LEADERSHIP EDUCATION OF FEMALE COLLEGE STUDENTS IN NEW ECOLOGY OF EDUCATION

KEYWORDS: educational systems; students; college; education for women; leadership; women.

ABSTRACT. New ecology of education emphasizes education should return to nature, respect the law of the education development and talent growth, promote education on people-centered. New ecology of education responds to the challenges and needs of higher education in times of change. Women’s leadership education is in line with the connotation of the new ecology of education, and it is also an important content to promote the quality education of female college students. Leadership education for female college students both need to have a gender perspective and to strengthen the accumulation of relevant knowledge and ability. Leadership education is an important content of the cultivation of female talents in higher education, and it is also the realistic demand of female college students’ self-development. Nowadays in China, leadership education of female college students should pay attention to gender awareness education, to strengthen the relevance and popularity, to attach importance to community organizations and social practice, and to attach importance to women’s career planning. Leadership education of female college students is the talent resources of female leaders. We must prospect the future, and tap the potential.

Wang Qin,
Deputy Director and Associate Professor, Media and Gender Institute, Communication University of China; No.1, Dingfuzhuang East Street, Chaoyang District, 100024, Beijing, China; e-mail: wangqin939@163.com.

© Wang Qin, 2018

ABSTRACT: New ecology of education emphasizes education should return to nature, respect the law of the education development and talent growth, promote education on people-centered. New ecology of education responds to the challenges and needs of higher education in times of change. Women’s leadership education is in line with the connotation of the new ecology of education, and it is also an important content to promote the quality education of female college students. Leadership education for female college students both need to have a gender perspective and to strengthen the accumulation of relevant knowledge and ability. Leadership education is an important content of the cultivation of female talents in higher education, and it is also the realistic demand of female college students’ self-development. Nowadays in China, leadership education of female college students should pay attention to gender awareness education, to strengthen the relevance and popularity, to attach importance to community organizations and social practice, and to attach importance to women’s career planning. Leadership education of female college students is the talent resources of female leaders. We must prospect the future, and tap the potential.

1. New ecology of education and the realistic demand of women’s leadership education

The core of education is to cultivate talent, to awaken people’s subjectivity, make people learn to know themselves, to know the world. The rapid development of the times put forward more demands for education, Rapid changes in society and uncertainty in the environment, make the future talent training face more challenges. New ecology of education emphasizes education should return to nature, respect for the development of education and the law of talent growth. Student-centered, individualized, to provide students with adequate opportunities and resources, to create a conducive to the healthy growth of students in the educational environment. It is base on the needs of students to develop future education, training new kind of talent. New ecology of education emphasizes equality and development in education, and considers the different groups of multiple interests and multiple roles, try to eliminate structural contradictions between different groups. So that people can share the opportunity equally, harmonious coexistence and equal development. From the perspective of individual, the new ecology of education is to respect the individual’s development aspirations, development needs, and development opportunities, etc. So that everyone in higher education can share the fruits of development, promote their own development, and achieve their self-worth.

University is the main body of higher education. It build our talent structure and lead the direction of the times. New ecology
of education emphasizes higher education should respect each student, pay attention to student needs, carry out targeted education, improve the overall quality of students. University is a national think tank, bear the important mission for the future development of the community leader, bear the development and reserve leadership resources of the forward-looking tasks. In order to meet the development trend of globalization, informatization and economic integration, Leadership education in Universities is not only in line with the quality education promoted by the state, but also in line with the requirements of the growth and development of the students themselves.

New ecology of education is inclusive and respect differences, it provide a equal and balanced education for different groups. From the perspective of gender, women and men should enjoy the same educational resources and educational opportunities in the new ecology of education. It carry out certain gender education for boys and girls, focusing on pertinence and individualization. The cultivation of female college student needs to enhance the comprehensive quality and ability of women in all aspects. Leadership education is an important content of ability training, is conducive to the growth and development of young female talent.

Social development and the emergence of female talent, making the enhance and cultivate of female leadership become an important theme of higher education. Generally speaking, leadership means the influence of the leader in the organization activities lead and guide the team toward the common goal. Women’s leadership is the ability of women leaders to use their own power, leadership qualities, and leadership charisma in a given context to influence others' willingness work in the organization voluntarily to achieve organizational goals excellently [1].

Leadership education is based on the subject of leadership education of college students, explore the potential of college students, enhance the leadership skills of interdisciplinary education. International Leaders Association believes that leadership education mainly refers to the theory and practice of research in school, family, social and other fields to enhance the relevant knowledge and ability of the leadership. The purpose of it is to cultivate the educated people have better leadership skills to carry out leadership work, so as to complete the leadership task [3]. Leadership education includes both general and narrow sense of the two kinds of argument. Generalized leadership education refers to all planned, organized educational activities that promote individual leadership. The narrow sense of leadership education mainly refers to the leadership education activities in the teaching institutions, the educators carry out the system of education or training to enhance the leadership ability of the educated in all aspects [4].

Higher education development in China has made rapid progress. The number of female students in colleges and universities have increased greatly, female students have occupied half of the higher education. According to the statistical data, in 2014, the proportion of female undergraduates and junior college students in regular institutions of higher learning is 52.1%, the same number of graduates and doctors are respectively 51.6% and 36% [5]. The increase number of female students has raised new challenges in the cultivation of female talents in higher education.

New ecology of education requires higher education to respect each student, carry out targeted education from their own development needs. The leadership education is the specialization and systematic quality education of female college students, so as to enhance their leadership consciousness, stimulate their leadership potential and master the basic leadership knowledge and leadership skills. Female college students as the number of occupy half of the crowd, their quality education and personnel training has become an important part of higher education. Based on the women’s gender temperament and social cultural reality, the leadership education cultivate female college students to enhance their personal ability and their self-esteem, self-love, self-confidence, and self-confidence.

2. Practical significance of leadership education of female college students

Leadership ability training of female college students is not only an important mission of higher education, but also the real needs of young women to grow into talent. The leadership education of female college students has great strategic significance to promote the them to become the future female leaders and female elites. Enhance their leadership have an important contribution to improve the quality of women’s society as a whole and the overall quality of the people, and it even affect the future development of national society.

2.1. Leadership education is an important part of female talent training in higher education

Higher education has an important responsibility for fostering future leaders for the country and society, which is the consensus of many university president. In the autumn of 1936, when Zhu Kezhen became president of Zhejiang University, he made a speech at the Opening Ceremony for new students, he point out that the goal of university education was
Leadership training requires long-term planning and forward-looking design. University is an important base for the growth of young students, which can cultivate high-quality young talent for the society. The leadership education of college students is the training of future leaders and the development of talent resources, which is an important content of the cultivation of young talents.

The training of female leaders should be carried out from the young people, and the content of leadership training should be included in the higher education system. The leadership education of the university should be promoted from the strategic level of national talent construction. Female college students are women’s elite talents in the future. In the current society, women are widely involved in socio-economic and cultural construction, the participation of social public affairs is also increasing. The emergence of a large number of female talent require women education and training to become more specialized and refined. Higher education in the female college students is not only to let them master the rich professional knowledge, but also to enhance women’s ability and self-confidence, make them become leaders who have social influence. We found that more and more women have played increasingly important leadership roles in various fields and various industries. They are an important force to promote national and social development.

2.2. Leadership education is the real needs of female college students' self-development

We are in a rapidly changing society, economic globalization, cultural diversity. Changes in different social areas have brought a lot of challenges to the development of college students. In order to adapt these social changes, and even lead these social changes, our urgent need is to enhance the leadership of college students.

Leadership education of college students is not only the quality education advocated by the state, but also meet the requirements of college students' own development. Leadership is an important part of personal accomplishment, whether or not he/she is a leader. From personal perspective of female college students, the changing social environment requires them to continuously improve their personal qualities and abilities, adapt to environmental needs, and respond to social challenges. Many college students are very concerned about their ability and their future. Leadership education is an important content to improve the overall quality of college students. It is urgent and realistic for them. Only by continuously improve their overall quality, tempering leadership, they can adapt to changing social needs, to achieve self-worth, and lead the development of the era.

Leadership education not only improves students’ personal qualities, but also enhances their sense of social responsibility, make them care for others and society. They will break through the person development of a small vision, beyond the limitations of individuals, use team awareness and leadership to lead the people around to achieve innovative development.

Practice shows that students who have received leadership education mostly have team spirit and a stronger ability to adapt to the environment, they also shows good communication ability and innovation awareness. Such students will undoubtedly be more competitive in career development. Many company prefer to choose those students, they can get more platforms and opportunities after they graduated.

3. Focus areas of the leadership education of female college students

Leadership education requires systematic and practical education on leadership. There are three dimensions of the leadership education of college students: Values, knowledge, and behavior. The main ways to improve leadership for them include study and practice in campus, public service, internship and so on [6].

The goal of women’s leadership education is to cultivate women elite with leadership and creativity. The content of leadership education includes gender awareness education, management ability education, international education, creative thinking, leadership art, communication ability and cooperation ability training and so on. To enhance the leadership of female college students, we should focus on promoting their individual qualities, the participation of social practice, and the open mind and innovation consciousness in the background of international development.

Leadership education is a systematic project. We need to improve the personnel training objectives, personnel training mechanism and other aspects. Specifically, the current Chinese female college students leadership education, should strengthen the following aspects:

3.1. Gender Awareness Education

Gender awareness education in China has not yet fully popularized. University education is an important resource for students to shape their gender awareness, which plays an im-
important role in the healthy growth of female college students. When students who lack of gender awareness face gender bias in life, gender discrimination in employment, gender barriers in career development, and other issues of life development, they are easy to lack the ability to judge, lose a clear position, resulting in inferiority complex.

Gender awareness education focuses on eliminating cultural barriers in the growth of both sexes and promoting gender equality. Help people face gender differences, overcome gender bias and restraint, and fully develop personal potential, cultivate a complete personality. Gender awareness education help female students establish the concept of gender equality, to eliminate gender misunderstanding and blind spots. Enhance gender sensitivity, establish an independent, rational gender values, guide them to grasp the self-role, achieve self-ability and self-worth, effectively enhance the leadership of female college students.

The popularization of gender awareness education in universities is conducive to the creation of gender equality campus culture, promote gender equality in the higher education, and provide a good cultural atmosphere for the promotion of women’s leadership and the development of female talents.

3.2. Popularity and Pertinence

Leadership education is an important part of university general education. The rapid development of society, the maturity of all kinds of organizational structure, promote the demand for female talent. As outstanding young talent, female college students should have the basic leadership qualities in order to deal with different requires in study life and work practice. Women’s leadership is a part of the basic quality to enhance their personal ability on professional work.

Female leadership education is not only to cultivate female student cadres, but should cover the vast majority of ordinary female college students. Society needs more female talent to contribute their own value, have a positive impact. We need not only a small number of elite leaders, but also more citizens and individuals with leadership. For the needs of women talents in society, universities should set up relevant leadership courses in the foundation Course. Enhance the social responsibility of college students as citizens, and emphasize the awareness of college students’ social participation.

On the other hand, the general education and elite education of leadership should combined. Choose some students who have good leadership potential, give them targeted education and training. Purposefully to guide and provide opportunities to them according their specific situation and career interests. We should cultivate some female youth leaders, create a number of outstanding young female leaders for the country and society.

3.3. Student’s Association and Social Practice

Student’s association is an important experimental field for the development of leadership. College student associations are student groups that are organized on the basis of voluntary principles. For many students, the community activities will accumulate the organization experience and leadership experience. Through a variety of community activities, female college students can participate in more public affairs, understand social reality, open a macro vision. It will effective exercise and enhance the leadership of female college students.

At the same time, universities should encourage female students to use their own expertise and ability to participate in social practice. Actively participate in social activities and social services will constantly enhance their leadership level, practice their leadership skills. At present, many senior students like to take internships in enterprises, the combination of professional knowledge and work practice will bring rapid growth to them in social work, exercise their ability of organization and communication. Those students who show the outstanding personal ability will recognized by enterprises easily. It also provides an effective practice for college students to further plan their career development.

Student’s association and social practice will cultivate women’s initiative and self-confidence, to actively control their own lives and work. It will help them accumulate experience of responsibility and communication in the organization activities.

3.4. Women’s Career Planning

Career planning has a very important practical significance for the development of female college students. The development of women’s career is related to their own ability and interest, it also closely linked with the external social environment. Female college students should carefully prepared their career planning according to their actual situation, determine their career development goals as soon as possible. It will be their driving force to pursue the success.

Career planning requires a clear assessment of their own interests, strengths, abilities, resources, and selection of career lines. They should have a clear understanding of their career environment, career obstacles, try to overcome the conflict of gender roles, balance the family and career. They should tapping women’s self-potential and resources, getting the sense of gender equality, the attitude of independent, the value of
themself, and actively contribute to society. To help female college students to plan their own career, we can combine women’s leadership training, life development and career choice. Carrying out a more vivid and targeted leadership education in universities.

New ecology of education responds to the challenges and needs of higher education in times of change. The development of female leadership education is in line with the connotation of the new ecology of education, and it is also an important content to promote the quality education of female college students. The leadership education of female college students is the talent resources of future female leaders. We must prospect the future, and tap the potential. Meanwhile, we should pay attention to the basic knowledge, basic qualities and basic skills training of female college students. Lay the foundation to make them become good leaders in the future.

REFERENCES
6. Xi Jieren. Strategic Thinking of Leadership Education in Chinese College Students // Contemporary Youth Studies. – 2012. – Iss. 5.