

Teachers as Ethical Role Models: Their Influence on Student Character Formation

Maricyl A. Feliza

0009-0007-5578-4817

St. Paul University Surigao, Surigao City, Philippines

maricylfeliza@gmail.com

Abstract: *In an era where digital influence and evolving societal norms increasingly shape student behavior, the role of teachers as ethical role models has gained renewed importance. This study examines how teachers contribute to student character formation through their moral responsibilities, ethical conduct, and the integration of character education into everyday classroom practices. Employing a qualitative research approach, the study utilizes a narrative review of existing literature to explore five key areas: (1) the moral responsibilities of teachers in shaping student character; (2) the challenges and barriers teachers encounter in upholding ethical standards; (3) the specific ethical behaviors that positively influence students; (4) the role of schools and policymakers in enhancing teacher ethics training; and (5) the strategies teachers use to embed character education in their pedagogy, along with the effectiveness of these methods. The findings highlight the urgent need for comprehensive ethics training, supportive institutional policies, and a strengthened emphasis on moral education in teacher preparation programs. Ultimately, this study underscores the significance of ethically grounded teaching practices in cultivating values such as integrity, respect, fairness, and responsibility among students.*

Keywords: Teacher Role Modelling, Moral Responsibility, Character building, Professional Ethics

