

INFLUENCE OF COLLEGE APARTMENT CULTURE ON STUDENTS' GROWTH IN CHINA

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ABSTRACT: *With the development of times and higher education, apartment culture plays an important role in healthy growth of students. As an important component of campus culture, healthy apartment culture is the driving force of apartment reform, contributing to solidarity and growth of students. Scientific apartment culture satisfies students' practical and sustainable development.*

KEYWORDS: Apartment culture, College students, Culture Education, Student growth

INTRODUCTION

In higher education institutes, students improved their abilities to adapt to the society (Florence, Nancy & John, 2002). In 1993, Chickering & Linda proposed that students focused on improving abilities in learning, self-management, self-improvement and interpersonal interaction. Out-of-class learning contributed to improving creative thinking and initiative of students (Chickering & Gamson, 1987). In China, college apartment culture, as important component of campus culture, affects cultural life and spiritual world of students by cultivating their moral sentiment and noble qualities. Therefore, college apartment culture and students' development exist in bilateral construction interrelationship rather than one-dimensional function relationship. Apartment culture contributes to overall improvement of students' abilities in self-education, self-management and self-service. Meanwhile, students' abilities and qualities are propitious to building and innovation of apartment culture (Komives, 1998).

ACCELERATING SCIENTIFIC CONSTRUCTION OF APARTMENT CULTURE

The goal of higher education is to realize free and comprehensive development of students. Human cultivation is the main body function and foothold of education, reflecting educational value. Therefore, normalization of apartment culture system is reflected in rationalization of top-level design and maximization of educational function. Different depths of education are applied to satisfy students' practical and sustainable development. Benefit requests of students reflect humanization of service.

Normalization Promotion of Apartment Culture System

Deng Xiaoping proposed that good system restricted the behavior of bad people, and bad system restricted the behavior of good people. System possesses characteristics including objectivity, universality, mandatory, authority, relative stability, normalization, guidance, historicity, order and anticipation. In addition, system has functions (such as incentive, restraint, integration, regulation, security and discipline), special values in efficiency increase and order maintenance. Based on apartment culture characteristics including system innovation, stability, stratification and effectiveness, colleges should establish operation and supervision systems with rational structure, scientific allocation, strict program and effective constraint. Firstly, colleges should highly emphasize the value of apartment culture construction system in system design. Combined with actual situation of college and students, scientific consciousness is established to optimize system innovation and function, achieving scientific and democratic system arrangement. Scientific system ensures effective operation of works, motivating initiative and creativity of party organizations. Subject of security system focuses on holistic perspective rather than local interests. The dominant position of students should be respected in apartment culture construction. Secondly, apartment culture system construction is strengthened to ensure coordination of system stability, innovation, level and effectiveness, thus restoring systems and avoiding duplicate construction of systems. Thirdly, suitable incentive system is formulated to reflect interaction relationship between object and subject, thus motivating initiative and creativity of students in apartment culture construction. Aggregation and executive abilities are improved to promote prosperity and development of apartment culture construction.

Humanization Improvement of Apartment Culture Service

Named as humanism, humanism-oriented education was originated from ancient Greek period. The most attractive characteristic of ancient Greek civilization is to take human people rather than god as the center. Human is put in the first position, reflecting humanistic spirit and ideal. Since the prevalence of humanism-oriented education in USA in 1960s and 1970s, individual value, leading position and personality liberation have been spread to the whole world. Humanism-oriented education ideal advocates goodness of human nature by respecting life value and potential of individuals. As the producer and merchant of knowledge, the college cannot cast off function of service (Wilkins, 1933). Apartment is an important component of college. For apartment, the most important function is humanism-oriented service. The integrated development of students should be put in the first place by respecting, caring, serving and developing themselves. Reasonable requirements of students are satisfied to mobilize the initiative. Each student should get achievements within his capacity in teaching process. Therefore, the whole teaching activities can cultivate perfect students with self-improvement, self-generation and self-realization. Firstly, humanism-oriented service idea should be established. Scientific and humanistic education reflects democracy and equality by taking students as subject of service. Education mode is transformed from enslavement to freedom; from indoctrination to conversation; from modeling to diversification; from materialization to personalization; from compliance to creativity.

Teachers should dialectically treat students' advantages and disadvantages, developing autonomy and option right based on personality. For students, exploration spirit and innovation ability are cultivated to form good habit, positive mental set and sound personality. Secondly, humanism-oriented apartment environment is built. It is the obligation of college and the right of students to provide good environment for students' learning and living. Based on human-caring, apartment culture software and hardware are built for convenience, practicability and esthetics. American student affair worker Clark said that "I do not have special obligation and authority, only having the love to the students." (Margaret, Mary & Associates, 2000)

Deepening Apartment Culture Education

Good education environment is basic requirement and security. Apartment culture meets spirit requirements of students based on characteristics of apartment, college and time. Based on college students' growth and development, apartment culture construction provides professional service for students. In addition, apartment culture satisfies practical and sustainable development of students. It also satisfies requirements of individual development and China dream. In 1996, Susan & Dudley proposed that the task of moral education was to cultivate moral behaviors of students. Chinese people emphasized moral cultivation. "It is more important to establish morality than accomplishment," said *Zuozhuan Xianggong 24th Year*. "It spends a long time to cultivate people," said *Guanzi Quanxiu*. The 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China pointed out that morality teaching is the basic task and target of education. Firstly, education focuses on cultivation of healthy personality. Education is the communication among hearts, souls and personalities. Students should learn to create and share happiness through cultivation of perfect hearts, positive qualities and optimistic characters. Secondly, education focuses on personality development of students. Based on educational regularity and mental development, personalized services are provided to satisfy reasonable interest demands of students. Thirdly, education focuses on comprehensive development of students. National consciousness education is launched to establish "China heart" for students based on national sense, security and self-reliance. Cultural identity education is developed to help students inherit "national spirit" according to national language, history, revolutionary tradition and humanity. Besides, citizen personality education is developed to cultivate students as "modern people" based on honesty, compliance, equality cooperation, diligence and self-improvement. National consciousness is united with cultural identity and personality education to promote comprehensive development of students.

STRENGTHENING COLLEGE ATMOSPHERE BY APARTMENT CULTURE

Cihai defined "atmosphere" as fashionable hobby or habit in society or some community. As the carrier in campus culture system, "atmosphere" of college externalizes thoughts and behaviors of teachers and students by cohesive and controlling forces, thus forming dramatic

human landscape and special campus culture. Apartment culture is an important component of campus culture. It plays an important role in forming and developing campus atmosphere and culture.

Establishment of Apartment Atmosphere

Cai Yuanpei proposed that the students came to college for learning. College aimed at teaching, molding, affecting, encouraging and modeling people. Campus culture consists of characteristic spirit, traditional atmosphere and campus style in college, playing an important role in personality molding of college students. College atmosphere is the core factor affecting campus culture.

As the basic structure and functional unit of college, apartment is the living place for emotional interaction, platform for ideological collision and carrier for political education. It is well said that a dutiful son scrambles to be filial; an impious son to be unfilial. Therefore, apartment atmosphere is important to member spirit. Positive and graceful apartment atmosphere contributes to forming healthy values, ethics, collective views and mental quality, strengthening senses of social responsibility and mission. Students are guided to establish correct world, life and value outlooks by enhancing self-discipline and controlling force, thus improving thought sentiment and cognition. With different backgrounds in family, culture, value, custom and faith, the students frequently communicate with each other to form special apartment culture. Based on value standard of apartment community, the students evaluate cognitive behaviors of members, improving their own cognitive abilities. In addition, atmosphere construction is also the core of apartment culture. Apartment members encourage and learn from each other to form good learning atmosphere. Therefore, a linkage radiation network is established by active, healthy and graceful atmospheres in different apartments, thus contributing to forming excellent class and college atmospheres.

Edification of Class Atmosphere

College apartment culture promoted healthy growth and personality development of students by affecting their thoughts and values. Meanwhile, their thoughts also affect surrounding people and environment including class atmosphere and culture.

As basic organization of college students, class is the carrier of self-education, self-management and self-service for students. Colorful activities such as class meeting are launched to strengthen collective construction, developing functions of uniting and teaching students. Construction of any organization depends on support of culture.

As the mental outlook of a class, class atmosphere is the core of class culture and concentration of college atmosphere. It is gradually formed after long-term education and strict training consists of cognition, emotion and will. Good class atmosphere is the most typical and concentrated carrier with invisible and huge education power, thus contributing to edifying and encouraging students. Meanwhile, good class atmosphere provides the students with effective power, pressure and environment, reflecting innovation and cohesion of class.

Harmonious and friendly atmosphere is established to cultivate civilized, diligent, collective and companionate honor sense and spirit state. The students are encouraged to learn from advanced demonstration behaviors, thus forming effective working structure among student backbone, head of dormitory and students. After that, outstanding class atmosphere is established to form better grade and college atmosphere, thus promoting healthy development of students.

Enrichment of College Atmosphere

Teaching, learning and apartment atmospheres reflect college atmosphere. Meanwhile, college atmosphere affects teaching, learning and apartment atmospheres. College atmosphere is finally formed by mutual promotion of teaching, learning and apartment atmospheres. As spirit guidance of college development, college atmosphere reflects stable state and behavior style of the whole college. It also reflects emotion, ideal, desire and behaviors of teachers and students. Learning and teaching atmosphere is the most concentrated reflection of college atmosphere. Campus culture reflects cultural taste and spirit of college. Combining historical tradition and future development (of college) with mental and cultural requirements (of teachers and students), college, teaching and learning atmospheres are introduced to guide teachers and students based on university motto. Cohesion, innovation and competitiveness of college are strengthened by forming advanced campus culture with free thought, graceful environment and abundant energy.

Apartment culture, as the subculture of campus culture, contributes to the formation of college, teaching and learning atmospheres. Good college atmosphere makes perfect teachers and students. With noble character, excellent capacity and dedication, the teachers can act as the disseminator of human civilization, torchbearer of students' ideological morality and modeler of spotless mind. With great diligence, honesty, perseverance and vitality, the students act as the practitioner of socialist core values, the successor of advanced culture and socialist cause with Chinese characteristics. Learning atmosphere, firstly derived from *The Doctrine of Mean in Rites*, consisted of extensive leaning, detailed consultation, cautious thinking and dependable practice. As the important condition of college atmosphere construction and students' growth, learning atmosphere intensively reflects students' ideological character, study style and comprehensive quality. It also reflects school mission, college atmosphere, spirit, management and educational philosophy, directly affecting quality of personnel training. Students are the subject and core of learning atmosphere construction. Therefore, the students are guided to execute socialist core values by motivating their initiative, potential and innovation abilities. Wisdom and strength are agglomerated to develop student group with knowledge, innovativeness and competitiveness.

TEMPERING STUDENTS' ABILITIES THROUGH APARTMENT CULUTURE CONSTRUCTION

The CPC State Council published *Suggestions to Reinforce Furthre Identical and Political*

Education of College Students (No. 16 Document). Apartment culture construction should be strengthened to form good cultivation environment. Education and self-education are integrated to motivate initiative of students and leading function of teachers. The self-adjustment abilities of students are proportional to their growth (Olausen & Braten, 1999). Therefore, the comprehensive abilities of students can be improved by participation in apartment culture construction.

Development of Students' Self-Education Abilities

As the core target of education, self-education is an important teaching idea of motivating students' consciousness and initiative. In self-education, the educators give guidance to the students according to social regulations and self-development needs. Based on self-consciousness and requirements of the educators, the students realize educational activities through introspection and self-discipline.

In college stage, the students gradually develop their self-consciousness and subject personalities. In apartment culture construction, the students' self-education abilities are improved by the following methods. Firstly, college students are guided to establish correct self-consciousness and self-education faith. Education of world, life and value outlook is strengthened to arouse students' potential, initiative and self-recognition. Secondly, students are guided to improve self-education abilities by formulating scientific life goal, establishing spiritual pillar and executing socialist core values. Personal ideal is integrated into common idea of socialism. The students should learn to analyze problems based on independent observation and self-evaluation. Thirdly, the ability of self-reflection should be improved by self-realization, self-encouragement, self-control and self-construction. Therefore, self-education can be applied to achieve ideal target in college students' growth process.

Strengthening Self-Management Abilities

Self-management idea was derived from self-adjustment proposed by Emeritus Professor Frederick·H·Kanfer of Illinois State University. PKU president Cai Yuanpei proposed that people respected their own and other's personalities. This indicates that self-governance is better than heteronomy. Self-management is defined as consciously managing goals, thoughts, mind and behaviors on the premise of self-consciousness and self-recognition. Self-design, learning, coordination and controlling behaviors are conducted to achieve management practice and struggle target.

In apartment culture construction, college students are guided to be participants and managers by motivating their initiative, achieving transformation from heteronomy to self-discipline. Firstly, student-oriented management consciousness is established to strengthen students' subject consciousness. The students are guided to realize their subject positions by actively participating in apartment culture construction. In addition, students consider themselves as the owner of apartment, thus strengthening master consciousness, responsibility and mission sense. Secondly, self-management carrier is established to cultivate self-management ability. Based on demonstration and vanguard functions, student organization is built to develop

students' belongingness, identity, collective honor, teamwork spirit and psychological frustration ability. Thirdly, apartment culture system construction is strengthened by screening apartment manager. Age, education and knowledge of apartment manager should adapt to the development of college students, thus improving their self-management abilities. Meanwhile, professional teaching team is established to strengthen scientific instruction of student self-management based on personalities, ages and personal demands of students. In addition, personality charm, knowledge, professional quality and management level of teachers are applied to improve self-controlling and self-restriction abilities of students. Fourthly, self-management practice platform is built to develop students' mind, will and abilities.

Improvement of Students' Self-Service Abilities

College students' self-service consists of individual, group and social self-service, reflecting subjectivity and creativity. In individual self-service, college students learn to independently adapt to environment, deal with interpersonal relationship and solve difficulties, thus improving self-service effect.

The ancients said that it is better to fish than to give fish. Therefore, apartment culture should emphasize self-service rather than service. Social abilities are cultivated to strengthen collective and teamwork consciousness by motivating initiative in self-management, self-education and self-development. Firstly, college students have strong independence, autonomy and creativity. Based on actual conditions, the students are guided to formulate and adjust their own life goals, thus achieving sustainable development of self-service. Secondly, the students are reminded to be thankful to solicitude of other people. Thirdly, the students are guided to establish their own spirit pillar based on socialist theoretical system of Chinese characteristics. Therefore, dialectical, strategic and creative thinking abilities are improved by learning from books, practices and examples. Fourthly, the students are encouraged to be the people contributing to society and country by combining themselves with national destiny, thus improving individual self-service level. Fifthly, the students are guided to strengthen teamwork and collective consciousness, thus improving the level of group self-service. Sixthly, the students should actively participate in social welfare and volunteer service activities to strengthen senses of responsibility, mission, dedication and service, improving social self-service level.

Strengthening Self-Improvement Abilities by Apartment Culture

In 1993, Wingspread Group issued *An American Imperative: Higher Expectations for Higher Education*. The report indicated that high education focused on learning, and the college worked on students' learning and formation of education sense.

Rousseau considered that one of the differences between human and animal was self-improvement ability. The development of self-improvement ability resulted in the transit of nature to social state. Self-improvement is an active spirit quality. After recognizing their deficiencies through self-improvement, people make effort to improve confidence,

competitiveness and initiative. The highest goal of self-improvement is to take advantage of potential. Therefore, self-improvement abilities of students are raised by the following methods. Firstly, the students are guided to improve themselves in reading. Gorky once said books are the stepping stones to human progress; books are the inseparable life companion and mentor of the young people; books can give wings for the senses and heart. Suhomlinski once said without reading, it is impossible to have a meaningful thinking. The ancients said reading makes a man graceful. As the life guidance and norm, reading can develop thoughts, horizons and abilities of students. The students are guided to emphasize self-improvement and self-reflection. In addition, reading can help students to formulate scientific improvement plan, thus achieving new success. Secondly, the students are guided to improve themselves in social practice. As an effective way of self-improvement, social practice can help students objectively evaluate themselves, thus developing personality, initiative, innovation spirit and practical abilities. After strengthening students' senses of participation, competitiveness, responsibility, fairness, efficiency, teamwork and legal, social practice can make the students maintain optimal mental state, passion and perseverance. Thirdly, the students are guided to improve themselves in network field. The students are trained to solve problems themselves based on theory and thought. In order to improve students' thinking and practical abilities, teachers should help students analyze and identify problems by occupying online position with correct and active thoughts. Moral education, self-discipline and emotional experience are strengthened to improve students' immunity, moral judgment and self-controlling ability in optimal moral education environment. Moral autonomy and self-restriction are cultivated to arouse students' initiative, thus achieving self-improvement in healthy and harmonious network.

CONCLUSION

In brief, College should establish beneficial new apartment culture management mode. The students are encouraged to actively participate in apartment culture construction and daily business management, forming correct faith and healthy personalities. For students, deep awareness of master status can improve self-consciousness, responsibility, self-management, self-service and self-improvement (Willanson, 1961). Visible management, education and service are transformed to invisible form, thus realizing sustainable development of students.

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