

# Analysis of Professional Identity and Influencing Factors of Students Majoring in Preschool Education

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**Abstract:** *Preschool education is the most important beginning part of our country's students to receive growth education, but the kindergarten teachers who are responsible for their education are generally not recognized in the society, and the rewards and social status are not very optimistic. As a result, the training of kindergarten teachers is not valued, and students majoring in preschool education do not have a strong sense of identification with the profession of kindergarten teachers. This article is devoted to analyzing the reasons that affect the professional identity of the students who major in preschool education and proposing related solutions.*

**Keywords:** *early childhood education; teachers; professional identity; preschool education*

## 1. Introduction

Preschool education is an important educational foundation for children in our country to receive education and grow. It has an important enlightenment function for children's future cognitive development of things and comprehensive quality growth. Nowadays, some students who choose the major of preschool education do not have a strong sense of identity with this kind of preschool teacher's profession. This requires us to pay attention to cultivating the professional identity of students majoring in preschool education and urge them to do a better job of preschool education.

## 2. Objective reasons for the lack of professional identity among students majoring in preschool education

### 2.1 *The workload is heavy, but the social status is not high*

The salary and reputation of kindergarten teachers are generally lower than those of other education professions. The work content of kindergarten teachers includes a variety of jobs, and the labor value they can create is also considerable, but the economic returns they receive are not as objective as other occupations, belonging to the lower level. And because of the influence of common beliefs, many people believe that the profession of preschool teachers is equivalent to the "nanny" of young children. People who are engaged in preschool education are basically a simple job performed by people with low academic qualifications and no professional skills. Therefore, the profession of kindergarten teacher is still not understood in the whole society.

### 2.2 *Curriculum is not standardized*

In the current teaching planning of educating students of preschool education, the balanced design of various types of courses is not standardized. The overall performance is how high the proportion of professional theory courses and professional skills courses in the entire curriculum setting is. The courses that actually go to kindergartens or relevant places for practice only account for about 5%. In addition, the teaching model used after the professional theory with the largest proportion is not only outdated, but the teaching results obtained are not satisfactory.

### 2.3 *Students lack firm professional convictions*

There are many factors that affect the choice of a career, including the level of economic returns, status, and honors, etc. These are all important external factors that affect the choice. But the real decisive factor for choice is the internal individual factor, that is, the individual's independent consciousness [1]. Many students did not have a sufficient understanding of preschool

education before entering the school. The motivation for choosing this major is not clear. Some people even just choose a major randomly and just want to own a diploma. These have directly had a huge impact on the students' professional identity and professional beliefs.

### **3. Influencing factors of career choice and a sense of identity**

Career choice affects students' future development direction, and for students, to choose a career is a reflection of their sense of identity to this career. The main manifestations specifically include:

#### **3.1 Interest**

Interest is the greatest driving force that affects one's direction. Now that choosing the major of preschool education, it proves that this profession is at least a favorite and acceptable job in the students' impression. Students' own interest is an important factor that affects their choice of major and determines their future development.

#### **3.2 Content**

Whether the content of a job is within the scope of workers' acceptance has a significant impact on whether they choose this occupation, because work is a lasting means of life and its content is a part of life, and being able to accept the content and enjoy the process is an important factor in choosing a career and identifying with the career.

#### **3.3 Personality**

The old saying goes, there are masters in every walk of life. Every occupation is different, and the suitable person is also different. Each person's different personality also determines his or her sense of identity with a certain profession, and affects his or her chances of choosing a certain profession. In addition to the most basic professional qualities, teachers are gentle, or cheerful, or serious, but they love students, are upright, have a sense of responsibility, and can be a role model for students. These personality traits have to be possessed. This is also an important factor affecting the professional identity.

### **4. Suggestions to strengthen the professional identity of students majoring in preschool education**

#### **4.1 Promote well and create a good social environment**

The government needs to do a good job in formulating policies to improve the remuneration of kindergarten teachers, ensuring that the income of kindergarten teachers is reasonable, and establish a perfect guarantee system for kindergarten teachers, so as to build a stable teacher team in the field of preschool education, and enhance the attractiveness of the occupation. Colleges and universities can jointly launch exchange meetings of professional advanced educational construction and development. And some of the more famous normal colleges and universities can provide some assistance for the major of preschool education in the more remote and ordinary colleges and universities. A harmonious and mutual understanding social atmosphere should be created for preschool education to help strengthen the professional identity of some college students. Once a good social professional atmosphere is formed, people can have different views on the profession of kindergarten teachers to a large extent, change previous prejudices, and reduce the working pressure on some kindergarten teachers at the same time [2].

#### **4.2 Optimize curriculum settings and improve educational practice**

The curriculum must first be set up scientifically and rationally. While ensuring the content of some basic academic courses, we should pay attention to the cultivation of students' teaching skills. Optional art courses are added to the student curriculum and students can choose the training according to their hobbies and expertise, making the professional students become a skilled preschool teachers. Later, presenting teaching plans and criticizing classes can be added in daily courses to exercise students' teaching ability, so that students can adapt to the working mode of kindergarten teachers more quickly when conducting practical teaching, and enhance the teacher's professional identity.

During the school period, students majoring in preschool education can be regularly organized to

visit the kindergarten to learn from the teaching experience of outstanding preschool teachers in the society, optimize personal educational concepts through practice and learning, shape personal professional perception and professional identity, and gain more professional-related experience, so as to greatly enhance students' professional confidence in preschool teachers [3].

#### ***4.3 Strengthen the education of students' values***

Today's society is a society with rapid economic development, and it is also accompanied by a lot of impetuous moods. Many students have been affected by this trend and have excessive pursuit of material life. There is nothing wrong with the students' pursuit of material life, but they need to be careful not to be too "utilitarian". They should pay attention to cultivating a high-quality spiritual life when the material life is satisfied. Colleges and universities should cultivate and shape the students majoring in preschool education in terms of professional values, so that they are truly aware of the contribution of their profession to social progress, rather than being limited to personal pursuits.

The ideal of profession is a person's beautiful yearning for future careers, and is an important component of professional values. Colleges and universities can arrange relevant teaching content in the teaching plan of the major of preschool education, integrate the education of professional ideals into the students' careers, and allow them to have a deeper understanding of being preschool teachers that they are about to engage in [4].

#### ***4.4 Give full play to the power of role models***

The work content of teachers in the major of preschool education of colleges and universities is different from the work content of early childhood education, but what is the same it that they are teachers. Their professional attitudes, love for students, and pride in the work content can all have a huge impression on their students, when instructing lessons, teachers should always carry out ideological education and inspiration, which help students enhance their enthusiasm for learning professional courses and their sense of professional identity.

### **5. Conclusion**

Nowadays, preschool education has been paid more and more attention in China, and subsequently the professional demand for preschool teachers need to be increased. However, students majoring in preschool education do not have a high sense of professional identity for preschool teachers. The level of preschool teachers' sense of professional identity is related to the quality of the future preschool teacher team's education, and it is also the psychological cornerstone for students majoring in preschool education to smoothly engage in the career of preschool education.

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