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### The Progressive Era in the United States of America: Innovations in a Changing Society

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**Abstract** From the 1880s to about 1920, the United States underwent an era of unprecedented change, which was named “Progressive Era”. During the era, numerous social problems aroused as American society was transforming from an agrarian society to an industrial society. Different solutions were formulated by different political forces to respond the pressing social problems caused the large-scale socio-economic changes. The progressive reformers sought to develop different social policies to cope with these social problems and provide social protection for the socially disadvantaged groups, such as migrant workers, children, and women, so as to achieve social and market harmony. What they did formed the main picture of the Progressive Era. Progressivism was not a massive, nationally coordinated phenomenon. It consisted of a multitude of efforts. By dedicated reformers at local, state and national levels who believed that social problems could be addressed with reason and compassion. No Progressive Era reforms would have been possible without the development of a consensus among government officials and legislators that reforms were needed and that they were feasible politically. Progressive reforms were possible because they were often spearheaded by a growing class of educated men and women.

**Key Words** Progressive Era, Social Change, Social Policy, Policy Innovation

### The Quantitative Dimensions of Welfare State Change: Macro-statistical Reform Trajectories across 21 OECD Countries (1980 – 2001)

**Abstract** This paper discusses the different welfare reform trajectories in 21 OECD countries between 1980 and 2001. To account for the multidimensional character of “welfare state change”, it explores the dynamics of numerous macro-statistical indicators in three domains: social security expenditure, decommodification/stratification and welfare outcomes - using a total of 12 different indicators (four for each domain). The individual findings for these domains are integrated into an index of “welfare state change”. The empirical findings suggest that notion of broad welfare state retrenchment across the OECD in the last two decades of the 20th century are somewhat overstated. The same is-however-true for the “welfare resilience” thesis. While some countries were indeed retrenched in the course of the observed period of times, others remained stable, while some expanded welfare noticeably. Interestingly, Esping-Andersen’s (1990) welfare state regimes types do not provide a sufficient explanation of these different reform trajectories.

**Key Words** Welfare State, Welfare State Retrenchment, Welfare Resilience, OECD Countries, Decommodification

## From Social Status-based to Human Need-based Social Security: China’s Social Security System in the Social Policy Perspective

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**Abstract** China has been undergoing large-scale socio-economic transformation in the past three decades. With the shift from a planned economy to a market one, China’s social security system has been transformed fundamentally. A paradox can be found when we examine the changes in China’s social security policies and practices in the past thirty years. On the one hand, a multiple-tier social security system based on social insurance programs has been taking shape, on the other hand, some basic needs of Chinese people have not be satisfied, especially in the fields of education, health care and housing. From the perspective of social policy, this article aims to examine the historical evolution of China’s social security policies since the late 1970s, and outline its path and identify its problems. The basic argument is that the reforms of the social security sector in the 1980s and 1990s were launched to serve the transformation of the inefficient

state-owned enterprises and lacked a social policy perspective. With the coming of the new millennium, especially since the 17th Congress of the Communist Party of China, social policy thinking has been incorporated in China's social security policymaking. In doing so, the satisfaction of human needs and the increase of public wellbeing have become the starting point of the reform of China's social security system. As a result, China's social security system is the process from social-status-based to human-need-based social security.

Key Words     Social Change, Market Economy, Social Policy, Social Security, Social Status, Human Need, Welfare Society

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Key words     Housing Security, Economical Affordable House (jingjishiyongfang), Low-rent House (lianzufang), Social Policy Analysis

• ARTICLES

The Problems of Civil Servants System Perspective in Professional Stress: A Study of Grounded Theory

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Abstract     This presentation focused on the problems of Chinese civil servants system perspective in professional stress. The data of 33 participates with three levels of coding of grounded theory have shown that the stressors were social stereotypes, position prerequisites to be as civil servants, family need, work-family conflict, the limits of civil servant system, Qianguize (similar to political behaviors), task, income, interpersonal relation and social intercourse, competition, leader factors in task, leader-orientation of organizational culture and so on. The stress mechanism was:

leader's role in the organizational was enlarged by the limits of civil servant system such as promoting, paying, which was mainly determined by the leaders. It mostly resulted in Qianguize ( similar to the conception of political perception, from the west organizational psychology ) and the leader-orientation of organizational culture. Moreover the task of civil servants was overloading and somewhat cheesed. These features were encountered by the growing expectations of civil servants, which were anchored by the factors such as position, age, gender, education background, and the need of power and self awareness. They intercepted and resulted in distress. The system of civil servants, which has a characteristic of leader-orientation, is not easy to change for the systematic reason. As the result the stress of civil servants had negative affect on and attitudes to work and job performance or professional efficacy. For further reform several suggestions were provided such as improving the openness of promotion and developing Chinese professionalism. These could be developed from the Chinese culture that deeply rooted on the coufucian tradition.

Key words Civil Servants, Stress, Grounded Theory, Chinese Culture

America's Drug Regulatory Regimes Transformation in a Risk Society: Lessons and Implications

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**Abstract** This paper traces the history of America's drug regulatory regime change from the perspective of institutional change. It argues that this centurial history can be divided into three regimes: ex-post regulatory regime, ex-ante regulatory regime and process regulatory regime. By doing such a kind typology, this paper attempts to describe the basic track of regulatory state's derivation and development and displayed three different regulatory modes in commercial, industrial and information society. For current China with a rapid development of industrialization and market transition, Chinese ongoing drug regulatory reform must meet the demands of commercialization, industrialization and information revolution, and pursue its reform from five aspects respectively: regulatory independence, regulatory information capacity, regulatory tool usage, regulatory accountability and regulatory infrastructure optimization.

**Key Words** Risk Society, Drug Regulation, Risk Regulation, Regime

## Rebuilding the Budgeting Power of People's Congress: A Case Study of a Certain Province

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**Abstract** People's congresses at national and local levels have made efforts to change its traditional image of "Rubber-stamp" and sought to rebuild its budgeting power since the budget reform. On the basis of case study of J province. This paper finds out that the real power needs to be constructed. Though people's congresses hold the budgeting power by constitution and laws, they could not invent anything real among the original relation network of budgeting. Recurring to the chance of budget reform, people's congresses have defined the new role orientation, fully utilize the existing resources, taken various actions, in order to obtain more core resources to reinvent the relation network of budgeting and the budgeting power.

**Key Words** People's Congress, Budgeting Power, Relation Network of Budgeting, Core Resources

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