



ABSTRACT

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The present study attempts to examine the parents' and teachers' perceptions in developing values in young children. It also aims to identify the values held by children. The sample group comprised of 40 school going children of 9-12 years of age and their parents from urban middle class Hindu families of Udaipur city along with five class teachers. The required sample for the present study was drawn through random stratified selection technique. The primary tool used for data collection was Family Tree Checklist, Values Auction Scale, Questionnaire for children and Interview Guideline for Parents and Teachers. The Family Tree Checklist comprised of 40 eight values within Five basic core Universal Human Values viz. Truth, Righteous Conduct, Peace, Love and Non -Violence. The data collected was coded and analyzed both qualitatively and quantitatively from the perspectives of gender and family type. The results revealed that Parents' lives depict an integration of all the five basic core universal human values, however Righteous conduct and Love were found to be the predominant values for them as compared to Truth, Peace and Non-violence. Further, Parents, Grandparents and Teachers emerged to be the most significant sources of values, whereas, the sources like Friends and Media emerged as virtual non-entity for them. The Value Auction Scale was used to find out the values that Parents consider important for their children. Independence in children emerged as the most important value for parents' of boys, however for parents' of girls, the child who makes them feel proud of their deeds was the most prized upon value. Doing well in school, loyalty, honesty and possessing leadership qualities were also considered important for them. Also, there were gender related parental expectations related to doing household chores, cooking, managing house and realizing the value for money especially for girls. Parents' of boys invariably gave importance to the child who is respectful of adults, physically fit, can control his temper besides being self-disciplined. Encouragement is one of the most common strategies used by parents to develop values in children.

Questionnaire administered on children reveals that all the four values namely Tolerance, Honesty, Sympathy and Cleanliness were seen in children. However, the scores and percentage distribution indicated that children were more tolerant than sympathetic with cleanliness and honesty being their second and third priority respectively. The last section of the study examined the teachers' perception in developing values in children. The results revealed that teachers regarded fostering values as part of their job, integral to what went on in the class room and considered themselves to be the main source of providing guidance and helping child reach his or her potential. Further, most of them favored informal approaches – primarily being a role model and providing examples for their pupils, along with praising the child as strategies for fostering values in children.