

Three dimensional structure of college entrance examination function and its new era turn

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Abstract: *With the restoration of the college entrance examination system, the function of the college entrance examination has been reshaped. The college entrance examination has been continuously reformed and improved, gradually expanding to form a three-dimensional functional structure of basic functions, educational functions and social functions. Serving and selecting talents is the basic function of the college entrance examination; promoting teaching reform and promoting the all-round development of schools and disciplines is the educational function of the college entrance examination; maintaining social fairness and justice is the social function of the college entrance examination. In the new era, a series of historical and realistic factors have brought about an inevitable turn in the function of the college entrance examination, which has been further accelerated by the reform of the new college entrance examination. The function of the college entrance examination in the new era has ushered in a multi-dimensional turn and transformation, that is, the turn of the social function of cultivating diversified talents, the educational function of adaptive examination, and the value function of improving students' comprehensive quality. The evolution of the function of the college entrance examination prominently reflects the modernity of the college entrance examination and the phased characteristics of the educational reform in our country.*

Keywords: *College entrance examination function, Three dimensional structure, New era turn*

1. Introduction

The college entrance examination system (hereinafter referred to as the college entrance examination system) is one of the most important education systems in modern China. Especially as an important part of the reform of the education system in New China, its wide influence, great influence and long influence are recognized all over the world. The college entrance examination has gradually obtained the sign of modernity in the continuous development. The shape of the sign of modernity is prominently reflected in the shaping, reconstruction and transformation of the function of the college entrance examination in the past 40 years. It is an attempt to reveal the evolution of the function of the college entrance examination from the clear structure of the college entrance examination to the modern function of the college entrance examination.

2. The restoration of college entrance examination system and the reconstruction of its function

On October 20, 1977, Xinhua News Agency released the news of resuming the college entrance examination system. To some extent, the decision was regarded as a prelude to reform and opening up in 1978, and a forerunner for the whole party and the whole country to emancipate the mind and set things right. The college entrance examination system should restore not only a simple examination system, but also a social fair and just order. The college entrance examination system has restored people's confidence in society, restored the enjoyment of education as the basic right of "human", restored the channel of individual upward development, and "greatly changed the mental state of a generation of young people. A group of young people stand up for it, thirst for knowledge and attach importance to reading" [1] 31. As a result, the value of knowledge has been re-affirmed, and social development has begun to change from chaos to rationality. The function of the college entrance examination system has also been reshaped and developed.

3. Three dimensional structure and expansion of college entrance examination function

After the restoration of the college entrance examination system, through continuous reform and improvement, it has gradually expanded and formed a three-dimensional functional structure of basic function, educational function and social function, and the function of the college entrance examination has been continuously highlighted and improved.

(1) Service selection is the basic function of the college entrance examination

As a selective examination, the college entrance examination can select qualified freshmen for different types of colleges and universities. Its selection quality directly affects the quality of higher education and even the quality of national innovative talent training, "which determines the effectiveness of talent training in Colleges and universities to a great extent" [2]. Service selection is not only the basic function and mission of the college entrance examination, but also the objective requirement of the college entrance examination. At present, China's high-quality higher education resources are scarce. As a relatively fair means of selection, the college entrance examination provides an important basis for different types of colleges and universities to scientifically select and screen suitable talents, reasonably allocate educational resources, and flexibly adjust the content and form of education. At the same time, it also plays a key guiding role in the candidates' personal choice of suitable development direction and major.

(2) Promoting teaching reform and promoting the all-round development of schools and disciplines is the educational function of the college entrance examination

The reform of college entrance examination has been pursuing the innovation of examination methods and the improvement of examination quality. The college entrance examination defines the examination requirements in four aspects of "basic, comprehensive, applied and innovative", and effectively promotes students to work towards the direction of future development. The college entrance examination system "is not only subject to the internal and external laws of school education, but also has a strong impact on the internal and external aspects of school education" [3]. The college entrance examination guides the overall development of school education and the overall improvement of disciplines through the examination system. By examining the level of students' flexible use of their knowledge to analyze and solve problems, the college entrance examination leads classroom teaching, focuses on cultivating students' key abilities in independent thinking, logical reasoning, cooperative innovation, language expression and information processing, and promotes teaching reform and innovation.

(3) Maintaining social fairness and justice is the social function of the college entrance examination

The college entrance examination not only ensures the quality of national talent selection, but also maintains social fairness and justice. College entrance examination is not only an educational behavior, but also a social behavior. The fairness of college entrance examination "is not only the need to improve the college enrollment system itself, but also a great contribution to the construction of social equity system" [4], which is an important part of educational equity and social equity. As a form of talent selection, the most remarkable feature of the fairness of the college entrance examination is that it is oriented to all candidates, eliminates the interference of human factors such as family background, social class, economic conditions, social status and social relations, and ensures that all candidates have the equal right to participate in the examination and education. It is "an educational ecological balance composed of multiple educational value genes" [5]. The college entrance examination not only plays an educational function, but also plays a huge social function. It is an important means to maintain social fairness and justice, stabilize social order and adjust social structure. At the same time, the college entrance examination has promoted the vertical flow, horizontal flow and regional flow of society, played a role in fair regulation of social circulation channels, and profoundly affected China's social structure.

4. The turn and transformation of the function of college entrance examination in the new era

4.1. The inevitability of the functional turn of college entrance examination in the new era

Since the restoration of the college entrance examination system for 40 years, as an important institutional link in the development of modern education and an important means of talent selection, the college entrance examination system has indeed effectively guaranteed the development and utilization

of social human resources. For all levels of society, it is also a generally accepted system. From the dual perspective of social development needs and beneficiary groups, the college entrance examination system "improves the welfare of some people without losing anyone's interests, so as to improve the income of the whole society" [6]. However, any system has its own development characteristics and limitations in a specific historical period. It needs to be improved continuously to meet the needs of new social development and individual development.

The high benefit and harmfulness of the college entrance examination leads to the one-sided pursuit of the enrollment rate by all schools, and many teachers and parents pay too much attention to the examination results, thus blindly requiring students to pursue high scores in the examination. These wrong ideas finally lead to adverse educational consequences such as heavy schoolwork burden and high learning pressure.

4.2. The reform of the new college entrance examination accelerates the transformation of the function of the college entrance examination in the new era

On September 4, 2014, the State Council issued the implementation opinions of the State Council on deepening the reform of education enrollment system (hereinafter referred to as the "implementation opinions"), and China's college entrance examination reform has entered a new stage of comprehensive reform. The implementation opinions pointed out that the goal of the new college entrance examination reform is to "establish a modern education examination and enrollment system with Chinese characteristics, form an examination and enrollment mode of classified examination, comprehensive evaluation and multiple admission, improve the system and mechanism to promote fairness, scientific talent selection and strong supervision, and build a lifelong learning 'overpass' connecting and communicating all kinds of education at all levels and recognizing a variety of learning achievements" [7]. In China, the college entrance examination is not only a basic education system, but also an important way for ordinary people to change their destiny and an important part of maintaining social fairness and justice. The college entrance examination has always been highly concerned by the government, schools, families and society because of its high profit and harm.

4.3. The turn of the function of college entrance examination in the new era and its multi-dimensional deformation

(1) The social function turn of cultivating diversified talents

At present, the demand for talents in society is multi-level and multi type. If the traditional single undergraduate education can not actively adapt to the social development and changes, it will inevitably lead to the structural unemployment of a large number of college graduates. Therefore, higher education needs to seek diversification in training objectives and specifications, teaching contents and methods, and the college entrance examination, as the starting point of higher education, should also help colleges and universities screen and cultivate suitable diversified talents in terms of student source control. The transformation of the function of the college entrance examination will also lead to a series of changes in the objectives and requirements, contents and methods of the college entrance examination, so as to "reverse the persistent disease of exam oriented education, promote the healthy growth of students, and provide hundreds of millions of students with diversified learning choices and growth paths" [8].

(2) Turn to the educational function of adaptive examination

From the perspective of students, when students "confine their ideals to books, confine their growth to examination scores, and delimit their personal development within the scope of disciplines" [9], they become examination machines. However, higher education in the new era has entered a wider popularization. In the face of more opportunities for colleges and universities to choose, high school students can weigh and choose suitable schools and majors from a long-term perspective according to their interests, hobbies and specialties. Therefore, the college entrance examination has changed from selective examination to adaptive examination, and its educational function has changed significantly.

(3) The value function turn of improving students' comprehensive quality

When recruiting talents, colleges and universities should not only consider students' mastery of knowledge, but also comprehensively consider students' personal quality, sense of social responsibility and other aspects, so that the admission method "conforms to students' cognitive development law and mental learning process, and provides more effective coping strategies for students' future growth" [10].

In the new era, the college admission system has been incorporated into the examination of comprehensive quality, "weakening the tendency of results, utilitarianism and immediacy in the enrollment process" [11], so as to closely connect the college entrance examination admission system with students' college study and life in the future, and make students better realize that entering the university is not the end but a new starting point, It also provides conditions for colleges and universities to better cultivate excellent talents with all-round development for the society.

5. Conclusion

The college entrance examination system has been on the road of reform, from the initial national unified examination to provincial proposition, from the same examination subjects for all candidates to different subjects, from one examination for life to diversified comprehensive admission, from one examination every year to two examinations for individual subjects every year, and the college entrance examination system from admission method, examination content, admission standard The reform of examination forms and other aspects is advancing in continuous exploration. The practical significance of the reform of college entrance examination is not only to have a far-reaching impact on the overall development of candidates, but also to the development of the whole society and the modernization of the country's economy, culture and politics. Every major reform of the college entrance examination, under the specific era environment and social and historical background, promotes the evolution of its function, and even leads to a huge turn. The reform of the college entrance examination has a long way to go. Only by strengthening the correct educational ideas and concepts and actively adapting to the future social development can we finally achieve the goal of the reform of the college entrance examination and realize the benign shaping, expansion, transformation and transformation of the function of the college entrance examination, which is also the meaning of the modernization upgrading of the college entrance examination.

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