# Social trust and community construction: the accumulation and inheritance of social capital

# William Huang

School of Marxism, Zhongnan University of Economics and Law, Wuhan City, Hubei Province, 430073, China

Abstract: By exploring the relationship between social trust and community construction, as well as the importance of social capital accumulation and inheritance, this paper puts forward some specific methods and ways. Research has found that social trust is an important foundation and guarantee of community construction, and community construction provides a platform and opportunity for the cultivation of social trust. The accumulation and inheritance of social capital are of great significance to the community development. In practice, attention should be paid to the accumulation and inheritance of social capital through various ways to provide strong support for the sustainable development of the community.

**Keywords:** social trust; community building; social capital; accumulation; inheritance

#### 1. Introduction

# 1.1. Background Introduction

Social trust and community construction are the key elements of building a harmonious society. Social trust promotes interpersonal interaction and communication, and enhances social cohesion and stability. In the formulation and implementation of public policies, social trust increases public participation and acceptance, and makes policies more just, transparent and effective. Community construction is a micro component of society, which is of great significance to promoting social harmony, promoting economic development, improving the level of public service and enhancing social governance capacity. Strengthening community construction can enhance the sense of belonging and cohesion of residents, reduce social contradictions and conflicts, and promote social harmony. At the same time, community construction is helpful to improve residents' living standards and quality of life, increase consumer demand, and promote the development of local economy. Social capital refers to the resources and relationships owned in social networks, including trust, cooperation, norms and socialization relationships, which have an important impact on economic development, social stability and individual happiness. Accumulating and inheriting social capital is of great significance to the society and individuals. The accumulation of social capital can be conducted through community construction, public participation, social network and other ways. Therefore, we should attach importance to the importance of social trust and community construction, actively participate in community construction activities, build a community environment of mutual trust and mutual assistance, make contributions to the prosperity and stability of the society, promote sustainable economic development, promote social progress and cultivate excellent citizens.

# 1.2. Study scope and method

# 1.2.1. Study scope

Regional scope: The research scope of social trust and community construction can cover different regions, including urban, rural, community, etc. There may be differences in community construction and social trust in different regions, so in-depth research should be conducted according to the characteristics of different regions.

Group scope: The study of social trust and community construction can focus on different groups, such as the elderly, teenagers, women, migrant workers, etc. Social trust and community building needs may vary among different groups, thus requiring in-depth studies on the characteristics of different groups.

Area scope: Research on social trust and community building can cover different fields, such as education, health care, economy, culture, etc. Community construction and social trust may vary in different fields, so in-depth research on the characteristics of different fields is needed.

# 1.2.2. Study Methods

Literature research method: Through consulting relevant literature, we can understand the research status, research results and existing problems of social trust and community construction, so as to provide theoretical support for the subsequent research.

Questionnaire survey method: Through questionnaire design, community residents from different regions and different groups were investigated to understand their social trust status and community construction needs, so as to provide data support for subsequent studies.

Case analysis method: select representative communities or groups to deeply understand the actual situation of their social trust and community construction, analyze their successful experience and existing problems, and provide practical support for subsequent research.

Experimental research method: by setting up experimental group and control group, to conduct experimental research on different community construction measures, to evaluate their influence on social trust and community construction, and to provide guidance for subsequent practice.

#### 1.2.3. Study value

Theoretically speaking, through the study of social trust and community construction, we can deeply understand the formation mechanism of social trust, the core elements of community construction and the accumulation and inheritance laws of social capital, so as to provide theoretical support for the construction of a harmonious society. In practice, through the investigation and research of community residents in different regions, different groups and different fields, we can understand their social trust status and community construction needs, and provide practical guidance for the formulation of targeted community construction measures. At the same time, the evaluation of different community construction measures through the experimental research method can summarize the successful experience and find the problems, and provide reference for the subsequent practice.

# 2. The relationship between social trust and community building

# 2.1. The impact of social trust on community construction

Social trust has an important impact on community construction, which can improve the participation and sense of belonging of community members, promote community cooperation and mutual assistance, and enhance community cohesion and stability of [1]. Social trust can enhance the connection and interaction among community members, and make them more willing to participate in community activities and pay attention to community affairs, which helps to improve the participation and sense of belonging of community members. In community activities, community members can establish good interpersonal relationships, form common values and goals, and further enhance the cohesion and stability of the community. Social trust can also promote cooperation and mutual assistance among community members, enabling them to cooperate more effectively in the face of common problems and challenges. Through mutual support and help, community members can jointly solve some problems that are difficult to solve alone, and improve the adaptability and development capacity of the community. At the same time, social trust can also promote information sharing and knowledge dissemination among community members, and promote the common progress and development of the community. In addition, social trust can enhance the connection and interaction between community members, so that they can more identify with the value and goals of the community, and thus enhance the cohesion and stability of the community. In the community, social trust can help to establish good social relations, reduce the contradictions and conflicts within the community, promote the harmony and stability of the community, improve the satisfaction and loyalty of the community members to the community, and make them more willing to contribute their own strength to the development of the community.

# 2.2. The impact of community construction on social trust

Community building plays a positive role in enhancing mutual trust and cooperation among community members and promoting communication and interaction within the community. By

providing various community services and activities, community building strengthens the connection and interaction among community members and promotes mutual trust and cooperation among them. In community activities, community members can establish a trust relationship, participate in community affairs together, form common values and goals, and thus enhance the cohesion and stability of the community. Community building promotes communication and interaction within the community by providing communication platforms and activity venues. People can share information, exchange experience, discuss problems, establish good social relations, and then improve the level of social trust. This communication and interaction can promote mutual understanding and respect among community members and further enhance the harmony and stability of the community [2]. In addition, good community building can also enhance the image and reputation of the community. In the community, people can enjoy high-quality public services, cultural activities and social welfare to improve residents' satisfaction and loyalty to the community. At the same time, a good community image and reputation can also attract more residents to join the community and expand the influence and cohesion of the community.

# 3. Accumulation of social capital

#### 3.1. The importance of social capital accumulation

Improve the level of social trust: the accumulation of social capital helps to improve the level of social trust. By participating in community activities and building social networks, people can enhance their trust and cooperation with each other, and then improve the cohesion and stability of the community [3]. Participating in community activities allows people to better understand each other and build a foundation for mutual trust, thus forming a more harmonious and mutual-aid society. Building connections on social networks allows people to share resources, exchange knowledge and experiences, help and support each other, and further enhance their trust. Therefore, actively participating in community activities and establishing social networks can enhance the level of social trust and promote the stable development of the society.

Promoting community economic development: The accumulation of social capital helps to promote the development of community economy. The community is a relatively dense crowd gathering area, and a large number of resources and manpower are concentrated in this place. How to make better use of these resources and manpower and promote the development of the community economy becomes particularly important. By participating in community activities, people can build a wide network, increase access to information and broaden opportunities for economic cooperation. Enterprises and self-employed in the community can achieve mutual benefit and win-win results through mutual assistance and cooperation. These collaborations and interactions will have a positive driving effect on the community economy and promote its sustainable and healthy development.

Improving the level of social welfare: The accumulation of social capital helps to improve the level of social welfare. Community is an important part of people's lives, and a vibrant and harmonious community will have a positive impact on the quality of life of residents [4]. By participating in community activities, people can build a network of mutual care and support and improve their feelings of each other's well-being. In this network, people can share their life experiences, solve problems, and provide help to better meet the basic needs of residents. Communities can also provide more public services and resources, such as medical care, education and culture, so as to further improve the well-being of residents. Therefore, promoting the improvement of social welfare requires the continuous accumulation and joint efforts of social capital.

# 3.2. Methods and approaches of social capital accumulation

Strengthen community construction and improve the participation and sense of belonging of community members: Community construction is one of the important ways to accumulate social capital. By strengthening community construction and improving the participation and sense of belonging of community members, it can promote the connection and interaction between community members, and thus improve the level of social trust. Specific methods include: holding community activities, providing public services, strengthening community publicity, etc.

Promote community cooperation and mutual assistance, and establish a good community relationship network: community cooperation and mutual assistance is one of the important means of social capital accumulation. Community cohesion and stability can be enhanced by building good

community relationships by promoting cooperation and mutual assistance among community members. Specific methods include: organizing volunteer services, carrying out community cooperation projects, establishing community mutual assistance platform, etc.

Improve community cohesion and stability, enhance mutual trust and cooperation among community members: improve community cohesion and stability, enhance mutual trust and cooperation among community members, is one of the core goals of social capital accumulation. By strengthening community management and service, improving the quality and awareness of residents, and establishing a credit system, the mutual trust and cooperation among community members can be enhanced, and then the cohesion and stability of the community can be improved.

# 4. Inheritance of social capital

# 4.1. The importance of the inheritance of social capital

Maintaining the continuity and stability of social capital is one of the keys of community development. Social capital refers to the trust, cooperation and interaction between the members of the community, which can not only enhance the cohesion and stability of the community, but also promote the development and prosperity of the community [5]. In the community, inheriting and transmitting social capital is an important way to maintain the continuity and stability of social capital. By inheriting social capital, a new generation of community members are able to accept the teachings and cultivation of their predecessors, thus integrating into the community and connecting with other members. This inheritance can be a family tradition or communication and cultural heritage within the community. By inheriting and transmitting social capital, community members can maintain contact and interaction, maintain the harmony and stability of the community, and avoid the loss and rupture of social capital. In addition, the inheritance of social capital can also promote the accumulation and appreciation of social capital. In a community, inheriting the social capital can increase the trust and cooperation among the community members. When community members can pass on and use the social capital accumulated by their predecessors, it is easier for them to build trust relationships, strengthen cooperation, and face and solve problems together. This trust and cooperation can improve the cohesion and stability of the community, and thus promote the accumulation and appreciation of social capital. Through the inheritance of social capital, communities can achieve sustainable development. The inheritance of social capital can maintain the continuity and stability of community construction. The new generation of community members are able to accept the experience and wisdom of their predecessors to better inherit and develop the culture, values and traditions of the community. The inheritance of social capital can also promote the communication and interaction among the community members, and improve the adaptability and development ability of the community. By inheriting social capital, the community can constantly absorb new forces and innovation, and further promote the sustainable development of community construction.

# 4.2. Methods and approaches of social capital inheritance

Establish good family education and cultivate good behavior habits and moral quality of the next generation: Family education is one of the important ways to inherit social capital. Parents should pay attention to cultivating their children's good behavior habits and moral qualities, establish correct values and outlook on life, and let their children become responsible and responsible citizens. At the same time, the family should also establish close family relationships, enhance the trust and cooperation between the family members, and set a good family example for the children.

Strengthen community education and improve the cultural quality and moral level of community members: Community education is one of the important means of social capital inheritance. By strengthening community education and improving the cultural quality and moral level of community members, the mutual trust and cooperation among community members can be enhanced, and thus promote the harmony and stability of the community. Specific methods include: holding cultural activities, carrying out moral lectures, strengthening youth education, etc.

Encourage and support the next generation to actively participate in community construction, and cultivate their sense of social responsibility and citizenship: cultivating the sense of participation and responsibility of the next generation is one of the core goals of social capital inheritance [6]. By encouraging and supporting the next generation to actively participate in community building, let them understand community affairs, participate in community activities, cultivate their sense of social

responsibility and citizenship, and thus improve their participation and sense of belonging.

# 5. Social trust and community construction: a practical case analysis of social capital accumulation and inheritance

#### 5.1. Case selection and method

In order to deeply explore the connection between social trust and community construction, as well as the practical application of social capital accumulation and inheritance, we selected a community in Shanghai as the case study object. The community has a high level of social trust and rich experience in community construction, and has achieved remarkable results in the past few years. This study used a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods to deeply analyze and study social trust and community building practices in this community. The specific methods are described as follows:

Literature Collection: By consulting relevant literature and archives, understand the social trust of the community and the history and development process of community construction.

Field investigation: Field visits to the community, in-depth communication with community residents and staff, and understand their views and experience of social trust and community construction.

Questionnaire survey: For community residents and staff, questionnaires are designed to collect data and information on their social trust, community construction, social capital accumulation and other aspects.

Case analysis: Combined with the literature data and field survey results, the case is in-depth analyzed to explore the interactive relationship between social trust and community construction, as well as the specific application of social capital accumulation and inheritance in the community.

# 5.2. Case introduction

A community in Shanghai is a mature community with rich history and cultural deposits. In recent years, with the support of the government and social forces, the community has successfully enhanced the community cohesion and stability and improved the quality of life of the residents by strengthening the community construction, cultivating social trust and promoting community cooperation. The community took a variety of measures in community building. First of all, strengthen infrastructure construction to provide a good living environment for residents. Secondly, rich and colorful community activities should be carried out to promote the communication and interaction among residents. In addition, through the establishment of community committees, owners' committees and other organizations, to strengthen resident participation and democratic management, to improve the transparency and fairness of community affairs. In terms of social trust cultivation, the community focuses on establishing a credit system, encouraging residents to participate in community affairs, and increasing mutual understanding and trust. At the same time, through the development of voluntary service, neighborhood mutual assistance and other activities, to promote the cultivation of cooperation and mutual assistance spirit among residents. In addition, the construction of information disclosure and information exchange platform should be strengthened to improve residents' right to know and participation in community affairs. Through these efforts, the social capital of the community was effectively accumulated and inherited. Residents' sense of identity and sense of belonging to the community has been significantly enhanced, and the communication and interaction within the community has become more frequent and close. At the same time, the community has also attracted more social resources input, providing a strong guarantee for the sustainable development of the community.

# 5.3. Case analysis

Social trust is an important foundation and guarantee of community construction, and community construction provides a platform and opportunity for the cultivation of social trust. In this community, the spirit of mutual trust and cooperation among the residents has been effectively cultivated and improved, while also promoting the cohesion and stability of the community. The community has effectively accumulated social capital by strengthening infrastructure construction, carrying out community activities and establishing an organizational system. At the same time, through the

cultivation of the credit system, the spirit of cooperation, the right to know and the participation, the inheritance and development of social capital has been realized. This provides a strong support and guarantee for the sustainable development of the community. The government has given strong support and guidance in the social trust cultivation and community construction of the community, which has effectively promoted the development of this work. At the same time, the active participation of social forces also provides an important supplement and support for the social capital accumulation and inheritance of the community.

# 5.4. Conclusions and recommendations

There is a close connection between social trust and community construction, and they both promote each other and develop together. In the future work, we should pay attention to cultivate social trust and strengthen community construction to promote the harmonious and stable development of society [7]. The accumulation and inheritance of social capital are of great significance to the community development. In practice, attention should be paid to the accumulation and inheritance of social capital through various ways to provide strong support for the sustainable development of the community.

# 6. Conclusion

# 6.1. Results Summary

This paper analyzes the relationship between social trust and community construction and its influence on social capital accumulation and inheritance, and discusses the specific methods and approaches of social capital accumulation and inheritance and their effects. Through the analysis of practice cases in a community in Shanghai, we find that there is a close connection between social trust and community construction, which promote each other and develop together. The accumulation and inheritance of social capital are of great significance to the community development. In practice, attention should be paid to the accumulation and inheritance of social capital through various ways to provide strong support for the sustainable development of the community. This study uses a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods to conduct an in-depth analysis and study of the cases. The results show that the cultivation of social trust and the strengthening of community construction can promote the communication and interaction within the community, improve the participation and belonging of residents, and then promote the community development. At the same time, the effective accumulation and inheritance of social capital can provide support and guarantee for the sustainable development of the community. In addition, this paper also presents specific suggestions and measures for the future of social trust and community building. First of all, the government should increase the investment in community construction, provide more policy and financial support, and promote the improvement of community public services. Secondly, community residents should actively participate in community construction, give full play to the sense of ownership, and jointly promote community development. At the same time, the community governance system should be established and improved, the residents' participation and democratic management should be strengthened, and the transparency and fairness of community affairs should be improved. Finally, the participation and support of social forces should be strengthened to jointly promote the accumulation and inheritance of community construction and social capital.

# 6.2. Deficiency and outlook

Despite the certain achievements of this study, there are still some limitations. Due to the limitations of the study time and resources, the number of samples selected for this study was small and the study scope was narrow. Future research could further expand the breadth and depth of research to more comprehensively explore the relationship between social trust and community construction. Moreover, this study focused on the accumulation and inheritance of social capital, but did not cover the specific definition, measurement and assessment of social capital. Future research can further improve the theoretical system of social capital, including the definition, measurement and evaluation of social capital. Through a deep understanding of social capital, we can better provide more accurate tools and methods for the related research of social trust and community construction. In view of the shortcomings of the current research and the development direction of the future research, the future research can be carried out from the following aspects. First, expand the scope of research. Further

increase the sample number and expand the breadth of research to more comprehensively explore the relationship between social trust and community building. Practice cases of different regions and different types of communities can be selected to understand the differences between social trust and community construction and their influencing factors under different backgrounds. Second, make an in-depth study of the accumulation and inheritance mechanism of social capital and its influencing factors. The accumulation and inheritance mechanism of social capital and its influencing factors can be further explored. To understand the process of the generation, accumulation and transmission of social capital and its mutual relationship with individuals, organizations and social levels, to provide theoretical support for the in-depth study of social trust and community construction. In addition, we explore how to apply the research results related to social trust and community construction to the practice field. We can explore how to apply the research results related to social trust and community construction to the practice areas to provide support and help to improve the level of social well-being. Through the combination of research and practice, promote the innovation and development of community construction work, and enhance the level of mutual trust and cooperation within the community.

# References

- [1] Guo Liyan. Community culture construction and the development and application of social capital [D]. Beijing University of Chemical Technology, 2012.
- [2] Chen Shuxin. Research on Urban Community Construction from the perspective of Social Capital Theory [D]. Liaoning University [2023-12-08].
- [3] Yan Jirong. Community governance and social capital investment—Theoretical explanation of community governance innovation in China [J]. Tianjin Social Science, 2010 (3): 6.
- [4] Xue Wentong. Interaction between social capital conversion and community building: Chinese experience [D]. Fudan University, 2009.
- [5] Cao Hongjie. The current obstacles and innovation paths of urban community construction—Based on the perspective of social capital [J]. Journal of North China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Power (Social Science edition), 2017,033 (004): 82-83, 100.
- [6] Ma Lijuan. Community governance and the cultivation of Community social capital [J]. Social Sciences, 2016,000 (010): 77-80.
- [7] Jin Ying. Research on the changing trend of social Capital in Community Culture Construction [D]. Heilongjiang Provincial Academy of Social Sciences [2023-12-08].