

MARXIST SOCIOLOGY

Chinese Modernization: From Poverty Alleviation to Rural Revitalization

The Production of Confidence: Social Effects of Aspiration Encouragement Actions in Poverty Alleviation Campaign

..... *Zeng Yongming, Wu Qiong & Jiang Guohe* 1

Abstract: Taking the production of confidence as the starting point and based on the data of CFPS 2012 – 2020, this paper attempts to conduct an empirical analysis of the spiritual power produced by aspiration encouragement actions in poverty alleviation campaign. It finds that aspiration encouragement actions in poverty alleviation campaign not only have direct effects on impoverished groups, but also can spill over and enhance the confidence of non-impoverished groups. This effect is mainly achieved through three mechanisms: environmental improvement, group effects, and signal transmission. The study also indicates that for impoverished groups, the growth of confidence has not yet been fully translated into specific endogenous development capabilities. Therefore, in terms of consolidating the achievements of poverty alleviation and promoting the overall revitalization of rural areas, “supporting aspirations” and “supporting intelligence” are still the foundation. On top of it, we can further form and consolidate a path of rural revitalization based on endogenous development and the Chinese path to modernization.

How to Stabilize Agricultural Contracts? The Organizational Mechanism of Agricultural Industrialization in the Relationship Structure

..... *Zhang Jianlei* 23

Abstract: The contract model of “company + cooperative + peasant household” is not only a market transaction mechanism but also an organizational mechanism of agricultural industrialization

management. Starting from the “relational contract”, this paper reveals that as a non-hierarchical organizational control mechanism, institutionalized relationships and social networks have important impacts on the stability of agricultural contracts. A differentiated contract model has been formed between peasants’ households and agricultural industrialization organizations, which is influenced by the enterprise status under selective redistribution system, the village’s social relationship network, and the domestic labor division of peasants. The differentiated contract model is a localized organizational form of agricultural industrialization in China.

MONOGRAPHIC STUDIES

Intelligent Society Research

Agent-Based Modeling: Advancing Efforts in Action-Structure Mutual Construction Research *Lu Peng* 45

Abstract: The running of complex social system takes on the mutual construction of action and structure, which is a dual process with multiple levels. Current theoretical research provides subjective interpretations of the relationship between the two, but often cannot be supported by evidence of objective processes; quantitative research can objectively reveal changes of states and trends, but it is difficult to collect data on the linkage of action and structure. Agent-Based Modeling (ABM) can integrate the flexibility of theoretical research and the objectivity of quantitative research to advance the mutual construction research. It uses the mechanism design to simulate individual actions, uses the emergence concept to study the process “from action to structure”, and uses the learning tool to study the process “from structure to action”. ABM largely expands the knowledge boundaries of sociological studies through fitting real-world outcomes and inferencing counterfactual outcomes. ABM should combine theoretical research and quantitative methods to build a methodological ecology of computational sociology and to help form and develop a domestic academic community.

From Automation Technology to Generative AI: A Study of the Skill-based Heterogeneity of Technologies’ Impacts on Workers *Zhang Yongxue* 69

Abstract: This study focuses on the skill-based heterogeneous impacts of technologies on workers during the transition from physical automation to cognitive automation. The findings reveal that cognitive skills are a critical factor influencing the extent of technological impacts on workers.

Analyzing from both technological substitution and technological control perspectives, this paper finds that the substitution effects on both high-skilled and low-skilled workers are limited. High-skilled workers are not significantly affected by technological control, whereas low-skilled workers experience stronger technological control. Comparing the automation technology and AI large language models, this paper finds that the former primarily impacts the secondary sector, while the latter predominantly affects the tertiary sector. Furthermore, AI large language models mainly impact women, young people, professional skilled workers, and upper-class individuals. In the context of a new technological revolution led by AI, analyzing and exploring the impacts of technology hold significant theoretical and practical implications.

Platform Economy Research

How to Form the Platform-Local Market in the Decentralized Mobility of E-commerce Operators? A Study Based on the Transformation of the Yiwu Market

..... *Xiong Wansheng & Yan Ziyong* 92

Abstract: Taking the transformation of Yiwu market as an example, this paper reveals an organization form of the platform-local market that reflects the symbiotic relationships between platform sales and local operations and between central agglomeration and decentralized mobility. Live streaming e-commerce integrates the market network and interpersonal network with the help of social media, which leads to the urgent need of platform sales for instant supply and flow manufacturing. Local operators create a “goods-finding-people system” to control uncertainty through the local interactions of knowledge production, institutional environment and entrepreneurial culture, attracting operators to gather. The operation of the platform-local market further strengthens the market’s space of flows. Individual operators decentralize under external pull and internal push and then promote the reproduction of the platform-local market through the information return and market push. Based on embeddedness theory, this paper deepens the understanding of market transformation in the context of digital economy.

People Who Are Woven in the Web: Labor Spatial Practices Constructed by Mobile Navigational Maps *Xu Jing & Wang Jinghan* 114

Abstract: In a mediatized society, the spatial-temporal conceptions of humans are highly correlated with technological media, and the connotation and extension of labor and labor processes change accordingly. This study focuses on the nested set of relationships between the platform’s built-in

mobile navigation maps and online taxi drivers labor processes, paying attention to the spatial practices and spatial-temporal cognition produced by the relationships. Under the collusion between the platform and the mobile navigation map, the drivers' spatial practices are characterized by the embodiment of labor, the spatialization of time, and the spatial flattening in the labor space of the platform, the digital space of the navigation map, and the physical space of the city. The digitally intermediated urban space and spatial practices can hardly construct a stable "sense of place".

PAPER

“*Chaxu Geju*”: The Construction of an Ideal Type as an Organizing Mechanism
 *Zhou Xueguang* 136

Abstract: Sociologist Fei Xiaotong (1992) developed the concept of *Chaxu Geju* – “the differential mode of association” – to depict a distinctive mode of social relationship in Chinese society. In this study, I reconstruct this concept into a sociological ideal type, with the analytical strength for interpreting and analyzing a distinctive organizing mechanism in Chinese culture. I propose that *Chaxu Geju* consists of three key elements: self-centered, identity-based, and differential treatment of others. I argue that *chaxugeju* is rooted in the traditional kinship institutions and extended to other areas in the form of generalized kinship relationships. It provides important cultural resources to dealing with interpersonal relationships in, and the organization of, Chinese Society. As an ideal type, *Chaxu Geju* is closely related to, and distinguished from, other key sociological concepts such as bureaucracy, bureaucratic patrimony, and family-nation isomorphism. As a result, *Chaxu Geju* provides an important analytical concept in comparative organizational and institutional analysis.

Trends, Sources and Driving Mechanisms of Household Wealth Inequality in China
 (2010 – 2020) *Liu Jiankun & He Xiaobin* 158

Abstract: Wealth inequality has become a significant economic and social issue beyond income inequality. However, there is a lack of systematic research on wealth inequality among Chinese households. Using data from the China Family Panel Studies, this study examines the trajectory of household wealth inequality in China and further explores the asset sources and driving mechanisms of wealth inequality. The study finds that household wealth inequality maintained a high level, but there was a general downward trend in wealth inequality between 2010 and 2020. Regarding the asset types that make up household wealth, inequality in housing assets was the main source of

household wealth inequality, whose role was gradually diminishing, whereas inequality in financial assets was increasing. Regarding the driving mechanisms, income and debt generated through asset investment could accelerate wealth accumulation. However, high-class households had a greater capacity to accumulate wealth, thus creating an unequal distribution of household wealth.

Marketization of Healthcare Services and Trust of Patients: An Analysis Based on the Private Hospitals' Development Stage Among Different Provinces

..... *Chi Shangxin & Zhang Yunliang* 181

Abstract: Previous studies have failed to provide a definitive answer on whether the marketization of healthcare will improve or deteriorate the relationship between doctors and patients. Based on the perspective of increasing the organizational density of competitors, this study uses the data of Chinese Social Survey to examine how development levels of private hospitals impact patient trust. The study reveals that the relationship between the development of private hospitals and patient trust in each province shows a “U-shaped” effect. This means that when the development level of private hospitals in a province is low, it tends to weaken patient trust; however, once it reaches a high level, it will enhance patient trust. In addition, at the stage of high development level of private hospitals in various provinces, they positively impact on patient trust through the mechanism of improving the quality of medical services and reducing overall healthcare costs. In summary, this study examines the “catfish effect” of private hospital development and provides a new perspective for the institutionalist explanation of doctor-patient trust.

REVIEW

Research Progress on the Sociology of Climate Change and Its Significance in China

..... *Song Guokai* 204

Abstract: Global climate change and related actions have profound impacts on human behaviors, social structures and social processes. Accordingly, the sociology of climate change emerged. It studies the mechanisms of the interactions between climate change and society and has made important progress. At present, the sociological studies of climate change mainly focus on five topics: the role of social sciences in climate change research, adaptation and mitigation, climate change inequality, global climate governance, and methodology innovation. This paper teases out the sociology of climate change in China and points out the opportunities and challenges of this discipline. As a discipline with infinite prospects, the sociology of climate change needs to be further developed.