

# A Homed-based PLC for Improving Parents' Leadership Under the "Double Reduction" in China

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**Abstract :** Recently, china government conducts a new education reform policy-Double Reduction policy, including the reduce the student homework burden and shadow education burden, which draw the heated discussion to the family education. Though recently researchers began to discuss the relationship between parent leadership and children study performance, they mainly considered the leadership as antecedents of parent involvement, while few considered parenting mode. This paper aims to find out a home-based PLC mode for improving multi-parents leadership under this policy.

**Keywords:** Professional Learning Community (PLC); Parents' leadership; Double Reduction policy

## 1. Introduction

At the 24<sup>th</sup> of July 2021, The Opinions on Further Reducing the burden of homework and off-campus training of Students in Compulsory Education, referred to as "Double Reduction", was issued by the General Office of the General Office of the State Council, the CPC Central Committee. Under the new policy circumstance, coach homework transfer from the shadow education to the parenting among the primary students after school. what strategies Parent Leaders used to engage families and how their leadership influenced families .

"Double reduction" policy, First, to reduce the homework burden of students in the compulsory education stage; Second, we will resolutely reduce shadow education (off-school training) in disciplines. The objectives of this policy is to reduce excessive homework burden of students, off-school training burden, family education expenditure and the corresponding energy burden of parents within one year, remarkable results will bring in three years, and aim to improve people's satisfaction with education significantly. To alleviate educational anxiety and promote students' all-round development and healthy growth. Three specific measures are including: Control homework; improve after-school service level; standardize off-campus training behavior.<sup>[1]</sup>

## 2. Theory Related

### 2.1 Professional Learning Community (PLC)

Robert J. Marzano and Robert Eaker endorsed the concepts and practices that form the Professional Learning Community (PLC) at Work® process and the findings that form the High Reliability Schools™ (HRS) model as our best hope for significant improvement of students. Three big ideas are included in the PLC process. First is a relentless focus on student learning. The second is the creation of a collaborative culture through the use of high performing teams working interdependently to create common goals for which they hold one another mutually accountable, which included the community. The third big idea is a passionate and persistent focus on results-improved learning of each student. This is a pivotal point that in PLC theory teacher team is not "a PLC" rather than the thorough organization is the PLC. So, if a family is enforcing PLC practices, the entire family is a PLC. If a community commits to the process, the entire community is the PLC. This also means the entire PLC takes collective responsibility for each student's success. Every leaders in the PLC (including parents) should work cooperatively, apply esteemed thinking skills to their craft, display academic behaviors of motivation and volition, and model lifelong learning.<sup>[2]</sup>

### 2.2 Shadow education

Mark Bray(1999) offers such complementary education that is closely related to the school's formal curriculum education calls it "shadow education".

### 2.3 Parent cultivation style theory by D. Baumrind

American psychologist Diana Baumrind believes that parenting can be summarized into two dimensions: one is the emotional attitude towards children, the acceptance-rejection dimension; the other is the parents' requirements and control over children, the control-tolerance dimension. In the acceptance of emotional dimension, parents treat children with a positive, positive and patient attitude to meet their requirements as much as possible; in the rejection of emotional dimension, parents often treat children with rejection and are indifferent to them. At the control of the requirements and control dimension, parents have set high standards for their

children, and require them to strive to meet these requirements. At the tolerance of the requirements and control dimension, parents are tolerant and lack of discipline for their children. Depending on the combination of these two dimensions, four ways of cultivation can be formed: authority + control, arbitrary + control, indulgence + tolerance and neglect + tolerance. Different ways of cultivation will undoubtedly have a significant impact on the social development and personality formation of children.

## **2.4 Multiple Intelligences by Howard Gardner**

Howard Gardner put forward the Theory of Multiple Intelligences in 1983, which have subverted the traditional intelligence theory and the methods of IQ tests. The Theory of Multiple Intelligences is just one small part in Gardner's system of educational thoughts which also include art theory, an education ideas, creativity theory, leadership theory, good work theory, moral theory and other diverse and interconnected ideas. The book *Frames of Mind: The Theory of Multiple Intelligences*, Gardner proposed the first concept of multiple intelligence. At that time, he identified seven intelligence according to three prerequisites and eight criteria for intelligence, Linguistic Intelligence, Logical-Mathematical Intelligence, Musical Intelligence, Spatial Intelligence, Bodily-Kinesthetic Intelligence, Intrapersonal Intelligence, and Interpersonal Intelligence. He refers to the structure of these intelligence as Multiple Intelligences.<sup>[3]</sup>

## **3. Research Related**

### **3.1 How parent leadership developed?**

Parent leadership is a perception that widespread use in the human service and mental field, but the bounded research and the inadequacy of robust framework or modes for supposing parent leadership development. Despite the constrained research about parent leadership, some ideas on the crucial factors of it, such as parent empowerment, diversity parent leadership, identity, cultural identity. Cunningham found that the parents were trained to master the empowerment approach who were both improved their leadership capacity and activity. Swick (2001) thought parent should be facilitated to learn more and to serve their children as mentors which is a kind way of empowering parents. Walker (2009) examined that leadership language can shape parents as leaders<sup>[4]</sup>. Studies of female leadership supported the importance of developing leadership identity, which may be exceptionally correlated to this study, as most of parent leaders are women.

### **3.2 Turman's finding on parent-child influence**

Stanford University psychologist Turman has tracking study of genius children for many years. From 1921, he obtained IQ test data from 250,000 primary and middle school students, from which 1470 students' IQ scores are 140-200 known as study sample. Turman's main job is to track them, evaluate test results, record their education, marital health, and career development. These records are all included in the book *Genetic studies of genius*. Turman believed that the people he studied could become leaders and promote the development of science and art education, etc. When those Turman Man grew up, Turman collected complete records of the individuals who he divided into three groups, the more outstanding human group A, who can be called true winners, all top talents in all industries, 98% of them acquired Graduate degree. The worst Turman Man were divided into Group C, who had post office workers and coolies, whom Turman believed did not create a social value that matched their IQ. Others were classified in the B group. Finally, we found that the vast majority of the A group came from upper or middle-class families whose homes were filled with all kinds of books and half of their fathers with a bachelor's degree or above. Instead, the families in Group C were opposite sight, one-third of their fathers got a low degree, dropping out of school before eighth grade.

### **3.3 Parent-child relationship**

In psychology, the parent-child relationship refers to the communication relationship between parents and children, including the communication between father and children, and the communication between mother and children. It is the first interpersonal relationship formed in life, but also the most basic, the most important relationship in the family. Parent-child relationship has a narrow and broad sense, in a narrow sense, parent-child relationship refers to the emotional connection between early children and parents, and broad sense of parent-child relationship refers to the interaction mode between parents and children, that is, the attitude and way of parenting.<sup>[5]</sup>

Parents should consciously create a healthy and positive good atmosphere in their own families, through their own positive learning experience and improvement, effectively stimulate children's interest in learning, so as to help children realize the development of academic attainment. Parents should cultivate their children's interest in learning. A good family environment is not only necessary to cultivate learning, all the development of children is inseparable from a good family environment.

## **4. Concentric circles -positive parenting project**

This paper aims to create the PLC mode for improving parents' leadership. This mode is designed as a concentric circles to promote a positive family culture and atmosphere, enhance the communication among the family members, build a family collaborative learning community and lifelong learning which supposing the better successful life for the children. In the circle center, children are surrounded by parents' love and care. Parent should take the responsibility and obligation to cultivate their beloved children in the second concentric circle. Beside the two concentric circles, 4C mode work as a association to form a good family atmosphere, good family communication, collaboration and century-long learning in a family professional learning community.

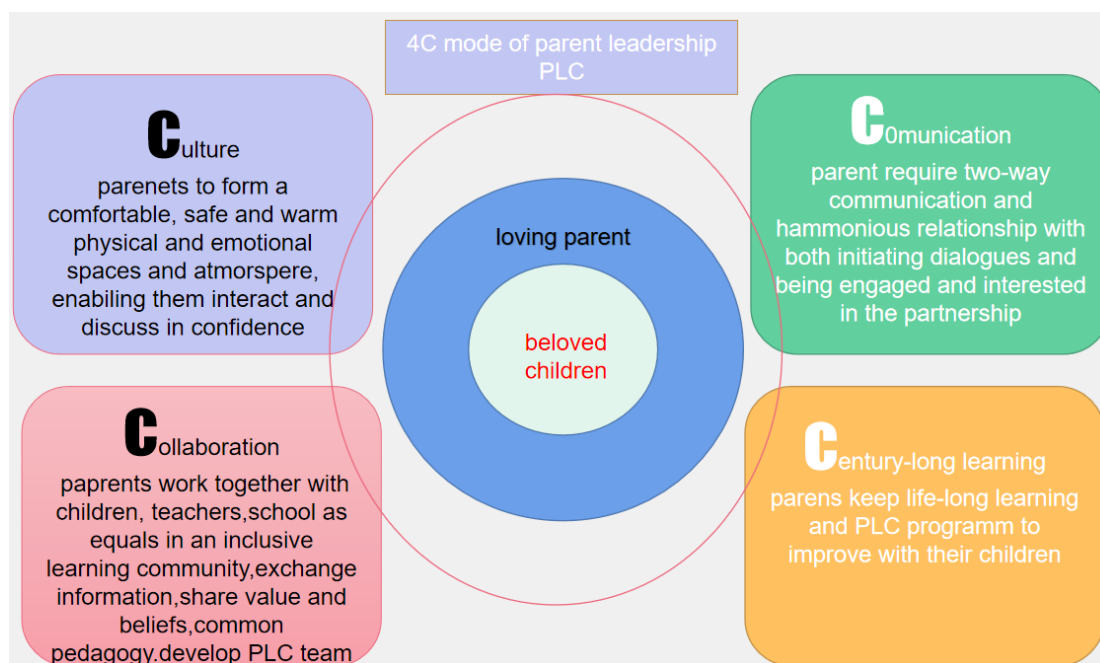
### **4.1 Family culture**

In china, Parenting is included in the whole family, and the family atmosphere plays a pivotal role. A harmonious family atmosphere will inevitably promote a positive family upbringing environment, and on the contrary, the family atmosphere full of conflicts and disputes will lead to a relatively negative family upbringing environment. The family atmosphere related to upbringing includes the quality of the marriage, the communication and consultation between family members, the value orientation of family members, etc.<sup>[6]</sup>

Macalenko wrote on his *Children's Education*, "Don't think that you are educating your child only when you talk to him, or teach

him, or guide him. At every moment in your family life, even when you are not at home, you educate your children. Parents' requirements for themselves, parents' respect for their own family members— this is the primary and the main method of education!" Hence, the husband loves his wife, and wife care her husband, the warmth atmosphere and culture of the family are bound to influenced their children by what they constantly sees and hears. This intimate type of marital relationship, It will have good effects on their families, especially on their children. Make the child feel the intimacy and warmth of the family since childhood, they will know how to care for others and respect others; In a loving environment, children can also learn how to get along with people from their parents, learn to communicate with people. Make the children fully developed their various abilities under the harmonious and pleasant family culture; Husband and wife are able to communicate easily to agree on your children's education and taking more reasonable and effective educational measures. Establishing a good relationship between husband and wife is to create a family environment with a good culture and atmosphere.

Father plays a great role in promoting the formation of children's good personality quality. The father's personality characteristics often contain content that the mother does not have, such as determination, perseverance, responsibility, etc. The way fathers communicate between their children is usually more rational and logical, and children can learn this mindset by interacting with their fathers. At the same time, the father is more objective and more strict than his mother. Therefore, the father promotes the formation of compatriot confidence and courage, but also helps to promote the formation of their consciousness of rules and autonomy. However, in real life, fathers will indeed bear more pressure. Busy work makes them no time to accompany their children, less interaction with their children, and a lot of emotional estrangement between father-children. Due to the lack of father's role, "widowed parenting" and "fraudulent parenting" describe father on the Internet. Due to the lack of high-quality company of father, it is really unfavorable to the children's development of rule consciousness, autonomy, public morality education and other aspects.



Picture 1: 4C mode of parent leadership

## 4.2 Family communication

The traditional Chinese concept of parent-child too much emphasizes the one-way obligation of parents. They always take unilateral care and consideration from parents, but ignore the care of young children for their parents. In the process of raising children, parent need to the expression of love and response to their children timely rather than keep love in mind and feel embarrassed to express love. This is the charm of language is to let children feel love. In such a warm and open family, children are also influenced and learned to imitate the expression of parents love. Care and love should be mutual. Parents can change their roles, change their strategies and ideas, and encourage their children to express their care and love for themselves. When children express emotions, parents should also actively respond, and embrace their children, so that children can not only feel love since childhood, but also to actively express love. Parents can show to their children that their helpless side and need care and help of children. At the same time, the feedback to their parents can also exercise their children's gratitude and filial piety to their parents and elders.

## 4.3 Family collaboration

Family collaboration is a team leader including the parents, children, grandparents, and community personnel, etc. The parents is the "chief leader" of the team, whose course leadership is the sum of the "individual force" and the "synergy" of the team members. In the family collaboration with multi-subject participation, the parents, as the "leader" of this team, must have a certain team leadership ability. First, to implement the power enhancement, give play to the initiative and advantages of various subjects, especially the children, and make suggestions for the their academic development; the second is to build a family collaboration leadership team of democratic, unity, open, thought-thinking, dialogue and exchange. Clarify the responsibilities and obligations of the family PLC members, encourage and guide innovation, and meet the development needs of the children on the premise of being consistent with the new dynamic pace of the academic development.

#### 4.4 Family century-long learning

Learning family culture needs to foil a strong learning atmosphere. Then, it is very important to establish a vision that is effective and recognized for the majority of the organization members, and under the guidance of a forward-looking vision, all the organization members will learn together and make progress together. In addition, encourage family members to break through the shackles of the traditional single thinking mode, become negative to positive, passive to active, give full play to their creativity, subjectivity and initiative, cultivate deep family century-long learning consciousness, enhance family century-long learning, using cooperation, open, dialogue, communication team learning way, achieve common progress and growth. Learning material resources and cultural resources are the indispensable conditions and guarantee for the building of family century-long learning community.

#### 5. Requirement to the parents under the Double-Reduction policy

Need to be pointed out that, according to the Double Reduction document, the strict supervision of off-campus training, it is not “one size fits all” solution to shut down all off-campus training institutions, but requires parents take their responsibility in the coaching parenting. At the same time, off-campus training institutions back to the functional positioning that they should have. Stimulate parents’ anxiety so as to promote their businesses which is not education but a industry business. The essence of education is not the shadow education but the school and family ,community,society education .

##### 5.1 buliding up family- school close contact

Actively participate in parents’ meetings, parents’ education, take the initiative to communicate with teachers, understand children’ learning and physical and mental conditions, formulate targeted family-school linkage education plan, and build a harmonious family-school relationship.

##### 5.2 Update the concept of parenting

Understand the regular pattern of children’s physical and mental growth, improve their own education quality and ability, rationally plan the future development direction of children, do not blindly send children to participate in off-school training.

##### 5.3 A harmonious family atmosphere

Pay close attention to the changes of children’s thoughts and emotions, listen to the children’s aspirations, make good friends relationship with children, form a good communication and interaction mode, to help children solve problems.

##### 5.4 We should guide students to reasonably use their time at home

Urge your child to go to bed on time to ensure enough sleep. Appropriate arrangement of housework, strengthen physical exercise, and carry out parent-child reading. Strengthen supervision over children’s online behavior, timely discovery and stop.

##### 5.5 You might as well focus to cultivating children’s habits

Reading habits effectively promote the development of thinking; exercise habits effectively promote attention and concentration, labor habits help children establish correct values, responsibility, improve independence; participating in family life habits help the cultivation of civic consciousness; hobbies habits help shape a sound personality, comprehensive development, build confidence and positive health. Good habits achieve a good future, children are easier to achieve a sense of achievement and happiness, and more sufficient internal drive .<sup>[7]</sup>

To implement the “double reduction” document, shadow education and training institutions must make a change. To put it simply, only by establishing a multiple evaluation system and creating multiple choices for students can students liberate students from their academic burden.

#### 6. Conclusion

Parent leadership is an activity affected by many factors and at complex levels. In the project of building a parent leadership community, it is necessary to solve the problems of interests and responsibility distribution of each subject, so as to make the construction process smoothly. To promote the construction of parent leadership, under the atmosphere of collaboration-oriented concept, teamwork, thinking, innovation consciousness and so on, is bound to inject fresh blood into the new development of family culture.

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