

MARXIST SOCIOLOGY

Commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the Founding of People’s Republic of China

Review of Social Theory Studies in China (1949 – 2019)

..... *Zhao Liwei & Chen Tao* 1

Abstract: The paper reviews the development of social theory research in mainland Chinese academia in the last 70 years, especially after the restoration and reconstruction of sociology as a discipline in China. It summarizes and reviews important research within the field. Systematic translation of major works in Western and Chinese social theory, specialized studies in social theory and the attempt to construct “Chinese social theory” constitute main fields of social theory research in this period, during which both remarkable achievements and serious problems co-exist. In particular, much work remains ahead for constructing “Chinese social theory”.

Development of Chinese Sociological Research Methods in the Past 70 Years *Zhao Lianfei* 14

Abstract: Since 1953, the development of Chinese sociological research methods has experienced periods of stagnation (1953 – 1979), recovery and reconstruction (1980 – 1985), improvement in practice (1986 – 1999) and rapid development (2000 – 2019). After almost 70 years of development, Chinese sociological research methods have made remarkable progress in methodology, research methods and specific research techniques. The developmental course in the past 70 years shows three trends of systematization in knowledge, standardization in practice and localization in orientation.

Seventy Years of Research on Social Stratification and Mobility in China

..... *Li Chunling* 27

Abstract: Research on social stratification and mobility in China started from scratch in 1949 when the People's Republic of China was founded. Since then it experienced transformation from ideology-driven Marxist class analysis to scholarly research with theoretical plurality tackling multi-dimensional and multi-faceted inequalities. Its theory and methodology were not only influenced by Western research, but also informed by the Chinese context and characteristics. The theoretical orientations, research topics and focuses closely followed the process of social transformation in China, reflecting major changes in social stratification and inequality.

MONOGRAPHIC STUDY

Capital, Technology and Inequality

Flexibility in the Employment Relations and Academic Capitalism: The Dilemma of Highly Skilled Chinese Immigrants in the U. S. Labor Market

..... *Zhang Hong* 41

Abstract: Due to challenges of economic globalization and the expansion of neoliberalism in the U. S. economy, the structure of the U. S. labor market has undergone dramatic shifts. Based on in-depth interviews with highly skilled Chinese immigrants in the U. S. , this paper reveals that regardless of their work sector, highly skilled Chinese immigrants increasingly become part of the precarious and flexible labor force. More importantly, their dependence on U. S. employers exacerbate the risks they face. The structural constraints that highly skilled Chinese immigrants face in the U. S. , combined with rising economic opportunities in China's labor market, further explain why there has been a growing number of returnees to China. Furthermore, the flow of capital and labor will also change as Chinese economy undergoes further economic transformation and upgrading.

On the Dynamic Mechanism of Social Trust Production in Internet Enterprisers

..... *Zheng Dandan* 65

Abstract: This paper, taking the Internet home decoration platform *tubatu* as an

example, explores the innovation of trust production mechanism during the development of Internet enterprises. The author argues that the essence of such trust production is to change the relationship structure, and empower the weak in the trust relationship. The root of this process lies in the fact that to the “ubiquitous” technology of the Internet and the fact of “de-localization” have led to fundamental changes in the number and structure of all parties involved in economic activities. In the expanded overall market, the seller’s autonomy has declined due to intensified competition, and the economic value of the buyer’s demand has been enlarged due to integration. Therefore, the intrinsic motivation of profit-making has greatly stimulated the innovative behavior of enterprises, promoted social trust and promoted market prosperity.

Housing Marketization and Housing Inequality: A Study Based on CHIP and CFPS Data *Wu Kaize* 89

Abstract: From the perspective of institutional analysis, based on CHIP data and CFPS data, this paper analyzes housing marketization reform process and its influence on housing inequality. There are three stages of housing propertization, housing industrialization and housing financialization during the housing marketization. Housing changes from consumer goods to investment goods and financial derivative. It also becomes the main source of wealth for urban families and critical mechanism of social differentiation. Housing marketization effectively improves urban families’ housing conditions, while aggravating gaps among age cohorts and classes in terms of housing size, the number of properties, etc. The continuous increase of housing price expands the wealth effect of housing. Income and housing stratification intensify wealth polarization in urban China in the early 21st century. This paper proposes that future housing reform should balance the economic and social function of housing, and avoid wealth polarization aggravation.

PAPER

Literary Activities and Social Adaptation of the “Migrant Poets” *Liu Chang* 115

Abstract: Literary writing constitutes a way for an individual to regulate the relationship between himself and his structural situation in the process of constructing the self. Literary writing of the adapting migrant poets presents three ways to cope with their life situation: to repair the emotional damage caused by life opportunities, to accumulate cultural capital to transform the structural situation and achieve upward mobility, to

temporarily withdraw from or transcend the life situation. Different from passive assimilation or needs-based progressive social adaptation, the literary activities of migrant poets demonstrate subjective “growth adaptation”. That is, individuals seek adaptation to the structural situation while maintaining a degree of tension and disengagement. The self-construction mainly presents a form of the ego, which seeks the balance of economic opportunity and spiritual emotion, aiming for self-development.

How Does Institutional Transmission Occur? An Analysis of the Institutionalization of Homeowners’ Self-Governance in City A

..... *Sheng Zhiming* 139

Abstract: This paper analyzes the reason, process, and result of a case of the institutionalization of homeowners’ self-governance in city A. It explores how elements of community governance dominated by the Residents Committee are transmitted to the institution of homeowners’ self-governance. It finds that the institutionalization is a result of joint influence of administrative absorption by local government agencies, manifested as the institutional design, policy implementation and personnel selection from the top down, and the voluntary acceptance by homeowners, manifested as the idea competition, resource mobilization and network embeddedness from the bottom up. The transmission of institution includes the transmission of value, power structure, and personnel structure.

De-embeddedness and Double-embeddedness of the Rural Collective Property Ownership: Experiences of the Pearl River Delta in the Past 40 Years

Guan Bing 164

Abstract: Rural collective property ownership is an evolving state of ownership defined in combination by laws and practical circumstances. It is not simply private or public ownership. This paper uses the case of the Pearl River Delta, and demonstrates the 40 years’ evolution of rural collective property ownership. In general, there are two sets of restrictive factors that shape the development of rural collective property ownership in opposite directions. On the one hand, the local governments try to de-embed themselves from the rural collective property ownership. On the other hand, the owners of the collective property use historical, social, and political mechanisms to keep collective property ownership embedded in the political structure, as well as the local rural society, so that it does not comply with market rules.

Self-protection Oriented *Dibao* Implementation; The Practice of *Dibao* in Village Shi during “Targeted Poverty Alleviation” in China

..... *Li Mianguan* 188

Abstract: Against the background of “Targeted Poverty Alleviation” policy, the “strong intervention” of grassroots implementers in Village Shi has been largely curbed and inclusion error has decreased, improving targeting efficiency in general. However, exclusion error still remains a serious problem. Facing strong supervision pressure from higher-level of governments, different levels of grassroots implementers, including county government, township government and village cadres, take different “self-protection” strategies. This results in the action logic of “self-protection oriented *dibao* implementation”. The pressure system combines with the hanging-in-the-air regime to form a “squeezing system”, in which pressure from higher-level governments and resistance from practice exist simultaneously for grassroots implementers. In response to the “squeezing system”, the grassroots implementers achieve “self-protection” through “selective governance” and “situational withdrawal” in *dibao* implementation.

REVIEW

Multilevel Confirmatory Factor Analysis on Measurement of Social Capital in City Communities; Methodological Review and Empirical Illustration

..... *Bi Xiangyang* 213

Abstract: For constructing the measurement index of the community social capital as a collective concept, the previous studies have conducted factor analysis based on the cluster means aggregated from the individual to form the corresponding construct at the community level. However, this method lacks reliability and validity due to the absence of necessary evaluation. This paper examines the ICCs and Rwg of relevant items of community social capital from a large survey of urban communities, and finds that the internal consistency and reliability of indicators are low. The author suggests that the measurement of (cognitive) community social capital should be placed under the framework of multilevel latent variable model, and finish with a multilevel confirmatory factor analysis. Theoretical implications of the findings and limitations of the method are also discussed.