

# A Study on Human Values & Professional Ethics in Educational Institutions

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**Abstract:** Human values are the core of human being and acts as guiding principles of human life. Human values are often described as universal and are shared by all human beings irrespective of their religion, their nationality, their culture and their personal history. Ethics refers to the activity and process of inquiry and it is different from non-moral problems, when dealing with issues and controversies. A secondary study has been done to understand the impact of moral values among the teachers in the educational institutions and how it helps to develop the professional ethics among them. Data Collection: Secondary data collected through journals, reviews, chapter books, and websites, etc. We will understand the teacher's beliefs, values, and morals, learn the good and bad of them by the study of professional ethics and practice them to maximize their well-being and happiness. Professional ethics tells us how to live, to respond to issues, through the duties, rights, responsibilities, and obligations in educational institutions. This paper highlighted the concept of human and moral values, factors leading to development of professional ethics and development of professional ethics among teachers. The paper also fulfills an identified need to study the importance of Professional Ethics every teacher may have in their profession.

**Keywords:** Human Values, Professional Ethics and development, Educational Institution.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Human Values and Ethics refer to the quality of a person or an organisation or society at large. Basic inherent human values are the one which includes truth, honesty, loyalty, love, peace, etc. because they bring out the goodness of human beings and large community.

Human Values are important because-

- 1) It gives understanding about the attitudes, motivation and behaviors.
- 2) It influences our perception of the world around us.
- 3) It shows interpretation of "right and wrong".
- 4) It provides a way to know the humans and organisation.

Below are the basic moral values which every human being should possess, irrespective of they are in professional service or not-

- **Right Conduct** – It includes values like Self-help skills, Social skills, Ethical skills and Ownership.
- **Peace** – Peace includes values such as equality, humility, patience, self-confidence, self-control, self-esteem etc.
- **Truth** – Values like accuracy, fairness, integrity, honesty, justice, determination etc. are included in it.
- **Peaceful co-existence** – It consists of values such as Psychological and Social values.
- **Discipline** – Contains values like rules, regulation, direction, order, time management etc.

Professional ethics are universal standards of personal and business behavior, values and guiding principles. Professional organization generally adopts codes of professional ethics which can guide their members to perform their job functions with sound and consistent ethical principles. The expert members within the professional organization set up the code of professional ethics so that the persons performing in such jobs must follow the sound, uniform ethical conduct. Professional organizations generally include factors like integrity, honesty, efficiency, transparency, respectfulness towards

the job, confidentiality, objectivity etc. in their code of conduct.

### 1.1 Professional Ethics among Teachers in Educational Institutions:

When a person adopts teaching as a profession, he/she is under an obligation to conduct himself / herself in accordance with the ideal of the profession. A teacher is constantly under the observation of his / her students and the society as well. Therefore, every teacher must be able to understand that there should not be any incompatibility between their perceptive and practice. Furthermore, it is demanded by the teaching profession that the teachers should be knowledgeable, calm, patient and communicative by temperament and amiable in disposition.

Every teacher should:

1. Adhere to a responsible code of conduct and demeanor expected of them by the society.
2. Should seek to make professional growth continuous through study and research.
3. Express an opinion by participation at professional meetings, seminars, conferences etc. increasing the contribution of knowledge.
4. Must maintain active membership of professional organisations and strive to improve education and profession through them.
5. Assist in carrying out functions relating to the educational responsibilities of the college and the university such as assisting in appraising applications for admission, advising and counselling students.

## 2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Value education helps everyone in improving the value system that any individual can adopt in their lives and puts it to use. The students should be motivated for independent decision making. They should be made responsible for their own actions and should learn to analyze if they go wrong which will help to develop decision making abilities and confidence in them. Teachers are the role model for adolescent learners says- **Venkataiah, (2000); Laxmi and Paul, (2018).**

According to **Yadav, & Saini, (2016)**, the recognition of moral values and professional ethics in the system of education in India are indispensable aspects. In order to promote enrichment of the system of education and enable the individuals to acquire an efficient understanding of academic concepts and achieve academic goals, it is necessary to generate awareness in terms of human values and professional ethics. With the help of moral values, one can acquire an efficient understanding in terms of what is appropriate and what is not appropriate for the person.

**Pallavi Gupta (2016)** examines in her study that how and why the human values are consistently degraded in education system in India. It shows that higher education institutions lack to provide learning positive atmosphere, academic syllabus related to human values and extracurricular activities based on human values which lead to many societal issues in recent days. Hence, it states that it's the responsibility of the parents, teachers and society to inculcate human values among the students in educational institutions.

**Himanshu Kumar Sharma (2015)** states the importance of human values in modern era. It can be understood from the study that in the technological era, value crisis is one of the burning problems. To overcome these issues educators have an essential role to play. The study reveals that the teachers should have an integrated perspective to nurture the hearts and minds of learners in a balanced way so as to retain human values within oneself.

The study of **Chhonkar in (2014)** indicates that the code of professional ethics for the educators makes provision of framework for the standards and principles to guide them appropriately in involving their obligations towards students, parents, colleagues and communities states. The increased awareness of the ethical principles governing the teaching profession is regarded as indispensable in achieving the desired objectives and enhancing the overall system of education.

**Alexander, (2009); Curtis, (2010)** covers in their study that another important reason for urging that pre-service teachers engage with ethics education in teacher training programs is that teachers are now required to guide their

students with the help of issues of human rights, conflict resolution and social justice, matters included under the auspices of values education.

### **3. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY**

1. To study the awareness about human values among teachers in educational institutions.
2. To identify the factors required to develop the professional ethics among the teachers in educational institutions.

### **4. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

A secondary study has been done to understand the impact of moral values among the teachers in the educational institutions and how it helps to develop the professional ethics among them.

Data Collection: Secondary data collected through journals, reviews, chapter books, and websites, etc.

### **5. DISCUSSIONS & SUGGESTIONS**

#### **5.1 Attributes of Professional Ethics**

The teaching profession is the concept that teachers are experts who have been assigned specialized tasks by society, which has also prepared them for such tasks by providing them with the mandatory high level of education. A high standard of professional ethics are important resources that are available to teachers for guiding their work and their interactive relations at the professional level.

##### **1. Human Values and Human Rights**

We know that our work is founded on values and principles set down in universal human rights. These rights must be promoted and defended in every phase of education and the teachers should adopt it.

##### **2. Professional Integrity**

The basis for professional integrity can be ethical consciousness and high professional competence. A teacher's right is to give methodological freedom and special responsibility to be open about our academic and pedagogical choices.

##### **3. Education Community**

As a professional community it's our responsibility to develop good education and to

promote and develop our professionalism in the work place.

#### **4. The Professional Community**

It initiates ethical reflection and dialogue with the employees at work place. It works in a culture of openness and enables transparency and respects the competence of other professions and acknowledges the limits of one's own disciplinarily supports. It takes responsibility when colleagues meet special challenges in their work takes responsibility to find good solutions.

#### **5. Educational Implications**

If the teacher inculcates good professional ethics towards its profession, the ethics are automatically transformed to the coming generations. An efficient use of the professional ethics has the power to stop the terrorism in the world.

#### **5.2 Role of Teachers in Education**

A teacher's role in today's world is not only limited to classroom teaching and lecturing but it is far more than that. A teacher must understand that teaching involves wearing multiple hats to ensure that the educational institution runs smoothly and all students gets a quality education.

##### **1. Planning**

At the planning stage, teachers play various roles in which they are learners, constantly taking classes and attending professional development sessions to learn the latest best practices and strategies for effective teaching. Many teachers regularly collaborate with one another to gain new ideas for teaching, planning grade-level instruction and combining subjects to enhance the learning experience which helps to develop professional ethics among them.

##### **2. Instruction**

Teachers are facilitators of learning who provides students with the information and tools they need to master a subject. They act like tutors, working with small groups of students or individual students within the classroom or after class. Teachers also play the role of evaluators, in which they assess students' abilities and provide suggestions for improvement of the students.

##### **3. Student Interaction**

Teachers must be leaders in the classroom and in the educational institutions, earning the respect of students and setting a positive example. A teacher has the power to build up the career of student and grow them in a better way.

## 6. SOME INSPIRATIONAL VALUES FROM MAHATMA GANDHI - PROFESSIONAL ETHICS AND HUMAN VALUES

Gandhiji always followed the principles of Satyagraha (soul force or truth force). He lived a simple life and stuck to the following values i.e. – Satya i.e. Truth, Ahimsa i.e. Non-violence, Vegetarianism, self-discipline i.e. Brahmacharya, simplicity, faith, non-possession i.e. Aparigraha and equality i.e. Sarva Dharma Samanatha.

According to Mahatma Gandhiji, a person should be a-

- A Born Leader
- Honest
- Self-Confident
- Principle of truth
- Self disciplined
- Simple

**“Your beliefs become your Thoughts  
Your thoughts become your Words  
Your words become your Actions  
Your actions become your habits  
Your habits become your Values  
Your values become your Destiny”**

**M.K.Gandhi**

## 7. CONCLUSION

According to study of Rokeach, “Value is an enduring belief, a specific mode of conduct or an end state of existence, along a continuum of relative importance.” Every person needs value in their lives to guide them in the right path, to learn the importance of certainty, goodness and beauty, give positive direction to life and bring joy, preserve our culture and heritage, bring changes in behavior towards positive thoughts and much more. To improve the professional ethics among teachers in the educational institution, human values play an important role which helps to develop human values in future generations. Every teacher must adopt the professional ethics between them because it ultimately affects the

student’s behavior. As a result we can lead a happy, peaceful and satisfied life throughout.

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