## SOCIOLOGICAL STUDIES

2022

1

(Bimonthly)

Vol. 37 January, 2022

## MARXIST SOCIOLOGY

Abstract: In traditional China, especially during the Ming and Qing dynasties, filial piety, as a symbolic domination, served as the cultural glue for the domination of gentry power, linking the "big tradition" and the "small tradition", i. e., the orthodox ethics and folk ideology. Filial piety provided the support for the orthodox ethics of gentry domination, and also supported the leadership of the gentry and popular resistance in folk ideology. In the domination of the family property system, taxes were even "salaried" and became "the silver of the state and county officials", while the tribute system was rationalized through folk ideology. The political economy of symbolic domination was manifested in the "euphemization" of property relations. The moral economics of the "landlord economy" also combined exploitation for profit with patronage for allegiance. The symbolic domination of folk ideology is further manifested in the dual mode of production in the sense of historical ontology.

## MONOGRAPHIC STUDIES

Village Development and Rural Revitalization

Abstract: The concept of the "agrarian question" was formally introduced by Karl Kautsky in 1899. It emerged from the debate within Marxist parties on how to approach the issues of agriculture, land, peasantry, and the countryside in the processes of national development and the future direction of these four aspects, reflecting a progressive view based on economic foundations and social development. The academic discussion of agrarian question mainly focused on the transformation and change of the modes of agricultural production, forms of farmland ownership, the stratification of peasant groups and the mobilization of rural governance. Theoretical perspectives such as Marxism and substantialism have strong theoretical traditions on the agrarian question. Chinese academics need to revive the concept of agrarian question, and construct a Chinese theory of agrarian transformation.

A Study on the Basis and Logic of the Structure of the Rural Mu	ılti-Care System
····· Jiao Siqi & W	ang Chunguang 46

Abstract: This paper proposes that the rural pluralistic medical system under social transformation contains both formal and informal medical systems. The formal medical system led by administrative logic, tries to realize the public welfare provision of rural medical care through the combined force with market logic and professional logic, which leads to a difficult tension of coordination while promoting the positive development of rural medical care. The informal medical system adheres to socio-cultural logic adapts to the development of vernacular society and makes up for the lack of medical professional power in the rural formal system. The differences between the two bring us some thoughts for reconceptualizing and constructing the rural medical system.

Abstract: Based on empirical data collected from multi-sited ethnography, this paper finds that new generation migrant workers tend to individualize their lives early in their working lives, while the process of familization leads to a family-centered traditional transformation in their everyday lifestyles. In the restriction of the urban-rural divided structure, familization forces them into a dilemma of labor reproduction and makes them assume responsibility for family development. In the process of famililization, a patriarchal gender division of labor is constructed, and the newly started family is forced to re-embed into stem-family, thus gives birth to lifestyle transformation. While the older single male workers cannot enter a track for family continuity, then slip into a consumerist lifestyle resulting from the influence of urbanization. These findings

indicate that under the current urbanization model, it is difficult for migrant workers to detach themselves from the influence of rural civilization, and alienates older single male workers from it.

## **PAPER**

The Sacred Individual: From Durkheim to Goffman ...... Du Yue 90

Abstract: The proposition that "the individual is sacred" is the end point of Émlie Durkheim's theoretical journey, and Erving Goffman's theoretical cornerstone, and is therefore a crucial link between classical and modern sociological theories. This paper attempts to re-examine one important yet unsolved question: In what sense did Goffman inherit and change Durkheim's proposition of the sacred individual? This paper delves into Durkheim's theoretical inquiries beneath the proposition of the sacred individual, and reveals his reflections on the crisis when individual is endowed with sacredness. The paper argues that Goffman inherits and pushes forward Durkheim's thoughts on the crisis of the sacred individual. Drawing on theoretical insights from Marcel Mauss and Georg Simmel, he offers a solution by exploring the new possibilities of the sacred individual's self.

The Process and Mechanism of Financial Governance Fluctuation—A Three-level Analytical Framework ...... Xiang Jinglin, Ouyang Xuanyu & Ai Yun 112

Abstract: This paper focuses on a special type of fluctuation in China's financial governance, namely, the financial governance behavior of local governments often undergoes a complex process of tacit approval of development, vigorous promotion, cleanup, and aftermath risk disposal, showing obvious characteristics of fluctuation. From a sociological perspective, this paper constructs a three-level analysis framework of "financial market evolution – governance mechanism switching – policy implementation fluctuation" to reveal the process and mechanism of financial governance fluctuation. The study shows that bottom-up financial market evolution may lead to top-down governance mechanism switching; different top-down governance mechanisms imply different incentives and constraints for local governments, which may lead to different governance behaviors and fluctuations in policy implementation; the fluctuation of policy implementation will in turn affect financial market evolution, and so on. It is in the back-and-forth and interactions among the three layers that financial governance fluctuations can be understood in depth.

Abstract: The administrativeization of neighborhood committees has multiple orientations. Previous studies have focused on the passive administrativeization of neighborhood committees under the pressure system. This study focuses on the active aspect of the administrativeization of neighborhood committees, and follows an organizational and institutional approach to analyze the logic of interaction, strategic composition, and behavioral choices of neighborhood committees with different subjects at different interfaces in the community field of Yijie Street in southern Jiangsu Province. The neighborhood committees show the logic of active administrativeization through the "imitation and continuation" of administrative institutions and practices, the absorption of services from community self-organizations in the endogenous relationship practice, and the extraction of resources from units and enterprises in the district in the cross-border relationship practice.

**Abstract:** Using data from the World Values Survey (1990 – 2012), this paper attempts to describe and analyze the changing trends of people's values during the process of social transformation in China. It is found that people's attitudes toward authority tend to be more positive over time, private sphere values tend to be more open, while post-materialist values show a trend of first rising and then falling. The most salient feature of cohort effect is that the generations born after the reform and opening-up have become more identified with respect for authority, while materialistic values tend to decline thereafter. The change in values is related to China's modernization process, global cultural diffusion, and important historical events, and is also deeply influenced by the two-way interaction between ethnicity and modernity.

Abstract: Applying sequence analysis methods on work trajectories recorded in the China Labor

Force Dynamics Survey (2012), this paper identifies and distills the characteristics and typical categories of work trajectories in China's urban labor market since the transition in terms of three dimensions; employment status, work unit, and job position, and explores the impact of different trajectories on individual status attainment. The study finds that along with market transition, work trajectories in China's urban labor market show diversity and complexity, developing four typical categories—merit promotion trajectories, private blue-collar mobility trajectories, state-owned enterprises blue-collar mobility trajectories, and self-employment trajectories. These four work trajectories have significant and differential effects on one's social-economic status and elite status attainment. The study sheds light on the micro-processes in status attainment by taking into consideration the role of work trajectories from a longitudinal perspective.

Accountability Examination, Rite of Passage or Academic Ritual? The Construction of the Meaning of Doctoral Dissertation Defense Institution

..... Zhang Wenqi & Zhu Zhiyong 203

Abstract: Whether doctoral defense is an examination or a formality is a question that remains to be explained in practice and in doctrine. In the perspective of inhabited institutionalism, the doctoral dissertation defense system marks a confluence of local institutional meanings embedded within group culture. Taking a cross-case comparative study approach, this paper analyzes the meaning of the defense system constructed by three academic departments with the same external organizational environment. The study found that the three departments reproduced, challenged, or changed the external system in their actions and interactions within the constraints of the external institutional environment, and constructed three local institutional meanings: "accountability exams", "rites of passage", and "academic ritual". These three institutional meanings embody the group culture of concern for essay quality, academic affiliation, and academic freedom, respectively. Through the perspective of inhabited institutionalism, with retrospect to neo-institutionalism and symbolic interactionism, this paper further analyzes the common pursuit of "legitimacy" of the three academic departments and the academic nature of the defense in the "institutional chain" behind the meaning of the diverse doctoral dissertation defense system.