

MARXIST SOCIOLOGY

Indigenization, Internationalization and the Construction of the Academic System for Sociology with Chinese Characteristics (III)

From Geographic Pluralism to Discourse Pluralism *Xie Lizhong* 1

Abstract: The trend of “de-Westernization of sociology” opposes Western intellectual hegemony and advocates the diversity of sociological knowledge. Such appeals are reasonable and justified, but its standpoint is geographic pluralism based on traditional realism. This kind of geographic pluralism denies the universality of knowledge while pursuing the diversity of knowledge, and contains potential danger of fragmenting knowledge. On the contrary, if we proceed from the standpoint of discourse constructivism, we can construct discourse pluralism, which allows us to deconstruct the intellectual hegemony of Western sociology, while pursuing universal sociological knowledge.

Indigenization of Sociology: Narrow or Broad? Pseudo Problem or True Reality? —A Discussion with Professor Xie Yu and Professor Zhai Xuewei *Zhou Xiaohong* 16

Abstract: Since the establishment of Chinese sociology in the early 20th century, and in particular the reconstruction of Chinese sociology in the 1980s, indigenization has drawn much attention and debate in the academia. As a universal academic movement, the indigenization of sociology tackles the question of how to make a knowledge system originated from the West reflect the national tradition and contemporary spirit of China, and how it can serve the reform and construction of the Chinese society. The indigenization movement at different periods since the 1930s has distinct academic and practical orientations, with a focus on the “cross-border validity” of knowledge. The relevant arguments constitute a debate between universalism and particularism. The author believes that the profound and extensive social transformation in contemporary

China enables the historical mission of sociological indigenization. It provides a practical possibility for the accomplishment of this mission and the advancement towards global Chinese sociology.

Chinese Society and Chinese Sociology in the New Era: Conference Note from the “Symposium on China’s Social Construction and Development of Society After Building a Moderately Prosperous Society in All Respects”

..... 37

Abstract: On October 27, 2019, the “Symposium on China’s Social Construction and Development of Society After Building a Moderately Prosperous Society in All Respects” was hosted by the Institute of Sociology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in Beijing. Scholars from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Peking University, Tsinghua University, Renmin University of China, Nanjing University, Shanghai University, Fudan University, Jilin University, Nankai University, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Shanxi Academy of Social Sciences and other universities and research institutions attended the meeting. The symposium was presided over by Professor Chen Guangjin, Director of the Institute of Sociology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. The theme of the symposium is the development of Chinese society and construction of the disciplinary system, academic system and discourse system (the “three systems”) of Chinese sociology after building a moderately prosperous society in all respects. The participants discussed the current state of social development, clarified major research issues, and outlined the future plan for constructing of “three systems” of sociology.

MONOGRAPHIC STUDY

Thought and Theory in Chinese Traditional Society

On the Construction of Confucian Social Theory—Dual Generation and Its Propositions Zhai Xuewei 56

Abstract: Confucian ethics has gradually entered social sciences in the history of modern Chinese academic history. Among them, the “*guanxi* standard” has become the core of sociological research. However, whether the theory of *guanxi* can only be established with the help of Western social theory, ontology and epistemology concerns the choice of direction for theoretical construction. Studies have shown that Chinese culture, based on the unity of man and nature, focuses on correlative cosmology. That is, the world is formed by the relationship between *yin* and *yang*. This article proposes

that Confucian social theory is a value-oriented relational operation theory. It takes “dual generation” as the starting point and a series of propositions can be derived from this.

Guanxi in Confucianism: The Meaning of *Lun* and Its Endogenous Approach
..... Qin Pengfei 80

Abstract: This article interprets the connotation of *lun* (relationship) whilst showing the logical deductive process from category to relationship, and from fact to ethics. It is known from the correlational studies by Pan Guangdan that the abstract category of *wulun* remains to be generalized, which results in the confusion of the dual empirical-ethic character. In Confucian classics, *wulun* is constituted in accordance with two basic principles of relative and respect, manifested as the practical consideration in light of love and righteousness in daily life. Love and righteousness are deeply embedded in any relationship, but their constituents by which the obligations of action are regulated vary. The empirical generality of *wulun* is further analyzed as the extension of basic principles.

Higher Education Attainment and Economic Return

Uncertainty in College Admissions and Educational Attainment Differences:
Evidence from a Chinese Province Li Dai & Wang Yizhen 101

Abstract: In studies of educational attainment, how do we explain the differences among sex, ethnicity and class, when academic performance is controlled for? This article shows that above the threshold of Tier 2 college, differences are driven by uncertainty in admissions. Below the threshold, differences are driven by preferences for different levels of education. Using a complete data set of the National College Entrance Exam from one Chinese province, this article illustrates the distribution of uncertainty, different reactions to uncertainty by social groups, and effects on educational attainment. It also discusses the effect of policies on uncertainty, such as the policy of educational expansion.

Who Benefits Most from College Education? Evolution of Heterogeneous
Economic Returns from Higher Education in China, 2003 – 2015
..... Guo Ran & Zhou Hao 126

Abstract: In this article, we analyze the pattern of economic return for different social

groups from college education in China from 2003 to 2015. Based on two analytical frameworks, i. e. , the positive and negative selection hypothesis, this paper suggests an “inverted U-shaped” model. That is, individuals with a medium level possibility to enter college will receive the highest return from education. From 2003 to 2015, the economic return model increasingly shows evidence of the “middle class incentive”, which supports the “inverted U-shaped” selection hypothesis. This model demonstrates that the middle class has become the main beneficiary of higher education, and the process of social change is useful for maintaining the stability of social structure.

PAPER

Social Change, Life Course and Health Status in Later Life

..... *Jiao Kaishan & Bao Zhiming* 149

Abstract: This study examines the relationship between early life experiences and the health status of the elderly. The study finds that unfavorable living condition during childhood has a significant impact on the health status of the elderly, but the degree of influence is significantly modified by the current socioeconomic status of the elderly. When the elderly has high socioeconomic status, the impact of unfavorable living condition during childhood is weakened, or even disappeared. This means the current socio-economic status has a significant compensatory effect on the unfavorable life conditions during childhood. For elderly with the lowest socioeconomic status, the effects of unfavorable living conditions during childhood are not compensated by the current socioeconomic status. The two factors overlap and strengthen each other, resulting in serious health problems. In addition, cohort analysis finds that among the elderly with the lowest socioeconomic status, the impact of unfavorable living conditions during childhood is larger for the later birth cohort than earlier ones. This paper analyzes and discusses the transformation of disease and health patterns in China and how changes of health care system in different historical periods affect individual life trajectories.

Why Does Institution Fail? Multiple Logics of Organ Allocation Justice

..... *Li Huairui* 170

Abstract: Organ transplantation is an important medical practice. The fairness of organ allocation between donation and transplantation deserves particular attention. Based on fieldwork at CODAC and Hospital S in City J, this paper examines the institutional and practical logics of organ allocation from the perspective of allocative justice, and finds that the two undergo institutional-practical decoupling and become a case of institutional

failure. To explain the mechanism of decoupling, this paper examines four variables, i. e., institutional rationality, institutional sanction, field transparency and value recognition. When the value of these variables is low, the institution-practice decoupling is prone to happen, and the market logic is more likely to intrude. In order to achieve re-coupling, we need to improve the institutional logic, expel the market logic, and inspire the value logic.

Conception of Patrimonial Estates and the Configuration of Folk Land Rights Order—A Study in Rural Southern Hubei Province

..... *Chen Baifeng* 194

Abstract: The phenomenon of patrimonial estates is common in rural China. It is difficult to analyze the land rights configuration embedded in the conception of patrimonial estates. Based on fieldwork in Ma Town in southern Hubei Province, this paper analyzes the relevant conceptions, institutions and practices. Patrimonial estate claims mainly occur when peasants plan to build houses or graves, or face land expropriation. It is to fight for rights and interests attached to the land, according to the idea of the patrimonial estates and local norms. In rural areas, patrimonial estate symbolizes membership, and carries the symbolic function of life order. Therefore, the peasants constantly fight for the estate. Land rights practice is often the result of efforts to balance all parties. Laws and norms are integrated to shape the land right configuration, which contains a bundle of patrimonial estates, collective ownership of rural land and operation of contracted land.

REVIEW

How to Open “the Black Box”: A Review of Western Ethnography on Educational Inequality

Shen Hongcheng 218

Abstract: Western ethnography on educational inequality has mainly adopted four major approaches: social construction of school classification, social organization of curricular knowledge, how students from different classes adapt to schooling, and meaning construction of student culture. These four approaches differ in terms of whether they focus on knowledge or interaction, adopt a structural or subjective perspective. The article opens “the black box” of educational inequality in China, which involves much more complicated mechanisms than in the West.