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SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY

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FORMATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE'S CIVIL IDENTITY: TECHNOLOGICAL APPROACH

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Abstract

The article deals with the theoretical and scientific methodological aspects of the development of the young people's civil identity. Here the essence of the "young people's identity" notion is determined, a comparative analysis of foreign and Russian approaches to the practical organization of the formation process of the younger generation's civil identity is carried out, the mechanisms of its formation in different historical periods in different state systems are studied, the variants of the problem solution of the development of the young people's civil identity are formulated, the role of the social state system in the development of the Citizen's self-consciousness is determined, the advantages and disadvantages of the society's technologization are determined, the effective social technologies of the civil identity development are revealed.

Keywords: youth, educational technologies, civil identity.

1. INTRODUCTION

The state of the modern society, the peculiarities and tendencies of its development are undoubtedly related to the processes of "globalization", the increased intensity of information

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and the degree of the openness, the blurring of the national cultural boundaries. It is evident that these processes have a very strong influence on the economical, political, civil, cultural and other spheres of the society's life. And besides, they lead to the transformation of self-understanding and self-creation of every personality.

As the modern social situation is determined by the instability of the traditionally settled value system, stereotypes of thinking and behaviour, the loss of the world view guidelines, an independent active and competitive personality that has to determine itself in the conditions of the "identification crisis" is becoming an ideal of the society. And the process of self-identification and socialization is especially complicated for a young forming personality. These tendencies urgently press for not only political but also philosophical understanding of the essence of human being and the specific character of its existence in the epoch of post-industrial information-oriented society.

Philosophy understands social identity as the problem of identity of individual and collective constituents, their correlation and interaction. The intensity of the social changes that are characteristic for the information-oriented society provoke the crisis of the social being the most important traits of which are the multi-directedness and inconsistency of the development processes as well as the problematic character of their prognostication and regulation. Thus arisen general atmosphere of uncertainty leads to instability of both collective and individual identity.

Such are the conditions of the "open society" in which in the individual and social consciousness the uncertainty is increasing, the traditional values and fundamental social structures are being destroyed. The problem of choice and self-identification of the personality is becoming more complicated, it "has to find its own solutions of the appearing collective contradictions" (Davydov, 2011). Here one means not just individualization but "a mass subjective turn" (Taylor, 1989): people tend to find their own way to self-realization and this is especially significant for young people.

An American social philosopher A. Etzioni fairly notices that if the 20th century witnesses the struggle of ideologies, the social processes of the 21st century will be determined by the identity challenges (Etzioni, 2004).

In the modern science the identity notion is quite pluralistic but we find the following definition of identity by A. Touraine to be fully correspondent to the above-mentioned ideas: "... a conscious self-identification of the social subject" (Touraine, 1998). In our opinion, in this aspect the existential situation of understanding of

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the existence-with-the-others serves as the basis of the identity that is able to overcome both the existing crisis of society and the crisis of individuality.

Taking into account the changed social and political relations, social values and norms it is impossible to form the civil society without the Citizen's upbringing. Moreover, the political modernization requires every citizen's, and especially the young people's, active participation.

All the above-mentioned underlines the importance of the problem arisen in this article and the apparent significance of the work aimed at the formation of the social identity of the Russian youth and first of all in the civil sphere. The aim of this article is to actualize the necessity of systematization and technologization of the process of forming and development of the youth's civil identity.

2. DISCUSSION

One can define the technologies of the youth's civil activity development, by which the ordered collection of means and methods of stimulating and orienting of active and passive admissible (conventional) participation of the young people in the socio-political processes is meant, as socio-political technologies. To our mind, the suggested interpretation is preferable due to the fact that it does not exclude different forms of the youth's political activity manifestations and multiple ways and goals of influence on it. One should emphasize that what is especially important is not only and not so much just the activity stimulating as the regulating, guiding and at the same time cautious influence on it.

It is necessary to note that in the modern democratic world community there is a similar problem and there is a practical experience of the youth's civic-mindedness formation. The short-term technologies of the subject civil activization of autonomous type are mostly widely used today. The interpretation of the experience of a number of states aimed at the activization of the youth community evidenced that the long-term technologies are mostly used by the state or political parties, but it is necessary to note that there are substantial differences in the forms of technologies of totalitarian and democratic regimes. In the frames of a totalitarian regime the work with the young people is strictly regulated and controlled, it involves all groups of young people, it is manifested in inflexible forms, it uses severe methods. In a democratic state a youngster is a subject of the youth policy and enters into subject-subject relationship with the state or a public organization, therefore the autonomous (personality) socio-political technologies should be

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mostly widely used. These technologies are of short-term character (O.A. Koryakovtseva, 2008).

Systematic joint actions organized by the authorities and young people can serve as examples of short-term technologies at the state level that perfectly fit into a policy pursued by the state in the sphere of the youth's civil activation. So, for example, in Austria the parliament regularly organizes role-playing games which let young people feel the parliamentary atmosphere. In Italy and Spain every senior pupil and student has an opportunity to study the work of the parliament, meetings with deputies, to be present at every-day events. The same systematic work of organizing the interaction of the state power institutions and the young people is carried out in Finland, Norway, Czechia, Israel and other countries, let alone the USA. These are just several examples of using personality short-term technologies of the development of the youth's socio-political activity that form the young man's civic stand, patriotic sentiment and pride of their country.

So, the experience has shown that in any modern society the character of work with young people as a socio-political subject and object is determined by the concrete historical moment and the specificity of pursuing the state youth policy. The effective state policy concerning young people is of special significance in the modern situation of transforming the Russian society. Why? Firstly, the formation of the civil society objectively demands the civil subjectivization of the young people and the development of their autonomous political activity. Secondly, the state political influence on the young people as a power resource is necessary for the entrenchment of the power vertical. The process of democratization and entrenchment of state system contradict each other, and hence come the above-mentioned complications in realization of the modern policy concerning young people and, first of all, the increment in its civil activity. The state youth policy should be formed and implemented by the public and local authorities with the partnership participation of youth and children's public associations non-governmental organizations, various political parties and other legal and natural persons.

The combination of the positive potential and the factors of social instability among the young people brings actuality to the development of the civil activity. Nowadays such activity becomes the main mechanism of the younger generation's socialization for the successful formation of the civil society in Russia. Power and public structures that implement the youth-directed policy play a special role in that process.

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So, it seems obvious that the effective realization of the state youth policy in any sphere, as well as in the sphere of formation of civil identity and activity, is possible only on the condition of well-directed training, retraining and advanced training of the personnel working with the young people.

To our mind the young people are objectively the civil-mindedness upholders so the process of the effective dialogue between the young people and the state in the Russian society transformation period should be initiated by the state itself. At present the range of the technologies of formation and development of the civil identity has changed - from personal contacts to joint projects and youth parliamentarism - and this direction of the state youth policy should be developed and improved.

The integration of efforts of various state and public institutions seems actual for fulfilling the assigned tasks, here, to our mind, the leading part should be played by the civil education implemented both in the system of general and vocational education and by means of informal and unconventional education of the citizens of Russia.

The presented in this article theoretical analysis of the civil identity formation problem let us agree with the definition of the civil education as the upbringing and education aimed at the formation of the range of civil personality traits (N. Voskresenskaya, S. Shekhter, 2004). Such understanding of the civil education essence makes it possible to include in it both the tasks of the personal civil identity formation and the development problems of its social competence.

3. PRESENTATION OF RESEARCH AND METHODOLOGY

The analysis of the experience of organizing work with young people in different countries in different historical periods, the analysis of long- and short term social political technologies of civil activation of young people convince us of the necessity of systematization and technologization of the process of forming and development of the youth's civil identity. Only such approach can bring results. This idea is confirmed in the researches of our research laboratory "The Study of the Student Young People's Civil Identity: the Essence, Conditions of Development, the Prospects" (T.V. Bugaychuk, I.Y. Tarkhanova, O.A. Koryakovtseva, 2013).

The research is based on the series of representative psychological research, the analysis of statistical data.

Primary data were gathered using quantitative and qualitative methods, such as a survey by questionnaire and an

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original psycho-semantic method of research of civil identity. The methods of mathematical statistics were used while analyzing the data and interpreting the obtained results.

28 people took part in the research, among them there were 12 girls and 16 youths aged from 17 to 27. They were participants of the "Youth Public Chamber of Yaroslavl Oblast" project, they are students of different educational institutions of Yaroslavl who are engaged in public life and work with young people and teenagers.

Summarizing the results of the research of civil identity, we would like to note that young activists demonstrate a high level of representing themselves as ideal citizens of the Russian Federation which is one of the characteristics of the formed civil identity. But along with this, while answering the questions that deal with the estimation of other people, they demonstrate a highly individualistic position that is oriented exclusively to themselves, they criticize other citizens, they infringe their civil dignity and this contradicts the notion of the civil identity on the whole.

While determining the prospects of the personality's development based on the parameter of civil identity we note that young activists do not foresee significant changes in their civic position in a ten-year period of time, and concerning such criterion as "readiness to take part in the social political life of the country" they even mark the tendency of its decrease. These results confirm the overrated self-esteem of the presentation of young activists as the citizens of Russia.

It was found out that the testees undoubtedly have high social psychological potential. But in order to use such potential of the Yaroslavl young people effectively to build civil society first of all it is necessary to form the civil identity and the civic position of the personality as a perfect Citizen is characterized by the motivation "to live and work for the benefit of the family, the society and the state" along with all the leader's qualities and managerial qualities. Modern young people even those who are socially active are far from it, and this fact underlines the extreme significance of the problem under study and puts the direct question of the necessity of the working out of technologies and models of forming new identity of young citizens of Russia, and most important, of creation of adequate state social system of the young people's socialization on scientific basis.

The technologization of the process of forming and development of the young people's civil identity can be provided by a whole number of modern pedagogical technologies. Let us name some of them, the effectiveness of which has been confirmed by us in the process of approbation:

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1. The technology of social projecting, in which the social project is a creative method of the management of changes necessary for achieving socially significant goal representing the authors' values and their attitude towards the existing reality.

2. The thought-activity-based game "Defining the "Civil Identity" Notion" aimed at the concept formation (D. Sergeev, 2005). The game makes it possible to work out one's own understanding and attitude to the "civil identity" category, to introduce the range of existing definitions, to reveal its essential features, to form a group language of communication.

3. The technology "Debate" is a technology of convincing other people of the correctness of the approach to the problem solving. Debate conduction is an effective means of teaching to state one's position clearly and sensibly, to find convincing facts and forceful arguments in one's favour. They also develop the sense of confidence in one's ability to influence the public opinion or change the existing policy.

4. The technology "The Civil Forum" is one of the ways of the young people's participation in the social life by means of discussing important, socially significant problems (N.S. Kovalenko, K.V. Komarov, E.Y. Serousova, I.I. Chuykova, I.G. Yakimovich, 1997). The main idea of the technology is to analyze thoroughly and comprehensively three or four approaches to the solving of a socially significant problem in the process of a directed dialogue. The technology of organizing and leading a civil forum is a technology of a dialogue interaction. The participants of the civil forum have to be open-minded to other people's ideas. It is important that at a forum people have a possibility to discuss a problem from different points of view, to discuss the consequences of various approaches to its solving. While discussing some participants may change their opinion. The common opinion is not a necessary result for the forum's participants. Its goal is to find a general basis for the joint actions. The civil forum is used for the discussion of complex problems that concern the interests of the whole society and to solve which people have to blend their efforts.

4. CONCLUSION

So, the materials presented in the article, make it obvious that the so necessary nowadays urge of the young people to take part in the political and social life is possible to activate only on the condition of creating an integral producible state social system of formation and development of civil identity. In order to solve this problem we have undertaken several tasks.

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The specific character of the society modernization in the aspect of the activization of modern young people has been under study, the peculiarities of its influence on the formation of the young generation's civil identity have been revealed. The authors have comprehended different approaches to the formation of the civic-mindedness of the young people depending on the state and political systems, their characters and the degree of stability. The role of the technological approach in the development of self-consciousness of the Citizen is underlined in this article, the distinctive characteristics of social technologies are described.

Taking into consideration the results of diagnostics and our experience of the civil education techniques implementation in the frames of the institution of higher vocational pedagogical education, one can come to the conclusion that one of the main conditions of their effectiveness is the synthesis of the students' experience and the scientific information. The organization of the educational process of that kind enables the formation of not just knowledge in demand but also the relations, value orientations, models of civil behavior accepted by the personality.

We hope that the materials presented in this article convince of the topicality of the purposive management of the formation and development of the socio-political activity and civil identity of the youth with the basis on the technological approach in the process of education at school, in higher education institutions, in institutes of informal education.

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