

## Conference Paper

# The Current Situation and Thinking of Ideological and Political Education in College Students

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## Abstract

The world today is in a profound change, facing the impact of diversified ideas and the negative effects of market economy; there is also a lack of ideological and political education in colleges and universities, mainly for the ideological education is not in place and the gradual weakening of ideological and political literacy of college students. The reasons are various, including the influence of external environment and the role of internal factors. To this end, we start to explore the effective ways of ideological and political education from the aspects of effectively creating a good ideological and political education environment and building an interactive platform for teacher–student dialogue, according to the established ideological education goal, teach college students ideological education information, let them recognize and internalize their own world outlook, outlook on life and values, achieve the purpose of guiding them toward the community’s desired direction. Therefore, the social development needs and the needs of college students are met, realize the organic unity of social development and individual development of college students.

**Keywords:** college students, ideological and political education, effectiveness

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## 1. The Definition of Ideological and Political Education in College Students

For the connotation of ideological and political education, different experts and scholars have their own independent interpretation from different angles and levels. Some commentators think, “Ideological and political education means that the social or social groups exert a purposeful, planned and organized influence on their members with certain ideas, political opinions and moral standards, so that they form the ideological and moral qualities required by a certain society and a certain class social practice

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activities". "Refers to the activities of cultivating people's ideological and moral qualities that are common to all class societies of mankind and refers specifically to the ideological and moral activities of the proletariat in training people" [1]. Some commentators think, the content of ideological and political education is based on certain social requirements and the ideological reality of the educated, after the educator chooses the design, all the information which is delivered to the educated person purposefully and step by step [2]. Some commentators think, ideological and political education is the ideological and political ideas that educators are intended to impart to educational objects in ideological and political education activities [3]. Some commentators think, "the reality of ideological and political education is always from a certain problem to start and implement, or political view (such as citizens, legal education), or ethics (such as dedication discussion), or the concept of history (such as discuss in practice standards)" [4].

It can be seen that no matter emphasizing the constitution of the basic elements of ideological and political education or emphasizing the process exerted on the educated, they all interpret the ideological and political education from both the static and the dynamic aspects. Based on the above views, this paper believes that, ideological and political education is an activity process, based on the requirements of social development and educated people's actual ideological conditions, purposeful, planned and organized to certain ideas, political opinions and moral norms imposed on educated, and thus internalized into their thoughts and literacy [5].

## 2. Analysis of Problems Existing in College Students' Ideological and Political Education in the New Era

### 2.1. The implementation of ideological and political education in colleges and universities is not in place, the effect is not obvious

The ideological and political education of college students did not make the best use of the situation. At present, the international and domestic forms are in a profound change, the world multi-level, economic globalization, value diversification, and ideological struggle complication, etc. China is also in the period of social transition, and its social and economic components, distribution of benefits and lifestyles are becoming more and more diverse. The variability and diversity of people's value orientation are also increasing day by day. The judgments on reality and the expectation on the value of self have also taken a huge variety. In this case, it is easy for undergraduates who

are inexperienced in the world to be influenced by western political opinions, thoughts and cultures, eroded by the decadent ideas of the west. However, many ideological and political education departments in universities do not fully understand the impact of the international and domestic environments on college students, do not make good use of those living materials to carry out timely education of college students, do not arrange targeted work on the characteristics of college students nowadays, do not do a good job of exploring effective working mechanisms to put college students' ideological and political education into place, It is impossible for college students to realize the value of education and its significance to their own development.

The ideological and political literacy of college students are gradually weakened. Faced with the impact of diversified ideological and cultural, as well as the various negative effects of the market economy, college students are extremely "fragile", "immunity" is not strong, the world outlook, outlook on life is also greatly affected, the value of the trend of profit comparison obviously, even some college students completely deviate from our educational philosophy. Now college students are largely based on a "self" way of thinking to think about the things around, do anything is mostly self-centered, arrogant, selfish and self-righteousness, don't use "the other" way to think about the people and things around, not the perspective-taking, lack of tolerance, lack of dedication, in some cases, it even shows dishonesty. The inheritance and understanding of the traditional virtues of the Chinese nation are not enough, the good and evil rules are getting blurred, the sense of disgrace is poor, the lack of understanding, compassion and communication, presents a moral "disability" for contemporary college students.

## **2.2. The implementation of ideological and political education lacks the necessary support**

### **2.2.1. The comprehensive quality of ideological and political educators needs to be improved**

With the development of society, the demand of college students for knowledge is getting bigger and bigger, and the requirement of knowledge updating is getting higher and higher, therefore, for those who are directly involved in the concrete practice of college ideological and political education, it should have a higher overall quality. At present, some ideological and political educators in colleges and universities still lacks in improving their overall quality. In the aspect of ideological education for college students, more emphasis on imparting knowledge, there are serious lectures, no good

to IQ and eq theory applied to the practice of ideological education, such as not well use all kinds of means to let the students to agree to accept the party's line policy level, also did not give up in a large extent adult way of thinking and scientific thinking education to college students, with heart and heart communication between them. In addition, some evaluation systems of colleges and universities also affect college students' ideological and political education. As the majority of university teachers' advancement is related to the achievements of scientific research, many educators focus their efforts on scientific research instead of putting their time in the ideological and political education that takes time but not obvious in a short period of time. The ideological and political education of college students is just one kind of accomplishment for the completion of tasks, so that there will be no expected educational effect. What's more, there are a lot of graduate student join to ideological educators in colleges and universities. Most of this part of the group have no work experience, lack of practical experience, disconnect between theory and practice, also bring some adverse factors for the effective implementation of ideological and political education.

### **2.2.2. The content of ideological and political teaching is single and mechanical**

The ideological and political education contents and methods of college students are too old and single, and they can't get rid of the old ideological and political education mode. Judging from the current situation of colleges and universities, most college ideological and political education is mainly conducted through the theory of "two courses". Nowadays, ideological and political education courses for undergraduates mainly include such main courses as "Marxist Philosophy", "An Introduction to Mao Zedong Thought", "An Introduction to Deng Xiaoping Theory", "Ideological and Moral Cultivation and Legal Basis". The content of these classes involved in the theoretical level is relatively high, broad and relatively good, played a role that cannot be ignored for the realization of the party's education policy, training of socialist successors. However, the professors of these courses have some unsatisfactory problems in the ideological and political education of college students. The content of ideological and political education behind the development of the era, characterized by a hysteresis and repeatability, difficult to arouse the enthusiasm of the students, so as to make the ideological and political education of college students lack the necessary sense of identity. At the same time, in the process of teaching students, there is a considerable degree of pure theory indoctrination, thus a phenomenon of ideological and political

education is disjointed from reality. This makes the ideological and political education lack of necessary persuasion of college students, it is natural for college students to have a distrust of ideological and political education. It can be said that the ideological and political education of colleges and universities is largely confined to "book-style" education, and lacks an education thinking and pattern of education in life.

### **2.2.3. The ideological and political education lacks the necessary and in-depth study of individual undergraduates**

Most college students today are "post-80s" and "post-90s", they live in a social context in which major changes have taken place in all aspects, different factors such as growth experience have a significant impact on college students today. However, the present ideological and political education in colleges and universities has not done a thorough investigation and study on the distinctive features that college students have not had in the past. On the one hand, college students nowadays pay more attention to the mainstream ideology of the society, are receptive to new things and have more innovative ability. On the other hand, many college students nowadays live in a small "greenhouse" environment from an early age, lacking a realistic training, weakling ability of life self-management, lacking self-regulation ability in face of setbacks and new environmental psychology, showing a kind of cowardice, or a lack of rational impulse. In these cases, many educators are more likely to judge the whole group by the behavior of a few individuals, have not taken effective concrete measures, therefore, ideological and political education in colleges and universities flow to a form, ideological and political education in colleges and universities has naturally become an optional indicator task for college students.

### **2.2.4. There is a lack of necessary communication between the educators and the educated**

The relationship between educators and educators is a major contradiction in the educational work. The relationship between them directly affects the teaching effect and also an important factor for the success of ideological and political work in colleges and universities. At present, the relationship between teachers and students in colleges and universities has not fundamentally eschewed the situation of the "one-man show" of the traditional narrow-minded teachers. Instead of getting rid of the narrow relationship between teaching and learning, students are still passive recipients. The lack of the most necessary emotional communication between teachers and students

generally presents a relatively rigid, remote and even contradictory situation. In this situation, there is an unavoidable contradiction on both teachers and students: From the teacher's perspective, with the increasing pace of the society, the task of teachers in colleges and universities is heavier, not only undertake relevant teaching tasks, but also participate in some scientific research, social services, policy consultation and other related matters. In this way, teachers cannot fully guarantee the in-depth understanding of students and effectively carry out ideological and political education for student; From the students' perspective, in colleges and universities, teachers and students have less and less time to face each other, and they lack the necessary communication. In this way, psychological alienation and emotional strangeness, college students often have a distrust of teachers' ideological and political education, therefore, there is a disconnect between teachers and students in the transfer of ideas, cannot effectively realize the ideological and moral quality of the college students.

### 3. Research on the Effective Realization of College Students' Ideological and Political Education

#### 3.1. To create a favorable social environment conducive to the healthy growth of college students

Marxist philosophy holds that the development of things is the result of both internal and external causes, to a certain extent, external cause plays an important role in the development of things. Therefore, the quality of the social environment is also crucial to the success or failure of college students' ideological and political education, a good social environment is an important foundation and necessary condition for effective ideological and political education. From a large social background, the development of the world presents a trend of political multi-polarization, economic globalization and cultural pluralism, our country is also in a period of social transition, social and economic components, distribution of benefits and lifestyles are increasingly diverse, the variability and diversity of people's value orientation are also increasing day by day, the judgments on reality and the expectation of self-value have undergone tremendous changes. In this regard, it is necessary for the relevant departments of the society to guide the correct public opinions through flexible and changeable forms, actively promote the party's line, principles and policies, and strengthen the party's leadership. At the practical level, college students should be allowed to go into social life and experience, it creates a powerful shock in the deep heart that pushes them to set the right world outlook, outlook on life, and values, then they can develop a sense

of identity for our party and our country. Within the scope of the university campus, we should pay attention to the harmonious spirit construction, vigorously carry out academic, arts and entertainment, and other forms of activities, guide students to actively participate in them, so as to improve college students' self-learning, self-education and self-management ability, this also provides many important bases and conditions for effective ideological and political education. The wide application of the Internet in all fields of society has greatly expanded the space for people to communicate with each other. However, the network brings convenience to people's daily life and also brings many problems, such as the dissemination of some vulgar, violent and superstitious messages on the Internet has greatly affected the thinking and behavior of some college students. Educators should pay full attention to the characteristics of timeliness, universality and interactivity of the network, make rational use of the network and guide students to get on the Internet healthily, do a good job of network audit, purify the network environment, and establish a certain ideological and moral education website, regularly publish positive and healthy information, and conduct proper guidance.

### **3.2. Fully understand and actively guide the educatees to stimulate their subjective initiative**

#### **3.2.1. Fully understand and grasp the living environment of college students in the new era**

The growth of students is a process of continuous development, which is the result of comprehensive factors. In order to better understand college students, we must have a full understanding of their living environment, including social environment, family environment, campus environment and interpersonal environment of personal contact. Only in this way, we can better understand the changes of undergraduates' thoughts and track their changes in thought, so that we can effectively exert their potential advantages and effectively implement their ideological education. For college students, parents are their enlightenment teacher, children's understanding of the world is from the family, the establishment of the world outlook, values and outlook on life also start from here. Family education in a sense plays an important role in the future growth of children. In the family, the children's field of view is relatively small, which also to some extent limits their thinking space, in which they unconsciously magnify themselves while ignoring the existence of others. In this way, if we can start from the family environment of college students, and establish a network of ideological

education and interaction between family, school and society, we can effectively carry out the work for college students.

### **3.2.2. Conduct in-depth analysis and research on the personality characteristics of college students**

The ideological and political educators in colleges and universities should break the education way of indoctrination in the past and get rid of the education concept of teaching tasks. College students should not be regarded as individuals, but as living entities with thoughts and feelings and personalities. It is also necessary to see the difference of individual development when seeing college students as acquire knowledge subjects. Instead of focusing the students' framework in a fixed pattern, students should be able to discover the inherent potential of students in a multi-dimensional, multi-perspective and multi-disciplinary context. We should vary from person to person, find their flash point, build a sufficient self-development space for students, so that students can shape independent and harmonious personality.

### **3.2.3. Play a good role model**

For ideological and political education work, positive guidance is particularly important, and the role of role model is very important. To some extent, the role model is a positive indicator of people's thought and behavior, guides people to regulate their behavior in a vivid way, and becomes the standard of people's behavior in reality and becomes an internal driving force. College students, most of them are still young people, in many cases, faced with complex external environment, it is difficult to make due value choice. Each department of the society in this case, especially the college education workers shall be fully open to the potential resources in ideological education positive public opinion guide and model demonstration, and provide a healthy environment for college students.

### **3.3. Establish an effective dialogue platform between educators and the educated**

Human beings are social animals, live in a certain social group and carry out interpersonal communication, they have a "dialogue" in the unique language world. "Dialogue is not only a means of communication, but also an intrinsic demand of life; Dialogue is

not only an exchange of information, but also an exchange of values and an exchange of feelings at the same time" [6]. Bacon said, without friendship, the world is a wilderness. We can also say, without dialogue, the world will have no wind, no blue sky, no sunshine; Without dialogue, the home of mankind will become a decadent landscape in the self-closing [6]. So, people need dialogue. Dialogue is especially important in college students' ideological education, without dialogue, there is no communication, and there is no mutual agreement without communication. If we want to effectively achieve effective dialogue between ideological educators and educated people, we should:

Firstly, equality relationship must be established between educators and educated. Teachers must treat students equally and pay attention to free exchange with students, fully respect students' opinions, allow them to express different opinions, enable students to learn to think and choose in complex social contexts, and support their insightful and thoughtful point of view, meanwhile, highlight the inspiration and inducement of ideological and political education, actively and in-depth help them to solve such as learning, employment and other issues, so that the ideological and political education can be realized in a peaceful and positive atmosphere.

Secondly, ideological and political education should exchange and communicate with the educated. Human beings are animals that have emotions, emotions are an important link between people and people, and pleasant and affectionate feelings play an irreplaceable role in interpersonal communication. Sincere feeling is a very important condition that inspires people to forge ahead, and can play a good role in the process of influence [7]. Therefore, ideological and political education should pay attention to the emotional investment. Education is not only necessary to understand the students' thinking and politics, but also to be emotional, so as to allow students to identify with our education concept from the bottom of their hearts. Educators should always be emotional and loving in their practice, let this emotion become the inner and invisible forces, and make our ideological education has infinite appeal and effectiveness.

Thirdly, teachers should uphold a student-centered philosophy, convey the mainstream values to students. At the same time, we should do our best to understand the impacts and challenges brought by the era of value diversity to the students' physical and mental development, help students to correctly handle and deal with the disagreements and puzzles, use a variety of ways to fully mobilize the initiative of students, strengthen the exchange of information between teachers and students, and stimulate interaction between teachers and students. In respect of students under

the premise, we try to appreciate the students as much as possible and find out the advantages of the students, get the students' emotionally approval, so that ideological and political education in colleges and universities can achieve the desired effect of education in a "boost" model [8].

In conclusion, in order to better realize the effectiveness of ideological and political education, we should analyze and consider multi-dimensional and multi-level analysis, and strive to achieve it in practice. We should adhere to the combination of knowledge imparting and personality cultivation, adhere to the combination of theory and practice, adhere to the combination of education and self-education, and adhere to the combination of management and emotional education, therefore, the effectiveness of education is realized at a higher level and to a greater extent.

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