

# Strengthening Patriotism Education in the War Against Epidemic

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**Abstract:** Patriotism education is the most important way to guide college students to establish the correct national view and state outlook. In the new era, colleges and universities should take patriotism education as an eternal theme throughout the whole university period, improve college students' patriotic consciousness, and transform their deep patriotism belief into the practical action of loving their jobs and hard working.

## 1. Introduction

Patriotism is the most important spiritual gene of the Chinese nation, the most precious spiritual wealth of the Chinese civilization with the long history, and the most powerful spiritual power for the Chinese people to unite and forge ahead. Recently, the General Office of the Ministry of Education issued policies include the *Notice on Carrying Out the Publicity and Education on the Theme of "Jointly Fighting the Epidemic with the Spirit of Patriotism"* and *Collecting and Displaying Network Cultural Achievements*, which puts forward new requirements for patriotic education in colleges and universities. In colleges and universities, the fight against the epidemic should be taken as the important practice and a kind of vivid teaching material to promote the patriotic education. Combined with the characteristics and requirements of different stages of epidemic prevention and control, the themes of fighting against the epidemic and strengthening patriotism education should be connected. We should work hard in the three aspects of reasoning, empathy and practice, so as to gather the strength of college teachers and students to jointly fight against the epidemic, and build firm confidence in the war against the epidemic. Through these measures, we can guide teachers and students to be firm believers, active disseminators and practitioners of socialist core values.[1]

## 2. How to Strengthen Patriotism Education in Colleges and Universities

Efforts should be made in "reasoning". We need to strengthen theoretical research and interpretation, and guide teachers and students to be firm believers in socialist core values. Only thorough theories can convince people; thorough theories need to grasp the essence of things. Patriotism education should work hard on "reasoning", strengthen theoretical research and scientific interpretation, and deeply understand the essence and rich connotation of the patriotism spirit. How to reach the thoroughness of the theory through "reasoning" and realize the purpose of "making determination and fostering the spirit"? We must adhere to the fundamental position and basic methods of Marxism; we must adhere to the people's position, use dialectical materialism and historical materialism to understand and analyze various phenomena in the campaign against the epidemic, and deeply dig the resources of patriotism education. We must adhere to the direction of problem orientation; in light of new conditions, problems and contradictions emerging in the fight against the epidemic as well as people's new concerns, we should grasp the "essence of things". We should actively respond to new challenges in patriotism education in the new era. First, new contradictions emerge in the process of economic and social development can cause people's ideological fluctuation. For example, how to respond to some new situations and problems in the field of social governance in the epidemic prevention and control in a timely manner? Second, there are various wrong thoughts in the field of public opinion. These erroneous thoughts can mislead the

people easily. For example, how to respond to network public opinions in the process of epidemic prevention and control? Third, there are hostile Western forces which carry out containment and value penetration in China. For instance, how to accurately analyze events related to Tibet and Taiwan passed by the United States during the epidemic? Fourth, there are irrational and even illegal words and deeds in social life. For example, how to analyze irrational behaviors appear in the process of epidemic prevention and control? Through the all-round, deep-seated and multi-angle theoretical research on above problems, we can understand that, the essence of patriotism is to adhere to the high unity of patriotism, socialism and loving the Party, and can convince people in theory and guide teachers and students to become firm believers of socialist core values.

We should work hard on “empathy” to cultivate students’ sincere feelings of patriotism, socialism and loving the Party, and guide teachers and students to become active disseminators of socialist core values. Patriotism is the deepest and most lasting emotion in the world. We should strengthen the subjective experience, increase emotional resonance, strengthen the ideological, emotional and theoretical identification of teachers and students on the road of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and cultivate their positive, open, inclusive, rational and peaceful mentality. The *Outline for the Implementation of Patriotism Education in the New Era* requires us to speak for the practice of upholding and developing socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era, and speak for the advantages of the socialist system with Chinese characteristics. In the comparison between history and reality, and between international and domestic situations, we should guide people to deeply understand why the Communist Party of China “can”, why Marxism “works” and why socialism with Chinese characteristics is “good”. We should keep in mind where the red regime came from and how the new China was established. We should cherish the socialism with Chinese characteristics created by our Party, and constantly enhance our confidence in the road, theory, system and culture. Therefore, we should dig deeply into the profound connotation of patriotism behind the epidemic prevention and control, speak with the fact that the Communist Party of China adheres to people-oriented principle, and speak with the “China speed” of high-speed operation and full staff linkage. In the comparison between history and reality, and between international and domestic situations, we should guide people to deeply understand why the Communist Party of China “can”, why Marxism “works” and why socialism with Chinese characteristics is “good”. We should strengthen the subjective experience, arouse resonance with empathy, and strengthen the “four self-confidence” of teachers and students in colleges and universities with resonance. We should stimulate the patriotic feelings of teachers and students in an all-round and three-dimensional way, and guide teachers and students to become active disseminators of socialist core values.

Efforts should be made to promote the transformation of patriotism into conscious actions of serving the country, and guide teachers and students to be practitioners of socialist core values. Action is the beginning of knowledge, and knowledge is the accomplishment of action. Patriotism is ultimately attributed to the specific actions of individuals, and there is no patriotism divorced from concrete and practical practice. “Only when it is hard, can we be more brave and resolute; only if we practice earnestly, can the action become more precious.” General secretary Jinping Xi stressed, “ideological and political teaching cannot do without the guidance of teachers. At the same time, we should further study the rules of students’ cognition and characteristics of their acceptance, and play the role of students’ subjectivity.” Patriotism education should follow the laws of education and teaching and the rules of ideology and morality formation, adhere to the unity of knowledge and practice, and guide teachers and students to internalize and externalize patriotism in their hearts and deeds. First, teachers and students should be the “guardian” to take on the mission and ensure people’s health. [2] They need to strictly abide by school regulations, consciously abide by local management, and actively cooperate with the school and local authorities in epidemic prevention. They should stick to the bottom line of not increasing the chaos, stay away from the virus that corrodes the body and guard against the poison of corrosive thoughts. They should be the disseminator of science, the smasher of rumors, the guardian of health, and the caregiver of family. Second, they should be the “practitioner” who stays at home and adheres to morality. Teachers and students should work hard to improve themselves when they stay at home. They can cultivate

sentiment in literary classics, learn to speculate in philosophical works, know right and wrong in ethical stories, and rely on network teaching platform for professional learning and self-improvement.

### **3. Summary**

Patriotism is a banner guiding the growth and development of Chinese youth in the new era and leading them to devote themselves to the cause of socialist construction. We must take patriotism education as an eternal theme, grasp the key of youth, work hard on “reasoning”, “empathy” and “practice”, and carry out patriotism education deeply, vividly and persistently, so as to guide teachers and students to bear in mind their mission and responsibility, cultivate their patriotic enthusiasm, and guide them to consciously integrate their own practical actions into the great journey of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era. Through the patriotism education, the great cause of socialist revolution and construction as well as the cause of realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation can be carried on from generation to generation.

### **References**

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