College Students' Ideological and Moral Education Research under the Vision of Ecological Civilization—Based on the Process Philosophy

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Abstract. Transformation from industrial civilization to ecological civilization requires that people should establish the ecological consciousness that accordance with the requirements of the ecological civilization era. So ecological consciousness should be widely and deeply cultivated in colleges. The implementation of education should follow a rational philosophy thinking mode and the process philosophy provides this paradigm for us. It requires that educators take students' social life as background and guide students to use their rationality, consciously accept and foster the ecological awareness, and guide their owe ecological behavior.

Introduction

With the development of the industrial civilization, human face more and more serious ecological problems. Resource consumption and environmental pollution are worrying. Building a new human civilization, protecting the environment and realizing the harmony between human and nature, are not only the human pursuit of an ideal, but also the inevitable choice of realizing the sustainable development of human society. So, the cultivation of ecological consciousness, which meets the requirements of ecological civilization era, is brought into the ideological and moral education in colleges and universities, which has become the responsibility of the society and the times. On the elements of ecological civilization education in the ideological and moral education in colleges and universities, many scholars have conducted in-depth study. Jian-Ming XUE (2010) thought that the school moral education and the ecology environmental protection are disconnected, the connotation of university moral education needs to be expanded and we must carry on the ecological civilization education to the university students. Yun-Qin WANG (2013) proposed that the ideological and moral education in colleges and universities should not only pay attention to the cultivation of college Students' awareness of ecological civilization, but also to enhancing students' practical ability to engage in the construction of ecological civilization. However, when we realize the necessity of ecological consciousness cultivation, doe not necessarily carry out effective education. Because it involves that the cultivation and formation of consciousness need to use a rational philosophy of thinking paradigm and rational academic analysis, in order to implement effective education. Process philosophy gives educators a reasonable educational paradigm. Firstly, the transition of industrial civilization to ecological civilization era is studied in this paper. And the educational concept which based on the paradigm of process philosophy is analyzed. Then the efficient way of cultivating ecological consciousness in college students' ideological and moral education is explored.

The Transition of Age Characteristics from Industrial Civilization to Ecological Civilization

The history of human civilization has experienced three stages: primitive civilization, agricultural civilization and industrial civilization. In the middle of the 20th century, with the ecological crisis gradually evolving into a global problem, industrial civilization began to decline, marking a new era of human beings - the era of ecological civilization.
In each historical stage of primitive civilization, agricultural civilization and industrial civilization, because of the different historical background, human beings have taken different attitudes towards nature. "Reverence for nature" is the portrayal of the relationship between man and nature in the primitive civilization era, and the relationship between man and nature is “relatively harmonious”. In the stage of agricultural civilization, a state of disharmony began to appear, but did not fundamentally threaten the survival and development of human beings. Arriving at the age of industrial civilization, during the period of 300 years of industrial civilization, and in the process of formation of the capitalist system and the development of science and technology and productivity, people created enormous material wealth from the concept of "Anthropocentrism". At the same time, human consumed a lot of material resources, extremely seriously plundered the nature and seriously damaged the natural ecological environment. The damage has already threatened the survival of life on the earth, including mankind, and has led to biodiversity reduces gradually. British wildlife survey report shows that the earth has already endured five mass extinctions caused by natural factors, then is facing the sixth major biological extinction caused by human activities. About 75 species die out every day on the earth. Many problems caused by industrial civilization have raised people's concerns about the sustainable survival and development of human beings.

Engels once pointed out, “We should not over enjoy our victory on the nature, because for each such victory, the nature will take revenge on us.” But this kind of warning has not attracted people's attention. In the 1960s, the publication of American scientist Rachel Carson's "Silent Spring" caused widespread concern and thinking about the natural destruction of human activities in the United States. People gradually recognize the importance of protecting nature. Held in Stockholm, Sweden in 1972 the first world Conference on the Human Environment put forward the slogan of "there is only one earth", adopted the famous "Declaration on the Human Environment", and reached a consensus that the human and the environment are inseparable from the "community", which is the first milestone in the history of human environmental protection. In 1987, Ms. Brundtland, the chairman of the World Commission on Environment and Development, put forward the concept of "sustainable development" for the first time in the study of "our common future" which submitted to the United Nations General Assembly. In 1992, the UNCED was held in Brazil and adopted “21 Century Agenda”. Sustainable development has become the consensus and political commitment of all countries in the world. With deep understanding of the relationship between man and nature, the understanding to the defects of industrial civilization era has been more profound. As a new kind of civilization, ecological civilization refers to a new kind of formation of society and marks a new practical and theoretical breakthrough of the relation between man and nature. Ecological civilization has designed a fine blueprint for our society in the future, and has indicated the development direction. Black industrial civilization based on anthropocentrism as the main value orientation on the predatory using of natural resources is not desirable. The development of economic and social practice promoted by people at the expense of environment is wrong and unsustainable. Therefore, it is impossible for contradiction between man and nature to find the answer in the thinking pattern of industrial civilization. Only to re-examine their own behavior, abandon the black civilization which is at the expense of natural environment and build green civilization - ecological civilization in harmony with nature, can we truly achieve the harmonious coexistence of human and nature. The concept of ecological civilization of harmony between man and nature abandoned the mysterious veil of nature in the era of primitive civilization and absorbed the reasonable kernel of harmoniously coexistence between primitive civilization and nature; and abandoned the blind self-confidence of mankind's "conquer the nature" in industrial civilization and absorbed the positive factors of its transformation of nature. The path of development from industrial civilization to ecological civilization is not a negative abandonment of industrial civilization but active sublation, which is civilization innovation with all the positive achievements of industrial civilization and the realization of the new development requirements. In the era of ecological civilization, emphasizing that the human is just a part of nature, the relationship between man and nature is not conquest and be conquered but mutual
interdependence. And human should realize their own survival and development with the patterns of production and lifestyle which respect and comply with nature.

**The Education Concept of Process Philosophy Paradigm**

"The change of the world view is the change of philosophical thinking mode at all." Philosophy seeks the source of consciousness in a rational way. The cultivation of College Students' ecological consciousness needs to be guided by rational philosophical thinking mode, so as to form the ecological consciousness rationally. In fact, people's consciousness is not from the external mysterious force, nor the people's thinking organs, but from the social practice activities. The content of man's consciousness is bound to be modified and innovated with the continuous process of his life. Philosophy thinking mode of human activities, which comes down the source of consciousness content to people's real life process, abandons the metaphysical paradigm of "substance" in which pursuit of independent existence and eternal. Process philosophy based on "actual entity" build up the formation process of consciousness, which belongs to the philosophy thinking paradigm of human activities theory and provides a reasonable way for educators to carry out education. The process philosophy claims that the process is fundamental. Human life and natural world in which human lives are both in a procedure of constant development and transformation, and that is an organic whole with inherently connection. As Alfred North Whitehead pointed out, “The community of reality is a organism but it is not a static organism. It is a kind of state that is not perfect in the process of production. In this sense, an organism is an association...are the realistic basis for the follow-up period to perfect.” So, according to the patterns of process philosophy, the ideological and moral education of the educative objects is based on their rationality, in the process of their life, with all of their life as the background, and consciously accept the idea that is reasonable, to guide their behavior. The key here is the educator's guide. Through thought interaction, educators with the attitude of development, grasp times features of society, explore the problems, carry out creative thinking, and finally reach a consensus with the educated. Making the educated think that correct consciousness is reasonable, thus the correct concept of consciousness has been accepted by the educated, which makes education become a kind of “life activity with root". Human knowledge, because of the restriction of the human social practice, can only be the thinking summary obtained by this moment, so knowledge is limited. And this kind of knowledge will continue to be revised and innovated with the further development of human practical activities. In the process of mankind's real life, any people, including teachers, cannot master all knowledge in life. So in the process of imparting necessary knowledge to college students, it is more important to teach students the ability of independent and creative thinking, to make them positively facing the life and solving problems in life.

**The Cultivation of College Students' Ecological Consciousness**

The characteristics of the ecological civilization era give rationality and necessity to the construction of ecological consciousness. For a long time, focusing on the theme of patriotism, collectivism, socialism and communism, universities pay attention to teaching students how to deal with the relationship between people and how to comply with the moral code of social life. In the past, this kind of traditional education had really played its unique function and value. But today ecological environmental crisis is deepening, so it is far from enough to just make the education above for college students. Because of the unique nature of ecological civilization era, the university students in ideological and moral education are also given a new kind of content. As a new concept of civilization, ecological civilization education, in addition to teaching the traditional moral education, is more important to telling students that in the transformation and utilization of nature, human beings also have the moral obligation and responsibility for protection and development of natural environment. Through arming college students' minds with ecology civilized idea, to improve the quality of college students' ecological civilization, to cultivate students' ecological civilization concept of respecting nature, conforming nature and protecting nature. Make college students set up
the concept of harmonious development between human and nature, ecological responsibility and ecological legal consciousness, and practice the concept of sustainable development between human and nature. We may summarize the situation as follows. First, the ecological holism. In the aspect of thinking mode, highlight the ecological consciousness. The whole nature and human society are a whole that interrelated and interacting with each other. On the other hand, emphasizing the integrity and dynamic of things, rather than the views of industrial civilization era that motive force of things lies in part and the whole determined by part. In the times of ecological civilization, it is the progress of history and also human civilization to study the objective things, to observe the objective world, and to recognize and solve the problems of the real world by dynamic perspective. Second, the correct understanding of the relationship between man and nature. In the development of the relationship between man and nature, a basic fact is that the ability to changing nature has been greatly enhanced since industrial civilization of mankind. When the rich material wealth obtained from nature, there is a serious contradiction between man and nature, and this kind of opposition has already threatened the survival and development of human beings. When thinking about the contradiction of contemporary society between man and nature, we should make university students realize that the correct way of human activity in nature is to abandon the consciousness of taking nature as subject of control and provider of material wealth. As the foundation for survival and development, the resources that nature can provide and the ability to withstand both are limited. Particularly, the arrival of high-tech age and the ability to change the nature rising to a new height, human's improper using of science and technology will be a great damage to the nature and further threaten the survival of mankind itself. So we should establish the consciousness of environment protection and make it clear that human beings cannot use nature to satisfy their endless consumption desire. In contemporary society, college students should set up environmental protection consciousness and construct ecological ethics. Establishing the environmental protection awareness is to realize the ecological harmony between man and nature, to keep the nature clean and to achieve the organic unity between nature evolution and human society development. Construction of ecological ethics is that in the process of nature changing, we should not only recognize and care the equal status of human beings in the natural environment, but also other life forms on the earth. We should protect biodiversity and provide a good living environment for the other lives on Earth. As advocated by the United Nations for the first conference on the Human Environment: human renewable development can not only satisfy modern people's needs, but also do not harm our descendants' needs. To protect someone's rights with the deprivation of another someone's is not allowed. We should maintain the intra-generational equity and inter-generational equity, on the environmental issues. Therefore, the ecological civilization era emphasizes that human beings should respect the objective laws, comply with nature, respect and protect nature, and build a harmonious symbiotic relationship between man and nature. In the organic whole "man - Society - Nature", not only human but also other lives in nature are the principal parts. The age of industrial civilization emphasizes that human beings are the main body, and master the rule of nature, which is different in nature from that of ecological civilization. Third, the establishment of ecological internal value. Rolston believes that human, other creatures on the earth, and all nature are a new moral community, and all forms of life on earth are equal. He takes the change of the sign in Colorado wilderness park as an example. The original sign "please leave the flowers for people to enjoy" has been replaced by "let flowers open freely", which shows that the transformation of human's attitude towards all life. The plant is also a kind of life, also has its own inherent survival value. On the values, therefore, the view that nature and other beings don't possess intrinsic value and they only possess instrumental value should be abandoned. Humans should acknowledge the intrinsic value of nature, that is, the nature of the universe with its own scale and with the value of existence. "All purposeful activities of successful biological organisms are for existence of themselves and their species." Fourth, establish the concept of ecological responsibility and ecological legal system. And enhance the awareness of ecological responsibility. The construction of ecological civilization is related to every one of us, regardless of age or sex. College students are outstanding intellectuals, and their ability to master new knowledge and new skills are higher than ordinary youth. As a special
social group, college students are the main force in the future of China's modernization, and have much more responsibility and obligation to enhance their own ecological consciousness and promote the harmonious development of human and nature. As the channel of cultivation of college students, the university should educate and guide students to enhance the awareness of ecological responsibility of college students, making college students have the consciousness of ecological crisis, the consciousness of responsibility of resource saving, and the participation awareness of ecological civilization construction. Make students fully realize that the world we live is facing a series of ecological problems, gradually form a correct ecological concept, and consciously assume responsibility for the protection of the ecological environment, so as to truly become the creators and drivers of China's socialist ecological civilization construction. The protection of the natural environment and the development of ecological civilization not only needs ecological civilization consciousness, but also needs the social legal system to regulate and constraint the behavior of people. In the College course of Ideological and moral education, we must strengthen the education of laws and regulations on environmental protection. Only by fully understanding their own environmental rights and obligations, can college students consciously abide by the ecological legal system, and actively participate in environmental protection, so as to create a good social environment for environmental law enforcement.

**Conclusion**

Ideological and moral education in colleges and universities should adapt to the requirements of the ecological civilization development and use the rational mode of philosophical thought, in order to carry out extensive ecological education. The whole nature is an organic entity with inherently connection, and the existence and development of human depend on good natural environments. So we should establish the concept of ecological ethics and ecology with inherent value, set up environment protection consciousness and environment legal system idea, and assume the responsibility of ecological environment.

**References**


