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Solutions for Educating Political Consciousness among Vietnamese Youth in the Current Context

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Abstract

Against the backdrop of globalization, the development of a socialist-oriented market economy, and the far-reaching impacts of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, Vietnamese youth are confronted with both expanding opportunities and increasingly complex challenges in terms of political awareness, resilience, and ideological orientation. In this context, political consciousness education has emerged as an objective necessity and a strategic imperative in the process of national construction and defense. This article focuses on clarifying the theoretical foundations of political consciousness and political consciousness education for Vietnamese youth at present; analyzing the role and significance of political consciousness education in shaping personality, ideological stance, and political fortitude among young people; and, on that basis, proposing several fundamental solutions to enhance the effectiveness of political consciousness education for Vietnamese youth in the current period.

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1. Introduction

Youth constitute a major social force, playing a pioneering and creative role in the process of national renewal, development, and international integration. The level of education, political resilience, and political consciousness of young people directly influences the quality of human resources, socio-political stability, and the prospects for sustainable national development. In the context of a socialist-oriented market economy, increasingly deep international integration, and particularly the rapid advancement of digital transformation, the ideological life of Vietnamese youth is subject to multidimensional, rapid, and complex influences arising from the digital information environment and cyberspace. This reality poses an urgent requirement to strengthen political consciousness education for youth in order to foster a scientific worldview, a revolutionary outlook on life, firm ideological positions, and the capacity for self-mastery within the digital environment. Through this process, political consciousness education contributes to enhancing young people's sense of civic responsibility toward the cause of national construction and defense.

2. Content

2.1. Political Consciousness and Political Consciousness Education for Vietnamese Youth at Present

Political consciousness is a specific form of social consciousness that reflects fundamental political and social relations, primarily the relationships among classes, nations, and states with regard to state power and the political system. Unlike other forms of social consciousness, political consciousness is directly associated with class interests, national interests, and issues of political power; therefore, it plays a particularly strong orienting role in shaping individuals' perceptions, attitudes, and social behavior. In social life, political consciousness not only reflects political reality but also actively participates in guiding action, shaping value choices, and establishing individuals' ideological positions in specific social contexts.

From a structural perspective, political consciousness comprises several fundamental components, including political knowledge, political belief, political ideals, political sentiments, and political resilience. These components exist in a dialectical relationship, interacting with and complementing one another. Political knowledge plays a foundational role by providing a scientific cognitive basis for understanding political and social issues; political beliefs and political ideals represent the transformation of knowledge into enduring spiritual motivation, guiding both the objectives and modes of action. Political resilience, by contrast, constitutes the concentrated manifestation of political consciousness in practice, reflecting the capacity to maintain firm ideological positions, exercise intellectual autonomy, and act proactively in response to the complex fluctuations of social life. The comprehensive and harmonious development of these components gives rise to a stable and resilient form of political consciousness, capable of effectively orienting positive political behavior under conditions of rapid social transformation.

Youth constitute a distinct socio-demographic group characterized by specific features in terms of psychology, cognition, and modes of participation in social life. Benefiting from relatively high levels of education, rapid access to science and technology, and innovative thinking, contemporary Vietnamese youth represent a leading force in the process of digital transformation and the application of the achievements of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. However, these very characteristics also render youth the social group most directly and profoundly influenced by the digital information environment, cyberspace, and multidirectional ideological currents within the context of globalization.

The political consciousness of contemporary Vietnamese youth does not exist in isolation; rather, it is shaped by the overall political consciousness of society and is profoundly influenced by the economic, cultural, educational, and media environments, particularly the digital environment. Under current conditions, the political consciousness of youth is manifested primarily in their level of awareness of and belief in Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh Thought, the Party's guidelines and viewpoints, as well as the State's policies and laws. It is also expressed through political attitudes, civic behavior, and the extent of young people's participation in political and socio-political activities in both offline social life and cyberspace. While such participation broadens the scope for the expression of political consciousness, it simultaneously generates new demands regarding youth's capacity for autonomy, critical analysis, and information evaluation. In the context of digital transformation and rapid scientific and technological advancement, young people enjoy favorable conditions for accessing a vast and diverse body of knowledge and for promptly updating information on domestic and international political and social issues. Nevertheless, this environment also exposes them to the risks posed by unverified information, misinformation, and the dissemination of extreme, erroneous, and hostile viewpoints, which circulate rapidly, widely, and in increasingly sophisticated forms within cyberspace. As a result, the political consciousness of a segment of youth may become unstable, susceptible to fluctuation, or even misdirected if it is not guided and cultivated in a timely, scientific, and context-appropriate manner that aligns with contemporary patterns of information reception in the digital environment.

Accordingly, political consciousness education for youth has become an objective requirement of strategic significance for socio-political stability and the sustainable development of the country. Political consciousness education for youth is a purposeful and organized process of influence carried out by educational actors such as the Party, the State, socio-political organizations, schools, families, and society as a whole, aiming to equip young people with fundamental political knowledge, cultivate political beliefs and revolutionary ideals, consolidate ideological positions, and transform political awareness into positive political behavior. In the context of digital transformation, this process not only takes place within traditional educational settings but also expands extensively into the digital environment, thereby necessitating innovation in educational content, methods, and forms.

In terms of content, political consciousness education for youth encompasses education in Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought; education on the Party's guidelines and viewpoints as well as the State's policies and laws; education on patriotism and the nation's revolutionary traditions; and education aimed at fostering civic responsibility, respect for the rule of law, and a spirit of social contribution. At the same time, in the context of rapid scientific and technological development, political consciousness education must also emphasize equipping young people with critical thinking skills and the capacity to identify, evaluate, and process information in cyberspace, thereby enhancing their ideological "resilience" and their ability to protect themselves against the negative influences of the digital environment.

Thus, political consciousness and political consciousness education for contemporary Vietnamese youth constitute closely interrelated phenomena that interact with and mutually condition one another. Equipping young people with political knowledge, cultivating political beliefs and revolutionary ideals, and transforming political awareness into positive political behavior in both traditional social environments and the digital sphere play a decisive role in stabilizing, developing, and enhancing the quality of youth political consciousness in the current context of digital transformation and scientific and technological advancement.

2.2. The Importance of Political Consciousness Education for Vietnamese Youth at Present

In the context of the country's continued promotion of comprehensive renewal, deep international integration, and the construction of a socialist rule-of-law state, political consciousness education for youth is of particular significance not only for the personal development of young people themselves but also for socio-political stability and the country's future sustainable development. In particular, the national digital transformation process and the rapid advancement of science and technology have profoundly reshaped the living, learning, working, and communication environments of youth, thereby exerting a direct impact on their political awareness, attitudes, and behavior. Within this context, youth are simultaneously subjects strongly influenced by global economic, technological, and informational factors and key actors participating in the creation of new social spaces. Consequently, political consciousness education for youth has become a strategic and urgent requirement from both theoretical and practical perspectives.

First, political consciousness education plays a foundational

role in the formation and development of the comprehensive personality of Vietnamese youth. Human personality is a unified whole of knowledge, value systems, attitudes, and behavior, in which political consciousness plays a guiding role, influencing the establishment of life goals, value choices, and modes of action of individuals. In the context of digital transformation and the knowledge economy, when scientific and technological knowledge is developing rapidly and young people's access to information is increasingly expanding, political consciousness education becomes increasingly important in helping youth build a scientific worldview, a revolutionary outlook on life, and a stable system of values. Through political consciousness education, young people are equipped with the ability to correctly understand the relationships between the individual and society, between rights and obligations, and between personal freedom and civic responsibility in a digitalized society, thereby avoiding falling into individualistic, pragmatic, or value-deviant lifestyles under the complex influences of the market economy and the digital media environment.

Second, political consciousness education plays a particularly important role in fostering political resilience and strengthening the ideological stance of Vietnamese youth in the context of the rapid development of science and technology and globalization. Political resilience is expressed not only in firmness of ideological positions and political beliefs, but also in the capacity for independent thinking and for accurately analyzing and evaluating political and social issues in a complex, multidimensional information environment. At present, together with the development of the Internet, social media, and digital platforms, the ideological space of youth is increasingly expanding, but it also contains many potential risks of being influenced by misinformation, distortion, and extreme and hostile viewpoints that are disseminated rapidly and in increasingly sophisticated forms. In this context, political consciousness education helps young people enhance their capacity to identify, critically respond to, and protect themselves against erroneous viewpoints, thereby maintaining a firm ideological stance and strengthening their belief in Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh Thought, and the socialist path of development chosen by the Party and the people.

Third, political consciousness education is of particular importance in promoting the pioneering and creative role of Vietnamese youth in the era of digital transformation and innovation. The pioneering role of youth is not only expressed in traditional political and social movements, but is also extended to new fields such as science and technology, innovative entrepreneurship, digital transformation, and the building of a digital society and a digital economy. However, this pioneering role can only be effectively realized when young people possess sound life ideals, pure motivations for action, and a high sense of responsibility toward the community and the nation. Political consciousness education contributes to shaping youth's beliefs, revolutionary ideals, and a profound awareness of the country's development goals and path, thereby creating a sustainable spiritual motivation that enables young people to be proactive, creative, and ready to undertake new and challenging tasks in key areas of the development process.

In addition, political consciousness education plays a guiding and regulating role in directing the pioneering actions of youth toward progressive, humanistic, and sustainable values within the digital environment. Under the conditions of a

market economy and international integration, without proper political and ideological orientation, the pioneering spirit of youth may be driven by personal interests, the pursuit of fame and material gain, or deviant trends. Through political consciousness education, young people are assisted in correctly understanding the relationship between personal development and social responsibility, as well as between innovation and community interests, thereby forming political resilience, a sense of responsibility, and the capacity for self-directed action. As a result, the pioneering role of youth does not remain merely a matter of temporary enthusiasm but is transformed into organized, well-oriented practical actions that carry long-term value for the country's development.

Thus, in the context of digital transformation and the rapid development of science and technology, political consciousness education plays a foundational and continuous role in shaping the comprehensive personality of Vietnamese youth, fostering political resilience, and promoting their pioneering role. By equipping young people with political knowledge, strengthening beliefs, orienting values, and regulating behavior in both traditional social environments and the digital space, political consciousness education contributes to building a generation of youth with sound life ideals, a high sense of social responsibility, and strong capacity for positive action, thereby affirming the role of youth as a core force in the cause of national construction and sustainable development in the digital era.

2.3. Fundamental Solutions for Political Consciousness Education for Vietnamese Youth at Present

Based on the particular position and role of youth in the cause of national construction and defense, and in response to the new requirements placed on ideological and theoretical work in the context of globalization, digital transformation, and the rapid development of science and technology, political consciousness education for Vietnamese youth today needs to be implemented in a comprehensive, coordinated, and systematic manner. This process not only requires unity in objectives and political orientation but also calls for strong innovation in educational content, methods, and environments in order to meet the psychological characteristics, cognitive needs, and developmental trends of youth in modern society. On this basis, several fundamental solutions can be outlined as follows.

First, it is necessary to strengthen the comprehensive leadership of the Party and the unified management of the State over political consciousness education for youth. This is a principle-based solution that has decisive significance in ensuring the correct political and ideological orientation as well as the developmental objectives of youth education. In the context of digital transformation and deep international integration, external influences on the ideological life of youth are becoming increasingly strong and complex, requiring the Party to promptly and clearly define appropriate viewpoints, objectives, content, and methods of political consciousness education for each stage of development. The Party's leadership is reflected not only in the issuance of resolutions and directives on youth work, but also in providing strategic orientation for political education in the digital space, linking political consciousness education with the task of developing a young human resource force that possesses strong political resilience and the capacity to master modern science and technology. On this basis, the

State plays a role of unified management by institutionalizing the Party's viewpoints into a system of laws, strategies, programs, and specific plans, thereby ensuring coordinated implementation among sectors and levels in carrying out political consciousness education for youth.

Second, it is necessary to strongly innovate the content and methods of political consciousness education in a modern, flexible manner that is appropriate to the context of science and technology development and the digital society. At present, the content of political consciousness education for youth should not be limited to the transmission of basic theoretical knowledge of Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh Thought, the Party's guidelines and viewpoints, and the State's policies and laws, but should be expanded and updated in connection with practical issues arising in the process of digital transformation, the development of the digital economy and digital society, and international integration. Linking political theory with current affairs and global challenges such as climate change, non-traditional security, and cyberspace sovereignty will help young people more deeply recognize the practical value of political knowledge, thereby forming firm political beliefs and attitudes. At the same time, educational methods need to be renewed in ways that promote youth's initiative, creativity, and critical thinking, and that strengthen the application of digital technologies, online learning platforms, and open education models, thereby creating conditions for young people to access political knowledge in a more flexible, engaging, and effective manner.

Third, it is necessary to promote the role of socio-political organizations, especially the Youth Union, the Student Association, and other youth organizations, in political consciousness education. In the context of the digital society, these organizations not only play a role in mobilizing and uniting youth within the traditional social space but also need to proactively expand their activities into the digital environment, becoming an important bridge connecting youth with the Party, the State, and society. Through revolutionary action movements, volunteer programs, innovative entrepreneurship, community digital transformation, and activities for social benefit, youth are provided with opportunities to link political knowledge with practical experience, thereby strengthening beliefs, ideals, and a sense of civic responsibility. Enhancing the effectiveness of socio-political organizations will make an important contribution to transforming political consciousness education from a one-way, imposed influence into a process of self-education, self-discipline, and self-improvement on the part of youth themselves.

Fourth, greater attention should be paid to political consciousness education for youth in cyberspace and the digital environment, considering it an integral component of contemporary ideological and theoretical work. Cyberspace has become, and continues to be, a primary environment for living, learning, and communication for a large segment of youth, while also serving as a space in which diverse political and ideological viewpoints are disseminated rapidly and are difficult to control. Therefore, political consciousness education cannot remain outside cyberspace but must proactively occupy, orient, and guide it. This requires the development of high-quality political and ideological communication products with diverse formats and engaging content that align with youth's patterns of information reception, while simultaneously strengthening education in

digital skills, critical thinking capacity, and information selection abilities for young people. Through these efforts, youth can enhance their ideological "resilience," strengthen their political fortitude, and improve their capacity for self-regulation in the face of misleading and distorted information flows within a multidimensional information environment. In addition, it is necessary to strengthen close coordination among the family, the context of digital transformation, which is blurring the boundaries between traditional educational spaces. The family plays a foundational role in shaping initial values related to ethics, lifestyle, and civic responsibility; schools constitute an important environment for systematically equipping young people with political knowledge; and society and cyberspace are spaces in which youth directly experience, are tested, and assert themselves. Coordinated interaction among these environments will create a combined strength, thereby contributing to improving the effectiveness of political consciousness education for youth.

In summary, political consciousness education for Vietnamese youth today is a long-term and complex process that requires the coordinated involvement of the entire political system in the context of digital transformation and scientific and technological development. Closely combining the leadership of the Party and the management of the State with innovation in educational content and methods, as well as promoting the role of socio-political organizations in both traditional environments and cyberspace, will create a solid foundation for forming a generation of youth with strong political resilience, noble life ideals, and the capacity for positive action, thereby meeting the requirements of the country's sustainable development in the current period.

3. Conclusion

Political consciousness education for Vietnamese youth today is a task of long-term strategic significance, closely linked to the cause of national construction and defense in the context of globalization, digital transformation, and the rapid development of science and technology. Enhancing the effectiveness of political consciousness education not only contributes to shaping a generation of youth with strong political resilience, sound life ideals, and a high sense of social responsibility, but also creates a solid ideological foundation for socio-political stability and the country's sustainable development. This requires the coordinated involvement of the entire political system, together with continuous innovation in educational content, methods, and environments in a modern, flexible manner that is appropriate to the characteristics and development trends of youth in the digital era.

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