

Professional Ethics Among Student-Teachers in Relation to Personal Values and Institutional Climate

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Abstract

Education plays an important role in the development of society and teachers are considered as an important part of the educational system. A teacher is expected to maintain professional ethics, positive values and responsible behavior in the teaching profession. The present study was conducted to study professional ethics among student-teachers in relation to personal values and institutional climate. Descriptive survey method was used in the study. The sample of the study consisted of 400 student-teachers selected from different government and private teacher education colleges of Indore district through random sampling technique. The tools used in the study were Professional Ethics Perception Scale for Student-Teachers (PEPSST), Teacher Education Institution Climate Scale (TEICS) and Personal Value Questionnaire (PVQ). The collected data were analyzed with the help of mean, standard deviation, correlation and t-test. The findings of the study indicated that there was no significant relationship between professional ethics, personal values and institutional climate among student-teachers. The study also highlighted the importance of ethics and value-based teacher education for the development of responsible future teachers. The study may be useful for teacher educators and educational institutions in improving the quality of teacher education programmers'.

Keywords: Professional Ethics, Personal Values, Institutional Climate, Student-Teachers, Teacher Education

Introduction

Education is one of the most important means for the development of an individual as well as society. Teachers play a significant role in shaping the future of students and therefore professional ethics in teaching is very important. A teacher is not only expected to provide knowledge but also to guide students with honesty, responsibility, discipline and moral values. Professional ethics help teachers to maintain proper behaviour and commitment towards students, society and the teaching profession.

In the present time, teacher education institutions are expected to prepare competent and ethically responsible teachers. The institutional climate of a teacher education institution influences the behaviour, attitude and professional development of student-teachers. A positive institutional climate helps in creating cooperation, discipline, motivation and better learning experiences among students. On the other hand, personal values also play an important role in the development of professional ethics. Values

such as honesty, respect, responsibility and social concern help teachers in performing their duties effectively.

Professional ethics and personal values are considered essential qualities for teachers because they directly affect classroom behaviour and relationships with students. In recent years, there has been increasing concern regarding ethical behaviour and value-based education in teacher training programmes. Therefore, it becomes necessary to study professional ethics among student-teachers in relation to personal values and institutional climate.

The present study focuses on student-teachers studying in government and private teacher education colleges of Indore district. The study attempts to understand whether professional ethics of student-teachers have any relationship with their personal values and institutional climate. The findings of the study may help teacher educators and institutions in improving teacher education programmes and creating awareness regarding ethical practices in the teaching profession.

Objectives of the Study

To study the professional ethics of student-teachers.

To study the personal values of student-teachers.

To study the institutional climate of teacher education colleges.

To find out the relationship between professional ethics, personal values and institutional climate among student-teachers.

Methodology

The present study was conducted by using descriptive survey method. The sample consisted of 400 student-teachers selected from different government and private teacher education colleges of Indore district through random sampling technique. Standardized and self-constructed tools were used for data collection. The collected data were analyzed by using statistical techniques such as mean, standard deviation, correlation and t-test.

Conclusion

Professional ethics are important for maintaining quality and responsibility in the teaching profession. The present study concluded that no significant relationship was found between professional ethics, personal values and institutional climate among student-teachers. However, the study emphasizes the need for ethical awareness and value-based teacher education programmes' for the professional growth of future teachers.