

Domestic Child Labor Research since the Republic of China

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ABSTRACT. *Since the beginning of the 20th century, the academic circles began to pay attention to child labor. So far, they have experienced four stages before 1949, 1949-1978, 1979-1991 and 1992. In different stages, although the research issues are focused, they mainly focus on the causes of child labor, the harm of using child labor, and the methods of eliminating child labor. Domestic child labor research has achieved certain results, but there are also deficiencies. Tracing the history of domestic child labor research helps people to deepen their understanding of child labor, which will help people better protect children.*

KEYWORDS: *Children, Child labor, Research, Review*

1. Introduction

On June 12, 2018, it was the “World No Child Labor Day” anniversary set up by the International Labor Organization. The theme of this year is “to ensure the health and safety of young workers and to end child labor.” As one of the founding member states, the Convention on Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (No. 138) was ratified in 1998, and the Convention on the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour was ratified in 2002 (No. 182). The Convention aimed at “eliminating child labour”, together with other member states that ratified the Convention, regard “prohibiting and eliminating the worst forms of child labour” as an urgent matter, in order to eliminate the worst forms of child labor worldwide. Labor provides a Chinese program.

2. Research Stage of “Young Children” Labor Phenomenon

In the 1860s, factories in China used “children” records, and the study of this phenomenon in the academic circles was later. The records were recorded in the early 20th century. Since then, the academic research on the “children” labor phenomenon has experienced the following stages.

1) Before 1949. At the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, with the development of the capitalist economy, child labor began to become an important part of some factory labor. Some researchers began to publish

a series of research results on the causes of child labor, the consequences of using child labor, and the methods of eliminating child labor. This stage is the most active period of research on child labour.

2) 1949-1978. According to Mr. Yan Lixin, in the early days of the founding of New China, due to the influence of long-term wars, it was difficult for national power to implement compulsory education. "The state has no prohibition on the use of child labor," resulting in individual private companies "still employing a lot of under 16 A minor who is a child." Before the economic system reform in the mid-1960s, the private economy ceased to exist, and the recruitment was mainly controlled by the government labor department. "The problem of using child labor has also been completely solved." This situation is reflected in the academic circles that individual people have not forgotten child labor. As an academic issue. This stage is a period of silence in the study of child labour.

3) 1979-1991. After the reform and opening up, because the state allowed and encouraged the existence and development of individual labor, especially with the development of the private economy, the once extinct child labor once again appeared on the Chinese economic stage. Some researchers write articles, or explore the reasons for their occurrence, or study their history to "clear", or call for legislation to ban. At this stage, research on child labour issues has become increasingly active.

4) Since 1992. In 1991, the State Council promulgated the "Prohibition of the Use of Child Labor", prohibiting the illegal use of child labor by enterprises. Since then, the use of child labour by enterprises (mainly informal enterprises) has been severely restricted. The academic circles' attention to child labor is mainly concentrated on two aspects. One is to study the phenomenon of child labor in the real society, and the other is to explore its history in different countries. At this stage, child labor research has become the norm.

Due to the different eras and their contexts, the study of child labour issues has different characteristics at different stages, but no matter what the situation, the starting point is to protect children from harm.

3. The Main Contents of the Researchers on Child Labour

According to the results of published research on the issue of child labor, the researchers mainly focus on the following content.

3.1 Child Labor Phenomenon in Different Periods

1) The situation of child labor in different periods. Before 1949, especially in the 1920s and 1930s, due to the prevalence of child labor, researchers paid more attention to them. Some of them grasped the situation of domestic child labor from a macro perspective, such as Wang Chunsheng, Shen Danni, Cai Genshen, Chen Zhenlu, Huang Yuzhen. Liu Wei and others; some focus on the study of child labor

in more economically developed regions, such as Shanghai, Tianjin, Jiangsu and Zhejiang, such as Li Dazhao, Qi Ying, Yi Fei, and Bai Yi. After 1949, especially after the 1980s and 1990s, the researchers mainly focused on the phenomenon of child labor in the society at that time. The representative figures were Chengxinyou, Zheng Junjie, Wang Yuren, Lu Shizhen and Lu Deping.

2) The phenomenon of child labor in history. The study of the phenomenon of child labor in history mainly refers to the research on the use of child labor in the old China and the use of child labor in the industrial revolution of the United States and the United States after 1979. The former is represented by Qiu Yuanzhen, Li Nan, Lu Yungeng, etc., while the latter is represented by Zhuang Jie, Liu Lihua, Yin Mingming and Shi Yihui.

3) Foreign child labor phenomenon. Prior to 1949, he mainly focused on the research on the solution to the problem of child labor in the United Kingdom, the United States and other countries. He was represented by Liu Futong, Yi Shifang, Huang Tingzhu, Yuan Zongwei, etc.; from 1949 to 1978, he focused on foreign countries (mainly Anglo-American law, etc.). The country's child labor and living conditions are mainly based on some telegraphs of Xinhua News Agency; after 1979, the focus is on the use of child labor and its solutions in the less developed countries represented by India, with Zhang Huifang, Wang Xiaodan, Xiao Bing Wait for the representative.

3.2 Reasons for Child Labor.

This is a common concern of researchers. Researchers before 1949 believed that the adoption of machines, the poverty of families, the cheapness of child labor, and the flaws in education were all likely to induce child labor. Among them, family poverty is regarded as one of the main reasons. Representatives include Hao Jingxiu, Chen Zhenlu, Pan Mingshan, Hu Zhining, Liu Wei and so on. In 1949, especially after 1979, researchers believe that family poverty, child labor and the defects of the education system have become the main reasons for child labor. Representatives include Cheng Zhixin, Zheng Junjie, Wang Yuren, Hu Wenbin, Xiao Bingsheng and Gu Hongwei.

3.3 The Harm Caused by Child Labor.

Researchers before 1949 emphasized that the use of child labor is not good for children's physical and mental health development, and that society may lose excellent human resources. "Today's children are the people of tomorrow" and "children are endowed with the future nature of the country and the nation" . Representatives include Zou Yifen, Shen Danni, Yao Shaoxuan, etc. After 1949, especially in recent years, researchers believe that the existence of individual child labor phenomenon has a certain impact on children, the most important thing is to lose the opportunity for children to develop equally. Bu Wei and others are representatives.

3.4 Employment of Child Labor for the Study of Critical Labor Crimes.

Before 1949, although researchers also emphasized the use of laws to solve child labor problems, such as Yao Shaoxuan and Bao Huaguo, criminal law did not set charges related to child labor. In 2002, the “Criminal Law Amendment (4) of the People's Republic of China” added the crime of “hiring child labor to engage in critical labor”. Some researchers conducted research on the subject, object and constitutional elements of the crime. Zhou Yuwen, Cai Dayu, Huang Ziqiang and others are represented.

3.5 Countermeasures to Solve the Problem of Child Labor.

The countermeasures proposed by the researchers can be summarized into two types. One is policy suggestion, which advocates that the government restricts and eventually bans child labor by formulating or modifying certain policies. Before 1949, he was represented by Bai Yi, Yao Shaoxuan, Bao Huaguo, Xiao Zhonglie, Yang Gonghuai, etc. After 1949, he was represented by Cheng Youxin, Zheng Junjie and so on. Second, the legislative proposal was to ban or revise a certain law. Child labour. Before 1949, Yao Shaoxuan and Bao Huaguo were represented. After 1949, Yuan Jingheng, Peng Jianming, Huang Ziqiang and others were represented.

3.6 International Labour Standards and Child Labor Issues.

It is mainly to explore how to improve the relevant laws and regulations on the protection of children and the prohibition of child labor in China, with representatives such as Chen Xiaoyun, Yu Yuling and Song Wei.

In addition to the above main research contents, there are also some other aspects of research, such as the relationship between child labor and education. It should be noted that the representative of the above-mentioned research in a certain aspect (the author uses the example for convenience of explanation) only emphasizes more in this respect, and does not mean that he does not approve or study it in other aspects.

4. Achievements in the Study of Child Labour

Since the 20th century, the domestic research on child labor has achieved some achievements, mainly due to the publication of research and the emergence of project projects since 2000.

In terms of the discussion, only Wang Chunsheng and Shi Ya are currently working on “Study on Child Labor” (1922) and Shen Danini on “Child Labor” (1927). If some ILO publications on child labour issues are included, there are Child Labor Issues in the Most Unacceptable Form (1993), A Future without Child Labor (2002), and End of Child Labor. “Can be expected” (2006), “Accelerated Action against Child Labor” (2010).

There are many books dealing with child labor issues, such as Li Jianhua's Labor and Labor Law (1928), Labor Law (1933), Chen Zhenlu's Labor Issues Outline (1934), and Klapan's Modern British Economic History. (1977), Paul Mantu, "The Industrial Revolution of the Eighteenth Century" (1983), Parker's "Forgotten Suffering" (1983), Xiong Bingzhen's "Children's Remembrance" (2000), and Zelize "To Priceless Children Pricing (2008), Shi Yihui, "The Transformation of Childhood" (2012), Alice's "Children's Century" (2013), Giulia and others, "Western Children's History" (2016).

The number of papers published and published is considerable. More importantly, domestic child labor is the subject of research, Zou Taofen's Child Labor Issues (1926), Cai Genshen's Research on Child Labor Issues (1929), Qiu Peihao's China Child Labor Issues (1936), and Huang Yuxi's Child Labor in China Question (1933), Liu Wei, "Modern Chinese Child Labor Issues" (1936), Qiu Yuanzhen, "Why Old Chinese Capitalists Use Child Labor in Large Numbers" (1979), Cheng Youxin, "Protection of Child Labor in the Primary Stage of Socialism" (1988), Zheng Junjie A Brief Discussion on the Problem of Child Labor in China and Its Countermeasures (1988), Lu Yungeng, "Study on Child Labor in the Early Years of the Republic of China" (2002), Lu Shizhen, "Child Labor Issues and Governance" (2003), Li Nan, "Child Labor Use in the Process of Modern China's Industrialization" And performance research (2015) and so on.

Exploring the problems of modern child labor from the perspectives of law, education, and international labor standards, Zhou Yuwen, "Talking about the Criminal Behavior of Child Labor" (2003), Gu Hongwei, "Concave Yield Curve and Secondary Education Investment Bottleneck: Another Child Labor An Interpretation (2006), Chen Xiaoyun, "International Protection of Child Labor Rights" (2007), Cai Dayu, "Study on the Crime of Employing Child Labor in Critical Labor" (2009), and Qi Yuling, "Research on Legal Issues in International Child Labor Standards" (2009).

Taking foreign child labor as the research object, Xue Puchun, "The Amendment of the Child Labor Law in the United States and Its Future" (1936), Liu Futong, "Child Law and Education in Various Countries" (1942), Huang Tingzhu, "Child Labor in India" (1948), Yuan Baozhu, "Chinese Apprentices talk about the American Child Labor Law" (1948), Zhuang Jieyou, "The Role and Status of Child Labor in the British Industrial Revolution" (1981), Liu Lihua, "Analysis of Child Labor in the Cotton Textile Industry during the American Progressive Movement" (2000) Shi Yihui, "Analysis of the Causes of Child Labor Problems in the 19th Century in the UK" (2003), He Yuting, "Study on the Problem of Illegal Child Labor after the Civil War in Guatemala (1996-2005)" (2005), Yin Mingming, "Child Labor before the American Civil War" (2007), Jia Xiaoqing, "Study on Child Labor Issues in Developing Countries" (2012), and "Critical Research on the Governance of Child Labor in Hanoi from the Perspective of Educational Policies" (2013). The publication of the above discussion is conducive to deepening the understanding and understanding of child labor issues, thus providing academic support for a better multi-level child protection system.

Since 2000, a number of different levels of childcare issues have been approved. From the information already available, there is Lu Yungeng's "Historical Investigation and Realistic Enlightenment of Child Labor Issues" (General Project of the Ministry of Education, No. 12YJA770034), Li Nan, "Theory and Empirical Research on Child Labor Issues in China's Early Industrialization (1840-1936)" (General Ministry of Education, No. 14YJC790066), Cai Hua, 'I don't want to go home' - a deep-seated investigation of Liangshan Child Labor's coastal work (National Civil Affairs Commission project, No. 2014-GM-013). Involved in the issue of child labor, Chi Zihua's National Social Science Fund project "Research on the "Working Girl" group in modern China – centered on the Yangtze River Delta region (project number 09BZS046). The emergence of a project may mean that the academic community believes that research in this area is needed.

Another point to mention is that from the translation of the proposed (1925) legislation to severely punish the use of child labor in violation of the rules, Peng Jianming (1993) proposed the addition of "children's crimes", to the 2002 "PRC Criminal Law Amendment (4)" The crime of "hiring child labor for critical labor" may be seen, and the shadow of humanities and social science workers may be seen.

There are also deficiencies in the study of child labour. Mainly the research methods and research results are presented in a relatively simple form. From the research method, the research on the problem of child labor is mostly the individual behavior of the researcher, which may reflect the weak and marginalized situation of the research on the subject. Judging from the presentation of the research results, there are almost no papers or research reports, and there are few cases in which the research results are transformed into courses. The research results in the form of literary drama and film are rare (it was published in 1949-1978). Some literary readings that reflect child labor, comic strips). It reflects that the researchers' perception of the problem is more at the level of "research", and it has not yet reached the "universalization" of society. Overall, there may be room for improvement in the overall level of research.

5. Conclusion

Chinese law prohibits the use of child labor, especially after the crime of "hiring child labor for critical labor", the illegal use of child labor will be "incriminating". There is no soil for large-scale use of child labour in China. The phenomenon of child labor that is sometimes reported by the media is only an occasional phenomenon that informal enterprises in some regions occasionally do. Therefore, the study of child labor problems is difficult to become mainstream academic research.

On the occasion of the "World No Child Labor Day" anniversary, reviewing the domestic academic research on child labor issues, on the one hand, responding to the "World No Child Labor Day" anniversary event, on the other hand, reminding people to pay attention to possible existence. The phenomenon of child labour, and thus mobilize the forces that the whole society can mobilize, join the ranks of the

international society including China to eliminate child labor before 2025, and contribute to the equal development opportunities of all children.

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