MARXIST SOCIOLOGY

Research on Digital-Intelligent Society

Abstract：The widespread application of new technologies such as big data and artificial intelligence is propelling human society into the digital era. Chinese modernization represents a "parallel-track" process of overlapping development，where multiple social forms coexist contemporaneously within China. This manifests distinctive characteristics：highly compressed time，synthetically integrated practices，highly resonant risks，and rapid institutional-cultural flux. Against this backdrop， examining the core integrative value of "new publicness" in contemporary Chinese society， understanding relational dynamics among pluralistic actors in digital society，grasping its unique attributes，and deciphering social integration logics amidst interwoven social formations become crucial. This analytical endeavor is vital for advancing Chinese modernization on the new journey， while simultaneously highlighting the urgency of epistemological renewal in Chinese sociology. Responding to the imperative of constructing Chinese autonomous knowledge system，this paper proposes to practice the sociological methodological path of "seeking knowledge from reality" (*congshiqiuzhi*) proposed by Fei Xiaotong in advancing with the times. It thereby explores theoretical paradigm innovation for sociology with Chinese characteristics and address epochal challenges in China's societal development.

Abstract：Applying an ecological perspective to understand digitalization has become widely recognized in numerous studies and practices. However，understanding of the digital ecology

remains diverse and ambiguous, with the use of the ecological concept often being metaphorical. Through a review and analysis of related concepts and terminology, this paper constructs the concept of digital ecology by adapting fundamental ecology principles from four dimensions: relevant elements, actors, interconnections-interactions-interdependencies, evolutionary processes. It posits that digital ecology, which interacts with natural and social ecological systems, maintains relative independence. It is a holistic, dynamic system characterized by multiple levels, structures and forms, shaped by the interconnection and interaction of mulitiple entities and interrelated elements, which depend on, copperate with and conflict with one another. Constructing a balanced and prosperous digital ecological system is crucial to the prospects of China's development and the collective progress of humanity.

MONOGRAPHIC STUDIES

Technology Application and Organizational Transformation

The End of Departments: Technological Substitution and Task Transformation

Abstract: Since the 18th CPC National Congress, the Party and government institutional reforms have adopted overarching approach centered on the larger government departments, leading to the consolidation or abolition of many functional departments. Explaining "the end of departments" is an important issue in organizational studies. Taking the organizational transformation in migrant population management in Guangzhou over the past four decades as a case study, this paper comprehensively traces the trajectory of local government departments in this field from their emergence and institutionalization to their eventual consolidation. An innovative analytical framework is developed along the dimensions of technology and tasks. The study reveals that as governance tasks shift from regulation to service provision, the logic of efficient completion of specific tasks supersedes departmental logic. Supported by interactive big data platforms and Apps, comprehensive platform-based organizations emerge. Functional departments responsible for singular service tasks face the potential for abolition or consolidation.

Dividend Disparities and Organizational Disorder: A Study on Grassroots Smart Justice from the Perspective of Technology-Organization Co-construction

Abstract: The phenomenon of organizational disorder following technological adoption warrants

closer attention and explanation. Research reveals that the realization and distribution of technological dividends within organizations may be subject to variation due to the mutual construction between technology and organizational structures. This results in efficiency divergence and coordination failures among different functional departments, thereby triggering systemic risk of organizational disorder. Taking grassroots smart justice as an example, compared to other departments, enforcement departments—due to their operational specificities and bureaucratic positioning—experience less technological empowerment. This not only exacerbates the "more cases, fewer personnel" dilemma, but also traps them in a performativist pitfall of "trading quality for efficiency", thereby facing significant petition risks. The "dividend disparity-efficiency divergence" analytical framework preposed in this paper contributes to understanding the positive interaction mechanism between technology and organization.

Gender Perspectives on Work, Family, and Fertility

Abstract: From the relational perspective, this article discusses why female scholars in the New China generation experienced work-family interpenetration and achieved career development. Rooted in a debt of gratitude relationship (*En-yi*) between individual and nation, these scholars embraced an ethical commitment to national missions and their work value became familial consensus. Their "comrade-spouse" conjugal relationship—built upon equivalent social personhood—fostered reciprocal flows of gratitude and obligation, while their exemplary mothering integrated work ethics with familial duties, propelling their scholarly dedication. These female scholars reconfigured women's social roles as bearers of national and familial duties, and pioneered a dual-career familial ethos centered on conjugal relationships.

Abstract: Studies focusing solely on female fertility offer an incomplete picture of overall reproductive dynamics. Using China Family Panel Studies (CFPS) data, this paper systematically examines fertility rates, the evolution of age-specific fertility patterns, and their gender differences. The findings reveal that after the concentrated fertility among women aged 30 ~ 39 rapidly subsided, and with delayed marriage and childbearing as well as continued declines in fertility rates among the core reproductive group aged 20 ~ 29, the total fertility rate has reached a new historic low.

Influenced by the interplay of factors such as age gaps at marriage, gender imbalances, and shrinking cohort sizes, male fertility rates are consistently lower than female rates, with later and more dispersed fertility peaks. These differences are evident in both period and cohort analyses. This study reveals distinct gendered and age-related fertility patterns, expands the research perspective beyond a female-centric approach, and provides theoretical support for comprehensive fertility policies for both men and women across the life course.

PAPER

Abstract：The sociological connotation of Yan Fu's "*qunxue*" manifests as a basic principle of the mutual interaction and construction, and the aggregation and dispersion, of "*min*" (individual) and "*qun*" (society). Specifically, on the one hand, from the Western learning perspective, Yan Fu sought to reconfigure national character and social order by constructing "new mores" (*xin minde*); on the other hand, from the Chinese tradition, he adapted "old rites" (*jiu lizhi*) to cultivate civic disposition and sustain social cohesion. Overall, his "*qunxue*" embodies a moral sociological approach to human nature formation and social evolution. Moreover, Yan Fu sought national reconstruction, national development, and cultural consciousness through a sociological methodology integrating "the co-constitution of *min* and *qun*", "translation instead of creation", and "Sino-Western synthesis".

Abstract：Integrated urban-rural development necessitates the establishment of compatible institutional mechanisms and policy systems. Based on the policy practice of clustered development in W Area of Q County, Zhejiang Province, this paper focuses on the institutional innovation of "Administrative Unit for Integrated Urban-Rural Development" at the town-scale, and examines the underlying mechanism-driven social policy manifested as "attracting people to relocate" and "directing resources to people" policy. It includes the policy enabling the creation of new administrative unit for integrated urban-rural development, the policy enabling the regional coordination and fluid allocation of resources, and the policy enabling the mutual transformation of economic and social development outcomes. This paper summarizes such policies, measures and

approaches- which reshape the pattern of urban-rural resource allocation and the coordination level of economic and social policies-as "Regional Development Social Policy". This framework offers insights for promoting integrated urban-rural development across larger regional scales.

Abstract: How can counties with scarce resource endowments and poor transportation locations form distinctive industrial clusters? This study examines the longitudinal case of regenerated lead industry development in County B, revealing that county-level industrial clusters emerge through the continuous expansion and nesting of transaction networks, policy networks, and industry networks gradually intergrating into a collaborative network. Embedded within this network, government and business actors overcome resource constraints by gaining access to critical assets, such as development capital, policy trends, and industry information at low cost. Furthermore, the key positions of actors within the collaborative network empower them with the capabilities. Through agentic outward expansion of relationships, these actors reciprocally reshape the collaborative network itself.

Abstract: Based on ethnographic fieldwork conducted at W Hospital in Province A, this paper identifies the phenomenon of cross-boundary diagnosis and treatment in prefecture-level hospitals, resulting from the mismatch between knowledge and organizational boundaries. Horizontally, crossing knowledge boundaries stems from diagnostic struggles, where boundary work and intra-hospital patient-source collaboration reinforce the ambiguity of knowledge boundaries. Vertically, crossing organizational boundaries is rooted in the production of homogeneous organizational structures, shaped by jurisdictional competition among sub-specialty wards and networks of patient-source exchange both within and outside the hospital. While cross-boundary diagnosis and treatment enhance the hospital's revenue-generating capacity, they also exacerbate medical risks and patient healthcare costs. From the perspective of the sociology of professions, this paper reveals that the generative mechanism of the dynamic changes in diagnostic boundaries, offering insights for optimizing the allocation of medical resources and the order of diagnosis and treatment.