

DEGRADATION OF MORAL VALUES AMONG YOUNG GENERATION IN INDIA: AN EMERGING ISSUE

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Abstract- Degradation of moral values of among young generation is an emerging issue. Moral values are the worthy ideals or principles that one follows to distinguish the right from the wrong. These ideals or virtues are considered worthy in building up the character of an individual. Moral values are something that teaches us good virtues including honesty, truthfulness, kindness, integrity, helpfulness, compassion, respectfulness, love, respect for others, hard-work, co-operation, forgiveness etc. The youngsters or adolescents are the future of tomorrow. Moreover, youth power is the driving force of a nation. But, now a day's youth is adversely diverted through different immoral activities. Therefore, it is duty to everybody to find out the solution of this crucial problem to establish India in the world of peace and harmony that is very much depends over the hand of young generation. This paper highlights here the causes, consequences and suggestions to encounter the problem.

Key words: Degradation, moral values, young generation, immoral activities.

Introduction:

Degradation of moral values among our young generation is at present a blazing issue. In the past, moral values and graciousness were prominent in most teenagers. Majority of the youths then learnt respect, courtesy, consideration, decency, propriety, honesty and righteousness from a young age. From ethical point of view human actions can be judged as good or bad right or wrong moral or immoral. These judgements are always determined by the common moral standard of our society. Morality is not a law imposed upon us by our fellow men. It is a law that we ourselves can understand and choose for our guidance because we see that it is good sense to do. Broadly, Morality means honesty of character, fairness in attitude, absence of evils like hatred, jealousy, greed, telling lies, etc. It plays a healthy synthesis between people, co-operate each other in a harmonic manner, understand the right or wrong differentiation makes a value based society. However, these moral values are slowly diminishing over the years, as most of the younger generation are gradually disregarding these ethics. These days' youngsters spend more time on their phone, talking, operating facebook and whatsapp than with their elders, who used to teach them good values. They talk about big issues like corruption, politics, but they themselves have no time for the guests, for celebrating the festival in real sense, for respecting their older grandparents.

The agencies of education like family, school, club, church and society etc. plays an important roles to in calculate moral values among the future generation. But, unfortunately, due to several social and economic factors, many families are disoriented, disorganised and confused and therefore have failed woefully to play this vital role.

Objectives of the study:

The objectives of the paper are as follows-

1. To know the importance of moral values among Indian youth.
2. To know the factors affecting degradation of moral values among Indian young generation.
3. To know the consequences of moral degradation among Indian youth.
4. To give some suggestions to reduce the moral degradation among Indian young generation.

Methodology:

This study is qualitative in nature. Here, the investigator collected the data from different research journals, books, websites etc

Findings:

On the basis of the objectives of the study findings are discussed below-

O1: To know the importance of moral values among Indian youth:

According to Father of Indian Nation M.K Gandhi,

"If wealth is lost nothing is lost"

If health is lost something is lost.

If character is lost everything is lost.

Best of all things is character."

Everyone knows that life is precious that life is important. We all protect our life because we care for it more than anything else. If life is so important, the values of life are even more important. Values are guiding principles, or standards of behaviour which are regarded desirable, important and held in high esteem by a particular society in which a person lives.

Students are the future of India. The future of our country depends upon the moral values imparted to them during their student life. Moral values such as humility, truthfulness, honesty, respect for elders, tolerance, courtesy, spirit of service and sacrifice, affection, sympathy, love and cooperation are necessary among the youth for proper character and personality development. It helps to develop

democratic qualities such as dignity of individual, social and individual justice, brotherhood and equality among students for the success of democracy.

Moral values are a must in a student's life since he or she has yet to face the harsh realities of life. Moral values are not one sided but give immense content to those who exercise them and those for whom the exercised helping a blind man to cross the road, giving food to really hungry, consoling a baby like mother Teresa, consoling a really depressed person or sharing one's grief, are invaluable services born of these moral values. In other words, moral values help the students in finding out the true purpose of life. Once we start following the path of life through moral values, we start realizing the true purpose of our life. We become unselfish, dedicated, loving and caring for others.

Moral value is very essential in these days for the all round development of youth. Education based on moral values develops the outlook of the boy and girl students by providing a new direction to their thinking which brings consciousness and awakening in them. Thus, this education prepares them to sacrifice their personal interest for the welfare of the society.

For the growth of the society, it is necessary to eliminate the conflicts in the name of caste, creed, religion, region, culture and customs. Education based on moral values inculcated the feelings of respecting others by teaching tolerance, peace, love and patience, cooperation, fellow feeling and secularism.

By imparting lessons on moral values to the students their instincts, emotions and sexual urges can be controlled. This leads to the developments of both the individual and society. It also helps to develop positive and social attitudes by creating awareness among the younger generation about the ill of the society. Such an education enables them to raise their voice against dowry system, corruption, traditional religious rituals, trafficking of girls and superstition.

O2: To know the factors affecting degradation of moral values among Indian young generation.

There are several factors which are responsible for forgetting the basics or values of a good human being or a responsible citizen of the society among the young generation. These are:

a) **Influence of Nuclear family and materialistic way of life:**

These are very important factors for degenerating moral values among youth. In a nuclear family especially where father and mother both are working; have no time to share with their child. The feelings and emotions of child remained unentertained. So, the child finds some other places like T.V, peer group, bad literature etc. to share feelings and emotions and start behaving immorally as revolt.

b) **Breakdown of parental control of children in families:**

Now a day's parental control over their children decrease day by day, as a result of it autonomy of young generations are increasing rapidly. Consequently the youth are being diverted by external force and engage themselves in night club, rocking, unwanted discussions and so many undesirable affairs.

c) **Influence of peer group:**

Peer groups play a vital role in developing the concept of morality. Students of schools and colleges pass more time with them, discuss with them frankly and seek their support, guidance and advice; so they readily prefer to accept views of peer group rather it conflict with parents views which lead them to indulge in immoral activities like dacoits, kidnapping, drug abused etc.

d) **Gender bias:**

It is very unfortunate that at the age of 21st century parents differentiate between their son and daughter. Sons are more preferred than their counterpart in our society. Going to market alone, laughing in public places, wearing western clothes are considered disgraceful for girls but these are not equally applied for boys. This unnecessary freedom to boys make them think that they are superior and can do whatever they want.

e) **Attraction of change or modernization:**

Advent of modernization has spread over the younger generation of the society. Consequently our youth have disassociated themselves from their own identity, tradition and cultural heritage.

f) **Influence of mass media:**

Undoubtedly Television, print media, internet blogs and websites, cinemas, role models (movie actors and actresses) play an important role in shaping the personality of the youth. Many Medias, images, movies and games, that not only neutralize violence but often glorify it. There is so much violence, vulgarity in all these entertainment avenues and if a majority of youth watches these, the impact of the same on the next generation can't be positive.

g) **Lacking of learning positive atmosphere in school:**

The main aims of educational institutions are to modify, enhance and strengthen the learnt beliefs, ideals and behaviours of the students in right direction. But, now education institutions are unable to provide such positive atmosphere because the administrations of such institutions are not properly directed.

h) **Lacking of co-curriculum activities based on moral values:**

Co-curricular activities are a necessary part of school life. But now the scope of co-curricular activities has been limited to only sports, literacy competitions, quizzes, few games, dance or musical events only. Today, on the occasion of birth or death anniversary of legends of our nation there is holiday.

i) **Dirty politics:**

Today's youth are captured by political parties which are using them for serving their own interest. There are students union in colleges and universities which make the students engaged more in unethical activities such as hitting teachers if they failed in examinations, making strikes for fulfilling their unnecessary demands resulting in deterioration of ethical and moral standard of the society.

j) **Desire of self exhibition:**

Adolescence is a time period when youth begin to analyze issues, develop view points, rationalize and struggle to develop a personality of their own. Desire of self exhibition often takes a youth towards crime and immoral behaviour like smoking, drinking, delivering abusing words, quarrelling etc.

k) **Higher importance to materialistic achievement among school students:**

At present, schools and parents has great importance to materialistic achievement of students. They more emphasised on marks rather than their development of values. So, it is another factor affecting degradation of moral values among young generation.

l) **Lack of academic syllabus related to human values:**

Now a day, children are educated but they are not aware of the ways of its practical application. Present education system is making our students such type that they can easily fulfil their basic needs and earn money but they don't find any importance of values in their lives. If they get job according to their will they are happy and in case of failure they feel broken and remain dissatisfied.

O3: To know the consequences of moral degradation among Indian young generation.

The moral degradation in our society has reached such a level that calls for concern. Youth in India is getting increasingly inclined towards violence, social evils and lack of respect towards elders and teachers which can break down social harmony as well as national integration. Kidnapping, murdered, armed robbery and crisis have become a serious matter in India today.

They engage in all sorts of anti social behaviour injurious to the society. Moral values are found in our religion, culture and traditions yet our youth, for one reason or the other are not that religious. They consider our indigenous culture outdated and our traditions barbaric. Therefore, they queue up to embrace westernization in its totality; abandoning our indigenous culture and tradition entirely, thereby losing their identity.

Moreover, creative mind of youth diverted towards unsocial activities like smoking in public place, misbehaving in class, drug addiction, misconduct in the household and juvenile delinquency etc.

Invention of new modes of scam and frauds are being emerged which denotes that youth are tending to get more interested into easy way of attening wealth, power and fame etc. giving least consideration of human values.

O4: To give some suggestions to reduce the moral degradation among young generations:

Some suggestions to reduce the moral degradation among young generations are as follows:

1. From the childhood onwards parents and teachers should give proper guidance.
2. Child has the great quality to learning bad things first and parents must be careful about that.
3. All the schools should implement suitable programmes to make students aware about the importance of value education. Value education should be inserted in to the curriculum as compulsory subjects from beginners to all stages of formal educational system.
4. We must not blame the children for their rash behaviour. We too are to be blamed for why they behave today.
5. Moral values can be developed both through formal and non-formal systems. Organizations of various activities such as NSS, NCC, boy's scouts and girl's guide can greatly help in this regard.
6. Group discussions should be conducted in the classroom. Students should be given a situation and asked for their opinion on how they will react, that way they will learn when they hear each other's opinion.
7. Peaceful atmosphere and essential infrastructure should be provided as much as possible to the younger generation society.
8. Children should practice and learn rituals, tradition, religion and activities as well as modernization should be simultaneously maintained.
9. Political organizations should think about their activities and directing youth energy in positive way.
10. NGO and other social volunteer associations have to be strengthening to coordinate youth to bring stability among them and proper planning has to be introduced and implemented accordingly their potentialities.

Conclusion:

It is considered that youth power is the driving force of a nation. Knowledge without moral values is not only useless but is dangerous too for the society. That's why our young generations are in a great dilemma; they face enormous challenges. They are adversely diverted through different an immoral activity which doesn't only influence the present Indian society but also it stimulates the future generation of our civilization. If we give good education to the present day children, the future of the next generations will be well. Now we are living in the modern century. Therefore, if we use science and technology in the proper way it is not difficult for us to solve all the problems of the non moral and value things. However, moral orientation of youths needs to be strengthened to build up a moral and harmonious society. It is very much required to make and implement some constructive approaches for the youth on which the country's present and future depends; otherwise it will be too difficult to make positive and harmonic atmosphere of morality and humanity.

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