

## Religious and Moral Education principles and practices: An inspiration for teacher education

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### Introduction

- The role of religious ad moral education
  - It's people's culture
  - Guides one's moral principles
  - Guides child development at home and in school
  - It's a prime motivating factor behind human behaviour

## The rationale

- Aim of this paper to argue that every 'new' teacher needs some religious and moral education principles/guidance so as to face the challenging cultural bridges that s/he has to face in the school environment

## Concept paper

- Analysis based on literature review on:
  - Religious and Moral education
  - Teacher education curriculum
  - Policy documents RNPE, teaching syllabus RE, ME for both teacher education and secondary schools

## Religious and moral principles

- Religious and moral education and development of person in relation to:
  - Relationship with others
  - Realm of beliefs
  - Values and practices
- Help children explore and be challenged by world's major religions and value
- New beliefs teacher challenging

## ➤ R & ME principles cont.

- Teacher education in these cultural blocks - R & M principles
- Nord and Haynes - “teachers must model and teach the civic values and virtues of citizenship, as well as core moral values and character traits agreed to in the community”
- Critical thinking and cultural diversity

## Teacher Education Curriculum & R&ME

- What knowledge and skills to include in teacher education curriculum? Difficult question
- Whose values?
- Everyone's values? Why
- "When we agree with each other we teach the importance and rightness of those consensus values. When we disagree, we teach about the alternatives and withhold judgement" (Nord and Haynes, p18)

Continue.....

- **Curriculum overall plan of what goes on in the school thus needs to consider building blocks in relation to religious and moral education,**
- **Thus would enable children to apply their knowledge and moral values in variety of situation**
- **Curriculum with emphasis on 'Botho' - humanity and respect must be central to education, to home and community life ..."** (Botswana Vision 2016)
- **Distance education curriculum to train and in-service teachers to keep them updated on ever changing cultural and societal demands - inclusive education, problem solving, self-managing etc**
- **Integration of global moral issues to be accommodated in teacher education curriculum**

## Teacher education curr. Cont.

- ICDE Diploma at BOCODOL - recognizes the changing patterns of family life and aims at promoting the value of positive well grounded professional attributes of trainees as a social agent for change ...
- Moral and religious principles can be infused in other subjects - history, literature, languages even the sciences
- Values such as tolerance, justice, compassion, decision making are everyday aspects of human life such can be expressed in R&ME

## Summary and conclusion

- Multi-cultural Africa need a teacher education curriculum that is all inclusive of religious and moral education principles so as to produce a well round tolerant and critical being
- Promotion of cultural pluralism
- Help in dealing with sensitive issues such as HIV&AIDS, death, cancer etc
- All humanities subject could infuse religious and moral education principles (even the sciences or maths)
- Teacher education not just to end in pre-service but need a continuous

## continuation

- A continuous in-service programmes to update teachers with new cultural developments in their communities
- Distance Education curriculum aiming at sustainable long life learning should also find a way of infusing the R&ME principles in its programmes.

## END OF PRESENTATION

- **THANK YOU ALL AND BE A BLESSED EDUCATION PRACTITIONNAIRES WITH POSITIVE MORAL PRINCIPLES**