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Personal Leadership Is A Factor Of Youth Social Activity

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Abstract

This paper describes the educational leadership politics in Russia (the Kazan city). The program “Youth leadership” aims to develop proactive behavior of young people in Russia and to solve real wicked social and public problems of independent person’s education. The main factor of the society developing is a human potential. That is why the necessity of forming a reserve of young leaders who will take responsibility for solving real society problems is evident. A leader has a duty to be in charge not only of himself, his own life, but of the country events too. The youth state politics accents an improvement of human resources. So the human-centered problem in the education environment is connected with creation of psychological conditions and usage pedagogical technologies for personal development of pupils and students.

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Introduction

The world’s progress is always founding on a new knowledge, development in science, changes leading to a better society and a new qualitative level of social organization. The society problem-solving depends on development of human potential. The very important condition of effective society development is an accent the youth and the extension of their opportunities. The necessity of forming a reserve of young leaders who will take responsibility for solving real society problems is evident. One of the ways of achieving this goal is an education of persons able to adapt easily to any new situation and be effective in other fields, persons with high level of critical thinking and flexible approach to life.

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Many psychological investigations have studied mechanisms of human-being adapt to reality and reasons of inefficient way of living when persons do not use all their resources. Considering these issues one of the reasons of people's irrational behavior is their inadequate perception of situations and other people. Such behavior is characterized by external way of thinking when a person does not take responsibility for own life but avoids it and thinks that other people or circumstances influence his life. Passive life attitude does not allow a person to achieve personal or professional effectiveness.

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There is a correlation between a system of values and internal or external orientation of a person. Responsibility for own life (internal orientation) helps an individual to raise the quality of own life. The way of life according to such values as achieving professionalism, high level of culture, education and erudition, personal development and interpersonal communication in harmony is evidentially effective. But following these values is possible due to self-consciousness, awareness of psychological and personal recourses, social activity forming. For seeing and achieving important aims, getting good results within the chosen profession a person should be a leader in his life, be in charge of the actions, behavior and activity. Personal leadership allows people to do very skillfully in all spheres of life.

2. The concept

Personal leadership is based on the ability to see all educational, professional and life problems in the long-term prospect. A proactive person makes final decisions consciously and in a way that agrees with the whole life concept. Nowadays Kazan schools include course offerings in the personal leadership development. The results of promoting the new educational technologies proved its effectiveness. The proposed program of youth leadership provides such education for young people when they are taught not only to react to present circumstances, but to create the reality, to live by seeing opportunities (Covey R. S., 2012).

Changes of personality at young age are connected with the transformation of beliefs system when teenagers' reactions of grouping substitute for "identity instead mixed roles". Self-consciousness is directed to a feeling of certainty about who you really are, what your purpose is and how you differ from others.

Improving an outlook of young people influence their motivation, the leading motives are connected with the plans on future life. The personal leadership includes skills of seeing the life perspectives and exact directions of the activity. The development of youth personal leadership is intended as a factor of its successful socialization because it is directed to forming the personal independence in settling the problems, the freedom and ability to make own decisions in life, without having to ask other people for standard and typical scheme of reacting (Grint K., 2000, Raelin J., 2003). Besides a general attitude to life and other people depends on the right judgments about them. Adequate valuation of people behavior and their expectations allow a person to choose the right pattern of behavior.

One of the main missions of psychological and pedagogical measures that should be taken to develop leadership of young people is forming the proactive views. Motivation of achieving the success is unconditionally stronger tool of personal development than motivation of approval. The systems of secondary and higher education admit the necessity of the development of leader qualities but in the reality they have many hindrances to relief these efforts. The majority of pupils and students are oriented towards high marks and teachers' approval instead the personal improvement and progress. Unfortunately the value of new knowledge is not a key point and a main factor when they carry out school tasks. It is necessary to take students a while to orientate themselves to motivation of achieving the results in different areas of activity.

Nowadays specialists in different fields are demanded to have not only professional qualities, special knowledge and skills but to be a creative one (Shalagina L.V., 2007, Bendas T. V., 2009). An ability to come up with new ideas, elaborate new technologies and use modern approaches in the activity. A general understanding of these demands bases on some knowledge about leadership. But it is in direct contradiction to the reality. When students are involved in a process of studying they are often motivated to social approval. As a result a main regulator of their behavior is conformity to social expectations; they obey the accepted rules of school (and society) strongly. So

students get high marks for doing tasks in a proper way following a known algorithm. There is a question: how can a person be a leader in his special field if he wasn't such one while growing?

University graduates are under a lot of stress and have to use compensatory mechanisms and adaptive recourses at the beginning of their job. Few persons can change the perception of the world and general attitude to life and other people from dependent to independent (proactive) behavior. Dependent people are suggested as objects of force, they have come under the influence of other individuals' beliefs and circumstances. In this way self-assurance and attitude to own personality depend on the social environment. A dependent person aspires to achieve aims of other people and does not set himself goal; does not rule and control his own life.

3. Methodology

The educational leadership politics started three years ago in Kazan, Russia. The program "Youth personal leadership" is supported by Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Tatarstan. The program aims to develop proactive behavior of young people in Russia and to solve real wicked social and public problems of independent person's education. Nowadays 30 Kazan schools (900 pupils) include course offerings in the personal leadership development. New educational standards encourage the basic paradigm of Russian secondary and higher education by adding the competences and personal development to theoretical knowledge.

The content and process of the program "Youth leadership" are matched to the psychological particularities of teenagers. The course is included into the system of secondary education and lasts one year. The program that's aimed at teenagers and consists of 8 units:

- Setting goals and planning;
- Relationship with other people;
- Resolving conflicts;
- Communicative competence;
- Making decisions;
- Ethics and tolerance;
- Probable prediction;
- Time management. The program is based on system for forming of a successful, proactive person. The elements of the system are complementary. Every unit includes annotation, lectures and practical tasks, psychological methods of influence and diagnosis, social learning, recommendations. Teenagers get the main knowledge about: functions and characteristics of leadership, effective and useful outlook on life, tolerant attitude towards other people, mechanisms of probable prediction, techniques of resolving conflicts and communication. They form skills of decision-making, self-control, seeing and acting in long-term perspectives and be responsible for own life and social processes. The first unit is devoted to setting goals in long-term perspectives on life, forming a way of teenagers' thinking about future, especially one which is influenced by the type of persons they are or by their experiences. It is very important to teach pupils to judge the importance of their mission correctly. A plan of one's personal development is impossible without constant process of self-cognition. A successful man gets good results in various areas of activity first of all because of he is aware of his abilities, talents and personal resources. The unit "Relationship with other people" is directed to forming pupils' active social position. They are suggested to be involved in social projects and volunteer's organizations. Skills of resolving conflicts and communicative competence are necessary for the personal improvement. High level of communicative abilities assumes

situational adapt and fluency in verbal and non-verbal behavioral mechanisms, the ability to quickly and adequately orientate in numerous and various communicative situations, learning effective communication technique (Solobutina M. M., 2008).

Determining the influence of individual-psychological, personal characteristics of the human being (will, emotions, type of temperament, extraversion-introversion) on the success of communication is evident. Positive interaction is one of the main conditions of reaching the success in any special field.

Forming skills of making decisions we use techniques that focuses on improving creativity in identifying a problem, clarity of judgment, responsibility for the decision, strength of ego and firmness of decision (Moorherad G., 1998). This unit is connected with the previous one directly. The matter is the very effective technique is the group problem-solving and decision-making. So communicative skills and positive relationship are necessary for working in team.

Ethic principles and tolerance help young people to aware that every one of us is a part of this world, we are different but we have common feathers – we are all people. Different nationalities, religious beliefs, social status or origin must not prevent cooperation and mutual understanding. We try to ensure teenagers that if others differ from us they are not our existence threat. Opposite they could be issues of new knowledge, new ideas and new views in our outlook on the world.

Including phenomenon of probable prediction into the system of leadership development factors caused by the statement that the success of various kinds of human activity is related to prognostic abilities (Solobutina M. M., 2009). In psychological science prognostics have become a mechanism of adequate behavior and effective professional activity. Teachers should see the pupils' potential for the development of prognostic abilities. Anticipation (prediction) is included into cognitive processes, communication and interaction.

The necessity of time management has been proved by many researchers. The modern life is very dynamic and informative. The ability to work in the lack of time, organize yourself in a proper way help you to see right priorities and be more mobile.

4. Discussion

The development of personal leadership means that a person is becoming a harmonic and creative, being able self-improving and self-actualization. The very important point in this concept is that leadership accompanies with refusing from motivation of social approval but not negative attitude to other people. A person with leader abilities communicates with other people effectively, can work in collaboration and cooperation and does not deny team decision.

A proactive person makes every decision consciously, sees value of it in the present and in the future (in the concept of the whole life). He takes responsibility for overcoming the problems, makes it effectively and in the prospect of his development. Proactive people are motivated to successfully complete professional and personal matters, give original ideas and are able to risk and experiment. Any new idea based on refusing a ready decision. It is impossible to solve the problem on the same level that it has been occurred on. It is necessary to deal with it from a higher position.

A proactive person thinks independently and sees the logic behind various statements. He appreciates freedom of thinking, beliefs and opportunity to show and improve his abilities. But if a man depends on the opinion of someone else in order to exist or to be successful he would not search a new approach to the problem, would not create anything. The only way of acting for him is reacting by using ready data.

There is an opinion that the center of the leadership is a phenomenon of competition. A modern view on the leadership includes a notice of the value and importance of cooperation, interaction and mutual understanding. A

proactive person lives in the world with other people, not contrary to them and not separated from each other. He

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is an individual among other individuals, but not an individualist. A leader has such features as high level of social intellect and prediction, an ability to convince, to debate and argue own views, a talent for touching each other successfully; he has good and positive relationships with colleagues, authority, relatives and etc.

Another important point in discussed approach to the problem of leadership is a new perception of time. Young people are mainly oriented to the future while solving life problems and managing personal environment. Nevertheless the results of analysis of time perception in young age show that there are significant changes in these aspects. Youth has to plan its activity for short periods of time working under concrete projects.

5. Conclusion

The modern reality is characterized by specific social conditions. Young people have not got an experience in the personal leadership but they have to adapt to new demands of the society. They have to react to everything new quickly but not to create something new. Maximum mobilizing of psychological recourses of a person carries out for reactive behavior instead proactive. Such reactions do not allow a person to see long-term goals in various areas of his activity and plan his life for the future.

We consider that the main factor of the society developing is a human potential. That is why the necessity of forming a reserve of young leaders who will take responsibility for solving real society problems is evident. A leader has a duty to be in charge not only of himself, his own life, but of the country events too. The youth state politics accents an improvement of human resources. So the human-centered problem in the education environment is connected with creation of psychological conditions and usage pedagogical technologies for personal development of pupils and students. The proposed program of youth leadership provides such education for young people when they are taught not only to react to present circumstances, but to create the reality, to live by seeing opportunities.

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