

Reconstruction of the foundations of college teacher-student relationship

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Abstract - A good teacher - student relationship is the prerequisite and guarantee of improving the quality of teaching in colleges and universities. However, evidences indicated that the current relationship between teachers and students is in a distorted situation and must be reconstructed. We need to form a good relationship between teachers and students and ensure the teaching quality in colleges and universities.

Index Terms: reconstruction; universities; teacher-student relationship; guidelines

I. Introduction

The quality of teaching is the lifeline of the colleges and universities. Only ensure the quality of teaching can help to achieve scientific development in colleges and universities. Therefore, the effectiveness of higher education depends largely on the performance of teachers and students. Evidences have proved that a good teacher-student relationship is conducive to mobilize both teachers and students enthusiasm and initiative. It is also helpful to improve the efficiency of the teaching of information transmission. A good teacher-student relationship is the necessity of teaching and learning activities and the completion teaching tasks In this era of rapid societal changes, teachers' position in students' mind is declining and the relationship between teachers and students also is suffering from subtle changes. Not only the authority "Once a teacher, always a teacher" between teachers and students almost does not exist, even the most basic respect and friendliness starts to disappear. There are many startling news and events on the tension of the relationship between teachers and students in universities in China to the public .In a series of "incident of insulting teachers" , "incident of Yang Fan" and "incident of killing teachers" , we can easily find college teacher-student relationship has become increasingly distorted in China. In order to ensure the quality of higher education, we must reconstruct the norm of relationship between teachers and students.

II. A good teacher-student relationship is a prerequisite and guarantee for improving teaching quality in colleges and universities

A . *It is conducive to mobilize the enthusiasm of the teachers*

As one of the main bodies of teaching and learning activities, teachers are the key to the students and their have a dominant role in the learning process. Their recognition of their teaching role and professional identity has a significant effect on teaching and learning activities. The so-called "professional identity" means that a person regards his/her

occupation worthwhile and rewarding, and be able to find fun within the work. A large part of the professional identity of teachers depends on the student. If the teachers can get the students' respect, the relationship between teachers and students will more likely to be harmonious .The harmony between teacher and student allows teachers to work in a pleasant environment and promote them to love for their work more and constantly improve their teaching methods and teaching quality. It can also help teacher to successfully complete teaching work and promote a good style of teaching and learning style formation. Thereby the quality of teaching can be improved and the teachers can achieve their mission of teaching .On the contrary, if a teacher cannot get the respect of the students, then he/she will lose part of the his/her self-confidence, even doubt his/her own ability to perform the teaching work. He/she will lose the enthusiasm, passion and won't be able to take the initiative to communicate with students. The teacher-student relationship will be in an impasse which is bad for the improvement of teaching quality.

B . *It is conducive to mobilize the initiative of students*

Referred to in ancient Chinese education monograph "love the teacher and believe in teacher's method", the word "love" is emphasized. Confucius said: "Those who want to know are better than those who know and those who enjoy knowing are the best. The word "enjoy" is emphasized. Two educational philosophy statements tell a timeless, effective education law: a good teacher-student relationship is important for students. A good teacher-student relationship will encourage students to respect teachers and their work so they will actively cooperate with teachers, pay more attention in classes, think diligently and form a positive learning atmosphere. The teaching content will also be easily accepted by the students and they are more likely to learn positively and actively because they enjoy the time with their teachers.

C . *It is helpful to improve the efficiency of the teaching information transmission*

Knowledge transfer is the exchange of an emotional, spiritual communication and it has an emotion-based nature. The teacher-student relationship is the first requirement of the dissemination of teaching information and it is proportional to the harmony of teaching information dissemination. The good relationship between teachers and students can smooth the dissemination of information, and the enjoyment of having time with teachers and help students accept the message of teachers. Conversely, poor teacher-student relationship will

restrict the transmission of information and make students unlikely to accept the information in the classroom.

III. Distorted relationship between teachers and students

A. *The indifference between teachers and students*

On college campuses, teachers and students will always be the key roles of campus relations. However, the relationship is undergoing so many changes. "Familiar Stranger" is an accurate description of the status of the current university teacher-student relationship. The lack of communication between teachers and students, the lack of mutual understanding, mutual indifference, human indifference, the teacher-student relationship alienation are indisputable facts. Under this relationship, teachers will have limited enthusiasm of teaching, regardless whether student can learn. Students also won't enjoy their time with the teachers and stay away from them. The teaching atmosphere is getting worse and the quality of teaching is unsatisfactory.

B. *Bureaucratic relationship between teachers and students*

Traditional authority attached to the bureaucratic relationship between teachers and students is established based on absolute authority of teachers over students. It's an one-direction relationship. Although modern university teacher-student relationship is different from the past and it's more of a pursuit of a new kind of equality, democratic relationship between teachers and students. The traditional idea still exists that the teachers are in the centre of the relationship. China is a country known for students following teachers' ideas and it is even common in today's colleges -- teachers still found it difficult to do working with students equally. This excessive respect pushes the image of teachers into an absolute position of authority. Students were put into an absolute obedience role and cannot absorb knowledge actively.

C. *The utilitarian in the teacher-student relationship*

The teacher-student' academic and spiritual communication is not only worked as a key role's in student's learning process. Teacher's words and deeds, their knowledge have a long impact on students. However, this honest, pure interpersonal contaminated by secular interests, increasingly distorted utilitarian. Students still hold strong utilitarian purposes when they select courses and work with teachers, hoping to get awards or to be appraised. The evaluation mechanism in colleges and universities tend to force to the teacher to pay more efforts on research rather than teaching and teachers are more willing to engage in research projects.

D. *the tension in the teacher-student relationship*

The teacher-student relationship is a basic contradiction in the process of education activities in schools. It is an interactive relationship. The goal of this relationship is improve the learning quality. In real life, too much emphasis has been made on the opposition of the teacher-student relationship. Even some people assume that teachers and students are natural enemies. Tension, alienation of the teacher-student relationship not only fail to improve the students' enthusiasm for learning, but also cause harm to the

physical and mental health of students, which bad to students' learning and growth and it is also not helpful for the effectiveness of teaching for teachers. Today, teachers and students in the classroom are tit-for-tat. Teachers sometimes are angry and students argue back loudly. This phenomenon is not uncommon in the classroom. This tense relationship between teachers and students will rise to conflict to a certain extent, eventually leading to fighting and personal injuries.

IV. The criteria for building a harmonious relationship between teachers and students

The following basic principles are important to change the status quo distorted teacher-student relationship, establish a good relationship between teachers and students.

A. *the principle of democratic equality*

Education is an art to treat the relationship between teachers and students. Teachers and students should adopt a positive attitude; correctly understand the meaning of "democracy" and "equality". Equality is the basis of relationship of teachers and students. It is required to achieve equality between teachers and students in real sense. Teachers or students, are equal by the constitutional provisions Based on this point, teachers and students will respect each other as the fundamental rights of each citizen. Democracy is a catalyst for teachers and students relationship. Only in environment of democracy and equality, teachers and students can feel the love and respect. They can be optimist and self-confident and the classroom can be lively. The teacher-student relationship can develop forward healthy and harmonious.

B. *The principle of mutual respect*

Democracy, equality are signs of respect and they are mutual behaviours. Respecting students is a basic requirement of modern teachers. It is also one of the basic principles of school education. Respect from teachers to students should be comprehensive, including respect for the students' interests, hobbies, students' emotions and feelings and respect for the individual differences of students, and so on. If teachers can respect each student, students will have a sense of dignity and pleasure in learning, so that the student's intellectual potential to be fully developed. The mutual communication and understanding will be deeply developed. The students also need to respect teachers. Respecting teachers is the traditional virtues of the Chinese culture, including basic respects such as greetings, following the classroom discipline and pay attentions in lectures and actively cooperate with the teachers in lectures, and so on. Students respect and trust of teachers is an encouragement and motivation for teachers. Order to continue to maintain their image and status in the minds of students, teachers should be more responsible and try to optimize, the most effective their teaching.

C. *The principle of mutual understanding*

A satisfactory relationship is a mutual self-supportive one. The real relationship between teachers and students should be bi-directional. Mutual understanding between teachers and students has two meanings, one is teachers

understand the students, inspire, guide and inspire them. Teachers should experience and think from the perspective of students, so that they can truly understand the students. Also, students should understand, trust teachers. They should regard teachers as ordinary people and pay their maximum attention in the classrooms and believe that teachers can deliver knowledge and study hard

D. The principle emotional motivation

The source of a good relationship starts from the love and respect from teachers to the student and the admiration and affection from students to teachers. And they are the foundation of a harmonious relationship between teachers and students. To create a good relationship between teachers and students, teachers must faithfully care for students and be fair. Teachers should encourage them and effectively help them constantly improved themselves. When they are receiving the cares from the teachers, students should also be able to give returns, know how to be grateful to the people around them, especially in the learning process of the most respectable and most lovely teacher. Teachers will have a greater enthusiasm and confidence into the cause of education when students have good results and express their gratitude to the teachers.

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