

VALUES-  
BASED  
INQUIRIES  
IN GLOBAL  
CONTEXTS



# WHAT IS THE ROLE OF VALUES IN OUR GLOBAL CONTEXTS?

## COSMIC ENERGY

Values as cosmic energy connect self with other beings and non beings that aspire for living together harmoniously.

## TRUE NORTH PRINCIPLES

Values that follow “True North Principles” (Covey, 1991) need to be shared and made explicit as the basis for working together to improve our world.

## FOUNDATIONS

Values are the foundation upon which we build our lives in education. They (should) give us a firm footing to guide us through our educational lives.

## MEANS TO FLOURISH

In order for humanity to flourish, individuals should take on the individual work of understanding their own values so they may contribute meaningfully to humanity

## SOURCE OF CONFLICT

Today and historically, conflicting values are causing massive loss of life, often in the name of religion. In creating our own living-educational-theories, in a culture of inquiry, I see the role of values in our global contexts to be contributing to the spread of values of human flourishing, rather than those that are contributing to the negation of these values. This means accepting an educational responsibility for accounting for our educational influences in learning with values of human flourishing.

# WHY SHOULD VALUES BE FOUNDATIONAL IN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH?

Value (as an inherent quality) drives researchers and co-researchers to achieve common goal/s for exploring contextual needs and strengths, addressing issues, concerns and problems and thereby planning for a better future for the coming generation

An awareness of one's values and commitment to adhering to them, while recognizing that full adherence is not possible, is elemental to educational research as it is by its nature geared to learning and improvement.

Values lie at the heart of what it means to be human. They disrupt the ever-growing emphasis on research that is based solely on statistically driven results

We have a responsibility to understand our own values and how they influence our research, decisions, and relationships. In the same way that we discuss validity, bias, and limitations...values should be an open part of that dialogue.

Distinguishing something as educational means making of value judgement of approval. Hence values are foundational in educational research. Which values are foundational in educational research in different cultural context is a matter of controversy.



# IN WHAT WAYS CAN VALUES BE INTEGRATED INTO EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH?

Values can be integrated into educational research in inquiries of the kind, ‘How do I enhance the educational influences of my professional practice with values of human flourishing?’ The values can inform both the judgements on what counts as ‘enhancing the educational influences’ and the standards of judgement for evaluating the validity of the knowledge-claims in explanations of educational influences.

Values such as hidden curriculum of education research which are already there embedded throughout the research process, there is the need of uncovering unexplored or uncovered with the help of the question-how can i improve what I am doing? Perhaps we may need to explore the best out of all the values to live fully to influence in the learning of self and others for greater good., that is, to contribute in our global contexts

I am integrating values in global contexts by encouraging and supporting practitioner researchers to ask, research, and answer, ‘How can I improve my practice?’ I mentor individuals in cultures of inquiry to increase their understandings of their values.

I am integrating my values in global contexts by being involved with this research group. I also see my values in how I co-convene NEARI – the Network for Educational Action Research (Ireland).

I work from values of care and connection, with a goal of supporting teachers/students in the development of their own voice and power in educational research and decision-making. I intentionally try to create spaces (cultures of inquiry) where we can do this work

# Questions for Discussion

- What values do you see embedded in your own unique context (or do you recognize some of the ones we have shared?)
- How do your values show up in your research?
- How can you support values-based research in your context?
- How can we (as a group) support your work?