

Exploration on the Development of Chinese Women's Rights and Interests from the Perspective of Equality of Men and Women

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ABSTRACT

In China, the contents related to equality of men and women are clearly stated in basic national policy. All sectors of society pay more attention to the protection of the rights and interests of vulnerable women groups. Government departments have also invested capital and human resources to actively promote the survival and development of rural women, help impoverished women get rid of poverty, and provide assistance for women's personal physical and mental development. Based on the protection and development of women's rights and interests in China, this study adopts a variety of research methods to explore the problems existing in the development of parental rights and interests and measures to effectively promote the national policy of equality of men and women in China, in order to promote the development of women's rights and interests in China.

Keywords: *Gender equality, Women's rights and interests, Policy recommendations.*

1. INTRODUCTION

In 1995, Chinese government explicitly mentioned equality of men and women in its basic national policy, which not only brought a positive impact on the advancement of the women's movement in China, but also contributed to the development of women's groups themselves. Subsequently, China further clarified the importance of equality of men and women as a basic national policy in national policies, local systems, and regulations. Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, people from all walks of life have paid more attention to the protection of the rights and interests of disadvantaged women. Government departments have also invested capital and human resources to actively promote the survival and development of rural women, and have provided assistance for women's personal physical and mental development at the same time. However, due to some factors, China also has some deficiencies in the development of women's rights and interests. Considering the protection and development of women's rights and interests in China, this study explores the problems existing in the development

of parental rights and interests in China and measures to effectively promote the equality of men and women in China with the use of a variety of research methods, so as to promote the development of women's rights and interests in China.

2. THE CURRENT DEVELOPMENT STATUS OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND INTERESTS IN CHINA

2.1 *Protection of Women's Rights and Interests in Land*

At the legislative level, China clearly states that men and women have the same rights and interests at the level of land rights and interests, such as the right of occupancy and use. However, in the process of land contracting and management in many rural areas, there is only the name of the head of household on the land certificate [1]. For a long time, according to the rural rules and regulations, it is generally believed that the male is the head of household, meaning that rural women have certain practical problems in the protection of their own land rights and interests. In recent years, China has

successively issued a number of regulations to gradually promote the protection of rural women's land rights and interests, but the effectiveness of work in some rural areas is not obvious [2]. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure the effective protection of rural women's corresponding land rights and interests in the later stage through targeted documents.

First of all, it is necessary to make it clear that women can be the subject of the registration and issuance of land rights and interests, that is, women's names must be listed in the "co-owners" column of the land contracting and management rights related to property rights certificates and registers, so as to ensure that the wife and husband can jointly become the representatives of the peasant household. On the one hand, it can protect women's land rights; on the other hand, it contributes to the harmonious and stable development of rural society. Second, the competent departments of local governments need to clarify the rights and interests of married women, divorced women and widowed women, and make corresponding protection for their land rights and interests[3]. For example, the management documents related to rural collective economic organizations issued by Kenli District stipulate how to determine the membership of married, widowed and divorced women, so as to ensure that these women can obtain their due rights and interests. Third, it is required to pay attention to the protection of women's rights and interests such as the right to know and the right to participate, and effectively popularize and guarantee their decision-making rights. Fujian Provincial Women's Federation and the Department of Agriculture have issued regulations on the protection of women's rights and interests in the process of registration and transfer of rural land contracting rights. In relevant documents, it is pointed out that when the land in rural areas is leased, mortgaged or transferred externally, the corresponding operation can take effect only after both the husband and wife of the peasant household have signed.

2.2 Implementing the Assistance for Women to Get Rid of Poverty

Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the Chinese government have paid attention to help women groups get rid of poverty from the legislative level, improve the production and living environment of poor women by promulgating a number of systems,

and help poor women groups to improve their income by means of manual poverty alleviation and financial poverty alleviation. First, it is suggested to support the poor women from the system level. According to the statistics, most of the poor women in China are in rural areas. Therefore, it is necessary to introduce corresponding systems to help the poor women in rural areas. In 2013, Chinese government made a statement in the relevant documents on rural poverty alleviation and development, "it is suggested to strengthen poverty alleviation and assistance for rural vulnerable groups, such as women and improve the effect of assistance through innovative mechanisms." According to the special policy provisions of poverty alleviation, the poor women in rural areas are also regarded as a special group, and the policy preference should be given to this group. Second, with the passage of time and the advancement of new urbanization, the number of stay-at-home women and women who lost land in rural areas has been increasing. At the same time, some women choose to work in cities. When China provides assistance to poor women with rural registered residence, it is suggested to improve the targeted assistance through the development of manual poverty alleviation, so as to bring a positive impact on women's employment[4]. Third, it is required to expand the coverage of financial poverty alleviation services and provide financial support such as petty loan to rural women to help them get rid of poverty. Xuzhou Women's Federation and local commercial banks jointly launched petty loans for women, such as "women's entrepreneurship loan", which can not only stimulate women's enthusiasm for entrepreneurship and employment, but also create conditions for women to get rid of poverty. In this process, the women's federation needs to give play to its grassroots work advantages and actively publicize the policies and business contents.

2.3 Vigorously Promoting Women's Participation in Village Self-governance

After entering the new century, China has issued a number of laws and policies to ensure that women can participate in villager autonomy in rural society. In the related work in the later stage, it is necessary to further clarify the policy objectives and form more implementable supporting regulations. With reference to the relevant provisions of the village group law and on the basis of the actual villagers' autonomy in various localities, the Ministry of Civil Affairs has formed a

procedural document related to the election of village committees, stating that women can obtain villagers' autonomy rights and interests in this work[5]. In addition, it is also necessary to enhance the ability of rural women to participate in villagers' autonomy through training and publicity, and promote their awareness of political participation.

3. PROBLEMS EXISTING IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND INTERESTS IN CHINA

In recent years, China has made remarkable achievements in the promotion of the idea and policy on equality of men and women. However, from the perspective of future development, it is still necessary to further promote the development of women and ensure that the rights and interests of women are protected.

3.1 The Well-off Society and the Current Situation of Women's Rights and Interests Are Not Coordinated

In the construction of a well-off society, the equal and harmonious development of men and women is a major feature. In the process of the construction of spiritual civilization, it is necessary to focus on the implementation of the equality of men and women to ensure that women can effectively exercise their democratic rights in their survival and development. However, there is still a gap between the protection of women's rights and interests and the actual needs of a well-off society.

First of all, the development of women does not meet the needs of building a well-off society. Although the awareness of women's participation in politics has gradually awakened and the environment for women's participation in politics has changed in recent years, the progress of women's participation in politics is still very slow from the overall perspective, and the results of participation in politics are still far from the requirements of a well-off society. Second, in the process of industrial development and economic construction, the policy of equality of men and women has not been implemented. For example, women have less labor opportunities and there is a significant gap between their labor income and that of male workers. Third, the achievements of reform and development enjoyed by women are relatively small, and the internal differences tend to be complex. This is mainly due to the fact that the

equality of men and women has been better implemented in some regions, but a few regions have not yet effectively promoted the construction of women's equality. Fourth, at present, women's own subject consciousness is relatively weak. In the new social environment, China's female subject consciousness has been strengthened, but many women still lack subject consciousness due to the fact that they have been affected by traditional cultural concepts for a long time[6].

3.2 Laws and Policies on Equality of Men and Women Still Need to Be Improved

China emphasizes the equality of men and women at the legislative and policy-making levels, and constructs a legal and policy system related to the protection of women's rights and interests. However, there are still some imperfections in this system. First, there is still phenomenon of gender inequality in some laws and policies. For example, legislation under the concept of gender discrimination may easily cause gender discrimination. Also, some laws are formed to protect women, which may have a negative impact on the development of women groups. Second, the existing laws and policies are not coordinated. For instance, some laws and policies are in conflict, and the equality of men and women cannot be fully presented in the implementation process. Third, a highly independent gender equality law has not yet been promulgated, resulting in the incomplete legal system of gender equality due to the decentralization of legislation, and the existing laws and policies are not systematic.

3.3 The Implementation of the National Policy on Equality of Men and Women Is Not Strong

Equality of men and women is regarded as one of the best policies in China in the new era. In the process of policy implementation, it is necessary to emphasize concreteness and enforceability, and introduce appropriate supporting provisions to ensure the orderly implementation of this policy. At present, China's national policy of equality of men and women lacks sufficient implementation in the long-term promotion and implementation process, restricting the popularization of the equality of men and women. First of all, some laws and policies are too theoretical and lack of implementable plans. In the process of transforming them into social practice, they cannot give full play to the role of laws and policies, or they need to formulate

corresponding detailed measures in combination with local actual conditions, resulting in constraints on the implementation of the national policy on gender equality. Second, there are few safeguards on the implementation of the national policy on equality of men and women, and the corresponding supervision and restraint mechanism is not perfect, leading to a lack of enthusiasm in some regions for the implementation of this national policy.

4. SUGGESTIONS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND INTERESTS FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF EQUALITY OF MEN AND WOMEN

4.1 Improving Policies and Laws on the Equality of Men and Women

With the development of the times, the national governance model has been transformed in an orderly manner. In the process of comprehensively promoting the construction of a country ruled by law, policies and laws related to the equality of men and women need to be introduced and continuously improved in combination with practical experience. This will not only help improve the national legal system, but also effectively ensure the implementation of the national policy on the equality of men and women. Only with the support of effective laws and policies can the national policy on the equality of men and women have a good and stable implementation environment.

First, the awareness of gender equality needs to be strengthened in the improvement of the legal policy system. Laws and policies are the foundation of national governance and social progress, and can fully reflect the will of the state. In addition, they are closely related to the development of all fields of social production and life. Therefore, when formulating corresponding laws and policies, it is required to strengthen the awareness of gender equality, promote the continuous improvement of the legal and policy system, and enhance the enforceability of these laws and policies and ensure the promotion and implementation of the national policy of gender equality. Second, a separate law on gender equality needs to be enacted to improve the status of gender equality at the legislative level. The current law on the protection of women's rights and interests can protect the legitimate rights and interests of women groups. During the implementation of this law, it focuses on

safeguarding women's rights and interests. However, from the perspective of long-term social development, promoting gender equality is more complete and objective than focusing on safeguarding women's rights and interests, which can fully reflect the equal understanding of gender groups. With the introduction of a separate gender equality law, it can also be in line with the international practice, laying a solid foundation for the further popularization of equality of men and women.

4.2 Supporting Measures to Strengthen the Equality of Men and Women

During the long-term implementation of the national policy on the equality of men and women, attention should be paid to the introduction of appropriate supporting measures for the equality of men and women. However, at present, this national policy is faced with the phenomenon of insufficient supporting measures in the implementation, which needs to be improved in the following directions:

First, it is necessary to promote the coordination of laws and policies, that is, in the implementation process of the national policy on the equality of men and women, it is necessary to form supporting provisions that can help the coordination of laws and policies. In the implementation stage of the national policy on the equality of men and women, supporting measures should be used to improve the implementation effect of laws and policies, so as to promote the equality of men and women in the whole society. Second, it is suggested to establish a supervision mechanism for the implementation of laws and policies, and implement the assessment after the introduction of the responsibility system. According to existing researches, the most difficult point in the implementation of the national policy on the equality of men and women is the lack of necessary evaluation and accountability system. Governments at all levels must issue rules and regulations related to the implementation of the national policy on the equality of men and women to ensure that all units and institutions can ensure the comprehensive implementation of laws and policies related to the national policy on the equality of men and women under the guidance and restraint of supporting measures. Meanwhile, the higher authorities can take the accountability method to assess the leading cadres of governments at all levels and urge all departments to effectively promote the implementation of the national policy on the equality of men and women.

4.3 Institution Building to Promote the Equality of Men and Women

Strengthening the construction of special institutions related to the implementation of the national policy on the equality of men and women will not only help enhance the authority of the national policy, but also ensure the effective implementation of laws, systems and policies related to the equality of men and women. Under the current social environment, it is suggested to promote the construction of the women's and children's work committee, and optimize its specific capacity according to the actual work needs. The women's and children's work committee can be a separate functional department to supervise the implementation of related public policies on the equality of men and women and carry out the work of safeguarding women's rights and interests according to laws and regulations, thus demonstrating the responsibility of supervising the implementation of the national policy on the equality of men and women. In addition, local governments need to take the initiative to enhance their support for the women's and children's work committee, provide more posts and activity funds for the women's and children's work committee through resource preference and policy support, and organize and carry out expert seminars and professional exchanges related to the equality of men and women to ensure that the work capacity of the women's and children's work committee can be improved.

5. CONCLUSION

To sum up, in the development of Chinese women's rights and interests, it is required to improve the policies and laws on the equality of men and women from the perspective of the equality of men and women, especially strengthen the awareness of the equality of men and women in the improvement of the legal and policy system, and introduce a separate law on the equality of men and women. In terms of supporting measures to strengthen the equality of men and women, it is necessary to promote the coordination of laws and policies and build a supervision mechanism for the implementation of laws and policies. Finally, it is suggested to promote the construction of institutions of the equality of men and women.

AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS

This paper is independently completed by Zhuoran Gao.

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