

Some Aspects of Ethics and Values in Education

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Ethics and Values

These are essential factors of life which make life happy and meaningful. Ethics and values can be called basic needs of a holistic and fulfilling life. Any magnitude of luxuries, life offers a man without ethics and values; are all mere animal, fulfill nothing and give no meaning or contentment to life.

Human behavior should always be guided by higher values. We derive our higher principles from religion and culture. We do this by following the words of our prophets who preached the religion and consider it to be ethical. It is the misinterpretation of this religion that causes all conflicts and wars. No prophet or religion can advise us to kill people to attain god. It is the wrong understanding of the divine words from the Holy Scriptures that springs up hugger mugger in our minds and so in the society we live in.

The state of absolute equality can be achieved only when this idea of every neighboring person being divine is understood and realized. Every thought which has good in it for a majority of population without hurting the other minority has to be encouraged and nurtured.

Educating people about their rights is as important as making them stand up for their rights. The pedagogues in the society play a major role in teaching people what their rights are and what the right way for them to stand up for their rights is. Standing up for rights is not always about being a rebel. Act of rebellion can be justified only when it has some positive value on the human society.

Birds which are born and brought up in a cage, consider flying to be a sin. Just as the basic right of a bird is to fly, so is the right of a human to be happy and free. The devastating menace affecting the human kind is the mental slavery; anger, frustration, hatred, jealousy and every other similar form of negativity, which man gets entangled in and suffers endless miseries. The solution to this form of misery can come from spiritual education.

Rules can always be imposed, but never ethics. Ethics and values are acquired. No amount of negation in the name of ethics can be tolerated. Ethics aid us in distinguishing good from bad.

Education is not just the sum total of information put in brain; it is the tool which helps the mankind succeed in life. By success it means the victory of entire humanity, or at least the immediate surroundings of the educated person. Bread-winning education always makes one selfish; approach towards education should always be holistic. Ethics in education uplift us, they build a personality.

The serious setback to ethics is in the name of ethics, freedom is many times compromised. Freedom, of speech, does not definitely give us the freedom to hurt our fellow beings. It is therefore the responsibility of an individual and also collective responsibility of the society to think rationally.

Ethics and values do not always mean doing good things; ethics exactly mean doing the right thing at the right time. This was taught to kings, which can be observed when we read Machiavellian concepts. If a leader has to rule, he must stop being good. Leader should be more logical and ensure the safety of his subjects and also their well-being.

Ethics alone can transform our society into a beautiful place where all humans can live a life of respect and dignity with no fears in mind. Nobel Prize winner, Albert Camus once said, "A man without ethics is a beast loosed upon this world". Albert's words should be taken as a serious caution and every individual must strive to make this world a better place by tethering to the stings of ethics, morals and values. Madibaa believed that solution to all problems the world is facing can be addressed only by education.

References

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