

***MARXIST SOCIOLOGY***

Institutional Advantages and Governance Effectiveness: Organizational Mobilization in Poverty Alleviation ..... *Fu Ping & Lu Fei* 1

**Abstract:** From a perspective of organizational mobilization, this article reveals the process and mechanism of transforming China’s institutional advantages into governance effectiveness by describing and analyzing the institutions, processes, strategies and tactics. It argues that the organizational mobilization with clear differentiation and gradual stratification enables a functionally complementary relationship within Party and government institutions, and among the state, the market, and the society with respect to the structure of governance, and leads to the coupling of monocentric administrative power and plural administrative units. The multi-layered mechanisms of organizational mobilization have reshaped the central-local relations, the internal power relations at the grassroot level, and the relations between grassroot political power and the rural society, while the dual innovation in governance structure and administrative mechanism has activated the state capacity and social potential in poverty alleviation. Together, they have laid a solid foundation for improving governance effectiveness.

***MONOGRAPHIC STUDIES***

Land System and Urbanization with Chinese Characteristics

From Ideal to Reality: The Formation and Dilemma of “Price Increment Belonging to the Public” ..... *Guo Liang* 23

**Abstract:** The institutional arrangement of monopolizing price increment of rural land by local government is considered as a realization of “price increment belonging to the public”. However, this article argues that the current land system is not in line with the general form of the system, and some of its characteristics similar to this institution are just unexpected accidents in the implementation of cultivated land protection and urbanization development strategy. Moreover, the institution is highly unstable because of the game between the central and local governments, and the conflict within the legal system. Once the institution is supported by the discourse of “price increment belonging to the public”, the new system reform of rights-based institutional construction will face the dilemma of legitimacy. As a kind of theory and public imagination, the continuous existence of the discourse of “price increment belonging to the public” shows the complexity of the transformation of China’s land system.

The Planning Narrative of Place Identity: The Urbanization of a Rural Town

..... *Li Alin* 47

**Abstract:** This article summarizes the three roles and functions urban planning played in state-led urbanization. Drawing primarily on a case study of Township B, this article elaborates on planning as the manifest technique of future arrangement and territorial governance and as the latent function of identity narrative. Since place identity entails power and resources necessary for development, Township B has employed planning and its four features to carry out identity narrative, securing the recognition of government of higher levels, the market, and the society, thereby overcoming challenges such as state regulation over land for construction, lack of construction fund and peasants’ protests. As a result, it successfully achieved urbanization. Planning as identity narrative therefore has become a tool of power used by local government to pursue development. Integrating relevant researches in sociology, geography and urban planning, this article points out that employing urban planning to carry out identity narrative has become an important strategy in the scaling process and scalar politics.

Control and Legitimacy: Understanding the Logic and Mechanism of Party Branch Building in Chinese Private Enterprises

..... *Zhu Bin, Miao Dalei & Wang Xiuxiao* 71

**Abstract:** In order to further strengthen the function of non-public economy, the Party and the state have worked hard to build party branches within the private sector over the last decade. Our analysis suggests that there are mainly two mechanisms driving private enterprises' engagement of party branch building. First, driven by the control logic, enterprises with a single decision-maker or family enterprises normally value internal control, thus are less likely to build party branches; those who depend more heavily on government resources are more likely to build party branches. Second, under the logic of legitimacy, with the increasing dissemination of party branches, enterprises gradually become more similar with each other. This organizational isomorphism is a result of vigorous push from the state, as well as a reshaped cognitive frame and willingness to cooperate as the private entrepreneurs' effort to adapt to the environment.

State Capacity in Understanding Industrial Activities: A Comparative Study Based on China's Railway Locomotive and Automobile Industries

..... *Feng Kaidong, Jiang Ziyang & Zhao Tingting* 91

**Abstract:** This article adopts an information perspective to develop the definition of the "state capacity for understanding industry", i. e., the capacity of the state to construct its understanding of industrial activity by drawing information from industry through specific structures. This capacity provides the knowledge base for the state to develop effective national policies. The long-term viability of the state's administrative structures in a given industry and its ability to achieve effective coverage of industrial functions are key to this question. This article examines its argument by comparing the Chinese railway locomotive and automobile industries during 1949 – 2005. Thereby

this article traces the focus on state capacity from policy formulation and implementation to the information base of policy decisions, and offers a new perspective for related research.

## **PAPER**

**From Income to Wealth: Class Identification and Its Change in Urban China—A Temporal Trend Analysis on Shanghai from 1991 to 2013** ..... *Li Jun* 114

**Abstract:** Class identification, or subjective social status, has been a popular topic in sociological studies in recent years, but long-term trend analysis is scarce. Using a unique data set collected in Shanghai from 1991 to 2013, this research shows the periodical change of Chinese urban citizens' class identification and its determinants. In the mid-1990s, people evaluated their status only by income, whereas at the beginning of 21st century, other two indicators of stratification, i. e., education and occupation, also started to play a significant role. However, the most recent decade witnessed a new turn to emphasizing once again one's wealth, including income and housing. Meanwhile, the average of citizens' subjective status declined in the examined two decades. Such a temporal change is determined by social transition characteristics. The expansion of wealth inequality has deeply affected people's subjective evaluations.

**Managing Legitimacy: Legal Action of Urban Local Government** ..... *Zhu Tao* 137

**Abstract:** Based on the classification framework of China's grassroots rule of law, this article follows the research tradition of sociology of law and treats the urban local government as the focal point of utilizing legal resources. Taking the governance of the "residential to commercial" issue as a case study, this article elaborates the process and mechanism of government legal action using the concept of "managing legitimacy". This research perspective is different from "social resistance", and improves the "state (government)" orientation. Furthermore, this article divides "managing

legitimacy” into three dimensions. The differences of actors’ behaviors lead to different patterns of legal actions and reflect the legitimacy in action.

**Between Trust and Distrust: An Empirical Analysis of Citizen’s Abnormal Trust in Doctors** ..... *Niu Guanzhao & Liu Junqiang* 157

**Abstract:** Trust is a necessity for healthy doctor-patient relationship. This article analyzes the “abnormal” trust of the public in doctors: the public has a high overall trust in doctors, but lack trust in their medical skills and professional ethics. How to explain the coexistence of high and low levels of trust? We find that the professional trust of doctors in China mainly comes from the public’s recognition of the national medical system. Medical skills and professional ethics have a shaping effect on trust in doctors, but institutional trust has a strong substitution effect on its shaping power. A trust contrast between the abstract level and the concrete level is more likely to exist, as people give more recognition to the medical system. Through the discussion of the relationship between profession and state, this article helps to understand the formative mechanism of the complex doctor-patient relationship.

**Contextual Change and Social Adaptation of Elderly Migrants in China** ..... *Yang Juhua* 180

**Abstract:** Drawing on the conceptual framework proposed by Henry Lefebvre, and highlighting the intersection and interplay of “population aging” and “geographic mobility”, this paper explores social adaptation of elderly migrants in China. Analytic findings from empirical data depict that elderly migrants display a pattern of “high level of psychological belonging, medium level of behavioral adaptation, low level of cultural adjustment to the host society”, i. e., strong sense of identification to the receiving society, but insufficient behavioral adaptation and even more difficult in cultural integration. The more transferrable and accessible social space and psychological space

are, the higher the adaptation level will be. While geographic mobility has broken the physical boundary of space, the institutional and social boundaries have not been reconstructed, which presents tremendous tensions for adaptation. Blurring institutional and social boundaries and enhancing the availability of psychological and spiritual space are key initiatives to effectively promote the social adaptation of elderly migrants.

## How Does “Shooting for the Stars” Come True? —From the Perspective of Consistency and Difference of Parent-Child Educational Expectation

..... *Li Jiali & Hu Yongmei* 204

**Abstract:** Based on the social cognitive theory and social capital theory, this study explores the mechanism of students’ educational expectation in the process of successfully “shooting for the stars”. The findings can be summarized as follows: Firstly, students’ self- expectation plays a key role in making “shooting for the stars” come true. Students’ educational expectation not only mediated the effect of family backgrounds on students’ academic performance, but also mediated the influence of parents’ educational expectation on students’ academic performance. Secondly, when parents and children share the high educational expectations, family social capital, such as frequent parent-child communication and parent-child companionship, can significantly mediate the effect of parent-child expectations on students’ academic performance. Thirdly, the positive influence of high educational expectation will be weakened due to the lack of family social capital caused by parents’ low educational expectation, or the family social capital could not be effectively transmitted because of children’s low educational expectation, when parents’ and children’s educational expectations are different.