

# Changing Dimensions of Value Education

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**Abstract:** A Global Crisis of character is intensifying. Core Human Values are swiftly diminishing and currently reach an all-time low. The prevalence of intolerance is increasing. Incidents of rape and molestation occur daily. Young people, including their peers, are often dismissed and targeted by adults. Even parents and educators are not exempt. This raises the question: what is causing this significant decline? Education serves as the most potent catalyst for social transformation. A form of education that lacks human values is responsible for the present troubling situation. Conversely, a values-based education offers a remedy to this worldwide issue. If academic leaders are properly trained in value education, they will certainly seek effective methods to instill values in students from a young, impressionable age—when they are like saplings that a mentor can help guide in the right direction. Values resemble seeds that sprout, develop into plants, and eventually mature into trees, extending their branches far and wide. The ability to think clearly, experience appropriate emotions, and behave in acceptable ways are fundamental aspects of personality development. The formation of a value system starts with individuals, expands to families and communities, reforms systems, structures, and institutions, spreads throughout the nation, and ultimately encompasses the entire globe. Cultivating a culture of inclusivity is particularly crucial and relevant in the context of our society, nation, and the imperative to make education accessible to all children.

This paper seeks to explore the evolving aspects of value education. For this analysis, research was conducted utilizing secondary data. This secondary data was gathered from a diverse array of available resources, including magazines, journals, electronic journals, websites, books, and newspapers. Following a comprehensive review of the data collected, conclusions are drawn to highlight the significance of the National Education Policy concerning employability. The study identifies several important factors and innovations that researchers and academics can incorporate into their work.

**Keywords:** New Dimensions, Value Education.

**Introduction** - The fundamental concepts of value education include “what is,” “what should be,” and “what should be done.” Essentially, value education focuses on nurturing feelings and emotions. It is about “training the heart” and entails cultivating proper feelings and emotions. At its core, value education involves fostering suitable behaviors and habits, which include specific virtues and practices. Values encompass a broad spectrum of admirable ideals that individuals ought to embrace in their lives. The values upheld by a society offer its members goals or aspirations. They provide a general framework for people’s conduct. For instance, principles such as human dignity, fundamental rights, ownership of property, patriotism, loyalty to one’s spouse, righteousness, sacrifice, help, cooperation, personal initiative, choice in marriage, individuality, social equality, privacy, and democracy steer our lives in numerous ways.

**Dimensions of Value Education:** There are several facets that inform value education, some of which are outlined

below:

**Social Dimension:** As India is a socialist nation, social values play a significant role in its cultural fabric. Social values, norms, and institutions illustrate how social processes function within a society. They serve as the foundation for structured interactions. Values contribute to the stability of the social framework. They offer broad guidelines for behavior. Values are the benchmarks individuals use to evaluate their everyday lives, set their priorities, assess their joys and challenges, and decide among different paths of action.

**Educational Dimension:** Being a democratic nation, every individual in India has the right to access education. The capacity to make ethical decisions based on rational thinking is a crucial goal of value education and should be intentionally nurtured. Education is the primary catalyst for the cultivation of values. It enables individuals to critically evaluate situations. Moreover, education empowers individuals to strive for their aspirations. It also steers

individuals toward functioning effectively within society, which is vital for their overall well-being.

**Spatial Dimension:** A critical component of the value education framework in India is fostering a sense of national identity and patriotism among children. This is vital for the purpose of unifying and reinforcing a nation, particularly if it has newly attained independence or faces security threats. However, this emphasis on national identity may occasionally result in national pride that can border on chauvinism, leading citizens to believe that their country is infallible. Consequently, it has been suggested that a key aim of value education should be to help children recognize that the world is now a community of interconnected nations where the survival and welfare of people globally rely on collaborative efforts. Children should be encouraged to develop a global perspective, appreciate the contributions of various cultures to worldwide progress, and consider the needs of different nations in this process.

**Cognitive, Constructive, and Affective Dimensions:** Truly being educated implies the ability to think clearly, experience appropriate emotions, and behave in favorable ways. Thus, the goals of value education should encompass all three aspects of personality development as they pertain to appropriate conduct. Given that these dimensions are intertwined, it would be misguided to believe that value education focuses solely on knowledge, emotion, or action. Asserting that “morality is understood” overlooks the cognitive skills and training involved. Likewise, linking value education solely with teaching student’s specific dos and don’ts disregard the importance of nurturing emotions and moral reasoning.

#### **Why is values education necessary?**

The primary reason for shifting the focus of education towards values is that the current educational model leads to an imbalanced development of students. This model prioritizes cognitive skills entirely, neglecting the emotional aspect, which results in a disconnection between intellect and emotion. Students are raised in an environment of extreme competition and are conditioned from an early age to compete aggressively and engage with isolated facts. The promotion of individualistic excellence undermines the development of emotional and relational abilities.

1. Concern regarding the diminishing importance of values.
2. The influence of change on children and adolescents.
3. Dysfunctional family dynamics, increasing crime and violence, and the effects of media and information saturation.
4. A competitive attitude among students, parents, and educators.

#### **What is the objective of values education?**

From a broader perspective, the goal of values education relates to the essential question of whom education serves. From an individual standpoint, it seeks to help students attain personal fulfillment for success in personal and

professional life. From a societal viewpoint, the purpose of education is to equip youth to contribute to their community/nation and the global context. Nevertheless, education should never be seen merely as an end result but as a journey within itself.

**How to Implement Values Education:** Values education should not be confined to textbook teachings; instead, it should rely on the initiative and enthusiasm of educators in sourcing learning materials. Education is fundamentally a process of embedding values in learners so that they can live fulfilling lives aligned with their own values and the ideals of society. Values education has evolved its concept from religious and moral instruction to a focus on education for peace, reflecting the changing sentiments and sensitivities in the broader educational landscape. However, there are various methods to impart values education.

1. The individual represents the foundational element of the value structure; integration should address the child’s needs for safety, dignity, identity, and well-being.
2. The family serves as the second critical factor in value formation, playing an essential role in instilling values in a child. A child raised in a home fraught with conflict is unlikely to develop a peace-oriented mindset.
3. The third essential building block is the community to which an individual belongs. The bond between the individual and the community is intimate. This connection is vital in shaping an individual’s identity and influences the level of security a child experiences. Values education significantly aids in alleviating insecurity within communities and fostering a sense of belonging.
4. Society acts as the fourth component of values. Society can be viewed as an extended family marked by the diversity of individuals, families, and communities.
5. The nation stands as the most significant building block of values. A country allowing its citizens to be driven by hatred and negativity squanders its potential. Values are essential for progress and well-being. Peaceful nations build the foundation for global values.

**Changing Dimensions of Value Education:** Enhancing the quality of education has consistently been a significant focus in the field of education. Lately, the concept of quality education has been articulated in more practical terms. It has become closely linked to employability and workforce readiness, with diminished emphasis on the essence of education—the individual student and their overall development as a person. The evaluation of education quality should be viewed not in a fragmented manner but more holistically and comprehensively, focusing not on the number of years spent in school, but rather on the qualitative facets of an individual’s growth; the nurturing of complete individuals and the thorough development of human life and character formation. The aim of improving educational quality is not solely for the sake of value education. The renewed focus on education as a vital tool for instilling

values in students also stems from the significant decline of values in our nation. Despite notable advancements, our society is plagued by conflicts, corruption, and violence. Our value system has become skewed. In every direction, we encounter deceit and corruption. Many individuals prioritize their familial interests and neglect their obligations to society. While the degradation of values has been a part of human history and is observed across cultures, the current decline in values in our nation has raised serious alarm. Common indicators of value degradation include: increasing greed and self-interest among people.

The principle of honesty in society is beginning to diminish. Violence has turned into a common occurrence. Corruption, abuse, and the misuse of power have become increasingly prevalent. The issue of value degradation is complex, arising from a mix of significant social influences such as globalization, materialism, consumerism, the commercialization of education, threats to humanity from climate change, environmental degradation, violence, and terrorism. These factors have resulted in insecurities, self-centered lifestyles, and escalating desires, the improper use of science and technology, cynicism, feelings of alienation, and various other adverse effects. Schools reflect a smaller version of the world. The turmoil present in society manifests itself in educational settings in numerous ways. The environmental conditions affecting the development of children and youth in our nation have transformed and continue to evolve rapidly. There's no need for scientific studies to confirm what we can observe firsthand. The number of dysfunctional families has grown. Children are becoming involved in criminal and violent behaviors, both within school environments and beyond. The mass media has significantly influenced our children, inundating them with information, opinions, and biases that young minds struggle to understand or critically assess. Although children should be encouraged to ask questions and think critically, it is observed that many young people treat teachers with disdain and challenge them out of arrogance, perceiving it as a means to question authority. A society operating at a rapid pace often lacks a sense of community and togetherness. Peers have a profound impact on the formation of values. Incidents of drug abuse, reckless sexual conduct, vandalism, commercialism, theft, fraud, and idolization of heroes and celebrities as role models are more prominent than ever.

Education serves as the primary vehicle for personal and societal transformation. Significant societal change cannot happen unless individuals undergo transformation. The kind of education we offer will influence societal values. There is an urgent necessity to reassess the content and methods utilized by schools in educating their students. While the responsibility for value education lies with both parents and the community, schools, due to their institutional nature, must assume the primary role. It is the duty of school personnel to provide education that prioritizes values.

**Conclusions and Suggestions:** India is a nation characterized by its linguistic diversity, rich cultural heritage, and various religious beliefs. It is evident that the upcoming decades will experience an unprecedented surge in science and technology. Utilizing science and technology in a more compassionate and logical way is tied to our moral and ethical obligations. The values promoted often clash with those that families, communities, or educational institutions wish to instill. Value education nurtures a wide range of competencies, attitudes, and skills that are significant not only within the academic setting but also in life beyond it, ultimately contributing to improving the world for students and their families, friends, coworkers, and others. Furthermore, value education equips students for their professional futures. Attributes such as a strong work ethic, discipline, teamwork, and communication skills allow them to cultivate positive relationships at home and school, which in turn helps them adapt more effectively to real-life situations.

India, with its extraordinary linguistic, cultural, and religious diversity, stands at a crucial juncture where rapid scientific and technological advancements are reshaping every aspect of human life. As the country progresses toward an era dominated by innovation, the ethical and moral integration of science and technology becomes not only essential but inevitable. The disconnect between the values promoted by modernity and those upheld by families, communities, and educational systems highlights the urgent need for strong value-based education.

Value education plays a pivotal role in developing ethical sensitivity, social responsibility, emotional intelligence, and personal integrity among learners. It strengthens competencies that extend far beyond academic performance, influencing personal life, professional conduct, and social behavior. Students exposed to value-based education demonstrate better decision-making skills, teamwork, communication abilities, and greater adaptability. This holistic development ultimately contributes to building healthier communities and a more compassionate, responsible society.

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