



# Reshape the Core Values of Socialism of College Students with the "Four-Confidence" Under the New Situation

**Yu Yan**

Student Affairs Department, Jingjiang College of Jiangsu University, Zhenjiang, China

**Email address:**

31624853@qq.com

**To cite this article:**

Yu Yan. Reshape the Core Values of Socialism of College Students with the "Four-Confidence" Under the New Situation. *Science Journal of Education*. Vol. 9, No. 2, 2021, pp. 45-49. doi: 10.11648/j.sjedu.20210902.14

**Received:** March 27, 2021; **Accepted:** April 10, 2021; **Published:** April 23, 2021

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**Abstract:** Since the reform and opening-up, the Communist Party of China has led the Chinese people to continuously open up new realms in the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics. In 2016, Xi Jinping, the General Secretary of the People's Republic of China, first put forward the concept of the "four-confidence" (the confidence in the path, theory, system and culture) at the celebration of the 95th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. Adhering to the "four-confidence" to guide talent training is an important way to promote the development of China's education. In 2020, under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, the Chinese people are united as one, and not only achieve the victory of COVID-19 against the epidemic, but also achieve many victories in the fields of science and technology and people's livelihood. Taking the great achievements of China as an educational opportunity, it is of great importance to unify the theory of the "four-confidence" with the ideological and political work of colleges and universities, and to combine the theory with social practice, so as to establish firm socialist political belief, reshape the education of core values of college students and enhance patriotism. Therefore, we should follow the law of ideological and political education for college students, take ideological identity as the logical starting point, emotional identity as the important way, and political identity as the fundamental direction, so as to cultivate college students to truly become the firm believers and exemplary practitioners of socialist core values.

**Keywords:** College Students, Four-Confidence, Core Socialist Values

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## 1. Introduction

It is pointed out in the report of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the core socialist values are the concentrated embodiment of the spirit of contemporary China, and we should focus on training new people to shoulder the great responsibility of national rejuvenation, and transform the core socialist values into people's emotional identification and behavior habits. As the builders and successors of the socialism, college students carry the high hope of Chairman Xi Jinping that "When people have faith, our nation will be hopeful, and our country will be powerful" [1]. However, in the context of market economy and information society, college students are impacted by a variety of social ideologies and multiple values, and their world outlook, outlook on life and values are affected. Therefore, enhancing students' understanding of the "four-confidence" and nurturing them theoretical identification and emotional identification of the core socialist values are important

missions and tasks of ideological and political education in colleges and universities. 2020 is a year of milestone significance. In this year, our country has made many achievements, which is an unprecedented educational opportunity for ideological and political educators in colleges and universities. Through actual cases, combined with educational theory, it can enhance the emotional identity of college students, thereby inspiring their inner positive strength and excellent qualities, and then improving their personal qualifications and achieving a better life [2].

## 2. Reasons for the Lack of Core Socialist Values of College Students

### 2.1. Thoughts Influenced by Multiple Values

The comprehensive advancement of reform and opening-up, the rapid growth of the socialist market economy, and the vigorous rise of new online media have improved people's

living conditions, enriched knowledge, and broadened their horizons, which is conducive to college students establishing a sense of innovation and self-reliance. However, as international exchanges and cooperation become more and more extensive, multiple values will inevitably have a huge impact on students due to cultural mutual learning around the world. Some students have varying degrees of confusion in political beliefs, blurred ideals and beliefs, distorted values, and problems such as lack of social responsibility [3]. Affected by hedonism, some students have the idea of "money worship" and "consumerism", emphasizing material life, neglecting spiritual life, diminishing the spirit of hard work, reducing willingness to unity and cooperation, poor psychological quality, and running counter to the core values of socialism on the perspective of value and value pursuit [4].

### **2.2. Inconsistent Knowledge and Behavior of Personal Values**

A survey of our students found that the vast majority of college students agree with the core values of socialism, especially the values at the individual level. It shows that after many years of education, the spiritual civilization education of the whole society and the moral education of colleges and universities have achieved remarkable results. With regard to the "rich and strong" and "democracy" aspects of national level, the survey shows that most students are excited about the development of the country and the progress of the nation, but some students do not fully agree with it because of their understanding on the country's political and economic development is not clear enough, and there is a lack of rational and comprehensive analysis of complex social issues and phenomena, so their understanding of core values is not deep enough. Among the core values at individual level, the values of "patriotism", "dedication", "integrity", and "friendliness" are generally recognized with high values, which are significantly better than those at the national and social levels. College students are aggressive, pay close attention to their own development, and have high requirements for self-quality. In the practice of core socialist values, although the recognition of the values is very high, they will waver in the face of conflicts and consider more about their own interests. It shows that some students have a weak sense of taking action and do not realize that the realization of personal value is closely related to the development of the country and the nation [5].

### **2.3. Lack of Class Educational Activities in Schools**

At present, some colleges and universities organize some core values education and publicity activities with a high degree of participation by college students, as well as through WeChat, Weibo, official website and other online publicity. However, the main place of education publicity is still the classroom. The classroom teaching method is relatively simple, mostly based on teachers' theoretical presentations, far away from the life and reality of college students, and cannot stimulate students' enthusiasm for learning. Some students' learning attitudes are negative and negligent, and they

subconsciously despise the learning of core values. Insufficient attention is paid to the major policies of the country, so they learn the theory without thinking, and their attention paid to political participation activities is not high enough [6].

## **3. The significance of Reshaping the Core Values of Socialism with the "Four-Confidence" in the New Situation**

### **3.1. The Needs of the Development of the Times**

General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out at the 19th National Congress: "In today's world, if you want to say which political party, country, and nation can be confident, then the Communist Party of China, the People's Republic of China, and the Chinese nation have the most sufficient reason to be confident" [7]. China, like an accelerating train, it overthrew the imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic-capitalism and walked away from the trauma of war. It carries the hope of the people and runs through the fields of reform and opening-up. After 40 years of brilliant development in reform and opening-up, China has achieved a great transition from weak to strong, from poverty to well-off, and has since entered a new era—an era of self-confidence. It is because at the beginning of the revolution and socialist construction, the Communist Party of China did not copy Soviet experience directly, but proceeded from reality, chose a path suitable for its own development according to China's national conditions, and adhered to the laws of historical development and social development in practice that we can accumulate valuable experience and then make great achievements [8]. The "four-confidence" can convince all Chinese people precisely because of their scientific, practical and realistic nature. Therefore, it is inevitable to strengthen the education of the "four-confidence" of college students, enhance their understanding of the connotation of core values, and reshape the core values of socialism.

### **3.2. The Needs of Real Development**

2020 was destined to be an extraordinary year for China. In this year, the novel corona virus pneumonia ravaged the world, the world economy suffered a major impact, and the international multilateral system was facing severe challenges. In such a situation full of domestic and foreign difficulties, China still presented a dazzling performance: all the rural population has been lifted out of poverty, all impoverished counties have removed their hats, and absolute poverty has been historically eliminated; a well-off society has been built in an all-round way, and the first century goal has been completed; the 13th Five-Year Plan ended perfectly and steadily entered the 14th Five-Year Plan. In terms of scientific and technological innovation, in 2020, Chang'e 5 brought back rocks and soil from the moon, and the Long March 8 rocket was successfully launched, launching the "Tianwen-1" Mars rover, the first independent Mars exploration mission; the Beidou global navigation system was completed, China's

Beidou will become the world's Beidou; the quantum computer prototype "Nine Chapters" came to the world, successfully reaching a milestone in quantum computing research; 5G network construction has been steadily advancing and walking in the forefront of the world...

These huge achievements were made under the leadership of the Communist Party of China by all Chinese people persisting in following the path of development with Chinese characteristics, condensing our "national spirit", and working hard to give full play to the advantages of the system [9]. It is the concentrated embodiment of the system of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the path, theory, and culture of socialism with Chinese characteristics on the level of system. The various scientific and technological achievements in 2020 and the typical deeds that emerged in the fight against the epidemic, especially the deeds of peers, have played a good exemplary role in teaching the "four-confidence" to college students, and can make students feel the prosperity of the country and the rejuvenation of the nation with facts so as to cultivate their ideological and emotional identification with the core values of socialism, and then internalize them.

### 3.3. *The Needs of Students' Self-development*

With the expansion of economic globalization and the deepening of reform and opening-up, more and more collisions between Eastern and Western cultural ideological trends have occurred, which has brought new challenges to young college students' ideological concepts and value recognition. At the same time, the socialist market economy has made unprecedented achievements. Many people have developed utilitarian ideas, mistakenly regarded "money is omnipotent", "destroy the public and benefit oneself, harm others and benefit oneself", "by hook or by crook" and "unscrupulous" as the necessary conditions for success, making the evaluation criteria not standard. College students are in their youthful life, which is the critical period for the formation of world outlook, outlook on life and values. A little carelessness will cause their values to deviate. When students are faced with the contrast between the ideal state of socialist core values and social reality, and cannot make scientific analysis and reasonable explanations, they will easily shake their ideals and beliefs and have doubts about the core values. Therefore, educators in universities should guide students to realize that Western countries have been leading the way in industrialization for more than 200 years, and military aggression and colonial plunder always happen when they rise. However, it only took a few decades for China to achieve its current achievements through peaceful development and self-reliance. Although the gap between us and western developed countries is still very large, and there are some uncivilized and discordant phenomena in the development process, the whole society is progressing, the level of civilization is getting higher and higher, and more and more achievements have been made. Therefore, integrating the "four-confidence" into the core value education based on our actual situation, throughout the different stages of students' study, via various opportunities and methods to publicize and

educate is the primary task of ideological and political workers. And until students can not only be able to understand it ideologically and emotionally but also conduct it on their own, then internalizing it as our own code of conduct. In this way, our civil quality of each new generation will surely excel the last one [10].

## 4. The Way to Reshape the Core Value Education of College Students with the "Four-Confidence"

### 4.1. *Taking the "Four-Confidence" as an Opportunity to Cultivate College Students' Political Identity with Core Values*

The political identification of the core values of socialism is to consider everything from the interests of the party, the country, the nation, and the people, and to recognize the political status, political stance, and political value of the core values from the bottom of one's heart. At the beginning of 2020, China has made world-renowned achievements in the fight against the epidemic, demonstrating its strong institutional advantages, and teaching all college students a "lively and realistic" lesson. Under the strong leadership of the Party Central Committee, we gave full play to the advantages of the system and quickly organized and mobilized all forces. More than 4.6 million grassroots party organizations charged into battle, more than 4 million community workers were on duty day and night in 650,000 urban and rural communities across the country, various enterprises, institutions, individuals, etc. actively contributed, the majority of party members and leading cadres took the lead in fighting, and millions of couriers rushing against the epidemic, 1.8 million sanitation workers worked from dawn to night, and thousands of volunteers and ordinary people quietly contribute [11], which reflects the strong organizational and mobilization capabilities of our country's socialist system. When the anti-epidemic situation was the most severe, the social and economic development once pressed the "pause button", but the lives of the masses were not greatly affected, and the social order was generally normal. This comes from the fact that the party and government accurately grasp the changes in the epidemic situation, take the overall situation and focus on the overall situation, make major decisions to coordinate epidemic prevention and control and economic and social development in a timely manner, adhere to lawful prevention and control, scientific prevention and control, promote the implementation of regional and tiered precision resumption of work and production and maximize the protection of people's production and life. Various tasks were carried out in an orderly manner, demonstrating the extraordinary ability of overall planning and coordination of my country's socialist system. 540,000 medical personnel from Hubei Province and Wuhan City joined hands with each other against the virus and took the lead in fighting the epidemic. 346 national medical teams and more than 40,000 medical personnel rushed to the

front line resolutely. We built Huoshenshan Hospital and Leishenshan Hospital in about 10 days, rebuilt 16 mobile cabin hospitals on a large scale, and quickly opened more than 600 centralized isolation points. The nucleic acid detection kit was developed in the first time to speed up effective drug screening and vaccine development, demonstrating extraordinary ability to implement. China's performance in the epidemic has not only been highly recognized by all countries in the world, but also made our Chinese students feel the meaning of the core values of socialism and deepen their recognition of the core values [12].

#### ***4.2. Taking the "Four-Confidence" as an Opportunity to Cultivate College Students' Ideological Recognition of Core Values***

To be convinced by any theory, it must first be able to answer questions that are of general concern to the people. As the saying goes: Only those whose barn is full can learn about manners, only those whose wardrobe is full can have a sense of dignity. If you want to educate people ideologically, you must first solve their basic survival needs. In 2020, we ushered in the victory of the battle against poverty. The 98.99 million rural poor people were all lifted out of poverty, 832 poor counties were all eliminated, and 128,000 poor villages were all listed. The overall regional poverty has been resolved, and the elimination of absolute poverty has been completed. The arduous task has created another miracle on earth that shines through the annals of history [13]! On the road of socialist development, we have always believed in our confidence in the system and theory, combining socialist ideology with Chinese characteristics with the actual situation of China to solve people's livelihood issues. In the development process, the party always puts civilization, harmony, rule of law, and justice in the first place. The core socialist values of patriotism, dedication, integrity, and friendliness are fully embodied at the individual level. Through the demonstration of role models in all walks of life, it not only vividly explained the spiritual connotation of the core values of socialism, but also fully deepened the ideological identification of college students with the core values of socialism.

#### ***4.3. Taking the "Four-Confidence" as an Opportunity to Cultivate College Students' Emotional Identification with Core Values***

Cultivating college students' emotional identification with the core values of socialism requires students to have a positive understanding and a positive comprehension of the connotation and essence of the core values. First of all, in the teaching of ideological and political teachers, in addition to theoretical explanations, they should also focus on the analysis of hot issues in combination with domestic and international situations, so that students can deeply understand the connotation of the "four-confidence". Through a comparative analysis of the core values of socialism and other ideologies of Western countries, it is clear and straightforward to demonstrate the superiority of our country's socialist system,

and guide students to understand and grasp the scientific, practical, and advanced characteristics of core values from aspects of theory and practice, history and reality, domestic and international backgrounds, enabling students to establish self-confidence in value. Secondly, the national level of core values indicates our goal, the social level provides the direction of faith, and the individual level specifies the code of conduct. In teaching, ideological and political teachers should focus on the inner feelings and actual needs of students, so that students can feel the core values is not a theory of "big and empty", nor is it a rule that restricts individuality, but it should be integrated into the behavior and habits of all citizens in all aspects and whole process, so as to generate emotional resonance. An important indicator to measure the effectiveness of the construction of socialist core values is whether all citizens can truly internalize in the heart and externalize in the form [14].

## **5. Conclusion**

This issue is based on the nature of education, search for the countermeasures of ideological and political education, by integrating real-life cases into students' daily lives. General Secretary Xi Jinping said: "The success of core values is by no means a day's work. We must persist it from easy to difficult, from near to far, and strive to turn the requirements of core values into daily codes of conduct, thereby forming conscious ideals and beliefs." [15]. In their daily work, ideological and political workers should fully explore the educational elements around students and tell Chinese stories in combination with actual cases. Only in this way can students empathize with each other, better understand the connotation of the "four-confidence", and then develop their value identification and emotional identification with core values, and practice consciously [16].

## **Foundation**

2018 Philosophy and Social Science Special Research Project of University (No. 2018SJSZ757).

## **Acknowledgements**

The work is supported by the Education Department of Jiangsu Province.

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