

# Strengthening Moral and Lifestyle Education for Young People: A Case Study in Vietnam

Nguyen Minh Tri<sup>1</sup>, Le Thanh Hoa<sup>2\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>HUTECH University, Vietnam

<sup>2</sup>Industrial University of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

\*Corresponding Author

**Abstract:** - Youth is a great social force, the pillar of the nation, one of the important factors determining the destiny and future of the nation, and is the most important resource contributing positively to the construction and protection of the Fatherland. The lifestyle for young people has achieved positive results, such as a large number of young people with good ethics; having a spirit of solidarity, actively learning, training, cultivating; having a good sense of law observance, a beautiful and healthy lifestyle; having patriotism, national pride; participating in activities for the community. However, in addition to the aspects that have been achieved, there are still limitations. Based on analyzing the situation of moral education and lifestyle for Vietnamese youth, the article proposes several solutions to further promote the effectiveness of this work, contributing to building a generation of young Vietnamese who are qualified, brave and compassionate, and meet the requirements of socio-economic development in the context of deep international integration.

**Keywords:** moral, lifestyle, young, Vietnam

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## I. INTRODUCTION

The moral ideas, and the way of life before Marx were both mystically idealistic, separating the real life in society. Religious ethics are in the name of mystical supernatural forces to impose the moral conceptions of the ruling class to protect the privileges, the privilege of protecting and maintaining the order of discipline, and the existing social institutions in society, as Marx wrote: "Metaphysical conceptions, political conceptions, legal conceptions, moral conceptions and other conceptions that are considered dominant conceptions, all are listed as religious or theological concepts" [1].

Once the working people stood up against oppression and exploitation, the ruling class was all in the name of "God" in the name "Creator", to severely punish them.

That means that subjective idealists seek human liberation in their consciousness.

In summary, philosophical thoughts, and moral thoughts before Marx all sought a way to be freed from misfortunes, sufferings in life in the change of conception, thought in thinking, or seeking liberation in vain waiting for supernatural forces, holy.

Marx revolutionized human thinking by asserting that: "...It is impossible to judge such a dysfunctional society based on the consciousness of that time. On the contrary, it is necessary to explain this consciousness by the contradictions of material life, by the conflict between the forces of social production and the relations of social production" [2]. When assessing Marx's great merit in changing the views in society in general, the concept of ethics and lifestyle for young people, Ho Chi Minh commented: "There is revolutionary ethics, when faced with difficulties, hardships, failures. Also not afraid, timid, or backing

down. For the common good of the Party, of the revolution, of the class, of the nation, and humanity without hesitation in sacrificing all one's interests. When necessary, be willing to sacrifice your life without regrets. It is a very clear, very noble expression of revolutionary ethics" [3]; "Our youth need to instill the spirit of mastery of the country and to cultivate the ethics of the revolutionary" [4]; and "you need to train your revolutionary ethics to prepare to be good citizens, good cadres of a peaceful, unified, independent, democratic and prosperous Vietnam" [5].

In the process of leading the country, the Party has always emphasized the role and position of young people, identified young, and people as the shock force of the revolution, the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union is a reliable reserve team of the Party and has set out many policies on education and training, fostering and organizing young people into a powerful, loyal force, continuing Vietnam's revolutionary cause. In the face of the trend of globalization has given young people and students many opportunities to study, grasp scientific knowledge, advance technology, build for themselves a good future, ready to contribute to and serve the construction and defense of the Fatherland. However, the impact of the market economy has had an impact, positive and negative impacts on the living life of the young generation, leading to ethics, lifestyle, and cultural lifestyle on the part of young people, students currently have standard deviations that need to be educated, orient and build with the right standards.

### ***Research Questions***

The study intended to address the following research question based on the research's objectives.

- What is the current situation of moral and lifestyle education for Vietnamese youth?
- What needs to be done to strengthen moral and lifestyle education for young people in Vietnam today?

## **II. THEORETICAL BASIS AND METHOD**

*The theoretical basis of the article:* The Vietnamese article is carried out based on worldview, methodology of dialectical materialism and historical materialism; the views of the Communist Party of Vietnam on moral education, and lifestyle for young people.

*The research method of the article:* The general method of the thesis is the methods of dialectical materialism and historical materialism, and at the same time, the thesis uses specific methods such as logic and history, synthesis and analysis, interpretation and induction, comparison and comparison, text learning... To solve the task posed.

## **III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **The reality of moral and lifestyle education for Vietnamese youth**

In the process of international integration, Vietnam has always identified young people as a young force with an important position and role in the existence and development of the nation and affirmed: "For the younger generation, regular political education, ideals, ethics, and lifestyle; create conditions for learning, recreational labor, physical and intellectual development, contributing to building and protecting the Fatherland. Encourage young people to self-study, improve their skills, create their jobs" [6]. At the 12th Congress, our Party pointed out: "Renewing the content, methods of political education, ideology, ideals, traditions, fostering revolutionary ideals, patriotism, building ethics, healthy lifestyle, a sense of respect and serious observance of the Constitution and law for the young generation. Having appropriate mechanisms and policies to create an environment and favorable conditions for the young generation to study, research,

labor, entertainment, intellectual development, skills, and fitness. Encourage and encourage young people to nurture dreams, ambitions, impulses, creativity, and mastery of modern science and technology. Promoting the role of the young generation in the cause of building and protecting the Fatherland. To attract a wide range of young people, young people and children to organizations and set out the task:

"Strengthening the education of the young generation on revolutionary ideals, ethics, cultural lifestyles, raising patriotism, national pride, nurturing dreams, ambitions, and aspirations to rise; raising the spirit of responsibility for the country, for society; building environment, learning conditions, labor, entertainment, training to develop healthily, comprehensively, harmoniously both intellectually, physically and aesthetically. Create motivation for young people to fight in learning, labor, creativity, starting a business, establishing a business; mastering modern scientific and technological knowledge, promoting the role in the cause of building and protecting the Fatherland" [7].

Thus, the contents of the Resolution and important documents of the Party always pay attention to the education of moral qualities, building a good lifestyle and cultural lifestyle for young people with very specific guidelines and orientations to create an important resource, the best for the country, actively contributing to the construction and protection of the country. Institutionalize the Party's guidelines and views on moral and lifestyle education for young people; implementing the Resolution of the 5th Central Committee (8th session) on building and developing an advanced Vietnamese culture rich in national identity, in which the no. 1 solution has the key meaning: "Opening the patriotic education campaign associated with patriotic emulation and the Movement of the whole people to unite to build cultural life". The common goal of the all-people movement to unite to build cultural life is: To unite to build good thoughts, ethics, and lifestyles; Unite to build a rich and healthy cultural life, pushing back against social evils. In particular, ministries/sectors/localities are responsible for implementing the movement to achieve this goal. The work of moral education, lifestyle, and cultural lifestyle among young people, students, and students has been focused on by the Ministry of Education and Training, the Central Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, and related ministries/sectors.

The Ministry of Education and Training has issued several documents regulating the education of political qualities, ethics, and lifestyle for students; regulations the on the organization of cultural activities; strengthening the coordination of schools, families, and society with the aim of: "bringing the education of political qualities, ethics, lifestyle for students as a central and regular task" in training institutions to "form, train and develop political qualities, ethics, civilized lifestyle, progress contribute to a comprehensive education for students"; Organizing cultural activities for students "to contribute to fostering personality, comprehensive education for students, while forming a healthy cultural environment in the school". The Ministry of Education and Training coordinates with many ministries and sectors to organize many activities to improve the spiritual and cultural life of students such as coordinating with Vietnam Television to organize the contest "Road to Olympia", in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism organized the regular "Student Singing Festival"...

With the education of the school, family, and society, the care of sectors, levels, social union organizations, and young people, Vietnamese students have had a remarkable maturity in their minds and forces to meet the needs of socio-economic development. *These achievements* are the work of moral education and lifestyle for young people is constantly being renewed in terms of goals, content, and methods. To foster, educate and train young people, our Party advocates promoting the development of education and considers it a national book. Education is the leading national book because it not only equips

the necessary knowledge, professional capacity, skills, and thinking training but importantly contributes to the formation of personality for young people; the work of moral education and lifestyle for young people has formed a comprehensive generation of young people to develop to meet the requirements of innovative careers. With the leadership of the Party and the State, the participation of sectors, levels, families, schools, the whole society, the efforts of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, the Vietnam Youth Union, and the Vietnam Students' Union ..., the education of young people have achieved many positive results; form a new generation of young people bearing the good traditional values of the nation and the progressive characteristics of the times. Due to the practical requirements of the country and the times, the education of young people has been more innovative than before. That has contributed to creating a new generation of young people who have aspirations to rise to establish themselves, establish a career, not to suffer from poverty, backwardness, the desire to build the country according to the goals of rich people, strong country, democracy, justice, civilization; young people believed in the Party's reform path, inherited and honored the precious traditional cultural values of previous generations, namely: patriotism, the heroic fighting spirit of his father to build and protect the Fatherland. Young people and students have actively studied, labored, and actively participated in the industrialization and modernization of the country, exemplary at the forefront of the cause of innovation and integration. Young people and students have the political courage, perhaps live and ideals to live beautifully, have great ambitious dreams, have a clear soul, have a healthy cultural lifestyle, have professional qualifications, and grasp advanced scientific and technological knowledge. "Values of needs, tastes, aesthetics, fashion, music, and communication are ranked highly by young students. Education, talent, and sensitive intelligence are always closely tied to the qualities of kindness, community, elegant civilization, friendship, and love, building a happy family and building a society of legal discipline to create a harmony between material and spiritual values fully. Between a healthy society and a harmonious, equal, cultured life and mutual respect is the ideal of every young student of the present era" [8].

The reasons for these achievements are that: (i) the Party and the State, the family and the whole society are aware of the importance of educating young people; (ii) the achievements of the renovation such as the development of the economy, the stability of the socio-political situation have created favorable conditions for the education of young people. (iii) the positive effects of mass media, globalization, and international integration; (iv), the sense of self-education, and self-training of the youth and fifth, the close bond and coordination between the family, the school, and society in the education of young people.

In addition to the achievements, the work of moral education and lifestyle for Vietnamese youth still shows limitations.

- Apart from the living youth loosens themselves, disregards the human values of life, lives without dreams, ambitions, has no reason to strive for the noble ideals of youth, away from the noble purpose of life, refuses to train, does not actively participate in socio-political activities, indifferent to the activities of the union, less involved in the humane activities of the community such as charitable humanitarian activities "drinking water, remembering sources", "Youth for community life", "Youth committed, establishing a career" for the poor to work to help the poor, take care of families of war invalids and martyrs and people with meritorious services to the revolution, indifference to building lifestyles and cultural lifestyles in their learning environment as well as in the life of the community where they live.

- Some young people lack a reason to train, are lazy to study research, use their free time on trivial activities, live freely and play deprived, and fall into social evils such as gambling, and online gaming

addiction (GOL). A part of young people follow a pragmatic lifestyle, enjoying, living urgently, living in a hurry, and racing to play depraved into social evils that corrupt themselves; There is an increase in school violence, an increase in juvenile crime, premarital sex, and abortion among young people tend to be on the rise, causing anxiety for every family and society.

- The situation of students speaking profanity, swearing and disrespecting teachers, and older people is an isolated phenomenon. Other phenomena are unfamiliar with traditional moral standards such as early sex, taking nude photos, and then posting on social networks, and the internet to assert themselves or to scare friends. The phenomenon of making friends online and forming gangs and having deviant behaviors such as running away from home to dust, living in wedding pants, drinking drunk alcohol, racing... These are worrying expressions on a part of young people.

Moral and lifestyle education for Vietnamese youth in recent years has many limitations as above due to the following reasons:

(1) The coordination between the family, the school, and society in the moral education of young people is not regular and continuous. To be effective in the moral education of young people today requires close coordination between many educational forces, namely families, schools, and society. That coordination requires continuous, frequent occurrences.

(2) In the context of globalization and international integration, with the massive introduction of new cultural and ethical values into Vietnam, in addition to the positive impacts, there are counter-values and countercultures. Young people are people who are at an age where they have not fully matured psychologically but like to follow new things. Therefore, young people are easily provoked, attracted by violent, depraved content, by reactionary forces ... (3) The self-education and self-training of the youth of our country are weak. Educating young people worthy of becoming the future owners of the country is the common work of the whole society and organizations but first of all the responsibility of each young person himself. Because young people are the object of education but also the subject of the educational process, due to the needs and self-educational capacity of young people. Therefore, in the process of educating youth ethics, the purpose of self-education requires young people to be able to independently explore, research and acquire knowledge; improve their personality and train themselves in the necessary skills and evaluate their behavior to contrast themselves with the norms set by society. However, in recent years, a part of young people have remained passive, not active in learning, researching, and training in ethics, even, a large number of young people have moved away from the revolutionary ideals, neglecting the traditional cultural values of the nation, having a selfish, self-interested lifestyle, fetishizing individualism, pagan devotion, pragmatism, falling into social evils, breaking the law, violating the moral standards of society...

### **Solutions to enhance moral and lifestyle education for Vietnamese youth today**

Education, building ethics, lifestyle, and cultural lifestyle for young people today is extremely important in the cause of education and comprehensive training for the young generation. The cultural environment will have a positive impact on the formation of the standard value system of ethics and lifestyle for young people. Therefore, the problem is that it is necessary to strengthen the education of lifestyles, cultural and moral lifestyles for young people in the period of innovation, to achieve this goal, it is necessary to implement some content in the two directions of "build" and "resist".

*Firstly*, to raise awareness about the role of youth moral education, to raise awareness about the role of youth moral education, it is necessary to promote education propaganda throughout society consciously care



for youth education, making the people see that young people are a great social force, and play a decisive role in the revolutionary cause, as the future owner of the country, to have an interest in youth, to invest in the moral education of young people, together with the Party, the government, the front, and socio-political unions to do a good job of educating youth ethics.

*Secondly*, perfecting mechanisms and policies on building ethical life and ethical standards in schools; promoting the styles of "Youth career and youth water retention", "Volunteer youth", "Green summer campaign"... become popular in society; promote the socialization of the development of rules, norms, ethical standards, as a premise to build a cultural lifestyle in schools.

*Thirdly*, it is necessary to closely combine the family, the school, and society in the education, moral training, and lifestyle for young people. This is an important issue to promote the synergy of organizations, forces to take care of education, moral training, and lifestyle for young people, forming the high qualities of the new socialist man. For society, we need to quickly resist re-establishing discipline in all areas of social life from transportation to land management, health management, educational culture, strict management of the internet use of young people... For families, it is necessary to improve the responsibility of parents in moral education, and lifestyle for children. The responsibility of universities in educating, and improve the ethics and qualities of young people. First of all, the school must create a humane, disciplined environment for learning and teaching. Cadres and lecturers must become examples of ethics, behavior, discipline, and discipline in teaching and learning.

*Fifth*, promote the role of self-study, self-cultivation, moral training, and lifestyle of young people. Young people are young, strong, revolutionary enthusiastic, sensitive to the new, the progressive. Promoting the role of young people in self-study, and self-cultivation of lifestyle ethics is an important measure to help them quickly progress and mature. It is also a condition that determines the results of each individual's training. First of all, it is necessary to form for young people the needs, motivation to strive, properly train, make each person have a sense of mastery, eagerness to learn, demand progress, and rise to assert themselves. It is necessary to create all favorable conditions for young people to strive and train; at the same time, it is necessary to regularly monitor, check, and evaluate the results and orientation of striving young people. Interested in meeting the legitimate needs of young people materially and spiritually; assigning tasks by their knacks, and aptitudes for their mental and physiological characteristics will create good conditions for young people to practice ethics and lifestyle.

*Sixth*, expand exchanges and cooperation with foreign countries; encourage schools with conditions to proactively organize cultural exchange and cooperation activities with advanced schools in the region and the world to selectively absorb the quintessence of human culture and experience in building cultural life in schools. Since then, inheriting and promoting global moral values, eliminating old, and outdated moral concepts are no longer relevant to the current situation.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

For the younger generation, the youth force plays a very important role. It is a force with health, knowledge, ambition, always aspiring to reach for beauty, dare to think, dare to do, be a force to support the previous generation, and guide the next generation. Entering the market economy and expanding international cooperation has impacted all aspects of social life, including the ethics, lifestyle, and personality of young people. In addition to the emergence of new moral values, and healthy new cultural lifestyles, some traditional moral values, and good traditional cultural lifestyles are violated. Therefore,

along with the initiative, self-awareness to build a market economy and expand international cooperation, the strengthening of moral and lifestyle education for young people aims to promote positive effects, and prevent negative effects on the ethics and lifestyle of young people. Recently, along with the development of education and training in the country, Vietnam has always attached great importance to improving the quality of comprehensive education for young people to create high-quality human resources to meet the economic and social development of the country. However, there are still certain limitations. The synchronous implementation of the above solutions will contribute to the training of a force of young people with qualifications and ethical qualities to meet the requirements of social development in the new context.

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