

# Citizens' Responsibility and Undertakings under the Control of Major Epidemic Crisis

Ting Li<sup>1</sup>, Xionglin Lai<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> School of Marxism, Xi'an University of science and technology

<sup>2</sup> School of Marxism, Chang'an University

**ABSTRACT.** *The major epidemic is a social and public health crisis, and it is a "people's war, general war, and blockade." Epidemic crisis of governance needs every citizen to assume civic responsibilities. Responsibility for citizens is an important basis for victory in the "People's War" against the epidemic. Due to the urgency and particularity of epidemic management, the responsibilities of citizens under major epidemic management are usually expanded or deepened in terms of content and commitment requirements. On the path of realizing civil responsibility in the management of major epidemic crisis, we can start with government leadership, ideological and political education, and media propaganda.*

**KEYWORDS:** *major epidemic crisis; governance of social crisis; citizen responsibility; realization path*

## 1. Introduction

At the end of 2019 year and the beginning of the 2020 year, a sudden outbreak of new corona-virus pneumonia broke out from Wuhan, China, and spread in a very short period of time, bringing great harm to the lives and health of the people. General Secretary Xi Jinping emphasized in the Beijing investigation and guidance of the epidemic prevention and control work that he must "rely on the people closely, resolutely curb the spread of the epidemic, and resolutely win the people's war, general war, and obstruction war." In this people's war, every citizen cannot stand aside. Every citizen needs to assume citizenship in the people's war. Therefore, under the challenge of a major epidemic crisis, it is of great significance and urgency to raise the issue of citizenship responsibility.

## **2. Responsibility for citizens is an important basis for the victory of the People's War**

### ***2.1 Participation in the management of public health security crises caused by major epidemics is the due meaning of citizen responsibility.***

Responsibility is generated by the subject based on a specific identity relationship and matches the role identity. Citizenship determines the right of a natural person to enjoy all the benefits provided by a country to its citizens, including national security, public health safety, public facilities, social welfare, and human rights protection. At the same time, another aspect of citizenship is the role of identity relationships. The basis of civic responsibility is the natural connection between the individual and the state, so it is everyone's innate obligation and responsibility. Responsibility is the guarantee of freedom, and everyone's freedom requires the responsibility of others to defend it. For a social community, a major epidemic crisis is not only related to the life and health of each individual member of society, but also to the survival and development of the entire human race. Participation in the governance of the crisis will no longer be an external requirement, but a citizen's self-responsibility, a true expression of the feelings of the country.

### ***2.2 The treacherous nature of the major epidemic crisis determines that we must attach importance to citizen responsibility and thus form a strong joint force in order to fight the epidemic.***

Compared with general social or natural crises, major epidemic crises have the following characteristics: first, suddenness; second, uncertainty; third, complexity; and fourth, diffuseness. In summary, the major epidemic crisis is urgent and dangerous, which makes it difficult to manage the crisis. It poses a threat and harm to the effective operation of the social public system and the effective allocation of public resources. It is not enough to rely solely on the power of the government or the initiative of the government. It must rely on the initiative and enthusiasm of the citizens to form a strong synergy to defeat the epidemic.

### ***2.3 Emphasizing civil responsibility in response to major epidemics is conducive to reducing the cost and difficulty of government public crisis management and improving the effectiveness of crisis management.***

In an epidemic crisis, every citizen is a stakeholder. The government is in a leading position in the response to the epidemic, but it is not the only subject. Citizens are the most extensive and basic subject to fight the epidemic crisis. The government's epidemic prevention and control measures need to pass through levels. Decomposition and implementation are ultimately completed through the cooperation of citizens. Citizens' acceptance of policies and specific actions directly affect the effectiveness of government's epidemic response measures. Therefore, the

ability of citizen responsibility is of great significance to fight the epidemic crisis, and it determines the success or failure of this "people's war" to a certain extent.

### **3. Characteristics of citizen responsibility under the control of major epidemic crisis**

Citizen responsibility under the control of major epidemic crisis arises based on general citizen responsibility, but based on the urgency and particularity of epidemic management, often the content and commitment requirements of the responsibility are expanded or deepened than usual.

(1) The emergence of civic responsibility under the control of a major epidemic crisis requires the correct understanding of the dialectical relationship between "personal health" and "public health". Citizens cherish their own life and health and respect the overall public health and safety of society is an organic and unified citizen's responsibility. Therefore, the primary responsibility of citizens under the control of a major epidemic crisis is to choose a healthy and reasonable lifestyle in accordance with the requirements of epidemic prevention and control measures, and to prevent the spread and spread of disease through their own prevention, thereby reducing public health security risks to a minimum. This is not only a citizen's own right to freedom, but also a social responsibility related to the promotion of public health of others and society.

(2) The specific content of civic responsibility under major epidemic crisis management varies according to the needs of prevention and control. The responsibilities of civic responsibility do not have to be a one-size-fits-all. The specific content of the responsibilities should be for the purpose of epidemic prevention and control. Some of the responsibilities have universal validity and are applicable to All citizens; the content of some responsibilities needs to be differentiated according to the differences in the correlation between different populations and the epidemic.

(3) Civil liability under the control of major epidemic crises requires modest restrictions on individual freedoms and rights. For example, in order to ensure that most people are protected from the infection and harm of the disease, necessary freedom restrictions and information disclosure are made on individual citizens who are ill, restricting citizens' activities, requiring protective measures, and changing behaviors to reduce the risk of public health. Wait. These restrictions and interventions are not a denial of the individual's right to freedom and health, but a priority choice made in the context of a public crisis.

(4) Civil responsibility under the control of major epidemic crisis is guided by political responsibility, based on moral responsibility, and guaranteed by legal responsibility. In the response to a major epidemic, every citizen has a political responsibility to safeguard national public health security, a moral responsibility to maintain social health order, self-discipline and self-control, and a legal responsibility to abide by laws and regulations related to epidemic prevention and control.

#### **4. Realization of Citizens' Responsibility Under the Major Epidemic Crisis**

The commitment of civic responsibility requires citizens to recognize their values, clarify their responsibilities, and finally move to active practice. This is a realization process from awareness to practice. The urgency of managing the epidemic crisis requires that the commitment of citizen responsibility must open up multiple paths and take a multi-pronged approach to accelerate implementation.

(1) Give play to the government's leading role in citizenship education under the control of major epidemics. The government should educate the public about their responsibility and take the initiative to guide the public to assume civil responsibility in the management of the epidemic crisis. At the same time, the government should clarify the powers and responsibilities of the epidemic management system, and promptly publish epidemic information to prevent information monopoly and provide conditions for citizens to effectively participate in the governance of the epidemic crisis.

(2) Relying on ideological and political education in the systemic advantages of civil responsibility education in the management of major epidemics. From the perspective of educational purpose and educational content, ideological and political education includes patriotic education, socialist moral education, the promotion of the Chinese spirit, the guidance of socialist core values, and the education of the concept of the rule of law, which are consistent with the direction of cultivating a sense of citizenship. In the event of a major epidemic crisis, relying on the ideological and political education system to strengthen citizen responsibility is an important way to implement citizen responsibility.

(3) Giving play to the positive role of media in citizenship education under the control of major epidemics. Various media have assumed social responsibility in the response to the epidemic crisis. In the practice of civic responsibility education, they can take advantage of media publicity to guide and educate all sectors of civic responsibility education, including civic responsibility awareness education and civic responsibility knowledge education And citizen media literacy education.

(4) Citizens are encouraged to participate in epidemic prevention and control, and self-education on civic responsibility is carried out in practice. Citizens are not only a status stipulated by law, but also a practice of relationship. As a true relationship between individuals and public affairs in society, citizens mean a rational commitment to public affairs. Therefore, citizens' self-responsibility awareness and citizenship education in the practice of citizen life is an important way to realize citizen rationality.

#### **5. Conclusion**

The epidemic crisis affects the country and society and threatens each of us. The prevention and control of the epidemic is destined to be a people's war. The people's war needs to mobilize the people's power, and citizens have an unshirkable responsibility. I believe that under the strong measures of the government, with the

active responsibility of each citizen, this epidemic will be overcome and this people's war epidemic will win.

### References

- [1]Kogan, Maurice. The Subordination of Local Government and the Compliant Society[J]. Oxford Review of Education, 2002, 28(2-3):331-342.
- [2]Liu, Gao. Public crisis management and government responsibility[C]// International Conference on Information Systems for Crisis Response & Management. IEEE, 2012.
- [3]Mctavish D . 'Who's responsible for the state we're in?' Government and public sector: accountability and responsibility in an era of crisis and austerity[J]. Critical Perspectives on International Public Sector Management, 2015.
- [4]Surakka T . The nurse manager's work in the hospital environment during the 1990s and 2000s: responsibility, accountability and expertise in nursing leadership[J]. Journal of Nursing Management, 2008, 16.
- [5]Agyemang G . Responsibility and accountability without direct control?: Local education authorities and the seeking of influence in the UK schools sector[J]. Accounting, Auditing & Accountability Journal, 2009, 22(5):p.762-788.