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## **BASICS OF LEGAL CULTURE FORMATION IN THE STUDENTS EDUCATION PROCESS**

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### **Abstract**

Formation of socially active students, citizens of Russia, is the most important direction in the education and development of citizenship, with respect for human rights and freedoms, as well as love among students for the environment, homeland, family, patriotic and national consciousness. Owing to this, the practice provides a close connection between higher professional education, socio-economic and spiritual transformations in the country and the world. To date, the study of legal culture of student youth is especially relevant. Legal education of university students is based on various principles of pedagogical theory and is carried out on the basis of professionalism of teachers. The article considers the actual problem of the Russian society connected with the process of dissemination of legal knowledge among students of higher educational institutions. The most effective approaches to the formation of positive legal attitudes among students are substantiated; the goals of the implementation of basic legal provisions, which are the basis for the gradual formation of a developed civil society, are defined. The value preferences of legal nature, implemented in the process of educational impact of the teaching staff on the students' legal consciousness, are analysed.

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## **1. Introduction**

The social development of Russian society of the XXI century cannot be imagined without legal culture in general, as well as legal education of the younger generation in the modern conditions of digital educational environment, which explains the large-scale scientific interest in this problem. Currently, the issue of legal education of students from a professional point of view occupies a dominant position in the succession of many legal dilemmas. For this reason, the pedagogical community is actively working on the creation and implementation of the latest concept of improving professional legal education.

The relevance is manifested in the fact that our society is building an open democratic state of law, which is designed to ensure the primacy of the law and guarantees the rights, freedoms and equality of citizens. At the same time, the modern state of society is characterised by negative trends: we have to state the blurring and elimination of socially significant personal norms and values, which leads to an increase in delinquency, deviant behaviour, suicides, the emergence of elements of antisocial behaviour of the younger generation. Education of the younger generation in modern Russian society is carried out in the conditions of its renewal, changes in economic, political and social spheres, and the establishment of a democratic state governed by the rule of law.

The formation of a democratic state based on the rule of law is inseparable from the process of developing the legal culture of society. Legal culture is a condition for ensuring freedom and security of the individual, human rights, a guarantor of his legal protection and civic activity. It creates a moral atmosphere in which each person is protected from arbitrariness and can freely realise his creative abilities and ideals.

## **2. Problem Statement**

The methodological and theoretical basis of this study is the scientific provisions on the factors of personality formation and development. The leading role of social conditions in this process, conceptual provisions of modern science on education and training belongs to a specially organised joint activity of educators and students, the comprehensive development of personality as the goal of education of servicemen. The study uses the fundamental conceptual provisions of associative-reflex, step-by-step and problem-activity teaching, systemic, structural, personal-social-activity and complex approaches.

At the philosophical level, the methodological basis of the research is the system of philosophical knowledge, the provisions of dialectics and the theory of cognition. At the general scientific level, there are the provisions of system and activity approaches; at the concrete-scientific level, this is the methodology of pedagogical research.

## **3. Research Questions**

In modern Russia, various forms of legal education are successfully implemented, which are designed to create objective prerequisites for understanding by members of society of priority legal attitudes. They reflect the essential approaches of the state to the regulation of the most important social relations in the transition of our country to a market economy. The application of this or that form of

pedagogical influence within the process of legal education depends on the specific circumstances of social, political, cultural, national character, developing in the territory of the Russian Federation in the present period of time (Chudinov, 2015).

#### **4. Purpose of the Study**

Considering the problematics of the educational process, we can highlight such direction as the formation of individual legal consciousness and legal culture at the initial stage of life of each person (Zhigulin, 2013). During this period, the foundations of legal views of the members of the Russian society are laid and the essential elements that determine the level of legal culture of young people are established. The influence on the consciousness of value-oriented legal attitudes of the young generation is conditioned by the extent to which the social activity of parents is congruently connected with those legal postulates that are projected by the state on the models of desirable behaviour of society members.

It should be noted that legal education is a priority task for the state, so some characterisation of the legal framework is necessary as part of the problem.

Therefore, the regulatory and legal framework in force in the Russian Federation in many respects characterises the process of legal education.

#### **5. Research Methods**

Judicial and investigative practice shows that a significant gap in the legal education of students is that they do not think about the inevitability of punishment. Many student offenders are convinced that if they are punished for what they have done, it will be either with a suspended sentence or their parents will be able to illegally release them from criminal responsibility.

The Internet has a huge impact on the development and education of today's youth. There are many positive criteria and a negative impact. In our opinion, the independent practice of searching for information of interest on the vastness of the global network must be accompanied by theoretical training, which once again emphasises the high status of pedagogical activity in universities. An unprepared user of Internet resources can expect to encounter unpredictable and contradictory legal reality, which often leads to false conclusions that entail unlawful actions (Abramyan & Golubkina, 2019).

The process of transformation of the legal culture of young people in the context of modernisation of Russian society differs significantly from the unified cultural and legal space. It follows that this process is taking its own course, not based on the practice of the older generation, contrary to the civilisational heritage. The functioning of the legal system cannot be imagined without legal culture; therefore, it is reasonable to assume the influence of legal education on the process of formation of legal culture of the younger generation.

In our opinion, the process of legal education in modern Russia is a rather complex path, pursuing the goals of increasing the role of a person in the cell of society who would share the interests of the state, and the need to form an information society, where each individual will feel a full-fledged personality. The latest information means guarantee the scale of possibilities of educational work, because it is on it that the correct methodology of legal upbringing and education of students depends.

Multimedia technologies are widely spread in the system of professional education, due to which text materials, image files, video clips and many other things are created, which include the possibilities of information and legal education of the younger generation. The process of formation of citizenship in students is accompanied by the ideas of virtual attendance of theatrical events, viewing iconic cinematography pictures with elements of history, acquaintance with famous Russian personalities, which, in turn, has a significant impact on the formation of civic and legal values (Razenkova & Rukavitsina, 2010).

The use of multimedia technologies in educational work is an important component in the legal training of students, because it is with the help of such means the desired result – the formation of legal culture of students in the digital educational environment – is achieved much faster and more effectively. Moreover, owing to such means, they are instilled with moral values, a sense of respect for law and order and legislation, because computer technologies are able to transmit information, increasing the credibility of the educational process. Hence, students are stimulated to further conscious perception of the received information, which increases their interest in the actual problem.

An important stage in the formation of legal culture of the younger generation is the time in which the representatives of youth strata of society are in the cycle of school education. In general education institutions, as part of the resolution of this task, a number of subjects of legal orientation are taught, which lay the basic knowledge of schoolchildren about the legal system of the modern Russian state. The consistency of the legal education of young people in the Russian Federation is manifested in the fact that higher educational establishments offer compulsory legal disciplines that enable students to acquire a broader range of knowledge of the regulation by the State of basic social relations through the system of law. Legal education of the young generation allows significantly reducing the phenomena of legal nihilism and ensuring the creation of a healthy social environment that allows protecting members of society from unlawful acts (Matevosova, 2014).

The result of consistent implementation of the process of legal education of persons studying in higher educational institutions is the achievement of a high level of legal culture. Legal culture as a complex socio-legal phenomenon is not formed spontaneously; its level largely depends on the methods used by teachers in the educational process. At the same time, special attention should be paid to the development of pedagogical approaches realised in the framework of teaching legal disciplines (Harnikov, 2019). This set of methods and techniques should cover all aspects of personal education when receiving higher education to achieve a multifaceted perception by the individual consciousness of a young person of those legal concepts that have taken root in modern Russian society in the early XXI century. The social orientation of the teaching staff of legal disciplines on the positions of justice, humanity, legality, freedom of manifestation of personal qualities has a direct essential influence on the consolidation in the individual value orientations of each student of the most acceptable for modern Russian society attitudes of a legal nature. The availability of law teachers having a high theoretical level of knowledge on specific disciplines in the field of regulation of social relations, in combination with significant practical experience in solving situations of a legal nature, allows for a wider and more diverse influence on the development of social foundations in students. They are in demand in our country during the period of complex transformations that have been taking place for several decades.

Considering and evaluating various approaches to legal education of young people, we should point out the fact that the scientific validity and effectiveness of the applied methods of impact on the consciousness of an individual directly affects the achievement of a high level of individual legal culture of members of society. The system of methods of legal education can be based on general scientific theoretical provisions, covering the whole complex of cognitive activity, and a set of techniques and methods. Their application is objectively aimed at creating the foundations of legal consciousness, which meets the task of forming a developed civil society. Therefore, within the framework of legal education of students, we cannot ignore the use of dialectical methods that influence individual ideas of the personality about the most important concepts of legal culture. That is, the full versatility of dialectical approaches should be widely used by the teaching staff specialising in the implementation of the educational process in the field of law. In this regard, the teaching staff should develop a scientifically grounded conceptually acceptable programme of legal training and education of students within the requirements of state standards developed in the system of higher education of the Russian Federation. It can lead to positive results in the field of increasing the level of legal culture of the most active representatives of the young generation, which will further entail the consolidation in the consciousness of each student legal ideas appropriate to the level.

Today, the educational and training process in the system of vocational education is not limited by restrictive frameworks. This is explained by the fact that the modern labour market is in urgent need of highly qualified personnel, specialising in digital technologies. The socio-economic transition from the traditional stage of development to the industrial one has marked a sharp jump in competition at all stages of the educational platform.

## **6. Findings**

The perspective of society development is largely associated with young people. Therefore, teachers of socio-legal disciplines in higher education institutions face the task to study the problems of legal self-determination of youth, mechanisms of formation of legal identity of students. They also face a study of these processes by the example of specific student groups in which the teacher works to adjust their work with students. In modern life it is not easy for young people to find themselves, and knowledge of social and legal disciplines should help them in this.

The factors realised in the order of self-education are of no small importance in solving the problems of legal education of young people. Self-education links the processes of pedagogical influence exerted by representatives of the teaching staff on the legal consciousness of the individual with the influence of the family, school and student collective. This involves the specific factors of reality, in the conditions of which a particular student develops in the modern period of time (Abramyan & Golubkina, 2021a).

## **7. Conclusion**

Self-improvement in the legal sphere, realised by students, allows them to formulate the most adequate views on the nodal points of the realities of objective reality, which creates the necessary

conditions for the full adaptation of the young generation to the rapidly changing factors of modern life in society. Self-education trains the qualities of a person that are suitable for him/her to achieve within the framework of professional and social activities, being active participants of the most important processes of transformations taking place in the Russian Federation in recent years.

The meaningful side of pedagogical activity is important, because the goals and tasks that should be solved and achieved in the framework of the formation of a progressive legal personality determine the results required by modern Russian society in the implementation of legal policy.

It should be noted that the content of legal education is objectively affected by the sufficiency of material resources used by the state in various forms of legal influence on specific representatives of modern society. The following circumstance is not insignificant. The content of pedagogical impact is largely conditioned by the means of spiritual and moral character used by teachers at various stages of education (Abramyan & Golubkina, 2021b).

The acuteness of the problem of formation of a really positive attitude to the basic concepts of the legal system of the Russian Federation on the part of members of society lies in the fact that educational processes are of a continuous nature. That is, they determine the inseparability of connection between older and younger generations, which should ensure the stability and predictability of the development of certain stable legal positions in relation to the most significant aspects of the development of the Russian state in historical retrospect (Chudinov, 2015).

In recent years, there have been positive trends towards strengthening the rule of law of the Russian state, increasing the effectiveness of its law enforcement activities and lawmaking. These trends should be supported, first of all, by the growth of legal culture of young people, creating on this basis an environment of intolerance towards unlawful manifestations.

The formation of legal consciousness of the individual occurs in many different ways, but one of the main ways is legal education. Its main goal is not just to provide young people with relevant knowledge, but to contribute to the formation of a personality with a legal culture. This requires the search for new effective education systems, forms and methods of education.

The strategic goals of national education are closely related to the problems of development of the Russian society. Education should provide:

- i. creating a basis for progressive and sustainable socio-economic and spiritual development of Russia;
- ii. providing a high quality of life of the people and national security;
- iii. developing civil society and improving political culture and legal awareness;
- iv. establishing Russia as a great power in education and science, culture and art, high technology and economy.

The Federal Law "On Education in the Russian Federation" establishes the principles of state policy in the field of education and highlights the main characteristics of Russian education. The Law of the Russian Federation includes the humanistic nature of education, the unity of the educational space, the universality of education, the secular nature of education in state and municipal educational institutions, freedom and pluralism in education, the democratic and state-public nature of education management.

In our opinion, this series of really priority characteristics-principles should be supplemented with no less significant legal nature of education. This characteristic-principle should not be understood in an oversimplified way, identifying it with the constitutional principle of the rule of law; otherwise, the duplication of the constitutional principle would be clearly unjustified. What is behind the proposed concept? We believe that the principle of the legal nature of education includes:

- i. the dominance of the legal space in the part of the educational space, in which they intersect, and where legal norms are applied (manifestation of the constitutional principle of the rule of law, the formal-legal aspect of the concept);
- ii. maximising opportunities for implementation of their rights and powers, protection of legitimate interests of all participants of educational relations (organizational aspect of the concept);
- iii. teaching law, knowledge of legal norms, and the ability to apply them in practical situations to all participants in educational relations (the educational aspect of the concept);
- iv. fostering the need for theoretical and practical mastery of law, conviction in the value of law and legal behaviour, in the need to use legal mechanisms in the implementation of legitimate interests in social practice, in general, and in educational relations, in particular (an educational, motivational aspect of the concept).

Legal education is a purposeful activity of an educational institution to transfer the basic foundations of legal culture and legal experience to students. Legal culture of students needs a competent organisation of legal education, during which not only knowledge, but also students' own value attitude to legal behaviour is formed, i.e. they form legal consciousness.

An important role in the formation of legal consciousness and legal behaviour, or rather legal culture, is played by legal socialization, the process of developing a person's ideas about his or her social role and place in modern society.

Agents of legal socialization act both jointly and separately; they are a family, school, mass media, institution, peer environment, etc. That is why, in modern Russian society, with its "pluses" and "minuses", legal culture affects a person in several directions at once (Modina, Kheckert, Epikhin, et al., 2021; Modina, Khekert, Voskanian, et al., 2021).

First, it contributes to the legal socialization of the individual and adapts him to life in society.

Second, legal culture influences an individual's establishment of a certain value system.

Third, the influence of legal culture develops skills, habits and stereotypes of legal behaviour.

It is especially relevant to pay increased attention to this problem in the educational process of both higher and secondary specialized education. The main factors of transformation of students' legal culture are state institutions, primarily, the authorities, conflict of society. The goal of the entire education system in Russia of the XXI century is intellectual, moral, legal and physical development of a person. Modern society needs a person who thinks independently, critically, is able to see and creatively solve emerging problems, taking into account the requirements of laws.

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