

Exploration of the path of the organic integration of labor education and ideological and political education in colleges and universities in the new era

Xu Le

School of Literature and Media, Xi'an Fanyi University, Xi'an, 710105, China
306992832@qq.com

Abstract: This paper aims to expound the epochal significance of integrating labor education into ideological and political education in colleges and universities and to analyze the practical dilemma of integrating labor education into ideological and political education in colleges and universities through policy analysis and literature research, so as to explore an effective path for its integration. The integration of labor education in the new era into ideological and political education in colleges and universities is the inherent need to cultivate the socialist modernization builders with Chinese characteristics, the primary issue of implementing education and the important content of cultivating new successors in the era, and the inevitable requirement to enrich and innovate the content and methods of ideological and political education. The integration faces the dilemma of college students' one-sided cognition of labor, formalization of labor education in colleges and universities, backwardness and solidification of teaching models. To promote the integration, we should first combine offline and online education to strengthen the main channel and position of college students' labor values education; second, we should build practice platforms and bases for labor education, and implement the effect of labor education from practice; third, we should excavate and integrate the ideological and political education resources, and carry forward the labor spirit in the ideological and political education.

Keywords: Labor education; Ideological and political education in colleges and universities; Path

1. Introduction

Since the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the CPC Central Committee has attached great importance to the labor education of college students, made a series of important speeches and major arrangements, and issued relevant policies, measures and implementation plans. In 2018, Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Central Committee of the CPC, stressed at a national educational conference, "We should promote the spirit of labor among students, educate and guide students to advocate and respect labor, and understand the truth that labor is the most glorious, the most noble, the greatest, and the most beautiful thing."^[1]In March, 2020, The CPC Central Committee and the State Council pointed out in the Opinions on Comprehensively Strengthening Labor Education in Universities, Middle Schools and Primary Schools in the New Era (hereinafter referred to as the Opinions) that Labor education directly determines the labor spirit, labor value orientation and labor skill level of socialist builders and successors.^[2]In July, 2020, the Ministry of Education issued the Guidelines for Labor Education in Universities, Middle Schools and Primary Schools (for trial implementation), and emphasized that "labor education should be organically infiltrated into disciplines and specialties."^[3]In November, 2020, Xi made an important speeches in National Commendation Conference for Model Workers and Advanced Workers, "We should carry out publicity and education with the theme of 'labor creates happiness', incorporate labor education into the whole process of talent training, and cultivate generations of high-quality workers who love work, are diligent in work, and are good at work."^[4]It can be seen that, on the one hand, labor education should run through all stages of education in primary and secondary schools; on the other hand, it plays a vital role in the process of social development. To realize the all-round development of human beings, it is an inevitable trend to integrate labor education in the new era into ideological and political education in colleges and universities.

There is an endogenous interaction between labor education and ideological and political education in colleges and universities. Promoting their mutual integration, mutual empowerment and interaction

should be the proper meaning of ideological and political education in colleges and universities. As the main battlefield of labor education, ideological and political education in colleges and universities should, to a certain extent, help labor education to open up its road, fully showing its significance of the times in the process of integration, and further implement the primary issues of education while promoting high-quality economic and social development in the new era. Meanwhile, the effect will react on ideological and political education methods to make them innovative, and thereby constantly endow the ideological and political education in colleges and universities with new values and new meanings.

In order to open up a road, the first thing of course is to clear the obstacles to progress. Colleges and universities should proceed from the reality of the current educational environment and fully realize the practical difficulties in integrating labor education into ideological and political education in colleges and universities. At present, there is a one-sided understanding of labor education, simply thinking that labor education is equivalent to manual labor, which is meaningless, and there is also the problem of formalization in labor education -- everything is talked about on paper, and in order to fall into practice, only theory is stressed, but practice is overlooked. The most important thing is that the current mode of ideological and political education in colleges and universities is stereotyped. It is mainly based on simple indoctrination, but pays less attention to guidance. In classroom teaching, the students' suggestions are not seriously considered, and the learning mode that students really want has not been fundamentally excavated. Therefore, clarifying and expounding the epochal significance and practical difficulties of integrating labor education into ideological and political education, so as to explore a solution path, will help guide the new direction of ideological and political education; exploring and adjusting the main strategies of ideological and political education will help strengthen the effectiveness of ideological and political education.

2. The Epochal Significance of Integrating Labor Education into Ideological and Political Education

The integration of labor education into ideological and political education has distinctive requirements of the times, policy background, institutional environment and relatively stable educational environment in colleges and universities, which shows significant values of the times: first, it is conducive to high-quality economic and social development in the new era; second, it is the primary issue that is conducive to the implementation of education; third, it is beneficial to labor education's reacting on the way of ideological and political education to promote its innovation.

(1) The integration of labor education into ideological and political education is conducive to the high-quality development of China's economy. At present, China is making great efforts on the new journey of building a socialist modern country in an all-round way. We need to build a workforce with professional knowledge reserves, high precision technology, and pursuit of breakthroughs. What's more, we need to vigorously promote the labor spirit of lean rescue in the new era, and create a social atmosphere in which everyone loves work. As the new force of reform and innovation, college students in the new era must accept the education of labor concept, such as learning the professional quality of keeping improving, the service attitude of customer-first, and the innovation spirit of pursuing excellence from the "craftsman spirit"; learn the fearless quality of labor, the noble spirit of courage, and the fervent feelings of sticking to the post from the deeds of model workers; learn the initiative, progressiveness and creativity of workers from the "history of development of Yiwu (the central city in central Zhejiang)". Colleges and universities should integrate labor education into ideological and political education. Through ideological and political education, students can clarify the meaning and value of labor, and actively guide students in job planning, career development and other aspects, so as to form a positive interaction between work and post, work and industry, and work and innovation. Ideological and political education can also react on labor education, fully tap the practicality of labor education, integrate theory and practice, so that students can enhance their understanding through theoretical knowledge about labor, and exercise their ability and temper their will through labor practice. The combination and interaction of the two will cultivate college students in the new era with all-round development of morality, intelligence, physique, beauty and labor, and promote the construction of a socialist modern country in an all-round way.

(2) The integration of labor education into ideological and political education is conducive to the implementation of the primary issue of education. Xi pointed out at the national education conference, that what kind of people to cultivate is the first question of education. To implement and answer this question, we must find the answer. The talents we need are the new people of the times who can

undertake the great task of national rejuvenation, and the socialist builders and successors with all-round development of morality, intelligence, physique, beauty and labor. This is determined by the fundamental nature and task of ideological and political education. Labor education has commonality with ideological and political education in this regard. The integration of the two is conducive to the implementation of the primary issue of education. First of all, labor education can enable students to correctly understand the content, value and significance of labor in theory and practice, and promote them to regard labor as an important link on their own growth path, helping them grow. Secondly, labor education can develop students' intelligence, improve their physical quality, increase their frequency of practice, and let them fundamentally recognize the loveliness and lofty meaning of labor. Finally, labor education can cultivate students' creative thinking. Labor is a complex and changeable way of behavior, which requires both hands and brains. For example, the labor education often carried out in primary schools now includes "helping parents wash their feet", "being a little cook for a day", "being a little assistant to parents" and other activities. In fact, from the perspective of the role of labor, it is to develop students' intelligence and cultivate their creativity. Although it is a small housework and a simple meal, students will also think about what steps are most reasonable and what methods are more efficient. In general, labor education has the value of establishing morality, enhancing intelligence, strengthening physique, and cultivating virtues to comprehensively cultivate talents. Therefore, the integration of labor education into ideological and political education can provide a perfect answer to the first question of education.

(3) The integration of labor education into ideological and political education is conducive to the innovation of ideological and political education methods. The basic method of ideological and political education is to integrate theory and practice, criticism from others and self-criticism; The specific approach is to persuade and encourage students, and set up models[5]. It is the core of labor education to enable students to correctly understand Marxist labor outlook through the above ways and methods. A correct understanding of the labor outlook requires not only general theoretical study, but also practice. On the one hand, labor education can help students acquire labor knowledge and skills, but also help students analyze and understand the current social environment and development trends. For example, through the course of college students' career planning, we can help students clearly understand themselves and realize the importance of labor in today's society, so that students can make their own academic and career planning in advance after comparing social development and social needs, and become a useful youth to the society in the new era; on the other hand, labor education can educate students to abandon the wrong labor concept, however, cultivate positive labor consciousness. Combining the learning of the deeds of model workers, For example, Yuan Longping, the Father of Hybrid Rice of China, often went to the rice fields to check the growth of rice when he was eighty years old; Zhang Guimei, a great principal, always sticks to her teaching position year after year and day after day; When Wuhan was swept by the epidemic, those doctors, nurses and volunteers who resolutely supported and fought in the front line had strengthened the students' sense of pride in their work and set up their confidence and determination to be a role model. It can be said that the methods of ideological and political education are ubiquitous in the process of integrating labor education into ideological and political education, and are also required to innovate according to the needs of the integration process.

3. The Practical Difficulties of Integrating Labor Education into Ideological and Political Education

The integration of labor education into ideological and political education cannot be achieved overnight, because it will have practical difficulties due to different influences such as social relations, educational environment, quality of education, and the degree of attention paid by colleges and universities. First, the current college students' understanding of labor education is one-sided; second, the labor education in colleges and universities is formalized; third, ideological and political education in colleges and universities is stereotyped.

1) The cognition of labor education is one-sided. Influenced by traditional education, people believe that "labor" is the exclusive symbol of farmers, or the specific work content of specific groups. Some students think that they can escape from labor after becoming college students, or even think that they can do things without labor. Some even think that labor is shameful. Moreover, in college education, "labor" has been labeled as simplistic and one-sided. Some colleges and universities equate labor education with labor activities, believing that "classroom cleaning", "campus cleaning", "dormitory housekeeping", and "garbage collection" are labor education, which fails to guide college students to form a correct understanding of "labor education" at a certain level, making them mistake labor as

physical labor with extremely simple use of limbs, and think that labor is dirty, tiring and hard work and believe that labor has no knowledge and no significant effect on the improvement of its own quality and ability. But in fact, labor is the only means for people to maintain their own survival and self-development. Its meaning is not single, but broad. Labor is not only manual labor, but also complex mental labor, which plays a vital role in the overall development of students. For example, the profession of surgeon is both manual and mental labor in a certain level, and it usually takes several hours for an operation; for another example, teachers need not only to use their brains, but also to mobilize various organs to make their own courses lively and interesting, and improve the head-up rate. However, at present, college students' understanding of labor education has not yet tended to be correct. Based on this situation, the integration of labor education and ideological and political education will be more hindered. The students will possibly reject labor education because of their current understanding of it.

2) The labor education is formalized. At present, the labor education in China's colleges and universities is at the initial stage, and the teaching methods, teaching contents, teachers, teaching processes, educational results and teaching evaluation have not formed a complete and rigorous system, leading to formalization and superficiality in the implementation process. For instance, no special textbooks for labor education are used, no education links are set for labor education in teaching contents, and no corresponding professional teachers are matched in teaching and the evaluation criteria of labor education are not subdivided in the teaching evaluation, which affects the educational results of labor education to a large extent. The Opinions pointed out: "We should innovate the system and mechanism, pay attention to the effectiveness of education, realize the unity of knowledge and practice, and promote students to form a correct outlook on world, life and values."^[2] However, there are still some colleges and universities that have not implemented labor education. The theoretical education and practical education of labor education has been "split", the teaching materials, teachers and teaching links are "unreasonable", the teaching supervision and process evaluation are "non institutionalized". Therefore, the labor education can not achieve unity of knowledge and practice in curriculum design; the teaching process and education results can not be consistent; the labor education has not been "standardized" into the daily ideological and political education in colleges and universities, which fails to reflect the epochal significance and the educational value of labor education.

3) The ideological and political education in colleges and universities is stereotyped. At present, the ideological and political education in colleges and universities is mainly carried out through classroom teaching. However, from the perspective of the existing courses, the ideological and political education in colleges and universities mainly focuses on theoretical learning, and the teaching methods are more "fixed". Most of them are dominated by "indoctrination" teachers. Students rarely participate in classroom interaction, but only passively accept the input of theoretical knowledge, which causes the ideological and political education to emphasize theory rather than practice, focus on indoctrination but lack of guidance, and underscore knowledge examination rather than process evaluation. For example, the "PPT" (Power Point) teaching, which is very popular on the Internet, means that some teachers only talk about the theoretical knowledge on PPT in class, do not pay attention to the students' listening status, and do not consider what students need from the perspective of teaching design, how to make students understand, sit down and look up, and how to comprehensively improve the quality of students according to the new curriculum standards. From this perspective, to integrate into ideological and political education, the labor education must break through the "fixed" teaching mode, take students as the leading role, think about teaching design and teaching process scientifically, rationally and altruistically, take "theory+practice" as the teaching method, and take inspiring students' subjective initiative as the main means, so as to maximize the educational results in the practice of ideological and political education in colleges and universities.

4. The path of integrating labor education into ideological and political education

Clarifying the practical difficulties of integrating labor education into ideological and political education will help us find a more appropriate way to achieve the integration of the two. From the three aspects of education form, education platform and education resources, to integrate the two, we should first adopt a way of "online and offline" combination, highlighting the education of labor values; second, colleges and universities should use existing resources to build a practical platform for labor education and implement the effectiveness of labor education; third, colleges and universities should integrate all resources of ideological and political education, make full use of resources, and promote the spirit of labor.

1) We should adopt the way of “online and offline” combination to highlight the education of labor values. The online education resources should be integrated flexibly. While making use of traditional classroom teaching, teachers should also make full use of integrated online education resources, and use online education platforms such as Mooc, Aircourse, Learning through, and Learning power to enable students to actively preview, learn independently, and expand their knowledge, so as to stimulate students’ autonomy in labor education. For example, before class, we can organize students to watch the anthology of “The Daughters of the Party”, a national classic opera, getting close to Lv Yulan, a national model worker, and think about why she, as a college student, gave up the prosperity of the city, but returned to the simple countryside, rooted in the land, and devoted herself to work. Or we can carry out the classroom activity of “I tell the stories of model workers”, so that students can tell the characters and deeds of model workers they know and talk about their feelings. In the classroom, the teacher can combine with the theoretical knowledge of labor education concept to guide students to discuss “how to establish correct labor values” by themselves, and then let students speak in groups to further deepen the students’ correct understanding of labor values, so that they can understand what kind of labor values should be set up in the new era. After class, the activity of “I can find examples of labor around me” can be held, making students really feel the charm, connotation and significance of labor. The three links of preview before class, explanation in class and review after class can be combined with the “online and offline” teaching method to form a resultant force, highlighting the special role of labor values education in ideological and political education in colleges and universities.

2) We should build a practice platform for labor education and implement the effectiveness of labor education. The construction of labor education practice platform is the most direct and effective method in the process of integrating labor education into ideological and political education.^[6]It can not only directly supplement and extend the classroom teaching content, but also realize the integration of labor education and college students’ functional education, so that labor education can really take root and grow^[7]. It is understood that colleges and universities in all provinces are building labor education practice platforms in succession. Taking “Shaanxi Province” as an example, on April 26, 2022, the Education Department of Shaanxi Province Government decided to name the first 50 “Labor Education Practice Bases of Shaanxi Province for Large, Middle and Small Schools”, including the Labor Education Base of Xi’an Fanyi University. From 2020 to 2022, Xi’an Fanyi University has successively formulated the Implementation Measures of Labor Education in Xi’an Fanyi University (Trial), the Implementation and Evaluation Plan of Labor Education in Xi’an Fanyi University and other documents, which bring labor education into the whole process of professional talent training. Through various forms of labor, students can form a correct understanding of labor values, have a basic grasp of labor skills, vigorously promoting the glorious spirit of labor. First, we should take daily labor activities as the starting point, and use theme days such as “Learn from Lei Feng Spirit” (the spirit of dedication), Arbor Day, “May Day” International Labor Day, and Earth Day to organize teachers and students to carry out environmental protection and greening activities in some scenic areas around the college; we should strengthen students’ sense of social responsibility by making use of such voluntary services as “Take Community-level Posts in Education, Agriculture, Health Care and Poverty Relief”, “China’s Far West Program”, “Countryside Activities”, and “Protection of Qinling Mountains”. Second, we should use the labor education practice base to carry out production labor closely related to the construction of farm planting ecological environment, learn planting technology, guide students to experience the hardships and wisdom of working people, and promote the traditional virtues of the Chinese nation. Third, we should combine labor education with students’ daily management, encourage students to actively participate in daily labor and work study activities, constantly improve students’ ability to independently handle personal life affairs, and consolidate the results of labor education through such activities as “Dormitory Interior Evaluation” and “Daily Inspection of Dormitory”. Fourth, we should take competition projects as the starting point, such as the “College Students’ Innovative Entrepreneurial Training Plan Program”, “China College Students’ ‘Internet+Innovation’ and Entrepreneurship Competition”, “Challenge Cup” National College Students’ Extracurricular Academic Work of Science and Technology Competition, “Challenge Cup” National College Students’ Business Plan Competition and “Youth Red Dream Tour”, actively carry out teaching practice education, guiding and promoting students to become talents in an all-round way.

3) We should integrate ideological and political education resources and promote labor spirit. The resources of ideological and political education in colleges and universities refer to the sum of all the elements that are indiscriminate and can be used or may be used in the ideological and political education activities in colleges and universities in the future to achieve the goal of educating people under a specific political, economic and cultural environment. According to its existing form, it can be classified into visible resources, perceptible resources and comprehensible resources. A reasonable

combination of these three resources can maximize the effectiveness of ideological and political education in colleges and universities [8]. Therefore, to achieve the goal of implementing and improving the effect of educating people, in addition to using common perceptual resources focusing on courses, we should also make full use of visual resources focusing on environmental construction, create a ubiquitous labor education environment for students, immerse students in the spirit of labor, and create an atmosphere of advocating and loving labor [9]. For example, school radio stations and television stations can be used to broadcast labor stories and model workers' deeds; some colleges can carry out design competitions to improve students' practical ability; advanced model workers can also be invited to give special lectures, and attention should also be paid to the comprehensible resources with the main goal of improving the quality of the main body, so as to create a positive working spirit learning atmosphere for teachers and students.

5. Conclusion

The integration of labor education into ideological and political education in colleges and universities is still in the exploratory stage. How to integrate the two scientifically and effectively is a continuous research topic. To achieve the integration of the two, we should deal with the internal relations between correct and wrong labor concepts, labor knowledge and labor practice; coordinate and resolve the basic problem of integrating labor education into ideological and political education. In a word, to integrate labor education into ideological and political education in colleges and universities, we should scientifically apply Marxist labor concept and favorable educational environment in colleges and universities, and constantly improve and innovate. On the one hand, we should expand the content of labor education and enhance the results of education. On the other hand, we should speed up the construction of labor practice bases and enhance the practicality of labor education, and use media technology, such as official account, micro-blog, short video publicity, mobile live broadcast, etc., to strengthen the publicity of the education concept of the new era and vigorously promote the labor spirit. In addition, we should establish a sound labor education system, clarify the various links of education, cooperate with each other, and accelerate the close integration of labor education and ideological and political education in colleges and universities.

References

- [1] Xi Jinping. *Adhere to the development path of socialist education with Chinese characteristics; cultivate socialist builders and successors with all-round development of moral, intellectual, physical, artistic and labor* [N]. *People's Daily*, 2018-01-11 (01).
- [2] *The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council's Opinions of Comprehensively Strengthening Labor Education in Universities, Primary and Secondary Schools in the New Era* [N]. *People's Daily*, 2020-03-27 (01).
- [3] *Notice of the Ministry of Education on Printing and Distributing the Guidelines for Labor Education in Universities, Middle Schools and Primary Schools (for Trial Implementation)*. *Bulletin of the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China*, 2020 (Z2): 2-11.
- [4] Xinhua News Agency, *Xi Jinping attends the national commendation conference for model workers and advanced workers and delivered an important speech* [EB/OL]. (2020-11-24) [2022-10-20] http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2020-11/24/content_5563856.htm.
- [5] Zhang Xiaolin. *The significance and practical path of integrating labor education into ideological and political education in colleges and universities in the new era* [J]. *Survey of Education*, 2022 (03): 28-38.
- [6] Zhang Yu, Jiang Wei. *Research on the collaborative education path of integrating labor education into college ideological and political education* [J]. *Leading Journal of Ideological & Theoretical Education*, 2021 (06): 115-119.
- [7] Wang Caifang. *Analysis of the advantages of the labor education practice education platform* [J]. *People's Tribune*, 2021 (32): 95-97.
- [8] Wang Dong. *Three dimensions of integrating labor education into the whole process of ideological and political theory courses in colleges and universities* [J]. *Studies in Ideological Education*, 2021 (04): 117-121.
- [9] Shi Guihong, Feng Jiangying. *Exploration of the integration of labor education into ideological and political education* [J]. *The Party Building and Ideological Education in Schools*, 2022 (04): 48-50.