

The Path of Rural Mutual Support for the Aged from the Perspective of Rural Governance

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Abstract: *In the context of the weakening of the traditional old-age care model, based on the traditional village acquaintance network, a new type of local mutual assistance old-age care model with rural geography as the core came into being, which has become an important way to solve the practical problems of traditional old-age care, promote the benign governance of rural old-age care, and improve the modernization of rural governance system and governance capacity. From the perspective of the modernization of rural governance, it is found that there are some common problems in rural mutual aid and old-age care, such as weak collective value consensus, lack of trust and cooperation foundation, limited participation space of multiple subjects, imbalance between service supply and demand, and lag of digital information and intelligent old-age care. In the face of these problems, we must start from the four perspectives of party building guidance, multiple participation, supply and demand balance, and digital empowerment, and constantly optimize the practical path of rural mutual assistance and old-age care, and promote the high-quality development of rural old-age security.*

Keywords: *Rural governance; rural; mutual assistance for the aged; practice path.*

I. INTRODUCTION

According to the results of the seventh national census, the population aged 60 and above accounted for 18.70 % of the total population, of which the population aged 65 and above accounted for 13.50 % of the total population, an increase of 5.44 % compared with 2010, while the population aged 60 and above in rural areas accounted for 23.81 %, 7.99 percentage points higher than that in urban areas. It can be seen that the aging of China 's population is accelerating. With the rapid development of industrialization and urbanization in China, the rural young and middle-aged labor force pays more attention to employment, education, medical care and other resources. In order to pursue a happy and better life, the phenomenon of ' hollowing out ' villages is increasing, and only the widowed ' empty nest ' elderly are stationed in villages. Therefore, the degree of population aging in rural areas is significantly higher than that in urban areas, facing a more severe pension situation.

Rural mutual assistance and old-age care is developed under the dual goal orientation of realizing the modernization of rural governance and getting rid of the realistic dilemma of rural old-age care. It is a new type of social old-age care model based on the traditional acquaintance network of villages, with Chinese characteristics, mainly based on economic mutual assistance, supplemented by cultural mutual assistance and service mutual assistance. It is a useful supplement and exploration to the family old-age care and institutional old-age care model. Few scholars have studied the combination of rural governance and mutual support for the aged, and deeply grasped the complementary internal relationship between the modernization of rural governance and rural mutual support for the aged. Based on the perspective of rural governance modernization, this study analyzes the significance of rural mutual support for the promotion of rural governance modernization, and combines the typical practical problems in the practice of rural mutual support at home and abroad, and puts forward the constructive

scheme of rural mutual support for the elderly in China, trying to provide theoretical and practical support for alleviating the pressure of population aging in China and improving the happiness of the elderly.

II. THE VALUE SIGNIFICANCE OF RURAL MUTUAL SUPPORT FOR THE MODERNIZATION OF RURAL GOVERNANCE

(1) *Mutual assistance in rural areas to solve the problem of traditional pension reality*

Rural mutual support for the elderly is a spontaneous way of old-age care based on the ethical culture of the village 's mutual help, with the villagers ' homestead housing and the village collective to build Xinfuyuan as the old-age care position, and the sense of identity, value and belonging of the village acquaintance society as the emotional medium. This kind of mutual support for the elderly not only satisfies the rural elderly 's dependence on the village acquaintance environment and social communication network, but also overcomes the emotional and economic disadvantages brought by the institutional pension. It also plays the traditional virtue of neighborhood mutual assistance and solves the pension problem of disabled and semi-disabled elderly groups in family pension. It can be seen that the bottom-up self-management and self-service innovative old-age care model of rural mutual support will become an important solution to the practical problems of rural old-age care in China, and also provide useful thinking for the reform of rural governance system and governance capacity system.

(2) *Rural mutual pension promotes the benign governance of rural pension*

The modernization of China 's old-age care system is advancing with the modernization of the rural governance system. In particular, the socialization process of rural old-age care has also changed from the original government-led to the cooperation between the government and multiple entities. At present, local governments continue to optimize their service

functions in the transformation from " management " to " governance, " and continue to explore in the field of rural old-age care services. The emergence of a new model of rural mutual support for the elderly is the inevitable result of the modernization of rural governance. This institutionalized arrangement has an inherent coupling with the modernization of rural governance, and it puts forward new expectations for the cooperative governance mechanism of multiple social subjects at the institutional level. This will inevitably lead to cooperation between the government and multiple subjects, stimulate the vitality of the market and social subjects, and build a benign governance pattern of government support, rule of law guarantee, social participation and villagers ' mutual assistance in a new way of in-situ pension, so as to quickly improve the modernization level of rural governance system and governance capacity.

(3) *Rural mutual assistance and old-age care will help alleviate rural elderly poverty.*

As an economic mutual-aid pension model, rural mutual-aid pension uses idle human resources in villages, gives full play to the mobilization ability of local organizations, integrates funds from various sources such as government, market and social groups, and satisfies the living care and spiritual comfort of rural elderly at the lowest cost, which adapts to the actual development of rural areas in China in the process of rural governance modernization. At the same time, mutual support for the elderly has created a new model of community-based old-age care, which makes up for the shortcomings of the government and the market in rural old-age care through economic, cultural and service mutual assistance, and is an important supplement to the government 's institutionalized and systematic old-age care. More importantly, the unique economic spillover effect of mutual-aid pension will play a positive role in the poverty management of the rural elderly. Based on the traditional courtyard economy, relying on the rural revitalization strategy, the rural mutual aid culture and traditional filial piety are integrated into the construction of rural style, and the endogenous ' combination of health and wellness ' pension base in the village is constructed, which increases the effective way to get rid of poverty for the young elderly in rural areas. By joining the mutual aid organization and giving full play to its own expertise and role, it can not only obtain considerable economic benefits, but also realize the personal value and enrich the spiritual world.

III. THE REALISTIC DILEMMA OF RURAL MUTUAL SUPPORT FOR THE AGED FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF RURAL GOVERNANCE

(1) *The double absence of collective value identity and trust cooperation foundation*

Trust and cooperation based on collective value identity is a necessary condition for the effectiveness of rural mutual support. At present, China 's rural collective value system is showing a trend of fragmentation, community cohesion is weakening, and the distrust of the rural elderly in the operation mode of mutual pension and its security system has become

the norm. With the advancement of urbanization, the dual barriers between urban and rural areas are gradually breaking down. The binding force of the original collective value system and moral norms such as village contracts and village contracts has gradually disappeared in the process of this transformation. The lack of collective identity has become an important obstacle to the promotion of the value concept of rural mutual assistance and old-age care. Secondly, the impact of western market economy values on China 's excellent traditional culture. Bad values such as money supremacy, egoism and utilitarianism have catalyzed the awakening of villagers ' awareness of rights and the expansion of self-awareness. As a result, the existing rural value system cannot lead the collective behavior of the village due to the lack of villagers ' public code of conduct and moral norms, and the village collective cannot play a leading role in the practice of village mutual pension.

(2) *The collaborative participation ability of multiple subjects is limited.*

At present, the operation mechanism of rural mutual assistance and old-age care in China is still dominated by the government. Governments at all levels play multiple roles in rural mutual assistance and old-age care, such as policy makers, directors of village committee work, regulators of facility construction and management. They are at the core of the authorization, design, assessment and other links of mutual assistance and old-age care, while the rural elderly, village committees, social charity organizations and other multiple subjects are decentralized and marginalized. In the stage of policy formulation, governments at all levels often cannot include rural elderly representatives, village committees, social organizations and other multi-party subjects into the scope of investigation and listen to multi-party opinions. This top-down policy formulation and implementation lacks accurate grasp of the actual needs of the rural elderly, which is bound to lay a hidden danger for the imbalance between supply and demand of mutual support for the elderly. In the stage of policy implementation, although the two committees of the village are the first person in charge of the operation of mutual assistance and old-age care management, under the over-strengthened vertical integration mechanism, considering the heavy administrative affairs and insufficient capital investment, it is difficult for the village committee to break through the government regulation, and often takes the quantitative index requirements of the grass-roots government as the first priority of the construction of mutual assistance and old-age care, and it is difficult to play its independent and innovative role.

(3) *Imbalance between supply and demand of mutual aid service content*

First, there is a contradiction in the demand for old-age care between the young elderly and the elderly in rural areas. Limited by the venues, funds, management and services of rural mutual support for the aged, rural mutual support for the aged takes the elderly, the elderly without self-care ability and other special elderly as the service objects, and carries out targeted daily life care services. For the ordinary young elderly,

most of them are excluded from the existing pension welfare policies and service resources. The uneven distribution of pension service resources between the elderly and the young elderly is an important reason why the young elderly are not willing to participate in mutual aid practice services. The second is the contradiction between the level of service supply and the needs of all the elderly. There are some practical supply problems in rural mutual aid and old-age care, such as insufficient mutual aid service resources, scarce service projects, lack of professionals, limited acceptance ability and so on. For example, the beds of mutual aid and happiness homes limit the number of elderly residents, and it is difficult to retain rehabilitation and nursing professionals. These practical problems of mutual aid and old-age care in rural practice affect the happy experience of rural elderly people participating in mutual aid and old-age care. The singleness of mutual aid service content is difficult to meet the multi-level old-age care needs of the elderly, resulting in poor quality of mutual aid services and seriously affecting the enthusiasm of rural elderly people to participate in mutual aid and old-age care.

(4) Digital information wisdom science pension lag

The level of informatization in the practice of rural mutual assistance and old-age care in China is not high. Intelligent old-age care is still in its infancy in China, and there are many obstacles to be solved urgently. From the perspective of the rural elderly themselves, the rural elderly are generally less educated, and they are resistant to new things. They do not want to use smart old-age care products to change their original living habits. Secondly, the elderly are unable to learn and operate smart old-age care products because of their limited learning ability. The more important reason is that the high equipment installation and maintenance costs of smart old-age care products far exceed the consumption capacity of rural elderly. From the terminal of intelligent pension equipment, the construction of China's intelligent pension service platform is not perfect. In the practice of rural mutual support for the elderly, there is a lack of application of information technology in the collection, storage, integration and processing of data and information of the elderly in rural areas. Most of them still use the way of volunteer visits to carry out paper registration and filing. Especially in terms of data information sharing, because the information sharing mechanism of medical, health, human resources and social security departments on intelligent pension data has not yet been formed, the intelligent pension service platform will not be able to share the data information of the elderly's pension needs in rural areas, thus failing to meet the multi-level and personalized pension needs including spiritual needs.

IV. THE PRACTICAL PATH OF RURAL MUTUAL SUPPORT FOR THE ELDERLY FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF RURAL GOVERNANCE

(1) Cultivate the excellent traditional culture of the village

First, we should actively play the role of ideological guidance, carry out the publicity of the outstanding deeds of rural advanced individuals through innovative forms such as

television, publicity columns, and tour speeches, and incorporate excellent traditional cultures such as watching and helping each other and dedication into the height of rural cultural revitalization. Cultivate the cultural atmosphere of respecting, respecting, loving and supporting the elderly within the village, and promote the value of mutual support for the elderly. The second is to get rid of the many concerns of the rural elderly about mutual support for the elderly, help them to abandon the traditional concept of old-age care, improve the willingness to participate in mutual support for the elderly, consciously cooperate with the promotion of mutual support for the elderly in villages and communities, and take the initiative to undertake voluntary service activities, so as to promote the benign development of the rural mutual support for the elderly.

(2) Strengthen the rule of law protection, improve the coordination mechanism

First, it is necessary to build a service-oriented government, from the traditional 'controlled all-round government' to 'service-oriented limited government', giving multiple subjects the space to participate in mutual assistance and old-age care. The government should realize that villagers' autonomy is the endogenous power of rural mutual support for the aged, and it is also an important means of social governance for the elderly in rural areas in China. It is necessary to clarify its own scope of rights and responsibilities, deal with the relationship between government guidance and villagers' autonomy, and guide other social resources through decentralization and empowerment. The main body is widely involved in rural mutual support for the aged. The second is to improve the multi-subject collaborative participation mechanism and improve the ability of multi-subjects to participate in rural mutual support for the elderly. Build an efficient interworking mechanism of "government guidance, village committee hosting, social coordination, and participation of the elderly." As the manager of the site resources of rural mutual pension, the leader of institutional management and the communicator of the concept of mutual assistance, the village committee can play its role well, and feedback the urgent needs and opinions of the elderly to the grass-roots government in time. After the government obtains effective information, it makes corresponding policy adjustments and institutional guarantees, and leads social organizations to participate in mutual assistance for the aged, and plays its role in improving the quality of mutual assistance services, linking relevant resources, and participating in daily operations.

(3) Adjust the structure of supply and demand, build a supply system

The first is to adjust the supply thinking mode of mutual aid resources, so as to promote the happiness, sense of acquisition and satisfaction of the elderly as the starting point and final destination of the supply of mutual aid pension resources, and fully grasp the practical needs of the rural elderly for pension services. According to the different levels of education, economic level and ideological concept, the elderly in each village are investigated on the spot, so as to

fully understand the service types required by different types of elderly people, so that the younger elderly can also enjoy the old-age service resources, and enhance their sense of participation and acquisition in the process of mutual support for the elderly. The second is to integrate the supply subjects such as families, communities and institutions, and promote the integration and innovative development of home, community and institutional pension service models. According to the dynamic demand tracking of the elderly, the corresponding product and service supply structure is adjusted, and a professional talent team is cultivated to provide multi-level and high-quality service supply such as life care, health service, social entertainment, volunteer service and teaching activities, so as to realize the effective supply of rural mutual pension service at the spiritual level and self-realization level.

(4) Standardize the information platform, deepen the wisdom of old-age care

First, we should strengthen the construction of community intelligent pension network. The network construction of rural communities should be included in the overall planning of village construction, especially the overall promotion of infrastructure such as 5G signal base station and intelligent pension service platform, so as to realize the interconnection between rural mutual aid pension points and pension institutions and physiotherapy institutions. On this basis, through the integration of emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and cloud computing, a smart old-age care service system that can meet the diverse needs of rural elderly health services, spiritual comfort, learning and entertainment is formed, so as to realize the new model of village-based intelligent mutual old-age care. Second, strengthen the ability to learn information skills. The development, use, and promotion of smart products for the

elderly is a significant feature of smart old-age care. This requires the village two committees and their mutual assistance pension staff to improve their information level and ability. Through online broadcast propaganda and offline information field training and other ways, the rural elderly are popularized with intelligent wearable, intelligent monitoring and other intelligent equipment operation methods, so as to realize the real integration of intelligent old-age care equipment into the production and life of the rural elderly, and insert the wings of science and technology for the rural mutual pension.

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PROJECT FUNDING

- 1.General Projects of the National Social Science Fund (20BJL079)
- 2.The 22 ~ (nd) batch of scientific research projects of Jiangsu University ' Exploration of the Path of Rural Mutual Support for the Aged from the Perspective of Rural Governance Modernization' (22C332)