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## КУЛЬТУРНАЯ И ДУХОВНАЯ ЖИЗНЬ РАБОТНИКОВ В НАСТОЯЩЕЕ ВРЕМЯ

*Аннотация:* за последние пять лет в культурной и духовной жизни работников наблюдаются положительные изменения. Однако по отношению к другим социальным группам культурная и духовная жизнь трудящихся по-прежнему нуждается в анализе, оценке и предложении более практических решений. Использование вторичных источников сосредоточилось на анализе реального положения культурной и духовной жизни рабочих в последние годы, предлагая практические решения, способствующие улучшению жизни рабочих в области модернизации и индустриализации страны.

*Ключевые слова:* жизнь, культура, культурная жизнь, духовная жизнь, работники.

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## CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL LIFE OF WORKERS NOWADAYS

*Abstract:* the cultural and spiritual life of workers has positive changes in the past five years. However, in relation to other social groups, the cultural and spiritual life of workers still need to be analyzed, assessed and give more practical solutions. The writing- using secondary sources- focusing on analyzing the real situation of the workers' cultural and spiritual life in recent years, suggesting practical solutions that contribute to the improvement workers' life in the modernization & industrialization of the country.

*Keywords:* life, culture, cultural life, spiritual life, workers.

Building a working class is a goal aiming at increasing the quality and quantity of human resources to meet the needs of the industrialization and modernization of the country. From the survey of more than 3,000 workers, laborers working in state-owned

enterprises, non-state enterprises and FDI enterprises, in provinces and cities, namely Ha Noi, Vinh Phuc, Nghe An, Hai Phong, Da Nang, Dong Nai, Binh Duong and Ho Chi Minh City [4], we focus on studying the cultural and spiritual life of workers nowadays.

The cultural and spiritual life of workers is reflected in many aspects, but within the scope of this writing, we focus only on some typical contents such as: demand for cultural activities of workers, leisure activities during free time; how they use their free time.

### *Demand for cultural activities of workers*

Cultural activities take place in the community, family, society, enterprises, agencies associated with the material and spiritual activities of each social group related to the cultural institutions. Studying the demand of workers on participating in other cultural activities, the results show that workers have a demand to improve their knowledge (24.4%), the demand for artistic creation (19.7%), workers have a demand to participate in collective games (9.7%); workers have a demand to join in travelling and outdoor activities, but the level of participation depends on each person and time (24.2%).

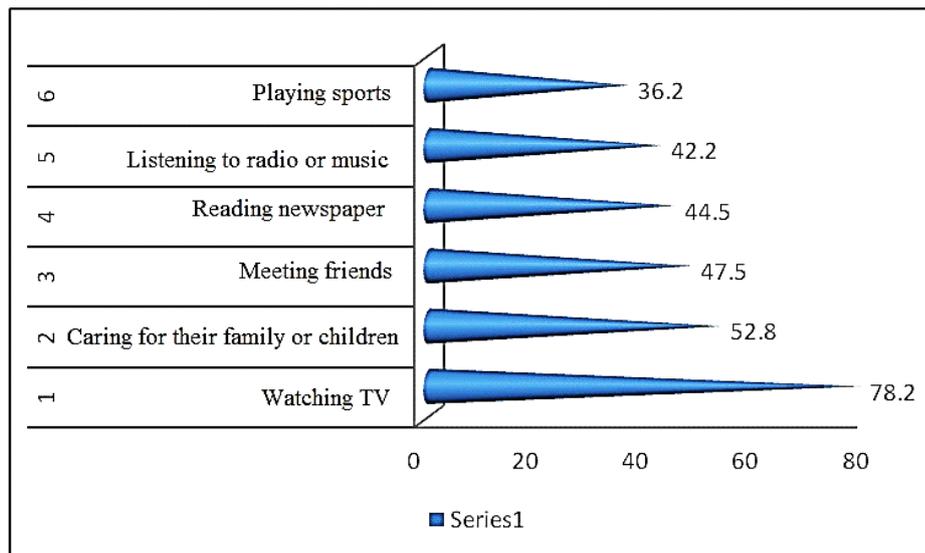
In addition, cultural and artistic activities held in the industrial zone, in the worker dormitory are attracted a large number of workers to attend. Time to organize such activities are in the evening, if organized in days-off or holidays, most workers return home, or go out, rarely in the dormitory. Survey results show that workers suggest cultural activities should be organized near the workplace (35%), near their residential area (25.1%); near the central area (20.7%); at the enterprise (24%); outdoors (30.7%), in the street (11.7%). Workers expect cultural activities to be organized in a convenient location, close to their residence.

Regarding to the suitable time to organize cultural activities, survey results show that workers want to organize cultural activities after working hours (16.9%), on holidays (33, 7%), on the anniversary of the company (33%), on the occasion, the anniversary of the country (23.6%) and in the free time of workers (21.6%). As a result, workers want to organize cultural activities on holidays, national and corporate anniversaries rather than on other occasions.

Local workers have a demand to organize after working hours (19.8%); non-local workers (15.4%); Demand to organize on holidays, local workers (43.9%) and non-local workers (28.3%). Thus, workers who are citizen of the place where the company is located, have a main demand that is to organize cultural activities after working hours while non-local workers want to organize on the occasion, the anniversary of country.

*Leisure activities during spare time*

The need for recreation and leisure is formed in the process of socio-economic development under the influence of objective and subjective factors. This is the need of every person to restore health and working ability. According to the survey results, workers spend their leisure time watching television (78.2%), spend time after working hours to care for their children (52.8%); workers spend time meeting friends (47.5%), reading newspapers (44.5%); listening to music or radio (42.2%), workers spend their free time playing sports (36.2%).



Pic. 1. Table 1: Workers use their free time (Unit: %)

*Source: Topic KX.03.15/11–15, July-August 2014*

The more the society develops, the more the types of entertainment, and each type of entertainment has different features. The number of participants in each type of entertainment is also different. The use of leisure time by female workers and male workers is also different, due to gender and family characteristics. The average TV watching time of male workers is higher than that of females (82.3% for males and

77.4% for females); for reading newspaper, the percentage of male readers is higher than for females (51.9, 40, 1%); rate of male playing sports is twice as high as that of women (48.2%, 26.9%), time for meeting friends (52.3% for male, 45.0% for female). In addition, a small portion of workers are attracted to join in bad activities during their free time such as gambling, thus eliminating their own cultural need enjoyment.

About studying the need for watching movies on TV, the results show that female workers watch psychological movies (66.7%) higher than male workers (59.6%); the demand for watching comedy between male and female workers is the same (over 50%); the demand for action films, male workers are twice as high as that of female workers (36.3% vs. 19.9%); for horror films, male workers have a higher demand than female workers (17.8% vs. 10.9%). Female workers have a higher demand for historical films than male workers (18.3% vs. 15%); for cartoons, female workers also have a higher demand than male workers (16.2% and 8.9% respectively). Thus, according to gender characteristics, there is a different demand on watching types of film: female workers like to watch psychological movies, cartoon, historical films while male workers like to watch action or horror films...

The demand for entertainment is an important part forming spiritual needs. The demand for entertainment is the motive of leisure activity. When there is a need for entertainment, every worker will try to do it by specific activities. In general, recreational activities in the spare time of the workers are mainly: watching TV, meeting friends, reading newspapers, listening to the radio or music, playing sports and taking care of their children, family...

#### *How they use their free time*

The survey shows that a part of workers has a demand to learn, meet friend, read newspapers, watch TV ... to raise awareness in many aspects. Many workers are equipped with knowledge about labor law, trade union; knowledge of labor contracts, social insurance, health insurance, allowance policy... These knowledges will help workers in protecting their legitimate interests, following the law. The reality shows that recreational activities, cultural and spiritual activities after the working hours of the workers are quite limited. Non-local workers spend more time watching TV,

listening to the radio or music (49,9%); playing sports only accounts for only (4,.1%); reading newspaper or using internet (19,9%) ...

Reading documents, books, newspapers or watching good TV channels helps workers acquire knowledge to make the basis to form a worldview and a scientific outlook on life, increase the positive aspect in workers' lifestyle. With diversified media (newspapers, magazines, radio, television, internet...), rich information sources, reflecting comprehensively and deeply the political and social life of the country, public media contribute to improving the intellectual level of the workers, forming the habit of taking care of political issues, especially issues directly related to their interests, and at the same time forming a dynamic, creative, sensitive lifestyle to the times. When reading books, newspapers, magazines, workers concern about political and social issues (55%); about Consulting – Law and other matters not deeply concerning (53.1%). Workers, laborers reading newspapers, seeking for information and knowledge may not bring economic benefits or results immediately, but it will bring long term benefits and results in future, especially in the era of globalization and the knowledge economy today.

Many workers listen to the radio, watch TV, and pay attention to the worker column. 63.9% of workers watch Labor and Trade Union TV program which is broadcast on VTV1 channel, 45.3% watch the Vietnam Trade Union TV program which is broadcast on Vietnam Television, Vietnam News Agency and (42.2%) listen to radio news about workers, trade unions, social and cultural issues which are broadcast on the Voice of Vietnam. This behavior helps the worker to identify the right way to act, deal with colleagues, community in production as well as in daily life. In general, the demand for watching television, listening to the radio, reading books or newspapers of workers is quite high. But with a modest salary, only (32.9%) of the workers spend a small amount of money on such recreational activities.

Many workers choose entertainment by watching movies, listening to music, playing sports, meeting friends... This is a fairly healthy demand of young workers. But choosing what to watch, what to listen, what news to read... is a concerned matter. According to the survey, workers regularly watch news (39.8%); films (23.4%); music

(18.5%); sports (19%) and other TV program (7.5%). In most residence, workers lack access to audiovisual media, thus only (57.4%) workers occasionally watch the news; (71.3%) workers sometimes watch films; sometimes listen to music (64.4%); occasionally see sports (53.8%) and occasionally watch other TV programs (56,7%). As a result, most of workers must to rent a house, which limits their access to the media, and has less opportunity to participate in collective activities and cultural activities at their residence.

According to a survey conducted by the Vietnam General Confederation of Labor, more than 95% of workers have phones, of which more than 50% of such phones are able to listen to music and access the internet. Through mobile phones, workers are not only updated with information related to the political, social, cultural issues in the country, in the local area and in the workplace quickly and conveniently, but also meet, exchange experience, share feelings with family, friends, relatives.

Therefore, to compensate for the little communication, workers increase the frequency of using public media. However, to watch a TV program is not an easy thing to do regularly. In addition, workers do not have many opportunities to participate in cultural activities, entertainment, leisure or travelling. This is a disadvantage for this social group because participating in these activities is the best solution to help workers merge into the urban society in the integration period.

### Conclusion

In general, the spiritual life of the workers in our country is still limited, due to the lack of public works, facilities for entertainment and recreation for workers, due to the income of the majority of workers only meeting the minimum life needs, so workers do not have chances to join in entertainment activities that satisfy their spiritual needs. Moreover, with their working time, labor intensity, most workers do not have much time to spend on entertainment activities.

The survey showed that a part of workers in our country are young, unmarried and have a high demand for enjoying cultural and spiritual life, however, due to the high labor intensity and often working overtime, the demands for material, cultural and spiritual life is also decreasing. While, in most provinces and cities with many

industrial parks and export processing zones of the country such as Bac Ninh, Ho Chi Minh City, Binh Duong and Dong Nai..., there is a common situation of lacking entertainment place for workers, laborers. In addition, in some enterprises with high quantity of workers, many of whom must work overtime very often. As a consequence, most workers working in industrial parks and export processing zones do not have much time to improve their education, skills, take care of their family and children. This leads to the cultural and spiritual life of workers becoming more and more monotonous or uninterested.

To enhance and improve the material, cultural and spiritual life of workers nowadays, it is required to better implement existing policies and to amend and promulgate new policies in accordance with the social context in the integration period.

*Suggest some solutions to improve the cultural and spiritual life of workers*

1. Improve the efficiency of the Trade Union. The position of a union is high or low depending on the right and benefits that the Trade Union gives to workers. The reality shows that the trade union movements of any enterprise are active, abundant, the action content of such Trade Union is diversified, attractive. On the contrary, if the base Trade Union operates in a spreading, impractical or perfunctory way, and do not represent the voices of the workers' representatives, then the trade unions become less important, lose its essential role as a base trade union.

2. Identify the owner and worker as both the subject and the beneficiary from the establishment and development of a healthy cultural environment in industrial parks and export processing zones. Create favorable conditions for laborers to have time to participate in cultural, sport and entertainment activities. Therefore, proposals are given to base trade union, business owners to facilitate their workers to study to improve their qualifications. Educate workers to well follow the labor discipline, support the employer's right policies and measures, and fight against legal violations committed by employers.

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