

# On the Application of Red Cross Spirit to Moral Education of Secondary Vocational Health School

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Red Cross Spirit acts as an important moral value for students. It wins so wide recognitions that more and more Chinese secondary vocational health schools have already put it into use. This paper attempts to discuss the application of Red Cross Spirit to the moral education of secondary vocational health school from the perspectives: curriculum, assignments, and activities. We hope this study could promote students' professional ethics and boost the development of moral education with the feature of secondary vocational health school.

*Keywords:* Red Cross Spirit, moral education, secondary vocational health school

## Introduction

Red Cross Spirit refers to the spirit of humanity, love, and dedication, originated from the Red Cross Movement led by Henri Dunant. It not only acts as “the idea that supports Red Cross Movement, but also gradually turns to be the virtues of our society” (Jinan City Red Cross Society, 2005, p. 28). Due to the moral value, Red Cross Spirit has become an essential part in the moral education of some Chinese colleges or schools. It not only plays an important role in the enlightenment of moral values for students, but also accounts a major part in providing a global platform for students to communicate with overseas students. Therefore, more and more Chinese secondary vocational health schools have already put the spirit into use.

The current researches on the application of Red Cross Spirit to other fields are more than that of secondary vocational health schools. At present, many scholars put emphasis on the application of Red Cross Spirit to higher education, such as Chi Zihua et al. (2018), Kou Fuming (2021), and Zhang Xuesong (2009), et al. Even, some universities set up research groups specializing in the study of Red Cross work. Organizations, including Jinan City Red Cross Society, concentrate on the study of Red Cross movement especially the Red Cross Spirit, and have published monographs. Some others tend to focus on the study of Red Cross Spirit applied to both high school education and middle school education, such as Wang Erli, Guo Suhua, and Fu Dahua (2014).

Up till now, few scholars pay attention to the significance of Red Cross Spirit in secondary vocational health schools' moral education. For students who would be trained as a nurse or doctor in future, they need not only professional skills but also awareness of social responsibility and professional ethics. Red Cross Spirit is applicable and enlightening for them. Then, how to apply the spirit to their moral education is a practical question.

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### **The Application of Red Cross Spirit in Curriculum**

The best way to apply Red Cross Spirit to secondary vocational health school is to put it into curriculum. Secondary vocational health schools should teach Red Cross Spirit systematically and promote it widely from three perspectives: the design and compilation of textbook about the Red Cross Spirit, offering courses and regular Red Cross training. According to the teaching goals of vocational education, curriculum in vocational school should target the professional demand that students will face in the future.

As for the design and compilation of textbook about the Red Cross Spirit, secondary vocational health schools need to invite excellent medical workers and outstanding medical experts to guide the design of the textbook. Besides, secondary vocational health schools need to invite workers both from organizations such as Red Cross Society and from Red Cross Spirit research teams so as to get latest information and reliable resource for compiling textbook. What's more, on the basis of the situation of each school, secondary vocational health schools should ask teachers with rich experience in moral education to participate the design and edit of the textbook. Last but not least, secondary vocational health schools should ask some brilliant Chinese teachers for the purpose of combing Chinese culture with Red Cross Spirit, which could inspire students to inherit Chinese culture and to learn to promote Chinese culture.

With the respect of the course focusing on Red Cross Spirit, secondary vocational health schools should set the course as the primary course of Year One students and formulate a specific teaching proposal including the detailed assessment process and result. Meanwhile, staff from office of educational administrations should strengthen the management and supervision of the course. To better finish the task, secondary vocational health schools could borrow ideas from other moral lessons, such as Xu Yonghui's case. When conducting moral education about "Xiaoti"—one of virtues in Chinese culture, he puts forward different teaching methods such as discussion teaching, open class, seminars, and questionnaire survey, etc. (Xu, 2010, p. 85). Based on Xu's case and the features of secondary vocational health schools, schools could adopt the discussion teaching, open class, and specialized training lessons. Moreover, schools could provide field trip to students, aiming to give them more opportunities to get deeper experience in person. Instead of teaching Red Cross Spirit only with textbook in classroom, schools should invite experts who research Red Cross Spirit and have acquired latest knowledge of it to give lectures on campus or online. Of course, teachers in secondary vocational health schools should think about more ideas to utilize Red Cross Spirit in life, so as to deepen students' understanding.

### **The Assignments of the Red Cross Spirit Course in Moral Education**

School could also apply the Red Cross Spirit to moral education of secondary vocational health schools by assigning different kinds of homework. "Homework is an extension of classroom teaching and a strong guarantee to better achieve teaching objectives" (Shi, 2002, p. 6). It is a suitable for teachers to know if students have already acquired the Red Cross Spirit. With various homework, teachers could get a comprehensive assessment

for students' learning. It follows that secondary vocational health schools could further consolidate students' knowledge by giving homework in different types. Given that the whole teaching goal of secondary vocational health schools is job-oriented, the homework of the course should take the professional factors into consideration.

Schools should design homework on the basis of the vocational education goal and students' interests, just as Wang Daokun maintains that "homework should be a trigger for students' interest" (1994, p. 22). One type of homework could be the homework related to training courses. Teachers could simulate a variety of situations where Red Cross Spirit might get involved, and then teachers could examine students' efforts. For example, teachers could simulate a situation in which an old lady fell suddenly on the street. For students who have learned knowledge of the Red Cross Spirit, they would initially react to the accident with the concern with the safety of the lady. It reveals the core of Red Cross Spirit—"the spirit of concerning people's survival and protecting people's life" (Jinan City Red Cross Society, 2005, p. 27). Then they would go to help the lady with their first aid knowledge. This assignment could also be applied by students in Year Three. Teachers could ask supervisors of internship to evaluate students' performance, which is more efficient to demonstrate students' learning.

Another type of homework is involved with other professional theoretical knowledge. Teachers could ask students to collect and sort cases online, and then teachers could require students to discuss and analyze those cases. Finally, students need to write report about their opinions and discoveries. For instance, in one case, a patient is seriously ill but she cannot afford high medical expense. Normally, the patient has no choice but wait to die. Under the influence of the spirit of humanity and love—Red Cross Spirit, students should try their best to search for efficient but cheap therapeutic schedule with the theoretical knowledge they learned, aiming to save the poor patient. Each report could reflect the influence that students receive from Red Cross Spirit, which meets the goal of moral education. This type of homework will indirectly stimulate students to further consolidate their professional knowledge and hone their skills, paving the way for future career development.

### **The Activities of the Red Cross Spirit Course**

Besides planting Red Cross Spirit to daily teaching, secondary vocational health schools could build a pleasant environment through designing activities. Firstly, they could design extra-curriculum activities on campus to extend the Red Cross Spirit course. Extra-curriculum activities could not only attract students to study, but also intrigue them to take further exploration during their study. Schools could organize different kinds of activities. Moreover, teachers should design the activities ingeniously so as to get better response. For example, given that medical workers' exquisite skills and formidable work ethics could be fully demonstrated in emergency, teachers could design an emergency situation where rescue activities are useful for the teaching of Red Cross Spirit. According to Kou Fuming, "there should be specific management policies to prompt the efficient cooperation between universities and local Red Cross Society, between universities and their Red Cross Society, and university Red Cross Society and other department in universities" (Kou, 2021, p. 53).

Apart from designing extra-curriculum activities on campus, schools should set up a special place specialized for teaching Red Cross Spirit and related practice. Red Cross Base, set up by the cooperation between secondary vocational health schools, is a good setting. It could not only characterize Red Cross activities with the feature of secondary vocational health schools, but also exert an important influence on the promotion of Red Cross Spirit broadly. Moreover, Red Cross Base provides a settled place for teachers to hold Red Cross activities,

for example, rescue activities. With the systematic introduction and teaching of Red Cross Spirit, Red Cross Base will be a camp for professional training of rescue skills and comprehensive Red Cross knowledge. It will demand each student to handle medical knowledge deeply and widely, and require student to arm themselves with strong skills in order to deal with emergency. So, it simulates various emergencies and offers students enough time and place to refine their professional knowledge and skills. Meanwhile, it could help teachers evaluate students' moral development. Red Cross Spirit will give inspiration for students to deal with emergency and dedicate themselves, which will certainly make them better medical workers.

What's more, Red Cross Base could keep the activities in certain frequency, which could strengthen the understanding of the spirit of humanity. Besides, schools could hold some competitions such as essay competitions or speech competitions. These competitions will urge them to think more about the Red Cross Spirit and how to do to put it into practice. Of course, it makes contribution to deepening students' understanding of the Red Cross Spirit. Also, it could give deep impression for other students who major in other field and encourage more students to cultivate a better character and become a better medical worker.

In addition to Red Cross Base, teachers with rich experience could organize special programs, such as Sanxiaxiang Program<sup>1</sup>. It gives students opportunities to immerse in some rural areas where there are rather difficult circumstances in many aspects. At there, students will become more empathetic and profoundly realize their awareness of social responsibility. The most importance of the program is that it could cultivate students' spirit of love and dedication.

### Conclusion

Red Cross Spirit, as one of virtues of human civilization, is a remarkable part of moral education for students, especially for secondary vocational health schools. Due to the overlap between Red Cross Spirit and Chinese traditional ethics, it could be inherited in China and has been in China for more than one hundred years. There is no doubt that the application of Red Cross Spirit in the moral education of secondary vocational health school is beneficial. To get a better effect, teachers should take more feasible measures: such as systematic course design, specific assignment, and meaningful activities. Only in a comprehensive method does the application take effect. With the efficient application of Red Cross Spirit, students will be strengthened with mighty ethics. Under such circumstance, those students will become well-developed students. In addition, influenced by international virtue—Red Cross Spirit, they would get a global view, which will make it possible for them to stand for China and voice for China.

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<sup>1</sup> A program under which officials, doctors, scientist, and college students go to the countryside to spread scientific and literacy knowledge and offer medical service to farmers.

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