

Path Analysis on Moral Education Practice of Steel Spirit Culture*

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Abstract—There are still moral misconduct behaviors and performances among college students, which is still far from the talent cultivation philosophy of "fostering character and civic virtue" in colleges and universities. Taking Wuhan University of Science and Technology as an example, this paper condenses the steel spirit culture that has been inherited and developed by metallurgical colleges for many years, and analyzes the value connotation of steel culture from the four dimensions of "toughness, taking responsibility, refinement and being real". At the same time, this paper also analyzes the origin and characteristics of this culture, and then proceeds from "incorporating classroom teaching into the brain, incorporating situational teaching into the situation, integrating inner beliefs into the heart, and integrating the living world into the action." to explore the implementation path of steel spirit culture in the practice innovation of college students' moral education.

Keywords—steel spirit culture; moral education practice; path research

I. INTRODUCTION

Zhang Zhidong advocated the industry to save the country and in 1898, he set up Hubei Craft School, and opened copper, iron, steam turbine, lathe and other processes. In 1958, China put lots of effort into iron and steel and established Wuhan Iron and Steel Company. At the end of the 20th century, China became a world steel power country. The former Hubei Technology School has also developed into the Wuhan University of Science and Technology today. Along with the development of the iron and steel metallurgy industry, the metallurgical colleges represented by Wuhan University of Science and Technology have trained a large number of steel and metallurgical talents, and the "steel spirit" has also been passed down and developed in metallurgical colleges. General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out: "If someone has no spirit, he won't stand up, and if a country has no spirit, it won't be strong." "The spirit is the soul that a nation depends on for a long time to survive. Only

when the spirit reaches a certain height, can this nation stand up in the flood of history and move forward with courage." [1] However, with the development of economic globalization and the spread of network informatization, various ideological and cultural trends are surging each other, the western hostile forces are attempting to westernize and differentiate the Chinese, as a result, the ideals and beliefs of graduate students are being impacted and corroded to varying degrees. In the face of the new international situation and the requirements of the times, metallurgical colleges and universities should fully rely on the cultural resources of the steel spirit, give full play to the steel spirit of "personal establishment" and the "powerful country" function, improve the ideological and moral quality of graduate students and the quality of science and culture to provide a strong guarantee for the construction of socialist modernization with Chinese characteristics.

II. THE VALUE CONNOTATION AND DIMENSIONAL FEATURES OF STEEL SPIRIT CULTURE

A. The Value Connotation of Steel Spirit Culture

Zhang Zhidong, governor-general of Hu-Guang, advocated the industry to save the country. He opened the Hanyang Iron Works at the end of the 19th century and later established the Hubei Craft School. In the mid-20th century, China focused on steel manufacturing and established Wuhan Iron and Steel Company. The former Hubei Craft School also developed into Wuhan Iron and Steel Institute, which opened undergraduate majors in steel, metallurgy and machinery. By the end of the 20th century, China had become the world's major steel producer and consumer, and the Wuhan Iron and Steel Institute was renamed Wuhan University of Science and Technology. The school was born in steel metallurgy and also developed with the development of the steel industry. The steel material has the characteristics of high strength, high hardness, strong elasticity and great toughness. The school has condensed the "steel spirit" with the meaning of "toughness, taking responsibility, and refinement, and being real". The fine tradition of "social morals", "advocating reality" and the "steel spirit" are integrated into the cultivation of talents, forming a unique steel spirit culture in metallurgical colleges.

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Today's Wuhan University of Science and Technology has become the "cradle of high-level talents in steel metallurgy", and has built a cultural environment with special culture as the carrier of "steel culture". Inspired by this fine tradition and precious quality, many former students have become the backbone and pillars of their respective fields, especially in the steel industry. Thanks to the edification of "steel quality", they have been steadfast on the road of their choice and have become an outstanding example of the students of Wuhan University of Science and Technology.

B. Cultural Characteristics of Steel Spirit Culture

"The steel is supposed to become a backbone." It is said that steel can be made into various vehicles, bridges and building girders, and can be used for various important tasks. This is the quality of "toughness, taking responsibility" of the steel. Su Shi of Song Dynasty said in the "Chao Cuo Lun": "The ancient people who have made great achievements, not only have super talents, but also have the perseverance." The word "perseverance" is out of this, describing the firm belief, strong and unshakable will, dogged persistence. It is the perseverance dimension of the steel spirit. It is a true portrayal of unyielding, resolute and heavy spirit and discouragement of the "iron" after it has become "steel" through fire and water. "Taking responsibility" is the pressure-resistant dimension of the steel spirit culture, which requires people to face the setbacks and adversities in life, to be brave to bear the burden of work, and to be willing to contribute quietly. The sentence of "Tempered into steel, hammer forged into material" means that it has to undergo thousands of tempering, so that it can eliminate impurities, remove impurities, forge solid shapes, and have consistent performance from iron ore to steel, which also reflects the steel quality of "refinement and being real". "Refinement" is the upward dimension of the steel spirit. It requires people to adhere to the laws of science, to be honest and trustworthy, to work diligently and pragmatically, and to pursue the perfect spirit of high standards and high efficiency in their teaching work. "The Analects of Zhu Zi Quan Shu" mentioned: "Being faithful is to be down-to-earth, so a certain variorum once said: 'to be faithful, is to do things for real.'" The word "being real" comes from this variorum, meaning that the surface and the heart are the same, and the words and deeds are exactly the same, which is the consistent dimension of the steel spirit culture. The four dimensional characteristics interpret the steel spirit culture of metallurgical colleges and universities, such as Wuhan University of Science and Technology, which is toughness under difficult conditions, taking responsibility in key positions, and faithfulness in ordinary work, and being real in a complicated environment.

III. THE IMPLEMENTATION WAYS OF STEEL SPIRIT CULTURE INTEGRATING INTO COLLEGE STUDENTS' MORAL EDUCATION PRACTICE INNOVATION

A. Integrating into Classroom Teaching, Letting Steel Spirit Culture "into the Brain", and Establishing the Self-consciousness of College Students' Moral Education Practice

McIntyre, a contemporary western ethicist, believes that "virtue is a necessary quality for people to obtain intrinsic benefits, and this quality is beneficial to the whole group participating in practice." If there is no good moral norm as a self-conformity constraint, people will lose the criteria and behaviors of obtaining benefits. The decadent ideas of money worship, individualism, hedonism, etc. will inevitably affect the correct form of college students' moral concepts. "The vast majority of teenagers should closely combine correct moral cognition, conscious moral development, and positive moral practice, consciously establish and practice socialist core values, and take the lead in advocating a good social atmosphere." [2] The fundamental reason for the weakness of contemporary college students' moral concept, lack of moral consciousness, and misconduct of moral behavior lies in the fact that they have no strong spiritual support, do not agree with their own moral standards, and do not understand the real connotation of moral education. Colleges and universities should actively play the moral education value of steel spirit culture, play the main role of ideological and political theory teaching, integrate steel spirit culture into classroom teaching, give play to the edification of steel spirit, stimulate the cultivation of excellent inner quality of college students, and promote the formation of correct morality values of college students.

B. Integrating into Situational Teaching, Making Steel Spirit Culture into "Emotion", and Cultivating Emotional Identity of College Students' Moral Education Practice

Inspiring college students to express their emotional identity to the steel spirit culture is essentially to let them root the steel spirit culture into their own emotional system, psychologically recognize and support the steel spirit culture, and trigger their sense of belonging and pride in the steel spirit culture. Emotional identity can be said to be an important intermediate link between individual cognition and behavioral performance, and has the spiritual motivational value of promoting behavior. The key to shaping the moral values of college students is to stimulate the emotional identity of college students, which requires not only the teachers' words and deeds and active guidance, but also the overall improvement of the social environment. Combined with the situational teaching method, the educator can set up the smelting situation of the steel plant at the teaching site, simulate the whole smelting process of the steel plant, make the university students familiarize with "how steel is made" and know the hard work of the craftsmen in ordinary posts to inspire their curiosity about steel metallurgy technology, the awe to the craftsman spirit, and the sharpening heart of self-improvement, thus transforming the steel spirit culture into

their emotional identity and behavior habits. Colleges and universities should actively play the moral education value of steel spirit culture, and stimulate the interest of college students through the combination of classroom theory teaching and on-the-spot production practice, which will also stimulate their emotional resonance in steel spirit culture and promote their emotional identification of the steel spirit culture.

C. Integrating into the Inner Belief, Letting the Steel Spirit Culture "Get into the Heart", and Cultivating the Pursuit of Moral Education Practice of College Students

The purpose of moral education is to serve life. Moral education obviously can't be separated from life. To enable college students to put the steel spirit culture into practice, it is not enough to for them to have only the moral awareness and emotional identity, but also they need to have the concept pursuit that deepens into inner belief. Colleges and universities should guide the group of college students to understand the steel spirit culture from the bottom of their hearts and recognize the value concept of this spiritual culture. In the report "Learning to Survive", the UNESCO clearly states: "The basic aim of contemporary education should be to cultivate the ability of self-survival and development and to promote the comprehensive and harmonious development of human personality." The steel spirit culture is to teach the college students a group of self-confidence, self-reliance, self-love, self-improvement, and meanwhile teach them to learn to survive, learn how to do things, learn the standard of personal conduct. Colleges and universities should actively exert the moral education value of steel spirit culture, guide contemporary college students to establish correct steel spirit values, and inspire them to integrate the spirit into their inner beliefs and from the perspective of self-survival and development, strengthen the cultivation of self-independence spirit and promote self-diversity and individualized development. Only in this way can college students correctly handle the problems encountered in learning, making friends and living, and then learn to "conduct oneself before doing things, succeed in behaving yourself before succeed in doing things" in order to scientifically understand the value of life and effectively improve the sense of social responsibility.

D. Integrating into the Living World, Integrating the Steel Spirit Culture into the Action, and Advocating College Students' Moral Education Practice and Self-practice

Marxism believes that "The correct thinking of human beings can only be formed and developed in the practice of moral education. The world outlook, outlook on life and values of human beings are ultimately produced and developed on the basis of moral education practice." People's understanding of ethics and the formation of self-moral consciousness come from rich moral life practice. Life experience and personal moral experience will become the living materials of young college students' moral cognition, and these thought-oriented living materials will effectively promote college students' self-recognition of morality and promote them to form and solidify their self-values in moral

practice, and then guide them to imitate in study and life. Colleges and universities should actively play the moral education value of steel spirit culture, guide the college students to feel the value connotation of steel spirit culture in real life, recognize the spiritual charm passed down by steel craftsmen, know about the society and study ethics, and encourage them to experience and practice. People today should persist in cultivating and promoting the steel spirit culture, truly live up to "persistence under difficult conditions and taking responsibility in key positions", and "internalize the steel spirit culture into the heart, externalize the steel spirit culture in the action" to guide the majority of young college students to be the firm believers, active communicators, and model practitioners of the steel spirit culture.

IV. CONCLUSION

At present, there are still moral misconduct behaviors and performances such as "empty talk about ideals, sloppy behaviors, empty talk about patriotism, weak responsibilities, empty talk about civilization, and lack of etiquette", and it is not enough to improve the moral education effect of college students only from the multiple subjects [3] and content system [4] of entrance education. The reason is that college moral education still has problems such as "idealization of moral education goals", "emptiness of activity content", and "singularization of moral education methods", which makes the pertinence and effectiveness of moral education in colleges and universities not obvious enough and there is still a gap between the concept of cultivating talents and the responsibility and mission of colleges and universities. This paper investigates the steel spirit of the metallurgical colleges in China for many years, analyzes the cultural essence and inheritance of the steel spirit, explores the potential value of the steel spirit in the moral education of graduate students, and draws on the valuable experience and existing practices of the postgraduate moral education practice to explore the postgraduate steel spirit theme education and moral education practice innovation model.

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