

# Construction and Deconstruction: A Study on Field Theory of Social Governance

Cai Dong<sup>1,2</sup>, Sun Xintian<sup>1</sup>, Xia Fan<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Public Security Management of Jiangsu Police Institute, Nanjing, China

<sup>2</sup>Key Laboratory of Geographic Information Technology of Public Security Ministry, Changzhou City Public Security Bureau, Changzhou, China

**Keywords:** Social Governance; Field Theory; Element Deconstruction

**Abstract:** The field concept in sociology is a useful mesoscopic concept. In psychology, sociology, and organizational research, the importance of the field as a middle-level analytical unit has been fully recognized. However, the field correlation research in the study of social governance in China is relatively weak, and the theoretical research on the field of social governance at the meso-level needs to be further refined. The related elements of social governance from the perspective of the field is re-deconstruct in this paper. The aim is to make social governance activities have a more solid basis of public opinion and a stronger scientific support.

## 1. Interpretation of field theory

### 1.1 Bourdieu's field relation theory

Pierre Bourdieu, a famous contemporary anthropology and sociologist in France, put forward a brand new research and analysis method of sociology theory with his unique sociological perspective and profound academic deposits, namely, “field, capital and habit” theory. The theory is put forward by Bourdieu, influenced by “field theory” and so on, combined with his own knowledge such as the concept of anthropological “community”: Society is also formed by different “small society”, which contact and influence each other, this kind of small society, which formed independently, is the “field”, after that, society study began to analyze social phenomenon with a perspective of set.

#### 1.1.1 “Field” concept

The field is a brand new mesoscopic perspective, containing not only the pure physical environment, but also the related behaviors of others and other related elements. The role of a single element in sociology is not viewed in isolation, and all members in the field are linked together on the basis of “group theory” based on the main relationship of sociology. Meanwhile, the symbolic production and consumption theory in sociology is integrated to explain the production principle and practical role of social phenomena. Bourdieu successfully applied the anthropological knowledge “group research” method to the sociological research field, creating the new research tool “field”. “Field” can be used as a perspective to observe social phenomena, and it can also be applied to deeply analyze social phenomena and solve social problems. With the highly differentiated process of modern society, “small society” becomes more prominent, and the field theory can be applied to all aspects of social research. By studying the unique logic, rules and inevitable connections of these independent social Spaces, it reveals the laws of social development and provides methods and tools for humans to fully understand themselves.

#### 1.1.2 “Capital” concept

The formation and development of society has its internal motivation. All kinds of relations in the field are pursuing one or more resources, and the exclusive resources pursued by participants in the field are “capital”. Capital is owned by all people in the field. People in different positions in different fields have different attitudes towards capital. Controllers hope to gather capital to

improve their influence, while ordinary participants passively participate. The people who dominate the capital are constantly competing for that capital, making the capital within the field constantly shifting. Meanwhile, with the changes of social activities and history, the “capital” held by individuals within the field is constantly redistributed. Field changes in a single society will eventually reach a balance, and will remain stable. When the stability is affected by other fields or the relations at the bottom of society change, new competitive relations emerge and capital transfers. After a series of complex changes, the balance is reached within the field. All kinds of social phenomena occur, change and end in this process. In social activities, capital is the power source within the field, which is the source of social communication and competition.

### **1.1.3 “Habitus” concept**

Field in order to “resource” game between the internal forces, the competition behavior in specific population, relatively independent in the “field” would reach a stable “personality tendency system”, namely the field elements action logic, the action logic is made from within the field activity elements, namely the with a person's subjective initiative of the creatures. Affected by the field, people will have personality and have convergence. People who compete for capital in the field are influenced by their objective conditions and social experiences. They have a durable and transferable action logic. Persistence means that this logic can be changed by experience, but at the same time it is rooted in people, who resist his change. Transferability means that the awe gained from one experience will work in another field. These temperamental systems and mental structures, which come from society and are attached to individuals, are called habitus. This makes habitus historic, open and dynamic. It is a dynamic open system which is produced by historical accumulation, stable, lasting and changing. Bourdieu's field theory consists of the objective field, the capital of internal competition and the habit of common behavioral logic. In this theory, field and habit influence each other, while capital is the core of everything, which is a new theory of contemporary sociology with in-depth research value, and can be used to study the field of social governance, providing a new perspective and unique insights. Field theory is a reflective science. By introducing field perspective and using field, habitus and capital theory system, we can think about social environment and problems from a special perspective.

## **1.2 Field development theory**

With the continuous development of field theory and internal refinement, the field research has entered the “unique theory” stage in the research of various fields of sociology. The theoretical basis of these studies is the field development theory -- the field independence theory. The objective fact of this phenomenon is the field independence phenomenon. Because of the high degree of social differentiation, various subspecies fields emerge from the large social field. We can further explore the uniqueness of these diverse fields on the basis of studying the large fields of sociology. According to the theory of independent and independent field, when various social relations and capital power belonging to them change, the nature and internal principal contradiction of the field will change, and then the differentiation of each small field that was originally unified in the large social field will appear. So there are all sorts of different types of fields that are distinctive. The independent process of the field is actually a process of the field forming its own characteristics, which develops continuously from the basic field and then has enough strength to get rid of dependence on other fields. On the one hand, with the development of the society and the development of internal personnel, the field's internal forces are constantly enriched and powerful, forming its own unique internal high-value capital, and improving the vitality, influence and stability of the field in the process of internal communication and competition. , on the other hand, the high value of capital continue to increase to a certain extent, get rid of the rest of the capital, independent to attract a large number of manpower, new field was born, field theory in the aspect of social development theory has completed, this way fit social law of development, formed its own unique theory of “reproduction”, along with the development of The Times, bring brand-new change, new field will continue to grow, the introduction of new capital, produce new relations, the birth of a new subspecies field, so the application of the field will also constantly updating. At the

same time, any field autonomy is relatively speaking, the field is not absolutely isolated existence. The clearer the field boundary is, the more stable the internal relations are, and the power structure is not easily affected by external factors. When we deeply study the field perspective of social fields, it is more necessary to have a clear idea to sort out the “capital” that really plays a decisive role in the field, rather than the chaotic integration of all the participating elements, which is not easy to get true knowledge. The focus of field research should be the “personality” of small fields.

## **2. The field perspective of social governance structure deconstruction**

On the macro level, the big field of society consists of numerous small fields. Will be applied in the field of social governance, social governance aspects then there is a lot of mutual influence of small field, according to previous research I sum up the concept of social governance field: within a certain range of space (community), dominated by the public security force, guided by the theory of social governance, the administrative department of community, residents and social groups, common social governance activities, social governance responsibility, found that solve the security problems of the community, maintain peace and stability of community is an important relationship capital collection. The field perspective is used to re-deconstruct the field of social governance, and the following three subtypes of fields that occupy the most important capital in the field of social governance are summarized, namely, the field of community governance power, the field of social governance information and the field of social governance public opinion. Since ancient times, the power field has occupied the main position in social governance, and the role of the information field has become more and more obvious with the development of information technology, while the new public opinion field is the focus of social governance in the process of modernization.

### **2.1 The field of power of social governance**

According to Bourdieu's field theory, the power field is the basic type in all field fields, and the foundation of all social life is the power construction of the leadership class. In the field of social governance, the power field is the most basic and most prominent existence, its basic form of expression is the existence of various forms of community environment and various nature of social governance forces in the power field within the constant collision, interaction, and finally form a complex power relationship network. Together, these forces determine the stability of society and the internal living conditions of the population.

According to the relevant knowledge of the theoretical system of social governance, the main authorities responsible for social management and social governance are the authorities responsible for social management and social governance: administrative forces such as street offices, police stations, neighborhood committees, property, security companies, volunteers and other mass forces. These people have different functions in the field of social governance, playing different roles, and there are differences in positioning. But in the social governance of the working position is equal, need to do a good job in every link, the use of their own power, in order to make social harmony and stability. From the field perspective, capital monopoly in the hands of administrative participants, there will be a lack of competition. The field loses its vitality, its rigidity, its external competitiveness. Unable to respond flexibly to the new situation of public security, the old field of social governance will face reorganization or even death under the impact of the external more powerful field. In Yunnan, there will be more than 30% of the incidents of drug abuse by the security managers in Yunnan, which is the concrete manifestation of the field inactivation. According to the observation results of the field view, compared with the “vertical power field” where the administrative power occupies the absolute advantage, the concept of common maintenance of public security and stability will be carried out, and the administrative power and the mass power to achieve “flat power field” are obviously more dynamic and in an equal position. However, when the administrative power and the mass power differ in their functions and the power of the masses cooperate and compete continuously in the field of power, they can perfect the division of their respective powers, actively exchange and cooperation, so that the power of governance from invalid concentration to influence expansion, so that resources can reach a

reasonable distribution, and contribute to the rapid and efficient completion of social governance tasks. Helps to protect the stability and prosperity of the broader field of social governance. The main grasp of administrative forces determines the direction, overall command, mass forces focus on the implementation of details, between the two constitute an exchange feedback mechanism, constitute a multi-dimensional development of a strong field.

## **2.2 Social governance information field**

Information, material, energy and become the three basic resources of human survival and development, including information, intelligence, instructions, codes and signals containing certain content, with the extensive use of computer network technology, the past power-led, the leadership of the decision action plan has changed, information guidance action has become an important concept. In the field of social governance, a large number of information is generated, continuous transmission, continuous flow, and retention. Under the field perspective, social governance information is in an independent position, and it is difficult for other types of field to have a direct impact on it. However, the information field is always closely connected with other fields, which is the basis for the normal operation of all fields, and is an important medium for the interaction and interaction of different fields. In particular, the vigorous development of information technology, so that the social governance field was born such as self-media field, community exchange field and so on is still in the new stage of important field. These small fields are integrated into the social governance information field, they are based on information, different participants are full of competition and exchange, information is the main capital in the ongoing conflict and cooperation, producing a lot of benefits, attracting more people and capital to join. To do a good job in community governance, from the field perspective is a wide spread of information network, actively participate in information exchange activities, open information query channels, so that information in the constant flow of social governance work. The ever-interwoven information network enriches the information field of social governance, broadens the information exchange channel, enhances the information collection power, and optimizes the information transmission mode will make the social governance information field become an important pillar of the efficient utilization of the capital of the social governance field.

With the development of the times, the importance of information has become more and more significant. It has been explained in the relevant thesis of business domain, educational field and so on. In the aspect of social governance, even based on information has given birth to a society beyond physical space, that is, the virtual society of network. From the field perspective, the virtual society based on the real society and beyond the real society needs the supervision of the social governance department. The correct and timely use of information field will help social governance to achieve the optimal allocation of capital with the fastest time, and the ultimate goal of maintaining law and order with minimal resources. It can even use information to perfectly plan for sudden situations and further grasp the emergence and development of new things.

## **2.3 The field of public opinion in social governance**

The field of public opinion is a completely new affair. Its foundation - the theory of public opinion was born very early, but in our country, it also lacks sufficient awareness, especially the relevant government departments in the field of social governance lack of specialized agencies and programs to deal with public opinion problems. With the deepening of China's political and economic reform, people's lives are gradually rich, citizens' sense of political participation is beginning to awaken, the spirit of democracy and the rule of law is deeply rooted in the hearts of the people, and human rights requirements have gradually become an important link in the field of social governance. The popularity of the network, the development of information technology, the mass information media - the network gives everyone a platform to participate. Information gathering point is not limited to specialized agencies, as long as you have a mobile phone, you can enjoy the information world. Mobile communication equipment, such as mobile phones, electronic devices so that information can be easily used, since the advent of the media era, it is the core of the field of public opinion was born: people can comment on an event across space distance, views. A

large number of people, that is, the core capital of the field of public opinion, gather in the Abstract space and collide with each other. Such a field is full of power, and its powerful influence is more pronounced in the most closely related social governance events. On the recent Peng Yu case, the Long brother case to talk about, the field of public opinion even beyond the influence of the power field.

Why is public opinion so important in the field view? China is in an important stage of social transformation, the historical task of building a well-off society in an all-round way makes the country attach importance to the people's opinions, but the social contradictions are still sharp, people attach great importance to the relevant information on public security, and actively express their views. The internal capital of the field is still in the process of changing distribution. The field view of social governance public opinion is full of capital game, various forces with their own unique core to form relevant interest groups, actively participate in it. People are group creatures, the network such an environment more promote the network interest groups, different classes, different ideas of people at the same time constantly conflict, resulting in interest entanglements, a large number of contradictions interwoven, similar experiences in various regions, the same concept of people quickly embrace, because of the interests of the induction and emotional infection, cause a massive sound wave. From the perspective of the field, only in the dynamic and complicated security situation to control the event trend and social public opinion-oriented, grasp the customary law in the field, the government prestige and the people's trust and other public opinion capital firmly grasp, in order to let the field of public opinion become a guardian of the country, maintain a weapon of peace.

In general, the power field is still the core of the field of social governance, all social governance behavior is essentially to safeguard the interests of the ruling class, and Chinese the people's government pursues the fundamental interests of the people. We should pay attention to the information field, because it is closely related to the people, it protects the daily life of the people. To use good field knowledge, so that the field of public opinion to become a weapon of public security work, public opinion is the voice of the people, with the help of the power of public opinion to establish correct social values.

### **3. Conclusion**

The prevention and control of social security is an important means to prevent and control crime, and an important mechanism to enhance the ability of national governance and ensure the security and stability of social security. Nowadays, the research on social security prevention and control mostly focuses on the top-level macro-design or micro-practical operation. There are some problems such as inadequate research perspective and insufficient understanding of value. This paper attempts to use the concept of "field" as a medium-level analysis tool to study social security prevention and control from the perspective of social governance field for better social governance.

### **Acknowledgements**

This work was financially supported by a Project Funded by the Priority Academic Program Development of Jiangsu Higher Education Institutions, Top-notch Academic Programs Project of Jiangsu Higher Education Institutions No.PPZY2015C203, Innovation Project of JiangSu Province, the Natural Science Foundation of Jiangsu Province No. BK20141033, the Theory and the Soft Science Project of Ministry of Public Security No.2018LLYJJSST053, the Philosophy and Social Science Fund of Jiangsu Province No. 18GLD008, the open project of Key Laboratory of Police Geographic Information Technology, Ministry of Public Security No.2016LPGIT04, the University Science Research Surface Project of Jiangsu Province No. 17KJB170005, Green seedling project of JSPI No. JSPI2018QM, Research and innovation team of JSPI No. 2018SJYTD12,the University Philosophy and Social Sciences Research Project of Jiangsu Province No. 2018SJA0465 and The Natural Science Project of JSPI No. 2017SJYZZ01.

## References

- [1] Pierre Bourdieu, Loic Wacquant. Practice and Reflection: An Introduction to Reflective Sociology [M]. Central Compilation Publishing House, 1998.
- [2] Philippe Corcuff. Les Nouvelles Sociologies[M]. Social Science Literature Publishing House, 2000.
- [3] Xunyang Gao. Bourdieu's Social Theory [M]. Tongji University Press, 2004.
- [4] Rongyu Li, Guoxian Lu. The Community Policing Construction under the Perspective of Field Theory [J]. Journal of Hubei University of Police, 2018, 31(4) :113-119.
- [5] Xinkui Cheng. The Logic of Bourdieu's Research: Difference, Structure and Field[J]. Journal of Shanghai Finance University, 2012, (5):92-99
- [6] Wanli Zhao, Chao Zhao. Generative Schema and Reflection: An Analysis of Bourdieu's Sociology of Knowledge [J]. Chinese Journal of Sociology, 2012, (2):43.
- [7] Tianyun Bi. On the Bourdieu's Theory of "Field- Habitus" [J]. ACADEMIC EXPLORATION, 2014, (1):32-35.
- [8] Hao Cui. Bourdieu's Power Field Theory and Its Enlightenment to Political Science Research [J]. Journal of Hangzhou Dianzi University (Social Sciences), 2006(2):2-5
- [9] Shusheng Wang. Reflective Sociology of Science Towards Field Perspective--An Investigation of Bourdieu's Sociological Thought of Science [J]. Studies in Dialectics of Nature | Stud Dialect Nat, 2013, (12):21-27
- [10] Yonghua Liu. From Dualism to Duality: A Theoretical Study of Bourdieu's Social View [J]. Chinese Journal of Sociology, 2009, (3):127-128.
- [11] Guohua Zhu. Field and Practice: On Bourdieu's Main Conceptual Tools[J]. Journal of Southeast University (philosophy and social science), 2004, (2):43.
- [12] Quansheng Li. A Brief Analysis of Bourdieu's Field Theory [J]. JOURNAL OF YANTAI UNIVERSITY (PHILOSOPHY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE EDITION), 2002, 15(2): 146-150.
- [13] Yanpei Li. A Summary of Bourdieu Field Theory [J]. THE FRIEND OF THE HEAD (FINANCIAL OBSERVATION). 2008 (06): 137-138.
- [14] Liuji Gong. Bourdieu's Theory of Social Practice[J]. THEORETICAL INVESTIGATION, 2008, (6): 57-60.
- [15] Dongxia Zhou. On the Three Conceptual Tools of Bourdieu's Theory: Analysis of the Concepts of Practice, Habitus and Field [J]. REFORM & OPENNING. 2010(02): 192-193.