



Research Paper

The research on Labor Education for Chinese University Students: A Literature Review

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Abstract: This paper examines the significance and strategies of labor education for university students from the perspective of well-being. By analyzing the background of labor education for university students, it reveals the influence of social development and educational concepts. The study delves into the value and meaning of labor education, highlighting its crucial role in cultivating comprehensive qualities in university students and shaping a positive attitude towards life. It investigates strategies to enhance labor education for the holistic development of students, including practical measures in curriculum design, social practice activities, and mentor guidance. The paper also explores how to cultivate socialist core values within labor education, emphasizing its key role in shaping correct worldviews and values among university students. Finally, by summarizing the paper, it underscores the importance of strengthening labor education for university students within the realm of well-being, offering valuable insights and guidance for reforms and practices in university education.

Keywords: Well-being; University Students; Labor Education

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1. Background of Labor Education for University Students

In recent years, the background of college students' labor education covers many aspects. Judging from the current research results, the academic circle has basically conducted research on the impact of labor education on college students' employability and practice, on the degree of combination of theory and practice, and on college students' innovation ability, and has achieved fruitful results. Based on this, the current research results are summarized as follows:

According to Lv Mingming's study in 2021, there are many ways to implement labor education for college students. It is believed that more practical opportunities can be provided for students through labor courses, campus environment improvement, school-enterprise cooperation, internship and training. (Lv, M. M. 2021) In his 2021 study, Tong Hongliang believes that happiness in life is the ultimate goal of all human activities. In order to realize the happiness of life, labor education should follow two logic of action: one is the logic of creating happiness through labor education, and the other is the logic of turning labor education into happiness. (Tong, H.L. 2021) The study of the current situation of labor education of post-00s college students from the perspective of happiness reveals the experience of this generation of students in school and social participation and the impact of these experiences on their happiness. Qiu Danwen et al. believe that in the process of modernization, faced with mental health problems such as anxiety and depression brought about by social and economic development, labor education, which is "an educational activity carried out by Chinese universities in recent years", can be relied on to constantly lead college students to enhance self-efficacy and subjective well-being through participation in labor education. (Qiu D.W. et al. 2023)

2. The Value of Labor Education for University Students

Labor education for university students is a significant educational approach, with its profound meaning and substantial value evident in various aspects. Labor education for university students aids in shaping students' values and perfecting their personalities, strengthening social adaptability, and stimulating innovative thinking and practical abilities. Based on this, the academic circle's research on the educational value of labor education is basically as follows:

Fang Jinqiu, in his paper "Research on Labor View Education for University Students in Higher Education Institutions in the New Era," explored how to effectively educate and guide university students' labor views in the context of the new era. (Fang.J.Q.2021)WangHe researches on contemporary college students' cognition of labor education and their behaviors, and believes that college students' attitudes toward labor education and corresponding behaviors are important intermediaries for the development and improvement of college labor education system. It is necessary to strengthen college students' knowledge system of labor education from three aspects: government, family society and colleges and universities. At the same time, it is necessary to constantly guide college students to correctly understand labor education, establish correct labor power and concept, and then continuously build a social culture of respect for labor.(Wang.H.2021)

Labor education is not only a necessary condition, but also a basic and effective way to train talents for all-round development. Labor education enables students to establish a correct view of labor and labor attitude, cultivate labor skills, love labor, and form labor habits.

3. Strengthening Labor Education to Foster Comprehensive Student Development

Labor education not only focuses on mastering labor skills, but also aims at shaping students' personality, improving their moral character and cultivating their values. It is both an important content and a way of "moral integrity". At the same time, it also helps to promote the development and improvement of higher education.

(1)To realize the fundamental task of moral education

College labor education not only helps to cultivate students' basic labor skills and good working habits, but more importantly, shapes their positive personality quality and strong sense of responsibility. Based on this, some scholars have conducted research on college students' labor education from the perspective of moral cultivation, as follows:

In 2021, Liu Zheng approached labor education from the perspective of moral education and talent cultivation, asserting its crucial role in the holistic development of students in aspects such as ethics, intelligence, physicality, aesthetics, and labor. Labor education enables students to gain practical experience, develop hands-on skills, and enhance their problem-solving abilities, while also fostering a sense of responsibility and collective pride, thus promoting their overall development(Liu, Z. 2021).Wen Juan, in her 2022 study using the example of mandatory labor for freshmen at Tianjin University of Science and Technology, delved into the implementation of labor education from the perspective of moral education and talent cultivation. She argued that labor education holds a significant place in higher education, with activities like mandatory labor effectively cultivating students' labor consciousness and sense of responsibility(Wen, J. 2022).

(2)Fostering a Spirit of Unity and Cooperation, and Innovative Practical Abilities

Professor Cheng Aixia (2021) conducted pivotal research on strengthening labor education to promote the comprehensive development of students. She explored how labor education effectively fosters students' overall growth. Her study highlights the importance of cultivating a spirit of unity and cooperation and the ability to innovate in practical endeavors among university students, which are crucial for their holistic development (Cheng, A. X. 2021).Xu Xuede (2023) et al., starting from the social role of labor education, deeply discussed the positive role of labor education in the growth and development of college students, that is, with the increasing emphasis on labor education in the growth education of college students, labor education can not only cultivate students' practical ability and innovative thinking. In addition, it can continuously cultivate college students' self-management ability and teamwork ability through unity and cooperation in labor education. On the whole, the construction and development of labor education is conducive to the healthy growth of college students. Miao Yadong also holds the same view.(Miao.Y.D.2022)

Through the implementation of these measures, it is not difficult to find that labor education can effectively improve college students' sense of solidarity and cooperation and innovative practical ability, so as to promote their all-round development, which is not only conducive to improving the comprehensive quality of college students, but also conducive to cultivating more talents with innovative and practical ability for the society.

(3) Personality Traits, Responsibility, Confidence, and Independence

Cultivating personality traits, a sense of responsibility, confidence, and independence in university students through labor education is crucial. Participating in practical labor allows students to develop a proper outlook on life and values, fostering virtues such as diligence, honesty, and humility.

Labor education is an important way to cultivate college students' personality quality, sense of responsibility, self-confidence and independence. Such as Hu Qing, Li Shaojun, Tong Hongliang and others think, Through labor practice, students can establish correct life views and values, develop good character traits, and enhance their sense of responsibility and teamwork skills. Moreover, labor practice helps build confidence and independent thinking, improving their overall quality and practical abilities.(Hu Q.2021 & Li S.J.2021 & Tong.H.L.2021)

To sum up, in order to give full play to the role of labor education in cultivating college students' personality quality and sense of responsibility, In conclusion, labor education is an essential pathway to develop university students' personality traits, sense of responsibility, confidence, and independence.

4. Cultivating Socialist Core Values

In the study of labor education of college students, cultivating socialist core values is one of the key tasks. In the study of college students' labor education, how to cultivate socialist core values is not only a key task, but also a challenging task. From the current practice of labor education, the example of tutors and counselors is very important. They are not only the people with whom students have the most daily contact, but also the important influences on the formation of students' values.

From the perspective of academic research results, Yadong et al. (2022) explored the positive role of labor education in shaping college students' ability and accomplishment by clarifying the concept and connotation of labor education, mastering its educational significance and existence form. Based on this, the paper holds that carrying out labor education can not only enrich college students' own quality, but also help cultivate their determination and ability to actively practice socialist core values.(Yang.D.2022)

In the study of college students' labor education, the key to cultivating socialist core values lies not only in the imparting of theoretical knowledge, but also in the guidance of practical actions and the inner transformation of individuals. Therefore, it is necessary to guide students to deeply understand the connotation of core values through curriculum design, and organize social practice and volunteer service activities to let students personally feel social needs and problems. Regular thematic education activities and evaluation mechanism can promote students to fully accept the cultivation of core values. The research should be combined with case studies to explore effective cultivation methods in different educational environments, and consider individual differences of students, so as to develop more targeted cultivation programs. At the same time, the establishment of evaluation mechanism can timely understand the dynamics of students' values, and carry out effective evaluation and adjustment to the educational effect.

5. Conclusion

In summary, the research on labor education pathways for university students has emerged as a focal topic of interest in the academic community. Scholarly works, ranging from studies on labor education pathways for university students from the perspective of ideological and political education in the new era, research on post-2000 university students' labor education within the context of well-being, to investigations into enhancing labor education for the comprehensive development of students, have yielded a wealth of insightful findings. These scholarly achievements hold significant theoretical and practical implications for refining the labor education system for university students and enhancing their overall quality and holistic development.

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