A Study of Volunteer Participation as a Socialization Factor of Young People

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ABSTRACT
The volunteer movement contributes to the development of socially significant boys and girls qualities, the formation of their active life position. The paper looks at recent research dealing with the formation and development of student youth social activity. The article touches upon concepts: volunteer movement, personality socialization, factors of youth socialization. It gives a detailed analysis of the level of volunteer movement development in Surgut and its impact on the individual socialization in society. Participants of the research - 70 students from different universities: Surgut Oil and Gas Institute (The Branch of IUT), Surgut State University, MGPU, Russian State University of Tourism and Service. A1st to 3ns year students took part in the survey, including 28 girls (40%) and 42 boys (60%). This study indicates that volunteer activity is an effective factor individual socialization, acquires the effect of mass character, despite external obstacles and allows achieving personal results in terms of “social activity”. Finally, recommendations are provided for the activities of the university as an important institution for the education of citizenship.

Keywords: volunteer, activity, socialization, activity, student.

Introduction
Many changes, like global, social, economic, political and cultural, taking place in modern Russian society, require a new upbringing from the younger generation. Modern society needs initiative people who are able to make decisions in a situation of choice independently, who can take responsibility for country fate, who also have a sense of tolerance, etc.

A great contribution to the volunteer movement formation was made by scientists, philosophers, teachers. The issues of attracting, retaining and increasing the young people motivation as volunteers in Russia were addressed by teachers: Nezhina, T.G., Petukhova, K.A., Chechetkina, N.I., & Mindarova, I.S., Pevnaya, M.V., Vorontsov D.B. (Nezhina et al, 2014). The authors argue that in the process of volunteering, preconditions are created for the need for self-determination, the desire the independence development, self-realization, active relation to the future, self-esteem, one's own social roles expansion in achieving goals, the willingness to analyze one's role in situations social interaction.

Today voluntary young people social activities can contribute to the development of young men and women socially significant qualities, the active life position formation, as well as the self-confidence development, which plays a significant role.

The research problem is: the social activity of student youth formation and development. Currently, almost 24.3 million people aged 15 to 29 live in Russia, which is 16.5% of the total population of the country, according to the organizing committee in -Russian Population Census. In this regard, one of the main forms of manifestation of social activity around the world is voluntary activity, chosen deliberately and not having commercial benefits, namely, volunteering (Denisenko et al, 2003).
Some scholars understand youth as “the young people totality who are provided with an opportunity for social development by society, providing them with benefits, but limiting the possibility of active participation in certain areas of society” (Gulai & Gulai, 2017).

One of the first definitions of “youth” concept was given in 1968 by V.T. Lisovskiy: “Youth is a generation of people going through the stage of socialization, assimilating, and in a more mature age have already mastered educational, professional, cultural and other social functions; depending on the specific historical conditions, the age criteria of young people can range from 16 to 30 years old “(Lisovskiy, 1998).

We agree with the authors V.I. Chuprov, Yu.A. Zubok, and define youth as “a socio-demographic group, distinguished on the basis of age-related characteristics of the social status of young people, their place and functions in the social structure of society, specific interests and values” (Zubok & Chuprov, 2008).

Any society is faced with the problem of the lack of social activity stimulation of young people, which slows down the process of younger generation socialization. This problem requires a solution. In the Concept of long-term socio-economic development of the Russian Federation for the period up to 2020, the main goal of the state youth policy is formulated as “creating conditions for successful youth socialization and effective self-realization, developing the potential of youth and using it in the interests of the country’s development” (Glazyev, 2008; Shvatsky & Zubkova, 2019).

Thus, the relevance of the study is determined by the needs of socially active youth in modern society.

The purpose of the study: to diagnose the level of the volunteer movement development in Surgut and its influence on the socialization of the individual in society.

Tasks:
1. To study the concepts: volunteer movement, socialization of the individual, what they are.
2. Consider the factors of socialization of youth (consider the volunteer movement as the main one).
3. Conduct a survey among the youth of Surgut and other cities.

Methodology
To solve the set goals and objectives, a number of scientific research methods were used:
1. a comparative analysis of the basic concepts: volunteer movement, socialization of the individual;
2. determination of the problem state, analysis of scientific, pedagogical literature on this topic.

Analysis is the mental dismemberment of an object or phenomenon into its constituent parts, i.e., the isolation of separate parts, features and properties (Surmin, 2003).

Synthesis is a mental combination of individual elements, parts and features into a single whole (Shchedrovitsky, 1984). Analysis and synthesis are inextricably linked, which are in unity with each other in the cognition process.

Only in its unity analysis and synthesis give a complete and comprehensive knowledge of reality. Analysis gives knowledge of individual elements, and synthesis, based on the results of analysis, combining these elements, provides knowledge of the object as a whole (Shchedrovitsky, 1984).

Organization and research methods. We conducted an anonymous survey, in which 70 students from different universities took part, namely: Surgut Institute of Oil and Gas (branch of TIU), Surgut State University, Moscow State Pedagogical University, Russian State University of Tourism and Service. Students from 1 to 3 courses took part in the survey, including 28 girls (40%) and 42 boys (60%).

![The relative proportions of girls and boys](image-url)

*Fig. 1. The quantitative boys and girls ratio in the survey*
It follows from the diagram that 60% of respondents are boys and 40% are girls, the majority of 68% of respondents were students of the TIU Branch in Surgut. The SRGU is in second place - 14%. 10% - RGUTiS. And 8% of students from Moscow State Pedagogical University.

The questionnaires consisted of three blocks of questions. The first block provided for identifying attitudes towards volunteering, how willing the respondents are to help those in need, which proves their understanding of the term "volunteer". The second block made it possible to determine how much the survey participants are tolerant towards others, how they feel about volunteering among the youth. The third block was aimed at the motives of their participation in volunteering, as well as the study of the question whether volunteering is a significant factor in the socialization of youth.
The questionnaire contained 21 questions, 19 of a closed type with suggested answers, and 2 were open. Figure 4 presents the questions of the questionnaire.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Options</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Have you ever been a member of the Volunteer Movement?</td>
<td>A-Yes B-No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Would you like to become a volunteer? (If you are already a volunteer then just skip)</td>
<td>A-Yes B-Rather yes C-No D-Rather no D-Difficult to answer</td>
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<td>3) Do you agree with the opinion that volunteering is &quot;free labor&quot;?</td>
<td>A-Yes B-No C-Do not know</td>
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<td>4) Would you agree to help those in need for free in your free time?</td>
<td>A-Yes B-No C-Do not know</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5) Did you participate in subbotniks?</td>
<td>A-Yes B-No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6) Do you often help others?</td>
<td>A- Often B-Sometimes C-Rarely D-Not at all</td>
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<tr>
<td>7) How do you feel about volunteers?</td>
<td>A-Positive B-Negative C-Hard to answer</td>
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<td>8) Do you have any experience of volunteering? If so, which one?</td>
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<tr>
<td>9) Are you ready to take responsibility for something or someone?</td>
<td>A-Yes B-No C-Do not know</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10) What do you think: is it necessary to help the weak, sick, aged people?</td>
<td>A-Yes B-No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11) How do you feel about people of other nationalities?</td>
<td>A-Positive B-Rather positive B-Negative D-Rather negative D-Hard to answer</td>
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<tr>
<td>12) You have been assigned to do work with a person you dislike. How will you behave?</td>
<td>A- I will not do this work B- I will try to get to know my partner better</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13) What qualities do you possess? (you can choose several)</td>
<td>A-Mercy B-tolerance C-responsibility D-hard work D-initiative E-attentiveness F-sociability</td>
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<tr>
<td>14) Do you help your friends?</td>
<td>A-constantly B-from time to time C-rarely D-no</td>
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<td>15) What do you think volunteering is?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>16) Do you share the concepts of volunteering and volunteering?</td>
<td>A-Yes B-No</td>
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<tr>
<td>17) How do you feel about youth volunteering?</td>
<td>A is a good way to socialize B is a waste of time B- neutral</td>
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<tr>
<td>18) Do you think the community needs volunteers?</td>
<td>A-Yes B-No C-Do not know</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19) Do you think volunteering is a significant factor in the socialization of young people?</td>
<td>A-Yes B-No C-Do not know</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20) What do you think is the motive for participating in volunteering?</td>
<td>A- The need to provide help B- The need for communication B- The need for new skills C- The need for entertainment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21) Do your friends participate in the volunteer movement?</td>
<td>A-Yes B-No C-Hard to answer</td>
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**Fig. 4.** Questionnaire "Volunteer movement as a factor of personality socialization"
**Results and Discussion**

We differentiate between the concepts: socialization, social activity, pro-social activity, asocial, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>№</th>
<th>Definition of the concept</th>
<th>Author, source</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Socialization is the process of individual integrating into a social system, entering the social environment through mastering its social norms, rules and values that allow us to function in society successfully</td>
<td><a href="https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/Socialisation">https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/Socialisation</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Social activity is an active person’s life position, expressed in his ideological principles adherence, consistency in defending his views, the unity of word and deed.</td>
<td>A.V. Petrovsky</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Social activity is a degree, a measure of a person's involvement in the social relations system, an indicator of his participation in all types of social activities.</td>
<td>L.I. Bozovic, Elkonin, D.I. Feldstein</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Social activity as &quot;an objectively determined subjective attitude and the socio-psychological readiness of a person for activity, which is manifested in the corresponding acts of behavior and is a purposeful creative social activity that transforms objective reality and the personality itself.&quot;</td>
<td>I. Ch Hristova, E.G. Komarov, T.V. Tishchenko</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Prosocial behavior is understood as a set of certain voluntary individual actions aimed at the benefit of another or some society as a whole (the opposite in meaning is behavior called antisocial).</td>
<td>Yu.M. Khlebova</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Asocial behavior is behavior that causes real harm to individual members of society, society as a whole, or the person himself, as well as accompanied by social maladjustment.</td>
<td>A.I. Lozhkina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Antisocial behavior is behavior that is contrary to legal, moral, ethical and cultural norms.</td>
<td>E.V. Zmanovskaya</td>
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**Fig 5.** The concept of "socialization", "social activity", "asocial activity", given by different authors

Based on the definitions that socialization is the integration of social values and moral values that a person brings into society, that the social structure of a person includes the formation of individual and social characteristics. Socialization, necessary for the creation, creativity and development of society, as well as coexistence can be interpreted as a characteristic of inequality, social norms.

Following many sociologists and psychologists, we believe that volunteering is the provision of free assistance to those in need without coercion. A volunteer is a person who cares about people, helps them voluntarily (voluntarily) (Ozhegov, Shvedova, 1999).

A volunteer is someone who wants to participate in any work (Efremova, 1996). Thus, a volunteer is a person who works to help those in need and gets nothing in return.

O. A. Bondareva argues that the hallmarks of a volunteer are: honesty, kindness, decency, timeliness, patience, courage, generosity, generosity, justice, compassion, the search for knowledge, gratitude, patience, hope, honesty, compassion.

Based on the study of scientific literature, we can conclude that the main goal of volunteers is to help the community, to themselves, to benefit others. The sphere of modern volunteering is very wide. They help plan and implement community projects, disseminate knowledge, and participate in educational programs. Most countries have laws regulating volunteering. Many volunteer organizations contribute to better public relations. The work itself, which is associated with volunteering, can be attributed to the following characteristics:
- without external coercion;
- volunteering should be a structured process, organized in different ways, in the community or individually;
- the volunteer is not seeking remuneration, any financial compensation must be inconclusive;
- volunteer help to be helpful;
- the initial level of employment should be chosen only by the volunteer.

Socialization factors - factors influencing the process of personality socialization (Kodzhaspirova & Kodzhaspirov, 2005):
- macro factors: the entire human community;
- mesofactors: conditions for socialization of groups of people.
- micro-factors: family, work collective, peer groups, etc.

It can be argued that socialization was carried out under the influence of social (especially youth in general) economic, cultural, educational and social activity existing in society. Thus, social activity is a measure of a person's participation in the social system, an indicator of participation in all types of social activity. You can show social activity in different aspects of life, or even more than in some others, but you can show more social activity, that is, extended to all aspects of public life in the public sector.

In order to study social activity, the process of socialization and volunteering as a significant factor in the socialization of students, a study was conducted. Students from different universities took part in the survey, namely: Surgut Institute of Oil and Gas (The Branch of IUT), Surgut State University, Russian State University of Tourism and Service and Mordovia State Pedagogical University named after M.E. Evseev. In total, 70 students from 1 to 3 courses, aged 17 to 22, took part in the survey. Most of the survey was made up of young men - 42 or 60%. Girls took part in the survey - 28 or 40%. Universities of such cities as Surgut, Moscow, Saransk were covered.

![The relative proportions of girls and boys](image1)

**Fig. 6. The quantitative ratio of boys and girls in the survey**

It follows from the diagram that 60% of the respondents are boys and 40% are girls.

![Ratio of universities covered for the survey](image2)

**Fig. 7. Ratio of universities covered for the survey**
Branch of IUT - Branch of Tyumen Industrial University in Surgut. (Branch of Tyumen industrial University in Surgut - TIU branch).
Surgut State University of KhMAO-Yugra - Surgu.
MGPU - Mordovian State Pedagogical University named after M. E. Evseeva (Mordovian State Pedagogical University. M. E. Evseeva - Mgpu).
RGUTiS - Russian State University of Tourism and Service (RGUTiS).
The majority of 68% of the respondents were students from the Branch of IUT in Surgut, on second place - 14%. 10% -RGUTiS. And 8% of the students are from Mgpu.

![Bar chart showing yes and no responses to the question: Have you ever been a member of the Volunteer Movement?]

**Fig. 8. Have you ever been a member of the Volunteer Movement?**

To the question "Have you ever been a member of the Volunteer Movement?" the majority of students, namely 53%, answered positively, the remaining 47% of the survey participants chose the answer “No”. According to Rosstat, the number of volunteers in the country increased by 20% over the year. According to expert estimates, there are several times more volunteers in the country than the official statistics record. Their ranks are constantly growing due to state support. Rosstat records that Russians spend on average about nine hours a month on volunteer work.

![Bar chart showing responses to the question: Would you like to become a volunteer?]

**Fig. 9. Would you like to become a volunteer?**
By answering the question "Would you like to become a volunteer?" the study revealed that 17% would definitely like to become a volunteer, 23% - would rather like to become, also 23% answered that they would definitely not want to become volunteers, 25% - "Most likely not" and 12% had difficulty answering this question … Many students note reasons such as: lack of time, not knowing where to go and who to contact, etc. Based on this, it is possible to identify such a problem as: the absence or insufficient information about the activities of charitable foundations and volunteer organizations. Also, the problem is a completely legitimate interest of the volunteer only to the object of his care. Volunteers have neither the strength nor the desire to solve problems that are not directly related to this. But the organizations and structures in whose care the objects of volunteer care are, on the contrary, are interested in the volunteers solving their problems, partially doing their work.

**Fig. 10. Would you agree to help those in need for free in your free time?**

Based on the diagram, it can be seen that the majority of students, namely 70% of all survey participants, agree to help those in need in their free time, which cannot but rejoice. The survey participants also agreed to such assistance as delivering food and medicine to people with limited mobility, collecting food to help the poor, many would also like to help animals, 10% have already participated in programs to help animals. 8% of the survey participants answered "no" referring to the fact that they do not know where to go.

To the question "Did you take part in subbotniks" 92% answered "Yes" and 8% - "No".

**Subbotnik (Sunday) - conscious, organized free work for the benefit of society in free time from work, on weekends (hence the name. All respondents who answered "Yes" specified that they participated only in school subbotniks and 8% indicated that they had to participate. to conclude that subbotniks among students are poorly developed. Young people can and are ready to participate in subbotniks if it is collectively (for example, the whole group) and, most importantly, voluntarily.**

**Fig. 11. Do you often help others?**
The diagram shows that 38% of respondents often help others, 48% "sometimes" and 14% answered "rarely". This shows that most students are helpful and able to help others. One survey participant described how he recently helped grandparents who wanted to get home, but the granddaughter called a taxi to the wrong place, and the taxi driver did not find them, to which the participant agreed to help them and took them home for free.

![Graph](image1)

**Fig. 12. Your attitude to volunteers?**

By answering the question "What is your attitude to volunteers?" The study revealed that the majority of respondents, namely 96%, have a positive attitude towards volunteers and 4% experienced difficulties in answering this question. Many do not understand how you can treat negatively people who do so much good, who help others. Almost all respondents believe that volunteers are worthy of respect. Only 19% of the survey participants have experience in volunteer activities, namely such activities as: helping homeless animals and helping the elderly. Other respondents ignored this question.

![Graph](image2)

**Fig. 13. Are you ready to take responsibility for anything or anyone?**

As can be seen from the diagram, 90% of respondents are ready to take responsibility for something or someone, such a result cannot but rejoice, and 10% found it difficult to answer. Taking responsibility is an important step - it means taking on certain tasks in front of something or someone else.

To the question "Do you think it is necessary to help the weak, sick, aged people?" all respondents answered in the unambiguous positive. By answering this question, the study made it possible to reveal that all survey participants believe that it is necessary to help and it is very good that students understand why they need to help adults, the sick, the weak, because sometimes our help will not take us much time, but how much happiness it can bring and joy to others who need it.
How do you feel about people of other nationalities?

![Bar graph](image)

**Fig. 14.** How do you feel about people of other nationalities?

The majority, namely 80% of the respondents answered "positively", which indicates their feeling of tolerance towards others, 12% chose the answer - "Rather positively" - which also shows their tolerance, 2% - "Negative", 4% - "Rather negative". And 2% of respondents found this question difficult.

You have been assigned to work with a person you dislike. How will you behave?

![Bar graph](image)

**Fig. 15.** You have been assigned to do work with someone you dislike. How will you behave?

It follows from the diagram that 61% of respondents would limit themselves only to business communication - this is explained by the fact that people are rather closed to others, for those who do not sympathize with them 4% would not do this work at all and 35% would try to get to know their partner better, which of course good.
The majority of students, namely 76% of all respondents, believe that volunteering is a really good way of socializing. The goal of socialization is the formation of a personality capable of actively and creatively acting in society. It is carried out in communication and activity, takes place under conditions of both upbringing and spontaneous influence on the personality of various circumstances of life. 15% of the respondents chose the answer - "Neutral" and 8% of the respondents who chose the answer - "This is a waste of time" have never participated in volunteering.

As the diagram shows, 90% of students believe that volunteers are indispensable for society. We believe that no society can do without volunteers. They are exactly the driving force that makes the world a better place. This question caused difficulties for 10% of respondents.
Do you think that volunteering is a significant factor in the socialization of young people?

Fig 18. Do you think volunteering is a significant factor in the socialization of youth?

64% of respondents decided that volunteering is still a significant factor in the socialization of young people, and I believe that they were right, since participating in volunteering increases personal effectiveness. Working on socially significant projects changes people’s worldview and values, increases awareness and changes priorities. We are confident that volunteering gives an opportunity to get a better education, to communicate successfully with people of other nationalities or races, and develops the ability to reflect. Volunteers are becoming more socially responsible and more willing to help people in difficult situations. 6% chose the answer- “No” and 30% - “Difficult to answer”.

Conclusion

At the present stage, for young people, the actual forms of social activity are, such as communication, civic and creative. But the most widespread, as well as no less important form of social activity is volunteer activity, committed voluntarily for the benefit of society or individual social groups, without counting on remuneration.

Summing up, we can say that volunteering is an effective factor in the socialization of a person, which allows you to achieve personal results in terms of “social activity”

Based on the results of the study, it can be argued that the volunteer movement among young people is gaining a mass effect, despite external obstacles.

In order to conduct volunteer activities and improve them, we have identified some principles for organizing the activity under study for the future research:

- development of volunteer activities at all levels of its organization, from preschool to production;
- organization of training courses, since the activity is related to helping children, disabled people, the elderly, which requires certain skills;
- a rational qualitative and quantitative ratio of various bodies of the volunteer movement in each region and educational institution, the interaction of all bodies of these bodies in combination with a clear delineation of their functions;
- creation of a data exchange system; a database of volunteers in various fields of activity. Full network roles play an important role in this process. The duration and implementation of social services in society can lead to social interaction of Internet users, changes in world perception and the emergence of new priorities and life needs. This attitude of social media communities assesses their impact on young people who make up the majority of Internet users. In this case, social networks and the Internet play a positive role in improving the motivation of young people to volunteer.

In addition, the institution of higher education can also take part in improving the organization and management of this process among young people (Ilyin & Ibatova, 2017).

The purpose of the university in organizing the process should be to create conditions for the development of the student's personality as humane in relation to a person as the highest value with socio-economic potential.
The organization of the volunteer movement at the university should be aimed at increasing the efficiency and success of students’ activity in the volunteer movement, taking into account the current trends in the development of modern society; in the education of students’ responsibility for the formation of moral qualities of the individual, i.e. consideration of the volunteer movement as one of the components of the educational activities of the university, the formation and development of initiative communities in the organization of volunteer education and activities.

Thus, adherence to the above directions will allow for the implementation of volunteer activities at the university and at the same time develop the creative initiative of students, their responsibility and civic position, independence and social activity, which requires constant activity and participation of students in the social life of the university and society.

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