

# Value Education: Why, Where, How and what next?

V. Sudharsan

Assistant Professor,

Shri V.P.R. College of Education, Theni, Tamil Nadu, India.

Dr.P.N.Lakshmi shanmugam,

Assistant Professor,

TNTEU, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

## ABSTRACT

*Only a value-based education can give our youth the altruistic and benevolent sense of living for others; as Swami Vivekananda said, "They alone live who live for others". We should always bear in mind that by helping others we help ourselves. By bringing prosperity to others we ourselves prosper. Conversely, we cannot give pain to another without giving pain to ourselves, and a loss caused to another is necessarily a loss to oneself. . The present paper is an attempt to state the need of value education in the present education system so that the future generations will nourish high ideals and values to contribute in the development of the society and get responsibilities and feel better about themselves.*

**Keywords:** Value Education, Values

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## Introduction

Over the past decades since the inception of our modern school and collegiate system, educators, parents and students have realized there is an area of insufficiency in the system we have instituted. Although academic subjects may be thoughtfully planned and courses have been structured for the maximal suitability and benefit of our youth for career purposes, the topic of personal behaviour and attitudes have not been given due importance or emphasis in the educational curriculum.

The assumption has been that children imbibe all the values and ethics they need from their home lives, and that it is not the purview of the educational system to discuss these at all, especially since it was felt that such discussion may lead us into controversies among various communities. However, as a nation we now realize the error in this assumption and there is widespread recognition of the need to talk about values in our educational system as they pertain to every sphere of life. We can all acknowledge that there is no need to worry about cultural sensitivities or controversy if the most basic values are taught to our youth, as there are many values, which are admitted to be universal.

Certain community or culturally based values may be relative, but there are attitudes and behaviours based in universal values that unquestionably contribute to the health, happiness and wealth of each person and the society as a whole. The evidence is all round us that the lack of such education results in selfishness and an uncaring attitude toward one's fellowmen; at worst it results in violence, exploitation and utter disregard for life that no society can afford or it will forfeit its prosperity and peace, and be liable to descend into anarchy or fascism. Our wonderful country, simultaneously blessed and burdened with its extreme density of population and diversity of communal and religious sentiments, can only survive with a majority that is mentally and physically healthy, tolerant and liberal in outlook, as only such citizens will be able to care for and work for the prosperity of all.

## Why Value Education is needed?

**"There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it's going to be a butterfly"**

Think about the incredible change that occurs during **METAMORPHOSIS**.

From **Crawling** to **flying**

From **Dull** to **Spectacular**

From **Fat & Sluggish** to **Light & Airy**

### **What Metamorphosis can you go through?**

Shedding one "**Personna**" and becoming **totally new**.

But what does the caterpillar do before it becomes a butterfly?

It takes sometimes to "Cocoon". Time to isolate itself. Perhaps if each of us would take some "Cocooning" time, we would begin our own metamorphosis!

### **So, what is needed?**

- ❖ There is an urgent need for change - changing from what we are to what we have to become.
- ❖ Change from ambitions to aspirations. The importance and urgency of change must be brought forth through our education system.
- ❖ We need education to understand the value of education and the value of further education.
- ❖ Since values are caught rather than taught, it is imperative to devise other meaningful and pragmatic strategies to help in personal evolution, embracing all aspects of existence.

### **Where does value education fit into curriculum?**

Value education fits **everywhere**

- ❖ Students are not born with a set of values.
- ❖ Students unconsciously imbibe all kinds of values from their Parents, Teachers, Peers, all the time. So, in a sense, values are more "**Caught**" than "**Taught**".
- ❖ Still they do need guidance to help them learn the right values.
- ❖ This guidance goes on all through the curriculum, all through the day, by all those who come in contact with them.
- ❖ It is not a one man's job.

### **How does values education helps?**

Value education will help by means of the following.

- ✓ **The Need to understand oneself.**
- ✓ **Management of Self.**
- ✓ **Decision Making.**
- ✓ **Personality Development.**

#### **The Need to understand oneself**

- ✓ Who am I?
- ✓ What is my goal?
- ✓ How should I proceed towards my goal?

#### **Management of Self**

- ✓ Time Management
- ✓ Stress Management
- ✓ Life Management

#### **Decision Making**

- ✓ What is good for me?
- ✓ How to make Decisions?

- ✓ Co – operation and Co- ordination

**Personality Development**

- ✓ What is Personality?
- ✓ How should one develop personality?
- ✓ How should I mould myself?
- ✓ Facing situations.

**What next?**

Value education helps in developing Character, Good Contact, Moral Integrity, Self Discipline, Compassion, Love for all living beings, Responsibility and many other Positive qualities in the students. And above all it makes them to feel better about themselves. This is possible with Value Education which can be inculcated to the students through various curricular, co-curricular and extracurricular activities. It is the need of the hour to plan and design the curriculum by the Policy makers and Authorities and implement the same by the teachers and all the stakeholders have to support them for the success of the curriculum in order to make the students good citizens of the country.

**Conclusion**

Value education is a process of teaching and learning about the ideals that a society deems important. While this learning can take a number of forms, the underlying aim is for students not only to understand the values, but also to reflect them in their attitudes and behaviour, and contribute to society through good citizenship and ethical practice.

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