

Exploring the path of cultivating university students' awareness of the rule of law in the new era

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Abstract: *College students are the backbone of realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and building society under the rule of law. Because of the current difficulties faced by the cultivation of university students' awareness of the rule of law, it is necessary to give full play to the role of moral education in the Civics classroom, make good use of the Internet to carry out education on the rule of law, and create a good atmosphere for the rule of law to improve the awareness of university students.*

Keywords: *College students, rule of law awareness, cultivation path*

1. Introduction

The rule of law is not only an important tool for governing the country but also an effective means to maintain social harmony and stability. As the successor of the socialist cause, college students are the main force of future social development and construction. Strengthening and paying attention to the rule of law education of college students, raising the awareness of the rule of law, and enhancing the belief in the rule of law will not only have a positive impact on the healthy development of society but also promote personal development. Comprehensive coordination of multiple forces especially universities focuses on rule of law education for college students and cultivate rule of law thinking. However, in the process of carrying out rule of law education, there are still many problems, such as weak teachers, low motivation of students, and insufficient attention to rule of law education. Therefore, how strengthening the cultivation of the rule of law awareness among college students has become an urgent problem to be solved.

2. The great significance of strengthening the cultivation of university students' awareness of the rule of law in the new era

Youth is the future of the country and the hope of the nation. Strengthening the cultivation of the awareness of the rule of law among college students in the new era is not only an inevitable requirement to promote the comprehensive rule of law, but also a proper meaning to carry forward and practice the core socialist values, and an inevitable choice to realize the comprehensive development of college students.

2.1. The inevitable requirement to promote the comprehensive rule of law

Xi Jinping pointed out that "comprehensively promoting the rule of law requires the participation of the whole society, the whole society needs to enhance the concept of the rule of law, and must promote the spirit of socialist rule of law in the whole society and build a socialist rule of law culture." [1] The construction of a rule of law state must require the broad participation of all citizens in society so that the rule of law becomes the general belief of the public. Only then will the public be able to sincerely believe in the law, uphold the authority of the law as well as consciously comply with the provisions of the law, and use the rule of law as an effective weapon to protect their rights and interests. If the youth is prosperous, the country will be prosperous, and if the youth are strong, the country will be strong. As the backbone of the construction of socialist rule of law in China, college students should understand and learn legal knowledge in various ways, improve their legal awareness, pay attention to the cultivation of their legal faith and rule of law spirit in daily life, and learn to use legal weapons to protect their legitimate rights and interests. Only by establishing faith in the rule of law can college students in the new era give full play to their subjective initiative on the road of socialist rule of law construction and make unremitting efforts to realize the construction of socialist rule of law system with Chinese characteristics

and socialist rule of law country.

2.2. Promoting socialist core values as they should be

Xi Jinping pointed out that "the value orientation of youth determines the value tendency of the whole society in the future, and youth are in the period of value formation and establishment, so it is very important to grasp the formation of values in this period." [2] The cultivation of youth values is just like buttoning a button, if the first button is wrong, then the remaining buttons will be wrong. Therefore, it is important to buckle up from the beginning of life. Values are the individual's understanding and evaluation of good and evil, good and bad, ugly and beautiful aspects of social life, and guide the individual's behavioral activities. As an important part of socialist core values, the rule of law runs through the entire socialist core value system and provides an important guarantee for the realization of other core value goals. Once the rule of law is lost, there is no way to achieve other value goals. To promote the core socialist values, we must enhance the public's faith in the rule of law and the spirit of the rule of law, and raise the awareness of the rule of law, while cultivating the awareness of the rule of law among college students in the new era is particularly important. The world today is in the period of accelerated evolution of the unprecedented changes of the century, the international form is becoming more and more complicated, and although China has entered a new stage of development, the problem of unbalanced and insufficient development still exists. New ideologies from home and abroad are impacting the mainstream values in China, which have a profound impact on college students who are in the "critical period of cultivating and training scientific thinking methods and thinking ability." [3] Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen and pay attention to the enhancement of college students' awareness and literacy of the rule of law, so that they can reasonably use rule of law thinking and legal weapons to analyze and solve real-life problems and effectively protect their legitimate rights and interests, and actively guide them to grasp mainstream values and promote the main theme in the complex social environment.

2.3. The inevitable choice to realize the comprehensive development of contemporary college students

To strengthen the cultivation of university students' awareness of the rule of law is not simply to teach them literal legal knowledge, but to make them learn, understand and apply legal knowledge in real life, to enhance their legal beliefs, optimize their knowledge reserves and improve their personal qualities and abilities. The cultivation of university students' awareness of the rule of law plays an important role in the formation of their rule of law values and their physical and mental health. At present, college students have weak awareness of the rule of law and low legal literacy, and some of them have taken the path of breaking the law and committing crimes during their studies, such as the case of Yak Jiabin, the case of Lin Senhao and the crime of "helping to trust". Some college students can't withstand the temptation of "sugar-coated shells" after they set foot in the workplace, and are willing to degenerate and eventually sanctioned by the law. In any case, it will have a serious impact on the healthy growth of college students. Family influence, changes in a social environment, and inadequate supervision of power may lead to college students committing crimes, among which, the lack of personal awareness of the rule of law, little knowledge of the law, and lack of attention to the improvement of their legal literacy are the direct factors leading to college students committing crimes. To strengthen the cultivation of college student's awareness of the rule of law, it is necessary to use both positive and negative typical cases to guide college students' legal study, and also to encourage them to actively participate in the activities organized by society and schools for the popularization of law, which can help enhance college students' belief in the rule of law, help promote the awakening of the awareness and spirit of the rule of law and the improvement of the rule of law literacy, help college students realize their self-worth in the practice of the construction of the rule of law, and promote their overall personal development. It helps college students realize their self-worth and promote their overall development in the practice of rule of law construction.

3. The real dilemma of the awareness of the rule of law among college students in the new era

In the new era, society and colleges and universities have achieved certain results in cultivating college students' awareness of the rule of law by continuously carrying out rule of law education, which has deepened college students' knowledge and understanding of the spirit of the rule of law. On the whole, the cultivation of university students' awareness of the rule of law has shown a good development trend, but the current practical difficulties facing the cultivation of university students' awareness of the rule of law cannot be ignored. At the individual level, college students have limited legal knowledge, weak legal

consciousness and unsound belief in the rule of law. At the school level, the teachers in colleges and universities have weak legal knowledge, single cultivation means and insufficient attention to rule of law education for college students.

3.1. Personal level: college students do not know the law, do not abide by the law, do not believe in the law

First, college students themselves have limited legal knowledge and lack of knowledge of law. Among the college students, there are still many students who do not know the law. Due to the lack of legal knowledge or wrong cognition of the law, some college students unknowingly violate the red line of the law and do not even know how to use legal means to protect their own rights and interests. For example, in the information-ridden network world, "talking nonsense" is subject to the corresponding legal responsibility. In the process of employment, some fresh graduates did not sign tripartite agreements with enterprises, resulting in damage to their rights and interests, and they did not know how to take up the legal weapons to protect their own interests. Secondly, the awareness of rule of law among college students is weak. At present, some college students are still poisoned by the wrong thinking of the rule of law, which leads to college students knowingly break the law, but still have a fluke mentality to test the law or exploit the loopholes of the law. For example, cheating in exams, acting as essay writers, plagiarizing the fruits of other people's labor and other phenomena are numerous, and some even take some excessive ways and behaviors in dealing with interpersonal relationships, resulting in the safety of other people's lives and properties being seriously threatened. Thirdly, college students' belief in the rule of law is not firm. With the deepening of China's reform and opening up, the growing and spreading of non-mainstream ideology is eroding college students' belief in the rule of law. Under the influence of such wrong values as "faith in power but not in law", "faith in money but not in law", "faith in emotion but not in law" and "faith in the Internet but not in law" [4 Under the influence of wrong values such as "trust in power but not in law", "trust in money but not in law", "trust in emotion but not in law" and "trust in internet but not in law"[4], some college students always like to solve the problem by their own way when their rights and interests are infringed, but they abandon the law. Some students, with the prestige and influence of their parents, disregard the authority of the law and violate the law, such as the case of "My father is Li Gang". The essence of these phenomena is caused by the lack of firm belief in the rule of law among college students.

3.2. School-level: Insufficient rule of law education in colleges and universities

Firstly, the teachers in colleges and universities are weak in legal science. Legal foundation courses are both theoretical and practical, and compliance with the requirements of the law of education requires a team of teachers with a professional background in law. [5] At present, most of the college teachers engaged in rule of law education come from such majors as Marxist principles and philosophy and are not from a scientific class, and even some colleges and universities arrange teachers engaged in administrative work to teach relevant rule of law education courses. Due to the limitation of professional background, many teachers in colleges and universities lack understanding of the law, and they only popularize legal knowledge from the surface in the process of teaching, without digging into the substance of the law in-depth, which affects college students' understanding and recognition of law. Secondly, the means to cultivate college students' awareness of the rule of law are single. Except for the legal knowledge through the course of "Thought and Moral Cultivation and Legal Foundation" or the law course related to their majors, college students seldom carry out relevant rule of law activities in class, and it is impossible to have professional and systematic legal training, so students can only use TV and internet to get it, but the knowledge they get through these ways is fragmented and unsystematic, and it may even distort students' concept of rule of law. It may even distort the students' concept of rule of law. In addition, most colleges and universities emphasize classroom teaching, mainly on indoctrination education, with a single teaching method and little interaction between teachers and students, and do not pay attention to the improvement of teaching methods, which leads to students' "indigestion" of the lecture contents. Some teachers are inflexible and do not combine the content of classroom lectures with actual cases, and the classroom atmosphere is not good enough to motivate students. Some teachers are not skilled in the operation of multimedia teaching equipment, which leads to poor teaching quality and effect. Thirdly, colleges and universities do not pay enough attention to the cultivation of college student's awareness of the rule of law. Colleges and universities, as the main position for cultivating students' awareness of rule of law, have not played their proper role. On the one hand, some colleges and universities do not pay attention to education on rule of law, thinking that rule of law construction is something purely theoretical and without practicality, but more inclined to science

and technology, ignoring the influence of rule of law values on college students. However, colleges and universities bear the important task of teaching and educating people, so they cannot only focus on teaching professional knowledge, but also help college students to establish a correct worldview, outlook on life and values, but there are still many colleges and universities fail to integrate the teaching of rule of law into the school teaching system, and teachers do not realize the importance of teaching rule of law, and the rule of law education for college students is only formal and superficial. On the other hand, colleges and universities do not publicize the rule of law values enough and seldom use the Internet and other advanced technologies to carry out law-prevention activities. The lack of cultivation and supervision of the rule of law values of college students has led to the occurrence of illegal cases on campus, which is not conducive to the comprehensive development of college students.

4. The path of cultivating university students' awareness of the rule of law in the new era

The cultivation of college student's awareness of the rule of law requires the cooperation of many parties, such as families, colleges and universities, and the government, so that legal knowledge and rule of law activities can form a positive interaction and help college students improve their ability to know, understand, abide by and use the law.

4.1. Ideological and political classes are the main channel to carry out rule of law education

First, adhere to the unity of "indoctrination" and "inspirational" teaching, to improve legal cognition. Xi Jinping emphasized, "Insist on the unity of indoctrination and inspiration, pay attention to inspirational education, guide students to find out problems, analyze problems, think about problems, and let students conclude the process of continuous inspiration." [6] Teachers in colleges and universities should not only focus on instilling legal knowledge and theories in college students, but also stimulate students' active thinking through inspiring teaching, help students turn from externalization to internalization, and deepen their cognition and understanding of the rule of law. At the same time, in the teaching of Civics and Political Science, we should pay full attention to and mobilize the initiative of students, encourage students to participate in teaching, so that students from one-way passive acceptance of knowledge to active acquisition of knowledge, more conducive to students to understand and learn legal knowledge, causing qualitative changes in their own rule of law values. Civics teachers should change the traditional "indoctrination" teaching method, and actively guide and organize students to discuss legal theory, rule of law hotspots, cases, etc. so that students can discover, analyze and solve the problems themselves, which is conducive to strengthening the cognition of the law. Second, adhere to the unity of theory teaching and case teaching to enhance legal awareness. Most teachers in colleges and universities only teach around the textbook, and the content of the lecture is mostly theoretical, single, and boring. In the process of teaching, teachers should intersperse some real-life legal content, such as counterfeiting, internet fraud, and campus bullying, to guide students to think about and analyze the cases, to further improve students' awareness of the rule of law. Third, insist on the unity of classroom theory and social practice, and firmly believe in the law. Xi Jinping pointed out that "we should adhere to the unity of theory and practice, cultivate people with scientific theories, attach importance to the practical nature of the Civics class, and combine the small classroom of Civics with the big classroom of society." [6] If the cultivation of college students' awareness of rule of law is separated from practical teaching, and only pure theory of rule of law is taught, the teaching effect will be "unsatisfactory". In the ideology and politics class, teachers in colleges and universities should make good use of "practical teaching method" to guide students to feel what the reasons for obeying the law and how to obey the law in practice.

4.2. Relying on the Internet platform is an important means to carry out the cultivation of rule of law awareness

First, to actively build a network service platform for rule of law education based on colleges and universities. To better play the positive role of Internet media on college students' awareness of rule of law, rule of law thinking, and law-abiding consciousness, colleges and universities should make full use of the Internet platform for rule of law publicity and education. Colleges and universities can use WeChat public number, microblog, or open a column of rule of law education on the official campus website to push legal knowledge to students every day, change legal content and topics regularly, set up a network consultation service platform to actively answer students' questions and solve their problems, help college students build a complete legal knowledge system from shallow to deep, and then cultivate their rule of law consciousness and rule of law thinking. At the same time, colleges and universities can also

use the Internet platform to carry out some popular activities, such as prize quizzes and other activities. Through the feedback of these activities, the university can also learn the level of students' rule of law and prescribe the right medicine according to the weaknesses of students, gradually cultivating students' rule of law thinking and improving their awareness of rule of law. Second, strengthen network governance and create a fresh and clear network environment for rule of law education. With the continuous development of the information age, the network information is mixed, and while using the Internet to carry out rule of law education, strengthening the supervision of bad information on the Internet should not be ignored. The state and relevant network supervision departments should take various measures to rectify harmful information such as Internet rumors, violence, and pornography, and use technical means to strengthen the monitoring and processing of Internet information to prevent the occurrence of illegal and criminal incidents. In addition, we should give full play to the advantages of the Internet, such as wide dissemination and easy operation, and convey the concept of socialist rule of law to the whole public with the help of media such as Jitterbug and TV. It is also possible to attract college students' attention and understanding of the law through innovative new rule of law education methods, such as expression packs with expressions about the rule of law and law-prevention cartoons, to promote college students' habits of complying with and abiding by the law and promoting their awareness of the rule of law.

4.3. A good social environment is a prerequisite for the development of rule of law education

First, the state should continue to improve the socialist rule of law construction. With the continuous development of society, some of the original legal provisions are no longer applicable to the newly emerged illegal and criminal behavior, with a fluke mentality of lawless elements to take advantage of legal loopholes, legal loopholes and play legal "rubbish", for their benefit. The government and its relevant departments, according to the new changes brought about by the state of the world and the state of the party, the laws that are no longer applicable to the development of the times should be adjusted promptly, the existing laws do not cover the areas should be timely supplemented, the existence of loopholes in the law timely repair and improve. By constantly improving laws and regulations, we can combat and eliminate the luck of unscrupulous people who want to "pull the wool over the eyes", and provide a good social environment for college students to cultivate awareness of the rule of law. Secondly, universities should create a good campus rule of law environment. The good or bad campus rule of law environment directly affects the formation of college students' rule of law values. Therefore, colleges and universities should continuously strengthen the construction of campus rule of law, improve the rules and regulations, strictly implement the principle of "rule by law", and resolutely fight against illegal phenomena such as campus bullying. The university should hold regular student seminars to cultivate students' awareness of their right to advice and participation and to listen to their voices and understand their demands. A campus environment with a good rule of law atmosphere will not only help students cultivate a rule of law mindset and spirit, and consciously abide by school rules and regulations but also help students learn to use legal means to protect their legitimate rights and interests. Third, parents should focus on creating a good family atmosphere for the rule of law. Parents are the first instructors in their children's lives, and their words and actions will have an important impact on their children's future development. Therefore, parents should set an example, regulate their own words and actions, take the initiative to bring their children to pay attention to the construction of a socialist rule of law, actively participate in the rule of law practice activities, and learn legal knowledge through newspapers, the Internet and other ways to create a good atmosphere for the growth of their children.

5. Conclusion

College students, as the driving force of the construction of China under the rule of law, have made significant achievements in the reform of rule of law education in recent years. However, with the deepening of reform and opening up, there are still serious challenges to the cultivation of college students' rule of law awareness, so the cultivation of college students to establish correct beliefs in the rule of law still cannot let down its vigilance, and it should continuously deepen the reform of teaching system, enrich the classroom content, mobilize students' enthusiasm to learn the law and encourage them to participate in the rule of law practice. At the same time, we should coordinate the family, society, school, and other parties to create a good rule of law environment for the rule of law education of college students, enhance students' awareness of the rule of law and improve their rule of law literacy.

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