

# The Status Quo and Optimization of Ideological and Political Education for the Vulnerable Groups of College Students

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**ABSTRACT.** *With the rapid development of society and the deepening of higher education reform, the proportion of disadvantaged groups of college students continues to increase, and the problems are increasingly prominent, which has aroused widespread concern in the whole society. The importance of ideological and political education is undoubling. Through the research on the status quo of ideological and political education of disadvantaged groups of college students, this paper discusses the main types and basic characteristics of disadvantaged groups. This paper combines the problems, causes and optimization paths of ideological and political education work of disadvantaged groups to help improve the status quo, achieve better transformation, and promote the healthy and comprehensive development of college students.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Ideological and political education; Disadvantaged groups in college; Current situation; Optimization path*

## 1. Introduction

General Secretary Xi Jinping delivered an important speech at the National College Ideological and Political Work Conference and the Ideological and Political Education Teachers' Symposium, in which he points out that "To do a good job in the ideological and political work of colleges and universities, we need to be motivated by the times, to advance with the times, and to update by the trend" "Solve the fundamental problem of who to train, how to train, and who to train people." With the gradual popularization of higher education in China, the number of college students has increased, and the absolute number of vulnerable groups has also been increasing. Faced with the ideological and political education of the vulnerable groups, college educators must uphold the guiding ideology of "Ideological and political work runs through the whole process of education and teaching, realize the whole process of educating people and educate people in all directions". And pay sufficient attention to this group, focus on its education management, precision assistance, and value leadership.

## 2. The Basic Situation of Vulnerable Groups in College

### 2.1 Definition of Vulnerable Groups in College

The vulnerable groups of college students refer to some college students who are in a relatively weak position due to the innate or acquired factors of society, school, family and himself. In terms of physiology and living conditions, psychological and moral status, in terms of educational resources possession and comprehensive competitiveness, they are obviously weaker than other college students. The vulnerable groups of college students are a part of colleges that cannot be ignored. If the method is not appropriate, these students will not be able to grow up healthily and become talented. They may be transformed into a socially vulnerable group because of the insufficient level of social participation.

### 2.2 The Main Types of Vulnerable Groups of College Students

Generally speaking, the vulnerable groups of college students can be divided into the following categories: First, the economically disadvantaged groups mainly refer to college students who lack economic resources due to family poverty and cannot continue their study; secondly, psychologically vulnerable groups, which refers to those students who have poor psychological endurance and lack of self-management ability, psychological

disorder or even mental illness due to many reasons; third, physiologically disadvantaged groups are those who have physical defects, they often stuck in inferiority and depression, and can not go through the university adaptation period smoothly ; fourth, pure academic disadvantage group refers to those who lack study skills, lack of learning ability, lack of will, and can not effectively self-discipline, resulting in poor academic performance, and thus become tired of learning and reversing; Fifth, the communication vulnerable group refers to when facing sudden situation or life learning, they have interpersonal retreat due to the low interpersonal ability . They often choose to self-enclosed and escape, which brings many inconveniences to learning, communicate, and employment in daily life.

### ***2.3 Basic Characteristics of Vulnerable Groups of College Students***

The vulnerable group of college students generally has the following characteristics. One is concealment. The overall performance of vulnerable groups is fragile and sensitive, self-esteem and inferiority, dependent and independent, and they have a certain tendency to self-enclose. The second is plasticity. The target of vulnerable groups of college students is dynamic and not static. They have a certain level of professional culture and generally have high quality. Through outside help and their own efforts, they have strong potential for transformation and can be transformed from weak to strong. The third is multiplicity. Individuals in vulnerable groups of college students are usually not a single type. Therefore, their understanding should be analyzed from the specific situation of specific targets, and the reasons for why they are in vulnerable groups should be analyzed in depth. Some students have a certain weakness, some students have multiple weaknesses, and the weak side will affect each other and cause each other. For example, students who are physically vulnerable and economically vulnerable tend to have a strong sense of inferiority. Over time, they may lead to psychological weakness. Students who are psychologically vulnerable are generally associated with a weak social state and a weak academic situation due to long-term poor state.

## **3. The Status Quo of Ideological and Political Education Work for Vulnerable Groups of College Students**

### ***3.1 Paying Insufficient Attention to the Ideological and Political Education Work of the Vulnerable Groups of College Students***

First, there is no special regulatory agency. Colleges and universities generally lack the level and pertinence of education in talent training, neglect the special needs of individual students, do not set up special management institutions, establish professional teams, but regard the ideological and political education of vulnerable groups as a part of the education management of ordinary students and one of the many tasks of the ideological and political counselor. Without a strong grasp, it is difficult to achieve the effect of “cultivating people all the way and educating people in all directions”.

Second, there is no effective collaborative education mechanism. The ideological and political education of vulnerable groups of college students should be completed and coordinated by all departments and systems of the whole school. The current situation is that colleges generally do not have a good educational environment for co-management and collaborative education. Although various departments and systems perform their duties, they lack initiative and linkage. When dealing with emergencies of vulnerable groups, it is not timely, accurate and comprehensive to grasp the practical problems of vulnerable college students and pre-warning, lack of timeliness of ideological and political work, easy to fall into a passive coping situation.

### ***3.2 The Insufficient Diversity and Hierarchy of Ideological and Political Education for Vulnerable Groups of College Students***

As a spiritual education activity for cultivating people, shaping people, transforming people, developing people and perfecting people, ideological and political education is full of profound humanistic care spirit and extensive humanistic connotation. It is a practical activity about human quality, moral education, and spirituality. The ideological and political education of the vulnerable groups of college students refers more to the use of Marxist ideas and moral theories by educators, paying attention to the diversity, hierarchy, and pertinence of educational forms, taking into account both theory and practice, and specializing in the vulnerable groups of college students, care about their diverse individual needs, stimulate their initiative, enthusiasm, and creativity, and carry out comprehensive education and value guidance, so that they can grow into students who meet the needs of society and develop in an all-round way.

### ***3.3 The Campus Cultural Environment of the Vulnerable Groups of College Students Needs to Be Improved***

In ancient times, there was a “Mengmu three-move”. The environment played an important role in the formation, development, and change of people's personalities. Colleges are important positions for the ideological and political education of vulnerable groups of college students. The scope of study and life of college students during the four years, from dormitory, class, grade, college to the whole school, is a growing environment and an important part of the growing environment of unity and friendship. Schools should further strengthen the environment so that the vulnerable groups of college students can fully appreciate the edification, support, and encouragement from all aspects of the school. At the same time, schools should actively establish extensive and close ties with parents of students, which can stimulate a positive role of the family in the process of growing up.

## **4. Methods to Deal with the Ideological and Political Education Work for Vulnerable Groups of College Students**

In the long run, the problems caused by the vulnerable groups of college students are more extensive. The education of this group is directly related to the harmony and stability of campus and society, and the sustained and healthy development of higher education. Therefore, colleges need to attach great importance to the ideological and political education of vulnerable groups of college students, and exploring the long-term mechanism of ideological and political education for vulnerable groups of college students, carrying out precise assistance and value leadership, and promoting the growth of college students.

### ***4.1 Using the “School Institution Responsibility System” to Build a Platform for Solving Ideological Problems and Solving Practical Problems***

The first is to set up a special student work management department. Following the requirements of professional division, professional management and specialization, select and train a full-time ideological and political education team with reasonable professional knowledge structure and balanced title structure in the student work management department personnel, student counselors, ideological and political theory teachers. Develop and improve the assessment and evaluation mechanism so that they can make arrangements and strengthen management according to the types, characteristics and prominent problems of the vulnerable groups of college students. The second is to enhance the assistance, establish a database of vulnerable students, improve the school funding system, and implement precision assistance projects. Joint student funding, psychological and other related departments to effectively improve the pertinence and effectiveness of ideological and political education for vulnerable groups of college students, starting with solving ideological problems, building a good emotional foundation, and then carrying out precise assistance to solve practical problems.

### ***4.2 Using the “School Department Linkage Mechanism” to Create a Humanistic Care Platform That Combines Education and Service***

First, play the leading role in the value of ideological and political theory courses. Taking the academic department and the Marxist college as the leading role, constantly optimize the textbook system and curriculum system of the ideological and political theory course in universities, innovate the education methods and teaching methods, Further improve in enriching the teaching content, give play to the main channels of classroom teaching, and enhance the significance and attraction of class education. The second is to innovate the ideological and political education media and channels for the vulnerable groups of college students. Taking the security department and the logistics department of the university as the leading role, create a harmonious, safe and warm campus education environment, and give play to the educational function of the campus culture; Take the information department and propaganda department as the leading, using information network technology and new media technology to expand the ideological and political education platform for the vulnerable groups of college students. By strengthening the network environment management and sharing the mainstream public opinion, guiding the group to resist the erosion of bad information.

### ***4.3 Using the “College and Grade Double Guidance Work System” to Build a Support Platform That Combines Guidance and Management***

First, the college leadership “support” responsibility system. The party and government leaders and

department heads of the college will increase contact with vulnerable students through lectures, conferences, reports, class meetings, grade conferences, etc., and strengthen the ideals and beliefs of vulnerable groups of college students. At the same time, integrate teaching resources inside and outside the school to strengthen students' comprehensive practical ability and cultivate their self-improvement, striving spirit, and improve their ability to self-improve. Second, the responsibility system of the grade "intelligent and mortal support". Integrate ideological and political education into normal management through academic guidance, mental health education, employment guidance, etc., guide and educate vulnerable students, strengthen their self-cultivation and ability, and help them establish a correct and scientific outlook on life and values. Cultivate a good interest in learning and promote them to successfully complete study; fully coordinate and mobilize the complementary and mutual assistance of ideological and political education resources between schools, families and students' self-education management, and form educational energy which takes school management as the center and combine family education and self-education.

## 5. Conclusion

The ideological and political education of vulnerable groups of college students is multi-faceted and complex. It is a systematic project that requires long-term efforts and is also the focus of extensive social attention. Therefore, it is necessary to face up to the particularity of vulnerable groups and attach importance to the ideological and political education of vulnerable groups. We must strictly abide by the principle of "establish the virtues of the people", firmly establish the "life-oriented" concept, adhere to the "initiation of things, advance from time to time, and newness to the trend", adhere to advancing with the times, and enhance the pertinence and effectiveness of the ideological and political education of vulnerable groups of college students. Cultivate their social responsibility, self-improvement spirit and practical ability of college students in vulnerable groups, fundamentally escort students and help students grow.

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