

# The problems and solutions of Contemporary Chinese college students' ideological and political education

**Wang Hai-ying**

Land and Resource department of China West Normal University,  
Nanchong, Sichuan Province  
People's Republic of China 637009  
Email: [wanghaiying8228@163.com](mailto:wanghaiying8228@163.com)

## **Abstract**

*The problems of contemporary Chinese college students' ideological and political education mainly includes the difficulties of analyzing and choosing which caused by multiculture, the contradiction between the luxuriant spiritual culture and the scanty humane spirit, the transformation of the external pressure and internal power which the college students face to, the good growth condition and the impedance of the development which the college students face to. Understanding and solving the above frontier problem correctly is the key to promote Chinese college students' all-round development.*

**Keywords:** Contemporary Chinese college students; the ideological and political education

The report of the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China puts forward new requirements and tasks of Chinese ideological and political education under the new situation and provide the ideas and methods to understand and solve the problem correctly. The status of ideological and political education is similar to the development of Chinese society, and it also face some realistic difficult problems as follows.

## **1. The difficulties of analyzing and choosing which caused by multiculture**

A document which notifies the general information of the ideological sphere was published by the General Office of CCCPC on April 22, 2013, it is intended to point out the prominent problem of the current ideological sphere. In the document it puts forward seven dangerous risks that must be alerted and eradicated. The contemporary Chinese college students' ideological and moral construction is the chief position of the ideological sphere, and it is influenced by multiculture profoundly which is reflected as follows.

## **1.1 The maladjustment of contemporary college students**

### **1.1.1 The dialectical unification between the dominant culture and the multicultural is not clear**

A part of the contemporary college students are breezing on the dialectical unification between the dominant culture and the multiculture, mainly manifested in two aspects.

Firstly, the social leading values were dispel by multiculture. With the development of cultural diversity, great changes have taken place in college students' original information environment which was closed relatively, more and more foreign culture and its value concept were poured in which made the whole social values has become diversified increasingly. At the same time, the value idea is relativity, every value exists in certain scope rationality and everybody has his own unique values. It is difficult to find a value which can be applicable everywhere, all the things are challenge to the social dominant values.

Secondly, the cultural diversity of contemporary college students is confused in terms of basic value judgment. Although the most college students have the correct judgment on basic value, stilly there are part of the college students lost there ability of judgment under the impact of the diversified values. In the process of value formation the values the contemporary college students not only been influenced by the dominant values of socialism but also been influenced by the various values, which makes the originally pure values dispel by continual utility value, and some values which are called "alternative" or "fashion" image has been improved.

### **1.1.2 The difficulties in discrimination and selection when face to the complex cultural phenomenon**

At present the situation of multiculture exist in China, the traditional culture and the modern culture, the local culture and the foreign culture, the mass culture and the elite culture, the mainstream culture and the non-mainstream culture bring massive information to the contemporary college students. Every culture has its own essence and dross, how to identify the mass culture information is difficulty for the majority college students, and how to absorb the essence fully and discard the dregs also confuse them.

### **1.1.3 Some students are wild about multiculture and indifferent with dominant culture**

36.3% of interviewees said the marginalized mainstream values crisis is the serious challenge in the next decade according to the one thousand questionnaire survey of People's BBS. It means that, on the one hand, most people affirm the sinicization of marxism ideology, because it is the mainstream values in Chinese society already; On the other hand, some people think that globalization is more and more clear, then the mainstream values may be lost its mainstream status in the impact of the western values or other multiple values. This is the prediction and warning based on the observation of the reality, so it is worth to be given attention and reflection by us especially the ideology department of the state. For example, the contemporary college students are affected by network culture deeply because it can catch the young man's psychological construction environment, let them willing to consume on the network and enjoy the pleasant sensation under unlimited space. While the contemporary college students linger in all kinds of network information, they also accept the thoughts and values of the fabricant automatically. Nowadays everybody can access to the Internet at anytime and anywhere, so the dominant culture how to achieve the network youth's identity and is a secret worry in the development of Chinese ideology in the long run.

## **1.2. The countermeasures to difficult to adapt the multicultural of college students**

Marx pointed out that the collapse of consciousness collapse is enough to destruct the whole era if investigate from the concept. Likewise, Chinese leaders have stressed that ideological work is a big problem repeatedly. The report of the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China reiterated point out that we must grasp the hegemony and dominant right of ideological work firmly, we also should adhere to the correct guidance to expand the ability of mainstream ideology. Combined with the characteristics of contemporary college students, we think we can solve, differentiate and analyze the difficulties which caused by multicultural from the following aspects.

### **1.2.1 Help the contemporary college students to recognize the following questions**

#### **1.2.1.1 The essence of the culture perform in a variety of forms**

The differences of culture show in the performance and the value orientation. Diverse culture brings a wide variety of forms, but it also depends on more and more new technology carrier. We should treat and handle the universal value orientation of western and Chinese social dominant value orientation dialectically from the aspect of value orientation because the core of the culture is values and polyphyletic culture can provide diverse value choice. The contemporary college students are ideological and active, highly motivated and strong ability to explore and learn under the background of multicultural, so the value concept of them have a strong appeal and the value choice of them are varied. The propose of the Core Socialist Values is to grasp the hegemony and dominant right of the ideological work firmly, adhere to the correct guidance, improve the ability of guiding, expand the mainstream public opinion, then the contemporary college students will not generate a lot of confusion and perplexity in the period of social transformation, they can form the values in line with the social development need.

#### **1.2.1.2 Distinguishing, reviewing and selecting the multicultural in the correct world outlook, the outlook on life and values**

In the face of multicultural, contemporary college students should take correct world outlook, the outlook on life and values to distinguishing, reviewing and selecting the multicultural. The Core Socialist Values is the essence of socialist ideology, and it also is the common ideological basis of the unity of all nationalities and all parties in China. Contemporary college students are in a critical period of forming the world outlook, the outlook on life and values, the ability of them to accept the new things is very strong, but most of them are lack of enough resolution capability. So we should educate contemporary college students' values by using the socialist core values as the main content. Only in this way, the contemporary college students can make a clear distinction between right and wrong from multicultural and choose the right types of culture which conform to the trend of social development and themselves.

### **1.2.2 Carry out various forms of activities around the Four Throughout, enhance the ideological guidance of contemporary college students**

#### **1.2.2.1 The Chinese Dream engineering education activities throughout the growth**

In order to achieve the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and the fundamental direction of contemporary college students work we should take around the Chinese Dream tightly, carry out practical

activity of the grassroots level party and youth league organizations at the Chinese Dream theme in a deep-going way. We can build the common moral of the majority young students, stimulate the historical sense of responsibility with the Chinese Dream, to enhance the confidence in roadway, theory and system. At the same time, according to the principle of hierarchical classification guiding, combining with the reality of college students, we should carry out different activities in different grade levels of college students to help them setting up the correct world outlook, the outlook on life and values.

### **1.2.2.2 Carry out the strict rule of positive energy**

Closely around the the eighteen session of the Fifth Plenary Session of CPC, we can practice youth big discussion with strict rule inveterately by multiple ways, such as the relevant documents, preaching through the theme, the situation policy lecture hall, the media publicity and so on. By this way, we can make the contemporary college students grasp the new ideas of building the rule of law society, new diagnosis and new initiatives accurately, insight into the current situation and the overall deployment to deepen the reform practice strictly.

### **1.2.2.3 The cultivation and practice of the Core Socialist Values**

Combining with the reality of contemporary college students, we can put the cultivation and practice the Core Socialist Values into the team activities and construction. We should carry out activity of loving learning, labour and the motherland extensively to develop the traditional culture education excellently, make sure the Core Socialist Values taking root in the contemporary college students. We should carry out ideal faith education, thanksgiving education and honest education of the contemporary college students solidly, and broadcast the model deeds of outstanding student in various forms to educate them become more and more advanced and more and more struggle.

### **1.2.2.4 The use of new media to strengthen the publicity and education activities**

At present, the modern information technology including the digital and network advance rapidly, then anyone can access to the Internet at anytime and anywhere. The network is not only a convenient tool, but also a media who can carry a large amount of information and interactivity. We can use the carrier of weibo, the WeChat and campus BBS to carry out the activities of the party, the youth league organizations and community activities effectively. In this way, it can give full play to the function and effect of publicity position and cultural position to guide the mainstream of campus, unblocked the appeal channels and increase the publicity and education work.

## **2. The contradiction between the manifest spiritual culture reveals and the lacking humane spirit**

The paper called certain major issue decision of deepening the reform of cultural system to promote the socialist cultural development, which approved at The Sixth Plenum of the 17th CPC Central Committee pointed out that Chinese cultural development with economic and social development still not completely adapt to the people's increasing spiritual and cultural demand. Some contradictions and problems are prominent: Some places and units can not aware the importance, necessity and urgency of cultural construction enough; Some areas are lack in morality and honesty; Some members of society distort the

outlook on life and values; We must consolidate all ethnic groups ideological and moral base assignments to together the party and the united by using the Core Socialist Values of social ideological trend more urgent. According to the trend of the contemporary society development, the report of the Eighteenth National Congress of the CPC emphasized as follows: culture is the blood of a nation and it also is the spiritual home of the people; In order to build a well-off society in an all-round way, bring about a great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, we must promote the great development of socialist culture prosperity, rise new upsurge of socialist cultural construction, enhance the national cultural soft power, give play to the function of culture leading the fashion, educating the person, serving the society and promoting the development of the people. The people enjoy a healthy and rich spiritual and cultural life is an important content of building a well-off society in an all-round way. At the same time, the report of the Eighteenth National Congress of the CPC not only analysis the test and the problems the party faced, but also points out that dangers including sluggish spirit, insufficient ability, breaking away from the masses and negative corruption are more sharply than before for the party, the dangers of sluggish spirit is in the first place. It is obviously that in the current the contradiction between spiritual reveal and spiritual values slacking is reality of the social, and it is also the difficulties faced by the college students' ideological and political education. Understanding and solving the problem is difficult because it rooted in confusion and deviation of value orientation.

### **2.1 The impact, manifestation and damage of college students lacking the humane spirit**

The social phenomenon of lacking the spirit makes bad influence on the college students' humane spirit. Some people of the officialdom abuse power for personal gains and do power-for-money deal; In the market, there are more and more fake, shoddy and wicked deal; As well as the college, there are some misconducts such as plagiarism, fraud and the Qian Xue trading behavior, although it is different in manifestation, the essence including liking money, buying and selling with money, replacement of political, moral and knowledge is the same. Although the ugly phenomenon only occurs in a few people, its effect on the ideological and political education of college students and college students' growth is directly and badly. At the same time, some areas, units and universities just emphasis on the one-sided image to achieve the digital engineering, vanity projects and image project, but neglect and even despise the culture and soul engineering which case the absence of culture omission and spirit losing efficacy, it also cause some college students just pay attention to function and value, but lose interested in the spiritual life.

Some college students' mental defect performs bad influence. Some college students pursue the material life and the science and technology, but pay attention to the spiritual life and the humanity knowledge insufficiently, therefore produce the spirits sluggish. The spirits sluggish mean that the spirit is fatigued and weak, the thought is inattentive, the will is recession and the goal is fuzzy. The outstanding performance of the spirits sluggish is mania, the people just be anxious for success impatiently under the condition of competition, such as fickleness for the unwilling study and work, fickleness for dissatisfied study and work efficiency. The performance is affected by the objective conditions and it often lack the control of the subjectivity and reason. In China, there is an old saying "A man who had careless about his future would lose his present", it means that if no long-term considerations and confirmedly ideal faith, the people will sink into the preocular and specific the relationship and trifles beyond words. So the spiritual life quality of the college students who always perturbed is undergrade, and the heart disorder also affect their

all-round development. Another manifestation of a handful of college students' mental defect is psychological disease. Some mental illness are caused by the physiological reasons, but more and more mental illness are the result of indifferent the mental function. The employment and study pressure of the college students are heavy, some students take a variety of coping styles but ignore the function of subjective response, so some students generate psychological barriers, some students even generate mental illness seriously. In order to solve the problem of lacking the spirit and prevent the producing of mental illness effectively, we must realize the essence and the manifest of the spiritual culture, and adhere to the concept of education is the essence, moral education is the forerunner.

## **2.2 The root cause of lacking the spirit**

Some college students are influenced by some unhealthy social phenomenon, so the value orientations of them are leading to the mental defect. It is the main reason which influences the effect of college students' ideological and political education. While ignoring the moral and spiritual pursuit, it will leads to the following questions inevitably:

The first is pursuing the realistic function and effect on the one-side but ignoring the sustained and all-round development. Pursuing the realistic function and effect means that some college students always pay attention to the use value and practical value of the object but ignore the scientific value, social value and development value of it. Such as some college students just emphasize the effect of tools, science and technology but ignore the scientific spirit and the value of science and technology; Some college students seek quick success and instant benefits on learning but ignore the course of creating conditions and strenuous effort; On the development some college students pursuit the ability and talent on the one-sided but ignore the spirit and moral, and so on.

The second is paying attention to the reality and immediate interests of individual, but ignoring the overall and long-term interests. Its performance is emphasising the material and money on the one-sided but ignoring the political and moral values; The academic performance, evaluation index, reward and punishment are linked to money directly, but ignore the ideological and moral qualities and its effect. So some college students sink into their own interests, do not honest, and even practise fraud to damage the school ethos, etc.

The third is paying attention to the affective thinking and sense organ's satisfaction but ignoring the rational thinking, ideal and faith. Common performance of college students are as follows: emphasise the technical thinking and real-time thinking but ignore the philosophizing and logical thinking; Like the learning in the browse type or fast food type but hate ponder over and exploration; Pay attention to material high consumption but ignore the spirit pursuit.

## **2.3 The solutions for the problem**

It means that the tendency of pursuing the utility value is reasonable, if the college students just concentrate on the utility value but ignore the all-round development and the sustainable development, it will appear the state of development which do not correspond with the college students' training objective.

The development state of college students is mainly classified into two kinds. One kind is spontaneous development state, it is only personal, immediate and narrow interests but ignore the establishment of global

and long-term development goals. The expressions of it include obviously self-imposed limitations, insufficient openness, insufficient subjectivity, one-sided and slow growth development. The essential of spontaneous development is the college students are controlled by the spontaneous goal and they are also lack ideal and faith. In the past there were spontaneous revolutions in the revolutionary war, but now in the process of the Socialist Modernization there are some spontaneous construction behaviours which are different in the form but the same in the essence. Lenin wrote an article called what's to be done to analyse and expound the spontaneity of the trade unionism, and expound the principles of indoctrination to enhance revolutionary consciousness of the workers. The fine tradition of transforming the spontaneous farmer by ideological and political education has important guiding significance for us to understand and overcome the spontaneity of college students' development.

The other kind is conscientious developing state. It is the independent consciousness development which can contact their own development with the social development to judge and confirm, and the college students make their own development as their own survival mode in contemporary society; The college students can know and adapt to the modern social development trend forwardly, they also can harness the openness, competitiveness, complexity and diversity of modern society, overcome the traditional ideas and behaviours which do not adapt to the development of the society constantly, the purpose is to improve their own quality consciously; According to the goals and requirements of social development in China, the college students must establish the ideal faith and form the conscious behaviour in the process of exceeding themselves continuously. The current ideological and political education in China is difficult to realize the transform from spontaneous development to conscious development, it is not only effected by the utilitarian value orientation in the school and the society, but also because intensify the value of intense competition and the utilitarian exam-oriented education, then the ideological and political education is difficult to play their deserved role. In order to solve the problem, we must adhere to the education policy of the Party and the training goal of the college, correct the value orientation deviation; We also must do some research on the innovation of ideological and political education theory, such as the state, relationships, values and translational research between the spontaneous state of development and consciousness development, the research on the role of ideal faith in college students' conscious development, the research on the contemporary value of Lenin's principle of indoctrination, the experience and theory study of Chinese communist education and the transformation of spontaneous farmers, etc.

It is affirm that the college students want to realize the self-awareness development, it is only depend on their own experience and exploration but also depend on the concept of facing modernization, facing the world and the future to break through the limitations of individual, family and narrow eyes, to accept the education of the Socialist theory with Chinese Characteristics. The college students can establish a clear direction and goals by learning, mastering and applying the theory to achieve strong and lasting power, integrate the individual behavior to the great flood of socialist modernization construction, make themselves into self-conscious development state really. The consciousness of personal development is extremely advantageous for the national, ethnic, oneself and the family. Nowadays under the competition of international and domestic, the state, spontaneous development, vision, goals and motivation of the college students are hard to bear the task of the development. Therefore, the ideological and political education of the college students can help them to make the transition from spontaneous to consciously development

through the comparison of past and present, theory and practice. Only in this way we can seize the joint point of individual and the country, the theory and practice, the present and the long-range.

### **Reference**

1. Minghuan Li, Multicultural Recent Debate for Centuries[J]. Sociological Study, 2001, Volume 3.
2. Xixi Chen, Marxism: Ideology and Discourse System[M]. Shanghai: East China Normal University Press, 2011, P241
3. Feng Wu, Network communication[M]. China Broadcasting and Television Publishing House, 2004, P38
4. Challenge Ten: The crisis of the mainstream values' marginalization[N], The People's Daily, 2009
5. Marx and Engels Corpora, Beijing: People's Publishing House[M], 1980, P35
6. Firmly march on the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics and strive to complete the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects[N], The People's Daily, 2012
7. MAO zedong's Corpora, Beijing: People's Publishing House[M], 1999, P103