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SPIRITUAL VALUES AND PRACTICES RELATED TO TEACHER LEADERSHIP

Manish Bhatnagar

Abstract : *Schools are expected to provide children with the conducive environment that would help transform themselves into acceptable valuable assets for the society of tomorrow. In this process it also becomes very much relevant to study and understand the perceptions child about an ideal school. The children of today will be global citizens of tomorrow and therefore the opportunities and challenges they carry to school provide a precise guidelines for immediate action. The process further leads to identification of gaps in meeting the expectation and thus directs the flow of action in the appropriate direction.*

The study was under taken with the objective of understanding the opinion of children about their school. For the holistic over view, the research work studied eight variables, they were; Conceptions of children about existing school governance, Conceptions of children about ideal school governance, Conceptions of children about existing teacher-student relationship, Conceptions of children about ideal teacher-student relationship, Conception of children about existing physical infra structural facilities, Conception of children about ideal physical infra structural facilities, Conception of children about existing physical amenities, Conception of children about ideal physical amenities. Sample was selected from Unaided schools, State government schools, Central Government schools and International schools. A comprehensive profile of selected children was also collected.

Key Words : *Conceptions of children, ideal school, physical infra structural facilities, teachers, school governance*

1. Introduction

Teacher leadership is increasingly been seen as a key vehicle for school improvement and renewal. The need of the hour is to inculcate teacher leadership values in our teachers. Teacher leadership is a meaningful concept. In my views teachers trained in leadership skills will definitely works as a change agent in socializing process of our students by being a bridge gap between the world out side and in the schools.

This paper deals with spiritual values related to the teacher leadership both in thought and practices. Teachers are very influential people. They must have some spiritual values as a leader because they interact their student during formative years of life. They should act as role models. Their main aim as a teacher is to produce good citizens. for producing good citizens teachers need some spiritual values like integrity, honesty, humility, respect for others, being fair, expressing caring and concern etc. in this paper some suggestion related with spiritual values(practice part) are also presented. Teachers should

exhibit them in their daily life in school to influence their students to help them in building all round development of their personality.

2. Difference between spirituality and religion

Before discussing spiritual values related to teacher leadership I want to make it clear that in this paper spiritual values does not mean religious values related with formal organizational religion. Here spiritual values means a personal life principles which is more generic and may even encompass more than one religious approach. Spirituality to my mind is one of the quality of teacher leadership in not so much in words or preaching, but in the demonstration of concern for their students in feeling of compassion and joy. It empowers teachers to be able to inspire and motivate their students.

3. Spiritual leadership

Several scholars have expressed their views on spiritual leadership according to Fry (2003) "Spiritual leadership as the experience of transcendence or how one