

# Elementary Analysis of the Content and Characteristics of College Students' Consciousness of Rules under the “COVID-19”

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**Abstract:** *The condition of the “COVID-19” puts forward new requirements for the rule consciousness of Chinese citizens. As the hope for the future of the motherland and the nation, college students are excellent groups with better political quality, higher moral quality and good behavior habits. As the builders and successors of socialism with Chinese characteristics, college students' rule consciousness includes rule supremacy consciousness, rule discovery consciousness, rule identification consciousness and rule compliance consciousness, under the epidemic situation, college students' consciousness of rules also has the new characteristics of high cognition and recognition of rules, strong willpower to abide by rules, and actively abide by and practice all kinds of rules.*

**Keywords:** *COVID-19, college students, rule consciousness*

## 1. Introduction

Since the global outbreak of the “COVID-19”, the lives, health and safety of our people have been seriously affected. In order to effectively deal with the adverse effects of the “COVID-19”, the Party Central Committee, the State Council and all levels of party committees and governments have attached great importance to them, issued a series of important instructions, and issued a series of important announcements. According to their actual conditions, all provinces and regions have established leading groups for the prevention and control of the “COVID-19”. The Office of the Leading Group for the Response to the “COVID-19” of the Ministry of Education has issued a series of notices. These notices are required to become the guidelines and basis for the physical actions taken by teachers and students of colleges and universities in this context. In this epidemic, although we have seen the efforts of the people of the whole country who are united and united, we have also seen that some people have low quality and consciousness, weak awareness of rules, and even no awareness of rules at all, ignoring laws and regulations.

Under the conditions of the “COVID-19”, our country is also in a period of social transformation. The collision of old and new ideas, the conflict of values, and the penetration of multiculturalism will have a great impact on the ideological concept and personality development of college students. At the same time, with the continuous development of Internet technology, the scope of knowledge that college students are exposed to is also expanding, and the thinking of college students has become more complex. The college stage is a critical period for individuals to move from adolescents to adults, and it is also a period for individuals to obtain systematic education. Through the identification of the rules, individuals form certain values, thereby forming a solid sense of norms. They act according to the norms they choose, thereby complying with the norms. College students, as the vast majority of the youth in our country, are the hope of the motherland and the nation in the future. The level of their quality will directly affect the future development of our country. Under the conditions of the new crown pneumonia, the understanding and observance of the rules in the prevention and control of the epidemic is the question worthy of study and reflection.

## **2. The content of college students' consciousness of rules under the "COVID-19"**

### ***2.1 Rule-based consciousness***

Undergraduates' consciousness of the supremacy of rules requires college students to bear the brunt of the "COVID-19". They must learn to respect the rules ideologically, recognize the supremacy of the rules, and have a certain sense of awe for the rules. Only in this way can they abide by the rules in behavior. The so-called rule supremacy means that during the normalization of epidemic prevention and control, individual college students must follow the rules in any place and do everything, including laws and regulations, school rules and disciplines, social ethics, etc., in the individual's heart, consciously believe that rules are more than everything. When the established rules conflict with external favors, self-interests, etc., the first time the clear rules are used as the basis for their actions, they will not give up following the established rules because of external favors, self-interests, etc. Even if you think that the established rules affect your feelings with others and your own interests, you don't hesitate to put the rules first in your heart and follow and practice them.

In this society, everyone will be more or less affected by external favors, power and interests. If everyone finds a reason for their violations that they consider to be "reasonable", then the rules will not be able to play their due role, especially in under the conditions of a major epidemic, weak consciousness of rules or even no consciousness of rules at all, and behaviors that ignore laws and regulations will cause rules to become invalid. Only when rules are supreme can rules be followed. Only when college students are in awe of the rules can they respect the rules. Under the normalization of the prevention and control of the "COVID-19", college students, whether on campus or off campus, whether in daily study or life, should establish the concept of putting rules first. Only in this way can they gradually establish a consciousness of rules. This sense of awe and respect for the rules requires college students to come from the heart in their daily study and life under this specific condition. Through the personal experience and practice of the individual, gradually establish a consciousness of the supremacy of rules.

### ***2.2 Rule discovery consciousness***

Under the conditions of the "COVID-19", college students' consciousness of rules discovery is also the consciousness of college students' discovery of rules, and it is the first stage in the formation of college students' awareness of rules. Rules are ubiquitous in daily life. Rules are divided into formal rules and informal rules. Formal rules such as legal provisions, rules and regulations, etc., formal rules are expressly stipulated and are easier to find in daily life. Informal rules mainly refer to habits, traditions, behavior patterns, and ways of thinking. For example, during the normalization of epidemic prevention and control, the study and life of college students on and off campus in addition to the rules stipulated in the text, there are also some campus culture, customs and habits based on local conditions, some of them are not expressly stipulated, so they are not easy to be discovered in the first time. Undergraduates' rule discovery consciousness inherently requires college students to consciously search for and understand the rules under certain conditions, especially for informal rules, which require careful observation, inquiry, and understanding, so as to discover the rules and have the consciousness of rule discovery.

The emergence of various types of online media and mobile media in the new media environment has provided a variety of carriers for the discovery of college students' consciousness of rules. Contemporary college students have a strong ability to accept new things, and a large part of them are veritable "netizens". College students can discover rules from complex and diverse network media such as campus network, WeChat official account, QQ, Weibo, and blogs through various channels and platforms. Rule discovery consciousness not only requires college students to know the existence of this rule, but more importantly, it requires college students to learn and master the specific connotation of the rule based on the discovery of the rule, and to have a certain cognitive understanding of the rule, so as to identify with the rule to be fully prepared.

### ***2.3 Rule identification consciousness***

The core issue of the rule identification is the value identification of the rules. The college students' rule identification consciousness mainly refers to the college students' value identification consciousness of the rules. The academic community believes that "value identity refers to the process of value subjects constantly changing their own value structure to conform to social value norms, and it

reflects a conscious acceptance and consciously following attitude of members of society to social value norms" [1]. The "COVID-19" under the conditions of the epidemic, college students' consciousness of rule identification requires this group to take the common rule values in society as norms and standards for measuring individual actual actions in actual study and life, so as to restrict individual behavior, or use common norms and principles as themselves the ultimate pursuit of goals, and consciously internalized into their own value orientation. Regardless of the type of rules, there should be some common value standards. This value standard is based on the collective as the value standard. The formation of the consciousness of other rules depends on the recognition of the common value standard of the rules. Undergraduates' identification with rules is a kind of ideological value identification based on the individual's discovery and experience of the content and form of the rules through their own subjective rethinking. Under the conditions of the epidemic, the group of college students not only consciously abides by relevant laws and regulations and the various express notices of the school, but also voluntarily actively serves as volunteers for epidemic prevention and anti-epidemic in the community and school to a heavy responsibility and an unshirkable responsibility. This is exactly the recognition of formal and informal rules by college students under the conditions of the epidemic.

#### ***2.4 Rule compliance consciousness***

Under the conditions of the epidemic, college students' consciousness of rule compliance is the result of the combined effect of college students' consciousness of rule supremacy, rule discovery, and rule identification. It is a transition from ideology to behavioral expression, and it is also guided by rational rule consciousness to the dynamic process of restraining individual behavior. Only with the consciousness of rule compliance, can the college students' consciousness of rules truly transform from the ideological level to the behavioral level, and consciously abide by the rules of the school and society. Marx believed that "freedom is the essence of all spiritual existence" [2]. Real freedom is relative, not absolute, and needs to be realized under the constraints of rules and norms. However, during the epidemic prevention and control period, some college students violated established rules due to their inadequate understanding of true freedom and even for the so-called "freedom." Reporting your personal information and other behaviors that seriously violate the school's epidemic prevention and control work system and relevant regulations are a great misunderstanding of "freedom." The consciousness of compliance with the rules of college students can help college students restrain their incorrect so-called "freedom", which has the effect of restraining individual violations. Under the conditions of the epidemic, the formation of the awareness of rule compliance requires the group of college students to reconfirm the rationality of the rules on the basis of cognition of the rules, and deepen the recognition of the rules. Regardless of the rules, they need to be obeyed in order to realize their original value. Only when the college students have the consciousness of observing the rules can they sincerely practice the observance of the rules in their own behavior.

### **3. Characteristics of college students' consciousness of rules under the epidemic**

#### ***3.1 Have a high level of consciousness and recognition of the rules***

Most college students at this stage were born between 1997 and 2003. They are usually referred to as "post-95s" and "post-00s." Undergraduates at this age have a strong self-awareness, pay more attention to themselves, independent thinking, strong curiosity, and strong ability to accept new things. After receiving the ideological and moral education in elementary and middle school systems, their physical and mental development tends to mature, their understanding of life purpose and meaning in life gradually deepens, their attitudes toward life gradually become clear, their personalities tend to be stereotyped, and their outlook on life, ethics and values gradually becoming mature and stable, therefore, they have their own unique insights into the concept of "rules".

College students' cognition and identification of rules include the cognition and identification of laws and regulations, and the cognition and identification of civic ethics. Laws and regulations have a strong and explicit effect on letting college students clarify what can be done, what can't be done, what actions are legal, and what actions are illegal in the form of legal provisions. Therefore, laws and regulations have the highest effect among all kinds of rules, and they are also the first to follow the rules of college students under epidemic conditions. The vast majority of college students have basic awareness of laws and regulations, and their recognition of laws and regulations is the first in terms of rule identification. Those who know that they conduct their own actions within the standards of the

required laws, most of them can abide by the requirements of laws and regulations and regulate their own actions. The basic ethics of our citizens are the norms for our citizens to deal with the relationship between citizens and the country, and between citizens and others. The basic ethics of our citizens include: "patriotism and law-abiding, courtesy and integrity, unity and friendliness, diligence, thrift, self-improvement, and dedication" [3]. The vast majority of college students under the epidemic conditions adhere to collectivist values, insist that the interests of the country and the people are above all else, unite as one, unite, strictly abide by the requirements of epidemic prevention and anti-epidemic, and use their own practical actions to demonstrate their awareness of laws, regulations and civic ethics and identification. At the same time, under the conditions of the epidemic, college students have a clear tendency to network in their study and life. The channels and ways for them to obtain information mostly rely on electronic products such as mobile phones, computers, and tablets. Short video software platforms obtain information. Because their living environment is surrounded by a large amount of network information, they prefer to receive new things through electronic information. In the online world, college students have more convenient and faster ways to obtain various rules, thereby generating cognition and identification, and regulating their own behavior.

### ***3.2 Strong willpower to follow the rules***

The will of college students has the characteristics of independence, tenacity, decisiveness, and self-control. The physical and mental development of college students at this stage tends to mature, and they have their own judgments, opinions, beliefs and actions for various formal and informal rules of external information dissemination, and they will not be easily affected by other external factors and others. In the face of clear-text rules that need to be followed, most college students have firm beliefs and tenacious perseverance. They can distinguish priorities, eliminate all kinds of temptations, face them bravely, overcome difficulties, and complete tasks from the beginning to the end. Most college students have good self-control ability, can consciously abide by laws and regulations, school rules and disciplines, strive to restrain their inner impulses and unreasonable requirements, adjust and control their own bad emotions, and ensure their adaptability to various rules. Because the life experience, knowledge level, and psychological development of individual college students are not exactly the same, and the willpower level of college students is not exactly the same, but the vast majority of college students have the willpower to consciously abide by the rules, and can stick to their own interests in the face of interests the bottom line is to resolutely not violate laws and regulations or violate discipline. The strong sense of social responsibility displayed by college students under the epidemic conditions is a manifestation of their will to abide by the rules. Many colleges and universities have become part of volunteers for epidemic prevention and control. In this process, they have been tempered and tempered, fully demonstrating their understanding and recognition of the various rules under the conditions of the new crown pneumonia epidemic, and their ability to abide by the rules of strong willpower.

### ***3.3 Actively abide by and practice various rules***

On February 3, 2020, the Ministry of Education issued the "A Letter from the Ministry of Education to College Students Across the Country", calling on college students across the country to protect themselves when facing the epidemic, and not to worry those who care about them. It is to be responsible for the safety of others' lives to "Guardian", "Practitioner" and "Pathfinder" [3]. Under the epidemic situation, abiding by discipline and law means responsibility. As college students in the new era in this special period, we must abide by discipline and the law, abide by rules, restrain ourselves, demand ourselves, and make our behavioral norms conform to established rules. During this period, the majority of college students were members of the Communist Youth League, and a small number of students have been absorbed by the party organization as members of the Communist Party of China. They are ideologically demanding and have a strong patriotic enthusiasm. They are qualified builders and successors of socialism. General Secretary Xi delivered an important speech at the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China: "Chinese youth in the new era should take the realization of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation as their own responsibility, and strengthen their ambition, backbone, and confidence to be a Chinese, and live up to the times, live up to the ardent expectations of the party and the people!" [4]. The vast majority of college students under the "COVID-19" have not only used practical actions to practice the party Central Committee, the Ministry of Education, and the provincial education departments regarding the normalization of the epidemic prevention and control period for college students. Regulations, appeals and initiatives, and give full play to their own subjective initiative, exert their own strength, and actively participate in the

epidemic prevention and anti-epidemic work. Some college students use the winter and summer vacations and spare time as epidemic prevention workers, and some of them help to check the health code to measure body temperature, and some cooperate with epidemic prevention propaganda to maintain order. During the epidemic, they are not afraid of hardships, charge ahead, and practice various rules under the epidemic with practical actions.

#### 4. Conclusion

Various rules also play an important role in guaranteeing the development of a harmonious society in China. The strength of the awareness of rules has an important impact on the level of development of a harmonious society in China under the conditions of the epidemic. Under the conditions of the "COVID-19", we have seen that the awareness of the rules of the new era college students has been given new content and new characteristics under the new specific conditions. As a part of the new era college students, every individual college student must be further strengthened. Our own consciousness of rule supremacy, rule discovery, rule identification, and rule compliance, bravely assume our own social responsibilities under epidemic prevention and control, give play to our own social values, and contribute to epidemic prevention and control. Under these specific conditions, college students must re-examine their own rules, outlook on life, and values, firmly establish a sense of rules, strengthen their ideals and beliefs, adhere to rational thinking, and contribute to the realization of the Chinese dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

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