

On the Essential Connotation of Ideological and Political Education in Curriculum

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Abstract: As an important part of moral education, ideological and political education in curriculum plays an irreplaceable role. It is undeniable that there are some problems in the specific practice, while a series of achievements have been achieved. The main reason is that the essential connotation is not understood and grasped accurately, which is the key to the construction of ideological and political education in Curriculum.

Keywords: Essential Connotation; Moral Education; Implicit Education;

1. Introduction

The concept of ideological and political education in curriculum originated from the reform of moral education curriculum in Shanghai. There are three aspects in the reform of Shanghai moral education. Firstly, related government departments issued two guidelines on strengthening reform and innovation of moral education. Secondly, they proposed the integration construction duty of moral education curriculum. Finally, they called for improving the system for moral courses and strengthening the foundation on moral education. So, the core of curriculum reform is "Education as Foundation, Moral Education First".

Subsequently, many colleges and universities have strengthened reform and innovation of ideological and political education in curriculum, which used Shanghai's experience as a reference. However, it is undeniable that there are some problems in the specific practice process, while a series of achievements have been achieved. The main reason is that the essential connotation is not understood and grasped accurately.

2. What is ideological and political education in curriculum

There are three main views in the research about how people understand the connotation of ideological and political education in curriculum: (1) the teaching curriculum, which means various courses other than ideological and political courses, such as professional courses or general studies. By excavating the moral education elements contained in various courses, teachers take courses as the carrier and carry out ideological and political education of students; (2) the concept of education^[1], which regards "cultivating people with morality" as the fundamental task of education. This implies that moral education can be integrated into various courses, while coordinating the resources of moral education in colleges and universities; (3) educational methods, which is considered as an important factor affecting the effectiveness of moral education, which takes various courses as teaching ways, tools or procedures to implement ideological and political education.

Obviously, ideological and political education in curriculum is not only a curriculum system, but also an educational philosophy and methods. So, how to understand it?

2.1 Implicit Moral Education on curriculum

Recently, there is a trend which focuses on the "cultivating people with morality" in the research about the essence of ideological and political education. Namely, the essence of ideological and political education is moral education. Comprehensively promoting the construction of ideological and political education in curriculum is a strategic measure to

implement the fundamental task of “cultivating people with morality. The final goal is that students become well-rounded individuals who are morally integral, intellectually knowledgeable, physically healthy, aesthetically sensible, hard-working and industrious^[2].

Why it is implicit Moral education? At present, explicit education is more prominent in the practice process. For example, elements from ideological and political education are transplanted or grafted into the teaching content and process of various courses. In this way, it is easy to transplant mechanically and apply indiscriminately in disregard of specific conditions. However, the implementation of ideological and political education in curriculum stems from the recognition of implicit education, rather than explicit education. We should excavate the moral elements and value guidance from the various courses itself, not just transplanted or grafted from outside. Moral education should be integrated in various courses, but the integration of moral education is based on internal relationship.

How to carry out the implicit Moral education in various courses? We should combine the characteristics of the various courses, for example, thinking methods, values in different courses, and dig deeply the moral education elements of the curriculum. The so-called digging, in fact, can be seen that actively mining the moral education elements and resources contained in the various courses itself.

2.2 The concrete manifestation of following the educational laws

One of the educational laws is that coordinating and controlling various influencing factors to make the function in the same educational direction or goal. so, ideological and political education in curriculum is the manifestation that coordinating and controlling the conscious influence exerted by various courses, college teachers and so on. As a result, all kinds of factors to offer quality moral education that meets people’ s expectations.

Generally speaking, there are two major influencing factors in college education. One of the factor is that the conscious influence exerted by teachers. Another factor is that the spontaneous influence by the campus environment^[2]. People usually believe that the two influencing factors should complement and reinforce each other. But sometimes, there will be not synchronize ,inconsistency, especially the educational influence exerted by the college teachers.

Why does the above phenomenon occur? There are two main reasons: on the one hand, due to differences in teachers' own ideological level and cognitive ability, teachers cannot fully understand or unconsciously distort the educational requirements; On the other hand, because teachers do not agree with the requirements of ideological and political education, which may Cause teachers are out of touch with educational requirements or consciously misinterpret the educational requirements. Both of these may weaken the positive impact and result in poor collaboration of moral education.

How to avoid the conflict? We should focus on teacher development, establishing a comprehensive teachers' moral integrity supervision system, and putting moral integrity at the core of teacher quality evaluation. A series of measures has been taken to promote teacher education, which aims is building a high-quality teacher workforce.

2.3 The basic requirements for implementing the principles of ideological and political education.

Infiltration principle is the base principle of ideological and political education. Ideological and political education in Curriculum means that the elements of moral education are infiltrated into various courses, and enhance the pertinence and effectiveness of moral education.

In the specific practice process of ideological and political education in curriculum, the principle of infiltration is mainly manifested in the following four aspects: (1) the influence of moral education elements should be progressive transmission, which is a slow and continuous accumulation process; (2) the influence should be integrated into the whole process, which is not only into a certain knowledge point, teaching task, or courses, but in to the whole process of teaching construction and talent training system; (3) the influence should be exerted in a hidden way, which emphasizes the potential influence of the moral education in the various courses, and avoids the rebellious psychology caused by direct and indoctrinated educational influence; (4) the influence should be diversified, which leads to the positive influence of various courses on educational

objects be strengthened through various teaching means, tools, content, and carriers.

From the analysis mentioned above, it is not difficult to see that the ultimate goal is to achieve the purpose of highlighting the inherent moral education functions of various courses, improving the effectiveness of ideological and political education through gradual, comprehensive, hidden, various ways^[3].

2.4 An important carrier for carrying out ideological and political education activities

The fundamental task of ideological and political education is “cultivating people with morality”, which always needs some communication tools to implement. Ideological and political education in curriculum is an important carrier for implementing.

There are three specific forms to carry out activities: (1) classroom teaching. The teaching of various courses has become the expansion and extension of moral education, because of the universality and diversity of the curriculum resource, the particularity of the majors, and the interaction of students' participation. Therefore, classroom teaching is the main channel to implement the role of the carrier. Also, course teaching in various courses is the most important support; (2) social practice activities related to professional learning. Teachers integrate value education into the whole process of social practice activities, so that students can absorb ideological nutrients from different perspectives, hierarchies and models, which can help the activities realize their advantages in shaping students' value; (3) specific teaching methods and skills in various courses. Teaching methods are that teachers can effectively connect professional education and ideological and political education by using them. Teaching skills are that teachers can integrate moral education elements into classroom teaching. All those methods and skills are the guarantees for the realization of curriculum as an effective carrier in ideological and political education.

Of course, it is necessary to distinguish the ideological and political education in curriculum from the ideological and political theory courses, although they have common goals and tasks and complement each other. The essential difference between the two lies in the professionalism of courses, subjects and occupations, which is different from the ideological and political theory courses. They have a marked difference in teaching content, educational function, advantages and characteristics^[4].

3. Conclusion

The conclusion above is obvious in ideological and political education in Curriculum. It is not only a curriculum teaching system composed of various courses that contains moral education elements, but also a comprehensive education concept of "curriculum carrying moral education and moral education residing in curriculum", also an effective means of implementing moral education. In short, ideological and political education in curriculum is a long-term, complex and systematic educational project.

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