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World.
Time for Equal Opportunities”**

Исследовательская работа (эссе)

«Ценности молодёжи в России и за рубежом»

«Young people’s values in Russia vs. other countries»

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Abstract

What is the concept of "value"?

Values are people's ideas about significant things, what they attribute more importance to, certain preferences. This is a relatively stable, socially determined selective attitude of a person to the totality of material and spiritual public goods. A person's value system is the "foundation" of his attitude to the world. "Values," wrote V.P. Tugarinov, is what people need to meet their needs and interests, as well as ideas and their motivations as a norm, goal and ideal"

Undoubtedly, such eternal (true) values still exist and are recognized: love for people, faith, family, diligence, responsibility, love for art, kindness, justice, mercy, respect for elders. But they have recently been opposed to the love of comfort, material wealth, selfishness, the desire for power (if power becomes the highest value). And as a result of the emergence of this confrontation, the young man has a problem of choice. Choosing your own life principles and priorities. A new idea and attitude towards true values is being formed.

Today we will compare the values of Russian and foreign youth, find both similarities and differences.



Fig.1

Young people's values in Russia

Young people in my country put material well-being in one of the first positions. That is, preference is given not so much to spiritual and moral values, as to material material well-being, as a kind of incentive for vital activity. Moreover, the goal of making money can be achieved in any way possible. And such life principles as “it is better to be honest, but poor” and “a clear conscience is more important than well-being” are becoming a thing of the past, and remain - “you - to me, I - to you”, “success - at any cost”.



Fig.2

Young people prioritize independence and career, achieving high status. In recent years, many opportunities for financial self-assertion of a person have appeared in Russia, where a high level of education is not required, but they pay a lot of money. For some young people, these paths are quite attractive, although they do not lead to real success, but enhance the feeling of spiritual emptiness and the meaninglessness of life, the temporality of everything that happens.

Attitudes towards friendship and camaraderie have also changed. Faithful friends, reliable comrades remain in childhood. Attitude towards close people is becoming more and more selfish. The selfish attitude “for oneself” is higher than humane relations, mutual understanding, mutual support and mutual assistance.

The modern youth of Russia goes through its formation in very difficult conditions of breaking many old values and forming new social relations. Hence the confusion and pessimism, disbelief in the future. Aggressiveness and extremism, chauvinism and criminality are growing.

The value of intellectual labor, education and knowledge also continues to fall rapidly. For the most part, the younger generation strives to get any education with minimal effort, works for the result - just to get a diploma. Education is seen

primarily as an opportunity to get a good job, and only then - as a means of obtaining new knowledge. The formation of these values is influenced by the economic and social changes taking place in society. Those priorities that previously seemed unshakable are replaced by others. New value orientations appear, which means that old ideals and traditions are destroyed and a new type of personality is formulated. Society, habitat with their spontaneous, chaotic, unwritten requirements and principles change, often simply disfigure the views of a personality that has not yet been fully formed.

The analysis shows that in the conditions of the general social crisis that we are experiencing today, such values as the family and education are also in crisis. There is still a high number of divorces, abandoned children and the elderly, children running away from home, cruelty towards children and the elderly is not uncommon - all these are signs of the social unhealthiness of the family. In the field of education - a negative attitude towards the school of both children and parents, countless conflicts with teachers, the degradation of the teaching profession (many examples of professional failure of teachers), the decline in the prestige of education, the low level of training of specialists in universities, etc. is also a picture of a crisis.

However, the crisis of any phenomenon is by no means tantamount to the fall or disappearance of its social value. On the contrary, active public criticism may mean the existence of a value conflict in this area, i.e. "feelings of deviation from the ideal", discrepancy between social needs and the presence of existing circumstances. At the same time, this may mean a change of orientation in this area, and with it a rethinking and even strengthening the value of this phenomenon.

So, the values of modern youth in Russia are in a state of dissonance. Young people put material well-being and independence in the first place, but despite this, such eternal values as faith, family, love are relevant. The youth of today should strive to strengthen eternal, true values.

Young people's values in other countries

Consider, for example, French youth. In France, work is seen as something that gives meaning to a person's life and is associated with the good life. The views of French youth on work are related to the level of education. The higher the level of education of the respondent, the more significant role he assigns to work.

Friends remain an indisputable value for young people.

As for universal values, I would like to emphasize that in France, according to the latest public opinion polls, tolerance and solidarity have become youth values. Since 1968, freedom and respect for each other have become more and more rooted in modern French society. Young people refuse to condemn behavior that for many years was considered deviant (abortion, divorce, homosexuality). According to sociologist E. Schweisgut, the current situation can be characterized as "a new cocktail of values: personal freedom and public order." French sociologists note the conformity of marginalized youth, capable of cruelty and violence.

Freedom, Justice, Solidarity, Reformation remain objectively valuable among the French youth; Humanism, Good, Happiness; Personality, People, Nation; Science, Art, Literature; Family and Health; Culture is very valuable as well.



Fig.3

Thus, there are no significant substantive differences in the value orientations of young people in France and Russia. Key values (family, work, friends) form the core of the value structure and dominate the public consciousness of young people in both countries. The difference lies in the priorities: in France, in the first place in the hierarchy of values - family, friends and Internet communication, in Russia, where the basic needs of people remain unsatisfied, work, money, security, self-realization come to the fore, generally accepted social values are changing (for example, the prevalence of public interests over personal). While the French youth are more altruistic and less hedonistic.

If we take into account the British youth and their values, then we will see independence and work at the head of all values. In the UK, almost from an early age, they are tamed to work - 14-15 years old, many parents consider part-time work after school hours as gaining life experience, independence, the ability to

value money, and also the acquisition of some kind of financial independence. In this country, you are not supposed to sit on everything ready. Here, from the age of 16, you can get a full-time job.

Another important value is family. It lays a special inner and spiritual foundation in the individuality of people. The family for young people is considered the most valuable. Family values are the creation of a happy and strong family, the upbringing of children. It occupies a leading position in the system of value orientations along with the creation of material wealth.



Fig.4

The third value is friends and communication. Youth is the time when a person wants to be accepted and understood. A time like never before of deep and emotional communication. Friendship among young people represents the variation of friends, in terms of their degree of importance, depending on the degree of closeness of their interaction. In the UK, everyone is called friends, even those who have been seen once in their lives and remember the name. The average

person is part of a large number of different groups. The British quickly and very easily make contact, remember names, take the initiative. They separate personal life and work, try not to mix these groups.

The life of English youth is not much different from other countries, it is worth noting that here they begin to accustom children to work very early. In the UK, children mature much earlier than their peers. We also see that the values of today's youth differ from the values of young people in other countries. Young people strive to have money, the ability to command others and to have connections. There is no clear picture of the world in the minds of young people; everything spiritual has been transferred to a reserve plan.

Individual freedom is the most important value for young people in the UK. It can be seen that the old values and ideas have changed, lost their former meaning. Sociological research has shown that today's youth is a new generation with moral values, problems and guidelines, and behavioral motives that have radically changed in recent years.

In conclusion, it should be noted that foreign youth in their values do not differ much from ours. The predominant factors in the modern world among young people are family, friendship, profession, independence, freedom and kindness.

The value of values in the life of modern youth always remains an important and urgent problem. The representation of values among young people is formed mainly individually, they have a personal focus, which are associated with an increase in the role of the material factor, which ensures a focus on the profession, that is, on values that help to acquire a high social status of a young person.

Thus, the modern generation, in its overwhelming majority, considers value orientations as some tasks, something that they can not wait to possess and something that they are willing to achieve. The key factor is to consider the role of value orientations for the individual, their influence on the command and activity, both of society as a whole and of individuals.

The values of young people in Russia at the moment, as well as the values of young people from other countries, depend on many social and economic factors of

a particular country. But in the end, the core values I listed above always have a dominant role.

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