

# Assessing the Attitude Across Different Age Groups in Regards to Global Issues: Are Kids More Optimistic than Adults? and Correlation of the Same with deterioration in Value system of the Society

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## ABSTRACT

Currently the world is facing many global issues which is also mentioned in Global Sustainable Development Goals of the World (17 SDGs). The study here is addressing twelve major Global Issues to assess the attitude of the people of different age groups. The study will also try to find the level of optimistic approach for different age groups and its correlation with deviation in value system of the current society. The Hypothesis has been made that the kids are more optimistic than adults. The result is based on survey of the data which is closely matching with the hypothesis mentioned here as the kids has more positive approach and are of the opinion that most of the global issue can be solved in near future and value system of the society plays an important role and impact on these global issues. The twelve global issues that has been targeted in this study are Global Warming, Pollution, Energy Crisis, Wars, Terrorism, Immigration, Health Care Crisis, Poverty and Hunger, Overpopulation, Corruption in Government, Bee Apocalypse, Degradation in values and value system in our family. The survey also favors that building life values in childhood will help in addressing these global issues.

**KEYWORDS:** Global Issues, Hypothesis, Optimistic, Value Education.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Optimist people always have positive view towards the things happenings in the surrounding and specially to the negative and tough situation. Positive and Negative Anticipation towards different issues assesses the behavior and attitude among people which can be bifurcated based on different age groups, based on Education level, Demographic Locations etc. It has been observed in psychology researches that both the categories of the people i.e., optimist and pessimist have their own way of perception to certain problems and even in the life style they live [1]. It is also to be noted that the level of optimism varies with different age and it is more frequently observed in younger children rather than adults. [1,2]

Positive bias in Children is more at three years of age, the peak of positive bias is achieved in middle school and gets weaken in higher school. There are many studies which reflects the decrease in future perception with increase in age. This is also important to note that adults have more realistic and practical approach towards certain issues than someone having overly positive approach [4,5]. Passage of time also affects an outlook of an individual towards the positive and negative thoughts [7]. It is the pessimism over age that has sound influence on outcome and may also predict the psychological and physical health [7].

Many of the researchers and scholars agrees that Global warming is a global issue which is the result of the climate change and increase in temperature and humans are at fault and Pollution is also one of the reason of Global Warming [9,10].

Air Pollution is one of the key area to be addressed because this is one of the major cause of Global Warming and poor air Quality too that also causes various respiratory diseases and birth defects. Drinking water and soil pollution is also the major issues that requires attention [11,12].

Another major issue is energy crisis due to high consumption of fossil fuels our natural resources of the fossil fuel is at the verge of extinction [13,14]. Due to which it will be become more expensive in near future. Renewable sources are the problem which requires proper attention as far it integration with mainstream is concern [15]. Global Fuel Consumption is shown in the following figure-

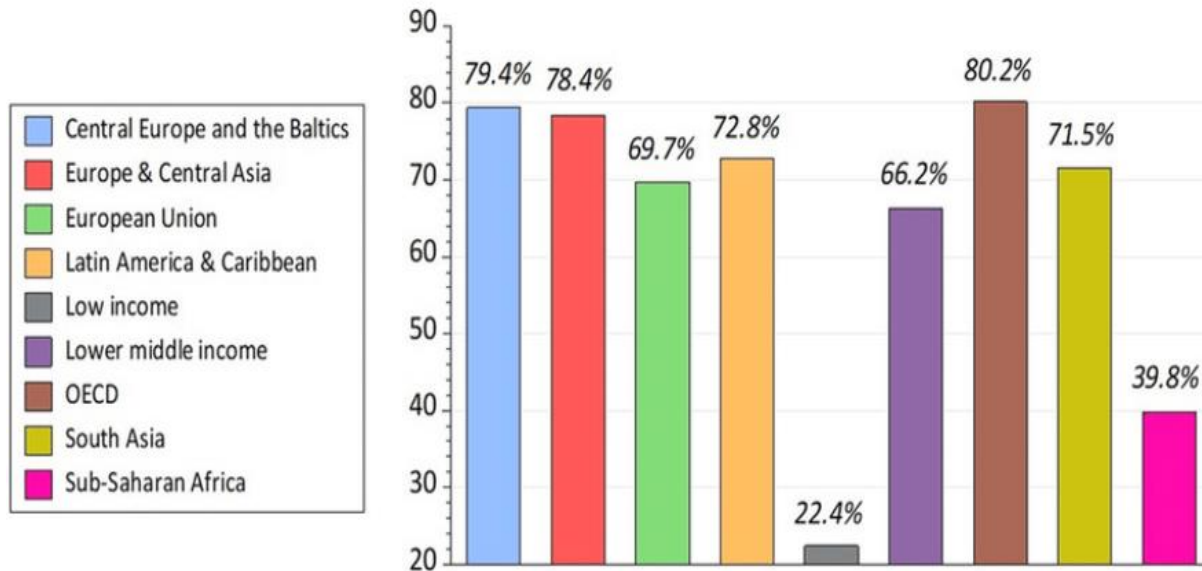


Figure 1 - Green and sustainable technologies (percentage of global share) patents: OECD vs. other groups of economies during 2016.  
source: OECD green growth indicators (2020)

Terrorism is a growing issue along with the wars human civilization is suffering from both and recently we have witnessed Ukarine Russia War and Israel and Hamas war is still going on because of which human civilization is heading towards great danger [16] and this also affects the business at global level.

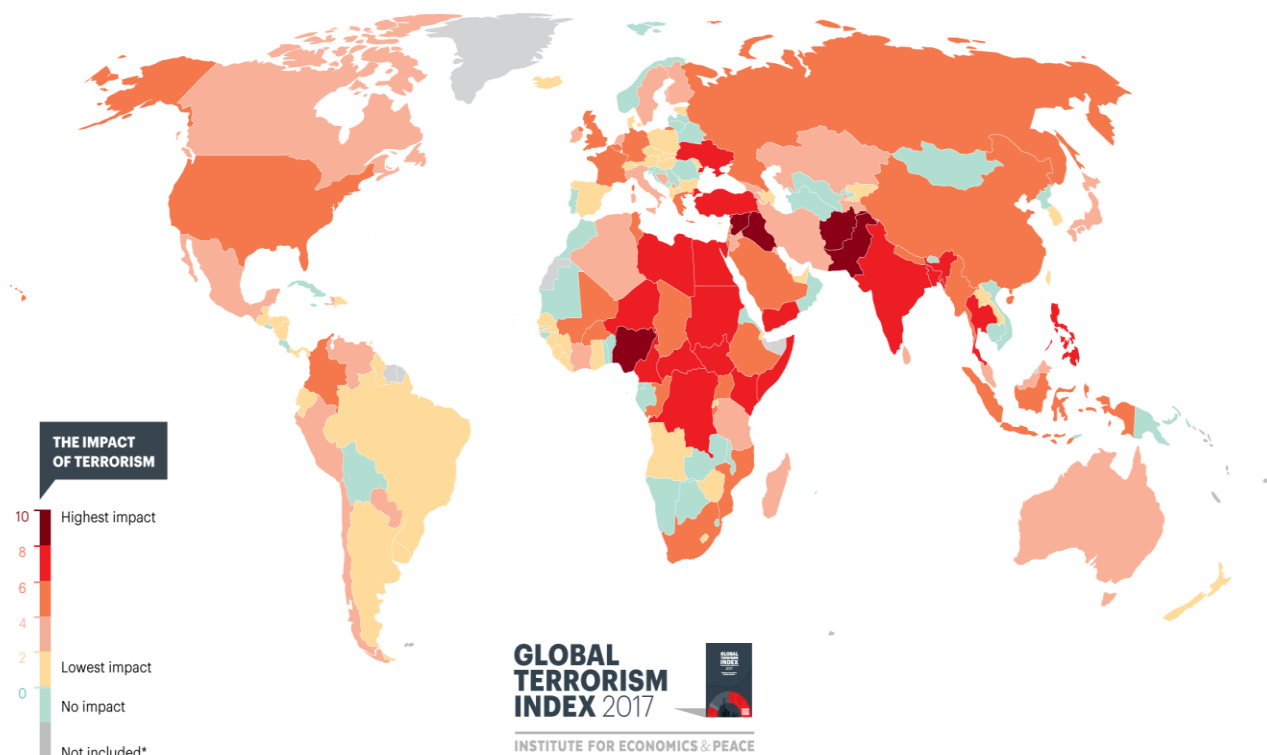


Figure 2- Impact of Terrorism in different countries  
(Source - GTI 2017)

Pollution and Contaminated Flora also contributed to “Bee Apocalypse” and many researchers have suggested that it may cause a major change in Eco-system which may result in extinction of many plants had have impact in supply of certain types of food which may lead to hunger and poverty, political conflicts and may be wars [16]. Hunger and Poverty is most common in most of the developing countries and it is important to understand that more than 50% of the World Population lives at very low level of poverty and hunger too [17]. The major cause of hunger is poorly utilized land, unfair distribution of wealth, bad agricultural practices. Political corruption is like cherry on the top as it destroys every hope of reaching to the solution not only in India but at Global Level. All these factors result in immigration of the people from on to other place [18]. We can also see that all the global issues are linked with one another in some of the other way so the balanced way of solving all these problems must be thought.

## 2. RESEARCH METHEDODOLOGY

In this study an effort has been made to relate all these Global Issues to the deterioration in value system of our modern society. There are many values which should be considered but here we have kept 9 targeted values which we felt important for any of an individual for life time and specially in student’s life – Determination, Compassion, Modesty, Courage, Respect, Truthfulness, Peace and Non Violence, Openness and Inclusivity, Health and Physical Fitness [19].

A hidden curriculum is also designed to inculcate these value in our school students which has yield effective results in last 6 months in almost 50% of the students. The Survey based research methodology was opted was conducted for different age groups starting from 12-15 years, 15 – 18 Years, 18-28 Years, 28 years and above. Total number of respondents are 400 with 100 in each category. Effort is made to correlate the value system and approach to solve Global Issues in different age groups. We have made the hypothesis that all the issues are related to our Value system and Kids are more Optimistic than adults. The Survey Questions are shown in Annexure-I.

## 3. RESULT & DISCUSSION

- (a) Response to the Question on 12 different Global Issues is reflected in the Following figures for all four age groups (12-15 years, 15-18 years, 18-28 years and 28 years and above) – Question is “Do you consider the following Problems as a Global Issue?”

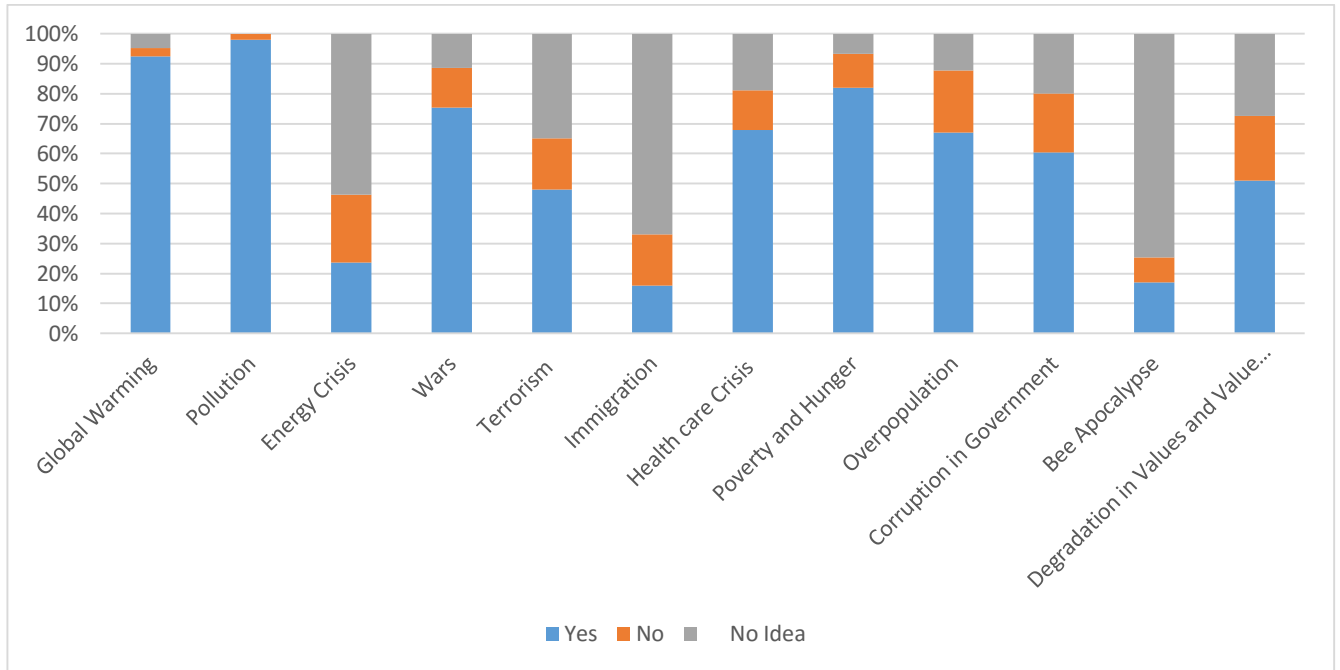


Figure-3 Response of Age Group 12-15 years on Do you consider the following Problems as a Global Issue?

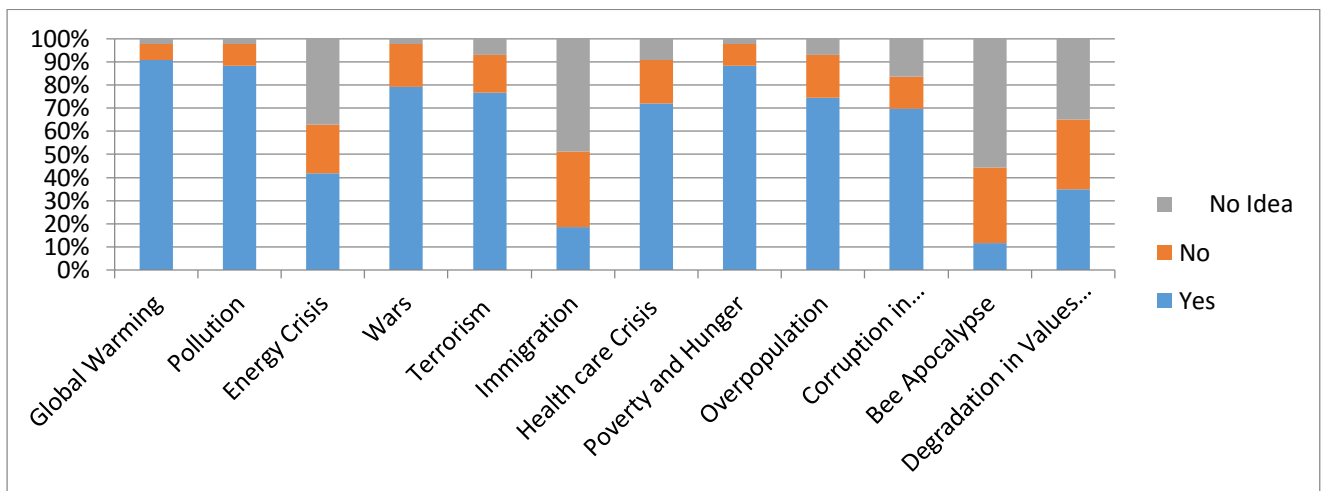


Figure-4 Response of Age Group 15-18 years on Do you consider the following Problems as a Global Issue?

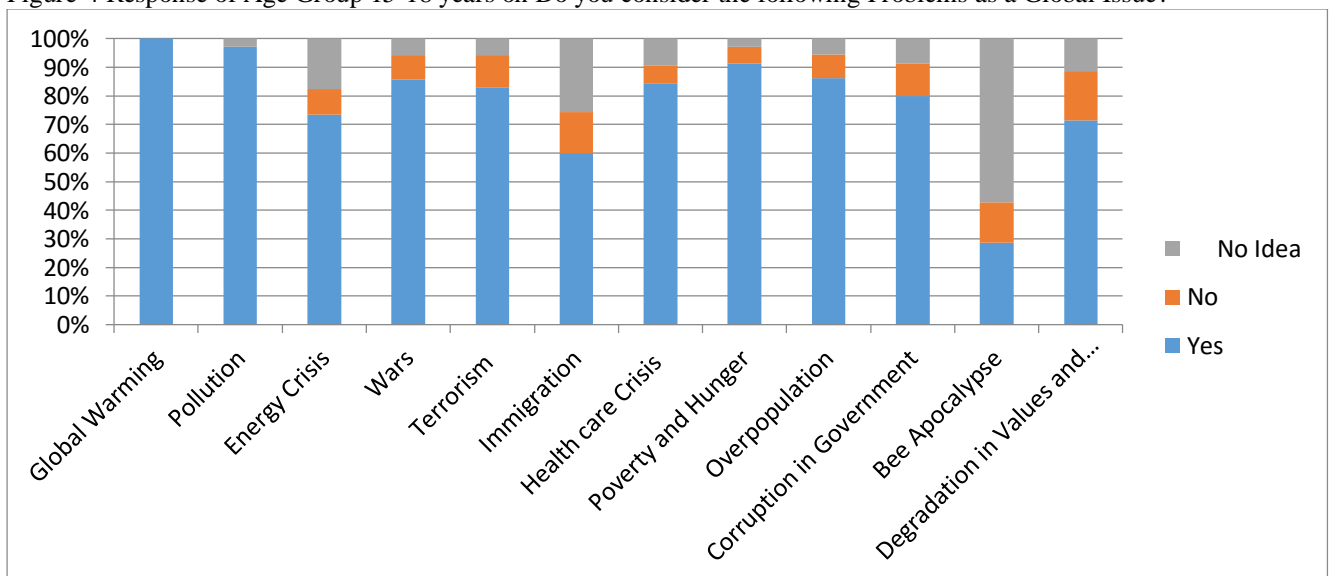


Figure-5 Response of Age Group 18-28 years on Do you consider the following Problems as a Global Issue?

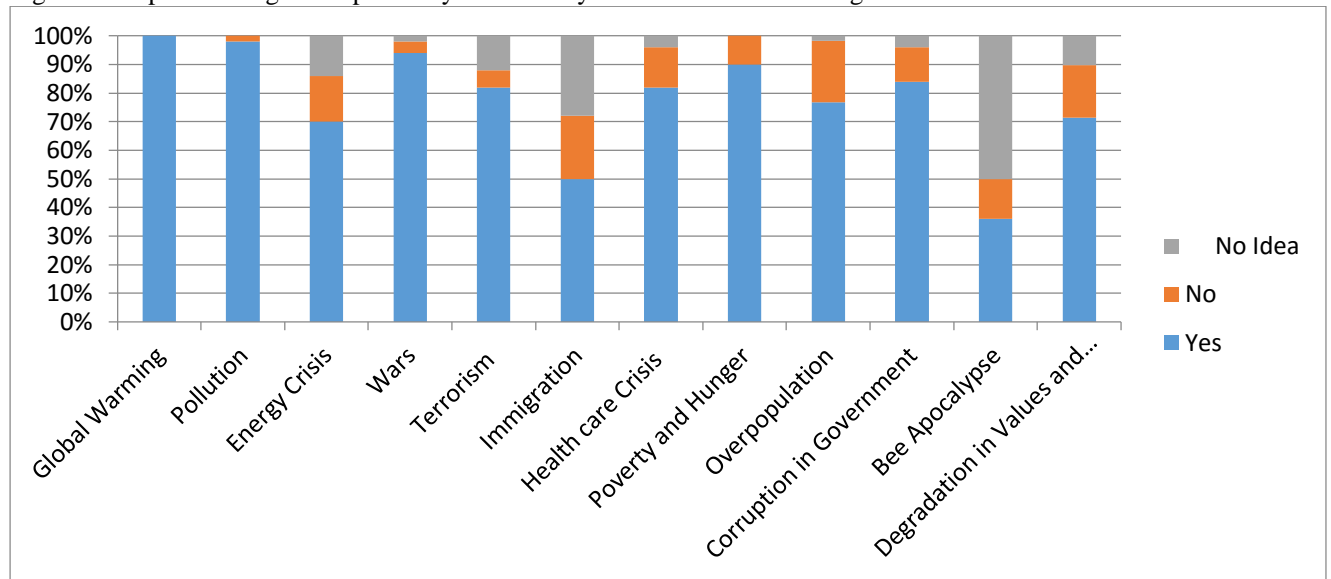


Figure –6 Response of Age Group 28 years and above on Do you consider the following Problems as a Global Issue?

From Figure 3 to 6 it is very clear that all the age groups considered Global Warming, Pollution, health care crisis, poverty and hunger, wars and over population as an issue where close to 70% of the respondents said ‘yes’. Less awareness has been observed in Bee Apocalypse where more than 60% of the respondents are not aware about this issue. It is also important to note that 50% of the younger kids of age group is convinced degradation in value system of the society is also a Global issue where as in teen agers 15-18 years only 35% of the respondents have said Yes for the same. In The Adult Age Group of 18 to 28 years and 28 years and above 70% are of the opinion that degradation in value system of the society is also a Global Issue.

(b)Response to the Question on solving 12 different Global Issues in 2-10 years (12-15 years, 15-18 years, 18-28 years and 28 years and above) – Question is “Is it Possible to Solve these Global Issues in Near Future (2-10 years)?”

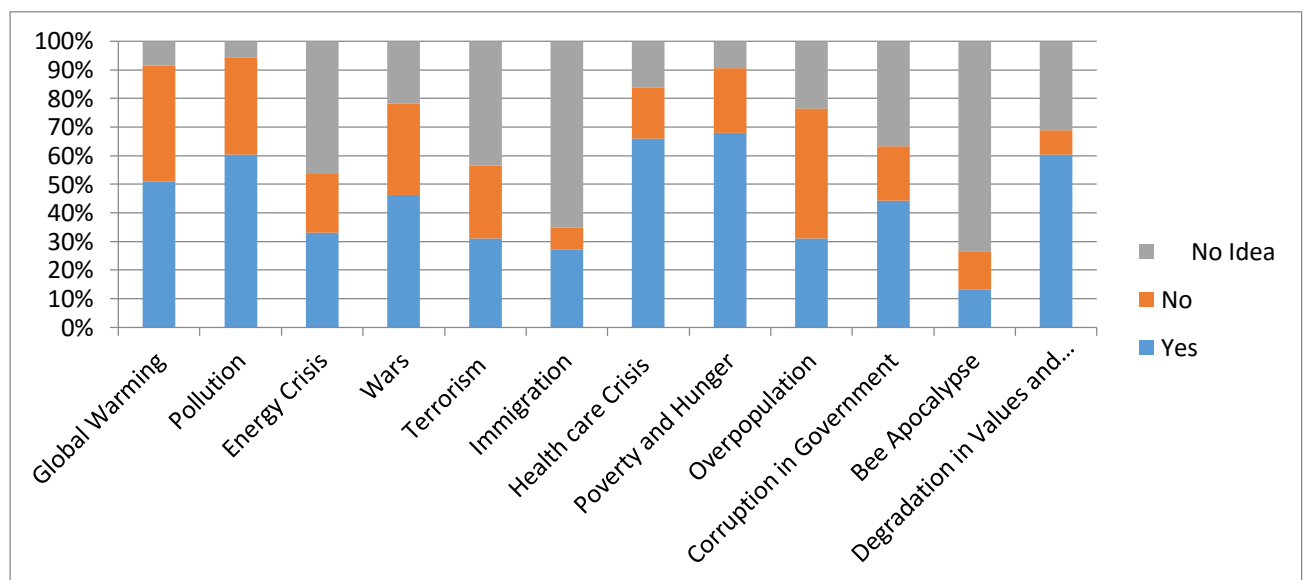


Figure –7 Response of Age Group 12-15 years on “Is it Possible to Solve these Global Issues in Near Future (2-10 years)?”

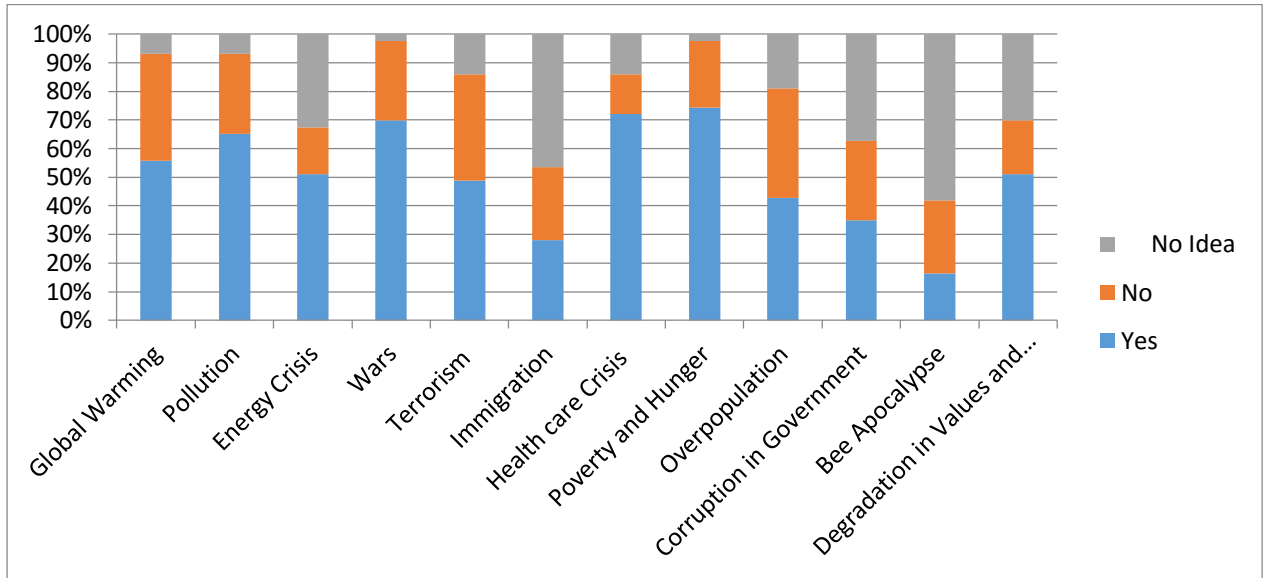


Figure – 8 Response of Age Group 15-18 years on “Is it Possible to Solve these Global Issues in Near Future (2-10 years)?”

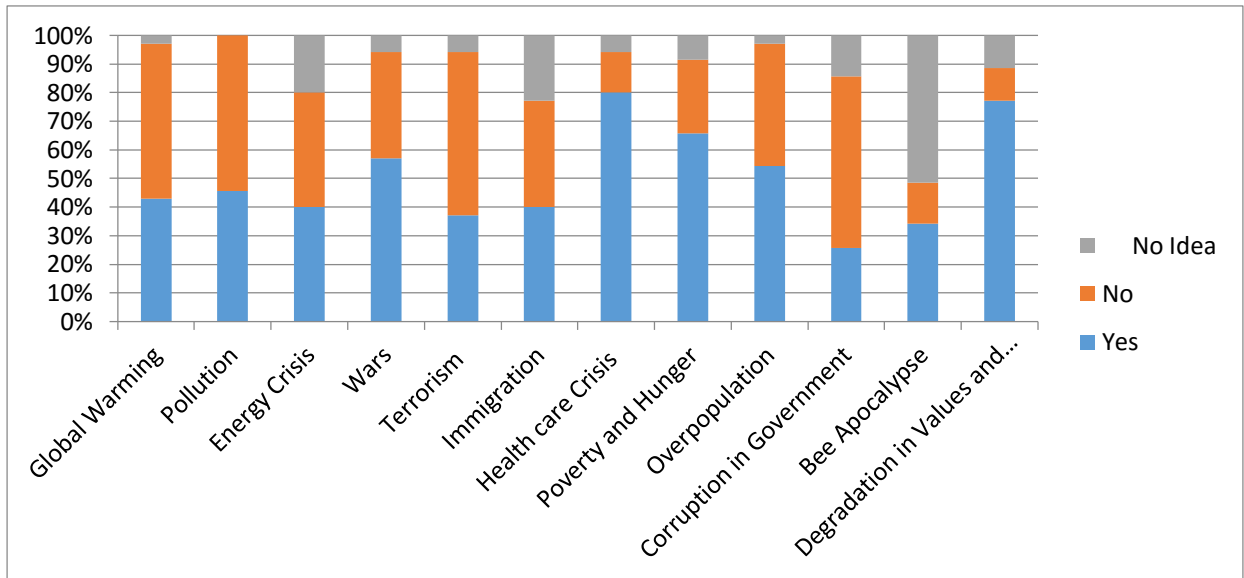


Figure – 9 Response of Age Group 18-28 years on “Is it Possible to Solve these Global Issues in Near Future (2-10 years)?”

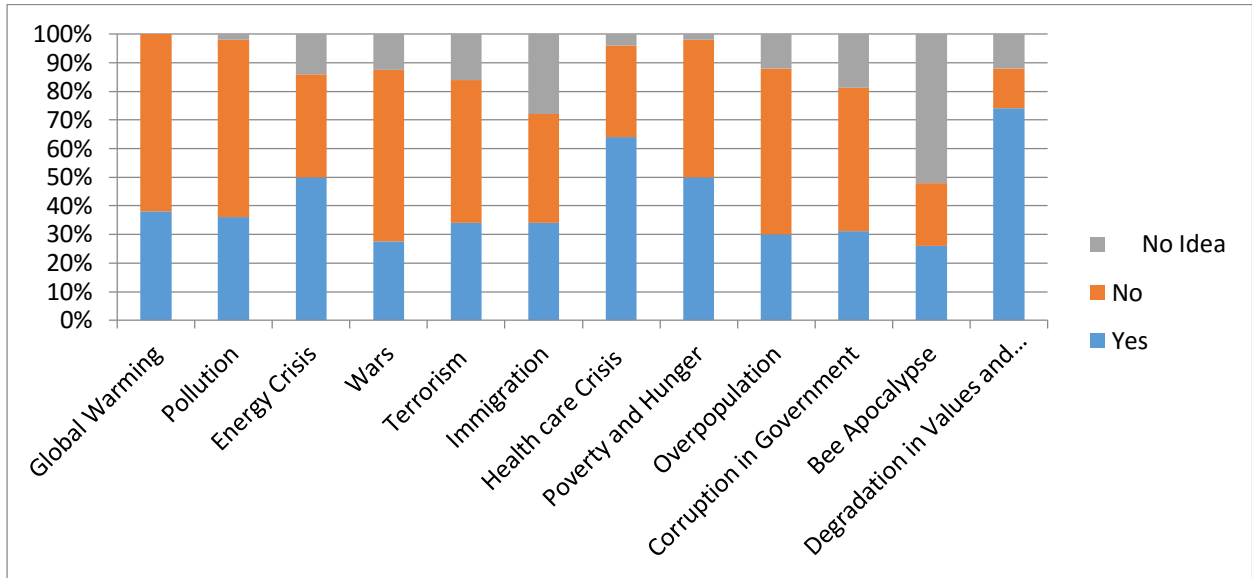


Figure -10 Response of Age Group 15-18 years on “Is it Possible to Solve these Global Issues in Near Future (28 years and above)?”

Figure 7 to 10 is clear reflection that our results are in alignment with our hypothesis that age group 12-15 and 15-18 years’ kids are more optimistic than adults of age group 18-28 and 28 years and above. towards solving the global issues in 2-10 years’ frame. Specially the global issue like Global Warming and Pollution 60% respondents have said ‘yes’ where as in adult age group response is just 40% and below. Poverty and Hunger has Significant Similarity in solving the problem in all age groups. Surprisingly in Adult age group where they are less optimistic in Solving first 11 global issues, 75 % of the adult believe that Degradation in value education of the society can be improved in 2-10 years’ frame.

(c)Response to the Question on solving 12 different Global Issues in 2-10 years (12-15 years, 15-18 years, 18-28 years and 28 years and above) – Question is “Is it Possible to Solve these Global Issues in Near Future (10-50 years)?”

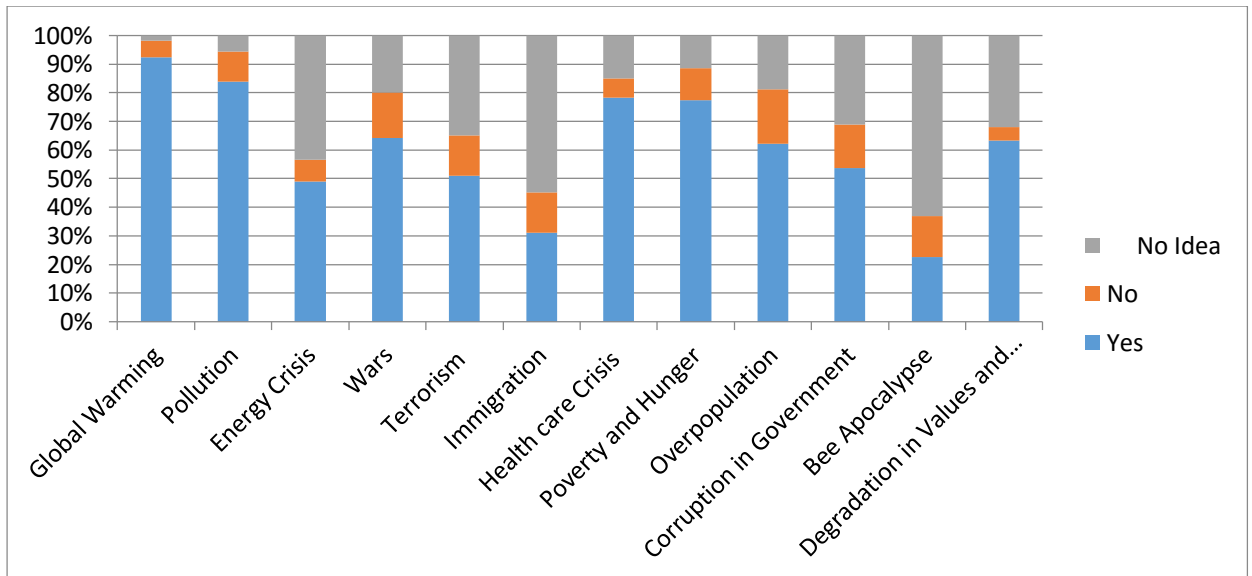


Figure -11 Response of age group 12-15 years to the question “Is it Possible to Solve these Global Issues in Near Future (10-50 years)?”

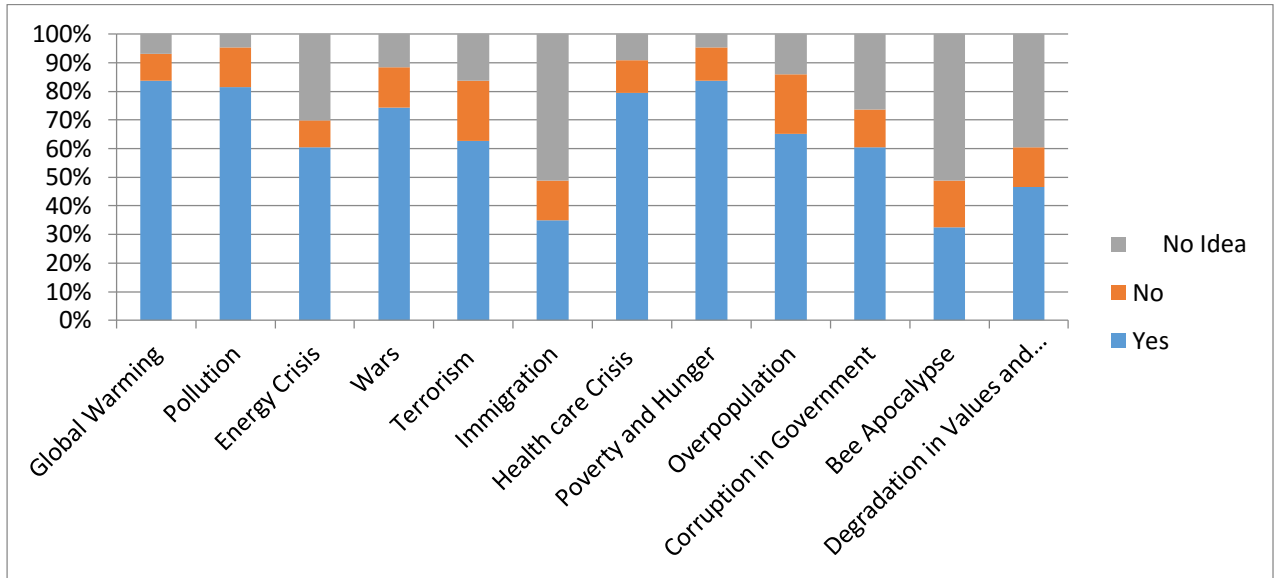


Figure –12 Response of age group 15-18 years to the question “Is it Possible to Solve these Global Issues in Near Future (10-50 years)?”

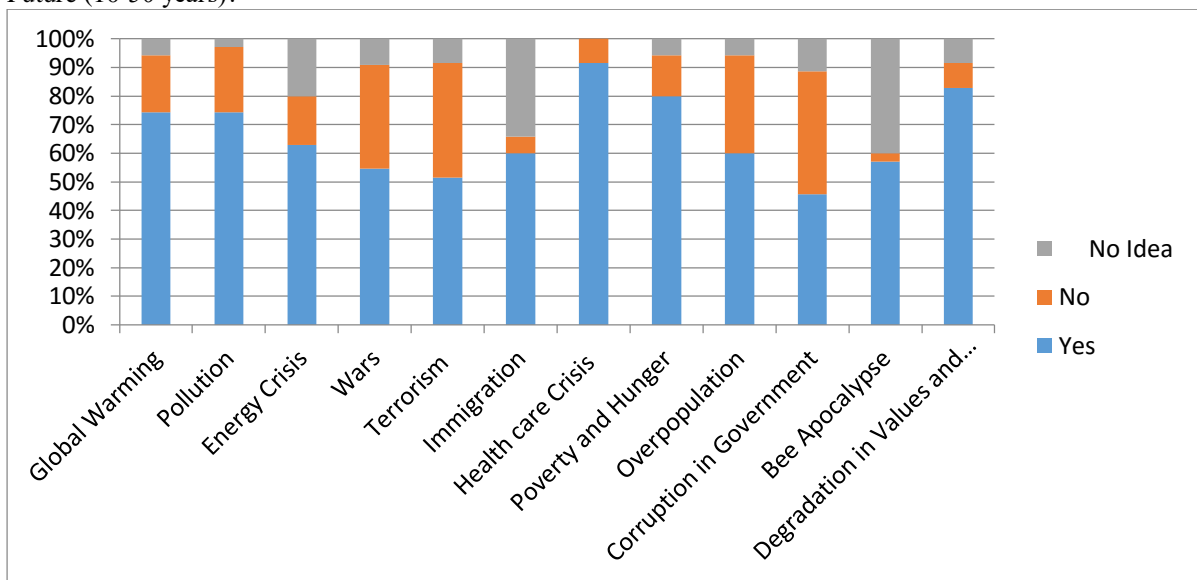


Figure – 13 Response of age group 18-28 years to the question “Is it Possible to Solve these Global Issues in Near Future (10-50 years)?”



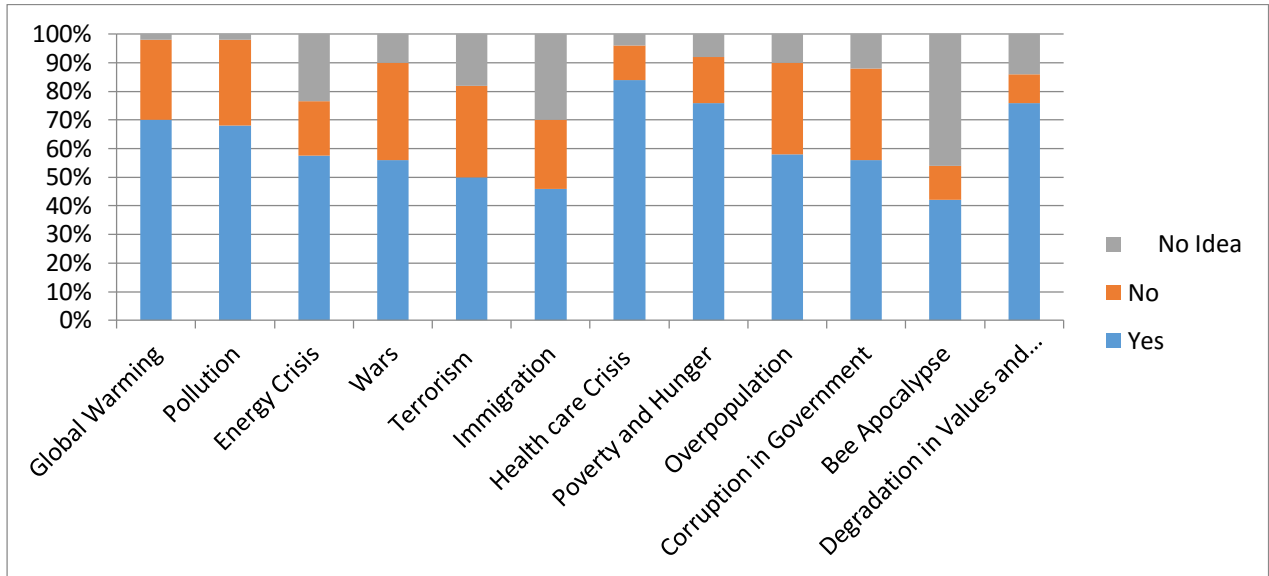


Figure -14 Response of age group 28 years and above to the question "Is it Possible to Solve these Global Issues in Near Future (10-50 years)?"

Figure 10 to 14 also shows that Kids are more optimistic than adults and making our hypothesis true. Age group 12-15 and 15-18 years' kids are more optimistic than adults of age group 18-28 and 28 years and above towards solving the global issues in 10-50 years' frame. Specially the global issue like Global Warming and Pollution 82% respondents have said 'yes' where as in adult age group response is just 70%. Poverty and Hunger has Significant Similarity in solving the problem in all age groups which close to 81%. Surprisingly in Adult age group where they are less optimistic in Solving first 11 global issues, 80 % of the adult believe that Degradation in value education of the society can be improved in 10-50 years' frame.

(d)Response to the Survey based on Correlation of the Value System with 12 Global Issues taken under consideration for different age groups (12-15 years, 15-18 years, 18-28 years and 28 years and above)

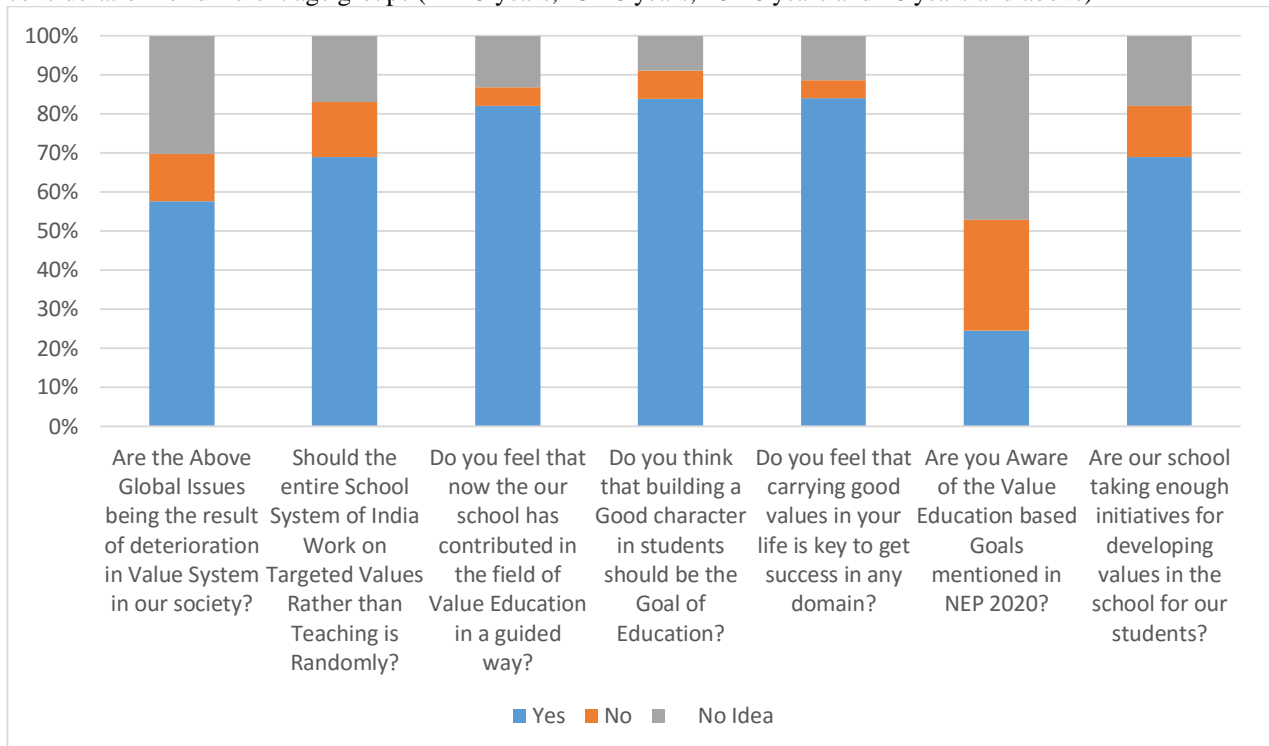


Figure -15 Response to the Survey based on Correlation of the Value System with 12 Global Issues taken under consideration for age group 12-15 years

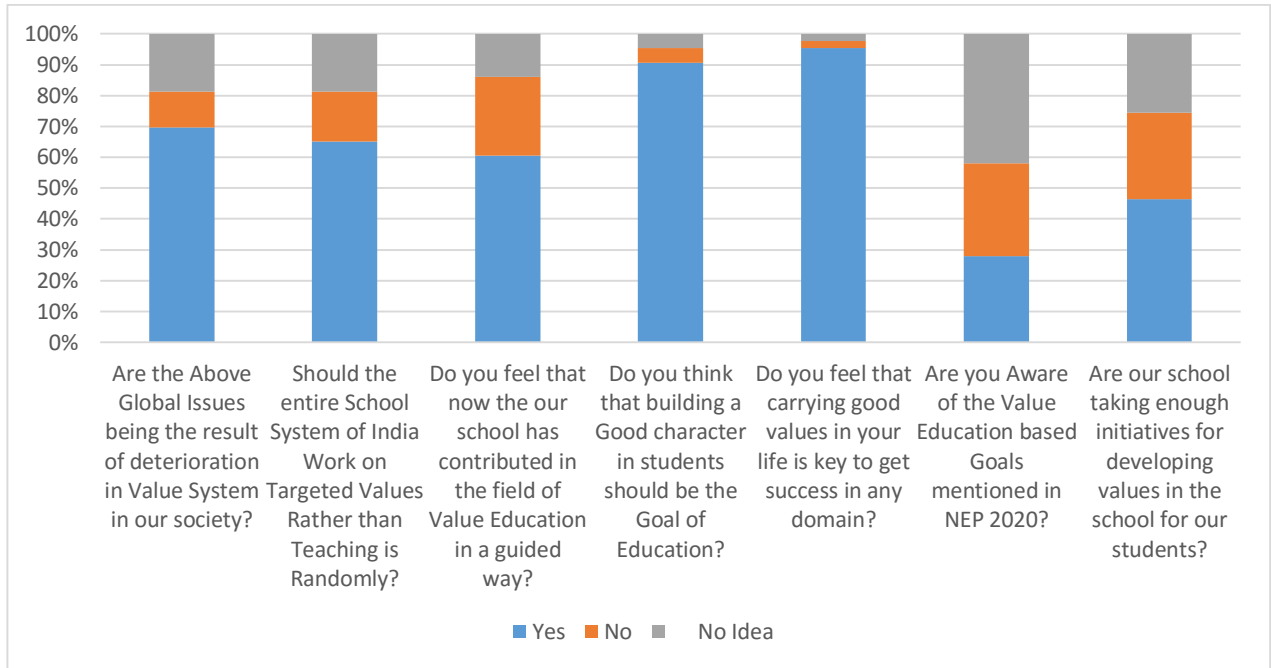


Figure -16 Response to the Survey based on Correlation of the Value System with 12 Global Issues taken under consideration for age group 15-18 years

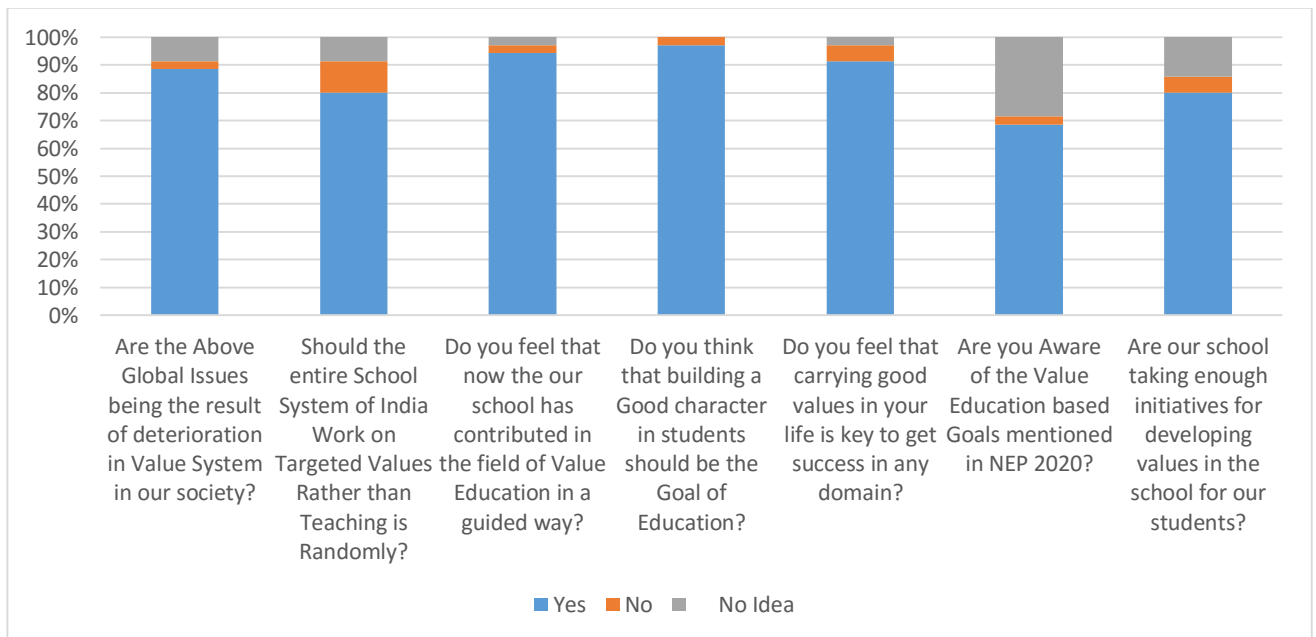


Figure -17 Response to the Survey based on Correlation of the Value System with 12 Global Issues taken under consideration for age group 18-28 years

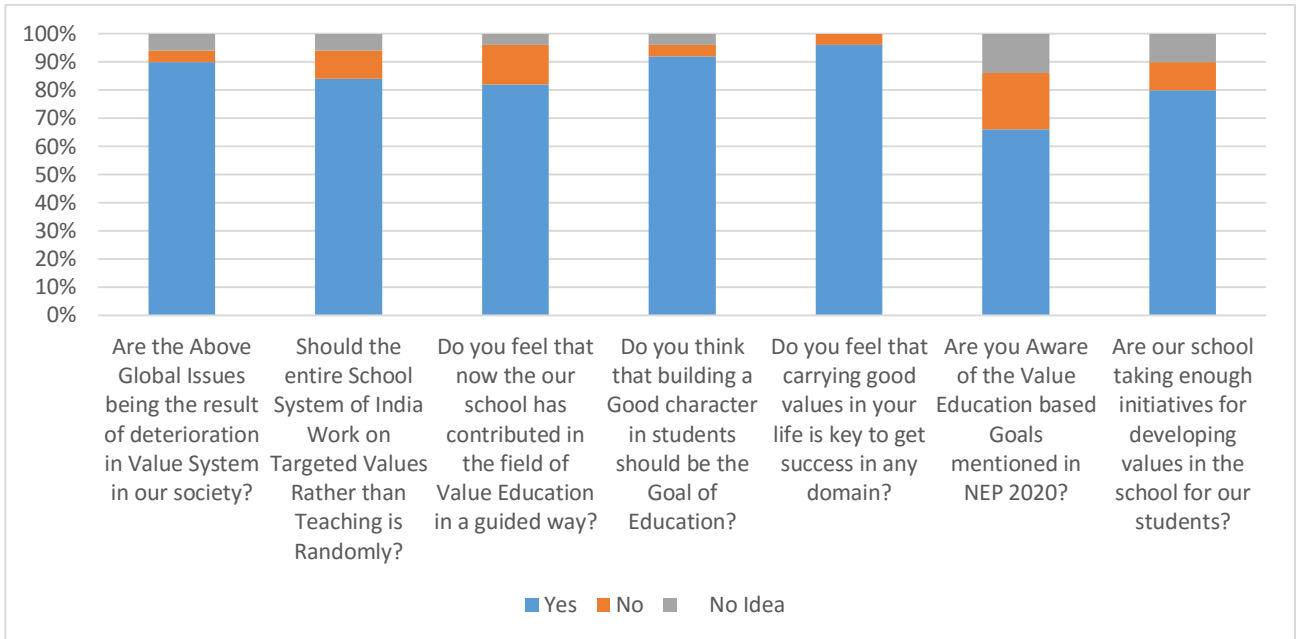


Figure -18 Response to the Survey based on Correlation of the Value System with 12 Global Issues taken under consideration for age group 28 years and above

From 15 to 18 it is observed that age group 12 to 15 years (55%) and 15-18 (70%) are less of opinion that these global issues are the result of deterioration in value system of the society where as in adult age group 18 to 28 years and above 90% respondents are of the opinion that these Global Issues are the Result of deterioration in value system of the society. Significantly Good Response of more than 90% respondents received and they are convinced that Delhi World Public School, Bhatapara is Working towards the betterment of value system by Targeting 9 core values helpful in Character building.

(e) Response to the most Important Value out of 9 values taken under consideration for different age groups (12-15 years, 15-18 years, 18-28 years and 28 years and above)

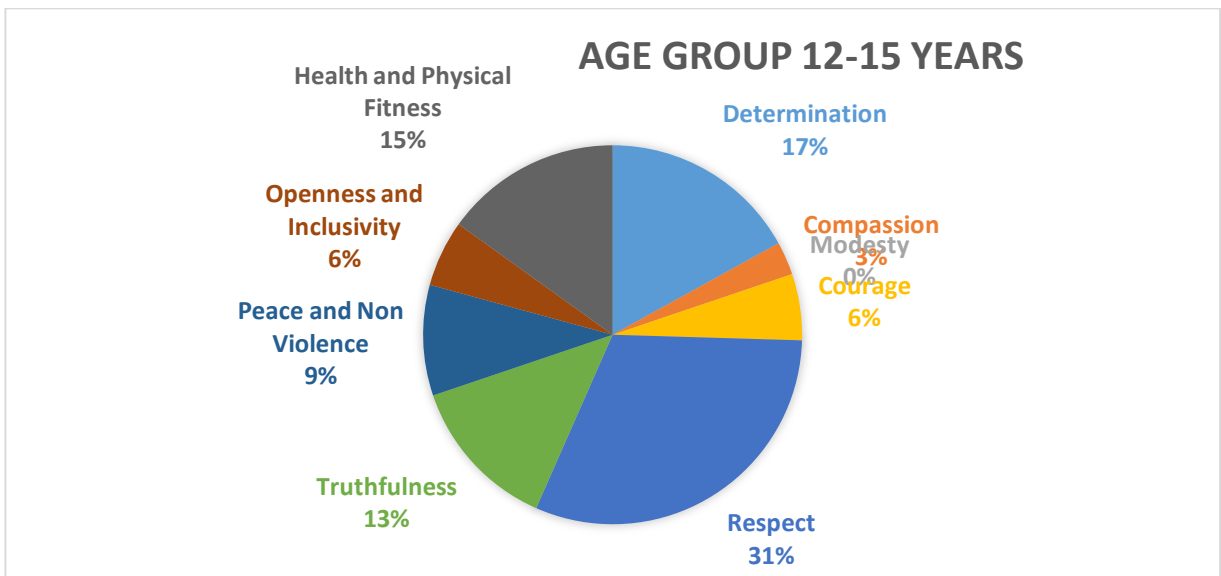


Figure -19 Response to the most Important Value out of 9 values taken under consideration for age groups 12-15 years.

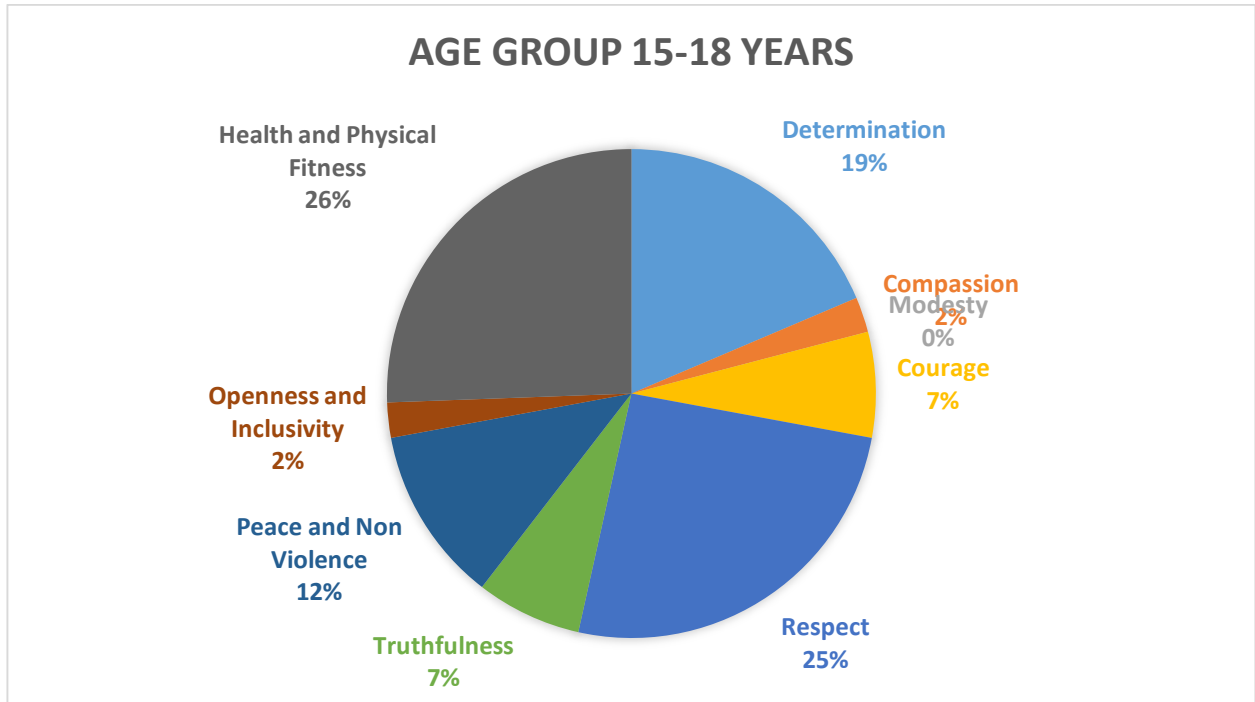


Figure -20 Response to the most Important Value out of 9 values taken under consideration for different age groups 15-18 years

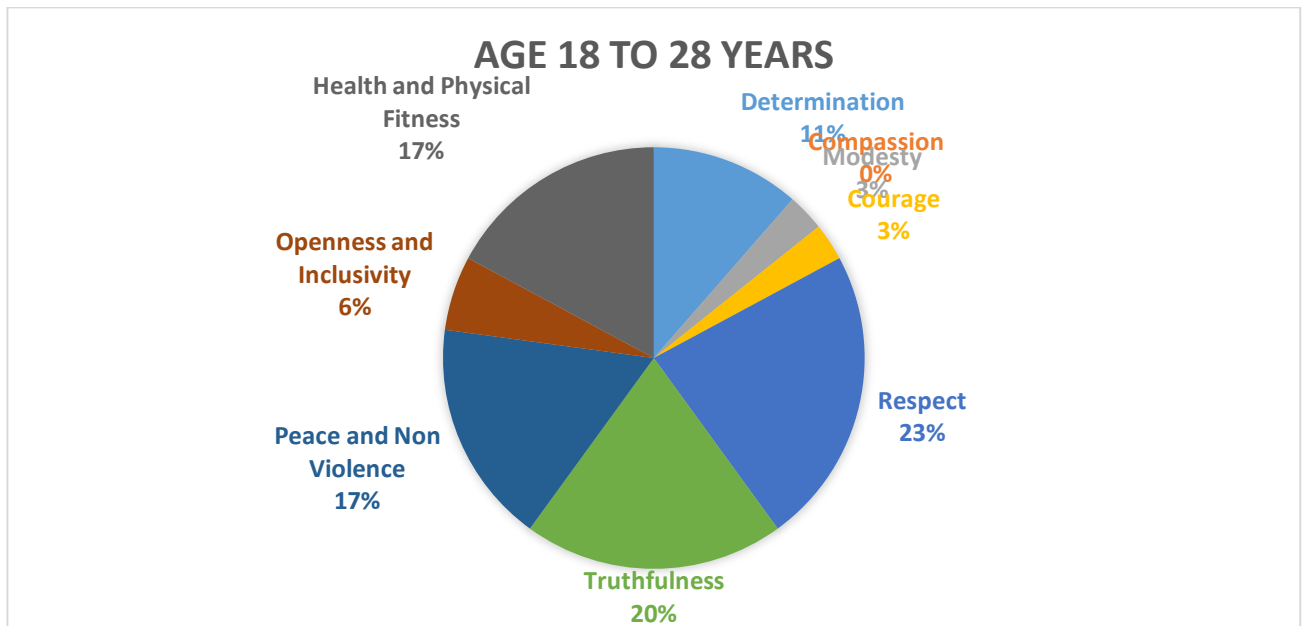


Figure -21 Response to the most Important Value out of 9 values taken under consideration for different age groups 18-28 years.

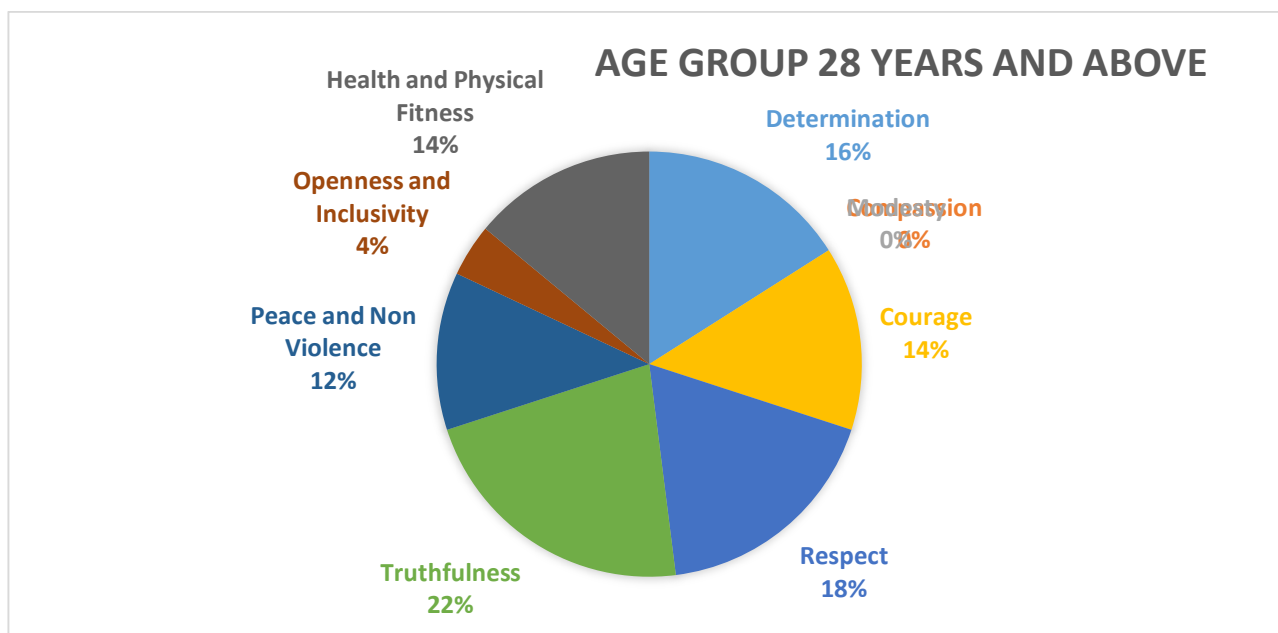


Figure -22 Response to the most Important Value out of 9 values taken under consideration for different age groups 28 years and above.

In Figure 19 and 20 it is observed that the top three opted values in Kids age group 12 to 15 years and 15 to 18 years is Respect, Determination and Physical Fitness where as in adult age group 18 to 28 and 28 years and above the top three value are Truthfulness, Respect and Physical Fitness. Over in all the age groups Respect and Truthfulness are the most opted values.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

The Result and discussion section indicates that there is high degree of closeness between the hypothesis made and the result obtained after analysis of the survey. Also it is to be noted that adults have more pragmatic and practical approach towards solving an issue. The still we consider that there are some other factors to be considered which may impact then study like awareness in Rural Vs Urban region, Educational background of the respondents, personal character and Convictions.

#### 5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Authors would like to acknowledge the efforts and support of Mr. Pavan Keshrwani (Acad. Coordinator), Ms. Lata Dewangan (PP Coordinator), Ms. Yashika Tharwani, Ms. Jyoti Jaswani, Ms. Kirti Kesharwani, Value Education Ambassadors and Management of Delhi World Public School, Bhatapara-Balodabazar, Chhattisgarh, India.

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**ANNEXURE - I**

**Research Title – Assessing Attitude Across Different Age Groups in Regards to Global Issues.**

Survey Filled by (Name of the Person)	
Gender	
Date of Discussion	
Time of Discussion	
Age Group (Tick Mark)	12-15 years 15 – 18 Years 18-28 Years

28 years and above

**SURVEY QUESTIONS BASED ON GLOBAL ISSUES** – (Tick Mark on Appropriate Options, try to fill in neat and clean way as these papers are to be analyzed by the researchers in later stage)

S.N	Do you consider the following Problems as a Global Issue?	Yes	No	No Idea
1	Global Warming			
2	Pollution			
3	Energy Crisis			
4	Wars			
5	Terrorism			
6	Immigration			
7	Health care Crisis			
8	Poverty and Hunger			
9	Overpopulation			
10	Corruption in Government			
11	Bee Apocalypse			
12	Degradation in Values and Value System in our Family			

S.N	Is it Possible to Solve these Global Issues in Near Future (2-10 years)?	Yes	No	No Idea
1	Global Warming			
2	Pollution			
3	Energy Crisis			
4	Wars			
5	Terrorism			
6	Immigration			
7	Health care Crisis			
8	Poverty and Hunger			
9	Overpopulation			
10	Corruption in Government			
11	Bee Apocalypse			
12	Degradation in Values and Value System in our Family			

S.N	Is it Possible to Solve these Global Issues in Long Term Future (10-50 years)?	Yes	No	No Idea
1	Global Warming			
2	Pollution			
3	Energy Crisis			
4	Wars			
5	Terrorism			
6	Immigration			
7	Health care Crisis			
8	Poverty and Hunger			
9	Overpopulation			
10	Corruption in Government			
11	Bee Apocalypse			
12	Degradation in Values and Value System in our Family			

**SURVEY BASED ON VALUE EDUCATION**

S.N	Questions	Yes	No	No Idea
1	Are the Above Global Issues being the result of deterioration in Value System in our society?			
2	Should the entire School System of India Work on Targeted Values Rather than Teaching is Randomly?			
3	Out of these 9 Values which value you consider as most important value for Life Time? (Tick Mark)	Determination Compassion Modesty Courage Respect Truthfulness Peace and Non Violence Openness and Inclusivity Health and Physical Fitness		
4	Do you feel that now the our school has contributed in the field of Value Education in a guided way?			
5	Do you think that building a Good character in students should be the Goal of Education?			
6	Do you feel that carrying good values in your life is key to get success in any domain?			
7	Are you Aware of the Value Education based Goals mentioned in NEP 2020?			
8	Are our school taking enough initiatives for developing values in the school for our students?			