

INVESTIGATION OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN  
RELIGIOUS VISIONS OF TEACHERS WITH  
EFFECTIVENESS OF EDUCATION OF MORAL  
CONCEPTS TO STUDENTS

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**Abstract**

Human is an educable creature and his/her personality forms according to educations and habits encountered by him/her in life. This research is carried out by correlating on 70 teachers of 1<sup>st</sup> elementary grade of Naghadeh city selected randomly. In this regard, two questionnaires of religious visions and a questionnaire provided using 5 choice Likert scale were utilized and data were analyzed by means of SPSS 17. Research findings confirmed that there is a meaningful relationship between religious vision of teachers and effectiveness of teaching moral concepts to children.

**Keywords:** religious vision, moral concepts, 1<sup>st</sup> grade elementary course teachers

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**Problem statement**

Vision is a matter which has a significant value in social psychology so that many theorists such as Allport, defined it as a central core for social psychology. With regard to its identity, various opinions and viewpoints are available, however, there is a common sense in definitions which can be summarized in three implications. First, vision is always belongs to a subject and human gets vision about an event or social phenomenon and in general, a certain issue by means of communication and experience. The second issue is that the vision leads to being encountered with issues in a predictable manner. The third issue is that the vision is a positive or negative evaluation. It means that when we talk about the vision of someone, in fact, we consider his/her evaluations (Bagheri, Kh. 1989).

Religious vision corresponds to holy matters which is defined in ethology and divine in which someone moderates materialistic power through spiritual power and reminds him/herself that talents hierarchy is negligible compared to moral and religious merits. This vision leads to consideration of spiritual power and personal confidence and consequently, adaptation with society. William James believes that religious feelings are those which do not have the same nature but are of various feelings such as religious fear, love, horror and happiness. Therefore, various feelings can be combined together in a unified terminology of religion.

Moral concepts are imaginations which form by means of moral words in human mind. Sometimes, we mean by moral concepts all concepts which can be used in moral sentences. According to this definition, all concepts used in moral statements, whether they are common or subject, are moral concepts.

Emphasis on religious and moral education and its improvement in students, is important since they take responsibilities in near future and if this education is performed in an appropriate way, we can hope that future generation is successful in transferring values to the next generation. Many psychologists believe that early years of the life of a child are one of the most important periods of his/her life. Most of what occurs in this period, affect later periods of growth. In fact, recognition of the importance of elementary period increasingly emphasized during last decades and since the basis of the personality of the child form during this period, it is not exaggeration if we claim that anyone is the child of his/her childhood period (Talebzadeh, 2006). Majority of studies and researches show that family environment is less responsive for child social development after 4 years and children in this age require more social activities and their

presence in school environment allows them to socialize with their peers and gradually develop their necessary optimal social skills. In education category which always brings about deterministic changes in children development process. An important element such as teacher which is one of the effective elements in child development process is present. Personal characteristics of teachers affects their behavior in preschool environments and their ability to communicate with children. However, an important issue which must be kept in mind is that powerful and educated teachers are able to prepare and educate children in order to take part in society by means of updated knowledge, values governing society and indigenous characteristics of the society and it will be achieved when teachers are familiar with tools, innovations and components corresponding to educational process of children in the field of moral concepts and know their method of use. In this way, recognizing moral concepts and having a strong religious vision by teachers in learning process of elementary schools is of great importance and teachers lay a key role in this regard (Fekr Azad, 2001).

#### **Reasons of importance and necessity**

Educational system as an important organization and infrastructure of education of people and human resources is necessary and it requires a special consideration of society. Significant revolutions in human life and change in human needs in different time periods entails that educational system experiences revolution and dynamism so that it can be able to respond to human needs and problems and equip learners with a powerful tool and leverage.

The importance of this research is evident from the fact that improvement of children moral intelligence is the best opportunity to put them in the right way so that they can act as well as think appropriately. Moreover, development of personal characteristics depends upon strengthening moral concepts in children. Growing a dynamic, healthy and potent generation, requires proficient, aware and well behaved teachers. Today, expectations of various societies especially parents regarding positive and creative effects of elementary schools has been increased and it is expected from principals of high schools and taking part people that prepare children for school successes, grow them as social people and prepare them for adaptation with cultural and versatile communities, instruct them how to overcome environmental limitations and finally utilize their emotional talents to face stressful situations of today's rapidly changing world (Mofidi, 2011).

### Research theoretical definitions

**Religious vision:** religious vision is defined in various ways by many scientists. Some of sociologists consider it by two dimensions of performing religious duties and religious beliefs. Performing religious duties such as prayer and fast and so on will be revealed by practical observations and religious beliefs will be discovered by responding belief questions.

**Effectiveness of moral concepts:** moral intelligence, ability to discriminate right and false, i.e. having firm moral beliefs and acting according to them so that child can behave in an appropriate and respectful manner.

### Main goal

Investigation of the relationship between religious visions of teacher with the level of effectiveness of teaching moral concepts to 1<sup>st</sup> grade elementary students

### Minor goals

- Determination of the relationship between teachers' religious beliefs with their educational level
- Determination of the relationship between teachers' religious beliefs with number of their children
- Determination of the relationship between teachers' religious beliefs with their marital status

### Research hypothesis

There is a meaningful relationship between teachers' religious beliefs and the level of effectiveness of teaching moral concepts to 1<sup>st</sup> grade elementary students.

### Research method

Recent work is of correlation research type since author tries to study the relationships between variables without interfering or manipulating them and determine the level of correlation between them.

### Statistical community and sample

All elementary 1<sup>st</sup> grade teachers of Naghadah during 2013-14 are considered as statistical community and from teachers. 70 people were selected randomly using Morgan table.

### Research tools

In this work, two questionnaires of religious beliefs and a questionnaire of the effectiveness of moral concepts are used.

### **Method of statistical analysis**

Data obtained during extraction, coding and importing to computer are processed via SPSS 17 and to analyze data, Pearson correlation factor method was used.

### **Research findings**

According to research findings, it can be inferred that there is a meaningful correlation between religious beliefs of teachers and effectiveness of moral concepts for children, since the level of meaningfulness is lower than alpha value. Therefore, calculated correlation in the level of 0.01 is meaningful and as a result, null hypothesis in level of 0.01 is rejected and by 99% probability it can be said that there is a meaningful relationship between religious beliefs of teachers and the effectiveness of moral concepts for children.

Results show that there is a meaningful relationship between the level of education and religious beliefs of teachers of statistical community, since the level of meaningfulness is less than alpha value. Hence, this hypothesis is confirmed. However, there was no meaningful relationship between effectiveness of moral concepts and other variables such as number of children, marital status and academic major.

### **Conclusion and discussion**

Results of research show that more religious belief of teachers will lead to more effectiveness in education and moral development of elementary school students. This illustrates that the administrators of educational system are responsible for education of moral concepts and their role is critical and their actions and behavior have profound effect on children and learning moral concepts. Teachers and practitioners who effectively transfer moral concepts tell children that everyone has his/her own feelings, hopes and goals and all of his/her attempts will be accepted and valuable as a person. In this way, at the end of day, children will have better feeling toward themselves and higher acceptance level for moral concepts which they see in their teacher. Taking part in various educational programs will lead to deeper insight and capability to communicate with children. Therefore, in accordance with relevant context, valuable role and performance of the teacher will make significant changes in children's life.

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