

ETHICS OF EDUCATION A SINE-QUA-NON FOR TRANSFORMATION IN THE STUDY OF RELIGION IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

PIUS Barinaadaa Kii, PhD

Department of Religious and Cultural Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Rivers State
University, Port Harcourt

&

EZE, Kingsley Ekele PhD

Department of Religion and Human Relations, Faculty of Arts, Nnamdi Azikiwe University
Awka

Abstract

Presently, ethics has an important place in all areas of life. Education remains a fundamental process of human life. In education ethics has a vital and effective role. In order to be a good human, ethics should be placed as a course in educational system. However, in the modern society, education plays significant role. An educated person is a country's precious property on which all kinds of development is depended on. Ethics has important role in every sphere and part of our lives. Over the year's institutions have created courses which assisted students regarding understanding ethics. The whole world is becoming very mechanical and commercial in which expectation of honesty and commitment among people is like a dream.

Keywords: Role, Ethics, Education, Modern, Society

Introduction

Ethics are well-founded standards that make actions right and wrong. Ethics is the most important and functioning branch of philosophy. In general, ethics is moral philosophy. The term ethics is derived from the Greek term Ethos, which means custom and character. It is related to our values and virtues. It helps categorize different values such as integrity, discipline and honesty among others. Ethics influences behavior and allows an individual to make the right choices. Without ethics, it will be very difficult to regulate life and act responsibly. While the importance of ethics cannot be ignored in any occupation, it is imperative that they are practiced in the field of education. Ethics in education are essential as they help run the system smoothly. It sets the standards of what's acceptable and what's not hence protecting the interests of both the educators and the learners. Ethics in education are applicable on both the instructors as well as the students. While it's the teacher's job to make the students aware of these ethics, the school management often takes it upon itself to familiarize the instructors with the ethics that are relevant to their profession.

Furthermore, Ethics has a very important role in every sphere and part of our lives. Ethics simply means the discipline of handling and dealing with good and bad commitment and moral duty (Singh, 2020). These are some well-established levels which help us know about

right and wrong. Ethics settles the levels and standards of what's acceptable and what's not, and it influences the behaviour of people and helps an individual to choose the right option. Ethics are elucidated or interpreted differently in different situations, which tells us about the standards of behavior to act properly in different situations with friends, parents, children, citizens, business people, teachers, professionals, etc. (Shobana & Kanakarathinam, 2017). In education, ethics are very important, which help to run the education system smoothly. Ethics has a great significance in education over the years, and recently, institutions are creating courses that help students understand ethics. In education, the intention of ethics is not only of learning ethics but also to improve intellectual dimensions, which will authorise people to identify ethical dimensions of issues and address ethical issues in fields as diverse as medicine, economics and policy, among others (Singh, 2020).

Ethics is one of the most significant branch of philosophy today, and it simply means philosophy of morality. The term ethics was derived from the Greek word Ethos means custom, character, and is related to our values and virtues. It helps us in proper decision-making, and so, the actions and experiences of our everyday life are the subjects of ethics. They are mainly divided into two parts: theoretical ethics and applied ethics. Normative ethics, descriptive ethics, meta ethics etc., are included in theoretical ethics and professional ethics are included under applied ethics (Gulcan, 2014). Normative ethics mainly studies what makes activities or actions right and wrong. Meta-ethics is all about the theoretical meaning as well as the application of moral propositions and descriptive ethics studies about facts, and looks into ethics from observations of genuine choices made by moral agents in practice.

Definition of terms

Ethics: Ethics has an important place in all areas of life. Ethics has also become important in education, because education is a fundamental process of human life. Therefore, ethics is a very important subject in education. We can easily access all knowledge through technology. In education, using technology reveals some ethical problems, such as plagiarism. In order to understand the importance of ethics, ethics should be placed as a course in the educational system. Before discussing this issue, it is necessary to define what ethics is and what education is. Ethics is the most important and functioning branch of philosophy in today. In general, ethics is moral philosophy. The term ethics is derived from the Greek term Ethos, which means custom, character. It is related to our values and virtues. Therefore, our actions and our experiences in everyday life are the subjects of ethics. We can think about our choices, so we are responsible for all our decisions and actions. In addition to this, it can be said that ethics is the study of what is wrong and what is right. Good-evil, right-wrong, virtue-vice, justice and injustice are some ethical concepts. Ethics is divided into two parts: theoretical ethics and applied ethics.

Theoretical ethics includes normative ethics, descriptive ethics and meta-ethics. Applied ethics refers to professional ethics. Normative ethics is the study of what makes actions right and wrong. Meta-ethics is about the theoretical meaning and reference of moral propositions.

Descriptive ethics is about facts. It examines ethics from observations of actual choices made by moral agents in practice

Applied ethics examines the particular ethical issues of private and public life. Professional ethics is one of the important branches of applied ethics. In general, professional ethics can be defined as standards or codes to guide people in their professional lives.

Education: In a general sense, education is any act or experience that has a formative effect on the mind, character or physical ability of an individual. Etymologically, the word education is derived from the Latin *Educo*, which means to educate, train. Education is a process of learning and acquiring information. It means teaching and learning. Education affects on human mind, character and physical abilities. The history of education begins with human history itself. Education is also a way to become civilized human individuals, and it maximises human potential. Culture and cultural heritage can be transmitted by education, because the main occupation of man is to pass knowledge, skills and attitude from one generation to another.

In ancient Greece, some philosophers' views of education, such as Socrates, Plato and Aristotle, contributed to the development of our present educational system. In general, they all believe that the purpose of education is that improve humankind. The Socratic Method is still used in modern educational practices. In this method, teachers ask some questions to improve the intellectual abilities of students, and students try to answer these questions by using their reasoning. Today's educational theories are based on the philosophies of these philosophers.

Plato, who was the founder of Idealism, claimed that education aimed to develop individuals' abilities to better serve society. He was also the founder of the Academy, the first university in the world. For him, both men and women had the right to have an education. He claimed that there were different stages of education. According to him, education was a key element for a society. Davidson (1900) observed that Aristotle, who was the father of realism, believed that only citizens could be educated. Another yet, Barnes (Ed). (1995) observed that an educated person was a fulfilled person, because education is holistic; theoretically, practically and technically.

Education helps development of bodily and mental faculties, in ancient Greece, education was seen as a Function of the state and the aim of it is to serve the ends of state, in the modern society education plays a very significant role in shaping the life and character of the people and society; education makes a person enlightened and well- mannered, an educated person is a country's precious property on which it is all kinds of development i.e. economic, social, educational, cultural etc. is depended. Without education, man would still be living with the behaviors of an animal, and it is education which transfigured man into civilized person. It begins before the birth of a child and continues till the very moment before death. It brings culture among human beings, which is an important asset of a society. It makes a man

fit to live life better and develops in a human being various significant values like social awareness, economic productivity, cultural and moral refinement, etc.

Today, education also serves both the needs of the state and society and the citizens. Therefore, education is important for us. It builds character, gives knowledge and helps the progress of the state. Education makes a man complete, and it also plays an important role in developing society and the state. Schools are basic frameworks of education. School helps children to become good citizens. This is possible only through ethical education.

The Role of Ethics in Education:

Ethics in education is a very broad term that gives learning experiences to students, which is fruitful for them to grow ethically. It can be considered as a means of expanding ethical awareness and understanding motivation to behave and act ethically in the whole world. In education, there are four principles of ethics. They are-

Honesty:- Honesty means being trustworthy, loyal, truthful, sincere, fair, etc., which is a very important trait to have in education. The strong bonding of teacher and student in a school always comes from mutual trust and respect. But, it is seen that in today's world, students and academicians are running only after academics, marks, etc., and most of them have forgotten about the importance of values and morals in the educational setting. But, success doesn't come only from academics, but also have the morality to complement our knowledge. It is one of the important individual assets that a person should always have. So, in the education system, students should be provided with knowledge along with moralities and ethics, and they must be properly guided from their childhood to develop honesty among them.

Confidentiality:- Confidentiality means not disclosing or revealing one's commitment or information to unauthorised people, and this is also a very important ethical principle in education. When a student faces any stress, crisis or challenge, they seek help from student affairs professionals, and it is their responsibility to maintain confidentiality about them.

Conflict of interest:- The conflict of interest may occur when the best and highly preferable interest of a person is not similar to or doesn't match the best interest of another individual or organization to which an individual experiences loyalty. Therefore, in a school environment, students' interests should be given proper priorities, and it is a big responsibility of teachers.

Responsibility:- Responsibility is also a vital ethic in education among all other ethics. It is the responsibility of students to show proper respect and careful manners to their teachers as well as other classmates in school, and teachers should take strong initiative regarding teaching students about their responsibilities.

Ethics in Education

Ethical Conduct towards Students by the professional Educator

Andrew (1983), notes that a professional educator accepts personal responsibility for teaching students character qualities that will help them evaluate the consequences of and accept the responsibility for their actions and choices. Strong parents are the primary moral educators of

their children. Nevertheless, we believe all educators are obligated to help foster civic virtues such as integrity, diligence, responsibility, cooperation, loyalty, fidelity, and respect for the law, for human life, for others, and self. The professional educator, in accepting his or her position of public trust, measures success not only by the progress of each student toward realisation of his or her potential, but also as a citizen of the greater community of the republic.

Aristotle also says, “Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.”

However, a professional code of ethics is a guiding principle which aims to help professionals to perform work with dedication, honesty, sincerity, commitment, etc., with integrity. It deals with the principles and values that a professional should implement to make the workplace environment creative and conducive (Sherpa, 2018). The professional skills and knowledge are key elements which every professional should require to achieve or acquire to do their services with determination and proper commitment. These are designed purposefully for teachers to shield the rights of the students, and these ethics are very important for teachers to understand their work ethics and values before coming into the teaching profession (Sherpa, 2018). The school is said as a miniature of society and a formal agency that provides education to students. Teaching and the teachers are the two major keys of this society, without which the educational process cannot function properly. So, a teacher has to always know about their massive responsibilities and understand their profession. The codes of professional ethics have a great significance in this regard. So, the absence of these professional ethics in teachers may influence the development of students. According to Benninga (2003; as cited in Sherpa, 2018), teachers must focus on providing the right path and guiding students to make them well-mannered, well-behaved, and develop a good attitude within them. Some significant professional codes of ethics for teachers are as follows-

1. A teacher should always be aware of their own roles and responsibilities and must respect the privacy of other members of their own school.
2. They must have proper knowledge about student needs and a deep vision of fulfilling the present needs, requirements and aspirations of the learners.
3. He/she should always show due respect to various spiritual and cultural values, diversity, social justice, democracy, freedom and the environment.
4. Teachers should show affection, care and love to students and build a good, pious and respectful relationship with students.
5. Teachers should be honest, dedicated and reliable towards the school and students.
6. Teachers should maintain cordial and reverential relationships with all the stakeholders of the school. They must try to win the trust of their pupils, colleagues, parents, school management and the public as well.
7. They should always keep them away from the conflict between their professional work and private work, which may affect students’ perception towards the school and teachers.

8. The professional educator deals considerately and justly with each student, and seeks to resolve problems, including discipline, according to law and school policy.
9. The professional educator does not intentionally expose the student to disparagement.
10. The professional educator does not reveal confidential information concerning students, unless required by law.
11. The professional educator makes a constructive effort to protect the student from conditions detrimental to learning, health, or safety.
12. The professional educator endeavors to present facts without distortion, bias, or personal prejudice.

Ethical Conduct toward Practices and Performance

The professional educator assumes responsibility and accountability for his or her performance and continually strives to demonstrate competence. Gardelli, Alerby and Perssons (2014), present three arguments about why ethics of conduct towards practice and performance should be considered in schools. These arguments are socialization argument, the quality of life argument and the tool argument. According to socialization argument schools should help students to become good citizens. To do this, ethics is necessary in schools. The second argument, the quality of life argument, claims that school helps to students to live a good life.

The professional educator endeavors to maintain the dignity of the profession by respecting and obeying the law and by demonstrating personal integrity.

1. The professional educator applies for, accepts, or assigns a position or a responsibility based on professional qualifications, and adheres to the terms of a contract or appointment.
2. The professional educator maintains sound mental health, physical stamina, and social prudence necessary to perform the duties of any professional assignment.
3. The professional educator continues professional growth.
4. The professional educator complies with written local school policies and applicable laws and regulations that are not in conflict with this code of ethics.
5. The professional educator does not intentionally misrepresent official policies of the school or educational organizations, and clearly distinguishes those views from his or her own personal opinions.
6. The professional educator honestly accounts for all funds committed to his or her charge.

Hence, help your students to become more civilized human individuals. Your efforts should not generate educated monsters to become skilled psychopaths. Reading, writing, and

mathematics are only important when they help your children to become more human. (Aydın, I.)

7. The professional educator does not use institutional or professional privileges for personal or partisan advantage.

Ethical Conduct toward Professional Colleagues

The professional educator, in exemplifying ethical relations with colleagues, accords just and equitable treatment to all members of the profession.

1. The professional educator does not reveal confidential information concerning colleagues unless required by law.
2. The professional educator does not willfully make false statements about a colleague or the school system.
3. The professional educator does not interfere with a colleague's freedom of choice and works to eliminate coercion that forces educators to support actions and ideologies that violate individual professional integrity.

Ethical Conduct toward Parents and Community

The professional educator pledges to protect public sovereignty over public education and private control of private education.

The professional educator recognizes that quality education is the common goal of the public, boards of education, and educators, and that a cooperative effort is essential among these groups to attain that goal.

1. The professional educator makes concerted efforts to communicate to parents all information that should be revealed in the interest of the student.
2. The professional educator endeavors to understand and respect the values and traditions of the diverse cultures represented in the community and in his or her classroom.
3. The professional educator manifests a positive and active role in school/community relations.

Recommendations

- Educators should treat every student equally and do justice while taking an action.
- It's important that an instructor understands that every student is different and shouldn't be evaluated on the same basis.

- Ethics in education doesn't allow teachers to hold grudges and to intentionally treat students unfairly.
- At the same time ethics in education requires a student to respect the instructor and abide by the rules set by them. Students should acquire academic integrity and responsibility as well as practice self-discipline.

Conclusion

Education is considered a valuable asset of every human. It is a key to making an all-round development among children, and it is the primary duty of every teacher to impart quality teaching at all levels of education to bring optimum development among students. Students also need to learn about ethics, practice it to grow with a unique personality of high moral values and ethics. To become successful, in this regard, a teacher has to gain knowledge about the professional ethics of teaching first. Teachers should show an equal level of dignity to their profession, institution, students, colleagues, as well as parents, and they should take the liability of the teaching profession seriously and perform their duty effectively. Therefore, in education, the implementation of teaching ethics to students as well as the professional ethics of teachers is very much essential.

The professional educator strives to create a learning environment that nurtures to fulfilment of the potential of all students. The professional educator acts with conscientious effort to exemplify the highest ethical standards. The professional educator responsibly accepts that every child has a right to an uninterrupted education free from strikes or any other work stoppage tactics. Professional educators play a very important role in a student's life. They not only impart education but also help develop the personality of a student. As the instructor often plays the role of a mentor and influences an individual's development, they must follow certain ethics. Ethics in education that apply to teachers require them to show patience to every student, despite their learning abilities. Ethics in education helps regulate the education system and ensures that this practice positively contributes towards human welfare. Human beings can be either unfriendly or peaceful through education. Ethical education aims to enable people to make decisions of their own free will. You can teach norms easily, but you cannot teach easily to obey these rules easily unless you teach ethics. Therefore, teaching ethics has an important and necessary place in education

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