



Research Paper

# Religion in Nell Noddings' Philosophy of Education

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## Abstract

In this article, we try to show the place of religion and religious attitude in Nell Noddings's educational system. In Noddings's philosophy of education, which is based on the theory of "care" or his ethics of care, the relationship between the teacher and the learner are based on the principles of his ethics of care, and therefore the religious field in this relationship is always open to both parties. Noddings believes that teachers and students in schools should freely discuss religion because schools are a place where one should practice moral behavior along with tolerance and tolerance towards others. In other words, schools are the starting point for building a democratic person. Therefore, according to Noddings, the social goal of education, which is to raise a democratic person, recommends tolerance and tolerance in the educational system in religious discussions in schools. Therefore, in this article, we try to show that according to Noddings's view, students' religious questions, issues, and concerns should not be raised only in religion-related lessons, but every lesson and every discipline should be open to free dialogue between the teacher and the student about religion and its issues and questions. From his point of view, we should invite students to enter into conversations beyond their limited skills. Therefore, in this article, we will use a descriptive and analytical method to examine religion in his philosophy of education. Ultimately, the conclusion that can be drawn from this article is that religion in Noddings' educational system can not only help students' development by adopting an appropriate approach, but also be very effective in the emergence of a democratic society based on tolerance and tolerance.

must say that Noddings, by proposing religion in his educational philosophy, does not intend to prescribe the teachings and teachings of a particular religion or a secular point of view for students, because in this case, according to his own words, it will lead to the abandonment of a rational approach to religion in educational discussions.

Noddings believes that students should be given the opportunity to express their religious and spiritual experience in class, but they should not be forced to do so. They may express other people's spiritual experience in the form of poetry or music. The teacher should listen to their experience with silence. Students may one day talk about this sharing of spiritual experiences.

## 2. Method

The research method in this study follows a descriptive-analytical approach, and the data was collected through the library method.

## 3. Conclusion

With a little reflection on Nel Noddings' philosophy of education, it becomes clear to the reader that his moral education in the education

## Extended Abstract

### 1. Introduction

Nel Noddings, a contemporary philosopher of education, in his books and articles, constantly emphasizes the role of religion in the moral education of children in particular and adults in general. From his point of view, religion is very important for education. In his book *Philosophy of Education*, he says that educators know that humans have a spiritual, intellectual, and emotional dimension. In other words, the discussion of religion in general and religious issues and questions in particular, according to Noddings, are perhaps the most controversial topics in the class. In this article, we are trying to address the importance of this matter in Noddings' educational thought. Of course, we



system should be able to help the intellectual and emotional development of students with a tolerant approach so that they can deal with religious topics with an open and open view. Religion and religious beliefs and their practical effects in students' lives and increasing their efficiency and usefulness in practice is what Noddings seeks to defend. He does not want to promote any particular religion or belief in the classroom, and this is in complete contrast to his philosophical approach. Therefore, his educational philosophy, relying on the theory of care, tries to place religion as an important factor in the service of improving the students' living conditions in the direction of a happy life. To what extent he was successful in this work or not is beyond the discussion of this article.

Ultimately, the conclusion that can be drawn from this article is that religion in Noddings' educational system can not only help students' development by adopting an appropriate approach, but also be very effective in the emergence of a democratic society based on tolerance and tolerance.

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### **Authors' contribution**

This paper was written by Neda Mohajel and all the responsibility for this article rests with him.

### **Conflict of interest**

The author declares no conflict of interests.