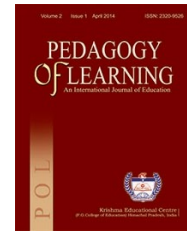




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Dilemma over values verses needs among youth: An uncertain future

Sandeep, Research Scholar, Centre for Education, Central University of Punjab, Bathinda
E-mail: sandeep28011987@ gmail.com

Sesadeba Pany, Assistant Professor, Centre for Education, Central University of Punjab, Bathinda
E-mail: drpany_s@yahoo.com

Corresponding Author: *Sesadeba Pany*
E-mail: drpany_s@yahoo.com

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Abstract

Dynamism is the basic feature of any society. It is reflected in the socio-economic and cultural component of the society. The individuals keep themselves aware of such changes and also get themselves changed. No one can avoid oneself of such changes. But the focus is on values. Do values get changed in proportional to such changes in the society? Are they automatically get changed or our need compel them to be changed? What is the perception of our youths on values and how they value their needs over values? The present article focuses on all these generic problems concerning the conflicting state of mind of the present youths over the preference to materialistic over spiritual values; fulfillment of needs and desires on one hand and emphasis on values on the other hand leading towards dilemma over preference to values and needs. Our future seems uncertain amidst such dilemma. No matter whatever may be the changing element in the society the major focus of the youth should be to maintain a balance between their needs and values. Generally for need fulfillment values should not be compromised rather a judicious decision is expected on the part of the youth concerning the value of needs ahead as well as the values.

Keywords: *Values versus Needs, Youth's Dilemma and Uncertain Future*

Introduction

Youths are the engine room of societies. They are the drivers of any developmental trend and activity in society and major determinants of the extent of growth and development in any given society (George & Uyanga, 2014). The word youth stands for Nojawan. The word youth or Nojawan is in itself stands for constant, firmness, boldness and solidity in aim, and audacity in facing adversities in the life. Such are the characteristics of the youth we used to bear in our mind. Youth that carries on his shoulders the responsibilities of the nation building are required to fulfill this great task with great courage in the society which starts having expectation from the being that has no existence so far in the society. With the conception of a baby, the baby is believed to follow certain rules and norms in the society, sometimes given name before the conception, and predicted that what he would become in his life. He is born with the burden of so much expectation of his parents and throughout his life strives hard to meet the level of expectations set by his parents and enlarged by his own wishes. In such a society, we are surviving only with expectations, a society where insomnia is epidemic with no wonder, where both the classes higher or lower are panicking; one for the fulfillment of needs and the second for the fulfillment of desires, and where poverty is glorified to keep the poor shut their mouth least the awareness might lead to the total upheaval of the social system. One wonders in the society where one's loss is the gain of others, would it be easy to follow the values of truth, goodness and beauty.

The span of human beings life roughly divided into three phases like childhood, youth and old age. Among all these threes youth is the best period in which human being has the energy to take the charge of all the obligations, firstly to himself, his family, and friends and secondly to his community, and the nation. He is respected and feels himself elevated if he has succeeded in fulfilling both the obligations. Otherwise, the youth thinks he is good for nothing. The youth wants to show his presence in his surrounding through learned knowledge and by performing good deeds. The edifice of the youth is built upon the teachings and experiences taken as a child. The knowledge which he has been taught seems impractical to apply as the environment is totally against his learned knowledge. Let me present two incidents one is related with the social problem the society has been facing so long and second is related with the one of the three values truth, beauty and goodness. Once a family was planning to give dowry to their daughter suddenly the boy who was just 7 years old interrupted and forced the whole family to speculate for a moment by saying that it is sin to take and give dowry. Second, a farmer was selling his buffalo to another farmer. He told the buyer that he had purchased this buffalo before four days paying fifty thousand rupees. The same boy who was listening carefully all the bargaining spoke loudly Papa why are you telling lie? Yesterday, you told us we paid for it only forty five thousands. There was silence. At the night, the child was rebuked and asked why he did so? The child simply replied that his teacher taught him to speak the truth. The child was instructed not to meddle with household affairs again. And in this way our society lost one of its virtuous men. The two stories seem simple but consist of the solution for all our present day problems. This shows that what

we are teaching our wards the knowledge but perform all the deeds just against it. Sooner or later the child while entering into the best period of his life that is youth starts realizing that which he has been taught was only for teaching and not for practicing.

Values verses Needs

The boy was made silent by the family and to generalize, the family is the epitome of society. The boy was happy and silent as he was not required to earn for the family at that time. The questions of the hour are that can society flourish with such kind of family and with the product of this kind of family? If lie prevails will it be possible to survive without having the confidence in none. For the solution of all these problems, values are originated. These are the values which bounded the people together. These are the keys to live happily and the sum up of all the experiences of our wise forefathers. These values save us from wondering into the darkness of ignorance and testified on the edge of time. These values have provided remedies for all the problems which cannot be solved by any other measures. These values work where the legal and political system of any society become ineffective. For example, the law and political system of any country can stop a man from hoarding money through unfair means but it cannot force a law abiding rich man to donate his money to establish hospital and charity trust for the poor and needy people of the country. So donation is a virtue or value that is goodness. In fact, Bharat is a country where much welfare work is done by the charitable trust. In every corner of country one may find Dharmshala and Gurudwara and Temples that are ready to serve the people at any time and without any cost which take no grant from the government. If we start looking at the values with this perspective then these are the essence of a civilized society and in the light of above example the fight over the topic that how values are inculcated will seem to us totally absurd. If values are so much valuable then it does not matter how they are to be inculcated but they are to be inculcated by all available means. Instead of wasting our precious time in such valueless topic that has no solution from the time of Socrates, why not adopt all the available method and ways if the destination is so bright and full of goodness. Will society cease to develop such kind of values or what kind of future will be of society with no values?

It must be clear that on the whole earth there is not a single society which is totally valueless. Then what is the erosion of values? The core of the idea is that each and every society has some values and adheres to these values. The loss of the same societal values or the replacement of these values by other cultural and societal values is called the erosion of values. But this erosion is only for the society which has lost its value due to the influence of other's societal or cultural values. For the culture and society that has replaced the cultural and societal values of others, it is victory or expansion of its cultural and societal values. For instance, for the other society the motherland can be a piece of land but in the Bhartiya culture it is regarded as mother and if someone not call her the mother we say that there is the erosion of cultural values in the society. This

indicates that the different society has different value system and a value oriented person always respects his cultural and societal values. So such is the nature of values. At present, the youth is more exposed to different societal and cultural values so he is blamed to have lost the values. This tag makes him irritating and he forwards his steps speedily on the path of change only for the sake of change. And the conflicts starts with which he fights day and night mostly in silent and sometimes the outburst takes place in public place, public transport and even in place which are sacred and regarded with high esteem adding fuel to the fire of erosion of values.

The values of different societies can be different but the basic needs of all the society are almost the same and these are; physical and socio-economic needs. A person particularly the youth is supposed to take the responsibility for the fulfillment of these needs of the family. Looking at the present scenario, it looks the youth is stuck between the questions whether he prefers values or needs. He is faced again and again with the same questions which are preferable between the two as the set-up of present society is such that one is forced to pick up one and leave another. The problem took doubled shape as the values that are from the beginning of any society when they change in wrong direction they give pain to the human being and man is not easily ready to change them but when the needs change even though their fulfillment gives pleasure to man. So the changed form of values in wrong direction and fulfilled stage of need cause conflict among the youth. Let us take one example to support the idea. For example, having the mobile phone with internet connectivity is the basic need of any youth at the present time and when this need is fulfilled one feels satisfied but due to the possession of this mobile phone connected with internet one spends more time on the internet than to have fun with his family and friends. In this way, he starts living an aloof and boring life ignoring the value of social gathering and misses the opportunity of face to face interaction with more experienced and wise person in family and society. In this way, the fulfillment of need become the reason for turning the youth into a socially secluded man that could be an amicable man.

Dilemma of Present Youth

When a qualified bachelor in any stream after having the degree in his hand asks what I should do next, the situation is full of paradox and dilemma in youth. When an illiterate youth amid the crises of life curses himself, his family and his nations for not having done enough to literate him the situation leaves no difference between the literate and illiterate youth. And this country is overflowing with such youth who is seeking the answer of the question to the country leaders, administrators and so called policy makers that what we should do next? This indicates that our youth is not provided with the knowledge and attitude which can help them in leading a successful life. He asks how he can feed his family and fulfill the needs within the ambit of values of society. In reality, his only need is to be a successful person. But what does really success mean and what person is truly called a successful person is just a matter of perspective with which we look at the concept of success. For some youth it is to get the job and for others

it is to earn more and more money. To meet these needs they are ready to take both fair and foul means.

Are the needs increasing so much that these cannot be fulfilled without compromising the values? Really these are increasing. The facilities in the near past have taken the form of basic need today. The basic needs water, food and shelter are still basic needs they are added by so many needs and the list of basic needs is exhaustive. Except from the three basic needs, the needs include the minimum facilities as well without which the life hampers. To imagine a man without electric fan in the old type of house is good as the wall was thick made of soil and lime and the temperature was comparatively minimum as it is today. In near past, having fan could be termed as facility but today it is the basic need. These are the physiological needs of the man. Can these needs be met without compromising the values. The youth is confused since for him the definition of being succeeded is to hoard more and more such minimal facilities and the compile of these minimal facilities requires him to play the role of getting and organizing more and more such minimal facilities.

Values cannot feed a hungry man but due to values some leaves eating and becomes the centre for world attention. And the world is full of such examples. History records all those who snatches the bread from other hands with all those who starves themselves to feed fellow beings. Some prefers needs over values and some vice-versa. But humanity adores and pays homage to the latter. It is better to earn the everlasting fame with this mortal body than to waste it on earning perishable things. It is truth at the present time all needs cannot be fulfilled but neither they had nor will be in future. Here the great savior is the satisfaction which also implies fulfilling needs within the ambit of values. This does not mean to let the exploiter give free hand to exploit the satisfied one. The fight for right must be continue. For example, the fight for right to education will always be welcomed but the same fight to keep the student election at college and university level needs analysis whether it is the mere need or any values are attached to them. The day we celebrate, the kind of food we eat, the way we live our life and the way we behave in social setting, are these type of behavior is the need of the time or any value is attached to them. Our youth is perhaps unable to evaluate these questions in the light of logic. They are credulous and easily influenced by wrong ways. They have not given chance to taste the real enjoyment of life. The object and issues they think is valuable perhaps has no real meaning in itself. This is the dilemma, the inability to distinguish between need and values attached to that need. They are getting more aggressive and ready to quarrel over on the trifles. The situation is getting worse due to the development of technology. It saves a lot of time but does not provide with the wisdom how to use this spare time. Most of the spare time is being spent on worthless activities. Crushed between the two wall of needs and values the youth full of energy with no proper direction wear dual personality, one for the society and second for himself. He is supposed to care for his family, respect the elders, serve the nation and bear the burden of all responsibilities. He runs all day and reaches nowhere. At the college and university he is taught that all are equal and there is no discrimination

between man and man but after completing his education he is asked to produce his cast certificate the unavailability of which renders him to ineligible. Then he asks himself is the value of equality is value in real sense or it is the need of the time to represent it as a value.

With the completion of education, the youth is required to have job in different part of countries commonly or sometimes in foreign land. He leaves his families behind and earns the money and makes his career bright. If the environment has the capability to influence a man and can change a man, then why cannot it change him also? And it is not fair to believe that when he leaves his place or society he carries with him all the treasure of ritual and customs of that society where he lived and after coming back he will only bring money but he will bring also some cultural aspects of that society if not all in which he lived and earned. He is not coward but become submissive due to conditions. The unemployment, westernization, communalism, dirty politics, and hectic life schedules renders him into a living dead. Is there any stoppage for him in the long walk?

Uncertain Future

The youth (especially students) with their values have major influence on further value system of society in general in the future (Silic, Dulcic and Visic, 2013). How the future is uncertain? Future is the expected and unexpected result of waiting to the doer who was not the single force in the formation of it but it was also influenced by the extraneous forces. Prediction of future is not so easy but looking at the present condition of the doer it can be imagined and guessed what it should look like. Secondly the extraneous forces such as in the case of the youth his family, peer groups, community, society and the country in which he lives, are termed as the extraneous forces. How much are they helping in bringing back the youth on the right track is not hidden agenda? These extraneous forces are not less responsible for the degradation of the society. Having all these aspects into account it can be guessed that the future of the youth is dark and uncertain as none of the aspects in the society is conducive to the formation of unpolluted environment. If we adopt the parameter of socio-cultural values in which one lives then our youths' future is essentially full of darkness and ignorance and the youth lives in cinematic world; flying high in the sky with no visibility of the mother earth.

Why their future is uncertain? Perhaps no man lives without aim in life. If we analyze the aims of the youth their aims mostly show their attachment for the attainment of materialistic achievement. This sort of aim is erroneous and the fulfillment and non-fulfillment of such kind of aim is harmful for the society. In case of fulfillment what should be ahead of it he does not know. After getting job, having possession of precious things and placing himself on the so called higher position in society perhaps cannot be termed as the good goal for the present generation. If so there existed no uncertainties among the higher strata of society. So the first and foremost thing is to let them define the goal that is beyond this entire materialistic factor. If such kind of ability is developed

into them to define their goal then the myth of progress can be broken away and the undefined success may have some useful meaning for them in the light of humanity.

Conclusion

In the effort of making our youth an international citizen, we are forgetting that a wise man is wise everywhere just because of the fact that he is a wise man and a fool is not fool everywhere just because of the fact that he is not a wise man. Our system's whole energy is wasted upon the preventive measure but no concern over uprooting the major cause of the problem (Sandeep & Dhillon, 2016). The only way for the removal of all problems presented above there is only one way out that is wisdom and the revival of values. The ailment is in our socio-cultural values. Our problem is ours. It is in our socio-economic and cultural arena so the solution should also come out from here. The ailment is in our body so the remedies will surely be in our body but we have to go to the root. We just need to rejuvenate that root and that root is our socio-cultural and spiritual values that require today a genuine effort on the part of youth and all human being who is awoken and really conscious now.

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