. All human faculties are involved in this process of knowing, feeling and doing [3].

Value oriented education is the process by which people give values to others [4]. It can be an activity that can take place in any organization during which people are assisted by others, who may be older, in a position of authority or are more experienced. Value oriented education can take place at home if we teach moral values to the child at home, as well as in

schools, colleges, universities, if we make it a part of the syllabus. Value oriented education refers to planned educational actions aimed at the development of proper attitudes, values, emotions and behavior patterns of the learners. Value education is the education that is concerned with the transformation of an individual's personality [5].

Erosion of Values in Society

Society is going through a crisis of values in social and political life. Disregard shown to basic values like honesty and integrity, for example, in personal and public life, has become a matter of grave concern [9]. Crime, violence, cruelty, greed and apathy to human suffering have spread to all aspects of our life – political, economic and social. Pursuit of material wealth and selfish ends at any cost has become ultimate aim of life. There is great crisis in politics and crisis in colleges. Recently a doctor was caught murdering her own child, army personnel were found to be linked to terrorists, teenagers killed their own friend over a minor dispute². These are some of the consequences of lack of value oriented education in our country. Education minister and government of India should take serious steps to bring

a change in our education system and moral values should be given utmost importance in the syllabus. Students of Information Technology and even the senior executives of the software industries were found to have links with the terrorists [2], What is the fun of teaching them and producing such citizens if they don't have respect and commitment to their own country? Therefore the need of the hour is to make them aware of the moral values and duties.

In today's schools and colleges we see a large number of teachers who are more after making money by fair or foul means. Such unscrupulous teachers make a fast buck through indifference towards classroom teaching and conducting mass private tuition classes. This has led to all sorts of malpractices in examinations [9]. Some of the teachers are addicted to smoking, drinking alcohol and even gambling, which indirectly affect the students conduct and behaviour. There should be a check on all these habits and activities through strict laws, rules and regulations and proper execution of the same.

Importance of Value Education

Through the process of education, the learner learns to live good and happy life. He learns to live a productive life and be a good citizen of the country. But now a days, more importance is given to cultivation of occupational skills so that one can earn more money and live a luxurious life. We have totally forgotten the character building aim of the education. As Mahatama Gandhi pointed out, education without character, leads to criminality; educated persons have wider opportunities to indulge in crimes and that too committing them most efficiently and technically [8]. The value of truth, selflessness and service to fellow human beings are vanishing from our life. Now a days people have started believing that "might is right" and through physical force alone problems could be solved.

Today everyone sees everywhere with general insensitivity. Sensitivity to sufferings of fellow human-being is lacking in most of us and it is very rare to see people with social concern. Our physical environment – rivers, mountains, forests, plant and animal life-is getting increasingly polluted, and depleted of its resources [3]. People are narrow minded. Communalist, linguistic and rationalistic outlooks have divided the people and come in the way of developing a unified national and international outlook.

Need of the Hour

All the above discussed problems cannot be

effectively tackled without inculcating the moral values in the students at different levels i.e school, college, university. Values Education in schools is possible only when each individual stakeholder in the school-student, teacher, parent, management and support staff realizes its inherent worth for the well-being of the learners. This requires adoption and structuring of the curriculum in such a manner that optimizes the transmission and assimilation of values within and outside the classroom. Every lesson, routine activity and environment becomes value-centric and the entire gamut of relationships and processes in the school is thereby strengthened and empowered [7]. Under the present circumstances we need a drastic change in our very outlook on life, which could be brought about by value education, imparted systematically right from the primary level.

Conclusion

Today we need teachers with good moral conduct, ethical values and with high moral values. We have to inculcate values in children from a very young age while they are in school and college so that we can get value oriented citizens in future. The modern society is fast paced, families are becoming nuclear in structure and with both the parents working, children do not get quality time, attention and guidance from their parents. Therefore, it is the duty of the parents to spend quality time with their children in order to inculcate values like honesty, truthfulness, sharing, helping etc. in their children from the early childhood. The present education system has become commercialized and dishing out robots with degrees for earning a good bank balance [6]. Value education is very important and necessary. Therefore the realistic solution lies in the development of appropriate curriculum in value education and the relevant training course for teachers to handle the same in a practical way.

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