A PROSPECTIVE STUDY OF PROFESSIONAL ETHICS IN TEACHER EDUCATION

Dr. G. Kannan
Assistant Professor, Department of Education, Annamalai University, Chidambaram

Abstract
This article presents a glimpse of the professional ethics. Ethics is an activity and process of inquiry and it is different from non-moral problems, when dealing with issues and controversies. The study on ethics helps to know the teacher’s beliefs, values, and morals, learn the good and bad of them, and practice them to maximize their well-being and happiness. It involves the inquiry on the existing situations, form judgments and resolve the issues and also it tells us how to live, to respond to issues, through the duties, rights, responsibilities, and obligations. In religion, similar principles are included, but the reasoning on procedures is limited. This paper highlighted the concept of professional ethics, attributes, educational implication of professional ethics in teacher education, educational implication.

Keywords: Professional Ethics, teacher Education, Introduction.

Introduction

In this modern and globalized era, India has lost its value based society and has been transformed into a materialistic society. It is the result of thinking and behaviour of the human being. A great challenge to our country to back in place of value based society and also concern that why this transformation took place. Education is the major agency that can be used to make any changes, hence if only the teacher or management changes their mindset from commercialized ideas to value based thoughts, can we set things right. This can be accomplished by setting examples to others by living a life with values and ethics, for which one should be taught about his profession and its ethics.

Professional ethics is an ancient concept. The most common components of professional ethics codes refer to knowledge, honesty, accountability, integrity, loyalty, compliance with the law and more. Individual responsibility is a main component encompassed in professional ethics. Besides codes, organizations may use other measures to implement professional ethics, such as continuing education and various support mechanisms for professionals.

Every profession is expected to evolve a set of ethical principles to guide the conduct and behaviours of its members. The ethical principles provide the basis to differentiate between desirable and undesirable professional conduct and behaviour. Ethics deals with moral principles, which are usually accepted voluntarily by an individual or a group. The code of professional ethics may be defined as a set of self imposed professional ideals and principles, necessary for the attainment of professional excellence and self-satisfaction. A code of professional ethics is generally based on two principles, namely, professional integrity and ideals of service to the society.
Role of Teachers in Education

A teacher’s role involves more than simply standing in front of a classroom and lecturing. In fact, even though a teacher spends the majority of the day in the classroom, the actual teaching component is only part of the job. An effective teacher understands that teaching involves wearing multiple hats to ensure that the school day runs smoothly and all students receive a quality education.

Planning

At the planning stage, teachers play multiple roles. They are learners, constantly taking classes and attending professional development sessions to learn the latest best practices and strategies for effective teaching. Many teachers regularly collaborate with one another to gain new ideas for teaching, planning grade-level instruction and combining subjects to enhance the learning experience. They analyze test results and other data to help determine the course of their instruction and make changes in their classrooms.

Instruction

Teachers are facilitators of learning, providing students with the information and tools they need to master a subject. At times, teachers act like tutors, working with small groups of students or individual students within the classroom or after class. Teachers also play the role of evaluators, constantly assessing students’ abilities through formal and informal assessments, providing suggestions for improvement and assigning grades.

Student Interaction

Teachers must be leaders in the classroom and in the school, earning the respect of students and setting a positive example. They must be disciplinarians, doling out fair and consistent punishments to students who break the rules. At the same time, teachers must show care and concern for students. A teacher has the power to build up or tear down a student's self-esteem and make a student's day or ruin it in an instant.

Other Professional Duties

Throughout the school day and over the course of the school year, teachers take on other roles, as well. They are chaperones at school functions and coaches of school sports. They are monitors at lunch and recess and serve as fundraisers for field trips and school supplies. Teachers also play the role of interior designer, making sure their classrooms are set up to support learning and act as artists when they update their bulletin boards and other displays.

Concept of Professional Ethics

Every profession, in order to regulate its terms, conditions, norms and quality of service rendered, has its own professional ethics, which is different from general ethics. Professional means an expert, specialized, qualified, proficient, skilled, trained, practiced,
certified, proficient, skilled, trained, licensed, mature etc. So, Professional is a term denoting a level of knowledge and skills possessed by an individual or required of an individual to perform an assignment, that is attained through extensive education and training. Secondly, Ethics means principles, morals, beliefs, moral principles, moral values, moral code etc. Indeed the word Ethics is derived from the word Ethos, which means character. In this way, Ethics is a science of character, habits of activity, or behaviour of human beings. It evaluates human habits, character and voluntary determinations and discusses their property or otherwise.

Attributes of Professional Ethics
The teaching profession is based on the concept of teachers as experts who have been assigned specialized tasks by society, which has also prepared them for such tasks by providing them with the necessary high level of education. A high standard of professional ethics is one of the most important resources available to teachers, guiding their work and their interactive relations at the professional level. Some of the attributes of professional ethics are given below.

Human Values and Human Rights
Our work is founded on values and principles set down in universal human rights. These rights must be promoted and defended in early childhood education and in schools. The inviolability of human individual freedom and the need for safety and care are fundamental.

Professional Integrity
Ethical consciousness and high professional competence are the basis of the profession’s integrity and are essential in creating good conditions for play, learning. Our right to methodological freedom and our professional discretion gives us a special responsibility to be open about our academic and pedagogical choices.

Respect and Equality
Each individual person’s personality and integrity must be met with respect. No form of oppression, indoctrination or prejudiced opinions shall be tolerated. All children in early childhood education and all pupils in schools have a right to participate and have their views heard and taken into account.

Education Community
We are knowledgeable, responsible and present grown-ups in children’s and pupils’ lives. As a professional community we have a common responsibility to develop good education and to promote and develop our professionalism in the work place.
The Professional Community

It initiates ethical reflection and dialogue with all employees at the workplace. Cooperates to further develop knowledge, competences and ethical judgment, both internally and in interaction with relevant institutions in higher education and research, creates and participates in a culture of positive cooperation where all opinions are treated seriously. It is loyal to the goals and regulations governing their institution as long as these are in line with the political mandate and our professional ethics. It works in a culture of openness and facilitates transparency and respects the competence of other professions and acknowledges the limits of one’s own disciplinarily supports and takes responsibility when colleagues meet special challenges in their work takes responsibility to find good solutions, and, if necessary highlights unacceptable conditions when they are discovered in the workplace.

Educational Implications

If the teacher bears good professional ethics in relation to his profession, the ethics are automatically transformed to the coming generations. The deteriorating status of the profession will gain back its Potential status. An effective use of the professional ethics has the power to stop the so called terrorism in the world. Professional ethics will help in the spread of peace and international understanding across the Globe. Professional ethics will fight against Corruption and lead to a Hygienic life.

Conclusion

The profession shows courage and defends our political mandate use the freedom of speech actively and participates in relevant academic discussions and in policy debates on education take responsibility to warn authorities and the public when poor framework causes unacceptable conditions for children and pupils strive for good cooperation, but not by taking over responsibilities that are part of other professions’ expertise do not compromise the values of the political mandate, our professional knowledge or our ethical values. We believe that a day will come soon, when all the people will have sophisticated modern gadgets, western lifestyle and materialistic attitudes, but would die for any sign of values in family and society at large. Instead, come lets join hands and sow the seeds of moral ethics right now or else we will remain blind folded till the end.

References