

MARXIST SOCIOLOGY

Symposium on Constructing Social Policy as a Discipline

Promoting the Construction of Social Policy as a Discipline in Sociology

..... *Li Qiang* 1

Abstract: By reviewing the history of the restoration and reconstruction of sociology in China, this paper presents a significant deficiency in the construction of social policy as a sociology discipline in China. It highlights the significance of social policy research to China through the comparative analysis of four international social policy intervention models. It analyses social construction, social system, institutional innovation, and social governance, which cover all fields in social policy. For the development, reform and innovation of all these fields, it is necessary to address and solve corresponding challenges and problems through introducing social policies and adjusting the social policy variable. This paper also analyzes nine areas in which China's social policies should focus, and proposes that in order to promote the construction of the social policy discipline in China, much effort is needed to make advancement in improving teaching materials and the curriculum system, recruiting talents, offering career services, and cultivating relations with related disciplines, as well as consolidating the disciplinary institutions.

Essential Features and Development of the Discipline of Social Policy in China *Wang Sibin* 10

Abstract: The self-distinctiveness of social policy is an essential feature that measures its development in a given society. Social policy in China has undergone a gradual development characterized by a low-level self-distinctiveness at the initial stage of the Reform and Opening-up, followed by an intermediate level in the 21st century. The recent development of social policy practice in China has exhibited a salient feature of “person-oriented” and “people-centered”. However, the advancement of social policy practice in China requires further efforts to promote social policy as a discipline.

Disciplinary Ecology, Disciplinary Chain, and the Development of Social Policy as a Discipline in the New Era *Feng Shizheng* 20

Abstract: This article lays out the ways in which social policy is embedded in sociology, and the importance and methods of its development as a discipline. The discussion is carried out in the context of disciplinary progress and the demands for social development in the new era. This article proposes an ecological view of sociology as a system of knowledge with interdependent and competing parts, among which social policy is an indispensable one. Along the disciplinary chain of contemporary Chinese sociology, social policy sits in the middle, connecting theory and practice. Moreover, to build a discipline of social policy will also contribute to state building. In order to better construct social policy as a discipline, we need to bear in mind the overall development of sociology and the landscape of social progress and governance in China.

Direction for an Active and Reliable Social Policy in China's New Era *Guan Xinping* 31

Abstract: How to implement the central government's goal to secure and improve people's well-being in the New Era poses a significant question for China's social policy development. This paper analyzes the institutional shortcomings in securing and improving people's well-being and current challenges faced by China's social policy. It proposes the goals for social policy, which is to improve the relationship among the state, family and society. In this paper, I discuss the basic principles for an active and reliable social policy, i. e. , to coordinate social policy and economic development, set a reasonable goal and try best to achieve it. Finally, I suggest the important tasks for an active and reliable social policy, including to define a reasonable welfare level, improve equality and equity in social policy, improve social policy structure, do more research on people's needs, and raise public awareness.

Chinese Social Policy in the New Era: Characteristics and Future Trends *Gong Sen & Li Bingqin* 39

Abstract: In 2012, the Central Economic Work Conference of China put forward a set of new principles for improving people's livelihoods, which includes "ensuring the bottom line, focusing on the key issues, refining the systems, and influencing public opinions". A new era begins in which the social policy in China shifted from a highly fragmented system which pursued equality in all different directions to a system that stresses holistic, systematic and coordinated policy design and implementation and encourages co-production. This article first outlined the timelines for shaping the principles and the key characteristics, and then discusses the underlying international

and domestic circumstances from which the principles emerged and evolved. After a summary of the outcomes since 2012, this paper moves on to discuss the structural issues that China must face and the demand of the on-going industrial revolution. For the future, the authors propose, social policies should stick to issue-based and co-productive approaches. The society, employers, families and individuals should all be encouraged to play their roles and combined effectively with the role of the state. It is essential to further social investment policies such as job creation, education, healthcare and so forth, and at the same time modify social consumptions, such as minimum income guarantee and social pensions to make them fairer. While improving policies in individual sectors, it is also vital to improve the adaptability of policies and coordinate different policies.

MONOGRAPHIC STUDY

Union and the Labor Market

Enterprise Union, Regional Institutions and Salary Level in Private Enterprises *Chen Zongshi & Zhang Jianjun* 50

Abstract: Drawing upon institutional theories, this research demonstrates that the enterprise union is helpful in improving employee salary among private firms. It further demonstrates that two institutional factors at the regional level moderate enterprise union's impact on employees' benefits through different mechanisms. One is the autonomy of local government, and the other is the legal environment. More autonomous local governments have stronger incentive and more capacity to pursue the performance goal, as a result pushing the unions within its jurisdiction to coordinate workers to work for the objective of economic development. The legal environment provides workers with more legal opportunities to protect their rights on an individual basis, thus strengthening the workers' trust of the legal institutions. In this case, the law often works in place of the union. Based on a national survey of private enterprises conducted in 2012, the findings of our study support the above hypotheses. This study advances the institutional analysis of enterprise union's effect.

Managing "Flexibility": Organizational Ecology and Institutional Environment of the Labor Market in the Manufacturing Industry

..... *Liu Zixi & Zhujiang Huafeng* 73

Abstract: A huge challenge confronted by the World Factory today is how to organize and control labor in a sustainable and effective manner. Most literature focuses on production politics, but neglects how the labor market in the manufacturing industry is

organized. Based on fieldwork in the manufacturing industry in city W, this paper analyzes the configuration of the organizational ecology and institutional environment where recruitment takes place. It argues that such configuration has evolved into an intermediary chain, composed of multilevel outsourcing, elaborate division of labor, and constant competition and cooperation. To coordinate the flexible production, this chain develops a profit model that increases labor cost, aggravates labor turnover, and lowers labor skill. Key social forces that constitute the institutional environment include the local government, workers, and the corporations. Each manipulates the partial “flexibility” to its own interest. However, such flexibility unintentionally enlarges the risk of the production system as a whole.

Endurance, Identity and Temporality: Ethnic Labor Market and Labor Process of Chinese Migrant Workers in France *Du Juan* 97

Abstract: Workers in France enjoy strong legal protection for their rights, as well as developed organizational support. However, Chinese migrant workers suffer from adverse working conditions and extreme labor precariousness. However, they rarely turn to legal institutions for help. Nor do they organize themselves in unions. Instead, they choose to endure the exploitation. Based on an ethnographical study of Chinese migrant workers in Paris, this paper investigates the different factors which may influence their preference for resistance strategies. The author then discusses the labor process in the context of international migration. This paper begins with an analysis of the typology of exploitation, and later proposes two possible explications for Chinese migrant workers’ preference. Finally, it explores the formation of the migrant worker subject.

MONOGRAPHIC STUDY

Study on State Governance

Power, Interest and Ethics of Action: Multiple Logics of Policy Mobilization in Grassroots Government—A Case Study of the Implementation of the Rural Land-use Rights Confirmation Policy

..... *Di Jinhua* 122

Abstract: The question of how the grassroots government carries out policy implementation without authoritarian power decrees more attention from the academia. This paper takes the rural land-use rights confirmation policy as an example to analyze how the grassroots government effectively mobilizes the village cadres to complete the farmland confirmation work in the absence of financial resources required for policy

implementation. It is found that, on one hand, the grassroots government forms the nets of the power and interest structure by combining power control and interest exchange, in order to keep the village cadres in line with the government during policy implementation. On the other hand, the grassroots government combines political ethics and social ethics to weave a web of public and private ethics in order to ensure that the behavior of village cadres act as expected. The power mechanism and strategy of “politics first” is used at the front stage because it is compatible with the administrative system and the political system, whereas the mechanism of interest exchange and “moral appeal” is used more often at the back stage.

Knowledge Making and Performing in Environmental Governance: An Arena Analysis of Waste Incineration Technological Disputes
..... *Zhang Jieying & Li Xueshi* 146

Abstract: This study takes an approach of Science and Technology Studies (STS), and opens the black box of a particular technology to examine the technological controversies of anti-incineration movements. Based on the arena analysis framework, it analyzes the technical controversies of waste incineration, which is the release of the highly toxic substance named dioxins, and answers why this technology triggers controversies. Furthermore, ethnography leads readers into two society worlds: the world of garbage incineration facilities and their supporters, and the world of the anti-waste incineration activism. Subsequently, it shows how knowledge about waste incineration is produced, applied, recycled, and competed by different social actors in different social worlds. From the perspective of scientific knowledge production, this research provides a new approach for environmental movement research. Moreover, this study provides a useful method package for subsequent environmental governance, environmental campaigns and research on technological disputes.

How Did Institutional Environment and Local Governance Shape the Drinking Culture of Chinese Cadres—An Empirical Study on County-level Cadres’ Drinking Behavior *Qiang Ge* 170

Abstract: Based on observation and interviews conducted from 2011 to 2015, this paper argues that the drinking culture among Chinese cadres were shaped by three dilemmas in Chinese local governance, including information deficiency caused by the pyramid hierarchy structure, non-institutionalization of governance task, and the lack of organizational incentive. The embeddedness of the drinking behavior played a role in trust-building and providing incentives, thus was able to promote governance performance. In other words, the drinking culture did not violate the formal institution, but made up to the defections of the formal institution. In recent years, the “Anti-four

winds” campaign successfully constrained the drinking culture, reduced public cost and improved government efficiency. Yet the eradication of the drinking culture needs further improvement of the governance environment, especially the institutionalization of governance and establishment of compensation and incentive mechanism.

PAPER

Occupational Status, Working Conditions and Health: Evidence from the 2012 China Labor Force Dynamic Survey

..... *Liang Tongxin, Qi Yaqiang & Ye Hua* 193

Abstract: This study investigates the association between occupational status and health inequality in the working population by analyzing data from the 2012 China Labor Force Dynamics Survey (CLDS2012). Results show that individual health varies substantially by occupational status, including self-rated general health, work-related injury and occupational disease. Low occupational status is associated with poorer self-rated health and more incidences of work-related injuries, while people with high occupational status report more occupational diseases. Further analysis indicates that working condition is the main mediator between occupational status and individual health. Based on results from the KHB decomposition, the disparities in working conditions, including working overtime, environment and occupational hazards, demand and control, as well as perceived rewards, account for about half of the effect of occupation status on individual health.

Land, Labor and the Modernization of the Rural Society: Comparison of Fei Xiaotong and R. H. Tawney

Yang Qingmei 218

Abstract: Fei Xiaotong’s work on rural economy and society in the 1940s was deeply indebted to English economic historian R. H. Tawney. By comparing their texts, this article reveals at least two connections between their works. First, Tawney’s analysis of the English modernization, which depicts the transition from agricultural modernization to industrial modernization serves as a reference framework for Fei. Second, Tawney’s “theory of gentry” also serves as the starting point for Fei’s functional theory of the Chinese gentry. However, Fei does not simply follow Tawney’s steps. Instead, he offers unique insights into the problems of horticulture transformation and gentry types in China. Furthermore, Fei considers the role of state as more passive. The interrelation of the community, market, intellectuals and state constitutes Fei’s modernization scheme. His idea about how China as a later participant of the world system can maintain economic autonomy is still valuable today.