CHAPTER VII
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Summary of the study

Modern world is revolutionized by the explosion of knowledge caused by education, which in turn has challenged the traditional customs and values. There is a constant change in the society with respect to values, norms, ideas, as well as the attitudes of the individual which make the society more complex and integrated. Education is viewed in the modern society, as an organized effort of imparting skills, attitudes and activities which prepare the people to tolerate and accept change by widening their outlooks. Education is also recognized as a process by which society transmits its cultural heritage from one generation to another and also modifies and transforms the existing culture and thus become the best potential power for reconstruction of a society.

The modernizing effect of education in facilitating changes in values and attitudes of people has attracted attention of scholars from various part of the world. Some of the scholars studied the modernization of individual with respect to values and attitudes (Krichner and Hogan, 1968, Inkles, 1969, Roy, 1980, Kundu, 1982, Varma 1993) while others analysed the modernization of society from religious, political, economic and educational viewpoints (Michel, 1974, Shipman, 1971, Learner, 1958, Srinivas, 1966). In either case, the hall marks of modernization as identified by scholars include rationality, scientific outlook, liberalism, equality, democratic orientation, utilitarianism, secularization and emphasis.
on individualism. Again modernity at the individual level has been conceptualised by emphasizing orientation of the above ideologies in the attitudes and values of the people (Learner, 1958, Inkles and Smith, 1969, Dube, 1971, Sethi, 1975). The role of education as an effective means for modification of attitudes and values has been highlighted in a number of studies (Inkles and Smith, 1969, Michel, 1974, Bhatnagar, 1972, Sharma, 1979, Srivastava-1997). All the studies are recognising the crucial role of education in the desirable formation of values and attitudes of the peoples.

Every known society has a value system, a set of rules and goals that guides its conduct and judgements. The business of social life proceeds on assumption that the values established in the groups are the ones that must be respected and enforced. No society can survive without a moral order. A system of moral, human and spiritual values are indispensable to group living. With this end in view, every cultural society has developed the educational system to operate with its socio-economic and political system to influence and modify one's behaviours to accepting new ideas and values for maintaining social stability and progress. Stressing the significance of this, The Education Commission (1964-66) stated, "A serious defect in the school curriculum, is the absence of provision for education in social, moral and spiritual values. A national system of education that is related to the life, needs and aspirations of the people cannot afford to ignore this purposeful force." Therefore, it is important for all the members of the society to understand the nature of values and the factors responsible for its formation and development.
Today, there is a hue and cry in every corner of the society regarding the value crisis. We are experiencing a crisis of values in our social and political life. Disregard shown to the basic values like honesty, tolerance, justice and secularism both in personal and public life, has become a matter of grave national concern. Crime, violence, cruelty, greed and selfishness, have spread to all aspects of our living. Society looks up to education in general and higher education in particular as a vital means to imbibe and foster desirable values in the society. It is necessary to understand the influence of college education in the formation of value pattern of college students.

The necessity of right values are essential for the positive and progressive development of the society. The study tries to know the influences of the factor responsible for fostering and development of values among college students. The formation and disposition of values and attitudes are largely influenced by a number of personal and social factors. Sex, religion, mother tongue, local inhabitation, socio-economic status, media exposure and library uses are also included in the present study to examine their impact on value pattern and attitudes of college students. As such the study is entitled "A study of value pattern of college students in relation to some select socio-educational variables."

The present study has been undertaken with the following objectives and hypotheses. The objectives are

(1) To analyse the values of college students.
(2) To examine the influence of sex, religion, language and locale differences on the values of college students.

(3) To compare the values of college students having varying courses of studies i.e. Arts, Science and Commerce.

(4) To examine the influences of socio-educational variables i.e., socio-economic status, media exposure and library uses on the values of college students.

(5) To examine the influences of college education on the values of college students.

(6) To examine the opinion of college students on some important social issues namely co-education, status of women, family planning, choice of mate and religion

**Hypotheses:**

The following hypotheses have been formulated in the present study:

(1) It is assumed that values of college students will significantly differ in relation to sex, religion, mother-tongue and locale inhabitation.

(2) Students with varying courses of studies i.e. Arts, Science and Commerce will differ significantly in their values.

(3) Students with having varying socio-economic status, media exposure and library uses will differ significantly in their values.

(4) Fresher's and out-going college students will differ significantly in their values.

(5) Students with varying socio-educational variables will differ significantly in their opinion towards the social issues i.e. co-
education, status of women, family planning, choice of mate and religious belief.

With these above mentioned objectives and hypotheses, the present study is conducted under the descriptive survey method. The study is first of its kind in Assam and second in North-East. In 1992, Banui, Kuotsu made an attempt to study the values of college students in Nagaland in relation to their self-concept where she studied social, aesthetic, economic, knowledge, hedonistic and health values of college students. But the present study is designed to study the Fatalistic-Scientific, Cosmopolite-localite, Democratic-Autocratic, Venturesomeness-Non-venture someness, Empathy-Non empathy and Traditional-progressive values of college students. The data for the study has been collected by using the tools like value orientation scale (Vos, 1984, N.S. Chauhan) and Questionnaire (developed by investigator) from the college students of Nagaon district of Assam. College students of the deficit colleges have been identified as the population of the study.

As per the objectives of the study, sampling has been done in two levels — one with the case of colleges and other with the case of students of research population. In first phase, 50% (fifty percents) of 16 deficit colleges have been selected at random by following lottery method in Nagaon district of Assam. In second spot, stratified sampling has been followed for selecting the sample population from each college which include 610 students, comprising of 135 each for B.A 1st year and B.A. 3rd year, 75 each for B.Sc 1st and 3rd year and 90 each for B.Com 1st and 3rd year respectively.
The data obtained on the value orientation scale (VOS) and Questionnaire have been tabulated and fed into appropriate contingency tables. Descriptive statistics such as mean, S.D. and percentage was worked out for analysis. The comparison of sub-groups was done by applying ‘t-test’ and chi-square ($\chi^2$) test. Tabulation and graphical representation are also used as per the need of the study. The analysis has been carried out with a view to testing the hypotheses advanced for the study. The study reveals some important dimensions.

Some of the major findings of the study are:

1. The college students have been found mostly fostering modern values and attitudes.

2. College education has emerged as a positive determinants of the values and attitudes of the students.

3. Sex has emerged as a significant factor for development of progressive values and attitudes of the college students. It has been observed that male college students reflects more modern out-look in their values and attitudes as compared to the female counterpart.

4. Hindu and Muslim students have been found significantly differing in their values and attitudes selected for the study. Hindu college students has been found more positive in comparison to their Muslim counterpart.

5. There is no significant difference between Assamese and Bengali speaking college students in respect to the values and attitudes. But, Hindi speaking peoples has been found having significant differences with both Assamese and Bengali speaking peoples in their values and attitudes.
6. It is also observed that urban and local inhabited college students significantly differ in their values and attitudes. Urban college students have been found more progressive in their values and attitudes as compared to the rural college students.

7. It is found that B.Sc students significantly differ in their values and attitudes in comparison to B.A. and B.Com students. However, B.A. and B.Com students show similar values and attitudes in the present study. B.Sc students reflected more progressive out-look in their values and attitudes.

8. It has been observed that out-going college students were more modern in their views about values and attitudes as compared to the Freshers’.

9. Socio-economic status plays a significant role in fostering and development of values and attitudes of college students. High socio-economic status group shows more progressive out-look in comparison to lower socio-economic status group.

10. Media exposure has emerged as a significant factor in fostering the values and attitudes of the college students. High media exposure group has been found more modern in their values and attitudes as compare to the low media exposure group.

11. Use of library has emerged as a partial determinants of fostering positive values and attitudes among the college students.

In the light of above mentioned findings in the present study some constructive suggestions may be drawn for fostering modern and progressive values and attitudes among the college students. Some of these suggestions are
1. Education in general and college education in particular has emerged as a determinant factor of fostering values and attitudes. It is necessary to ensure education in general and college education in particular for more and more individuals in a planned manner.

2. Women should be given more exposure and social responsibility to overcome the traditional self. Equal status of women in social dealings should be meaningfully ensured through mass awareness and proper legislation by every concerning bodies for the progressive uplift of women folk.

3. Efforts are necessary to introduce more and more scientific activity in the educational institution for the positive development values and attitudes. In this respect, scientific activity like symposium, exhibition, work-shop, seminar etc. may be easily organised in educational institution.

4. Socio-economic status has a positive relationship with the values and attitudes. To lift the economic condition of the people, vocational efficiency and working skill of the individual should be developed through vocational oriented curriculum in different educational level. Short time, training and workshop may be organised for various vocational aspect during holidays and vacation in the educational institution besides formal one. Manual work should be included as an integral part of the curriculum.

5. Media exposure has a positive impact on students' values and attitudes. Steps are needed to provide more and more mass media exposure to the students. In this direction, social and educational institutions should provide the facilities of newspaper, periodicals.
radio, television, workshop, seminar, arrange educational tour, cultural meet, sports meet, hoisting festivals relating national and international issues.

6. Educational institutions should provide well-equipped library with modern amenities. Library uses assume a positive significance in moulding modern values and attitudes. Necessary steps are needed for developing library using habits among the students. In this connection, library visiting and reading books should be made integrated part of the daily curriculum. Students should be given encouragement for visiting library by conferring incentives in the form of awards and praises etc.

The present study reflects and flash out some important observations in respect of values and attitudes of college students. The study gives us room to believe that education in general and college education in particular, influence the cognitive realms to broaden mental horizon and outlook of the students. The study also highlighted the positive and negative correlates of fostering progressive values and attitudes of the college students. The suggestions of the study may help in fostering and nourishing of progressive values and attitudes of the college students.