

# The Characteristics and Influence of China's New College Entrance Examination Reform

Xiaoming Kong<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Education, Soochow University, Suzhou, China

<sup>2</sup>Suzhou Art & Technology Institute, Suzhou, China

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**Abstract:** The new college entrance examination reform launched in 2014 is due to the reform and development of China's college entrance examination system itself, which is also inseparable from the background of the overall reform and deployment of the country; therefore, the new college entrance examination reform must include the characteristics of integrity, compensation, democracy, etc.; at the same time, it also determines the impact of the new college entrance examination reform, including inheritance and innovation, cultivation of students' interests, creation of a talent environment, promotion of innovation. The positive influence of maintaining social stability and the negative influence of independent enrollment, the difficulty of high school curriculum arrangement, the conversion of standard scores of selected subjects, the fuzziness and uncertainty of comprehensive quality evaluation.

## 1. Introduction

The new round of comprehensive reform of college entrance examination started in 2014, referred to as “new college entrance examination reform”, has been implemented in three batches of 14 provinces and cities, which embodies the spirit of comprehensively deepening reform in the field of college entrance examination of the Third Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee, with great influence and far-reaching significance. Therefore, it is necessary to study the characteristics and influence of the new college entrance examination reform, so as to comprehensively summarize the current three batches of new college entrance examination reform experience, and provide reference and reference for the next step of the comprehensive deepening reform of the new college entrance examination reform.

## 2. Organization of the Text

### 2.1 The Origin of China's New College Entrance Examination Reform.

The origin of the new college entrance examination reform mainly includes the following two aspects: first, the overall reform deployment of the party and the state. In the Third Plenary Session of the 18th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, the decision of the CPC Central Committee on several major issues of comprehensively deepening the reform, it is proposed to gradually implement the multiple admission mechanism of comprehensive evaluation based on the unified college entrance examination and high school academic level examination results. We will explore ways to reduce the number of subjects in the national unified examination, and take social examinations in subjects such as liberal arts, science and foreign languages for more than one year.<sup>[1]</sup> Second, it is necessary to deepen the reform of examination system. In the opinions of the State Council on the implementation of deepening the reform of the examination and enrollment system issued in September 2014, it was pointed out that “there are some problems with strong social reflection” in China's examination and enrollment system, among which “only score theory” and “one examination determines life” and other problems are the most important, concentrated and strongly reflected in the college entrance examination. Therefore, the problem of college entrance

examination, which is strongly reflected by the society, belongs to the needs of the reform of college entrance examination.

## **2.2 The Characteristics of China's New College Entrance Examination Reform.**

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## **2.3 The Characteristics of China's New College Entrance Examination Reform**

### **2.3.1 Constraint Nature**

From the “3 + 3” plan implemented by the first batch of comprehensive reform pilot of college entrance examination to the “3 + 3” model further refined and improved by the second batch of pilot, to the “3 + 1 + 2” model of the third batch of eight provinces and cities pilot, the reform is not only the subjects of college entrance examination, but also the continuous adjustment and revision. This kind of adjustment and revision is not only a retrogression, but also a kind of reform. As Liu Haifeng, the chief expert of the college entrance examination research in China, said, the reform of the college entrance examination is the unity of opposites, and the two complement each other. If the college entrance examination does not adhere to the reform, we can only be complacent, not advance or retreat; but if the college entrance examination does not adhere to the reform, it may lose its foundation and make rapid progress.<sup>[2]</sup> Thus, it can be seen that the importance and necessity of keeping the characteristics of integrity in the reform of the new college entrance examination.

### **2.3.2 Compensation Nature**

The compensatory nature is mainly reflected in the long-term mechanism proposed in the notice to gradually form a guarantee mechanism for rural students to attend key universities, as well as the continued implementation of the “enrollment cooperation plan to support the central and western regions” and further increase the number of students to support the central and western regions and provinces with relatively low enrollment rate.<sup>[3]</sup> Obviously, no matter the cooperative enrollment plan in the western region or the enrollment mechanism of key universities for rural students, all of them show the inclination of college entrance examination policy for the vulnerable groups and underdeveloped areas. According to one of the principles of Rawls' theory of Justice - the principle of difference, this principle is just the important principle and guarantee of modern social justice - fairness and justice.<sup>[4]</sup> Therefore, as an important embodiment of the difference principle of justice theory, compensatory policy is also an important embodiment and value orientation of fairness and justice in the reform of the new college entrance examination.

### **2.3.3 Democratic Nature**

In November 2017, Zhejiang Provincial People's government issued several opinions on further deepening the comprehensive reform pilot of college entrance examination, which took more than

three years to form. It has held more than 30 symposiums, widely soliciting senior high school principals, discipline teachers and researchers, front-line teachers, experts, students, parents, universities, education administrative departments, examination and enrollment institutions, people's Congress, government The association and other representatives from all walks of life participated in more than 1100 people's opinions; carried out three questionnaire surveys, including the offline surveys of education administrative departments, senior high school principals, front-line teachers, the first graduates, senior three and senior two students; also included the online questionnaire survey, with more than 23000 participants.<sup>[5]</sup> This demonstration process of listening to opinions extensively, studying and discussing many times and comparing many schemes repeatedly is the concentrated embodiment of the democracy of the reform of the new college entrance examination. It can be seen that the demonstration process of the implementation plan of the new college entrance examination reform pilot has a wide range of democratic characteristics in both form and substance.

## 2.4 The Influence of China's New College Entrance Examination Reform

The comprehensive reform of China's new college entrance examination started in 2014 is of great significance and far-reaching influence. The influence mainly includes combining students' interest, promoting students' growth, creating a talent environment, stimulating innovation, conforming to public opinion, promoting social stability and so on.

## 3. Summary

It is necessary to further improve the top-level design of the new college entrance examination reform system according to the problems and deficiencies in the implementation of the new college entrance examination reform. In particular, we need to consider the effective integration of education objectives, personnel training objectives, social needs, social equity and other aspects into the implementation plan of the new college entrance examination reform. It is suggested that the depth and strength of the new college entrance examination reform should be further increased in the aspects of College participation, the cultivation and development of high school students' professional interests, the further promotion of compensatory principle, and the in-depth development of comprehensive evaluation.

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