The values of volunteering and volunteer practice among students studying in "Vocational training (by industry)"

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Abstract. Researches of historical-pedagogical and volunteer orientation actualize. The author highlights the vivid examples of volunteer activity described in Russian history and characterizes the activity forms of charity in the difficult time of the World War I. Effective forms of disseminating the ideas and values of volunteer practice among youth are revealed; values of public service are proved, motives of dedication of a part of life of students to other people are identified. The process of formation of public opinion about volunteer activity in modern Russia is reviewed.

1 Introduction

The development of student volunteering in vocational education corresponds to the priority directions of state policy [1], the Federal Law of February 5, 2018 "On amendments to certain legislative acts of the Russian Federation on volunteering", suggesting a close connection between education and upbringing, increasing the prestige of volunteers in all spheres, increasing the civic activity of the younger generation. In his Address to the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation on December 1, 2016, President of the Russian Federation V.V. Putin said «I ask the Civic Chamber and the Agency for Strategic Initiatives to become proactive in supporting volunteer organisations, charities and non-profits. Through their commitment and generosity, people who contribute to such projects promote collective efforts that Russia needs so much right now. They create significant social potential that must be used effectively. It is necessary to remove all barriers that undermine the development of the volunteer movement, and also provide every assistance non-profit organisations might need». <http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/53379>

2 The methodology of the study, data sources and data availability

The purpose of the study is to examine volunteer activity in Russia as a sociocultural phenomenon on the value and historical levels. This goal required the following tasks:

- to analyze modern directions of development of voluntary activity of students and approaches of attraction of youth to the solution of social problems;

- to investigate the directions of volunteer work of students of Don State Technical University;
 - to identify opportunities for interaction of volunteer student groups of different directions.
- The *methodological basis* of the study was:
- philosophical, pedagogical and psychological research, revealing the origins of volunteer activity in Russia;
 - current ideas of Christian assistance to those in need;
 - provisions of pedagogical psychology on the principles of student development.

The *empirical basis* was compiled of data on the development of volunteer activity in pre-revolutionary Russia, the results of an independent author's survey, testing of active youth of the DSTU who took part in various volunteer programs and projects. The questions developed by the author helped to substantiate the forms of global national initiatives of volunteerism, to analyze the process of forming public opinion about volunteer activities in modern Russia.

Organization of research. In order to identify students ideas about the directions, characteristics of motivation for volunteer work, evaluation of plans for volunteering, 279 students studying at "Psychology, pedagogy and defectology" and "Social humanitarian" faculties were interviewed.

The experience of conducting socially significant actions by students at the university, city, regional and All-Russian levels was summarized, systematization of the obtained data, analysis of the results and their use in adjusting the activity forms of pedagogical practice of students in the process of studying the discipline "Methodology of educational work" were carried out.

3 Results and discussion

The educational activity of Don State Technical University is aimed at increasing the accessibility of the system of joining volunteer groups of different directions, attracting young people to solve social problems of the Southern Federal District. Civil-patriotic work with students takes into account the existing experience, traditions, relationships, multinationality; creates a platform for professional and personal development of young people. At the Russian Volunteer Award Ceremony on December 6, 2017, Putin noted the importance of volunteers: «It will be your year, the year of all Russian citizens whose will, energy and open heartedness are Russia's biggest strength» <http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/56318>.

Volunteers of the volunteer center "Hot hearts" and fire-rescue unit "Donskoy" of our University provide all possible assistance to victims of natural disasters and emergencies, preserve nature and cultural monuments, restore the names of the dead and missing soldiers and take care of military graves of those killed during the Great Patriotic War, take an active part in the action "Immortal regiment", help in the largest international events. In Rostov on Don for the FIFA 2018, more than two thousand people were prepared. The majority of volunteers (74%) noted effective, qualified work of volunteers, 62% touched upon motivated approaches to the organization of work of volunteers, 59% gave examples of creation of the atmosphere of a sports holiday, manifestations of the open, kind, sincere attitude to guests of the Rostov region.

Taking part in the volunteer forum "New Generation: Volunteering is a Lifestyle" [2], students with an active life position develop volunteering as an effective tool for creating mechanisms of promotion, spread the ideas and values of volunteer practice among young people; interact with voluntary associations in various fields of activity aimed at changing social norms of life providing quality assistance to those in need. Volunteers worked on events and projects in the following areas: volunteering in the field of formation of a

comfortable urban environment, environmental and social volunteering; mastered training programs "Secrets of successful business", "Fundamentals of training work".

To the question: "What is the first thing to take care of?", 53% of students answered that it is necessary to involve youth more actively in participation in socially significant campaigns, 49% - to make public service a value; 36% - to provide employment of youth in carrying out public actions. According to the degree of importance, students identified motives for dedicating part of their lives to other people: 57% - the desire to help people cope with life's difficulties, 39% - indifference to someone else's grief, 26% - their destiny on Earth, 23% - the spiritual need to give hope to others or save lives.

Exploring the origins of volunteer work in Russia, students concluded that a compassionate attitude towards children, the elderly was a characteristic phenomenon in the customs of the East Slavic tribes, hospitably welcomed the wanderers. S.M. Soloviev noted that "our distant ancestors were merciful to the old and small members of the tribe, as well as to the prisoners, who after a certain period could return to their native places or stay to live among the Slavs as free people or friends" [3].

With the adoption of Christianity by Prince Vladimir in Russia after 988, volunteer activity had deep roots in human spirituality. "With the baptism of Russia the history of Russian culture started" wrote D.S. Likhachev [4]. The ascetic life of monks in Russian monasteries was a vivid example of the ability to care for others, to come to the rescue, to listen to the requests of others, to be patient with the workers who worked for the glory of God. For a long time, in the Russian Orthodox environment they tried to see Christ in front of them, to relate to what was happening, realizing that this would lead us to overcome difficulties.

Carrying out an assignment "to give examples of volunteer activities described in Russian history," 57% of students identified the feat of selfless service to the people of Minin and Pozharsky, 61% of respondents are grateful to the national heroes, their great achievements during the Polish intervention. 48% of students noted that the Moscow state and Russian nationality was on the verge of death, 52% - highly appreciated the feat of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Hermogena captured by the poles. From custody, the Patriarch sent out appeals to the Orthodox people to save the Motherland. The Russian people stood up for the defense of the Motherland, from different parts of the country the Civil Home Guard began to gather, the collection Centre was Nizhny Novgorod. Don Cossacks joined voluntarily. The feat of Prince Dmitry Pozharsky and a citizen Kuzma Minin forever went down in history of Russia as an example of selfless service to the Motherland.

Modern political views on changes in the consumer standards of society on the norm of service contributed to the increased interest of young people to the events of the First World War and selfless commitment to the needy. Exploring the difficult, tragic time for the country in 1914, the students prepared information about the people who put the participation in charitable assistance to victims of the war in the foreground. 47% of students estimated care of military hospitals, rear plants of Emperor Nikolay II, 38% of respondents noted the organization by Empress Alexandra Feodorovna of seventy infirmaries, 56% - the equipment of military-sanitary trains for transportation of wounded from places of military operations, 53% - creation of four trains warehouses for supply of army with medical equipment. For wounded soldiers who could not move, the Empress at her own expense built a field church, which was transported to hospitals.

Every second student noted the activity form of charity, the strong-willed decision of Empress Alexandra Feodorovna: to work together with older daughters Olga and Tatiana sisters of mercy in the infirmary, to undergo a special training course to provide professional assistance to the wounded. The Empress ordered Olga and Tatiana to enter the department for the lower ranks, accustoming them to the idea of serving their people, and she worked in the department for officers. Students were interested in the individual charitable activities of

the Grand duchesses: Tatiana worked as a surgical sister; Olga suffering from poor health cleaned up after the wounded in the wards. The princesses were engaged in cleaning and sterilization of medical instruments, bandages, prepared linen. The young duchesses Maria and Anastasia visited wounded soldiers, sewing clothes, making bandages to be sent to hospitals, engaged in fundraising. The Royal family became a model of high morality and piety in the service to the Russian people. Students noted the kindness and peace of mind of the suffering prisoners of the Ipatiev house, despite all the bullying and insults, the Royal family led a pious life in prison. On the night of 3 to 4 July 1918, the Royal family was shot in Yekaterinburg, and then their bodies were taken out of town to an abandoned mine in the tract Ganina Yama, where they were long destroyed with sulfuric acid, gasoline and grenades. Charity Affairs played a big role in the canonization of Nicholas II and his family by the Russian Orthodox Church.

Dialogue with the students of Don State Technical University allowed us to note the evidence of the highest human motives, i.e. to listen to the needs of others, to take care of those in need of volunteering Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, sister of the last Empress of Russia Alexandra Feodorovna. 63% of students noted her love and mercy, assistance to various groups of the population; 57% - identified organizational work as the Chairman of the Moscow branch of the Russian Red Cross Society during the Russian-Japanese war and the First World War.

61% of students believe that because of a sense of deep compassion for the people in need, The Grand Duchess organized a collection point of assistance to the front in the Palace. In the halls of the Grand Kremlin Palace, during the Russian-Japanese war on the initiative of Elizabeth Feodorovna worked workshops where sewed uniforms for soldiers and accepted donations of money and things. 67% of respondents believe that the Grand Duchess by her heart and by virtue of her religious beliefs organized a sanatorium near Novorossiysk during the Russian-Japanese war, built a house with cheap apartments for young women working in factories, and founded the Martha and Mary Convent of Mercy in Moscow. Elizabeth Feodorovna oriented the monastery to the mission of helping the poor: in the house of the priest at the Marfo-Mariinsky monastery there was a public library, in which 1590 volumes of religious and moral, secular and children's literature were collected. There was also a Sunday school, where in 1913 seventy-five girls and women who worked in factories were trained. The peculiarity of serving of Elizabeth was that she took children from flophouses and sent them to a special school at the monastery. Therefore, she saved them from inevitable fate, i.e. theft for boys and the game for girls, and as a result from hard labor or early death. If the family has not yet completely descended, the children could stay with their parents and only attended classes in the monastery, got clothes and food there. And until today, this monastery responds to different requests of people; people in need are helped by word and deed regardless of religion and nationality.

58% of students noted disinterested mercy, kindness, courage and selflessness of the Grand Duchess: personally assisted at operations, which were carried out in hospital of Marfo-Mariinsky monastery, visited Khitrovka — "bottom" of Moscow where the poor and criminals lived to where even men were afraid to come. Elizabeth Feodorovna personally nursed the most severe patients: sitting by the bed, changing bandages, fed, comforted. "Happiness is not in money and not in a luxurious Palace. Wealth can be lost. The happiness cannot be taken away neither by people nor by events. In faith, in spiritual life, in myself. Make your neighbors happy and you will become happy," wrote the Grand Duchess [5]. Even after the shooting, when she was wounded, thrown into the mine, Elizabeth Feodorovna, received fractures, head injury, bandaged wounds to other victims and comforted them. The Orthodox Church canonized Elizabeth Feodorovna as a Holy Martyr after the events of 1918 in the city of Alapaevsk.

Value orientations and installations of volunteer activity of Elizabeth Feodorovna supported harmonious coexistence of people with the world around, respect for traditions, values and culture. The Grand Duchess discovered Russia, the culture of the country and its faith, which was mysterious to her. Looking at the photos, we see how the appearance of Elizabeth Feodorovna changed: from a cold German beauty, the Grand Duchess gradually turned into a spiritualized, glowing woman with inner light. She became a great Princess with a beautiful Russian soul, open, merciful, always ready to help everyone in need, was able to stand and carry all her love for her neighbor and deep faith in God through all the trials throughout life.

4 Conclusion

Volunteer activity is focused on the implementation of social values: spirituality, kindness, love for the Motherland, civic activity. The considered examples of volunteer activity, which performed the functions of preservation and transfer of spiritual traditions, confirm the value of volunteer work, which consists in joint efforts for the benefit of society. Volunteer projects are a means of asserting in society the ideas of good and mercy, which constitute the axiological basis of civil-patriotic education of students. Currently, the state is actively cooperating with volunteers to implement volunteer initiatives, to introduce the younger generation to the traditions of charity.

Volunteer activity at the present stage is developing successfully, but the media do not give enough coverage to it. The process of formation of public opinion on the effectiveness of volunteer activity and volunteer practice of students in modern Russia is analyzed. Students came to the conclusion that at the present stage it is important to strengthen relations within volunteer groups, it is necessary to organize mutual assistance and support for each other, to strengthen solidarity within the volunteer movement.

References

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