

Ways And Means To Cultivate College Students' Devotion And Attachment To The Nation And Family In Major Epidemic Response

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Abstract: In the spring of 2020, the “COVID-19” is a war without gunsmoke that concerns all Chinese people. For those college students who were born after 1995 or 2000, it is their first time to experience a big life experience. When the country is in crisis, it is easier to inspire Chinese people's heartfelt affective commitment and their unbreakable sense of belonging and dependence, which is also the best time to strengthening patriotism education for college students. Through carrying out effective ideological and political work during the special time, it is of great significance to cultivate college students' devotion and attachment to the nation and family for their develop and grow.

1. Introduction

In the spring of 2020, “COVID-19” is a war without smoke for all Chinese people. For those college students who were born after 1995 and millennials, it is the first time for them to experience a big life experience. It is an important ideological and political work for families, schools and society to guide contemporary college students to cope with the major epidemic, and it is also an excellent opportunity to educate college students on world outlook, outlook on life and values. The ideological and political work in this period has the obvious characteristics of “wartime” ideological and political work. We should cultivate college students' devotion and attachment to the nation and family through effective “wartime” ideological and political work, which is of great significance to their comprehensive and healthy growth.

2. The Characteristics of Contemporary College Students' Feelings about Their Nation and Family and Their Thoughts and Behaviors during the “COVID-19” Epidemic

The historical background, international environment, and social condition in which college students born after “1995” and millennials have an impact on their ideological behavior and personality characteristics are quite different from those of previous college students. They have also been labeled as “self-centered,” “lazy,” and “beat generation”. So what about their patriotism and sense of social responsibility? The “Survey Report on the Social Responsibility of Chinese College Students (2019)” released at the 7th National University Student Social Responsibility Education Forum in October 2019 and the 15th (2019) Academic Annual Meeting of the Tianjin Social Science Community shows that, based on the test results of more than 150,000 college students from all over the country, covering hundreds of colleges and universities, the social responsibility of college students has more than 80 points for five consecutive years, and the overall balance is maintained at a relatively high level. It should be noted that the social responsibility score of college students born after “2000” is 81.35 points, which is higher than that of college students born before “2000”^[1]. From the data point of view, the vast majority (more than 80%) of contemporary college students have a sense of homeland and social responsibility. As a general conclusion of a survey method, the data results cannot fully reflect the actual situation. To observe whether college students are really patriotic and have enough social responsibilities, we should not

only listen to what they say, but also observe what they do. Vladimir Lenin once described the profound educational effect of the shock of the revolution on the minds of the people: “During the revolutionary period, millions of people learned more in a week than they usually learned in a year of confused life.”^[2] The fight against “COVID-19” is not a revolution, but it is also a major public health event. Since epidemic broke out in late January 2020, college students have also experienced an accelerated growth of the soul, they have experienced from contempt to anxiety, panic, escape and then directly face, determined struggle of the spiritual transformation.

On the whole, the college students in this fight against the epidemic have more obedience and less individualistic; more positive voices and less negative rumors; more active coping and less negative evasion, which better demonstrate their sense of responsibility and mission, but also exposed many problems are worth pondering and need to be solved one by one^[3].

The unexpected event has two sides, which not only disturbs and influences people’s normal life and social order, but also provides a turning point for scientific progress, social progress and human self-development. School, family and society should transform epidemic situation and disaster into teaching material, trample disaster with growing step, and condense the uncompromising to tribulation into national spirit^[4].

3. Build up a Safe Ideological Position on the Internet, and Guide Students to Learn to Think Independently and Dialectically in the Midst of Information Overload

The development and control of the “COVID-19” affects the hearts of every Chinese. From morning to night, the most information everyone receives through radio, television, the Internet, and the circle of friends is related to the epidemic. The information at the time of a major epidemic situation is characterized by greater quantity, faster transmission and more difficult to discern authenticity than usual. College students are in winter vacation and have enough time to get information, but the source of information is relatively single, mainly relying on the mobile phone networks, and they are more willing to forward and comment^[5]. Lack of social experience and life experience makes it difficult for college students to distinguish complicated contents. In addition, they have poor psychological endurance and emotional fluctuations, they are more likely to have excessive anxiety, spread rumors and even suspect the government and other “secondary epidemic”. Therefore, we should make great efforts to guide the public opinion of college students.

It is necessary to forward the authoritative information of the central government, the province and the municipal levels in a multi-level and high-density way, release the relevant policies of epidemic prevention and control and active rescue and humanistic care as soon as possible. It will further enhance the trust of teachers and students in the party and the government, strengthen their faith in socialism, and upgrade their faith in Marxism. There is no “vacuum zone” in the position of public opinion. If the correct ideological and public opinions do not seize it, the wrong ideological and public opinions will seize it^[6]. We should strengthen the management power of news and public opinion, make full use of campus network, school’s official WeChat tiktok, Tik Tok, and micro-blog to release information in time, focus on teachers, students and parents’ concerns and reply positively. Enhance timeliness, pertinence and professionalism, guide teachers and students to enhance confidence^[7]. It is not only necessary to control the accuracy of the information released by the official new media platform of the school, but also to monitor in real time whether the information forwarded by the new media platforms of secondary colleges and departments is from authoritative media, so as to ensure that the official information released by the school at all levels is authoritative information.

It is necessary to guide students to think independently and establish the clear sense of right and wrong. When the epidemic occurs, public opinion should be carefully guided to prevent the occurrence of the phenomenon of indiscriminate spread of negative comments. However, positive publicity and public opinion struggle are always dialectical and unified. If only negative public opinions are blocked, the negative effects will only grow bigger. Positive publicity can reflect the positive nature of the government and society in the fight against the epidemic and show the unity of the Chinese nation. Positive publicity is comprehensive publicity, taking into account mainstream

and tributaries, achievements and problems, overall and local, can objectively and fairly reflect the actual situation. For negative or even wrong public opinion, we must be bold “sword”, dare to struggle, take the initiative to occupy the position^[8]. College students, who have received higher education, must have a political consciousness when looking at problems. They should not be blinded by false statements with ulterior motives. The school should enable students to fully understand the truth of the event, rather than to judge events based solely on subjective assumptions.

We should strengthen communication and respond positively to students’ questions. To improve the right of discourse, we should insist on the unification of “popularization” and “individuation”, and pay attention to “Popular propaganda” and “artistic propaganda”. In view of the young, fashionable and energetic characteristics of college students, we should do propaganda in a form that college students can understand and enjoy listening to. For example, students will spread their knowledge of epidemic prevention and control through cartoons, short videos, raps and other forms, instead of preaching rules, which are hard to get into their minds and hearts. Most of the panic comes from the uncertainty of unknown events. Therefore, we should respond to students’ comments on the Internet timely. For example, regarding when to return to school, how to study on line, and how to solve employment and recruitment problems, it is not only necessary to timely convey the policies and norms of the higher authorities such as the Ministry of Education and the Provincial Department of Education, but also need to actively assist students in communicating with relevant departments, to open up channels of communication. Do a good job of explaining and appeasing problems when there is no clear way to solve them.

4. Strengthen the Publicity of Positive Typical Characters, Call on Students to Find Dedication and Professionalism in Their Role Models

At the moment of crisis, the Party Central Committee adopted a scientific attitude of seeking truth from facts, resolutely opposed formalism and bureaucracy, mobilized all forces to carry out epidemic prevention and control, and timely research and solve important problems. All over the country, hundreds of millions of loves have gathered into a powerful force, and composes a tune inspiring touching story. Through the power of example, we must tell college students who are the most respectable person in this era and who are the most lovable people.

The role models are in China. In this war without gunsmoke, tens of thousands of medical staff from all over the country rushed to support Hubei from all over the motherland, risking your life to work selflessly and moved countless people. Zhong Nanshan, 84, and Li Lanjuan, 73, fought against the epidemic despite the fatigue. Journalists have been working day and night in hospitals and isolation zones in Hubei and other regions, doing their best to report the latest developments of the epidemic and its prevention and control. The civilian police, community workers, and volunteers have made the first line of defense for the safety of the people in their jurisdiction. It is difficult to return home and work overtime. Compared with movie stars and business bosses, they hold a meager salary, but bravely rush to the forefront when the people most need it. These ordinary people who have always been to the fore at moments of crisis use professionalism, dedication, tenacity, and firmness to show loyalty to the party, the country, and the people, and use practical actions to establish the most correct outlook on life for contemporary college students.

The role models are in the family. Home is the smallest country, and the country is the biggest home. There are many students’ parents and relatives who give up their small family, care for everyone, give up their little love and offer great love when the country is in crisis. We should fully tap the touching cases of parents in the front line of anti-epidemic, and present the facts most intuitively through students’ personal experience and oral narration. For example, in the first-person tone, a junior girl recounted the story of her family. From the beginning, she did not understand and support her mother when she was isolated and couldn’t go home. Later, she was deeply moved by her mother’s dedication, fully supporting her mother, encouraging her mother and taking care of her family for her mother. Without flowery rhetoric, the real story is the most touching. It is not only an acura for the frontline medical staff against the epidemic, but also the best way for students to

understand how to cherish, understand, tolerate, and be grateful during the epidemic.

The role models are around. There is a special group of young students who are at home during the winter vacation in 2020. They respond the party and the national summons positively and work as “fighters”, “propagandists”, “security guards” in community (Village Branch) . Although they are from different places and nationalities in the motherland, they have a common name “Chinese volunteers”. They dedicated their efforts to fight against the epidemic, demonstrating the sense of responsibility and family feelings of contemporary college students who dared to take up and dedicate themselves. We should actively promote the deeds of the volunteers around the students. They are not on TV or in the drama. They can see and touch. Although they are doing small things, if everyone can do a little, then gather together will be a powerful force.

5. Use Ideological and Political Online Classrooms and Scientific and Technological Means to Strengthen Students’ Civic and Collective Consciousness in the Collective and Society, and Establish a Correct Worldview

The “public” of modern citizens lies in their sense of responsibility for national affairs, their subject participation, and their faith and will when facing social disasters. In particular, citizens should not only be protected persons, but also active “responsible actors” in the face of sudden disasters^[9].

We need to make full use of the ideological and political online classroom, telling students that patriotism is by no means an empty slogan, reality is the best lesson. Through the source of the epidemic, we should tell the students how important it is to protect wildlife and live in harmony with nature. After the gunshot, there is no winner. Through the complexity and unpredictability of viruses, we should remind students how important it is to learn scientific knowledge well and how many scientific peak are still waiting for you to climb. We should encourage the students through the example of the doctoral student who still insist on reading during the treatment in the hospital. How precious time is, how much we need to cherish knowledge during such a national anti-epidemic period.

We want students to see China’s responsibility as a big country. After the reform and opening up, China has become an important link and channel of global capital flow and population flow. China’s problems can easily become global problems. If the epidemic situation in China is not well controlled, it will easily become the epidemic situation in the world, thus affecting our national image. Our great motherland fully demonstrates the sense of great power and is responsible to the world. China not only actively fights the epidemic, but also provide assistance and share resources with other countries in need. We should remind students to maintain a high degree of political awareness, maintain a keen political observation and discrimination, firm correct political stand. Undistracted, unwavering along the road to the realization of the Chinese dream.

We should educate the college students to inherit and carry forward the traditional virtue of “A difficult one, P Plus support”. The socialist system has shown the advantage of concentrating on important matters when major epidemics occur. Sixteen provinces help Hubei, medical personnel all of China support Hubei, Shandong vegetables transport to Hubei, Tibet Yak meat transport to Hubei, the Chinese people around the world bought masks and sent them to Hubei. We should educate college students to have gratitude, which is the precious culture and strength of the Chinese nation. Although true love never asks for return, a grateful heart can make love go farther and more steadily.

We must educate college students to strengthen their collective ideas and consciously fulfill their civic obligations. The majority of contemporary college students pursue themselves. But the critical period must be “uniform”. In special periods, you are required to stay at home, check in remotely every day, and report your physical condition. This is not only for personal safety, but also as a citizen’s responsibility, obligation, and duty. It is also fighting in another form. Some students feel that they are young and in good health and can’t afford to stay at home. For example, a student from a college in Wuhan returned to his hometown for vacation, he was not isolated at home during the incubation period and went to KTV to sing and have dinner with his family without permission. As

a result, many of his family members were infected, hundreds of people are being kept in isolation, and his is a sign of irresponsibility to oneself and to society.

We should call on college students to carry forward the spirit of dedication, to make contributions to the fight against the epidemic. In addition to volunteering in their home communities and villages, college students can also make full use of technology to set up online classes to help the children of those in the frontline of fighting against the epidemic with online academic guidance. Dalian Jiaotong University has organized a volunteer counseling team, including undergraduates, postgraduates and teachers, to provide online one-to-one academic counseling to the children of first-line medical workers across the country. The tutoring content includes math, physics, chemistry, English, robot training for teenagers, online programming and other subjects. This activity is not only to help the children of medical workers, but also enables college students to understand the actual situation of the families in the front line during the contact with the children, which greatly impacts the spirit and their ideas are greatly improved.

6. Conclusion

Education is a soul project, but also a heart project. Patriotism education is an eternal topic for college students. When the country is in crisis, it is easier to inspire the Chinese people's inner emotional identity and the inescapable belonging and dependence, which is also the best time to educate college students on patriotism. As Mr Lu Xun once wrote: May the youth of China be free from the cold, but go upward, do not have to listen to the words of self-abandoned. Do something or make a sound helpful. Just like fireflies can also shine a little in the dark, without waiting for the torch^[10]. Lu Xun in the last century has issued such a call to the Chinese youth; this torch will always lead the way forward for college students.

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