

Manifestation of the Civic Position of Youth in Modern Socio-Political Processes and Relations of State Power

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Abstract:

In the proposed article, the philosophy of youth policy regarding civic engagement and participation is formulated in terms of "voice", empowerment, and social inclusion of today's youth. The aim of the study is a systematic analysis of the concepts of youth civic engagement from the outside and from within: from the standpoint of strategies aimed at encouraging youth civic engagement, and from the standpoint of youth participation to expand civic experience in solving problems in their own community.

Keywords: youth civic engagement, discourse analysis, qualitative photo-voice method, youth communities, youth civic engagement development strategies, systemic approach.

The study is implemented as part of the soci-oconstructivist approach with a discursive analysis of the problem of youth civic engagement. To summarize the results, elements of the systematic approach are used, which allows to find forward and backward linkages in the system of civic engagement of the younger generation. The study demonstrated the need to develop young people's sense of civic responsibility to their own community as a precursor to civic behavior, as well as to prepare strategies to encourage civic and political engagement, which should include both traditional approaches and a new philosophy of political innovation. The relationship of reciprocal conditioning of forward and backward linkages forms a "natural" system of youth civic engagement. The findings will shed light on the possibilities for critical discourses in the theory and practice of social studies, including the work of social studies educators who form youth as citizens in a system of civic education. Studies of the characteristics of civic activity have shown that constant civic participation throughout a subject's life is particularly influenced by those civic attitudes and beliefs that were formed in childhood and adolescence (Kirilenko, 2016). Based on this, supporters of youth participation in public life convey a position on the need to discuss current social problems, determine ways and means of solving them, and participate in political discussions (Chaskin et al., 2018). Scientists believe that involving the younger generation in solving pressing political and social problems at the community level will contribute not only to the personal development of its representatives, but also to increasing their civic responsibility and activity. Meanwhile, experts express concerns that it is highly likely that young people will not join political parties, but will opt for existing alternative forms of political activity, which primarily include online platforms. Modern young people for civic identification and solving social problems choose not traditional social institutions, but Internet social networking platforms.

The purpose of this study is to examine concepts of youth civic engagement in terms of strategies to encourage such engagement and in terms of young people's engagement with issues

in their own community to enhance civic experience. Such a systemic view of the problem will allow us to consider critical discourses within the framework of traditional approaches and the emerging philosophy of political innovation.

Strategies aimed at promoting civic and political engagement among young people tend to use traditional approaches of youth work and volunteering, along with somewhat newer political practices such as parliaments and councils represented by young people. They are focused on ensuring that young people have the opportunity to truly influence public decisions, from the local level to the supranational level. These tactics and strategies are aimed at increasing the level of youth leadership, making relevant those issues that are truly important for modern youth, and allowing them to gain practical experience. The stated objective of many policies is to ensure that structures and processes are representative of diverse groups of young people, including vulnerable and marginalized ones. While contemporary research provides valuable information on specific aspects of policy, such as youth parliaments and citizenship programs much less work has been devoted to exploring the nature of the broader area of youth civic engagement, in particular, the prospects for working with "declassed" youth. The views of young people have also been analyzed in a number of studies. Methodology and organization of the study. This study was implemented using a social constructionist approach with a discourse analysis of social problems, including the problem of youth civic engagement. The founders of social constructionism are considered to be P. Berger. Modern constructionism considers the discourse of social problems more broadly, including not only the construction of public problems in the social sphere, declaring the adoption of solutions to overcome them, but also acts of everyday communication about events that do not require resolution and change. Today, researchers of youth civic engagement focus not only on actions, but also on the interpretation of meanings reproduced in relation to young people. These meanings represent special values, the study of which allows us to obtain objective information about the attitude of the state and other communities towards youth. Civic engagement can be defined as a sense of responsibility for the common good, actions aimed at solving community problems and improving the well-being of its members, and the competencies necessary to participate in civic life. The local community provides a critical context in which to learn how to become an active citizen; indeed, the social processes occurring in the local social space have been defined as a microcosm of community life in which youth have the opportunity to exercise rights and take on responsibilities as members of the local community, thereby learning how to contribute to the common good.

The problem of involving young people in socio-political processes at both the state and municipal levels is becoming increasingly urgent. Recently, much attention has been paid in the scientific community to the study of the socio-political activity of young people as a special social group, an actor in socio-political processes in the country. Socio-political value orientations and attitudes, moods and behavior patterns of young people are becoming the object of close attention and study by Russian and foreign sociologists and political scientists.

In this regard, it is relevant to study the experience and need for participation of modern Russian youth in socio-political processes, various forms of political and social activity of youth, civic initiatives of youth, as well as the study of factors influencing the positive, constructive socio-political activity of modern youth.

Recently, the number of scientific studies devoted to the socio-political participation and involvement of citizens in solving pressing issues at various levels of public administration has increased. Growing academic interest in analyzing the practice of involving citizens in the process of developing and adopting programs, projects and other decisions of government bodies and local self-government is due to the development of horizontally organized forms of management, that is, mechanisms for taking into account the opinions of citizens, businesses, and public organizations when making state or municipal decisions. At the same time, the development of youth civic engagement makes it possible to familiarize young people at an early age with the problems of the local community and prepare future civil activists. In addition, it

forms an understanding of opportunities and a trusting relationship with authorities and management.

This study showed that the social position of communities and civic activity of young people are systemically determined. Youth can first develop a sense of civic responsibility to their own community and then extrapolate civic responsibility to the wider community. Additionally, civic attitudes (responsibility) and competencies may be precursors to civic behavior: although civic participation may also strengthen attitudes and competencies, a set of beliefs that support the importance of contributing to the common good is considered critical to youth's decision to actively engage in civic activities.

Its static and dynamic properties in the system of youth civic engagement are strategies aimed at encouraging civic and political activity, which should include both traditional approaches and a new philosophy of political innovation. This study provides an overview of the strategies used to engage young people in civic and political activities and examines the major challenges associated with this work. Thus, it is necessary to form relations of mutual conditionality of direct and feedback connections in the system of youth civic activity, commonalities between elements of the system that are functionally necessary for each other, which will improve the operation of the system according to the principle of synergy effect. One of the promising areas for further research may be the problem of digital storytelling in the development of critical thinking in the system of civic engagement of youth, personal identification with various structures of civic identity of Russian society.

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