

# Inspiration of Taoist “Wordless Teaching” Thought on Current Education

Wujia ZENG

*School of Economics of Sichuan University, Chengdu, Sichuan, 610064, China*

**ABSTRACT:** Under the current educational system, students have long been harmed by the “educational pattern” with “high pressure” and the “standard” question and answer system, which result in both physical and mental distortion of varying degrees, and many educational problems. Although educational departments have adopted various measures to solve the above problems, the effects are less than satisfactory. Based on the in-depth analysis on Taoism educational concept of “wordless teaching”, this paper explores the great wisdoms in Taoism, analyzes the underlying reasons of the disadvantages of current education, and provides the implementation of “wordless teaching” with self-examination, elicitation and general benefits, hoping to play a role of radically reform in value judgment, and thus resolving the numerous problems in the current education to a certain extent.

**KEYWORD:** Taoism; high pressure; standardization; wordless teaching; education

In recent years, the various problems and disadvantages of current educational system have gradually been the focus in society. As the direct receiver of the current high pressure and standard educational model, adolescents have shown various problems of bad physical fitness, weak anti-pressure ability, poor imagination, high scores with low abilities, and even moral decline.

The utilization of Taoist “wordless teaching” to guide the current education contributes to making radically reform, building the values and outlook on life with the harmonies with Taoism and heaven, promoting the physical and psychological health of children and adolescents, ease people’s blundering attitude, and gradually twisting the over-utilitarian social values in current society, thus facilitating the sustainable development of Chinese education.

## 1 IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS OF TAOIST “WORDLESS TEACHING”

### 1.1 *What is “wordless teaching”——the general education which conforms to the natural law*

The “wordless teaching” originates from Chapter Two of Tao Teh King. The full text is: “It is because everyone under Heaven recognizes beauty as beauty, that the idea of ugliness exists. And equally if everyone recognized virtue as virtue, this would merely create fresh conceptions of wickedness. For

truly ‘Being and Not-being grow out of one another; Difficult and easy complete one another. Long and short test one another; High and low determine one another. Pitch and mode give harmony to one another. Front and back give sequence to one another’. Therefore the Sage relies on actionless activity, carries on “wordless teaching”, but the myriad creatures are worked upon by him; he does not disown them. He rears them, but does not lay claim to them, Controls them, but does not lean upon them, achieves his aim, but does not call attention to what he does; And for the very reason that he does not call attention to what he does. He is not ejected from fruition of what he has done.” [1]

The notes of Ho-shang Kung Commentaries are: “after knowing the virtuous behaviors, it will produce the ideas of non-virtuous behaviors. Therefore, the contradictions of being and not being, difficulty and ease, long and short, high and low, sound and tone, and front and back are eternal. Therefore, in treating matters, sages should follow the nature, and avoid forcing to change objects’ natural developmental changes, and avoid changing its rule to force it to start.”[2] This chapter illustrates the relativity and concurrence of beauty and ugliness, good and evil, have and have not, difficulty and ease, long and short, high and low, and front and back. Also, changes will be made due to the differences of people’s acknowledgement and values. Therefore, the sage believes there is no right

and wrong on all things on earth, and no differences between beauty and ugliness, good and evil, being and not being, difficulty and ease, long and short, high and low, and front and back, because all of these rights and wrongs complement each other in the infinite space and time with mutual transformation. What the sage does is just to imitate the heaven and earth, and “no words could describe the beauty of the heaven and earth”. Therefrom, with respect to the education, which sticks to the minor details of standards between good and evil, the “wordless teaching” of the sage is an impartial neutral education, which is a general education that follows the nature and conforms to the natural law.

### 1.2 *Why need the “wordless teaching” - taught by the nature*

The Taoism believes that people is a complete and pure natural identity after the birth. People’s wisdom is self-endowed, and they make things which violate the “Taoism” and the “nature” due to being deceived by the “debate” created by the human later. There is saying in Chapter 29 of Tao Teh King: “If anyone should wish to get the kingdom for himself, and to effect this by what he does, I see that he will not succeed. The kingdom is a spirit-like thing, and cannot be got by active doing. He who would so win it destroys it; he who would hold it in his grasp loses it.”[3] Lao-tzu believes that human is created by god, and is the product of nature, which cannot be educated by the world knowledge which is conceived by people. If it forced to do it, it could only decline and even destroy people’s good and unsophisticated mind. Therefore, Lao-tzu exclaimed that “the gathering of vital essence can soften the body”[4], which means that everyone should return to man’s natural kindness with purity and wisdom, and put aside the worldly prejudice that disturbs the mind, thus people’s moral quality and ideological level will be improved.

In Chapter 64 of Tao Teh King, there is “therefore, the sages do not pursue for what common people wish to have, or treasure the valuable objects; they learn what the common people do not learn, in order to make up the mistakes that common people made, and follow the natural rules.”. The following is the notes in Ho-shang Kung Commentaries: “the sages learn what common people do not learn. Common people learn the intelligence, and the sages learn the nature. Common people learn the times of peace and prosperity, and the sages learn to cultivate their moral character and maintain the truth. Common people reverse the knowledge and do not follow the nature. People who teach to return to the nature want to follow the nature. The sages follow the nature and do not make mistakes in order to avoid detach from the nature”[5]. This paragraph

illustrates the sage’s behavior of “wordless teaching” is not to do or teach nothing, but to cultivate one’s moral character, set oneself an example to others, worship the nature as a teacher and regard the nature as the law. The “wordless teaching” is to “maintain the law and truth” and “follow the nature and do not make mistakes in order to avoid detach from the nature”, which means to return to the nature of oneself and “Daoism”, and obtain the nonessentials by asking for the essentials, thus achieving the effects of “inaction but all action”.

### 1.3 *How to make “wordless teaching” - education with self-examination, elicitation and general benefits*

The notes of Ho-shang Kung on “wordless teaching” is “to manage them with nature and guide them as oneself as the example”[6], which means besides the Taoism, the “wordless teaching” is the teaching made by the nature, and there is another way of introspection. Taoism believes that the universe is a large body and body is a small universe. All things of human and universe are made of the same elements. The body of each person is buried with the wisdom of heaven and earth. It is a good path to understand the universe by health perseverance through self-observation and introspection. In Chapter 47 of Tao Teh King, there is “without going outside his door, one understands (all that takes place) under the sky; without looking out from his window, one sees the Tao of Heaven. The farther that one goes out (from himself) the less he knows. Therefore the sages got their knowledge without travelling; gave their (right) names to things without seeing them; and accomplished their ends without any purpose of doing so.”[7]The notes of Ho-shang Kung are “to know others by thinking of oneself, and understand all the matters in the world”. Just the saying in Chuang Tzu · On Levelling Things, there is “that although there are different sounds of nature, what makes them happen and cease comes from themselves”. Meanwhile, Taoism also emphasizes that blindly looking outside is easy to linger on minor details, rather than realizing the entirety. Therefore, in Chapter 22, Lao-tzu said “he whose (desires) are few gets them; he whose (desires) are many goes astray.”[8]

Lao-tzu advocates that education should be like genial spring wind, and “the skillful traveler leaves no traces of his wheels or footsteps; the skillful speaker says nothing that can be found fault with or blamed”[9]. A good educator must be a person who is good at words and behaviors, and his words and deeds have gone beyond the general physical education activities and sublimated to a state of “he who knows (the Tao) does not (care to) speak (about it)”. He speaks and behaves in good time, which is like the nourishment of heaven and earth on all

things that “moisten things silently”, “do not intervene the rise of all things”, influence character by environment and let all things grow by themselves with rejecting thanks. That is to let the students give full play to their initiative and consciousness, rather than establishing teachers’ authority and forcing students to learn. Students should make observations, comprehension and analysis under the guidance of teachers, and achieve full development according to their nature, in order to reach at the realm of profoundly observing the nature and social operation rules honestly and sincerely, thus obtaining the objective of education. At the same time, it should have the spirit that “the development of objects is not to reach at certain state or linger on certain state”, “it is impossible and inadvisable to stop at certain state by violating natural law”, “therefore, once it succeeds, the environment and conditions have changed, and the best method is to retire after winning merit”, which means one only does not claim credit for oneself and become arrogant, then he can be accompanied by blessings and virtues, without eliminating his nature. It can be known from the above that the “wordless teaching” proposed by Taoism is the educational method that conforms to universal systematic concept and universal operational rule, and can allow full play of students’ imitateness. It can be said that the educational method that Taoism imitates the way that the nature produces all things. It can maintain and stimulate students’ internal impetuses to capacity. Therefore, Taoism education is the one that inspires internal impetuses. Its educational ideas blend in various aspects of students’ studies. Study is the “origin” return education which directly seeks the highest wisdom of life and solves the problems genuinely, rather than to learn and to work.

Meanwhile, Taoism also believes that all people can be purified. Therefore, the no-word education of Taoism is an education of general benefits, which is the same with Confucius’ educational view of “provide education for all people without discrimination”. Chapter 49 of Tao Teh King goes “I treat the kind and unkind people equally. Then the virtue of the times will be kind. I believe in man of words and man who break promises, and then the virtue of the times will be integrity”, “people are kind and the sages treat them kindly. Although there are unkind people, the sages make the people kind with their behaviors”, “people are trustworthy, and the sages believe in them. If people are discredited, the sages make them trustworthy with their behaviors”[10]. In Chapter 27, it says “the kind people can be the teachers of unkind people; kind people can learn lessons from unkind people”, “the sages treat the kind people as teachers. It is the endowment which can be utilized. The sages teach the unkind people to be kind, and the unkind people

still have the advantages which can be utilized”[11]. From the perspective of education, these words require teachers should “consider from the points of people”, treat students with sympathy and empathy, and judge another students’ feelings by their own. No matter whether the student behaves well or bad, or achieves high or low scores, educators should treat them equally without discrimination, and regard them as good students, which is “the sages treat people just as the way they treat the sacrifice”. Just like the heaven and earth moisten all things, teachers should treat all students equally without any prejudice and difference, so that the students can play their own natural talents.

## 2 PROBLEMS AND REASON ANALYSIS ON CURRENT EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

### 2.1 *Disadvantages of current educational system*

#### 2.1.1 *Current “high pressure” educational model and its results*

Due to the role of “college entrance examination” as a baton, primary and secondary school students have become the busiest people in the whole society. Chinese children have been out of breath due to endless homework and exercises, and have little time in doing sports, manual practices and natural activities. It has been a common phenomenon for secondary school students in insufficient sleep. The students have lost their due innocence, which has replaced by the pressure and helplessness that they should not bear. Also, their parents are flickered by the success theory of “not losing on the starting line”, which results to the occupation of children’s spare time by various studying classes. It is reported that in the physical examination before college entrance examination, the number of students with high pressure is increasing; the age of onset of cervical vertebra, lumbar fatigue syndrome and other “senile diseases” has brought forward, which have influenced the health of numerous children; short-sightedness has been prominent among Chinese students. According to the latest investigations by national Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health, at present, there are More than four hundred million patients with short-sightedness, with a morbidity of 33.3%, among which the morbidity of elementary school students is 25%, that of junior school students is 70%, and that of senior high school students is 85%. Also the figures are increasing with an annual rate of 8%, which ranks first in the world. And the adolescents are the “severely afflicted area” of short-sightedness[12].

Another result caused by the current educational system is the severe phenomenon of “high scores with low abilities” among adolescents. Due to the long term of take everything by their parents in daily

life, those students have poor self-care ability. At the same time, the mental health problem has been one of the most prominent problems. There are some suicide cases among university students and middle school students and even among elementary school students in recent years. However, the main reasons of such incidents are always minor problems, such as high learning pressure, and criticisms from teachers or parents, etc. What accompanies the physical and psychological health problems of adolescents is the annual increase in the rate of juvenile delinquency. It has been the common occurrence of reports on poisoning incident of Fudan students, and a student killing a roommate because of not opening the door in time in Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

In developed countries, such as European and American countries, there is no homework for their children from kindergarten to senior high school, or less homework once a month. Also, this does not result to the stupid students or poor study in these countries compared to that in China. Contrarily, many European and American students have more abilities in creativity and operation than Chinese children, and better physical fitness. According to the investigation made by International Assessment Organization of Educational Progress in 21 countries in 2009, the computing ability of Chinese children ranked first in the world, the last in imagination, and fifth from the bottom in creativity[13].

### 2.1.2 *Deceiving phenomenon of “science and technology” and its disadvantages*

In the past several hundred years, there have been many significant discoveries and advances in scientific and technological development. People summarized and recorded them as large quantity of knowledge. They mistakenly believed that the achievements of last several hundred years had surpassed and covered all human knowledge and culture. Therefore, the “zealots” of science and technology infused the total knowledge produced in modern times to adolescents in scientific and technological methods, believing that in this way, it would realize the modernist and most advanced education. There have emerged endless teaching materials with numerous varieties and detailed subjects, in order to include all knowledge summarization of modern science and technology, and try to pour the scientific and technological knowledge with maximum amount into the teaching materials of universities, middle schools, and primary schools. This is the so-called grand objective of “industrialization of education” and “industrialization of teaching materials”. The result is that students are too tired to respond to them, and have no time to take care the “natural rule” and their own body. Also, it remains to discuss the so-called scientific methods in broadcasting the knowledge.

For example, the massive utilization of TV, computer and other multi-media teaching tools in elementary and secondary schools is actually to harm the physical conditions of primary and secondary school students (in order to achieve the best effects of TV and computers, some teachers always close curtains, making the classroom air proof and light tight), especially their eyes. Meanwhile, the multi-media teaching limits the teachers in the platform, which greatly reduces the interaction and communications between students and teachers.

Moreover, the scientific and technological achievements in the past hundreds of years are only a small part of human culture and knowledge, which neither includes the past and future knowledge, nor the “heaven” knowledge of “natural law”, which are advocated by Taoism. The knowledge is solidified into the knowledge which is similar to “truth”, and requires students accepting it unconditionally. Such practice is to oppose to the “natural law” of “wordless teaching”. One example is how to compare the research on the formation of the universe and that of the universe itself, and the production of life and that of the life itself. Once understanding these questions, one understands the knowledge of natural law is far more than the scientific and technological knowledge. The infinite exaggeration and amplification of scientific and technological knowledge will no doubt cover and conceal the existence and greatness of “natural law”. Such deceiving phenomenon of science and technology is to replace the “entirety” with “part”, and the “great knowledge” and “small knowledge”, which brings great disadvantages to human’s social progress, as well as to the educational course. Among them, the “standardization” that it causes is also a big disadvantage.

### 2.1.3 *“Standard” question and answer system and its disadvantages*

China’s current education is the implementation of the unified college entrance examination system. The arrangement of such unified system makes the education tend towards to a “standard” question and answer system. Such question and answer system forms the standard teachers, teaching materials and examination papers, which emphasizes that there is only one single answer to one question, and one definition for one matter. This inevitably results to the ossification of students’ thoughts. For example, the current computer scoring used in many large exams (including examples from primary to junior middle school) increases the standardization degree more severely, making students not only adapt to standard questions, but also the standard of computer scoring, and making them be the slaves of machines. Numerous standard answers make students confused and puzzled. Teachers’ function is to become a machine of standard education which “infuses

standard answers and give people more doubts”, rather than “teaching methods and resolving problems”. Teachers teach students how to memorize mechanically, take exams skillfully, and compete viciously, rather than how to be an ecological person with dignity, thought and soul. The standard exam-oriented education crosses out students’ original native wisdom, and even some students’ morality, creativity and health at all costs in order to achieve more scores. The exam-oriented education changes students’ brain into computers, which can only operate mechanically, and lose the unique organic characteristic, flexibility and creativity. Just like Shanghai writer Ye Kai bitterly wrote after understanding the daughter’s learning situation of Chinese teaching of primary school: “under the concept control of education toolization and materialization of education relations, the compilation of Chinese teaching materials, from the false morality in primary school, void ideal in middle school and uninteresting aesthetics in university, has formed a strict operational assembly line of waste production-after ten years of studying in hardships, and after graduation, students find that each of them becomes the qualified waste. This is the real pain in Chinese education.”

## 2.2 *In-depth reasons that causes the disadvantages of current educational system*

### 2.2.1 *In-depth reasons of disadvantages of “high pressure” education*

Why are there endless exercise-stuffed teaching methods? Why does Mathematical Olympiad transfer from ground battle to underground battle in China? Why does the burden alleviation policy become a mere scrap of paper? The reason is that many teachers and parents have such logical derivation, believing that the more the children learn, the more they will obtain; the wiser they are, the higher scores they will get. Higher scores can help to be admitted by prestigious university. Going to prestigious university means to find better work, earn more money, and higher officer. Therefore, the parents and teachers will gain the honours. However, it is actually a great misunderstanding and trap. First of all, the more the children learn, children will not be wiser. The students with higher scores will not be wiser. According to the opinions of Tao Teh King that “he whose (desires) are few gets them; he whose (desires) are many goes astray”, the more the learn and more complex, it will make children more confused and puzzled, because what we require children learn knowledge is all minor details, and there are ambiguities and contraries among the knowledge. Therefore, Chuang Tzu said: “people have finite life, and the knowledge is infinite. Pursuing for the infinite knowledge with finite life

must be exhausted. By understanding this, one still learns the infinite knowledge, and it will be dangerous” [14]. That means my life is finite and the knowledge is infinite. If pursuing the infinite knowledge with finite life, it will be exhausted. With such knowledge, one still blindly pursues for knowledge, and then one will feel tired. Therefore, there can only be “pursuing for the infinite knowledge with finite life”, which means to follow finite knowledge with finite life.

Then in order to be responsible for our children, the finite knowledge must be verified and filtered, and the fundamental knowledge should be the eternal truth, so that we can “meet changes with constancy”. As the source of breeding all things, the nature is abandoned by people after the industrial society. We pay extreme attention on the knowledge of minor details, and turn a deaf ear to the conception of nature and cosmology which will influence our values and life. We hardly realize that the nature is human’s best teacher, as well as the source of innovation, which is the original wisdom that we talk about, and the scarcest wisdom in the current educational system. The majority contents in our educational system are the changeable knowledge, rather than the invariable knowledge, and they are the leaves of wisdom, rather than the fundamental. The Taoism thought, which is famous for “the Tao way following nature”, exactly studies the original wisdom of the nature and the universe, and is the aboriginal philosophy in the Divine Land which has been verified for thousands of years. Taoism believes that the nature and universe are operated according to the wisdom of “Tao”. As a part of all things in the universe, people should also follow the rule of Tao. People should authentically realize Tao, follow Tao and understand the rule of Tao operation, and they must maintain less private desires, recover their original simplicity, let things take their own course, and learn what others do not learn. The implementation of “wordless teaching” can understand the nature, emphasize the natural rule, and make the life pursuit conform to the standards of the law of nature. On this basis, people influence character by environment and know all by knowing method, thus reaching at the realm that man is an integral part of nature.

The famous German sociologist Max Weber also strongly realized that the rational and modern society made people lost their “individuality” and “freedom”, and changed people to the “animals” of the so-called rationality and tool rationality. A path must be found to overcome such dissimilation phenomenon. Therefore, Weber proposed a solution of dispelling dissimilation, which is to find the door to freedom in real life. He proposed: “in order to return to the nature of individual and to the nature, one must get rid of the scientific intellectualism.”[15] However, Weber did not give

the answer to that what was the value and sense of mission to the “freedom door”.[16] And the popularity of “original wisdom” in education, which is the wisdom of “man is an integral part of nature”, might be an effective path to go to the freedom door, which extensive exist in the Taoism wisdom. It is exactly the objective that many sages and wise men had pursued for in all their life in history, and is the positive value and sense of mission of pondering over the past and using the past to attack the present, which contributes to ease the dissimulation and enslavement that are brought by the power-and-money-oriented universal value to the human society.

### 2.2.2 *Deep-seated reasons of scientific, industrial and standard education*

As there are many disadvantages in the standard exam-oriented education as illustrated above, why many people are still never bored with it in the vicious cycle and become further intensified?

The first reason is that after the industrial revolution, the names of “technology”, “industry”, “standardized”, and “commercialization” which relates to modernism, have been the necessary important steps towards modernization and advancement, and even the synonyms. In order to improve the so-called efficiency, and infuse more stuff into students, the industrialization of education is born at the right moment. Therefore, “as a man sows and so he shall reap”. Students naturally become the commodities produced in factory, which are standard, straight and narrow, and lack of their deserved humanity and intelligence. Regrettably, after hundreds of development, the western education circle has realized that people are not commodity, and they greatly advocate the personalized development, and pay attention to foster creativity. However, we still follow the standard education method which was used in western countries, and relentlessly kill our students’ imagination and creativity.

Secondly, due to the industrialization and standardization of primary and secondary school education, it produces many vested interest groups in the education industry chain and standard chain, such as the interest relationship between textbook publishing houses and schools, authoritative cram schools and elite schools, and workbooks and tuition materials and teachers’ benefits. Therefore, if such vested interest people want to maintain and even increase their interest, students and parents must become the final bill payers.

Thirdly, some people believe that although there are many disadvantages in the exam-oriented education, what implements at present is the elite education. There has to be exams, standard and constructed answers to make judgment and select talents. Therefore, it must take the path of exam-

oriented education, as there has not found another method to choose talents. It is the last resort.

Some scholars attribute it to the college entrance examination system (He Zhengnan[17], 1987), and some to the restrictions of traditional culture (Deng Limei[18], 2006). In this paper, it is believed that this is an issue of social values, because the existing social values and success theory tend to be utilitarian, and people view the pursuit of money and power as the standard of success, thus education becomes the method and process in promoting such success. The final objective of studies in universities and elementary and secondary schools is to find a good job or earn more money. Also due to the corruption and erosion of money worship, many teachers and parents subconsciously define the standards of success as money and power. Under the influence of the exiting misunderstanding and vicious circle, the objectives of the “cultivation of one’s moral character”, “the theory that man is an integral part of nature” and other lifelong learning which are advocated by our sages are not recognized by many parents and teachers, which is a great loss in modern education. Therefore, it results to the phenomena of fickleness, material desire and morality undone among people in modern society. And some people even pursue for fame and gain at all costs, thus leading to food security, energy shortages, environmental pollution and a series of dissimulation. Although the teachers, parents and students work very hard, and feel exhausted, it still has fewer effects and obtains the possibility of acting in a way that defeats their purposes.

At present, it requires re-examining the modern educational system, reviewing the reference role of traditional classics on the rectification and improvement of modern education, and the educational concepts of Taoism might provide helps in eliminating the misunderstandings.

### 3 THE REVELATION OF TAOIST’S “WORDLESS TEACHING” ON THE CURRENT EDUCATION

As already mentioned, compared to the current education which was in pursuit of the detailed knowledge, the Taoist’s “wordless teaching” is a kind of overall education that conform to the heaven, giving the kids more time to get in touch with nature and making nature play a decisive role in education. Differs from the high pressure and standard education method, it includes three education method of self-examination, elicitation and general benefits. Contents of this part involves how to imply this delightful education method to our current education system, and prove that the Taoist’s “wordless teaching” is a good solution to the sick high pressure and standard education method.

### 3.1 *Implementation of the education method of “self-examination” and the establishment of the values of the harmony between heaven and human*

Our generation has been deeply affected by money worship and hedonism. We had over drafted the ecological capital of the next generation. The ordinary gifts from nature, such as clear rivers, smell of the land, birds chirping, clean food and water, blue sky and clouds, became luxuries to children, especially the children in large city. We had already polluted the environment for the children and no longer hurt their minds.

The current education system has many problems and disadvantages. The most serious one is score-centered opinion, causing the distortion of students' values. We should learn less man-made knowledge and more the knowledge in some classical books that advocate the wisdom of the harmony between heaven and human, like Tao Teh King. It is advised to use the book as a compulsory work in psychological health curriculum of all the schools to popularize the ecological civilization. (College students can also read "Chuang-Tzu" again) Some classical chapters which are contribute to physical and mental health, such as the first, eighth, sixteenth, twenty-fifth and forty-second chapter of Tao Teh King, can be put into the Chinese textbooks as the intensive reading material. Parents can be driven to learn the Tao Teh King with their kids. As the sixteenth chapter says, “not to know it leads to wild movements and evil issues”. [19] The ‘it’ in this sentence means the common rules of Taoism as well as the original wisdom that was mentioned in the text. Tao Teh King says that people’s thoughts, languages and behaviors should conform to the Tao and nature. Otherwise appear the disaster. The twenty-fifth chapter says, “Man takes his law from the Earth; the Earth takes its law from Heaven; Heaven takes its law from the Tao. The law of the Tao is its being what it is”. [20] It warns people to follow the Tao and natural rules and not to destroy the nature. Those who complied with Tao thrive and those who resisted Tao perish. The wise man works for the nature. People should be the assistants instead of the changers of nature.

The Taoism thought that a person’s morality is determined by his behavior. If one’s behavior is nature-respected, we can say that the person is a moral man. In the other word, the morality of someone is proportional to his respect and adaption to nature. For example, our nation puts efforts into the establishment of an innovation-oriented country. To achieve this, we require more innovations. However, we should also hold the way to avoid “wild movements and evil issues”. In the current society, lots of innovations put undue emphasis on creating new things but they violated the natural rules and bring a sort of social problems. People who

had worked on melamine, genetically modified food, Sudan red, fruit-expander thought their innovations great and important. But actually they do harm to human. Without conforming to nature, those innovations will promote the human extinction. Innovations should not only focus on making difference and attracting the attention but also contribute to the development of the nation, society and every personnel. It refers to the new thing with its own principles. The education of schools should encourage students to learn about the essence of things, to find the rules of the universal operation and to understand the wisdom of “wordless teaching”. Based on the wisdom of “wordless teaching”, the innovations will conform to the rule of “The law of the Tao is its being what it is”.

The most important thing is that teachers and parents should know that " He whose are few gets them; he whose are many goes astray "and stop to blindly inculcate too much knowledge and information to students. Children’s healthy is essential to the future of china. If we don’t want our children to be called "sick man of east Asia" after 20 years national education with high pressure, we must take actions from now on. In the aspect of time arrangement, we should follow the basic principle of keeping healthy in Huangdi Neijing and adjust students’ time of studying and resting. Huangdi Neijing says that we should sleep late and get up early in spring and summer, sleep and get up both early in autumn, and sleep early and get up late in winter. We can adjust the time arrangement in the first three seasons by ourselves. But winter, consisting of October, September and December, is the right time for all the creatures to rest. People should sleep early and get up until the sunrise. Otherwise the function of kidney will be affected. [21] In winter, the best time for students to go to school is nine o’clock (especially in the central and western regions). However, the morning class in middle school usually begins at seven forty. Huangdi Neijing also says that it is necessary to sleep before 11 p.m. People should not work hard between 5 o’clock in the afternoon and 7 o’clock of next day because this period is the best rest time of organs. We should give less homework to kids. The homework time of primary school student should limited to half an hour and that of middle school students to one hour. It is a good advice to promote the traditional health activities, like Taijiquan, Wuqinxi and Baduanjin, as the supplement of those standardized and competitive physical activities, so as to popularize the Taoism wisdom of “respecting nature and obtaining knowledge by investigation of things” and build the concept of respecting and following the nature.

### 3.2 *The implementation of "self-heuristic" interactive teaching method, to make study become a kind of internal demand*

Taoist education is a self-heuristic educational model, which can make people understand the most important "one" or "Tao" of universal rules. The "wordless teaching" involves the realization of the essence of everything. All kinds of phenomenon won't depart from the essence. There is a specific description in Huangdi Neijing. It means that if we realized the essence, we will promote further applications. For example, we infer other things from one fact in the study of math, science and astronomy and some other subjects. The current education is restricted to forms and overemphasized the detailed knowledge. We had several achievements on some aspects but confused about the overall situation. Due to the lack of integrity and system in modern science and more branches of one subject, we often apply stopgap and piecemeal solutions to specific problems. The solution to one problem brings much more problems.

As a result of it, the education of china's schools should deliver the scientific and cultural knowledge to students as well as giving them time of self-examination. Grasping the essence of seemingly chaotic world may put forward the study on scientific and cultural knowledge and benefit the innovation. It also helps fostering students' imagination and enthusiasm and making them feel the happiness of study and get close to nature, instead of paying too much attention to detailed knowledge. In the teaching process, teachers should use less word and set a good example to express the content of education.[22] "Wordless teaching" is not absolute. Teachers should use the self-management teaching method and integrate several self-heuristic teaching methods, such as experience education and situation education. The use of music, stories, fables and neuron-linguistic programming may inspire the initiative of students and obtain the transfer from the "want me to learn" to "I want to learn". Students are regarded as good teaching resources. They are encouraged to participate in the class and given the chance to think by themselves, discuss and show their views, so as to form a good interaction atmosphere of "teachers and students are benefit each other". Students will enjoy the process of studying and learn knowledge in an orderly way. Family education also should create a relaxing and harmonious atmosphere to cultivate children's interest in learning, and make learning become a kind of internal needs, rather than external requirements. According to Lao-tzu, we should talk and take actions at the right time. Through the good model of words and behaviors, teachers help students enter into a level of "forget the means by which the end is attained".[23]

### 3.3 *Implementation of the education method of "general benefits", to encourage the construction of multiple-level, diversified national education system*

Taoist thought everything has its own independent, irreplaceable inner values. They all realize their values according to the operating laws of "Tao", which is the concrete embodiment of Lao-tzu. It indicates the respect to natural laws. Students' talent differs from each other. Teachers have to respect every student's characteristic and pay attention to the development of personality, instead of distinguishing them by standardized test paper and answers.

The implementation of the education method of "general benefits" should be encouraged to face with the drawbacks of standardization, break the limitation of national education system, and apply the quality education. The education method of "general benefits" has two points. Firstly, in the current education system, teacher should find each student's advantages and should not divide students into various grades and ranks according to the score. They should make no exception and implement the praise education. Secondly, construct the multiple-level, diversified national education system; encourage non-governmental organizations and industrial associations to establish schools by themselves; encourage the cooperation between school, enterprise and government; encourage multiple-forms of school, such as private school. Thirdly, in addition to academic education, we should admit the non-academic education and self-taught education, as well as the inheritance rule in the education, the private education even travel education. Students will go among the masses, go to the society, the villages and the nature. Learning in practice, practice in learning; students should get close to the nature to further set up the value of "regarding the nature as teacher and rule".

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