

## Philosophical reflection on the essence of ideological and political education

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**Abstract.** It is the transcendental nature of man to search for the essence of things as they are. People always want to explore the truth behind the phenomenon, trying to go beyond the immediate reality, looking for the infinite in the finite, governing the tangible and intangible, and the eternity contained in the present, to confirm the place where people live. This particular mode of thinking is not only the origin of ancient ontological philosophy, but also the initial driving force for the academic circle to explore the essence of ideological and political education. The philosophical thought of the essence of ideological and political education is not only about the study of the essence, but also about the preliminary thinking and reflection. Based on the above understanding, this paper is divided into the following three parts: the first part is the basic understanding of the essential connotation of ideological and political education; The second part is the general understanding of the essence of ideological and political education. The third part is based on the reflection of the study on the essence of ideological and political education.

### 1. Basic understanding of the essential connotation of ideological and political education

In this sense, the essence of ideological and political education can be summarized as the value activity that adjusts the relationship between human and society. It is the unity of regularity and purpose, tool and value.

First, ideological and political education faces the relationship between man and society. At the end of the day it is in order to meet the requirements of social and human development, it is the educator and the educated according to the needs of the development of society and their own, to correct ideological, political, and moral theory as the instruction, in the process of adaptation and promoting social development, constantly improve the ideological, political, moral quality and promote the comprehensive development process.

Second, the relationship between man and society that ideological and political education wants to form is a concrete historical one, a unity of regularity and purpose. Ideological and political education in the change of human survival and development state, different stages of social development, the adjustment of the relationship between people and society should follow the law of historical development, to clarify their own development stage and existing problems. At present, faced with the test of reform and opening up and market economy, the social civilization still needs to be improved, the social ideological trend is rampant, the ideological struggle in the field of complicated reality, China's ideological and political education needs to adhere to the party's leadership in the field of ideology, adhere to carry forward and cultivate the core socialist values.

Third, the ideological and political education activities not only have a clear ideological nature, but also the connotation of people-oriented value pursuit, is the tool and purpose, political and transcendental unity. Ideological and political education should adhere to the unity of the value of social tools and the value of individual goals, and adhere to the people-oriented principle. It should not only educate, guide, inspire and spur people, but also respect, understand, care about and help people. At the same time, the connotation of the ideological and political education is the transcendence, that it always conform to the requirements of the people and the development of the

society, the relationship between people and society toward a higher, more harmonious level crossing, in this sense, the value of sex is one of the ultimate value of ideological and political education, to realize people's free all-round development contains in it.

## **2. General understanding of the essence of ideological and political education**

### **2.1 Cognitive construction of the essence of ideological and political education**

#### *2.1.1 Based on the history of ideological and political education activities*

Ideological and political education is the development of history, phased, is with regularity and direction, as a kind of adjustment of the relationship between people and society activity, it contains a person's own inner scale, purpose and the pursuit of social is a product of the interaction between people exchanges through practice activity, it is "by man for man's possession of the essence of man". As a kind of value activity, its adjustment of the relationship between human and society is the pursuit of value to realize the essence of human. Understanding ideological and political education with the essential concept of "value activities that adjust the relationship between human and society" can confirm its regularity and purpose.

#### *2.1.2 Based on ideological and political education, understanding the contradiction in reality*

To understand ideological and political education from the perspective of "value activities that adjust the relationship between human and society", the relationship between individuals and society is no longer an external and antagonistic one, but the realization of the true and internal unity between individuals and society, as well as between tools and values. To understand ideological and political education from the perspective of "value activities that adjust the relationship between human and society" is to adhere to the way of thinking from the practical viewpoint, to adhere to the view of historical materialism, and to understand ideological and political education from the negative relationship between human and the world, as well as human being as an individual in the relationship. The society is the place where people communicate and realize themselves, and the practice of people in the society is the process of pursuing people's yearning and ideal, as well as the process of realizing social and historical progress. Society is "the unity of people based on their actual differences" and "the product of interaction between living individuals through practical communication activities", rather than an entity opposite to people, which needs to be forced by the state to carry out "thought control" and "indoctrination". The relationship between human and society is from the early external opposition to the future internal unity. Ideological and political education embodies not only the will of the ruling class, but also the general will of human beings.

### **2.2 Cognitive transformation of the essence of ideological and political education**

#### *2.2.1 Transformation of thinking mode*

At present, the research on the nature of ideological and political education is mainly influenced by the ontological thinking mode, which has the shadow of ontology in the theoretical basis, demonstration mode and basic viewpoints. Whether it comes from the example of the basic rules, according to Plato's "is the definition of the concept of" according to Aristotle's category of species, combined with the essence of Hegel's "essentialism" provisions, or from the perspective of presupposition of conclusions about the nature, essentially belongs to a kind of transcendent, absolute, concept speculative type ontological thinking mode. However, to understand ideological and political education and to study its essence in the way of thinking from the practical point of view overcomes the problems of absolutism, utilitarianism and binary opposition in the way of thinking in ontology to some extent.

#### *2.2.2 Understand the transformation in the way*

After understanding the nature of ideological and political education, the impact is relatively broad view is "indoctrination", "thought to grasp the masses", "political" point of view, and hence is based on the reality of ideological and political education, and class nature, instrumental to understand this activity, the value of ideological and political education tend to be ignored, or as a way to achieve its instrumental, or just to realize the ideological and political education is a through human activity,

rather than to its inherent value orientation people consciously. To understand ideological and political education based on the essential view of "value activities that adjust the relationship between human and society" is to open up the future of this activity and to realize the inner unity of tool and value of ideological and political education.

### **2.3 Realistic response to the essence of ideological and political education**

#### *2.3.1 Contemporary situation of ideological and political education*

Ideological and political education in our country is in the value orientation of "people centered", comply with the wishes of the people, is the trend of The Times, in order to realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation the Chinese dream as the goal of the guidance, to build beyond the antagonistic relations between individual and society, make people to realize the entire development of individual freedom at the same time, can feel the society consciously that combined with the sense of the meaning of the symbiotic relationship between man and woman, and be able to practice view way of thinking to explore and establish individual and society, and self-awareness and ideal belief, individual value and the boundary of the ethical and moral sense and sanctity. Xi general secretary in 2016 in the national colleges and universities in the ideological and political work conference pointed out that "education to guide students to correctly understand the world and China development trend, from our party to explore the historical development of socialism with Chinese characteristics and the great practice, understanding and grasping the historical inevitability of the development of human society, understanding and grasping the historical inevitability of socialism with Chinese characteristics, set up the lofty ideal of communism and the common ideal of socialism with Chinese characteristics and the struggle of faith and confidence, encourage students to consciously personal ideal pursuit into the cause of the country and people", this for the development of ideological and political education, It requires the development of ideological and political education to follow the inevitable law of the development of human society and to correctly deal with the relationship between individuals and the national society. In this sense, ideological and political education is responding to the dilemma of modernity in the form of regularity and purpose.

#### *2.3.2 The ultimate concern of ideological and political education*

At present, the practical problems of ideological and political education lie in the old "recipe", "craft", and "packaging", which are fundamentally not related to transmission and acceptance, language or method, and not in the level of "art" but in the level of "tao". Ideological and political education to understand the educatee "not listen", "don't understand the root cause of the", from the educatee as the form of the people to understand their ideological and political education for the root cause of the traditional way and content rejects with their real demand, and the education activities under the status which can guide people shift does not match with person's survival and development of social relations, to promote and realize people's happiness. Therefore, whether the ideological and political education can understand human, and human living state is close; On the basis of understanding the independence and creativity of human beings, can we reconstruct the common sense and lofty value that human beings once gained in social groups, which is missing and desired in their hearts? Can have realized the historical inevitability behind the administrative instruction theory, real understanding of people's living circumstances, to overcome human one-sidedness, guide people to construct conforms to the development of the happiness of the people of the relationship between man and society, is the value significance of ideological and political education, it ultimate care for people to be here.

### **3. Reflection on the research on the essence of ideological and political education**

#### **3.1 Reflections on discourse research of ideological and political education**

##### *3.1.1 Deconstruction of traditional discourse by anti-essentialism*

Anti-essentialism believes that essentialism's belief in "essence" and "truth" is not its own truth, but comes from the operation of social power. It is the ideology of knowledge, which absolutizes and dogmatizes the views that should be questioned. Liotta, a French philosopher, raised the question of

the legitimacy of narration. He pointed out that narrative form dominates the expression of traditional knowledge, and there is a dominant narration in any era, namely macro narration. The thinkers in the mainstream society established the legitimacy of modern society through macro narration, but not its own legitimacy.

### *3.1.2 Two-way trend of discourse research in ideological and political education*

When ideological and political education encounters the situation of modernity, its reflection on the discourse level shows two trends: one is the emphasis on the discourse power of ideological and political education. The right of discourse embodies the prescriptive and ideological nature of language. It requires that the content and meaning, term expression and transmission mode of ideological and political education discourse carry the value orientation of the mainstream of society, so that the discourse can be accepted by others, so as to realize the guidance and control of the real public opinion. On the other hand, the macro narration of traditional ideological and political education has the problems of too grand content and rigid form, and proposes to carry out the transformation of discourse, so that ideological and political education can be closer to the educatees and respect the educatees' subjectivity.

### *3.1.3 Ideas for constructing the discourse system of ideological and political education*

Postmodernism regards the macro narrative mode as a derivative of ontological thinking, and realizes the ideological domination of "essence", "truth" and "law" with the unified force of essence. This kind of macro narrative mode is the current reality of ideological and political education. The respect of micro-narration for human subjectivity and individual rationality is an inevitable trend of human existence, and also the internal orientation of ideological and political education as "the value activity of adjusting the relationship between human and society". However, to grasp the construction of ideological and political education discourse from the living state of human beings in the way of thinking from the practical point of view can provide ideas for the realization of the fit between the two.

## **3.2 Reflections on the research orientation of ideological and political education**

### *3.2.1 Theoretical orientation of ideological and political education research*

There are two noteworthy tendencies in the study of ideological and political education: one is absolutism and authoritarianism under the influence of ontological thinking; Second, relativism and utilitarianism in the context of modernity. As well as the thinking mode of binary opposition, the essence, method, content and research paradigm of ideological and political education are in contradiction between the accomplished and the generated, the authoritative and the deconstructed, the instrumental and the objective, the public and the individual.

### *3.2.2 Real problems in ideological and political education research*

First, we should study the problems related to ideological and political education. The so-called "relevant problem" is not a circle drawn with essence as the core, but a historical construction with "meta-theory" as the starting point. Its emphasis is not on the field of questions within and outside the clear scope, on the intellectual judgment of one and the other, but on the concrete, practical development.

Second, keep the subject consciousness in the research of the problem. The subject of ideological and political education should study the problems related to itself, which is the basic premise of the scope. Whether the discipline of ideological and political education can be carried out from the perspective of the discipline itself, taking the discipline of ideological and political education as its own academic base and spiritual home, and highlighting the sense of disciplinary responsibility of scholars is the embodiment of the discipline consciousness of ideological and political education.

Third, we need to study the problem of reality. Ideological and political education, as a kind of social activity, adjust the relationship between people and society value, its value is embodied in it can sense, grasp to different times between the development of human and society, the social relationship formed by the people, the incongruity between, can adjust and promote people to overcome their own one-sidedness, accord with the law of development of human community.

### 3.3 Reflections on the understanding of ideological and political education

The party and the state has always attached great importance to ideological and political work and the development of ideological and political education discipline since produced, it embodies the distinct nature of the policy instruction, the development of ideological and political education, teaching reform of talent training, professional Settings, research projects, special funds, etc., to give a lot of national policies and economic support. However, the healthy development of discipline not only needs policy support, but also needs to realize its own connotative development, realize its own theoretical self-consciousness and obtain its thoroughness. So-called the theory of ideological and political consciousness, is the ability to consciously grasp in practice the development of people's survival state, knowledge society and understand the progress of the era of demand, and consciously in the theory explain the reality of our current approach, clean the relationship between people and society contradiction, grasp the endogenous of national spirit and national culture, reveals the spirit of the era of the kernel, for our country "to lift what, what way to make a theoretical thoroughness, for the traditional, ethics, morality and value about the person's life, such as between the ideal and the social public understanding and orientation of the real. It does not rely on ready-made conclusions or "borrowed" theories, but acquires logical consistency in its own thinking, theoretical introspection in the history of practice, and self-examination of thought in the process of reality. It is the unity of universality and particularity, actuality and future, regularity and purpose. This is the fundamental source of scientific nature and discipline confidence of ideological and political education, as well as the fundamental embodiment of researchers' sense of responsibility, mission and nobility.

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