

# On the Analysis of Three Undesirable Social Mentality and Their Countermeasures

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**Abstract:** *With the fortieth birthday of reform and opening up, China has entered a new era in the expectation of the Chinese people and the attention of the world. This era is full of new opportunities and new challenges, and China is now in a critical period of social transformation and national reform, and many social problems have surfaced. Social mentality is a reflection of social consciousness in the current development of society, and its good or bad directly maps out and reflects on the development and progress of the country. China is now facing a critical point of reform and transformation in political, economic, social, cultural and ecological aspects. The difficult transition from the old to the new system, the widening gap between the rich and the poor, the misleading media and the lack of education all contribute to the creation and growth of bad social mentality. This paper will mainly discuss in detail the three undesirable social mentality, namely flippant and impetuous, irritability and indifference, firstly explaining their intrinsic meanings and characteristics, then introducing the various causes and internal links for their emergence, and using real-life cases to depict and argue them, and finally proposing corresponding solutions for different levels, in the hope of arousing widespread concern and resonance.*

**Keywords:** *transition; adverse social mentality; real-life cases; ways to solve them*

## 1. Introduction

Social mentality are primarily the expression of people's ideology in society and are influenced by various factors in society. They are also highly contagious and individuals can easily be influenced and assimilated by others. A positive social mindset makes the actors themselves energetic and enthusiastic about life, and a positive social mindset will lead to a healthy development of society. A negative social mindset, however, is more quickly and strongly contagious and can cause serious harm to individuals as well as to the social group as a whole. Especially in today's post-epidemic society, many negative social mentality are present, which not only cause great harm to the lives of individuals, but also create flippant and flippant and impetuous, irritability and, in serious cases, social unrest in a certain range of social groups. The study of social mentality is of great relevance and urgency, prompting people to live happily and positively and the whole society to embark on a virtuous and healthy path of development.

## 2. The basic meaning of social mentality

At present, there is no unified definition of the concept of "social mentality" in academic circles, and each school of thought has its own views and divergent opinions. From a philosophical perspective, Hu Hongsheng believes that "social mentality is a widespread but complex mental phenomenon, whether it is social mentality or social psychology, it is part of the structural level of social consciousness and social mentality is a low-level social consciousness." [1] Zhang Erfang points out that "social mentality is the state of mind of the social subject, which shows the group spirit and is widely prevalent in the group." [2] From the perspective of social psychology, Ding Shuimu proposes "equating social mentality with social psychology, emphasising that social mentality is a universally existing social psychology, and that the psychological reactions of such groups are influenced by economic and political systems and the social environment." [3] And Yang Yiyin points out that "social mentality is distinguished from social psychology, which is the most macroscopic unit of analysis or level of analysis in social psychology." At the same time, she argues that "social mentality is a macro social state of mind that pervades the whole society or social categories of social groups." [4]

And from a Marxist philosophical point of view, mentality is a high-level response to an objective social phenomenon, essentially equivalent to consciousness, a mental-psychological state akin to experience produced by human beings in the practice of natural and social production. It can be described

as a macro-level social psychology, but it is never a simple summation of the mental states of each individual. It is a low-level, spontaneous, low-systematic social consciousness, but it overrides the individual level and is a universal and representative consciousness. There are also good and bad social mentality. Bad social mentality are those that are extremely radical, negative and irrational due to certain misunderstandings or prejudices about the phenomenon of social existence.

In contrast to social consciousness, social mentality are also historical and spatial in nature. Different countries, different ethnic groups, different social structures, for example, will have different nurturing and nurturing effects on the local social mentality.

### **3. The content of a bad social mentality**

#### **3.1. Flippant and impetuous**

Flippant and impetuous means impatience and impetuosity.[5] With the development of the times and the speeding up of the pace of life, people are more and more busy running around every day in order to be fed and clothed, and it is difficult for anyone to step down and think about the meaning and value of life. The word "flippant and impetuous" has become the most basic and widespread representation of the bad social mentality in modern society, and the flippant and impetuous mentality pervades our society in transition, making it full of emotional bubbles. First of all, excessive "entertainment" has become one of the most typical derivatives of flippant and impetuous, as the American scholar Neil Bozeman has said. The American scholar Neil Bozeman once said, "As all public discourse increasingly appears as entertainment and becomes a cultural ethos. Our politics, our religion, our news, our sports and our business have all become willing appendages of entertainment, without complaint, even silently, with the result that we have become a species of entertainment to the death" It is no exaggeration to say that this statement is true in our society today. It is surprising that many primary school students dream of becoming netizens instead of serving their country as scientists or soldiers. People seem to be more interested in the private lives of certain celebrities than in the heroes who have dedicated their lives to the cause of science, technology and defence of their country. When this morbid atmosphere of "no one asks about the general's lonely grave, but the family of the actor is known to the world" is integrated into the whole society, the flippant and impetuous social mentality slowly releases its energy.

Secondly, a fickle social mentality can make people too eager to get what they want, unwilling to work hard for what they deserve, [6] always wanting to pay less and get more. Just like the need to exchange money of equal value for goods of equal value, if one always wants to get something for nothing, one is stealing the fruits of other people's work and violating or affecting the property rights of others, which is one of the most fundamental rights of human rights, and respecting and guaranteeing the property rights of individuals is one of the most fundamental elements of a free society. other individuals' freedom. Nowadays more and more people are trying to gain benefits through the back door, through connections and simply through the exchange of money, etc. They are hurting people who have worked hard on their own. There are also some university professors who steal and plagiarise other people's research and papers to get their titles.

However, in order to get more ready-made benefits, the flippant and impetuous mentality of society can breed fraud, greed and other distorted social phenomena. Envy and even jealousy can easily take root in some people's minds when they only see the glory of others and ignore the hardships behind them, and in their eagerness to show themselves or get some benefits, they can easily use methods that are not accepted by the world to achieve their goals. Integrity has become the most urgent and fundamental issue in China today. The well-known Changchun Changsheng vaccine incident, in which they allowed fake vaccines to enter the market for decades for their own selfish interests, has caused many young lives to be lost, and this is no longer a matter of infringing on the freedom of others. Without integrity, a person will lose many opportunities, a company will face the risk of bankruptcy and violation of the law at any time, a society will lose fairness and justice, then how will each individual identify with the country as a whole.

In the end, how can people cherish and care for such gains, which are obtained through no work, or through improper and illegal means, but are just more talking points that can be used to show off and highlight oneself. "The "second generation" of the rich, the "second generation of officials" and the "second generation of stars" are now appearing more and more, and they are destined to be extraordinary from birth. They are destined to be extraordinary from birth and will attract the attention of everyone, yet they have not paid anything, they will have countless aura added to their bodies, how can the so-called

"born extraordinary" feel fair? When they wear a piece of clothing that costs tens of thousands of dollars, this will undoubtedly cause a blind herd and follow the trend, and will set off a wind of comparison, which will be the irrational floating restlessness of the whole society, bringing many incomprehensible phenomena.

### **3.2. Irritability**

Irritability is simply anger and agitation, which is a product of flippant and impetuous and its direct consequences will be even more brutal and severe. In the recent Chongqing bus crash incident, a woman was just a few stops too far away from the bus, but she became irritable and argued with the bus driver, and then clashed with him, throwing fists at each other, causing the bus to go out of control into the river, killing all 15 people. This may be a serious consequence of the irascible social mentality, the lady only cared about their own personal interests and disregard for the rights of other innocent people, irascible mentality made her unable to control their own behavior, and the bus driver even in the high speed and she fought, also irrational irascibility filled the mind thus resulting in the final tragedy. Similarly, there is the Kunshan "anti-killing case", impulse is the devil is not a joke, in reality, how many tragic cases are initially because of some trivial things and flippant and impetuous emotions overwhelmed, and finally pay the price of blood. If in our society nowadays, we have to use force to resolve conflicts, then where is the modernity of a society based on the rule of law, and isn't the process of human civilization a crazy reverse growth.

### **3.3. Indifferent**

Apathy is one of the most frightening social phenomena brought about by the escalation of flippant and impetuous and irritability. It is more of an adjective describing a state of cold-eyed, cynical numbness, the results of which are most frightening. As in the Chongqing bus incident mentioned above, if the final tragedy is judged according to the different actors, then there is a group of indifferent bystanders who cannot be ignored, when the two direct actors broke out in conflict, if someone can immediately discourage to stop, then the bus will not be out of control, the people on board will reach the safe shore on time, faraway relatives will wait for their embrace The tragedy would not have happened. When all the lies, fraud, hatred of the rich, flippant and impetuous, irritability and other bad social mentality permeate the whole society, indifference and numbness will gradually fill people's hearts. The bad social mentality of indifference not only makes oneself withdrawn and depressed, but also makes people forget the social virtues of helping each other and loving each other, making people full of all kinds of mistrust among themselves, thus affecting social harmony and stability.<sup>[7]</sup> If all people are indifferent and numb to everything in society, then how will society exist, and what is the meaning of the state?

## **4. Causes of bad social mentality**

### **4.1. Political factors**

China has experienced 40 years of reform and opening up, but the top-level design is still relatively imperfect, the political system, structure, distribution of power, appointment and removal of positions and many other aspects have just begun to pay attention to it, and it has not reached maturity at all and can function independently. Our government officials have long been subjected to bureaucratic practices, neglecting their duties, working inefficiently, not thinking at all about how to do something practical for the people, with cumbersome procedures and systems, and serious corruption. Some cadres who have committed serious disciplinary offences are able to get away with it through upward and downward contacts and connections, and this has fuelled the bureaucratic and corrupt practices of the government. The government has to lead many grass-roots workers to be promoted through unorthodox means, instead of working hard in a down-to-earth manner, so when such people get some real power, how will they sincerely do practical things for the people? So people will lose trust in the government and the state, especially the disadvantaged groups are very likely to develop a hatred mentality, negative social mentality is easy to get a breeding environment.

### **4.2. Economic factors**

The economic level of China is now at the forefront of the world, and the productivity level has been gradually raised up, but the economic divide and the gap between the rich and the poor have always been

difficult to really make up, but there is a growing trend, the economic development level of the southeast coastal areas is fast and efficient, however, poverty still exists in some parts of the northwest, the first rich did not drive up the team behind as expected, most of the The majority of wealth is still in the hands of a few. The country's initial distribution is hardly fair, but the redistribution system, especially in terms of taxation, is also difficult to achieve relative fairness, making it difficult for the whole society to be satisfied with the benefits, while the social security mechanism for redistribution is not perfect, and there are often real problems such as difficulties in accessing medical care, expensive schooling, housing and pensions, which are also the practical problems of life that people are most concerned about, and the mentality of The development of a mindset is closely related to people's daily life. If economic problems and contradictions arise, the ideology of the superstructure will be deformed. The poor will find it difficult to accept the wealth of the rich, and the rich will be unwilling to accept the poverty of the poor.

#### **4.3. Cultural factors**

With the advent of globalisation, the countries of the world are no longer isolated as they once were, but are part of the global value chain, forming a situation in which you and I are inextricably linked. In the face of the rich diversity of cultures in the world, our country is showing a great and tolerant attitude, not resisting any kind of cultural invasion, but the sensitive and fashionable ideas of freedom, democracy and constitutionalism in Western civilisation have come to this part of China prompting many forward-thinking people, especially young students, to unnaturally develop some different and distorted ideas, thinking that Western culture is all good and ignoring our Chinese culture. Such so-called "progressive and advanced" cultural thinking tends to make people forget the down-to-earth, generous, tolerant, united, dedicated, and universal aspects of Chinese civilisation, and focus more on personal interests and selfish desires. It is more about personal interests and selfish desires, and only cares about one's own little family.

#### **4.4. Social factors**

Bad social mentality are inextricably linked to the operation of a society, from which they originate and to which they have an incalculable negative impact. Firstly, the media is a force to be reckoned with. In modern society, where money is paramount and profit is paramount, everything is money-oriented, the media is supposed to be responsible for guiding public opinion and stabilising social order. In order to attract attention, increase ratings and gain a higher profile, many media outlets over-entertain or exaggerate the truth of the news, which can be very misleading to the public and increase malice towards society. Secondly, the traditional education in schools over-emphasises test-taking and puts students' scores in the first place, neglecting the cultivation of children's quality. How many people care about how their country will prosper and become strong? Finally, family education is also very important. The nurture and transformation of each individual's mentality is inseparable from the family environment in which he or she lives, and the best teacher for children is their parents.

### **5. Ways to address poor social mentality**

For the state, first of all, we should improve the corresponding institutional mechanism, do a good job of appointing and dismissing public officials of the authorities, reward and punish mechanisms, the introduction of corresponding laws and regulations, to achieve fair justice, strict law enforcement, the links of which should have a strict self-checking mechanism. Secondly, expand the supervision and litigation channels of the general public, the power comes from the people, return the power to the people, so that the people can transparently see the style of officials, timely correction and criticism of illegal and undisciplined behavior. Finally, through taxation and other means, efforts should be made to promote redistribution to achieve fairness, narrow the gap between the rich and the poor and make the country's development more balanced and adequate, while improving the social security mechanism, focusing mainly on the huge number of people in the lower and middle classes and using the power of the government to ensure that they live a good and happy life.

For society, first of all, the news media should remember their mission, especially the most dominant online media nowadays, not to spread false and harmful information, but to strive to promote the socialist core values, so that the people will have emotional resonance, and must switch from a rational "grand narrative" to an emotional "We should actively integrate them into the daily life practices of society, so that the core socialist values system can dovetail with the daily life of the people and become the values and basic norms of their daily life. Let the media truly serve society by doing a good job of guiding correct public opinion and promoting concrete and typical examples of an excellent social mentality.

Secondly, schools should pay attention to the cultivation of a positive psychology and a sunny mentality for every student, teach their students patriotism, set up examples and let the power of role models influence the people around them. Finally, the parents and elders in every family should set an example of a positive mindset of practicality, generosity, enthusiasm and sunshine for their children from an early age.

For individuals, they should pay attention to reason and rationality in all aspects, not blindly follow the crowd, closely unite around the new generation of the CPC Central Committee leadership, maintain a high degree of consistency with it, strictly comply with the corresponding system policies, control attention to their own speech and behaviour, not to cause malicious harm to society, and strive to contribute to the development of their own positive and correct mindset. We also need to improve our self-cultivation, constantly improve ourselves, not bow down in front of difficulties and hardships, try to overcome difficulties, learn scientific methods and establish a correct mentality.

## 6. Conclusions

China is in a critical period of transformation and development. Bad social mentality can easily lead to social contradictions result in uncontrollable social problems, that is harmful to the stability and prosperity of the country. It is essential for individuals and countries to establish a good social mentality. We should strive to get rid of the flippant and impetuous, irritability, indifferent and other bad social mentality. Government, social media and individuals should work together to create a positive social atmosphere, cultivate a good social mentality, and finally gather the positive energy of all members of society, aiming to realize the great “Chinese Dream”.

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