# The Phenomenon of "Extreme Socialization" and the Educational Function in Personality Construction

YE Weiping[a]; CHEN Zhizhong[b],*

[a]Lecturer, Jiangxi Normal University Science and Technology College, Gongqingcheng, China.
[b]Lecturer, School of Education, Jiangxi Normal University, Nanchang, China.
*Corresponding author.

## Abstract

The phenomenon of "Extreme Socialization" ignores the significance of individual autonomy and uniqueness, inhibits the healthy and free development of students' personality, violates the human-oriented educational concept, and is not conducive to the overall development of students, especially the cultivation of students' innovative spirit. Therefore, in the process of constructing students' personality, it is necessary to give full play to the relevant functions of education.

**Key words:** Extreme socialization; Personality construction; Educational function

# 1. "EXTREME SOCIALIZATION" AND ITS ANALYSIS

## 1.1 Concept of "Extreme Socialization"

From the perspective of practical expression, "extreme socialization" includes two connotations: first, from the perspective of process, it refers to the behavior of various social forces that, for the purpose of social integration, try their best to "duplicate and process" their members regardless of the differences among individuals and the significance of individual autonomy and uniqueness. Second, from the perspective of consequence, it refers to an individual losing his identity by carrying too much social content. "Extreme socialization" has a series of characteristics: uniform specification, mold casting, mass production, standard inspection, and everyone is the same. In education, it emphasizes social standard and teacher authoritarianism while repressing personality and exerting too much burden on students.

## 1.2 The Phenomenon of "Extreme Socialization" and Its Influence on Personality Construction

School is an important institution of student socialization. Compared with other social institutions, school has more effective characteristics: institutionalized content and means of individual influencing, professional and specialized executor of socialization — teachers, and bureaucratic educational management mechanism. Because school education plays a decisive role in the process of human socialization, it is also responsible for the consequences of excessive socialization. It is easy for schools to teach students to take a dim view of themselves and to believe that they are nothing after all. The education in some countries and regions, from the purpose of education, curriculum setting, teaching organization and method, management system to the relationship between teachers and students, is based on meeting the needs of the society and focuses on the center of socialization. From the point of view of the purpose, the content of school education is almost to train the young generation into the kind of people meeting the requirements of the society, and take students as the object of socialization completely in one direction, thus inhibiting the healthy development of students' personality.

## 1.3 Reflection on "Extreme Socialization" in Personality Construction

Due to the differences of heredity, family background and growth environment, individuals are bound to have unique qualities. An individual is an active, selective, and complex subject in relation to his environment. A person's personality cannot be imposed from the outside, it can only be the natural growth of his inner needs. In order for each person to become his or her own unique self, it depends first on his or her natural desire and development, and then on the external environment that promotes the development of his or her own personality. The inherent development tendency of human beings provides the possibility for education to realize the individuation of human beings. From the point of view of necessity, personalization is extremely important both for individuals and for society. For individuals, the unique existence of individuals makes people's social life colorful, dynamic and orderly. What's more, numerous individual styles and their exuberant creative desires can make social life full of vitality and become the original driving force for social progress. Therefore, an ideal society should provide individuals with the free development of space and, at the same time, develop a reforming mechanism that holds personal creativity and rational pursuit. Otherwise, only by stressing socialism and always diminishing the differences and uniqueness, the progress and development of this society can only be empty talk. Education should cultivate a dynamic, non-compliant, non-conservative state of mind. Quality-oriented education is based on people's starting point and end-result, and its essence is to respect and develop personality. According to Gardner's theory of multiple intelligence, every individual presents more or less various types of intelligence, but the development degree of each intelligence is different in the individual, which leads to the difference in learning interest and problem thinking of different individuals. And because many countries and regions have been practicing unity education in the past, students have lost their due vitality and spirit of exploration, unable to meet the needs of social development for talents. It can be said that personality education is a new educational thought in constant exploration, construction and development. First of all, as an activity of cultivating people, education starts from human beings, but everyone has his own unique personality. Therefore, the basic idea of personality education is to respect people's personality and then excavate a person's individual character potential and advantage. Starting from the individual personality, school can excavate the individual's unique personality potential, so that each student's strongest point and shining point can be given full play, promoting the comprehensive and coordinated development of human personality. From the human point of view, everyone's body and mind can get comprehensive and harmonious development.

## 2. EDUCATIONAL FUNCTION IN PERSONALITY CONSTRUCTION

### 2.1 Educational Content in Personality Construction

First, cultivation of innovation. Innovation provides intellectual support for the development of human society and promotes the formation and development of all good things. At the same time, with the development of society, the truth is changing constantly. Society needs creative thinkers who can break out of outdated truths and discover new ones to create new ways of life. Human's innovation includes two parts: innovation consciousness and innovation ability. Innovation consciousness refers to people's attitude towards innovation, their willingness and motivation to take the initiative to innovate and their pride in innovation. It is the premise and foundation for people to achieve innovative results. Without the consciousness of innovation, there is no motivation for innovation. Innovation ability refers to the ability of individuals to achieve innovative results, which specifically includes knowledge, skills and thinking ability. If there is no innovation ability, innovation consciousness can only be a fantasy. Only when people have both innovative consciousness and innovative ability can they achieve innovative results.

Second, cultivation of autonomy. Autonomy is one of the important reasons why human beings are different from animals and plays a great role in the formation and development of personality. In the process of life, people will use their autonomy to choose their own way of life and solve their own problems. The autonomy of human beings includes the ability to choose, the ability to understand and the ability to correct mistakes. There are a variety of choices in our production and life. Making choices makes people sometimes suffer and sometimes happy. Human's sensory faculties such as awareness, judgment, discrimination, intellectual activity, even moral choices, are used only in making choices(John Mill, 2012, p.68). Therefore, people's independent choice is a manifestation of human freedom, but also a manifestation of ability. The ability of self-understanding not only enables us to understand the results of things, but also enables us to understand the causes and processes of things so as to avoid the recurrence of similar problems. A person's ability to correct his mistakes makes him better able to achieve his goals in life.

Third, cultivation of independent personality. The so-called independent personality refers to the progressive thought and good moral quality which consciously maintain human dignity with independent views and unique personality quality character. People with independent personality are not disturbed by the outside world and adhere to their own views to achieve a comprehensive and harmonious development of personality. The connotation of independent personality

includes: correct self-consciousness, independent survival ability and social responsibility. Correct self-consciousness refers to the ability to be independent, have a correct understanding of one's physical and mental condition, have objective emotional experience of things and have independent self-management ability. Independent survival ability refers to the ability to independently solve various problems encountered in life. Social responsibility means that people living in the society should bear the corresponding social responsibility. Only by taking social responsibility and doing something beneficial to the society can we be called a social individual with independent personality.

## 2.2 Educational Measures in Personality Construction

First, a brand new system of educational purpose, training objectives and educational objectives should be established. The educational purpose in many countries and regions tends to reflect the requirements of social and group interests from a macro perspective while the significance, status and cultivation of personality are often lacking due consideration. To cultivate a person with personality, we should first consider the expression of the purpose of education into the content of cultivating personality. The purpose of education is not only to adapt to the requirements of a country or a society, but also to cultivate people themselves as the main body of the country and society. Because the purpose of education is abstract, it reflects the direction and the ultimate guide of human training. If it needs a specific guiding role in the practice of education, the idea of personality training must be put into practice in schools at all levels and in a certain course or even in a certain teaching unit. To establish a brand new system of educational purpose, training objectives and educational objectives is the most basic premise to avoid extreme socialization and implement individualized education.

Second, personalized teaching methods and strategies should be adopted. If we want to cultivate students' healthy and positive personality, we should also reform the teaching organization form and methods. Class teaching system is the most social form of organization. It is the most effective in the socialization so it is not conducive to the development and performance of students' personality. However, the class teaching system cannot be replaced at present, so people have come up with many measures to adapt to the individual differences of students, such as reducing the class size, group teaching, self-study tutoring, independent learning and so on. In fact, no matter what form or method, teachers should set up the idea of individuality, and keep in mind the principle of respecting differences and protecting individual uniqueness. Even the class teaching system can be used for personalized education if it can get rid of the malady of uniform and one-way indoctrination.

Third, students and teachers should be liberated from all the restraints. Schools often treat students as containers of knowledge and books and cram too much into them. All the reforms made by individualized education should be implemented to the students, which can be summed up in one word: emancipate the students! Freeing students means giving them back their personal spiritual space, giving them back the reality of their daily lives, putting "I" on an equal footing with "we," acknowledging the uniqueness of each individual and the value of their existence. Freeing students is a prerequisite for freeing teachers. Our teachers themselves are over-socialized in their extreme socialization of students. It is inconceivable that a man who is not free will cultivate a free man and that a man who has no character will cultivate a man of character. The liberation of teachers, is to update some of the teacher's concepts. They themselves first have to become individuals with rich personality because the biggest mission of their work is to cultivate students with rich personality. Democracy, equality, tolerance, fraternity and so on are not just beautiful words in oral or written, but should be regarded as the cornerstone of healthy and good personality cultivation, and should be specifically integrated into the interaction and the common norms of the relationship between teachers and students.

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