

**ROLE OF SOCIAL CHANGE THROUGH VALUE  
EDUCATION****Dr. Treta Devi**Associate Professor  
Astron College of Education  
CCS University Meerut**Dr. Jitendra Singh**Assistant Professor  
Astron College of Education  
C.C.S. University Meerut**ABSTRACT**

The role of education as an agent or instrument of social change and social development is widely recognized today. Social change may take place – when humans need change. When the existing social system or network of social institutions fails to meet the existing human needs and when new materials suggest better ways of meeting human needs. Modern mass society presents a sharp contrast, as the young grow up. They are faced with confusion, delays and discontinuities. They won't able to appraise, to estimate and to evaluate the lives of others as well as their own. . Here comes the role of teachers to inculcate the values in these young ones which has an essential cognitive component in it that enables students to enhance their power of sound mental reasoning deliberately. Value education can play an effective role in decreasing the tension between the global and local, universal and individual, tradition and modernity, long term and short term consideration and finally the tension between spiritual and material world. Social change takes place as a response to many types of changes that take place in the social and nonsocial environment. Education can initiate social changes by bringing about a change in outlook and attitude of man. It can bring about a change in the pattern of social relationships and thereby it may cause social changes.

**Key words** : education, social development, value

**INTRODUCTION**

Education can be used as a tool to empower the individual. Through child centered learning, students are able to see their own role in transformation. Societal change comes from the collective transformation of the individuals within that society. It has become secular today. It is an independent institution now. Education has been chiefly instrumental in preparing the way for the development of science and technology. Education has brought about phenomenal changes in every aspect of men's life. Francis J. Brown remarks that Education is a process which brings about changes in the behavior of society. It is a process which enables every individual to effectively participate in the activities of society and to make positive contribution to the progress of society. The contemporary age is an age of great confusion and great losses. Wars and conflicts never cease, and innumerable vicious phenomena are covering the world, such as terrorism, destruction, arson, kidnapping, murder, drug abuse, alcoholism, declining sexual morals, the breakdown of the family, injustice, corruption, oppression, conspiracy, and slander. In the vortex of this great confusion, humankind's most valuable assets are now almost lost. loss of mutual trust among people, the deterioration of parental authority, teachers' authority, and governmental authority, the neglect of personal human dignity, the disregard of traditions, and the loss of the dignity of life.

In educational context values are those principles or standards, which help to better the quality of life. Values codify the do's and don'ts of behaviour. They form the basics of character formation and personality development. the values that spring from within or the core of the heart, like love, compassion, sympathy, empathy, tolerance, etc. lay the foundation for the external practiced values like honesty, discipline, punctuality and loyalty. The most important to remember is that "values are priceless, while valuables are priced."

In today's fast paced competitive world, man seems to have compromised on his values, integrity and character, in a bid to earn, use and possess more and more of material wealth. As a result, we see rampant corruption, unlawful activities, inhuman behaviour and immoral consumption, which is slowly breaking the very structure of our society, nation and the world. Therefore, there is an urgent need to re-introduce value based spiritual education dealing specifically with human values", to redesign the fabric of our educational system.

A child's mind is like soft clay and can be moulded to any desired shape. Thus, this is the right time and age to impart value education so that the right impressions formed in the child's mind will guide him throughout his life. Such life will definitely be based on moral and just principles. School is the common platform for all children coming from various backgrounds. In an interactive and learning environment of the school, where a child spends a maximum of eight hours of waking time, the human values can be easily evoked in him by making him "experience" and "live" the values. Teachers, here present themselves as role models to be emulated. Hence they should be equipped with the sense of global citizenship, justice, equality etc. And to produce such teachers definite guidelines must be introduced. The aim of such guidelines will not be only to produce the average teacher but to produce the above average Educator. Educators which have social obligations to equip students to be unbiased active participants in society and should be defenders of truth, enable social change and disseminate accurate knowledge.

### **NATURE OF SOCIAL CHANGE AND ITS IMPACT ON EDUCATION**

**Change in Wider Social Environment :-** The change may be in the total social environment surrounding the society. It may be due to some internal forces or external forces arising in other societies. Social phenomena occurring in neighboring or distant societies have very widespread impact now. English, for example, is now became a world language for dissemination of knowledge and consequently India feels the necessity to emphasis the need for retaining and strengthening the knowledge of English in order to continue to be benefited by new knowledge developing all over the world.

**Change in Social Goals, Objectives and Values :-** The social change may be in social goals, objectives and values. The changes may be in social values that directly affect the content of social roles and social interaction. For example, the adoption of equality as a value may ultimately lead to compulsory and free primary education, to expansion of primary educational facilities to all children up to the age of fourteen and to providing financial and other aid to backward classes for enabling them to avail of the expanded educational facilities.

**Institutional Social Changes** The social change may be "institutional" which includes change in more definite structures such as form of organization, roles and role content. The adoption of democracy and adult franchise in India has made training in responsible and responsive citizenship absolutely necessary for the electorate. This may ultimately affect the content and the method of teaching in educational institutions as well as the teacher-taught relationships.

**Values that constitute modern society :** In this paper we are talking of value education, value based politics and value based society. All of us feel that the values are falling and nobody is respecting them. In an enthusiasm to point fingers at others we do not realize that we too have contributed to this fall. But, what are these values? Values are a set of desirable behaviour by following which it is good for the individual and also the society. That exactly is the reason as to why values are not taught, lectured about or professed, they are only demonstrated. Two categories of people who make maximum impact on the personality of an individual in the formative years of life which remains all through the life are the parents and the teachers. Incidentally, it is this class of people who become role models - good or bad, without their consent or knowledge.

Because of modern technology and as a result of an easier life style, developed countries as well as much of the rest of the world have moved away from being an agrarian society. Societies before ours lived much closer to the land, their whole life centered on the weather, and the abundance or lack thereof, of the annual crop harvest. When the harvest was bad, people grouped together because of a need to survive, the ancient aborigines didn't even reproduce during years of severe drought. With all of our modern advances, we have theoretically eliminated starvation and need in modern society. If one is willing to work and place their priorities in the proper perspective, one can achieve anything his or heart desires as long as they have the human capabilities to do it. In most cases this is a good thing, however there is a down side also. By eliminating much of the hardships our ancestors endured, we have also eliminated the sense of community and dependence on each other, as well as our closeness to the earth and our natural world. Even our native cultures, what is left of them, have moved away from their basic moral structure and become less spiritual than in previous generations. Many have lost their way and have resorted to drugs and alcohol as a means of dealing with life's problems. I don't think there are many people alive today that if they had a choice, would want to live in a tee pee or a "humpies" in the outback of Australia, however many people no longer have a spiritual foundation, as is evidenced in their life style. Having said that, there are still many who would like to be able to follow the customs and beliefs of our native peoples, while maintaining their current lifestyle. Civilization as we know it started with a high spiritual base and slowly moved to a more materialistic society, with it came an easier, safer life with more comfort than our ancestors could have imagined in their wildest dreams. However along the way, we have lost sight of what is really important in life, we, as a whole have lost sight of our moral values, the values which built this great society in which we live. It is now time to return to the beliefs of our forefathers, they knew what they were talking about. There is nothing wrong with being prosperous, or enjoying a happy life, I for one appreciate my cell phone, my microwave, flat screen TV and all the other perks of modern day life. We have much to be thankful for and much to enjoy. However, there is another side to life. The ancients as well as our own ancestors have much to teach us, we need to return to the land, from whence we came, to re-learn what has been lost. The time has come to join modern technology with good old fashioned values and beliefs, the values that have stood the test of time. The lifestyle most of us have now affords us the time to be able to concentrate on the important things in life, all we need to do is to do it.

**Need to enhance current social strategies :** As a rule, every educated man is a man of Values. It does not mean that every literate is. We see a dichotomy staring at us in life. We have outstanding doctors who take away the kidneys of their patients without even telling them; brilliant engineers whose bridges collapse as soon as their bills are passed; accountants whose intelligent manipulations rob millions from the Government coffers; our exalted civil servants are truly functioning as unquestioned emperors; politicians promise the sky but do not even show the roof. All of them have received perhaps the best education and are trained in the best institutions. This intellectual dishonesty is horrifying.

All the education they received is used to make personal gains. Education to them has been a tool for personal prosperity even at the cost of others happiness. It is very self-centred. Perhaps we can say that our society, a modern society needs a "values revival", here "modern" should not merely mean that technology is improving. "In a modern society, the culture should be improving. Right now, it's in decline," "We need to elevate our moral and ethical standards."

In the 21st century we are sitting on the huge stockpiles of the nuclear weapons and in this scenario value education can only serve the medium of peace, harmonious development and upbringing of a globally sustained society. Although many experts from a wide range of ideological backgrounds and philosophies of education believe that modern society faces serious social and moral crises, and an alarming environmental impasse never before experienced in human history. Whether we consider developed or developing countries where the scales of social and societal problems may differ, there is convincing evidence that validates this observation in many parts of the world to-day such as the erosion of family and community,

the worsening situation of civic culture and understanding, malpractice in many financial arenas of the world, global warming and dramatic ecological change across the planet, and etc. And in our society, whether situated in the West or east, is in a state of permanent crisis, then, it is not far-fetched to suggest, that there may be something wrong with its educational system and philosophy. There are certain assumptions that increasingly dominate the modern mind set and shape the mainstream modern educational thinking, not only in the Western world but also in the East as well since the reigning paradigm today is based on modern assumptions. For this I must say that we must reconsider our obeisance to science and positivism in education. If we are to have any hope that we can avoid the social, political, moral, and environmental catastrophes a singular commitment to these ways of thinking practically guarantees. We should consider value as that which decides the goals of man's activities, it must be taught to the educational participants who serves as role model to the young ones of this “ give and take” value based society.

### **ROLE OF THE EDUCATORS IN UPBRINGING OF THE SOCIETY**

The role of a teacher in the changing social scenario is becoming very challenging. In the earlier times teacher was the only source of information and commanded respect on this count. Any one desirous of gaining knowledge had to bow down to him. Today, we have multiple information centers. There are books, coaching centers, the audio visual aids such as audio cassettes, video tapes, microfilms and internet services that provide a flux of information to those who need it. Thus teacher's role as the only source of information is marginalized. The society is becoming more materialistic and values appear to be pushed into the background. There is nothing unusual about it. Each era throws up a role model and the whole society tries to emulate this model. Consider the Vedic times when wise man or a Rishi was an icon. Even the kings and the princes came down to his hermitage, sat at his feet to get knowledge. When you look into the period of Mahabharata, the role models had changed. The heroes of this era are undoubtedly the mighty warriors such as Bhishma, Drona, Karna, Arjuna etc. The Brahmin Dronacharya was teaching the princes warfare instead of philosophy. Even the God incarnate, Parusharama was also teaching warfare. Everyone wanted to be a great warrior. Before independence of India, our role models were Gandhi, Patel, Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and other freedom fighters. It was the dream of every youngster to be a freedom fighter and every school in the country was a training ground for freedom fighting. All school campuses reverberated with the chanting sounds of vande mataram. After independence, unfortunately, the icon of the society has been a rich man. Everyone in the society is aspiring to become rich, as much as possible and as quickly as possible. Getting rich at any cost has been the motto. Invariably this process of getting rich instantly is at the cost of values.

The situation would not remain like this forever. There are enough indications that our country would awaken once again to those eternal values for which this land has stood for many centuries. We are at a transition time during which it is essential that the values are maintained and nurtured. Only an ideal teacher whose life itself is a beacon light of values can lead a society in the right direction. He has to demonstrate the essential values such as optimism, motivation, willingness to learn and teach, truth, non-violence, never to speak and think ill of others, creativity and ability to demonstrate unaddressed love. This is a tall order. But, that is the responsibility that the teacher must take in order to be an effective catalyst for social change.

### **CONCLUSION**

Education has become one of the influential instruments of social change in India. It has led to the mobilization of people's aspirations for development and change. Thus in modern complex national societies, education can neither be regarded as a controlling force conserving cultural heritage, nor could it be viewed as an agent of social change. It can only be regarded as a cooperative force in bringing about social changes decided by the forces possessing more pervasive power in society. The perceived value of something differs from person to person and may reasonably change. The main objective of this paper was to explain the concept of value education in encouraging the social changes in this materialistic world. Here we began with the explanation of the values that our modern societies constitute. After that we described the

needs to improve values of our modern society which is on the way of deprived route. Lack of value education and its impact can be seen in many cases. Thus the Indian education system needs a complete overhaul through proper legislation and its effective implementation. Legislations should be made taking into account the regional diversities of each state. The masses should be made aware of the new developments...

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