Comparison of dynamics of tolerant-intolerant attitudes of cadets at longitudinal and diametrical research

Last hundred years of history of mankind are characterized by not only rapid development of technical equipment, science, education and culture, but also by two world wars, huge number of armed conflicts, genocides which carried away millions of lives and have shown huge power and potential of human ability to destruction. In conditions of social tensity in modern society the phenomenon of tolerance draws the increasing attention of researchers. Beyond any doubt, in connection with constant presence of violence in our life the problem of tolerance has a huge urgency. In this connection subject of our research is an examination of tolerant-intolerant attitudes among cadets of military institute who receive professional education in specific conditions connected with a state of barracks. Thus, manifestation of tolerant-intolerant attitudes among cadets takes place in specific space of culture of military institute, and, as it is known, quite often is accompanied by so-called not authorized relations, behind which the attitudes connected with violence and intolerance stand.

As respondents there have acted cadets of Novocherkassk high military command school of communication. Untied sample selection consists of 300 respondents of 100 people from each year of education: first-year students in the age of 16-19 years; third-year students in the age of 18-20 years; third-year students from 21 till 24 years. Tied selection consists of 100 cadets which testing is made on 1, 2 and 3 year of education.

In connection with aim of research there has been carried out two kinds of empirical research: longitudinal and diametrical cuts. At a diametrical cut groups of respondents of first-, third-, and third-year were compared. But diametrical cut does not allow considering both stability, and changes which occur with person in a process of education at high school. In this connection longitudinal cut has been made. The longitudinal method is not limited to ascertaining of facts, and reveals laws, dynamics, tendencies of development of tolerant-intolerant directions at the same respondents during three years of education at military high school.

In connection with tasks following techniques have been used in research: “Communicative tolerance” of V.V. Boiko, FPI, “Strategy of behaviour” of Tallman, “Orientation” test.

As hypotheses of research we have put forward assumptions:
1. In a process of education at military high school both a level of manifestation of tolerant attitudes, and a level of manifestation of intolerant attitudes changes. And the level of manifestation of tolerant attitudes year by year increases, and, on the contrary, a level of manifestation of intolerant attitudes decreases.
2. A level of manifestation of tolerant attitudes is interconnected with the certain set of personal characteristics of respondents.

Data processing was carried out by means of criterion of Mann-Whitney for comparison of two selections. Also, the dispersive analysis was used [1; 2]. In general, the analysis of the received empirical data allows making following conclusions:

1. In general the selection of cadets (300 people) is possible to be characterized in following way. For all respondents low values on following parameters are peculiar: neurotism, depression, shyness, emotional lability and expressiveness of external control. High values have been received on parameters of adaptability, acceptance of self and others, internal control, confidence in oneself and the others. Other parameters have average values.

2. The analysis of results of examination of communicative tolerance allowed to divide first-year cadets into three groups: tolerant (23 %), middletolerant (58 %), intolerant (19 %).

3. At following stage distinctions between groups of tolerant, middletolerant, intolerant respondents in a level of manifestation of personal attributes were revealed, therefore psychological portraits of each group of respondents have been described. Tolerant cadets are characterized by a high level of social confidence, domination of internal educational motivation which is characterized by manifestation of high cognitive activity during educational activity. In a conflict situation tolerant cadets are inclined to use more often a strategy of “adaptation” and less often a strategy of “rivalry”. This group of cadets is also characterized by a reduction in a level of manifestation of following personal states and properties: neurotism, depression, irritability, reactive aggression, shyness, emotional lability, falsity. The group of intolerant cadets is characterized by domination and orientation on self, prevalence of motives of own well-being. Strategy of “adaptation” is not peculiar to them and strategy of “rivalry” is brightly manifested. A level of educational motivation is lowered a little. In comparison with other groups increase of a level of personal negative states and properties is observed among them: neurotism, depression, irritability, reactive aggression, emotional instability, falsity. Middletolerant cadets are sociable and impulsive more than others, but are less steady and open to a social environment. On other parameters it was not possible to find out any significant distinctions between groups.

4. Results of longitudinal research of dynamics of manifestation of tolerance attitude depending on a year of education have shown that manifestation of tolerant attitudes slightly increases every year. Dynamics of intolerant attitudes has other character: at first year manifestation of intolerant attitudes is low, at second year the level considerably increases and at third year of education it decreases again. At diametrical cut “descending” dynamics of a general level of intolerance is observed. Intolerant attitudes are approximately at one level at first and third year, and at third year there manifestation is considerably lower.
Thus, it is possible to speak about certain dynamics of attitudes of a various level of tolerance. In process of education attitudes’ change passes in two ways; we shall conditionally designate them as “ascending” dynamics of tolerant attitudes and “descending” dynamics of intolerant attitudes. And, it is impossible to confirm unequivocally, that higher level of tolerance is always more preferable. Here a problem of borders and measures of tolerance becomes actual [3]. Excessive increase of tolerance inadequate to circumstances can conduct to weakening of resistibility and increase in vulnerability of a person that can be a basis of ineligibility to military specialities. All it demands more cautious, differential attitude to questions of practical application of tolerance during military-vocational training.

The Literature