

Exploring the Role Mechanism of Ideological and Political Education in Social Governance

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Abstract

Ideological and political education plays an important role in social governance, and its mechanism of action deserves in-depth investigation. Based on the intrinsic unity of ideological and political education and social governance, this paper analyzes the functions of ideological and political education in promoting social harmony, enhancing citizens' moral literacy and regulating social behavior. Through combing relevant literature and analyzing from multiple perspectives, it explores how ideological and political education can play an effective role in the context of contemporary social governance through value leadership, behavioral norms and psychological regulation. At the same time, the study also points out the challenges and dilemmas faced by ideological and political education in actual operation, and puts forward corresponding countermeasures, with a view to providing new ideas and practical paths for enhancing the effectiveness of social governance. Ultimately, this paper aims to provide reference for the theoretical study of ideological and political education and the practical exploration of social governance, and to promote the deep integration and synergistic development of the two.

Keywords

Ideological and Political Education; Social Governance; Social Harmony; Civic Moral Literacy; Value Leadership

1. Introduction

1.1. Background and significance of the study

1.1.1. Background of the study

Ideological and political education, as a systematic form of education, has an important role to play in social governance. As society develops and changes, social governance faces a variety of complex problems, such as conflicts of interest, social contradictions and the diversification of values. These problems highlight the necessity and urgency of ideological and political education in promoting social harmony and stability. In the context of the new era, the Party and the State have paid increasing attention to social governance, proposing a number of policies and measures that emphasize the important value of ideological and political education in order to enhance the country's governance capacity and level.

In this context, an in-depth study of the relationship between ideological and political education and social governance, focusing on their intrinsic connection, can provide a theoretical basis and practical path for relevant policy formulation and actual operation. At present, ideological and political education should not only focus on the inculcation of knowledge, but also pay more attention to the realization of ideological guidance and value identity. Through diversified ways, it can stimulate the participation consciousness of social members and enhance their sense of responsibility, so that they can play an active and positive role in social governance, thus realizing the common progress of society.

The modernization process of social governance has also put forward higher requirements for ideological and political education. It needs to better adapt to the needs of social development, integrate the strength of different subjects, and form a good situation of common construction and shared governance. In the future, ideological and political education will play a more active and effective role in social governance, which is not only the requirement of theoretical innovation, but also the inevitable choice of practical development.

1.1.2. Significance of the study

Theoretical significance: At present, there are many literature studies on ideological and political education and social governance, but they mainly focus on the function of ideological and political education and its application in social governance, and there is a relative lack of research on the specific mechanism of the role of ideological and political education in social governance. In this paper, the relevant theories of ideological and political education and its development are summarized, and it helps to deepen the understanding of the relationship between ideological and political education and social governance. Through the literature research method, it draws the conclusion that ideological and political education promotes the efficiency of social governance and strengthens the cohesion of social members, which provides effective theoretical references to help promote the development of ideological and political education in social governance, and pave the way for the subsequent related research.

Practical significance: The research in this paper is based on the analysis of the current status quo of social governance, through the questionnaire survey and empirical research methods, to reach the empirical conclusion that ideological and political education can play a positive role in social governance. This study can improve the effectiveness of social governance, promote the harmonious development of society, and improve the contradictions and conflicts in social governance. The research in this paper can provide relevant management and researchers with certain references and lessons, so it has important practical significance.

1.2. Current state of theory and research

1.2.1. The intrinsic link between ideological and political education and social governance

There is a deep intrinsic connection between ideological and political education and social governance, which is reflected not only in the intersection of concepts, but also in their common goal of synergistically promoting social development. Ideological and political education, as an important means of ideological education, has an irreplaceable role in cultivating socialist core values and enhancing social cohesion. Social governance, on the other hand, is concerned with how to realize effective management and guidance of social affairs through multi-party collaboration and integration of social resources. The combination of the two provides important support for the modernization of the national governance system and governance capacity.

In concrete practice, ideological and political education plays a guiding and regulating role in social governance by strengthening the ideological and moral cultivation of citizens and promoting a sense of responsibility and participation among members of society. This role is manifested in the unity of thought, behavioral norms and psychological adjustment and other levels. Ideological and political education can not only enhance the public's enthusiasm for participation through the construction of a favorable social atmosphere, but also coordinate and integrate multiple interests in the process of social governance, ensuring social harmony and stability.

The intrinsic links between ideological and political education and social governance are mutually reinforcing. The in-depth combination of the two provides a new path for promoting the common development of the whole society and creates a good ideological foundation for

realizing the goals of social governance. This connection not only enhances the effectiveness of ideological and political education, but also strengthens the overall effectiveness of social governance, thus laying a solid theoretical and practical foundation for building a harmonious society.

1.2.2. Current status of domestic and foreign research

(i) Current status of research in the country

1. Research on the function of ideological and political education in social governance

Xu Xiaofang (2022) conducted a more systematic study of the social governance function of ideological and political education, clear that its characteristics include the unity of political and social, the specific function covers the integration of ideas, leadership, coordination and other functions, but due to the concept of the concept, carriers and other factors such as the existence of control thinking is obvious and other issues [8]. Lin Shichang (2022) proposed that ideological and political education has the function of social governance such as value leadership, moral education, etc., which has the unity of individuality and sociality and other characteristics of the pluralistic, as an example, research in a place in Shandong found that it is effective in propaganda policy and other aspects, but faced with the dilemma of inconsistency of values and other dilemmas [9]. Wang Qi (2024) in-depth analysis of ideological and political education social governance function, defined from the thought, behavior and psychological level, specifically expressed as social thought control function, through the questionnaire research found that it has a positive role in the propaganda of mainstream thinking, but faced with ideological pluralism and other challenges [2]. Wang Fang (2022) believes that ideological and political education has an irreplaceable role in social governance, and should disseminate the concept of governance, etc., and explores the performance of its function enhancement in terms of individual and social functions, and at the same time points out that there is a lack of internal motivation and other problems [10]. These studies comprehensively and deeply analyze the function of ideological and political education in social governance from different perspectives, clarifying the functional characteristics, specific performance, and the problems and challenges faced, and laying a solid theoretical foundation for subsequent studies.

2. Research on ideological and political education to enhance the effectiveness of social governance and value leadership

Chen Qian (2023) proposes that ideological and political education can enhance the effectiveness of social governance based on the subject, process, and result in three dimensions, and boost the social governance subject co-construction, process co-rule, and result sharing by stimulating and cohesion of the subject's power [3]. Peng Jun (2023) pointed out that ideological and political education in colleges and universities has an intrinsic fit with social governance, and can help promote social governance to build value consensus and cultivate moral norms [4]. Li Jinhe (2023) studies the value-led function of ideological and political education in social governance, explores its connotation, analyzes the reality of the dilemma, and puts forward powerful measures to strengthen the political guarantee and other aspects [5]. This part of the study focuses on the enhancement of the effectiveness of ideological and political education on social governance and value leadership, provides specific directions and ideas for how to better play the role of ideological and political education in social governance, and emphasizes the positive significance and practical paths of digging out its positive significance from different dimensions and levels.

3. Integration of ideological and political education into social governance and related research in higher education institutions

Wang Meijun (2022) discusses the internal logic of ideological and political education into social governance, believes that it is the need for the development of the times, etc., and puts forward the construction of innovative models and paths with the goal of creating a social

governance community [7]. Lv Huijun and Chen Dan (2022) focus on ideological and political education in colleges and universities in the perspective of social governance, pointing out the existence of problems such as the lack of a close connection between the ideological and political courses in colleges and universities and society, and proposing improvement measures [6]. Yang Frost (2025) studies the social governance value of ideological and political education from the perspective of co-creation, but the elaboration is relatively brief [1]. This part of the study focuses on the overall logic of the integration of ideological and political education into social governance as well as the important field of colleges and universities, pointing out the problems in the process of integration and the direction of the combination of ideological and political education and social governance in colleges and universities, and providing a direction of thinking for further exploration of the practice of integration of the two.

Summarizing and analyzing the research literature at home and abroad above, the current research around the role mechanism of ideological and political education in social governance has gradually been paid attention to, and scholars have achieved rich research results in this field. Various aspects have been explored from theoretical construction, empirical analysis and policy recommendations, providing important theoretical support and practical experience for promoting the integration and development of ideological and political education and social governance. Most of the domestic scholars agree with the positive role of ideological and political education in enhancing social cohesion and promoting social harmony, and believe that in order to realize the modernization of social governance, it is necessary to start from the innovation of educational content, the diversity of educational methods and the guidance of relevant policies. In contrast, the studies of foreign scholars focus on the combination of public governance theory and ideological and political education, emphasizing the role of ideological and political education in promoting the innovation and effectiveness of social governance. These studies show the multiple functions and practical applications of ideological and political education in different social and cultural contexts. Although scholars at home and abroad have studied from different perspectives, presenting a diversified situation, on the whole, the studies have focused on the fields of theoretical exploration and empirical analysis, and in terms of practical research, they have also focused on cases of education, government and social organizations, and have been extensively studied among different groups. Comparatively speaking, domestic and foreign research for specific case studies, covering the type of industry and the type of population, although rich, but in some specific areas of targeted research is still insufficient. Therefore, in-depth studies targeting the intersection of ideological and political education and social governance, as well as localized empirical studies on different social groups, can help to better understand and promote the effective combination of the two.

2. Role mechanisms of ideological and political education

2.1. Value Leading Function

Ideological and political education plays an important value-led function in social governance, the core of which lies in helping members of society to form a correct value identity through the dissemination and practice of socialist core values. Ideological and political education can guide individuals to establish common value pursuits, thus enhancing social cohesion. In the complex social environment, various ideological concepts intertwine with each other, and the diversification of values makes the sense of identity of social members decline. Through ideological and political education, individuals are able to better understand and accept socialist core values, enhance their sense of identity and belonging to society, and provide a basis for strengthening social governance.

Ideological and political education emphasizes moral indoctrination and guides individual moral choices through normative behavior. This leading is not only reflected in self-cultivation

at the individual level, but is also manifested in the positive influence on social behavior. When members of society are able to consciously practice socialist core values under the guidance of ideological and political education, the overall level of social morality is improved, and social behavior tends to be more harmonious and stable. This is of great significance in reducing social conflicts and promoting social harmony.

Ideological and political education, in the process of value leadership, also enhances the enthusiasm of social members to participate in social governance by improving the public's ideological and moral cultivation and sense of social responsibility. A high level of ideological and moral cultivation can give individuals a greater sense of responsibility and mission when participating in social governance, thus promoting the effective implementation of social governance. Therefore, ideological and political education plays an irreplaceable value-led function at all levels of social governance.

2.2. Behavioral Regulation Function

Ideological and political education plays an important function of behavioral norms in social governance, guiding the behaviors of social members through positive value leadership and moral indoctrination, and promoting social harmony and stability. Ideological and political education can help individuals form good behavioral norms and enhance their sense of social responsibility and participation. In daily practice, through the propaganda and education of socialist core values, people are guided to clarify the relationship between self-behavior and social ethics, so as to promote the fit between individual behavior and social norms.

Ideological and political education effectively contributes to the maintenance of social order by fostering the public's awareness of laws and rules. Through the dissemination of knowledge and the indoctrination of ideology, members of society consciously follow laws and regulations in their actions and establish a correct code of conduct. Such standardized behavior not only helps individuals make rational decisions in their daily lives, but also reduces the probability of social contradictions and conflicts and enhances the effectiveness of social governance.

Ideological and political education in promoting behavioral norms also has the function of cohesion of social consensus. When most members of society can consciously follow common values and behavioral norms, a strong social cohesion can be formed. This cohesion not only improves the moral level of society, but also provides a more solid foundation for social governance, helping to promote the smooth implementation of social governance. In this way, ideological and political education ensures the effective play of the function of behavioral norms and thus realizes the goal of social governance.

2.3. Psychological regulation function

Ideological and political education has an important psychological adjustment function in social governance. This function is mainly embodied in helping individuals adjust their mindset, alleviate their emotions and enhance their psychological resilience. Through systematic ideological and political education, individuals can better understand the pressures and challenges brought about by social changes, so as to optimize their psychological state. By strengthening the dissemination of socialist core values, individuals can establish a correct value orientation and enhance their sense of identity and belonging to society when facing complex social problems and psychological difficulties.

Ideological and political education can also guide individuals to self-regulate their emotions in various ways. For example, the education process can be combined with psychological counseling and group activities to encourage individuals to express their emotions in communication and interaction, thereby reducing their psychological burden and improving their mental health. This kind of emotional sharing and mutual understanding not only helps in the early identification and intervention of psychological problems, but also promotes the

emotional connection between members of the society, thus forming a harmonious social atmosphere.

In the process of social governance, giving full play to the psychological regulation function of ideological and political education can effectively alleviate social contradictions and conflicts and promote the harmonious development of society. By cultivating the rational thinking and psychological quality of individuals, it enables them to respond positively to the various challenges brought about by social governance, enhances the overall psychological adaptability of society and its ability to withstand risks, and provides strong support for promoting the effectiveness of social governance.

3. The practice of ideological and political education in social governance

3.1. Analysis of the current state of practice

The practice of ideological and political education in social governance has shown a diversified development. In recent years, with the updating of the concept of social governance, ideological and political education has gradually been integrated into all levels of social governance, especially in publicizing public policies, guiding social customs and fostering ethical norms, etc., which has demonstrated its positive role. Many colleges and universities have actively explored combining ideological and political education courses with social services, enhancing students' sense of social responsibility and participation through voluntary activities and community services, and promoting the effectiveness of social governance.

There are also many challenges in the course of practice. On the one hand, the combination of ideological and political education and social governance has not yet been fully penetrated, with some educational activities remaining at the theoretical level and lacking in relevance and effectiveness; on the other hand, the influence of the trend of ideological pluralism on the mainstream ideology has led to a lack of identification with ideological and political education among some members of society, which in turn has affected the role it should play in social governance. Complex interests and prominent social contradictions in social governance have also placed higher demands on the effective implementation of ideological and political education.

In response to the above problems, it is necessary to further optimize the system and methods of ideological and political education and enhance its function in social governance by strengthening research and exploring specific paths. The practical effect of ideological and political education in social governance can be enhanced by constructing a governance mechanism with pluralistic participation, strengthening the synergy of the main parties and optimizing the content of education, so as to realize the harmonious stability and sustainable development of society.

3.2. Challenges and dilemmas

Ideological and political education, which plays a positive role in social governance, also faces many challenges and dilemmas. The influence of the trend towards ideological pluralism on the mainstream ideology has limited the guiding power of ideological and political education. Against the backdrop of the rapid development of information technology, a variety of ideological concepts are widely disseminated in society, and some of these views may run counter to the country's mainstream ideology, thereby interfering with the popularization and implementation of ideological and political education.

The integration of ideological and political education methods has become more difficult, directly affecting its function. Traditional ideological and political education tends to be relatively single and relies on classroom teaching. In the face of increasingly complex social governance needs, relying only on classroom education is obviously no longer able to meet the

development requirements of the new era. Therefore, it is necessary to explore more diversified educational carriers and methods, combine ideological and political education with social practice, and improve the effect of their participation in social governance.

The plurality of subjects of ideological and political education has brought about a weakening of the coordinating force. The diversity of subjects involved in social governance requires ideological and political education to be able to adapt to the needs of different groups, but in practice, the lack of effective synergistic mechanisms makes communication and cooperation between different subjects difficult. This makes it difficult to fully realize the coordinating role of ideological and political education, and there is an urgent need to establish a more effective mechanism to enhance its overall effectiveness in social governance.

3.3. Countermeasures and Recommendations for Improvement

In order to effectively enhance the role of ideological and political education in social governance, it is necessary to adopt corresponding countermeasures and suggestions for improvement at multiple levels. Strengthen the combination of theoretical research and practice to promote the innovative development of ideological and political education. Universities and research institutions should be encouraged to carry out interdisciplinary and comprehensive empirical research in order to explore the mode of ideological and political education adapted to the new era and to cultivate talents that meet the needs of social governance. Promote its integration with social practice, and encourage students, teachers and all sectors of society to participate extensively in social governance, forming a benign ecology of pluralistic interaction.

(c) Establishing a sound working mechanism and synergistic system for ideological and political education. Governments and social organizations at all levels should jointly build a mechanism for joint participation, integrate resources and strengthen support and guidance for ideological and political education. They can arouse the attention and participation of all walks of life by setting up special funds and carrying out thematic activities. The responsibilities of each participating body should be clarified, and a synergy of co-construction and co-management should be formed so as to enhance the social influence and coverage of ideological and political education.

Enhance the relevance and effectiveness of ideological and political education. In terms of teaching content, emphasis should be placed on combining social hotspots and real-life problems, adjusting the curriculum and teaching methods in a timely manner, and ensuring that the educational content is contemporary and adaptable. Through field research and questionnaire feedback, we can gain a deeper understanding of the needs and expectations of the members of the society, further optimize the education strategy, and enhance the implementation effect of ideological and political education, so as to better serve the social governance.

4. Conclusions and outlook

4.1. Conclusions of the study

Through an in-depth exploration of the mechanism of the role of ideological and political education in social governance, this study reveals the close relationship and internal unity between the two. Ideological and political education is not only an important way to spread socialist core values, but also an important tool to promote social stability and harmony. Studies have found that ideological and political education plays multiple functions in social governance, including ideological guidance, value recognition, behavioral norms, and psychological regulation. The performance of these functions effectively enhances the

efficiency of social governance and strengthens the public's sense of participation and responsibility.

In addition, through the analysis of existing literature and empirical investigation, this study points out that ideological and political education faces many challenges in the process of implementation, such as the interference of ideological pluralism in the mainstream ideology, the disconnection between educational methods and practice, and the coordination difficulties caused by the diversity of governance subjects. To cope with these problems, policymakers should strengthen the combination of theory and practice in ideological and political education, innovate teaching methods, and broaden the path of participation in social governance in order to enhance the effectiveness of ideological and political education in social governance.

Overall, ideological and political education has important theoretical value and practical significance in social governance in the new era. Future research should continue to explore in depth how to effectively integrate ideological and political education and social governance, and enhance its contribution in realizing the goal of comprehensively building a modernized socialist country. Through further mechanism innovation and practice expansion, ideological and political education is expected to provide more solid support for the modernization process of social governance in China.

4.2. Future prospects

In the context of the new era, the role mechanism of ideological and political education in social governance will face new opportunities and challenges. With the continuous development of society and the increasing diversification of people's ideological concepts and values, ideological and political education needs to pay more attention to adapting to social changes and actively explore appropriate methods and approaches to improve its effectiveness and adaptability in social governance. In the future, ideological and political education should adhere to the people-oriented principle and pay attention to the organic combination of social development and personal growth, so as to enhance its guiding power and coordinating ability in social governance.

Looking ahead, ideological and political education should continue to innovate its content and forms to enhance its compatibility with the actual needs of social governance. Through the introduction of modern technological means, such as online education and online learning platforms, ideological and political education should expand its coverage and influence, so as to deliver mainstream values more effectively. Interdisciplinary research and cooperation should also be an important strategy to promote the progress of ideological and political education, encouraging experts and scholars in different fields to jointly explore the deep-rooted relationship between ideological and political education and social governance, so as to enrich the theoretical basis and practical path.

In conclusion, with the complexity of social governance, the future outlook of ideological and political education should focus on dynamic adjustment and continuous deepening, so as to contribute to the effectiveness and sustainability of social governance by promoting the theoretical innovation and practical development of ideological and political education. Only in this way can ideological and political education play a more important leading role in social governance in the environment of globalization and localization.

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