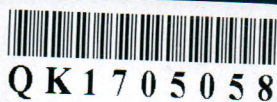


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SOCIOLOGICAL STUDIES
S 社会学研究

2017

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SHEHUIXUE YANJIU

MARXIST SOCIOLOGY

Disciplinary Development of Marxist Sociology

Taking Environmental Sociology to Action: From the Perspective of
Reflexive Sociology Chen Zhanjiang 1

Abstract: From the perspective of reflexive sociology, this paper explores the values, disciplinary characteristics, research ethics and methodological orientation of environmental sociology. The discussion is organized by the questions of “what environmental sociology is” and “environmental sociology for what”. As a branch of sociology, environmental sociology takes environmental justice as its value, and practicality as its fundamental character. However, the manifestation of environmental justice and practicality is hampered by the premise of subject-object dichotomy in ontology and epistemology. The internal and external legitimacy crisis of environmental sociology ensues. Therefore, the way to reconstruct the internal and external legitimacy of environmental sociology is to seek for research methods that can achieve the goals, express the concern and manifest the characteristics of environmental sociology at the level of practice. Action research, founded on principles of justice and progress, and premised on inter-subjectivity, makes it possible to overcome the legitimacy crisis.

The Outline of Agricultural Sociology: Theories, Framework and Prospects
..... Xiong Chunwen 23

Abstract: During the 1970s, the rise of agricultural sociology in the West originated from the crisis of rural sociology. During the process of agricultural and rural modernization, the groundbreaking agricultural sociology has specific significance to China. This paper traces the theoretical traditions in agricultural sociology, and constructs the basic framework of this discipline, including its main content and core issues. Agricultural

sociology can contribute to the Chinese sociology and agricultural sociology at a global scale through communicating with other disciplines, as well as taking an active role in shaping the agricultural civilization, the national economy and people's livelihood.

MONOGRAPHIC STUDY

Social Transformation and Elitist Education

Changes in the Social and Geographical Origins of China's Educated Elites (1865 – 2014)

..... *Liang Chen, Dong Hao, Ren Yunzhu & James Z. Lee* 48

Abstract:In the last thirty years, Western scholars from Bourdieu (1989/1998) to Karabel(2006) have gone to great length to document how in France and the United States, national social and economic elites monopolize elite higher education. In China, in contrast, a system of elite examinations admits students from different social backgrounds. This paper uses a Big Historical Dataset that includes most imperial degree holders, the majority of Republican university students, and all undergraduate students from selected elite PRC universities to document how alterations in the examination system during the last 150 years have changed the social origins of successful degree candidates during four distinct periods: 1865 – 1905, 1906 – 1952, 1953 – 2003, and 2004 – 2014. Our results suggest that while elite higher education largely reproduces social and economic elites elsewhere in the world, in China the elite higher education is more independent and in fact produces new elites who contribute to a process of continuous transformation of the Chinese society.

Threshold Dependent Inequality Caused by Education Expansion: The Case of National College Entrance Examination *Li Dai* 71

Abstract:Based upon National College Entrance Examination data of an undisclosed province in an undisclosed year, this research uses the method of computation and simulation to examine the relation between higher education expansion and education inequality among geographical areas. It finds that under the assumption that the expansion is external and without interaction with persons, education expansion causes inequality to rise before falling. That is, expansion starting at a higher threshold causes

inequality to rise especially among elite institutes, and expansion starting at a lower threshold causes inequality to fall. This theory is referred to as the “Threshold Dependent Inequality” theory in this paper.

PAPER

Economic Growth and Subjective Well-being: Analyzing the Formative Mechanism of Easterlin Paradox *Li Lulu & Shi Lei* 95

Abstract: Using the 2010 Chinese General Social Survey (CGSS) data, we analyze the formative mechanism of Easterlin Paradox in China. By establishing an analytical framework consisting of three basic variables which include macroeconomic growth, demand shift of residents and increasing social inequality, we reveal the interaction among multiple variables and between macro- and micro-mechanisms in the formation of the residents’ subjective well-being, thus showing how Easterlin Paradox is formed in China. We find that as the economy grows, residents’ subjective well-being shifts from needs for basic survival to that of development and enjoyment, which reduces the rewards brought by the increase in personal wealth. What’s more, the aggravating social inequality introduces relative deprivation, eliminating happiness brought by economic development. As a result, the subjective well-being does not rise noticeably in accordance with the rapid growth of economy, but comes to a relative standstill.

The Downward Movement: Changes of Migrant Workers’ Socio-economic Status during 2006 – 2015 *Tian Feng* 121

Abstract: Data from the National Bureau of Statistics show that the labor market of China is facing labor supply inflexion, especially in terms of the migrant workers. The migrant workers constitute a marginalized group in urban China, although their education level has improved substantially and their absolute income continues to increase. By using the age-period-cohort models, this article analyzes the changes in socio-economic status and subjective social status of migrant workers from 2006 to 2015. This research finds that the supply inflexion and education structure improvement do not increase the relative income or subjective social status of the migrant workers, who seem to be going through a “downward movement”. Therefore, this paper argues that it is difficult to improve the socio-economic status of migrant workers by relying solely on the

spontaneous power of the market. The government should reflect on the design and implementation of relevant social policies.

The Complexity of Policy and National Governance: The Case of Poverty Alleviation in China *Lu Fang & Mei Lin* 144

Abstract: The choice of governance structure is determined by the characteristics of the governed. In the complex policy, characterized by multi-purposes, a claim for flexibility, and sensibility to environmental divergence, is more efficient for empowering the lower-level government. The needs of the targeted group can be better responded to. At the same time, it may cause “moral hazards” and the behavior of the local government needs to be better guided and regulated. Besides the common practice of aim-setting and supervision, the central government promulgates policy guidelines to regulate the activities of local governments. Meanwhile, local governments are encouraged to “translate” the policy guidelines into practical activities that respond to local needs. The collaboration between central and local governments are essential to bridging the gap between state control and local flexibility.

The Key to Success of Technology Application: An Explanation from the Intra-organizational Legitimacy Perspective *Ren Min* 169

Abstract: This paper constructs an intra-organizational legitimacy analysis framework to reveal the conditional mechanism of technology application at the organization level. The retrospection of a nine-year application process of ERP in a state-owned enterprise shows how a new technology’s performance fluctuation correlates with its intra-organizational legitimacy changes, composed of performance legitimacy, task legitimacy and value legitimacy. This research indicates that gaining sufficient legitimacy is one necessity for the success of technology application. Basically, performance legitimacy determines how far technologies can be transferred into the corporate sector. When a new technology application starts with performance uncertainty, it is the task legitimacy that ensures the organizational resource supplies, which serve to initiate and accelerate the technology application. Value legitimacy, on the other hand, ensures the informal resources input, which preserves the technology in crisis for future possible reuse and advance the application.

Do Deep Pockets Have More Political Influence? —— The Size of Private Enterprises and Their Strategy Selection in Resolving Administrative Disputes *Ji Yingying & Fan Xiaoguang* 193

Abstract; Based on statistical analyses of data from the China Private Enterprise Survey (2006), this article reveals the function of the economic capital of the private enterprise on the differentiated government-business relationship. When resolving disputes with the government, private enterprises with more economic capital are more likely to directly contact the government agency, displaying greater political privileges. Private enterprises with middle-range economic capital, on the other hand, show higher preference to take advantage of business associations or particularistic relationships. However, instead of economic capital, it is the Communist Party membership of private entrepreneurs that influences their confrontational strategies. There is also regional variation on the selection of strategies. This article casts doubt on the possibility of the class formation of capitalists in China. Under the specific context of the Chinese society, the path from economic power to political power in China is shaped by the emerging characteristics of the economic sector.

The Great Rats Massacre: Exercise of Bio-order and the Social Performance of Epidemic Campaign in Inner Mongolia (1949 – 1952)
..... *Alatan* 216

Abstract; During the early years since the founding of PRC, the state epidemic prevention force reached the rural society and initiated campaigns against contagious diseases. On the one hand, it effectively controlled the diseases, such as plague, cholera, and smallpox. On the other hand, the campaigns completely re-organized the rural daily life, mobilizing the rural society through medical-political social movements. The case of anti-plague campaign in the Inner Mongolia brought medical, epidemical and political resources together into a constantly escalating social mobilization. It eventually constituted the specific local context that leads to the “anti-bacteria warfare”. By tracing the history of the campaign, this article shows how a state-wide movement was implemented as an exercise of bio-order, and how it escalated and turned into a social performance in the rural society.

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