

MARXIST SOCIOLOGY

The Americanization of Sociology and Lessons for Constructing Sociology with Chinese Characteristics

..... *Chen Xinxiang* 1

Abstract: Establishing the discipline of sociology with Chinese characteristics is the shared academic pursuit of Chinese sociologists in the new era. A critical and reflexive historical review of the experience and lessons of the Americanization of sociology is valuable. The Americanization of sociology was a process consisting of three stages, which will be reviewed chronologically in this study. At the first stage, the symbiosis of sociology, economics and statistics emerged. At the second stage, the legitimacy of sociology as an independent discipline was pursued via statistical technology-based scientism. At the last stage, American sociology faced a paradigmatic challenge and started to accept the pluralism of multiple sociological approaches. Inspired by these American experience and lessons, the author offers three important insights for constructing sociology with Chinese characteristics. Firstly, the theoretical discourses should respond to the current and important domestic and global issues from the academic perspective of sociology. Secondly, sociology as a discipline should develop its methodologies to address substantive social issues rather than follow the American example of quantitative scientism. Finally, the academic system of sociology should be open and inclusive to sociologists with varied academic achievements and public influence to ensure a balanced development of the academia.

PAPER

Discipline and Distinction in the Age of Internet: A Sociological Study of the Fitness Practice *Tang Jun & Xie Zilong* 29

Abstract: Investigating popular fitness sports and a domestic fitness software, this paper

reveals the formation of a new body discipline mechanism against the background of the Internet society and the consumer society. We draw on Michel Foucault's theory of discipline, while incorporating Norbert Elias' study on civilization and Jean Baudrillard's study on the consumer society. On the one hand, the external disciplinary strategies have been upgraded, including the spatial strategy of liquidity and visibility, the linear and rhythmic time strategy and the knowledge strategy. On the other hand, different from Foucault's discussion on discipline, we introduce a form of positive self-discipline. As a unique consumption practice, fitness practices promote a form of new self-discipline among the practitioners when they pursue a distinctive social position. The core content of the self-discipline strategy includes code manipulation, time consumption, moral display, and self-writing. In addition, with the continuous infiltration of Internet technologies in daily life, the space-time boundaries of physical discipline gradually blur, whereas the micro distribution of power changes into a form of daily distribution.

From "Persona Worship" to the "Autonomous Self": The Psychologicalization of Society and Soul Governance *Yang Zeng* 57

Abstract: The purpose of this paper is to provide a sociological explanation to the recognition of psychotherapy by the general public. It is alleged that in the framework of Durkheim's persona worship, an individual is empowered by the idea of sacred individual personality in the modern society. It is further elevated to a sacred level by Goffman with reference to the individual face in the secularized society. The sociology of feeling and emotion synthesizes the former two theories, and makes a more abstract generalization of the mind holiness on the basis of personality and face. Soul governance points to the shaping of self-autonomy in order to transcend the duality of liberation and discipline, and realize mind liberation.

The Dual Inflation of Course Grade and Student Evaluation of Teaching: Evidence from a University in China

..... *Ha Wei & Zhao Ying* 84

Abstract: Theoretical research has shown that overemphasizing student evaluation of teaching could lead to grade inflation. Exploiting an exogenous policy change on grade ceiling in a research university in China and using data between 2010 and 2016, we find that the relaxation of grade ceiling has led to both an increase in the course grades faculties gave to students and a rise in student evaluation of teaching at 1 and 0.5 points respectively. Estimates from instrumental variable approach show that students

reciprocated grade inflation by inflating their evaluation of the faculties' teaching. This suggests that the students and faculties may be engaged in collusion in the intricate relationship between teaching and learning.

Social-Cultural Roots of Gender Income Difference in China: Evidence from the Gender Role Attitudes *Qing Shisong* 106

Abstract: By investigating the deep-rooted gender norms and social-cultural factors, this paper explores whether and how traditional gender role attitudes impact on income gaps between men and women, and identifies causal effects by methods of instrumental variables estimation and other causal inference methods. Using the 2013 Chinese General Social Survey data, the results show that traditional gender role attitudes are detrimental to the earnings of women, but has no direct effect on men's income. Through Oaxaca-Blinder decomposition, this research finds that the different effects of gender role attitudes on income of men and women appear to play a prominent role in causing the gender gap in earnings. In addition, gender role attitudes have an indirect and wide effect on gender income inequality through educational investment, labor participation, working hours and occupational status. This provides a new perspective for understanding the persistence and mechanisms of gender income stratification under the trend of educational equalization, and has implications for gender equality policies.

“Limited Rights of Governance” and the Dilemma of Public Service Purchase by Local Governments in China *Chen Jiajian & Zhao Yang* 132

Abstract: In today's China, to purchase public service from social organizations by the government is a form of governance innovation. Supported by good ideas, policy and finance, the outsourcing of public service nevertheless faces many difficulties. By investigating the process of a social organization undertaking public service, this paper discusses the reasons underlying the dilemma of public service purchase in the local community from the perspective of state governance. In the current governance system, local organizations are positioned in a role with limited rights of public administration, while having to handle multiple tasks passed down to them. As a result, as the lowest level of public organizations, the community employs comprehensive governance strategy to cope with the stress. In comparison, the purchase of public service from social organization is based on a professional governance pattern, which contradicts the local community's governance pattern in the process of undertaking public service. The tension between these two patterns of governance is the key factor behind the dilemma in

public service outsourcing. Moreover, limited rights of governance and its consequences are not confined to the purchase of public services at the local level, but prevalent in other areas of public governance.

Childhood Health and Social Class Reproduction

..... *Hong Yanbi & Liu Jingming* 156

Abstract: In previous studies on social stratification and mobility, education is considered as the core mediatory mechanism in social reproduction and mobility. This paper, however, investigates how childhood health affects social stratification. Using data from Urbanization and Labor Migrant National Survey (2012), this study examines the effects of nutrition, hygiene, and health before age 14 on adult socioeconomic status, including education, first job ISEI, current job ISEI, and family income per head. The SEM results show that the nutrition intake (whether one experienced starvation and the frequency of fish and meat intake) and hygiene (indicated by the source of drinking water and the toilet type) have significant effect on adult socioeconomic status. However, the effects change at different life course stages. Moreover, childhood health (indicated by adult height) has significant impact on adult socioeconomic status attainment, but no significant impact on first job ISEI and current job ISEI. We conclude that investment in childhood health is an important mechanism affecting social class reproduction and mobility. Therefore, health intervention for children from poor and disadvantaged families are necessary. It will benefit children's education and encourage upward mobility.

Intergenerational Effects on Individual Charitable Donation: An Innovative Study on Charitable Donation in China

..... *Yang Yongjiao, Shi Yuting & Zhang Dong* 183

Abstract: Family, as the basic unit of Chinese society, is the micro foundation of individuals' charitable behavior. Based on the unique social structure, traditional culture and philanthropy history of China, this paper examines the intergenerational effects on individuals' charitable donation in China. The study reveals the mutual influence between children's charitable donation and the parent's charitable donation through downward intergenerational transmission and upward intergenerational reverse. The effect of reverse was stronger than that of inheritance, especially among families with children born in the 1980s and 1990s. This reflects the "family-oriented" culture of Chinese society, and also highlights the necessity and urgency of developing a theory of charitable donation rooted in the Chinese experiences.

REVIEW

How Sociologists Research Police and Policing? A Review of Studies on American Police and Society *Chu Huijuan* 210

Abstract: In the 1960s, American sociologists began to carry out systematic research on police and policing, which led to the development of sociology of police and police reform. From the perspective of sociology of knowledge, this paper tries to answer the following questions: Why did sociologists develop strong interests in police at that particular timing? How did their work influence police reform and shape the essential idea of police policy at present? The purpose of this paper is to demonstrate the mutual promotion of sociological research and police reform, understand more thoroughly the new policing mode and governance reform that has been carried out all over the world, and explore the core issues and theoretical space for the study of police in Chinese sociology.