

DOCTORAL THESIS IN BRIEF

PHẠM TẤT THẮNG. *Value orientation of students (Through the case study of students from 11 training units in Hanoi from 1998 to present)*

Major: Sociology

Code: 62 31 30 01

Vietnam society has a lot of very basic changes at present, from the basic microscopic changes in the social life leading to the value change of the individuals, social classes, including students. The students are the sensitive components in the society, future intellectuals of the country who shall play the key role in the national industrialization and modernization work. Thus, the requirement on value orientation study in the students shows clearly how the social, cultural changes impact on the value and value orientation of students at present.

The value orientation study of students allows us to judge as a first step about the changes in value and lifestyle of a social group and forecast the thought issue of students, through that, may forecast somewhat about the staff of intellectuals in the future.

With the above-said question setting, postgraduate Phạm Tất Thắng selected the question “*Value orientation of students (Through the case study of students from 11 training units in Hanoi from 1998 to present)*” as the research subject for his doctoral thesis.

To clarify the researched question, the author used the qualitative method (observation, intensive interview conducted continuously from 1998 to

2007); the data analysis method; and quantitative method. The quantitative research was conducted in two academic years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, and used the random *sample* according to the class unit (including 584 students of 11 classes of 11 independent training units in Hanoi) with the *sample structure* the rate of students in natural sciences, economics and industry was 52.9% with the quantity of 309 students of 6 classes; students in natural sciences and humanities made up 47.1% with the quantity of 275 students of 5 classes; rate of male/female students with random existence was 270 male students and 314 female students (46% and 54%). The students in the research samples were interviewed with questionnaire including 31 questions to find out about the basic information of value orientation of students, job, political value, love, marriage,...

In addition to the preface, conclusion, references and annexes, the thesis is divided into 3 chapters and recommendations.

Chapter I clarifies the reasoning basis, presents the working concepts such as: concept of value and value orientation, concept of student and student circles.

“Value” according to the meaning of an independent and exact concept, it was first used in the economic field. And then, in early 1950s, this concept was used widely in the social science. According to the author, the value orientation is the trend of action subject (individual or social group) in selecting the values which the action subject

considers as necessary and urgent at the present time. And the student term means the person who works, studies, learns about, exploits knowledge. The student is the representative of a special social group, young people who are preparing to go into the material or spiritual production activity of the society. The student circles in the sociology are also call student classes. The student circles include all persons who are studying a full-time, long-term (3 to 6 years) training program (course) in the universities, colleges. The student circles are the group of social population with the determined social position, role and status. The student group is the social group with the specific socialization period.

In the student concept, the author indicated the characteristics of population – society, their role, social position and status in the socialization period.

Chapter II presents the results of *occupation value orientation and job value orientation*.

Firstly, *for the occupation value orientation*, the author analyzed *the orientation of selection of branch of study, knowledge preparation and wishes to study postgraduate of students*. The author indicated, the statistic results of candidates who register to take examination to the universities showed that branches of study in economics, information technology, law, ... has a increasing number of candidates. The study result of the dissertation showed that many students have tendency to select the branch of study without scientific basis. Up to 42.9% students select the branch of study they like; 18.8% students select the branch of study

which shall be developed. The reason related to the direct life of a person like “this branch is easy to apply for job” is only 11.5%, or the branch which is appreciated by the society, only 7% student selects.

To prepare the luggage after finishing the university, most students who want to study well their specialty is 93.8%; foreign languages 51.4%, expert in informatics 24.5%; have good relationship is up to 40.4%; good communication skills 60.8%. Thus, it may be said that the students have prepared a relatively good luggage for their future. That luggage focuses on three important factors including good study in specialty, good communication skills and good at foreign languages.

For *job value orientation*, the authors concentrated to study on the aspects *do right the trained occupation, the job uses the scientific profession and working in the large cities or near house, showed that*: the most wish of students after graduating from universities is to have job and stabilize their families. 1/ after finishing the university, the students have trend to select the occupations attached to their trained majors (58.3% students select the occupation related to the major they learnt); the criteria to select the occupation “which they like” are also interested by a lot of students (21.9%); meanwhile, the number of students who select the occupation with high income only makes up 17.9%. By the considering the gender correlation, it shows that there is hardly any difference between male and female students in selecting their occupation after graduation. 2/ so many students who are asked think that the life is meaningful

when they find a suitable job (38.4%); the most favorite occupation in 11 studied occupation groups is the occupation using the learnt scientific and technical specialty (55%); a kind of “occupation” which is cared about by students at present is “engage in politics”, ranked second in the selection table of students (make up 15.7%); 13.6% students who are asked wants to become the business manager, and the other occupations such as financial, accounting and banking employee only make 6.5%; and the other occupation groups are selected by a inconsiderable number of students. 3/ the job at right occupation is only concentrated in some large cities and Hanoi capital. Therefore, most students wish to work in Hanoi (25%), in large cities (25.3%). If not the students shall wish to work near to their house after graduation (18.5%). A relatively high rate for selection to go anywhere of students, 28%. There is a relatively clear difference between the male and female students in the selection of workplace after graduation. The number of female students who have trend to wish to select the workplace near to their house is twofold higher than that of male students. Meanwhile, for the selection to go anywhere, the number of male students makes up a much higher density. In this part, the authors also considered under the gender correlation, residence of the students’ families and family background.

The above result shows that, there have been a lot of changes in occupation selection of students. For them, the job right to the things they are trained at the universities has the most decisive role in their occupation orientation. The gender has a relatively clear influence, and the

residence of family is unmeaning much in occupation selection of students after graduation.

Chapter III presents the results of *political, ideal and friendship, love and partner selection value orientation* of students.

First, *for the political and life ideal orientation of students*. Most students select the living quality in combination with the experiences and science and modern technology (75%); promote the creativeness (52.6%) and serious working spirit and attitude (49%). Among 11 studied qualities, 3 qualities selected most by students include: working with sense of responsibility (80.5%), living with ideals (69.9%) and with community, solidarity (60.4%). The selection of such qualities shows clearly the intelligence level of student circles. They identified obviously the strength of their nation, of their generation to inherit, promote the good, and limit the shortcomings. Most of the students in the study sample have aspirations to make every effort to become the party members (78.4%), in which most of them have good motivation (continue practicing and striving 71.9%; to self-affirm themselves 51.7%; to make better contributions 44%; and to be promoted for position 34.2%). The selection of such values to reflect the life ideal of students is positive and very actual but sometimes it is evaluated to be pragmatic.

Value orientation of students on friendship, love inclines toward the very specific and actual values but not pragmatic. The students wish and demand a heartfelt love from the persons who they love (80.3%), afraid of sham sentiments; they incline toward the

intellectual, knowledge values (67.8%) more than material value, money. The students have high spirit and sense of self-reliance for their future life; they have the very clear-cut attitudes with the strange lifestyles; they do not necessarily demand their lover to have much money, high social standing, but what they wish most and place important role is the honesty, intelligence, wide knowledge and good health. Still a part of male students does not really change their opinion about the role of male, female; the paternalism is still latent in the Vietnamese and including students.

Final part of the dissertation, the author proposed *some recommendations*:

- In the high school education program, it is necessary to have the contents of vocational guidance, flow distribution of pupils after graduating from high schools, to help pupils select the schools, fields of study suitable to their ability and conditions.

- The education, training branch, schools and the recruitment agencies together participate in solving jobs for the graduated students, receive the students who have high level and study results, in accordance with the career, in order to create a positive social opinion about the social justice and solve effectively the number of qualified laborer.

- On one hand, the State needs to have the policy for rapid development of economy, culture, rural and mountainous society; on the other hand, should give the appropriate policy so that the graduated students return to work in the rural and mountainous areas.

- Before submitting the dossiers to take university entrance examination, the pupils in the 12th grade must determine exactly their ability, expectations, aptitude, learning capacity and hobby; at the same time learn carefully about the system of universities, colleges and the fields of study and careers trained by such universities, colleges.

- There must be the synchronous effective measures for the education of political thought; need to create justice, implicitness in recruitment and use of personnel.

- The State should have specific policies to give priority and encouragement to the excellent students, give the initial support when they have just went to work so that they have conditions to soon stabilize their life and continue further study; it is necessary to put forward the separate policies for the excellent students, bravely promote the intellectual and young cadres to the important management positions of the State to exploit their brainpower effectively.

- The study in value orientation of students has an important significance, it is necessary to have more intensive studies in the field of value orientation of students.

The thesis was successfully defended at the National-level Board of Doctoral Examiners, held at the Institute of Sociology, Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences, in March 2009.

Introduced by
HÒA AN