

MARXIST SOCIOLOGY

In-depth Study and Implementation of the Spirit of the 20th CPC National Congress ;
Common Prosperity and the Chinese-style Modernization

Toward the Road to Common Wealth : Property Accumulation Mechanisms of Chinese
Residents Since the New Century *Li Shi , Zhan Peng & Tao Yanjun* 1

Abstract: Based on the analytical framework of the basic model of wealth accumulation, this paper uses data from the China Household Income Survey (CHIP) to explain the mechanism of property accumulation of Chinese residents since the new century. It is found that the average annual growth rate of net property per resident reached 14.1% during 2002 –2013 and declined to 9.9% in 2013 – 2018, but was still faster than the rate of increase in residents’ income during the same period. The first major source of resident property accumulation is house price inflation, which explains 55% ~ 85% of the increase in resident net property; the second major source is resident savings, which explains 30% ~40% of the increase in resident property; and some property is subject to property impairment due to depreciation. The findings of this paper help provide theoretical support for the next step of regulating the property accumulation mechanism.

The Path of Enhancing the Class Identity of Chinese People in the Context of Common
Prosperity-Perspectives on the New Social Comparison Theory
..... *Zhang Wenhong , Liu Fei & Xiang Jun* 27

Abstract: The enhancement of class identity is an important manifestation of the continuous promotion of common prosperity. In contrast to the previous study that emphasized the effect of relative deprivation, this paper integrates the direction, effect and radius of social comparison into a

“new social comparison theory” and explores the trend of the effect of upward and downward comparison with the radius of comparison. It finds that both upward and downward comparisons of individual economic status have significant effects on class identity, with the negative effect of upward comparisons stronger than the positive effect of downward comparisons; the contrast effect of two-way comparisons increases with the expansion of geographical range. These findings reveal the importance of curbing income disparity in improving people’s lower class identity and enhancing their sense of gain.

MONOGRAPHIC STUDIES

Sociological Research Methods

Computing Grounded Theory: A Quantitative Method to Develop Theories

..... *Chen Zhuo & Chen Yunsong* 50

Abstract: The inductive logic of grounded theory and the principle of avoiding theoretical preconceptions are significantly different from the deductive logic and hypothesis testing of traditional quantitative research. Based on a reflection on the limitations of theory production in quantitative research, this paper proposes a “Computing Grounded Theory (CGT)” approach that directly assists theories in a quantitative manner; With the help of machine learning and attribution algorithms, CGT identifies variables that have not been the focus of previous studies based on the predictive power of the independent variables in order to propose new theoretical hypotheses, following the principle that causality is a sufficient and unnecessary condition for predictability. This paper systematically discusses the basic idea, logical premise, and methodological foundation of CGT, while also providing an empirical example. The method bridges the gap in theoretical production of quantitative research and is of great value in theory, discipline, knowledge system and social governance.

“Native Soil” as a Method: Focusing on the Writings of Fei Xiaotong

..... *Chen Zhanjiang* 74

Abstract: In Fei Xiaotong’s writings, “native soil” is both an explicit existence as an object and an

implicit existence as a method. The former has received much attention, while the latter has yet to be elucidated. This article argues “native soil” as a method includes two levels: First, at the normative level, the Chinese civilization nurtured by “native soil” is used as the value benchmark to imagine and draw the ideal picture of the world “from the inside out”; second, at the empirical level, the “native soil” of villages, marketplaces and townships is used as a base of experience to observe and understand the reality of China from the bottom up. The “inside-out” and “bottom-up”: approaches are intertwined and together form an inner vision for understanding China.

Sociology of Labor

“Managerial Intermediary”: A Study of Intermediary Control in the Domestic Labor Market *Xiao Suowei, Chen Zongshi & Yang Yimeng* 96

Abstract: Through a case study of a large domestic service company in Beijing, this article explores the operational mechanisms of managerial intermediaries in domestic service market and factors contributing to their formation. As managerial intermediaries, domestic service companies exercise organizational control over workers with whom they maintain a market relationship. They achieve a central position in the labor market, shaping the market structure and intervening in labor supply and the labor process through three mechanisms: The institutional design of a “membership system”, the interest regulation of “manufacturing matches”, and the emotional integration of “building *niangjia* (natal family)”. The inherent characteristics of the domestic service sector and the external policy environment constitute important backgrounds for the operation of managerial domestic service intermediaries. By shedding light on the intermediary control mechanisms in a highly privatized and feminized informal labor market, this study contributes to the existing scholarship on social control in informal labor markets.

Relational Work and Value Production: An Analysis of the Labor Process of Bar Marketers *Huang Yanhua & Liu Zixi* 119

Abstract: Taking the bar industry as an example, this paper points out that in a consumption context where products are dematerialized, relational work becomes a key production link at the service of consumption. Faced with the openness and complexity of relationships, bar marketers

need to autonomously reinvent themselves and their life, form a gendered relationship work script, develop and maintain interpersonal relationships with consumers in daily life, and form their own social circles. Through team management and place setting, bar operators make different social circles interdependent and organize them into a social and leisure scene with “entertaining gendered interaction” and “differentiated same-sex circles”. The autonomy of marketers in everyday life is the source of labor value, but it also brings more profound experience of alienation. Moreover, the value of marketers’ relational work needs to be realized in the context of the interactive scenario organized by bars, which maximizes the benefits by shifting the focus of control to the consumption process.

PAPER

Social Spaces: From Georg Simmel to Erving Goffman *Liu Sida* 142

Abstract: This article examines the Chicago school of sociology’s approach to social spaces through the writings of George Simmel, Robert E. Park, and Erving Goffman. For Simmel and the Chicago school, social spaces exist on the basis of social interaction between actors, and social entities and structures are produced in those interactions. This theoretical tradition emphasizes the interdependence between physical and social spaces and has two important characteristics: endogeneity and temporality. It also highlights the connection between spaces and human emotions.

What Makes Schools Stratified? A Case Study of School Deployment in an Urban District *Shen Hongcheng* 160

Abstract: Based on the case of school deployment during the construction of new urban districts, this study explores the mechanism of school stratification. “High-level equalization” is a major goal for metropolitan educational development. However, the problem that educational resources among the working, wage and middle class groups are divided remained the same. In terms of educational resource allocation, the stratification of residential spatial pattern brings about the hierarchy of sources of students among schools, which collaborates with the school choice of families, further leads to the homogenization of students. In terms of curriculum knowledge systems, basic education in China is constructed around academic performance, which leads to the unification of curriculum

and evaluation, while the pedagogy remains differentiated. The mutual reinforcement between resource allocation and knowledge system leads to the stratification of schools.

From Production Centrality to Life Centrality: A Study on the Changing Work-Life Values of Chinese People from 1990 to 2018

..... *Wu Yuling & Sun Zhongwei* 182

Abstract: Based on the data of the World Values Survey from 1990 to 2018, this paper examines the trends of work-life values of the Chinese people in the past 30 years from the perspective of modernization theory and social transformation. The study shows that work-life values have generally experienced the development trend of production centrality becoming weaker and life centrality becoming stronger; work centrality values were strengthened in the 1990s and gradually weakened after entering the 21st century; family values weakened from 1990 to the early 2000s, and then returned to the center of people's lives; leisure values steadily increased with socioeconomic development. In addition, the disparities of the socioeconomic status were evident in Chinese people's work-life values, and the values are more related with individuals' life course rather than their cohort membership.

Five Views of the Digital in a Sociological Perspective *Liu Yuting* 205

Abstract: The concept of "digital" has become a key word in social development, but its reference is ambiguous and confusing, and its meaning is limited to technical conditions and tools. This paper distinguishes five views of the digital: technical digital, value digital, action digital, cultural digital and normative digital, and provides a sociological interpretation of the connotation of "digital". "Digital" can be used as a material basis for digital society, a symbolic value representation, a social mechanism for coordinating action, a fluid cultural context, and a set of normative social demands. Distinguishing five views of the digital helps to avoid the essentialist position of technological logic in favor of capturing an open social logic in the digital society. This article provides the necessary foundation for deepening digital studies while encouraging the idea of constructing a system of digital concepts.