



## **Current Ethical Issues in Teacher Education**

Dr S. Madhavi

*Assistant Professor*

*PG and Research Department of Economics,*

*Sir Theagaraya College,*

*Chennai-21*

**Email:** [madhavivino15@gmail.com](mailto:madhavivino15@gmail.com)

### **Abstract**

The paper intends to examine the current professional ethics, its problems and teacher taught relationship in the field of teacher education. The main objective of this paper was to diagnose the ethical and moral issues in the teaching and training modalities offered by higher learning institutions in India. The greatest resource and strength in Indian schools is our teachers. They account for the vast majority of expenditure in school education and have the greatest impact on student learning. This represents a sustainable way to support professional practice and enhance teacher quality, by preparing and equipping teachers with techniques to explore and teach complex ethical issues in the classroom and ultimately it will help the teacher to create a conducive environment within the institution which is needed for best learning.

Keywords: professional ethics, teacher education, emerging teachers,

### **Introduction**

The greatest resource and strength in Indian schools is our teachers. They account for the vast majority of expenditure in school education and have the greatest impact on student learning, far outweighing the impact of any other education programme or policy. The Code of Ethics of the teacher Education Profession indicates the aspiration of all educators and provides standards by which to judge conduct. The desire for the respect and confidence of one's colleagues, of students, of parents, and of the members of the community provides the incentive to attain and maintain the highest possible degree of ethical conduct. Teachers are the greatest assets of any education system. They stand in the interface of the transmission of knowledge, skills and values. They are accepted as the backbone of education system. Teacher quality is therefore crucial and has been globally accepted to be significantly associated with the quality of education general and students' learning outcomes in particular.

## **CURRENT ETHICAL ISSUES**

### **Corruption in Teacher Education**



The major cause of ethical deterioration in education system is rapidly spreading corruption. There was a time when corruption was only in Government offices, private institutions, police stations etc. But, now a day's corruption has spread its roots in education system also. Corruption in the education sector can be defined as "the systematic use of public office for private benefit, whose impact is significant on the availability and quality of educational goods and services. Corruption in education can include bribes and illegal fees for admission and examination; academic fraud; withholding teacher salaries; preferential promotion and placement; charging students for "tutoring" sessions to cover the curriculum needed to pass mandatory examinations which should have been taught in the classroom; and infrastructural work.

### **Privatization of Educational Institutes**

Privatization of education has emerged in several forms in the recent decade in India. Government allowed to opens self-financing private teacher institutions with recognition, which may be termed as commercial private teacher education institutions. With the mushrooming of these private institutes in the modern era, the education has acquired the status of a marketable commodity, where educational institutes are the traders and students are the customers. These institutions started courses like B.Ed, D.Ed,

M.Ed, BP.Ed and many more without basic infrastructure and qualified teaching faculties. They are appointing those teachers that are low salaried and far away from the standards. In this environment, teachers do not have any Job security, so that they always do as management desire and they are morally down in the dumps.

### **Political Interference**

The political interference is largely responsible for misuse of human resource management in education. Political parties often use many teachers as their party workers and these teacher also participate willingly in politics. Those teachers who are very close to political leaders have records of misconduct and unethical behaviour such as irregularity in class teaching, becoming absent from the school without taking leave. Political leaders, high-level bureaucrat and members of the teacher unions also attempt to influence decision-making regarding the recruitment and transfer of teachers. Favouritism, nepotism and bribes are major types of misconduct in teacher's appointment, posting and transfer. So the moral and ethical commitment of teachers has gradually decreased over the years due to political interference.

### **Ethics of Care in Teacher-Student Relationship**

The teacher should take a pledge to follow the code of ethics which may bring credit to the



entire profession. The basic concepts of care mentioned in the literature review are evident in the actions of our participants. In establishing rapport with the students, one can say he wants the students to know 'we' are going to have respect each other and be open and accepting to other's points of view. I think the main issue is trust. Then one can believe that the positive classroom environment is the product of taking the time to talk with the students in her classes about things in which they are interested, whether it is a current event or an ethical dilemma.

### **Un-Fair Assessments**

Course assessments of student learning must be objective, valid, fair, but at present there are many factors that may affect fairness in grading. Teachers should also avoid letting unrelated factors or personal biases which affect their grading of student assessments. It is now a major problem in the field of teacher education many institutions and universities are there, where assessment is doing with taking illegal money from the upcoming teachers. Also practical marks given to students after exploiting them in different ways, which lead to frustration in case of teacher, trainees etc. and the cause of emotional problem.

### **Teachers' Absenteeism**

Teachers are the role models of students and in most rural communities, they are the most educated and respected personality. Teachers are

the spreader of knowledge who helps developing pupils' understanding, attitudes, skills, learning, and core values. While simultaneously those teachers are mostly absent.

### **Relationship Boundaries**

The teacher-student relationships have received the most press and notoriety not only in India but also in the world. No doubt. Stories in the news of intimate teacher-student relationships have decreased over the last several years. I think it has got to the point where the teacher's emotions depended on a student that could be pretty dangerous. So you have to care and be genuine but at the same time you can't let yourself get carried away. You have to have stability of your own personal life and not put that into a student. That would be where you would be crossing the line and getting too involved.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Quality also requires that higher education should be characterized by its learning dimension: exchange of knowledge, interactive networking, mobility of teachers and students, and research projects, while taking into account the national cultural and ethical values, and circumstances.

One programme is needed where the teacher takes responsibility for his/her ethical action and the ethical development of his/her pupils. On



equating dilemmas and tensions as a general starting point and analysis themes for training, we can direct the task of their examination by appealing for reflective writing on ethical, practical and contextual dimensions diversified reading, complex novelizations, debates and role-playing

### Conclusion

Teachers are the greatest assets of any education system. They stand in the interface of the transmission of knowledge, skills and values. They are accepted as the backbone of education system. Teacher quality is therefore crucial and has been globally accepted to be significantly associated with the quality of education in general and students' learning outcomes in particular. It is high time to identify the major causes of declining ethical values in Indian teacher education system. The only way to arrest this decline is in providing value-orientation in Indian teacher education field. In India, it is necessary to increase ethical values, philosophical thinking, study, research and moral development in education system.

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