

The Universal Challenge of Human Values and Ethics

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Abstract

Our society cannot seriously sustain itself without ethics and human values. Ethics are suspended individually in different situations. It is a code of conduct that tells us how people should behave when meeting in different situations: with classmates, family members, teachers, experts, etc. A teacher with a high level of moral professionalism has an immense responsibility to help learners become sustainable by supporting their learning process and acting ethically for their life development. A valuable advantage of ethics learners is that they are very committed. It holds authority and bestows honour, tolerance, equality, empathy, complete understanding, and good citizenship. Ethics and human values matter and bring about positive change for individuals. Human values are vital for positive human behaviour. Human values are similar to the oil that keeps society's engine operating properly. That is the key to leading a meaningful life. Ethics, values, and education are like diamonds that create different coloured rays from different angles.

Keywords: Ethics, values, education, honour, tolerance, equality, empathy

INTRODUCTION

Education is a key component of human life and is critical to the development of ethics. Incorporating ethics as a curriculum in the educational system can help individuals develop into morally upright individuals. Ethics and morals are required to encourage positive human behaviour. Education has traditionally prioritised ethics and values. Values are essential components of educational goals and objectives. Almost all educational policy texts emphasise the value of education in promoting values. The study will examine the teaching of human values and ethics.

IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

In today's world, we see a rise in incidents of violence, terrorism, corruption, cheating, and selfishness. The root cause of these issues is the erosion of honesty, devotion, charity, dignity, respect, and other moral values in individuals. The new national policy emphasises the importance of value education [1]. As society prioritises personal development over moral development, corruption has become more prevalent. Value and ethical education are crucial for addressing these problems and for fostering the development of positive qualities in students, such as the ability to distinguish between right and wrong. These forms of education can be provided by schools and are crucial for producing responsible and upstanding citizens who can combat corruption and terrorism. This review paper examines how students can learn and understand ethics and values through education.

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ETHICS

Ethics pertains to the set of moral guidelines that shape an individual's conduct and the manner in

which a particular task is executed. It encompasses a collection of concepts that revolve around moral standards. Ethics are established principles in education that determine what is right and wrong [2]. They aid in the identification and application of numerous values such as integrity, discipline, and honesty in daily life. Ethics shapes behaviour and allows people to make sound decisions.

NEED OF ETHICS

Currently, ethics is important in all facets of our lives. It is especially significant in education because education is such a basic activity in human life. Ethics ought to be covered in the curriculum as a subject in schools. When incorporating technology in education, ethical dilemmas can develop as technology advances. Individuals must therefore be taught ethics to help them manage these challenges.

In today's world, ethics is a powerful branch of philosophy. In its essence, ethics is a branch of philosophy that examines moral principles. The origin of the term "ethics" can be traced back to the Greek word "ethos", which connotes customs or traits, and is closely linked to our beliefs and moral excellence [3]. Ethics is concerned with our actions, daily activities, and overall life experience. We have the ability to reflect on our choices and behaviors, making us responsible for our significant decisions and acts. Ethics is concerned with determining what is "wrong" and what is "right", and it encompasses subjects such as good and evil, right and wrong, virtue and vice, justice and injustice, and moral ideals. There are two parts to ethics.

Theoretical Ethics

Theoretical ethics, also known as ethical theory, is the systematic examination of moral concepts and the justification of moral principles and theories.

1. *Normative ethics*: Normative ethics is concerned with the content of moral judgement, determining what is ethically correct or incorrect, good or bad, kind or evil, and so on.
2. *Descriptive ethics*: Descriptive ethics investigates what people perceive to be morally correct or wrong, and thus what activities are accepted, disapproved, or penalised under a tradition or legislation. Customs and laws, on the other hand, can evolve through time and differ between civilizations. Societies change their moral beliefs over time and expect citizens to follow suit. Descriptive ethics is referred to as comparative ethics since it draws comparisons between the moral principles of different societies, both in the past and present.
3. *Meta ethics*: Meta ethics, sometimes known as "analytical ethics", is concerned with the fundamental principles of ethical conceptions. It makes no distinction between whether a particular behaviour is good or bad, right or wrong. Instead, it dives into the theoretical nature of morality and ethical principles, probing what we mean when we talk about what is right or bad.

Applied/Practical Ethics

Applied ethics examines the ethical concerns in both personal and professional contexts, with professional ethics being a key subfield.

Professional ethics: Professional ethics refers to a set of principles that offer guidance to individuals in their professional capacities, aiding them in behaving in an appropriate manner.

Typically, ethical codes contain four main principles:

- Honesty
- Confidentiality
- Avoidance of conflicts of interest and fulfilment of responsibilities

THE ROLE OF ETHICAL EDUCATION

In the field of ethical education, there are several important questions that are often discussed, such as: why is ethics important? Why should ethics be taught in schools? What type of ethics should be taught in schools?

The answers to these questions are as follows: Ethics, when taught in schools, can help students become responsible citizens. Therefore, ethics should be included as a mandatory subject in school curriculum. Ethics education should be considered a fundamental aspect of school education and it is the responsibility of schools to instill moral values in students [4]. The overall educational outcomes of students can be improved if they are taught ethics in school. In summary, ethics education is crucial in schools as it leads to a better quality of life for students.

HUMAN VALUES

Human values are principles and ideals that promote desirable behaviour and help people make decisions. They are crucial for connecting ideas, emotions, and deeds because they have both cognitive and affective components. Respect, acceptance, attention, admiration, listening, openness, affection, empathy, and love for others are principles that underpin the teaching profession. Truth, honesty, loyalty, love, and peace are examples of fundamental human values that are valued for their ability to bring out the inherent goodness in individuals and society as a whole.

INTRINSIC AND EXTRINSIC VALUES

Intrinsic Values

A value that one has for themselves, apart from other factors, such as their context, is called an intrinsic value.

It has long been believed that ethics' core is intrinsic value. When anything is considered to have intrinsic value, it means that it is valuable "in itself", "for its own sake", "as such", or "in its own right". Something with intrinsic worth has value on its own. Its own existence confers on it the value or worth that it possesses.

For instance, the majority of people concur that love is worthwhile on its own.

Extrinsic Values

A quality that is dependent on a thing's interactions with other objects is known as an extrinsic value. Extrinsic value is a quality that affects how much intrinsic value it creates [5]. Extrinsic value also refers to the portion of an option's value that has been ascribed to it by variables other than the value of the underlying asset. Intrinsic value, or an option's inherent worth, is the reverse of extrinsic value.

For instance, because it may be used to purchase things you want, money has extrinsic worth.

NEED OF HUMAN VALUES

Values are similar to seeds that grow into saplings, mature into trees, and then branch out all around.

The development of a values system begins with the person and extends to the family, the community, systems, structures, and organisations [6]. It then spreads across the nation and eventually embraces the entire globe.

Education is crucial for a happy existence as well as for giving us the chance to succeed on the international stage. We may notice aggressive actions, behaviour disorders and lack of unity in the community, and thus value education is very necessary among the parents, students, and teachers.

Value education enables us to comprehend our requirements, imagine our goals, and articulate the path to success.

ROLE OF TEACHERS IN DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN VALUES

The teacher's vision, drive, ability, talent, attitude, and behaviour all have a big impact on the success of value education and classroom progress [7]. Teachers act as role models for students in the classroom.

They have a big influence on how students develop moral character. We can foster the following characteristics in students by valuing education.

Individual Level

These types of values, such as empathy, trust, courage, acceptance, joy, a sense of freedom, and the lack of disputes, can be developed by teachers at the individual level.

Interpersonal Level

Teachers can instill values such as love, understanding, cooperation, listening, acceptance of diversity, appreciation, and friendship at the interpersonal level.

Community Level

Teachers encourage reconciliation, tolerance, mutual respect, healthy family connections, gratitude, and environmental conservation at the community level.

National Level

Teachers at the national level can foster values such as respect for children and human rights, citizenship, non-discrimination, national unity, secularism, and intercultural harmony.

Global Level

Teachers at the global level can cultivate values such as knowledge of global issues, peaceful conflict resolution, environmental awareness, appreciation of cultural diversity, and respect for shared resources [8].

CONCLUSION

Ethics, values, and education play a vital role in ensuring the smooth functioning of our lives. They help us make important decisions, and value education creates a connection between individuals and society. Ethics education teaches us to evaluate different situations and distinguish between what is right and wrong, enabling us to make informed decisions. This type of education is particularly crucial in today's world as it helps protect us from violence and other harmful activities.

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