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Analysis on the Problems and Countermeasures of the Participation of Vulnerable Groups in the Process of Public Policy Formulation

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Abstract. Accepting people's wishes and expressing people's demands can promote the construction of science and democratization and the development of public policies. Public policies are for the common interests of the public. Therefore, in the process of formulating public policies, public participation is an important link. Public participation lays a solid foundation for the construction of public policies and is conducive to promoting them. Our country's public policy construction is more democratic and legal. With the progress of the times and the improvement of people's ideological level, the public has great participation at present. However, there are still some groups whose participation is not high enough, that is, the vulnerable groups. The survey shows that the vulnerable groups occupy a large proportion of the current public, so the voice of the vulnerable groups also occupies an important position. Because of their particularity, the vulnerable groups usually have low willingness to express themselves, fewer channels to receive information and insufficient ability to participate in politics and deliberation, but their enthusiasm in public opinion is high, especially since the reform and opening up. With the improvement of the quality of our social members, people's attention to the vulnerable groups is gradually increasing. We should pay attention to the needs of the vulnerable groups, understand their wishes, study the problems existing in the voice of the vulnerable groups from the aspects of the willingness to appeal for interests, the channels of expression, and the organizations of the government departments responding to the vulnerable groups, and put forward corresponding suggestions. Measures.

Keywords: public participation, vulnerable groups, the public.

1. Introduction

1.1 The Background and Significance of the Topic

Public policy refers to the strategic application of resources by the state. It is a general term for a series of policies that coordinate economic and social activities and mutual relations. It mainly includes four aspects. One is the distribution policy, that is to say, the overall planning of resources, reasonable allocation. The second is management policy, through the implementation of some relevant rules and regulations, to ensure the public's equal use of public goods. The third is in the redistribution policy. Taxation is a policy that is collected from the people and used by the people through redistribution, achieve assistance programs for citizens. The fourth is the legislative policy to build a sound legal environment. Use the law to improve the entire environment. Public policy occupies a central position in administrative management. The study of public policy began in the West first, and was born in the United States after the Second World War. Its birth was accompanied by the pressure of social problems, the needs of government management and the development of political science, public policy as a new discipline. It is an inevitable requirement for the rapid development of society, economy and politics in today's world. With the advancement of society, public policy is also developing. Under the influence of the new social movement in the West, scholars have deepened their research on public policy. The third sector, as a non-government system organization, safeguards the interests of the public and drives the upsurge of public participation in the public policy, the public hopes to participate in public policy to influence government policy guidance and decision-making. Public participation in today's society has been involved in all aspects of policy. The construction of policies and the supervision of policies play far-reaching significance



in the process of public policy. With the development of the times and the progress of society, citizens' awareness of participating in and discussing politics has been gradually enhanced. Citizens want to participate in the government's decision-making, express their own demands, and safeguard their own interests, among which the vulnerable groups are an important part of the public. The vulnerable groups conduct political participation and discussion through various channels. In the process of democratic decision-making, which is conducive to the scientific government decision-making, can promote the goal of achieving democratic decision-making. However, there are many problems in the participation of the disadvantaged groups in the administration and discussion of state affairs. In many cases, their suggestions have not received much attention, and only a minority of people participates in politics. Most of the disadvantaged groups do not have a strong willingness to participate in politics. They are more interested in the stability of life and a lower desire to express their aspirations. The development and progress of society cannot be separated from the participation of vulnerable groups. Vulnerable groups realize their rights and promote the participation of vulnerable groups in public decision-making. They can improve the sense of ownership of vulnerable groups, enhance their sense of existence in society, prevent marginalization, help protect the legitimate rights and interests of vulnerable groups, and conducive to promoting more fair and just public decision-making.

1.2 Domestic and Foreign Literature Review

Since the 1880s, public participation has become an increasingly important position, both by citizens themselves and by scholars and governments. Public participation is an inevitable requirement of social progress. Both domestic and foreign scholars believe that it is of great significance for vulnerable groups to participate in public decision-making. And research on this subject, mainly from two aspects: On the one hand, it is about the study of citizen participation in public policy. On the other hand, it is about the study of vulnerable groups.

1.2.1 Foreign Literature Review

(1) Research on public policy

The theory of public participation in public policy has been studied in the west for a long time. And because of the differences between Eastern and Western cultures and national conditions, the west produced some suitable for their own development theory. The development of new Western social movements, involve members of different countries, different nationalities, different classes and different strata, and the public has raised awareness of participation in the movement. Western scholars have conducted more in-depth research on public policy, and also some representative theories are put forward. In the book "On Democracy", American contemporary scholar Cohen emphasized the importance of public participation in public decision-making. The policy makers are not only government departments, but also non-government departments and the public, and the public and non-government departments participate. The public and non-government sectors have a deeper impact. John Clayton Thomas proposed that the model of "effective decision-making model for citizen participation" points out that citizen need to participate in decision-making, but the participation of citizens in decision-making is not necessarily positive, so the government needs to create the right time and the right circumstances for citizens to participate in public policy.

(2) Definition of vulnerable groups

Vulnerable groups considered by Western countries. It is mainly the people who live by the social welfare system. Their quality of life is poor and their level of education is low. They do not have the ability to work. It's also hard to live alone. Their income is mainly derived from various benefits, and it is difficult to guarantee the quality of life. They believe that the main members of the vulnerable groups are the elderly, children, the disabled, the mentally ill, and the unemployed and so on, and they may be subjected to all kinds of oppression in the society. But whether it is a vulnerable group or a strong group, everyone has the right to say happiness. They should all have equal human rights. Therefore, public policy needs to consider vulnerable groups.



1.2.2 Domestic Literature Review

(1) Research on public policy

Compared with Western countries, China's research on public policy started relatively late, so the research on public participation was also relatively late, but it has absorbed the advanced experience of Western countries, and then made specific adjustments according to the current national conditions, China's public policy has also developed. China's research on public policy has gone through more than 30 years. At the beginning, it has learned from the advanced experience of the West. Now it has developed a public policy theory suited to China's national conditions according to its national conditions, there are also some theoretical achievements, Ning Sao's "Public Policy Science", Wang Xuejie has "Thinking about Improving the Ways of Participating in Public Policy in China", "Introduction to Modern Public Policy" by Zhang Guoqing, "Public Policy Analysis" by Gu Jianguang, and Wu Liping's "Citizen Political Participation in China's Transition Period". Professor Yu Keping believes that public participation, citizen participation, and public participation have the same concept. Public participation aims to involve the people, and public policy should also pay more attention to the public's point of view and let the public play a leading role. Li Jianjun constructed the basic framework of public policy in Public Policy and clarified the meaning of public policy.

(2) About vulnerable groups

There are five vulnerable groups in China: First, migrant workers who work in cities but have no social security. The second is elderly person of no family who has no childlessness to support. The third is minors without legal guardians. and the fourth is a person who is physically or mentally disabled and unable to work properly. Fifth, people whose economic income is lower than the local minimum standards due to their own reasons. In addition, there are other special cases of statutory circumstances, such as the legal guardians of minors are detained, labor reform and other compulsory measures, and they cannot normally raise their children, which is also a vulnerable group. The vulnerable groups are often in a vulnerable position in society, and their rights are difficult to realize.

1.3 The Structure and Content of the Paper

This paper is divided into four parts: The first part is the introduction part, which briefly explains the background and significance of the topic, explains the importance of public participation in public policy, and literature review at home and abroad, and discusses the definition of public participation and vulnerable groups in public policy at home and abroad; the second part is related concepts, discussing what is public policy, what is public policy formulation, what is public participation, what is a vulnerable group, and put forward the theory of public governance as the theoretical basis of this paper; The third part mainly deals with the predicament of vulnerable groups in public policy formulation, there are four main aspects, the vulnerable groups have low expression willingness and ability, the expression channels are not smooth, and low government response to vulnerable groups. The government is for the disadvantaged groups. The response is low; The fourth part of this paper, in view of these problems, proposed solutions, and the final balance summarizes the full text and put forward the future prospects.

1.4 Thesis Research Method

1.4.1 Observation Method

Through the observation and investigation of some vulnerable groups around us, relevant conclusions are obtained.

1.4.2 Literature Research Method

Through the study of relevant literature, the data are analyzed and integrated to draw conclusions.



2. Theoretical Definition of Public Participation and Vulnerable Groups in Public Policy Making

2.1 Public Policy and Public Policy Formulation

Public policy is chosen and formulated by public power organs through political process to solve public problems, achieve public goals, and realize public interests. Public policy is an authoritative distribution of social interests, which centralized reflects the interests of the society. Therefore, public policies must reflect the interests of the majority, and public policy is to ensure the public's interests and to develop policies that can truly serve the people. Therefore, citizens can participate in it and play a very positive role.

Public policy formulation refers to a series of processes in which government agencies find problems to solve problems. In this process, they refer to relevant laws and regulations, adhere to the principle of seeking truth from facts, and adjust according to specific situations, its manifestations are diverse, it can be laws, regulations, plans, programs, etc. The process of public policy formulation is generally: policy issue confirmation, policy agenda setting, public policy formulation, policy legalization, public policy enforcement, public policy assessment, public policy end, it's a whole process from problem confirmation to summary to replay. The formulation of public policy, not only need the power of government, more relies on the strength of all social strata, it requires different roles of the society to express their views, make their own suggestions, and joint participation in public decision-making, monitor public policies, and promote the development of public policies.

2.2 Public Participation in Public Policy Making

In order to achieve some of their own goals and safeguard their own interests, various social organizations participate in public policy making through some direct or indirect means, which is public participation in public policy making. Public participation can make decision-making more scientific. The definition of public participation can be expressed in three aspects: First, it is a continuous two-way process of exchanging opinions to enhance mutual understanding between the public and the government. Second, it refers to the openness of information, and the relevant information in the project plan norm or policy formulation and evaluation activities is announced to the public. The third, actively seek opinions from the work, let the public express their own ideas and participate in public decision-making. Public participation is a planned and organized action. It is a two-way communication between the government and the public, which is conducive to the realization of the right of supervision and the promotion of fairness, justice and openness in decision-making.

2.3 Definition of Vulnerable Groups

Vulnerable groups refer to the part of the production and life of society that is less weak in acquiring and distributing social wealth due to the relatively weaker power of the group, such as migrant workers, children, the elderly, the unemployed, etc. They are marginalized due to their insufficient survival ability and living difficulties in social life. They rely on their own strength to hardly live on their own. They have four main characteristics: the first is low-employment or no-employment, which means that their occupation in the society belongs to the lower or lowest position, or even no occupation. They usually rely on physical labor and have a hard life. The second type is impoverishment. They have no stable source of income or low income, below the social average, and their income is often only able to survive. In some cases, they may not even eat enough and wear warm clothes. The third is the marginalization, in the marginal zone of the society, it is difficult to attract people's attention and rarely participate in social activities. They usually have some inferiority complex. The fourth type is vulnerability. They are less able to withstand natural disasters and some changes in society, and it is difficult to withstand some of the greater pressure. They may be socially excluded and they have less resource to use. So, in the same situation, their level of culture is relatively low and their awareness of participating in public policy is relatively weak.



2.4 Theoretical Basis

Public Governance Theory: Since the 1970s, the social economic and management crisis has occurred in the West, which promoted the reform of the theoretical research on public management and public administration. With the development of modern capitalist society, the scope of government public management has been expanding, and the scale of public administration has been continuously expanded, and it has gained a relatively independent status outside of governance. With the development of civil society and the development of modern information technology, the theory of public governance has developed. The basic meaning of governance is that there is authority within a scope to maintain order to meet the needs of the public and to maximize the promotion of public interests. The academic community has different definitions of governance. Some theories hold that governance is the state's cuts in public spending and the greatest benefit at the lowest cost. Other points of view point out that governance means a series of social public institutions and actors from the government that are not limited to the government. In fact, public governance is a public action system composed of multiple public management subjects. It includes government departments and non-government departments. Public participation in governance also plays a positive role in promoting the development of governance.

2.5 The Significance of Interest Expression of Vulnerable Groups

2.5.1 Promote Scientific Decision-making

Vulnerable groups account for a large proportion in social groups, and their needs are often neglected, allowing vulnerable groups to participate in public decision-making, which can truly protect their interests and promote the scientific decision-making.

2.5.2 Maintaining the Self-esteem of Vulnerable Groups

Public policies can effectively protect the interests of vulnerable groups and effectively avoid their marginalization and neglect in society. They have the same rights to pursue happiness and equality as other social public, and allow vulnerable groups to participate in public policies, can maintain their self-esteem, and promote the development of society.

3. The Dilemma of Vulnerable Groups in Public Policy Making

3.1 Vulnerable Groups have Weak Interest Expression Awareness and Ability

The life quality and income of the vulnerable groups are relatively lower. Most of them have lower levels of education. Their lives are relatively simple and have a small scope. They can receive little information from the outside world and do not know the significance of participating in politics and discussing politics. They often have the idea that it's better to save trouble, and they think that participating in and discussing politics is the matter of the government and has nothing to do with themselves, as long as their own interests are not harmed, there is no need to participate. Under the influence of this idea, they often want to express their own demands and own ideas after their interests have been damaged, hoping to get a solution, but their level of ideological and cultural level is low, the channels of knowing are also very single, which leads to their problems cannot be effectively resolved in a timely manner, and will also reduce their sense of trust in the government.

3.2 Poor Channels for the Expression of the Interests of Vulnerable Groups within the Existing System

One of the important reasons for the poor expression of the interests of vulnerable groups is that there are few channels for providing expression to vulnerable groups, and there are still many problems in existing channels, and some channels have not been used at all. Vulnerable groups don't know the existence of such channels, and the existing processes are relatively cumbersome, one ring linked with another, the efficiency is relatively low, and the effectiveness is limited. The vulnerable groups through such channels to express their own interests, often for a long time not respond, they



will feel that it is useless to maintain their own interests through such a method. Therefore, they usually give up such channels. Second, they use some more extreme methods to appeal, they may use demonstrations this way, greatly affected the stability of the society.

3.3 The Interest Expression of Vulnerable Groups has a Low Degree of Organization

Vulnerable groups are usually more dispersed, without a fixed interest expression organization and cohesion. One person's appeal may be difficult to attract attention, but a group of people's appeals is more likely to attract attention. In the existing social organizations, there are few organizations that can represent the interests of the disadvantaged groups, and they do not unite the vulnerable groups. When a vulnerable group has difficulties, there is no organization behind him to help him and support him, and his wishes are difficult to achieve. And because they are more dispersed, they have a big disadvantage compared to other groups in society. So, in many cases, their interests cannot be guaranteed. When they adopt some of their own methods to protect their interests, they are likely to go extreme and influence the progress and development of society. This way of ensuring their own interests to solve problems makes it more difficult for vulnerable groups to achieve their desired goals.

3.4 The Government's Response to Vulnerable Groups' Appeals is Relatively Low

The participation of vulnerable groups in public policy not only requires a strong sense of expression, but more importantly, the government can actively respond to solutions to problems. At present, the government can accept the opinions of the public are more the expressions of some experts or social elites. In this case, vulnerable groups are often in a neglected situation. In many cases, the vulnerable groups have expressed their appeals to the government, but they did not respond for a long time and lost their sense of trust in the government. It is not just that institutions are cumbersome, but that many government officials turn a blind eye to these claims and feel that their opinions meaningless. This makes the communication between the government and the public not smooth enough, which affects the development of society.

4. Measures to Promote the Participation of Vulnerable Groups in Public Policies

By analyzing the current existing problems of the appeals of vulnerable groups in public decisionmaking, the corresponding measures were put forward for the problem. The measures are mainly in the following four aspects:

4.1 Enhance the Awareness and Ability of Vulnerable Groups to Express Their Interests

It is necessary to increase publicity for vulnerable groups and let them realize the importance of benefits. They can be given some relevant subsidies and welfare systems, where input leads to output, and they can be given training in organizations such as the community. Encourage them to participate in public decision-making, enhance their sense of ownership, realize their rights, truly participate in the process of public policy, form a sense of ownership, and promote the development of public policy.

4.2 Strengthen the Construction of Specialized Interest Expression Channels

First, we should improve the personnel structure within the NPC deputies. Members of the National People's Congress who can represent vulnerable groups should increase. Let the NPC become a channel to express their appeals. We will strengthen the relationship between the NPC deputies and the people. They can really bring the people's problems up and take the solution. Then there is a need to strengthen the transformation of government functions. The government needs to establish a perfect channel for the expression of the interests of vulnerable groups. In this channel, I hopes that every link will be very smooth, so as to ensure that the interest appeals of any stage can be expressed and get their own response. We should streamline institutions and improve efficiency, strengthen internal exchanges and communication, and actively respond to the expression of the interests of vulnerable groups. Finally, we can open some online government affairs platforms, such



as some Wechat, Micro-blog and official Accounts. Such vulnerable groups can express their appeals through the online platform. Others save manpower, material resources, and improve efficiency. Many of the government's public decision-making issues can also be discussed online so that the public can participate and promote the development of public decision-making.

4.3 Improve the Organizational Construction of Vulnerable Groups

It is necessary to set up relevant organizations to represent the interests of vulnerable groups and to bring together dispersed and vulnerable groups. The strength of one person is very small, but the strength of an organization is great. In the case of organization, vulnerable groups put forward questions and comments, and so on classification integration, the feedback of the questions can be more effective and timely, and they have put forward suggestions and so on also can get the attention of the relevant departments, the organization needs to communicate smoothly, and also establish relevant legal system, to protect the interests of the vulnerable groups, supervise the operation of the organization. Really guarantee that the government can hear their voices and receive their wishes.

4.4 Improve Government Response Mechanism

At present, there are still many problems in the government's response mechanism. Many vulnerable groups voice cannot be heard, some of the suggestions they express to the government often do not receive the attention of the government. The government needs to truly serve the people. Therefore, it is urgent to establish a perfect response mechanism. Under such a mechanism, the government needs to respond positively to the people, have a special channel to serve the vulnerable groups, actively respond to their problems and suggestions, and regulate the internal processes of the mechanism. Not only do the top-down process smooth, but also strengthen the grassroots construction, let the disadvantaged groups be happy to voice, improve the internal personnel mechanism, and improve the overall quality of the staff, not only need to have strong business capabilities, but also should have With empathy, we can better understand the needs of the disadvantaged groups, and learn from the people and the people, truly understand what the people's needs are, and truly solve the public problems.

5. Conclusion

This article through to the importance of public participation in public policy analysis, puts forward the important role of vulnerable groups in public participation, analyzed the demands of the interest of the disadvantaged the current existing problems, and puts forward the solving measures according to these questions. The public expresses their interests and needs, is of great significance for the development of public policy, while the disadvantaged groups have special characteristics in the public. They are often at a disadvantage in the expression of interest appeals, they will not fight for interests, and they are not willing to express their appeals. So, pay more attention to the important of their demand for public policy construction sector, to understand their needs, solve their problems, Promoting fairness in decision-making.

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