

Revolutionary Stories in Junior High School Political Science Courses Strengthening Students' Ideal Convictions: A Case Study of "Ice Sculpture Company"

Yao Hui, Wang Yujue

School of Marxism, Sichuan University of Science & Engineering, Zigong, China

Keywords: Middle School Politics Class; Revolutionary Stories; Middle School Students; Ideals and Beliefs; Ice sculpture society

Abstract: Middle school is a critical period for strengthening the ideals and beliefs of middle school students. Politics classes are the main venue for systematically cultivating and strengthening ideals and beliefs, and red culture stories are uniquely suitable for strengthening the ideals and beliefs of junior high school students. This paper explores the contemporary value of the Revolutionary story "Ice Carving Company" as an example, based on the psychological cognitive level of junior high school students, and incorporates it into the classroom. The paper analyses the use of red stories to strengthen the ideal beliefs of junior high school students in terms of teaching objectives, teaching contents and teaching methods, and to realise the correct ideals and political beliefs of junior high school students.

1. Introduction

The Revolutionary Tales carry historical memories, record the heroic struggle of the revolutionary ancestors, embody their firm ideals and beliefs, remind us not to forget the past and courageously face the future, and are concrete, real and effective teaching materials. "The Morality and Rule of Law Curriculum Standards for Compulsory Education (2022 Edition) begins with the clear statement that junior high school students are the "plucking and gestation period" of life and should be carefully guided and nurtured. ^[1]Junior high school students embody a synthesis of the brilliant light and majestic power that the word "future of the nation" originally contained, and their political beliefs, value orientation, ideal formulation affects the individual's life, also determines the future value orientation of society as a whole, teachers should effectively target and guide to stimulate junior high school students' sense of responsibility and mission. Combined with the order of cognitive development of junior high school students, the integration of legendary and shocking Revolutionary stories into junior high school teaching is a form of teaching that has the advantage of being uniquely attractive to junior high school students.

Therefore, this paper takes the class on morality and the rule of law as the starting point and selects the red story of the "Ice Carving Company" to guide junior high school students on how to set the right personal ideals and establish the right political beliefs in the new era. This will help them develop a truly realistic sense of how to combine their personal ideals with the ideals of

society and become builders and successors in the cause of socialist modernisation.

2. The value of the "Ice Sculpture Company" of the Revolutionary Story

The Ice Sculpture Company was a legendary unit of the Chinese People's Volunteer Army during the Korean War, which broke out in October 1950 when the US Army was pushed to the Yalu River by 100,000 troops. The soldiers of the Ninth Army Corps were urged to head north to the battlefield as quickly as possible, wearing thin autumn clothing at a time when supplies were scarce and logistics uncertain. The northern battlefield was blanketed in snow and the soldiers suffered the onslaught of a fifty-year cold snap, and many of them froze to death on the battlefield for lack of warm clothing. At the end of the war, when our troops were cleaning up the battlefield, we found hundreds of cadres and soldiers of the 9th Volunteer Corps in combat formation, all frozen in their positions, hence the name "Ice Sculpture Company". They were a group of brave and warlike volunteer soldiers who defied hardship and forged ahead. The values they displayed are as follows:

2.1. Strong ideals, resident beliefs

The Jangjin Lake battlefield is located in the alpine mountains of northern Korea, at an altitude of between 1,000 and 2,000 metres, and the temperature can drop below -40° C at night. Despite the lack of cold food and the harsh weather, none of the soldiers were defeated or discouraged by the hardships, and their strong patriotic faith and determination to achieve national independence sustained them. The cadres and soldiers of the 9th Volunteer Corps vividly interpreted "only when you stop breathing will you stop fighting", demonstrating the iron will of the Chinese soldiers. They fused their personal dreams of returning home to their loved ones with the ideals of the times, rooted deep in their blood, of consolidating the stability of "all of us", and fought for it. Once the US imperialists crossed the Yalu River, the homeland they had fought for and successfully defended for so many years would be plunged into immeasurable darkness. They are aware that they are not themselves at this time, but represent the Chinese Communist Party and bear the responsibility of its original mission of working for the happiness of the people and defending the interests of the nation.

2.2. Fearless in the fight

At the beginning of the new China, China had just resolved its internal and external problems and had not fully recovered from the previous battles, and its military equipment was quantitatively and qualitatively different from that of the American army. On the other hand, the Chinese volunteers were often unable to feed themselves and ate snow for sustenance, and the weapons used against them were almost old-fashioned equipment that had been eliminated by the American army. Faced with a powerful enemy and unknown difficulties, the Chinese volunteers did not retreat and fought bravely against the US imperialist attack, holding the Yalu River line and finally winning a great victory. It is a vivid illustration of the heroic achievement of the Chinese people in their hardship and perseverance against the enemy and reflects the indomitable spirit of the Chinese people in their resistance to war, a warning to future generations that should never be forgotten.

2.3. Pioneers of peace, forging military prestige

In 1950, when North Korea wanted to reunify Korea and attack South Korea, South Korea was manipulated by the United States to become a puppet government, and the United States attacked North Korea for its own benefit under the guise of the "United Nations Army". Since the border

between our country and North Korea was close, the Chinese people voluntarily formed a volunteer army and went to North Korea to fight to the death against the mighty American army. The volunteers' iron will and unique fighting style enabled them to win the war against the US and the Republic of Korea, thus winning a victory in a war fought by the weak against the strong and establishing the prestige of the Chinese army.

3. The Importance of Revolutionary Tales in Cultivating the Ideals and Beliefs of Junior High School Students

3.1. The importance of strengthening junior high students' ideals

Junior high school is a crucial stage for the consolidation of the ideals and beliefs of junior high school students, i.e. they are in the period when they are about to be fixed but not yet fixed. Their ideological values affect their whole lives and determine the future values of the whole society. As Jin Ying's "Aphorisms" says, "The goal is to reach the limit of what one can do, and it cannot be limited by the distance between the mountains and the sea. A strong ideal is fundamental to the individual and to society, and the first place in social relations is to find one's own spiritual support and to settle down. As junior high school students take on new social roles, their rapid physiological development indirectly affects their awareness, understanding and acceptance of the social and cultural patterns in which they live. "At the level of social relationships, junior high school students are developing a sense of adulthood"^[2] and are gradually withdrawing their emotional support from their families, wanting to escape the authoritative control of their families, seeking more emotional empathy with their peers, and forming close bonds with their peers. At this time, peer groups are at the centre of the spiritual interactions of junior high school students and have a deep influence on them. However, whether the peer interaction culture is in line with the mainstream social value culture affects the formation of correct ideals and beliefs of junior high school students. At the level of individual cognition, the cognitive development of junior high school students is the foundation and prerequisite for their future "development in other areas such as individual emotions, morality, and social behaviour"^[2]. Building and developing high quality. At the level of future development, the effectiveness of ideal and faith education for junior high school students is a strategic and fundamental task that has a bearing on.

3.2. The role of the Revolutionary Story "Ice Sculpture Company" in promoting the ideals and beliefs of junior high school students

3.2.1 Cultivating a sense of patriotism

The Revolutionary Story "Ice Sculpture Company" is the deeds of the Communist Party of China, which leads the Chinese army and the Chinese people in defending national dignity and defending peace and justice, which is a precious spiritual treasure of the land of China. The "Implementation Plan for the Reform and Innovation of Ideological and Political Theory Classes in Schools in the New Era states that "at the junior high school level, advanced socialist culture will be used to lay a solid ideological foundation for students, strengthen national consciousness, and deepen their understanding of socialist core values, i.e., to guide junior high school students to clarify their historical mission responsibilities and take a correct political stand. They should wholeheartedly love the Party, the motherland and the people, wholeheartedly support socialism with Chinese characteristics, and be qualified and reliable builders and successors of socialism. The heroic ancestors of the Ice Sculpture Company who fought in the Anti-American War demonstrate their deep love for the motherland, their commitment to the people's security, and their responsibility to

themselves in both material and spiritual respects. Their deep patriotism and strong ideals and beliefs are the core values of the Ice Sculpture Company, which provides excellent educational resources for middle school students to learn about patriotism.

3.2.2 Correcting the pursuit of values

The new age junior high school students are in the era of rapid development of Internet information, compared with the primary school stage, gradually become a member of the new trendy Internet group, experience the customs and values culture from all over the world, their values, beliefs and ideologies are also richer and more diversified. By combing the data from scholars' research results, we can conclude that junior high school students are eager to be independent in their thinking, like to express their opinions freely, like to compare the mainstream cultural values of our society with other values and cultures, have a certain neglectful attitude towards the mainstream socialist cultural values in their hearts, like to pursue "new and different" things, and have a certain merit in their moral choices. The moral choices are somewhat utilitarian and indifferent. This is contrary to the aim of education in China. The cultivation of ideals and beliefs and the guidance of the pursuit of values for junior high school students should be based on the resources of the Chinese earth and firmly grasp the leadership, management and discourse of the Party in ideology, and the educational resources of red stories have a unique advantage. Each red story is based on the historical context of the time and contains different value connotations, and the value connotations of the "Ice Sculpture Company" are relevant to the pursuit of junior high school students. At the same time, by introducing the Revolutionary Story into the classroom, the students can become familiar with the hard-won nature of the Red regime and be guided to handle the revolutionary history and culture correctly, to abandon historical nihilism, to feel the glory of their own identity, to recognize and resist the malicious cultural input from other countries, to adhere to their own beliefs, to consciously and actively correct and regulate their own behaviour, and to participate in building a harmonious and beautiful social environment.

3.2.3 Clarify the sense of responsibility

Junior high school students are the essence of the times, carrying the responsibility and mission given by the times, and the main force of future social development. Today, China is faced with the multiple tasks of making progress towards the Second Centenary Goal, achieving the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, enhancing the people's happiness and sense of achievement, the scruples and obstacles of some Western countries to our development, and the international scene, which is undergoing unprecedented changes in a century. The Chinese people to break through the international difficulties, to achieve the ultimate goal, must be done from generation to generation. Junior high school students have their own mission of the times. The cultivation of their sense of responsibility should be based on the important stage of their development, miss the best period of cultivation of values in the future to make up for the effect will also be insignificant. Therefore, junior high school students should learn the culture of Revolutionary history, learn from their ancestors the spirit of strength, guard the development of the revolutionary ancestors with their lives and defend the motherland.

4. The Practical Way of Revolutionary Stories in the Education of Ideals and Faith for Junior High School Students

Cultivating the ideal beliefs of junior high school students cannot be achieved overnight, nor can it be truly implanted in students' brains and hearts through fragmented indoctrination, but must be based on the classroom. In this section, the author focuses on the political classroom and discusses

the application of the Revolutionary story "Ice Sculpture Company" in the education of junior high school students' ideals and beliefs in three parts: teaching objectives, teaching materials, and teaching methods.

4.1. Clarifying teaching objectives and understanding the direction of teaching

First of all, according to the Morality and Law of Compulsory Education Curriculum Standards (2022 Edition), junior high school students should "understand the meaning of the Chinese dream, establish the ideal of striving for the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, learn about advanced revolutionary culture, and be able to consciously safeguard national sovereignty, dignity, and interests in their lives and studies."^[1] "Civics teachers in junior high schools should carry out the task of the education stage in accordance with the curriculum standards, and should not neglect to strengthen students' ideals and beliefs because they have been educated in the primary school stage; education in ideals and beliefs is a continuous process, and the final result of education points to junior high school students being able to consciously and amicably participate in public society and contribute their strength to the harmonious and healthy development of society. As Vygotsky said: "Education is not only a matter of improving existing structures, but also of pointing to the 'zone of recent development'".^[2] Second, in terms of emotional goals, social role enrichment and empowerment of junior high school students, teachers should help them to clarify their ideal beliefs as a combination of ideals and convictions at the right time. The establishment of ideals is the external manifestation of one's internal values, and students should be guided to clarify the correct value belief of "love for the motherland is the basis for establishing oneself and becoming successful", so as to establish correct and more specific ideals in life, and follow the correct value belief to strive for them.

In conclusion, teachers should clarify the intellectual and emotional goals of ideals and beliefs in the classroom, grasp the correct direction of education, practise the correct teaching methods, and help students become truly qualified political and social people.

4.2. Deepening the teaching materials to build a solid foundation of ideals and beliefs

Teachers should pay attention to the use of teaching materials and the integration of external resources to maximise the role of teaching materials. The content of the middle school curriculum is different from that of the primary school curriculum, which is to understand the origin and development of socialism with Chinese characteristics and how today's China has struggled to stand up, get rich and become strong, and is more concerned with guiding students to know "themselves and the times, social rules and social order, social responsibility and social accountability". In junior high school political education, junior high school students' ideal belief reinforcement education is mainly arranged in the first book of the seventh grade "morality and the rule of law", combined with the law of junior high school students' cognitive development, students at this stage are not suitable for boring knowledge memory professor class, in the choice of teaching content, interspersed with the legendary shocking deeds of heroic ancestors in red culture stories. On the one hand, it meets the students' realistic imagination and has a strong appeal to them. On the other hand, it enables them to understand that from the time when the revolutionary ancestors fought for the country with blood to the present, when the development of many aspects of China's career is still being suppressed by some Western countries. The teaching of the stories silently educates the students in the firm ideals and beliefs. It is a precious spiritual treasure left by our ancestors, containing their ideals and beliefs, their perseverance and determination to win the revolution, and the expectations of countless young students. The students will understand that they are educated by the motherland, not by the foreigners.

4.3. Changing teaching methods to improve the effectiveness of classroom teaching

"Education is the education of the human soul, not the accumulation of rational knowledge and understanding".^[3] In the classroom, teachers and students are the exchange of information, and with the rapid development of online news, the information barrier between teachers and students has become thinner. The traditional lecture method of classroom teaching, which is devoted to making students remember the knowledge of examination points, cannot meet students' expectations of classroom teaching, and lacks the charm of classroom teaching and the achievement of deep soul-casting and cultivation effect.

Teaching methods are an important means for achieving teaching goals, achieving teaching effectiveness, and connecting students with the content, while "specific teaching goals often require the selection of specific teaching methods to achieve them".^[4] In order to meet the educational goals of junior high school students' ideals and beliefs, teachers should dare to change the mode of fixed teaching methods, give full play to students' classroom initiative, increase the proportion of students' classroom participation, and create a unified classroom with teaching goals and effective education together. For example, when students share the Revolutionary stories, they have learned from elders and on the Internet, making them independently analyse the main idea of the red stories and the characteristics of the heroes and characters, and lead students step by step into the classroom situation. Pupils learn better in self-created contexts than in teacher-created contexts and are more willing to accept the knowledge and achieve the goals expected of them.

5. Conclusions

The world today is in the midst of a century of unprecedented changes, and junior high school students are the future reserve of the country, their political beliefs and ideal goals are a matter of personal and national future. Teachers should attach importance to the role of the political classroom, impress students from the theoretical level of the classroom, help them to internalise objective knowledge into their own behavioural system, stand firm in their beliefs, fulfil their historical mission, and consciously and actively participate in building a public society.

This paper focuses on classroom teaching and discusses the concrete ways to strengthen ideal faith education for junior high school students from three aspects: teaching objectives, teaching contents, and teaching methods. In terms of teaching objectives, the discussion is mainly at the level of knowledge objectives and emotional objectives, which is not complete and perfect, and the empirical research on increasing the proportion of students' participation in class also needs to be further verified in practice, which the author will continue to improve in her future study work.

References

- [1] Developed by the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China. *Curriculum Standards for Morality and the Rule of Law in Compulsory Education (2022 Edition)*. Beijing: Beijing Normal University Press, 2022.
- [2] Wang Zhenhong. *Adolescent Psychological Development and Education*. Xi'an: Shaanxi Normal University Press, 2012.
- [3] [German] Karl Jaspers, Zou Jin (translator). *What is education [M]*. Beijing: Life – Reading—Xin Zhi San Lian Bookstore, 1991: 4.
- [4] Xu Jicun et al. *Research on pedagogy [M]*. Fuzhou: Fujian Education Publishing House, 2020.