

# Life ,It's Values & Ethics

Interaction on the bus about the topic"values and ethics (then and now)"

- **Difference of --skill sets, discipline, ideas and perspectives.**
- **Looking at differences--sociological / psychological / spiritual lens**

Engaging in a conversation with fellow passengers while returning home via public transport is nothing out of ordinary.Most of them were either small talks or pleasantries.But one encounter stands out.The reasons are plenty like it was complicated,serious and on top of it was the sensitivity of the topic being discussed.

Values and ethics (now and then) .Uncomfortable as it sounds ,it turns even worse because the person I was dealing with was an elderly lady in her 60s.

Thus the generation gap was evident,clash of opinions were prominent given all the differences in perceptions,disciplines and perspectives. Furthermore, we had an audience.

All these started,when out of my habitual response,I offered my seat to an elderly since the bus was packed and no other seat was vacant.The gratitude,the smile that brightened her face was something more precious than money could possibly buy.Though it was a little gesture of compassion ,it caught the attention of “my soon to be debater”.

She spoke out “A gesture like that is rare nowadays and that too with kids of this generation,I must say”.I tried to let this pass ,ever so gracefully but things are not always as per our wishes.One fellow asserted with this claim while another one pointed out to my gesture as a proof.This made the “ woman” elaborate her idea with respect to the differences in the society when they were younger and changes that happened since then and can't be overlooked .

Now,that’s when I responded:“It is neither completely false nor it is completely true” which made all the passengers divert their attention to my direction and I saw the “woman” watching me with great interest.To be honest,I was a bit nervous and the anticipation of ‘What if it goes wrong or hurt the feelings of others’ was getting too much to handle at once.But I somehow mustered up my courage and added “It was never for the change of generations,it had always been the individual preferences and education,that drove people to act or do what they do or even did before and will do in the future”

Woman:“The experience that I acquired with my age and likely of those around the same age,thinks to be just the way I did.The values have changed drastically.The gesture of yours today would have been a gesture by all the younger ones ,back in those days.Not just a volunteer but volunteers ,so to say.”

Me:“Its true that times have changed and you all are the witnesses.Even that's what my grandmother says,she is 75.But if truth is to be told ,the change of patterns are not at all of a sudden .Some may blame to the ever decreasing faith in one’s religion or even the technology these days.

The journey of knowledge is like several food chains interlinked to produce a food web.Those retain and pass these knowledge to their subsequent generations ,stays atop the value system.The root lies in the psychology of each person of the society itself.It’s gradual and the seed is planted during a child’s upbringing phase.

If the morale is weak in today’s generation,it’s nothing but a reflection of what we inherited in this process.Then whose failure is it? ”

\*\*\*Everyone seemed thoughtful and silent,so I resorted to concluding the discussion. My destination was approaching soon\*\*\*

“I am in no way trying to impose anything on anyone or purposefully disrespectful.But that's what the truth is.Time had presented itself as a mirror of the actions.

The reflection is real ,so we are ,our ideals and differences.”

\*\*\*My stop had arrived,the bus slowed down and that’s when \*\*\*

Woman:“I am convinced that you ,my dear, will not repeat those mistakes.I am glad to meet a youngster as you who can keep the ‘goodwill and hope’ alive for a better day”

\*\*\*The gates opened,I waved goodbye .I was emotional.\*\*\*

As I started walking towards my home,I felt something change.The person in me,“Before and After” this journey seemed to be blessed with a new vision,an awareness. This chance encounter presented and taught me a very important lesson.

The desire to do justice with whatever little bit we all and each can offer.Though our views,generations are poles apart,it is always the best to look for the common ground and investigate deeper into a matter to find the root cause and try to resolve it ,instead of quarrelling and debating as to ‘What went wrong’.Rather we should all come together and contribute for greater good with our actions that will lay a positive impact on the world.

This encounter turned out to be a life changing and memorable experience in my life.

-----

\*\*\*Please let me know your views about this project\*\*\*

As I started walking towards my home,I felt something change.The person in me,“Before and After” this journey seemed to be blessed with a new vision,an awareness. A personal transformation . This chance encounter presented and taught me a very important lesson. The desire to do justice with whatever little bit we all and each can offer.Though our views,generations are poles apart,it is always the best to look for the common ground and investigate deeper into a matter to find the root cause and try to resolve it ,instead of quarrelling and debating as to ‘What went wrong’.Rather we should all come together and contribute for greater good with our actions that will lay a positive impact on the world. This encounter turned out to be a life changing and memorable experience in my life.