

Understanding Role of Social Values in Higher Secondary School Students: Educational and Social Development Perspective

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Abstract: The article provides an analysis of how the social values are very crucial for higher secondary students. In the present system of education, it reconsiders the role of social values. The paper theorises in what context and extent social values are important for higher secondary students. It is used as a foundation to narrate the association of social values to the student's educational achievement and social development. In this article an attempt has been made to realise the role of social values in higher secondary student's educational achievement and social development. Here, in this article importance of all these social values and their sources are discussed. The paper tried to answer how schools, education, parents, friends and society all have become source of social values and they are affecting students in various perspectives. The outcome of the paper might be useful for policymakers, stakeholders, research scholars specialising in education stream.

1 INTRODUCTION

Values are related to beliefs and trust. These beliefs are related to physical and spiritual life of the individual. There are different means to fulfil spiritual and physical life by different philosophers. Values are the moral ideas, thoughts, perceptions, standards which gives a direction to our actions. Values enables us to differentiate between good or bad, right or wrong. When a human being before performing any action or following any thought gives a thought to it whether it should be done or not that is known as his values. Most of the values are learnt early in life in family, friends, school, neighborhood, mass media and other sources within the society. Values can be of different forms in Indian and western contexts. In India all the values are given in Indian spiritual books. All the values in these Indian spiritual books are considered to be a source of MOKSHA in Indian culture. All we can say etymological meaning of values is how a person behaves in different social, spiritual, emotional situations. If we talk about western meaning of values, different sociologists have given different views for values. Murphy said that values are the things that makes the things and actions desirable for us. M. Williams said values are

an instrument to control our behavior. Actually, values make our behavior selective and directive and values are considered to be the backbone of any education system. Values are collective conceptions of what is considered good, desirable, and proper or bad, undesirable, and improper in a culture. Values are the guiding principles of life and contribute to all round development. Values provide direction to life and bring satisfaction and peace to life. Thus, value motivates us to meet our needs whether it is material or non-material. Values guide human behaviour and action in our daily life. Values are reflected in our all actions like what we speak, how we behave, how we treat others, our perceptions and how we interpret others thought and opinions. Values are outcomes of our interests, choices, needs, desires and preferences. Value therefore is the belief upon which human beings responds by preferences. Values involve the processes of thinking, knowing/understanding feelings and action. People's actions and behaviour publicly reflects their values. Values helps in nurturing a balanced individual and hence creating a developed individual in society. Values basically convert a man or a person into a human being. Although like human beings' animals are also driven by a force inside them to achieve food, shelter and security but they are not answerable to their wrong

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actions like human beings. Values are more significant to our functioning as individuals.

2 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- a) **To study the role of social values in social development of the higher secondary students.**
- b) **To study the interdependence of social values and educational achievement of the higher secondary students.**

New perceptions regarding values: There are some new concepts of the values given by some new philosophers. Pragmatists connects the values to the individual's needs and satisfaction. William Jones said that there are two aspects of the values positive and negative. Positive values are those which gives happiness and negative are those which left the individual in grief. H. Bold said that the values are based on the experiences and interests. On this basis there can be many values. Based on above discussion there can be moral, social religious political economical many values based on the human life. Human can move on with a smooth and good life only after following these values. Some words are prevailed as similar meaning of values but actually it is not so. Some words like belief, ideal, standard is mostly used as a synonym to value but actually it is not like that. It can be differentiated as:

Interests and values: Interest is a tendency of reacting or reaction in any subject.

Trust and values: Trust are related to truth and false whereas values are related to good and bad.

Priorities and values: Values is a part of individual's priority but all the priorities cannot be values. Values are those priorities of the individual that enables him to choose all other priorities and to accept them properly.

Values and aims: Values are internal and aims are external. Individual choose and fix their aims and make efforts to achieve it and all the aims are fixed following their values in life. Values plays an important role in selection of aims.

Values and ideals: There are a scope of option or selection in ideals. It is difficult to follow ideals whereas values are meant to be inculcate in behaviour.

Values and standards: Values proves the relevance of standards. Standards are a form of social rules. In developed societies legal rules are standards. Standards are made based on values.

Aptitude and values: The factors which remain constant in all situations and motivates the individual for clear reaction are known as values. Aptitude includes values.

When a child is born some qualities in the child are innate and some are acquired. Values in a child is not innate. It is acquired from the family, friends, school, society and the surroundings where he lives. The acquired values are nurtured and developed after birth in home, school, society. So, we can conclude that education also plays an important role in developing and transmission of values to the child in home and students in school.

3 IMPORTANCE OF VALUES

Good values are the main reservoir of the sound character and a sound character is the origin of a good human being. Values guide our behaviour and keep a right control over our activities. Values illuminates our path to take the right decisions and to make right choices. Values give direction to our life. Values develop a motivation and set goals in our life

Need of education for fostering social values:

Education does not mean only acquiring knowledge and collecting it forever, education means an all-round development of any individual. Education develops the social, moral, spiritual, aesthetic and all other values in any individual. Education enables us to learn adjustment and to adjust with different attitudes and behaviours. Value education is necessary not for the individual welfare but for the social, national and global welfare. Only a value-based education can give our youth the altruistic and benevolent sense of living for others. Although there are various means of imparting values to students like family, society, teachers, peer group but all of them main and important factor is the education and educational process. Values enables the learner to adjust in the family, school, society and everywhere. Education is that important weapon that develops the desired values and behaviour in the students and make them an integral part of the developed society. School curriculum, therefore, should aim to enable learners to acquire knowledge, develop understanding and inculcate skills, values and attitudes conducive to the all-round development of their personality (NCERT, 2012). The Kothari Commission (1964-66) has emphasized, 'Education is the one and the only instrument that can be used to bring about a change towards the social and economic betterment of India'. Value education brings all round

development in students as it keeps a check to develop physical, moral, spiritual, aesthetic, social values. Educationists, education commissions, and policies in India expressed that education should inculcate values in students who are the future citizens. Gandhiji said that education is the means to provide a complete life to any individual, it enables the individuals to adjust in the surroundings and to achieve perfection in all spheres of life. We are surviving today in a world of confusion, on one side we are so advanced in science and technology and made a huge development in all sectors and on other hand we are facing a problem of drugs, alcohol, mental illness, stress etc. So, it becomes demand of the hour to develop values and value education at all the levels of schooling in students. Values are the ideals, thoughts, beliefs and norms to which a society and its people stick to. Values plays a major role in personality development of a child and help a child further in career. Swami Vivekananda rightly said “we want education by which character is formed, strength of mind is increased, intellect is expanded and which one can stand on one’s own feet”. Ram murti committee report 1990 recommended that education must further provide a climate for the nature of values, both as the personalized set of values forming one’s character and including necessarily social cultural and national values. The NEP 1986 focussed on the value cultivation by educational means in students. Almost all the commissions and committees recommended value education. Actual aim of the education should be to develop an individual who can meet their needs independently and in order to achieve such goal, value education should be a part of formal education from pre-primary to higher education level. Now the question arises who will impart this value education to students. It does not solely depend on one parameter or one person to inculcate values in students. So, we can say parents, teachers, school, friends, society, friends everybody has to play an equal role to develop values awareness in students.

Social Values: Culture and tradition are the biggest source of social values. Social values are such social norms, aims or ideals, on the basis of which various social situations can be evaluated. These values have a social and cultural background. It is the reason that there is a big difference in values of different societies. Help, kindness, cooperation is known as socialism. Social values shape up the society and their individuals and develops a sense of fraternity among them. These values should be taught to the children from their childhood in their homes by the parents and

later on by the teachers in the school as value teaching can prove to be the only solution of the social problems arising at social, national and global level. There is a great impact of social values in the life of the students and in their achievements. There can be a very bad consequences of avoiding these social and moral values teaching in the school. Lack of social values develops a criminal attitude sometimes in the youth and leads to a disastrous future. Without social values students are lack of self-discipline and no sense of right and wrong actions. Respect, tolerance, equality, and honesty are some of the social values that build a strong and secure personality of any individual. Therefore, the absence of these values leads in some case to terrible consequences in the life of any human being. If the society further don’t want to indulge their children in crime, violence, drugs and un lawful activities then the social values must be an integral part of the curriculum. The social values develop a sense of brotherhood and patriotism among the children that further leads to the formation of strong nation and enable them to welcome and respect their culture as well as other culture and tradition. These values develop a democratic way of thinking in children. Social values help the students to adjust better in the society, school and in their homes. Some ‘social values can be listed as: kindness, integrity, acceptance, focus, responsibility, commitment, loyalty, honesty, open mindness, growth, friendship, faith, knowledge, leadership, optimism, spirituality, empathy, respect, curiosity, gratitude, adjustment, hard work, courage, generosity, patience, confidence, politeness etc.

Development of values: An analysis of **Allport Baron’s** report found to be exact in Indian context. During childhood the child inherits the values from parents, then from teachers. As the child grows, he shapes up his values as per the situation and atmosphere in which he lives. After attaining the age of ten years the child starts becoming social. Girls to more extent learn from their parents and teachers. Radio, television, internet also play their role in developing values among children. Religious institutions are those pillars of the society which mainly contributes in development of values and social character. In this way the child learns different behaviours and values from different institutions. So, there is a difference in the values of the child grown in different societies and different atmosphere which needs to be find out and here in this research we are trying to find such difference in the children of different atmosphere. There are different sources of

developing social values in students. These sources can be explained as:

Role of parents: Most of the time a child spends at home and it is responsibility of parents to create a warm and healthy atmosphere for children as children acquire all the values from their parents at first. From the birth the time when a child starts understanding look up to his mother and imitate mothers' behaviour so, the mother's behaviour should be very perfect. A mother and all the Family members should follow the moral, ethical, spiritual, social values to inculcate these in their child. Parents should be well behaved with others should be able to adjust everywhere, should be cooperative and social. When parents do not give proper attention to their own behaviour and their children's life, the child must suffer in many ways like in school life, personal life, social life etc. Parents must ensure the right value infusion in their child and they should be voluntarily involved in inculcation of values in society for the sake of their child. Plays, books, stories, and a healthy environment at home will help a lot in inculcating values. Education without morals and values is not only useless but harmful too.

Role of teachers: Today the main task before teachers is to develop the practical way of teaching to develop the changes in behavioural outcomes of the students. The main challenge before teachers is not to impart bookish knowledge to students but to develop and prepare the students for the practical and behavioural changes. The teacher and school environment should develop social competence in the learners. Teacher should set the standards of behaviour for the students towards themselves, towards other students, towards parents, teachers, and elders. Teachers have a considerate role in students' life that is the reason they are known as the illuminating path for the learners. To impart values to students, teachers should be value oriented too. A teacher who is devoid of values cannot be the value imparting body. The main target of the teacher should be to provide real life examples to the students and to concentrate on all aspects other than academic part of the learning. A teacher should provide chance to the students to work in co-operation with each other in groups. Teacher should provide them an opportunity to in groups. Mazumdar (1983) said, "Values cannot be taught through formal and direct teaching. They can be inculcated only when the institutions provide activity for it and experiences inside and outside the school that promote responsibility, cooperation, honesty, fair play and self-control. Children have

their own world of trust, beliefs, friendships, loyalties. It is responsibility of a teacher to make them blossom socially well carrying all these activities all together. Teachers are first role-model for their students. Their actions affect more than their words. Teachers mark an evident role in students' life. Students knowingly and unknowingly follow these role models and imitate in their life. A teacher can bring the behavioural changes in students by discussion method, demonstration, by giving instructions, lectures, and many other tricks. A teacher can start a case study to inculcate the desired social values in students. Organisation of cultural activities, games, group works, projects can develop the sense of socialism in children. Imparting knowledge of different cultures and languages can bring a brotherhood in children. Organisation of field trips, picnics, social service camps, NCC camps, Blood donation camps can develop social values. The best and the most noble profession in the world is of teacher as the teacher is the foundation of any nation and it builds the future generations of a country.

Society: A child starts learning and imitating from the type of society he is living in. It is the responsibility of any society and its members to create such a healthy atmosphere for their children so that the children can learn love, co-operation, affection, mercy, sympathy, helping, sharing etc in the society itself. A society should provide glimpses of all cultures and traditions rather than sticking to any one culture or tradition so that the child can develop love for all cultures and people. All the activities that make a child socially active and make him able to adjust everywhere should be the part of any society to teach social values to the child living in a society.

Peer group: Peer group is the group of same age group peoples living together in an association or friendship with one another. Peer group is the major factor that affects the social values of children in any society. Peer pressure is the major issue among the children that affects the values or social values. It is most prevalent among adolescent group children. Peer pressure is psychological force created by the children that deviates any child from their normal behaviour due to pressure created on him. It is very common nature among human being to follow and do what others do to enjoy the same privilege. This peer pressure can have both positive as well as negative effects. The parents should always praise positive qualities of their child's friend to promote them and in this way a positive peer pressure can be developed. The peer pressure sometimes can really change the

life and direction of any child if it is well tackled by their parents.

Religion: Religion, religious activities, belief in God, participation in religious activities surely helps in developing socialism and brotherhood in children. Religious thoughts teach the students to respect each human being, help others, respect all cultures and traditions, help others, be honest, live in co-operation and many other values. Religious values no doubt develop moral values in children but at the same time develop social values among them According to Gandhiji's view "Religions is the expression of the permanent nature of man. Religion purifies and elevates one's nature. It arouses in man a sense of spiritual restlessness, a kind of thirst which enables the individual to cultivate and develop a sense to the right and good and make him truly moral man. All the religions promote values so in anyway religions have a great role in promoting social values among students in schools. According to Dr. Radhakrishnan 'All religions are friends and partners in the pursuit of spiritual life. All religions are bound together in a holy partnership to advance the cause of peace, justice, and freedom.'

Mass media: India has made a remarkable development in technology that involves mass media, mobiles, internet, DTH etc. The main function of mass media is the connectivity, knowledge transmission etc. One important role of mass media is transmission of values. It can be known as socialisation also. Socialisation means the way how an individual adopts the values and behaviours of other groups and how individuals get mixed with each other. The mass media is equally responsible for reflecting all the social values and for fostering these values in children. The most important forms of mass media are Television, Radio, Magazines, Newspapers, Pamphlets, Internet, Books, Movies, Music etc. The mass media sources influence and affects the behaviour of all the people and children in a different way. The culture and tradition and these media sources both become the source of value development and its transfer to the children in our society. The mass media sources sometimes can be proved as a source to bring the desired social change in the society and in the education field. With the developing technology the mass media sources can transfer the knowledge and information even to the deep situated villages and are bringing social changes in society.

4 CONCLUSION

After studying meaning, role, need, importance, sources of social values in children's life we just cannot deny the big contributions of social values in higher secondary school students' life and growth. Before learning any value, any good or bad thing a learner must have the social values in his behaviour to proceed further on any path. Any child can follow the path of morality, spirituality, and many other things but to do that he should be filled with socialism then only he can adjust and learn from others to move forward. We should develop only bookish knowledge in our children, rather we should develop them for life, for future, should develop a flexibility and adjustment among our children. Developing the social values in higher secondary students will surely develop all the social values like helping, co-operation, sympathy, love, respect, leadership etc. The second aspect of the social values is the effect of social values on the educational achievement of the learners. All the social values like politeness, sympathy, friendship, helping, co-operation, adjustment, faith, leadership, empathy, confidence, patience etc. to some or more extent alter, modify, or affects the children behaviour, adjustment, and mental ability so we cannot deny that the social values little or more have an impact over the children's educational achievement. For example, while performing a project work assigned to a group of ten students, all the students with their complete effort and interest starts working on it and gathering information about it but if there will not be proper coordination and co-operation in these ten students then what will happen? No data will be collected, no data will be organized, no new knowledge will be gained. So, a lack of co-operation here in this project will affect the students learning.

In the same way to some or more extent educational learning is affected by the social values. So, it is our responsibility to develop social values in children to strengthen their educational achievement and social development.

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