

Original Research Article

# The legal education of college students under the background of rule of law

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Abstract: As the cradle of talent training, the quality of education in colleges and universities can directly or indirectly affect the quality of talent. Under the background of ruling the country by law in China, it is necessary to put legal education into the educational program. However, at present, the effectiveness of legal education in colleges and universities is not remarkable, with a lack of students' legal consciousness. In order to improve the teaching quality of the legal education in colleges and universities, this paper puts forward innovative suggestions on the rule and analyzes the importance of the legal education, combined with the current situation of the legal education in colleges and universities.

Keywords: Legal education; university and college students; rule of law; suggestion

The report of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China pointed out that after five years of all-round development and improvement, socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era. Under the background of the new era, general secretary Xi Jinping proposed that the whole party should continue to implement the rule of law in an all-round way, accurately grasp its basic theory, line and strategy, and put the theoretical principles into practice, among which the rule of law education is an important concrete measure. As the successor of socialism, college students are the hope and future of China. As the cradle of training high-quality talents, colleges and universities should include the education of rule of law into the important teaching content, cultivate the concept of rule of law of college students, and promote their all-round development.

# 1. The importance of legal education

#### 1.1 Legal education is a concrete measure to practice rule of law

Ruling the country by law and building a socialist country under the rule of law are the fundamental guarantee for the people to be masters of their own affairs. In order to implement the policy of rule of law and protect people's democratic rights, not only the government perform their duties, but also the whole people should participate in the action of building a country ruled by law. In order to improve the legal literacy and moral quality of the whole nation, the relevant departments should actively popularize the law, while people take the initiative to understand the rule of law. As a way of law popularization, the education of rule of law has played an effective role and helped the educated form the concept of rule of law.

## 1.2 Legal education is an important part of quality education

The quality education requires the all-round development of the educated. Different from the education way in

primary and secondary schools, students will receive professional knowledge education in different disciplines and specialties after entering colleges and universities. Colleges and universities, as the delivery of talents to the society, should not only pay attention to the professional education of college students, but also do a good job in quality education. As an important part of quality education, legal education is of great help to improve the legal literacy of the educated and promote their all-round development.

# 2. The function of college students' legal education to consolidate the mass foundation

# 2.1 College students are an important part of the people

The main body of the rule of law is the people under the leadership of the Communist Party. To carry out the strategic policy of "rule of law in an all-round way", we need to lay a solid mass foundation for the rule of law, and call on the whole people to take action and participate in it. As a valuable talent resource, college students are a part of the people. They need to choose the future after the higher education. But no matter what they choose, they will become the backbone of future social development and lead the development of the times. Therefore, we should attach importance to the legal education of the students, cultivate their legal consciousness and concept, and stimulate their sense of mission and enthusiasm for participation.

## 2.2 The authority of law comes from the support and belief of the people

It is true that the law is mandatory, but it is not enough to act on its own. Without the support and belief of the people, the law cannot play its role. China is a socialist country, which is governed by the socialist rule of law. Socialist rule of law is to institutionalize and systematize socialist democracy, which represents the fundamental interests and will of the people. If the national law is not enough to safeguard the interests of the people, then the people will not support the law or even lose confidence in the country.

As the saying goes, water can carry a boat, but it can also capsize it. Once a country loses the support of its people, its consequence will undoubtedly be its demise. But the people shouldn't blindly follow. In order to reduce the occurrence of such problems, it's vital to cultivate the thinking ability of the educated. It requires the educated to look at the law objectively and have the right to ask questions. The university can provide the above-mentioned rule of law education for college students.

# 3. The current situation of legal education in colleges and universities

According to the different objects of legal education, the objects can be divided into law students and non law students. Different from the students who receive theoretical and systematic education, during the university period, the non law students may only have access to the legal education related to their own major. In the mode of combination of compulsory and elective courses, students can freely choose the courses they are interested in, and different modules can promote the all-round development of students. However, there are some problems in colleges and universities after implementation.

#### 3.1 Inaccurate orientation of legal education in colleges and universities

The education of the rule of law enables the educated to know, abide by, use and trust the law. Nowadays, the rule of law education in most colleges and universities just explains the rule of law, admonishes students to abide by the law, only emphasizes the obligations of citizens, without how students use the law to protect their rights. Due to the severe employment situation, colleges and universities often compare the employment rate with each other. In this case, colleges and universities will improve the ability of students by strengthening professional knowledge education, ignoring other aspects of education. Such colleges and universities do not attach importance to students' ideological, political and moral education, but focus on students' professional education. However, it has been proved that being a man is more important than doing things. Colleges and universities should clearly realize that it is more valuable to

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improve students' personality and cultivate students' correct values than to teach students professional skills.

# 3.2 The single form and the boring content of the rule of law classroom

Because there are many profound academic words and high logical requirements in the theoretical knowledge of law major, if the teachers do not explain it in depth, the students will have difficulty in understanding it. The traditional form of teaching and examination is widely used in the legal education in colleges and universities. Combined with the classroom performance and the weighted average of examination scores, the students can get the total evaluation. As long as the total score of the students reaches 60, the students will complete the course. Not only that, the university curriculum teaching lasts one semester, but only once a week, two to three hours each time. In the face of insufficient teaching time and rich curriculum content, many teachers can only use cramming teaching in the later stage, in order to ensure that students pass the final examination, but they have lost the opportunity to show their skills.

## 3.3 College students lack interest in legal education

There are many reasons why college students lack interest in legal education. From the perspective of internal factors, some college students have certain requirements for themselves, but they do not understand the importance of legal education. They think that they only need to learn the important courses recognized by themselves, while passing the rest. Some students do not need knowledge and achievement after college entrance examination. They have no plan for the unknown future. Some students think that the rule of law education has nothing to do with themselves, and even think that college students do not have to learn the rule of law at all. From the perspective of external factors, due to the fact that the teacher's lecture is not vivid and easy to understand, and the content of the course is boring, the students just accept passively. And the teacher has no desire to lecture, so the whole teaching classroom is dead.

# 4. Suggestions and innovations on strengthening the legal education in colleges and universities

## 4.1 Optimizing the teaching plan of legal education

In order to promote the all-round development of college students, the teaching in colleges and universities should not be one-sided. The pure legal education or ideological and political education can not meet the requirements of legal education. Legal education is to help college students improve their legal literacy from the perspective of law, and at the same time cultivate their sense of social responsibility and participation. Through this education, the students can realize their main role in the national governance, and turn this awareness into the internal driving force, urge them to explore their own potential and expand their ability. Colleges and universities should take this effect as the goal, improve the teaching plan from the aspects of curriculum arrangement, teacher selection, evaluation index, etc., hold irregular teaching meetings, and praise the effective classes and teachers.

#### 4.2 Innovative teaching methods

Now there are many apps for teaching in colleges and universities, many of which are installed on teachers' and students' mobile phones under the popularization of colleges and universities. The reason of the emergence of such app is not only the rapid development of the Internet, but also the birth of the new concept of "Internet plus education", and more and more students do not attach importance to their studies or respect the classroom. Colleges and universities have to use app to check attendance and interact with each other in class to prevent students from skipping classes and playing mobile phones in class, but this obviously will not solve the problem. In order to change this situation, it it necessary to change the teaching method, that is to break through the traditional teaching method that teachers teach students to listen to lectures. By adopting the flipped classroom model, teachers arrange topics to guide students to think and analyze. The final evaluation is no longer exam-oriented. Instead the result of students' feedback to teachers is one of the basis of the final evaluation. At the same time, the legal education classroom in colleges and universities is not limited to the classroom. Lectures, competitions, online classroom, social practice and other ways can be adopted to

improve the participation of college students.

#### 4.3 Enrich teaching content

The content of teaching in colleges and universities should focus on the cultivation requirements of legal education, and combine theory with practical cases. Because of the academic theory, the students who do not have the foundation of law often retreat and lose interest in the course content. In view of this situation, college teachers need to choose the teaching content. In the face of students majoring in law, teachers can explain the origin and development of knowledge points, and recommend relevant professional books and websites suitable for law students to read and browse, so as to cultivate the review and self-study ability of law students. In the face of illegal students, the key is to popularize common sense of law and transmit the concept of rule of law to students imperceptibly. A large number of real events and actual cases can make students more impressed than the theory of law. Teachers can help students analyze the role of law in cases with the help of cases, and lead out relevant legal provisions as a foreshadowing to deepen students' understanding and memory. However, if they want to achieve the effect of rich teaching content, teachers have to spend more time and energy on preparation before class.

#### 4.4 College students are not only recipients but also exporters of legal education

The above suggestions are all for colleges and universities and teachers. However, as the main body of society, college students should carefully examine themselves and reflect on their own shortcomings. The society is progressing, the development of human civilization is also moving forward, and the Chinese nation's splendid civilization can be sustained forever depending on the inheritance of generations. Under the background of ruling the country by law, college students need to realize that they are not only the recipients of legal education, but also the exporters of legal education. The most basic content of the legal education is to abide by the law, so even though the charm of the Internet is huge, and game entertainment and laziness affect themselves all the time, but in the classroom, all students must respect teachers and the classroom, actively participate in classroom interaction and give teachers feedback. For those students who have spare time, the author encourages them to express their views boldly and cherish every opportunity of communication and discussion.

## 5. Conclusion

There is no contradiction between the education receiver and the exporter, which just reflects the role that a social person should play. The current situation of teaching mentioned in this paper is all over China, and the problem of legal education is more prominent. From the perspective of legal education, colleges and universities should treat the education of college students correctly and never let the university become the end of learning.

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