

# Erosion of Values and Present Society

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## ABSTRACT

This study is mainly emphasized on a present day's erosion of values of the society. Social, moral, behavioral, religious and many more aspects of human life has its own value from its inception or outset. But gradually they are losing its value in present time. Degradation of values led society to face serious problems, in some cases becomes obstacle in the way of progress. Today's news media are flooded with the news of anti social activities like murder, rape, corruption, cyber crime etc., these are effects of value erosion. Whenever a conflict arises between a stable social order and changeable materialistic life style, value crisis become dominant. There are many factors responsible for value crisis in one's life such as psychological development, lack of trust, love and respect etc. Parents, teachers and all other peoples of our society plays the role in inculcating values in a child through education and practices directly and indirectly. Though few steps are taken to avert value erosion, there is gulf between the progress of intellectual materialistic life and moral spiritual values. So, we should promote the moral, spiritual and social value to create a peaceful balanced society. We will be able to reestablish the glory of our very basic culture - "Satyam- Shivam- Sundaram".

## 1. Introduction

'Value' literally means something that has price, something precious, dear and worthwhile; hence something one is ready to suffer and sacrifice for; if necessary one is ready to die for it. Values are standards, rules, criteria, attitudes, guidelines, desirable ideas or beliefs and important things, which play a crucial role in shaping the life of individuals [1]. All People of our society especially the young generation, are confused about value system. They are facing value conflicts in their every step of life. Now days, every part of our country is affected by the massive erosion of values. It changes the set up of human minds and society every day. Political and economic corruption, scandals and scams, terrorism, anti social and antinational activities, all crimes etc. are increasing very fast and this indicates that humanity already have lost its values. The application of scientific and technological knowledge to the comforts of man has reduced him to a mechanical being, resulting in degeneration of the value system. Technological advance has been seen largely as the measure of progress. Unfortunately, we have not made similar progress in ethical, moral, spiritual and social values [1]. The development of values is influenced by a complex network of environmental factors- home, peer group, community, the media and the general ethos prevailing the society [2]. The challenge before us to revivify our country and all sections of our society by inculcation of those important values which are going to be lost, Such as social, moral, ethical, and human values.

## 2. Important Values

NCERT enlisted almost 82 values alphabetically in " Documents on Social, Moral and Spiritual Values in Education" (1979).

### ▪ Universal Values:

There are some values in universal nature like- self control, self- discipline, truth, universal love, peace etc.

### ▪ Traditional & Modern Value:

There are some traditional values which are replaced by some modern values like- traditional religious value replaced by modern secular values, superstitious values replaced by modern scientific values, traditional local or regional values are replaced by emotional integration and national unity.

### ▪ Improvement of Values:

There are some values are developing very fast like- scientific value, economic or material value, intellectual or mental value, physical value etc.

### ▪ Detoriation of values:

Some important values are losing its existence like- moral values, spiritual values, ethical values, social values, positive and negative values, actual religious and aesthetic values etc.

## 3. Need for inculcation of values

The Kothari commission report (1964-66) has observed, " The expanding knowledge and the growing power (science) which it places at the disposal of modern society must, therefore, be combined with the strengthening and deepening of the sense and the responsibility and a keener appreciation of moral and spiritual values [3]."

The national policy on Education (NPE-1986) has rightly pointed out the crisis in values in all aspects of life. Therefore, it has recommended a special thrust on inculcation of values at all stages of education, especially at the school stage.

The Programme of Action (POA- 1992) document, which has dealt with value education has widely interpreted value education as broad cultural education leading to removal of superstition, obscurantism, religious fanaticisms and all other narrow loyalties. It has stressed the importance of positive approach in which the roots of Indian culture have to be highlighted along with the development of scientific temper and unity and national integrity having a special focus [4].

According to the guideline of National Policy on Education (1986) and National Curriculum Framework(2000), the following values need to be promoted in the school:

(A) India's cultural heritage. (B) Equality of sexes. (C) Protection of environment. (D) Egalitarianism, democracy and secularism, (E) Constitutional obligations. (F) Nurture of national identity. (G) Observance of the small family norms. (H) Removal of social barriers. (I) India's freedom movement. (J) Inculcation of scientific temper. (K) Human rights including rights of the child, especially of girl child and (L) Inculcation of personal and social values such as cleanliness, compassion, truthfulness, integrity, responsibility, justice, respect for law and order, courage and the values cherished for the functioning of democracy[5].

Educational institutions (school, college, university etc.) emphasized on curriculum and extracurricular activities to inculcate values among students. As one of the aim of education is to all round development of a child, value oriented education is essential for the whole persons, recognizing that the individual is comprised of physical, intellectual, emotional, and spiritual dimensions.

#### 4. Erosion of values and its effect on society

Our society is facing a crucial situation due to speedy erosion of moral, ethical, social and spiritual values. In the changed social set-up the definition of good morals has been questioned. After Independence, continual attempts have been made for inculcation of right values in the students of at different stages of education. In spite of taking necessary steps in value inculcation, these values are gradually declined with the change of time .

#### Effect:

Erosion of values has become a serious threat to the present society. This resulting in an imbalanced society.

- Today, newspapers, magazines and other news media are flooded with reports of crime, murder, agitation, violence immorality, rape, corruption, bribery, self centered egoism, eve-teasing, cyber crime, robbery, cheating , many anti social and anti national activities etc[6].
- Teachers, administrators, lawyers, doctors, politicians, business mans and others socially and economically established people are increasing egotism, jealousy, enmity, hatred and greediness in their professions.
- Everyone reads such occurrences and facing many problems regularly in every part of our society which have adversely affected the development of knowledge, creative attitude, positive thinking, literature, culture and formation of well balanced personality of the future generation.

#### 5. Factors responsible for erosion of values

The factors which are mainly responsible for erosion of values are the following:

- Lack of proper psychological development (include physical, mental, social, emotional, moral development etc.).
- Lack of proper understanding of aim of education.
- Difference on social status like rich and poor.
- The growth of nuclear family in the society and our present life style.
- Rapid growth of scientific and technological development suppressed the growth of values in our society.
- The relation between teacher students and parents-children are deteriorating badly.
- Random misuse of internet, mobile, computer etc. among children.
- Lack of proper value oriented education in school, college and generally emphasized on academic excellence.
- Lack of trust on political leaders from ground level to national level.
- Explosion of knowledge in atomic weapons, bio-weapons, explosives, missiles etc. which are threatening the whole man-kind.
- No disciplinary and systematic life of parents which adversely affect the children in inculcating values.
- Corruption in every government and non-government organization affect the mind of youth and confused him in concept formation of the system of the society which are totally controlled by matured, educated adult people.
- Lack of respect towards our culture, religion, moral and social values among the youths.
- Parents, teachers and leaders nobody is unable to become role model to their children or student or youth generation.
- Good, morally and socially developed people have to face different problems in society which create a bad impact among children.

#### 6. Conclusion

From the above discussion ,It may be concluded that deterioration of social, moral, spiritual and human values is a serious threat to the future course of development of the society or country and for which not only our young generation but also the adults are responsible. Adult or educated or established people of our society are not playing their proper role and not reflecting values in their behavior, present youth generation would not able to inculcate proper values. So, we should stop blaming to children, students or youth as they have no moral, social, ethical, and spiritual values. To prevent erosion of values with the progress of modern life and improvement of science and technology, we should promote the moral, spiritual, social values to generate a healthy and peaceful society. We need to modify the contents and methods of value oriented education and in the process of inculcation. Teachers and parents should clear the concept of values and the aims of education meaningfully to children. They also help them to inculcate values and to build their character and also

help to adopt with the outer world becoming a complete human being.

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