



## SOLUTIONS TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF MORAL EDUCATION FOR VIETNAMESE STUDENTS IN THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL INTEGRATION CONTEXT

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### **Abstract:**

As one of the forms of social consciousness, morality is seen as a mirror reflecting quite honestly the physical living conditions of society and is determined by those physical conditions. In this article, the author focuses on analyzing a number of solutions to improve the effectiveness of moral education for Vietnamese students in the current international integration context.

**Keywords:** moral education, effectiveness, Vietnamese students, the international integration, schools, family, society, reform

### **1. Introduction**

It can be said that a stable and sustainable society is a society built on the foundation of a developed economy, ethics and a healthy lifestyle. Nowadays, the development of material production, the social progress has made the moral rules, norms and categories constantly raised, thus richly reflecting the social life, adjusting the human behavior to social norms. In order to form and develop new moral qualities for students in Vietnam today, it is necessary to further strengthen the moral education for students.

### **2. Research contents**

#### **2.1. Reforming the awareness, improving the leadership of the Party and State through the current education development policies**

The Party and State should continue to pay attention and invest in education, consider education and training together with science and technology as the top national policy as stated in the XI Congress. It is a driving force and a basic condition that ensure the implementation of socio-economic goals, building and defending the country. Investment in education should be considered as one of the main directions of

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development investment. To fundamentally and comprehensively reform education and training according to the development needs of the society; improve the quality according to the requirements of standardization, modernization, socialization, democratization and international integration; effectively serve the cause of national construction and defense. At the same time, central and local governments need to thoroughly grasp and concretize the fundamental and comprehensive concepts, goals, tasks and solutions for the national education, including the moral education for students, creating consensus and considering the education and training as the top national policy.

Focusing on improving the quality of education and training, attaching importance to moral education, lifestyle, creative capacity, practical skills, industrial behavior, sense of social responsibility. The Vietnam Fatherland Front, mass organizations, social organizations, establishments of production, business and service actively contribute to the development of education and training. Combining the social education, family education and school education, building a healthy educational environment. The broadcasting systems spend the appropriate amount of time broadcasting the educational programs. The cultural, art, news and press industries have the responsibility to provide the spiritual products with good contents for the education of the young generation. Do not allow harmful ideological cultural products, social evils to enter the school.

Implementing the regular fostering programs, the standardized fostering programs to improve the quality and capacity of teachers to meet the situation of educational integration. It is necessary to have a plan to train and foster at home and abroad for cadres and lecturers to improve their moral capacities and moral qualities. Do not appoint unmoral-qualities people to teachers, including the contract teachers. Strictly deal with negative phenomena in the education industry.

There is a policy of using and treating the correct value of the trained human resource. Appointing the talented to an important post encouraging students to be passionate about learning and self-cultivation for their own future and the future of the country.

## **2.2. Strongly reforming and synchronizing the elements of moral education for students in the current integration context in Vietnam towards the development of learners' personalities and capacities**

Under current conditions, it is necessary to realize that the ideal moral model should give priority to highlighting the appropriate moral qualities which adapt to the market economy in the period of accelerating industrialization and modernization, associating with knowledge economy; at the same time, not leaving the tradition of the national ethics, the socialist-communist ethics.

Accordingly, in the research activities, the orientation of the Party should focus on summarizing the practice in a scale, scientific and accurate way to provide evidence to analyze the moral status of the young people; strengthen the theoretical research on

youth ethics, Western ethical culture, ethics in countries with developed market economies to propose the ethical standards, ideal ethical models in the current period.

The contents of moral education for students should aim to, include:

*Firstly*, to strengthen education in the ideal of national independence and socialism...for the student.

*Secondly*, to attach importance to educating students about traditional moral values of the nation.

*Thirdly*, it is necessary to educate students about new moral values which are added in the development of today's world.

To enhance education on ideology, morality, patriotism, Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh's thought, State and law subjects. To attach more importance to social sciences and humanities, especially Vietnamese language, national history, and Vietnamese culture. To selectively absorb and consult foreign experiences, develop the social sciences subjects which are suitable to our State's conditions and the Party's and State's viewpoints, line and policies. Our Party pointed out: *"Reforming the program aims to develop learners' capacities and qualities, harmonize ethics, wisdom, body, and beauty; teaching people, teaching literacy and vocational training. Reforming the educational contents in the direction of streamlining, modernity, practicality, suitability for age, qualification and profession; increasing the practice, apply knowledge into practice. Attaching importance to educating personality, morality, lifestyle, legal knowledge and civic consciousness. Focusing on the basic values of national morality, the quintessence of human culture, the core values and humanity of Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh's thought... Diversifying the learning contents and materials, to meet the requirements of all grades and educational programs"* [1, p.128]. Teaching these subjects in the current situation needs to supplement and perfect the theoretical knowledge, update information in line with reality. Lecturers must have extensive knowledge in many fields, link theory with the real problem-solving. In order that educational contents achieve high effectiveness, it is necessary to follow closely the subjects to draft the curriculum. Program contents must be .consistent with the moral characteristics of the students. Especially for the university and college level, there are currently no textbooks that really meet the orientations requirements in new moral standards and ideals for students. Our Party affirmed: *"Strongly reform the contents of higher-education and postgraduate education towards modernity, suitability with each discipline, group of training disciplines and the stratification of the higher education system. To attach importance to developing the creative capacities, practical skills, professional ethics and social knowledge, step-by-step approaching the world's advanced science and technology"* [1, p.130].

In order to create high effectiveness for students' moral education, the moral lectures need to reduce presentations, increase the case-study for learners to self-analyze the right and the wrong, self-apply under the direction of teachers, avoid the one-way imposition, at the same time, focus on combination of theory and practice. Currently, the basic educational method is still lecturing, students mainly use lectures to acquire knowledge, so the educational effectiveness is low, and this method has not promoted the positivity of learners yet. It is necessary to strongly reform the education-training

method, overcome the one-way transmission, and train to form a creative way of thinking of the learners. There is a need to closely combine theory and practice in moral education. Because of learning theory, learners only absorb the moral knowledge system but cannot form moral behavior as well as moral standards. Therefore, along with the process of imparting the moral knowledge, teachers need to put that knowledge into specific situations of life to contribute to building the moral emotions, moral ideal, and moral wills for students. At the same time, creating the practical environment and conditions for learners to perform moral behaviors, contributing to strengthening moral knowledge, moral emotions, moral ideal, moral wills and forming ethical habits.

At the same time, in the teaching process, in order to increase the effectiveness of education for students, it is necessary to take advantage of the superiority of technical technology means to attract students, make the lessons more interesting to learners. Gradually applying the advanced methods and modern means to the teaching-learning process, ensuring the conditions and time for self-study and self-research for students: *“Focusing on teaching the way of learning, the way of thinking, encouraging self-study, creating a basis for learners to update and reform their knowledge, skills, and the capacity development. Moving from studying mainly in the classroom to organizing a diverse learning form, paying attention to social activities, extracurricular activities, and scientific research. Promoting the application of information technology and communication in teaching”* [1, p.129].

Moral education of students combines with practical activities such as picnics, travel tours, charity social activities ... to help students connect with practice, avoid the heaviness, passivity of the traditional educational method. Organizing for students the practical trips attached to each profession, each professional field will educate the professional ethics, public-service ethics, business ethics so that students can apply and practice when going to work.

### **2.3. Closely combining the family, school and society in moral education for students**

Families, schools and social organizations all make an important contribution to the moral education of students. In order to improve the effectiveness and quality of the combination between families, schools and social organizations in ethical education for students, it is necessary to have a unity of viewpoints, contents and the teaching method; a unity of methods and ways to manage students; a unity of the direction of life-values for students; regularly keep in touch, exchange, summarize and learn from experience in the student management and education between families, schools and social organizations. That combination is a very basic solution in ethical education for Vietnamese students today.

Currently, in the integration context, along with the positive impacts are the negative impacts on students, the young who are dynamic but the most vulnerable class. Some families are no longer a support for children. Many families have left the responsibility of their children's education to school and society. Especially, nowadays, the majority of students go to school away from home, they do not receive the direct attention of their parents, which causes more problems in the formation of student's

morality and personality. Undeniably, the family is an extremely important environment of teaching and moral education to students. Parents are a moral example for them to follow. The family's education is the role model; the parents' words and actions greatly affect children's knowledge, morality and lifestyle.

Family education is not a big matter but very profound one for each person, because it educates people with psychological and emotional depth, in the most corners of the soul that schools and society cannot have. In addition to caring and educating their children intellectually, families need to foster the morality and personality, impart good moral values, promote the national moral values from this generation to other generation. Parents must raise the awareness about the importance of teaching, educating and forging the moral values for their children. Promptly encourage and rectify their misperception behaviors, create a great and solid spiritual support for children so that they are confident and firmly enter the life. Parents themselves must truly be the role-model for their children in acquiring and respecting new moral values.

The family needs to have the association with the school and the society in moral education for the young generation, avoid the situation of “staying at home one way, going out another”, causing conflicts in the education of the young generation.

Together with the family, the school is a disciplined, professional educational environment, is a place to equip each student with the necessity to enter life, is a place to train their personality to develop comprehensively. Schools with the functions of literacy, vocational training and human-making will train generations of human to develop comprehensively and have good personalities. In the current development of science and technology, it is necessary to have the creative, proactive and good-personality people to keep pace with new developments. Society needs the honest, humane, and creative people. Those are fully developed people. To do so, first of all, the educational managers themselves must have a right awareness of the moral education importance for students and have efforts in implementing this important task. At present, many schools only focus on literacy and vocational training tasks but do not pay much attention to moral education for students. Therefore, schools need to change perceptions, attitudes as well as improve the responsibility in the performance of the task of transmitting the traditional moral values in particular and teaching to become a real person for students in general; it is necessary to have an open education, a lifelong learning, associated with a learning society; a proper democratic, practical, interconnected, integrated, stratified, and streamlined education; have an effective and scientific management mechanism. In that education, it is necessary to well handle the relationship between education and the market, between the public and the non-public, between independence, self-reliance and the international integration; promote the use of information technology to fundamentally reform the teaching and learning methods. The school needs to create favorable conditions for students to participate in learning as well as social activities, and effectively, practically educate them on human moral standards to perfect the personality for each student.

In addition to school and family, a healthy social environment is also an important condition in forming and perfecting the personality, morality and lifestyle of the young generation. Marxism-Leninism has pointed out "*human nature is the ensemble of the social relations*", so human education must be a combination of "strength" of forces which affect not only the objects of education, but also the social relationships in which that object is participating. Therefore, the career of caring, educating, training and fostering the generations of students is the responsibility of the party committees, authorities, unions, families, schools and society, in which, Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union plays an important role.

#### **2.4. Promoting the self-awareness to train ethics for students today**

There is no denying the important role of family, school and society in moral education for students. However, if there is only one-way impact of those factors, it is not possible to achieve the highest effectiveness of moral education. It requires of the educated subjects themselves. Because if there is no self-awareness, voluntary acquisitiveness and training of each individual, no matter how good the moral values are, no matter how hard the educational subjects try, the desired results can not be achieved.

Current educational methods are giving prominence to the promotion of students' activeness. In fact, this is a highly effective method. Because it is the interaction of the educational subject and the educational object, it will help the educational object to absorb and act more effectively. On the other hand, the education, propaganda and the training of families, other subjects of schools and social education only have an effect and meaning when the young generation is aware of the need and self-absorb in traditional moral values, absorb the quintessence of human culture. The self-education process will help students not only enrich their own knowledge, along with the process of social communication, students but also have the ability to transform themselves into beliefs, actions, and subjects of their awareness. From then, they will be active in practical action. In order to best promote a sense of self-education for students, we need to do well the following:

First of all, the school, family and society need to educate students on the scientific worldview, which is Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh's thought, in order to have right awareness of the viewpoints, policies of the Party and State, a new system of principles of moral standards; know how to inherit the fine traditional ethics of the nation and absorb the moral quintessence of humanity in the context of integration. At the same time, we know how to eliminate the negative sides of integration to form a comprehensive moral standard.

Secondly, it is necessary to educate students on a sense of self-examination, self-assessment, recognition of the good and bad, a sense of self-responsibility before their actions. Currently, in the context of globalization, schools, families and society, with many different contents and forms, need to promptly orient students' lifestyles before new lifestyle trends. Strengthen the organization of social-skills and life-skills education activities for students, especially those who reach adulthood; promptly orient students;

on the other hand, it must also promote autonomy and “*self-education*”, “*self-training*” of students before new lifestyle trends. To have appropriate measures to motivate and encourage the self-discipline of learning among students, promptly praise and reward individuals with excellent academic achievements; strictly handle or create social opinion to condemn the negative behaviors affecting the moral education of students.

Thirdly, it is necessary to create conditions for students to participate in the practical activities, including: study, do scientific research, participate in national defense, work for production, participate in political and social movements launched by organizations. Through those activities, students can experience and apply knowledge from books into the practice. Since then, to be trained, know to love, appreciate good values of life, to love people, to help people in difficult circumstances, to live usefully, for everyone and consciously strive to succeed in life.

Fourthly, the role models of parents, teachers and those around them are extremely essential to have a positive influence on students' self-education and the moral training. Therefore, it is necessary to orient the mass media to increase propaganda about the pure and noble moral examples for the people and for the country. At the same time, schools can use the moral lectures to reinforce students' belief in the noble meaning of life. Avoiding the situation that, on the mass media, there are mainly news about degenerative and metamorphic phenomena among cadres and Party members without paying attention to setting examples of good people, good deeds... Consequently, these cause distrust, affect student's moral self-training.

### **3. Conclusion**

Moral education for students in the context of international integration in Vietnam today is a very important and necessary task. In the current volatile domestic and world context, the implementation of this great task requires the synchronous and drastic participation of the whole political system, especially the attention, the direction of the Party and State, the activeness and determination of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union as well as the smooth and effective coordination of families, schools and other political and social organizations and unions to find out the direction and a system of synchronous, highly feasible solutions which best promote the role of moral education for today's students, thus helping them become true, modern people who integrated without dissolving, who have enough strength, enough talent, and promote their youth to master the country in the new era.

### **Conflict of Interest**

The author declares no conflicts of interest.

### **About the Author**

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