

Analysis on the Change of Family Scale Structure and Its Social Effect in Lanzhou City

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Abstract—Based on the data of national census in 2000 and 2010, this paper analyzes the basic changing trend of family size and structure in Lanzhou City, and discusses the social effects brought about by it. The results show that the total number of households in Lanzhou has risen rapidly in the past ten years, and the decrease of household size shows the development characteristics of the miniaturization of family scale and the simplification of family structure, and the phenomenon of aging and fewer children is highlighted. The change of family size structure gradually weakens the traditional family moral concept, weakens the family's old-age security function and the outstanding problem of child maintenance education.

Keywords—family size; family structure; social effects; Lanzhou City

I. INTRODUCTION

As one of the cores of the social system, the family can directly or indirectly project the basic trajectory of human history and social development [1]. In the 1970s, in order to restrain the rapid growth of the population, China has implemented the strictest family planning policy in the world. Over the past 40 years or so, China's population has achieved a historic transformation from "high birth rate, high growth rate" to "low birth rate, low growth rate"[2]. In addition, with the continuous development of the social economy and the deepening of the social division of labor, the size and structure of the family has become increasingly miniaturized, simplified and diversified [3]. At the same time, it has a profound impact on the stability and harmonious development of the social structure, such as the change of the function of family care for the aged [4], the change of family ethics [5], and the increase of family consumption [6]. The increase of energy consumption and even the change of industrial structure [7] etc.

The purpose of the analysis of family size and structure is to explore the relationship between the composition of different family types and the members within the family, and to analyze in depth the evolution, causes and social effects of the family in different space-time scales [8]. Over the past few decades, researchers have conducted multi-dimensional studies on the size and structure of families in China, and they may have focused on one aspect of family size and structure as the focus of marriage and family research [9]. Or macroscopically describe and analyze household size and structure on the basis of census data [10], or make

corresponding recommendations on some problems in household size and structure changes [11]. The early scholars analyzed the changing characteristics of family size structure by field social survey in rural areas and combined with historical data [12]. At the end of last century, the cause of the change of family size and structure became a hot topic in family research, but most of the research methods were qualitative study [18], but quantitative study [13] was less. In recent years, the focus of family research has gradually tended to be on the impact of changes in family size structure on social problems such as old-age, child-care, housing and energy consumption [14]. Under the trend of miniaturization, centralization and simplification, the proportion of empty nest families, left-behind families and single-person families has increased year by year [15]. The problem of providing for the aged and caring for children has attracted wide attention in the whole society. Scholars at home and abroad believe that the trend of family centralization accords with the development of contemporary society and economy, but it leads to the breaking of the traditional family old-age model and the increasing pressure of social old-age support [16]. At the same time, the left-behind parents and their children live in separate places for a long time, lack of care for their spirit and life, which makes them easy to lose their way, abandon their studies, even go astray, and embark on the path of breaking the law and committing crimes. Therefore, it is of great practical significance to pay attention to the changes in the family and its social effects, both for the family and for the society.

II. RESEARCH AREA AND DATA PROCESSING

The census system of our country usually divides household registration into two types: household households and collective households. Considering that most people live in families, this paper is limited to the analysis of the size and structure of household households [17]. According to the characteristics of the family composition in Lanzhou, the family size is divided into one-person, two-person, three-person, four-person and five-person households and more than five-person households, and the family structure is divided into one-generation and two-generation

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III. THE SIZE AND STRUCTURE OF HOUSEHOLDS

A. Miniaturization of Family Size

The average household size in Lanzhou in 2010 was 2.61 people per household, 0.27 fewer than the average household size of 2.88 at the time of the fifth census in 2000. At the same time, we can see that in 2010, the proportion of one-person households was 17.32%, that of two-person households was 27.78%, and that of three-person households was 36.65%. Compared with 2000, the proportion of one-person households and two-person households increased significantly, and the proportion of one-person households grew the fastest, increasing by 6.15 percentage points. The proportion of households with three or more people all declined

B. Simplification of the Family Structure

In 2010, a generation of Lanzhou city accounted for 39.55% of the total algebra, two generations accounted for 49.72%, three generations accounted for 10.64%, four generations and above accounted for only 0.09%, of which the total proportion of a generation and second-generation households exceeded 80%. Compared with 2000, the share of a generation in 2010 grew rapidly, by 11.52%, the proportion of second-generation households decreased significantly, by 9.14%, and three generations and four generations fell, by 2.47 and 0.08%, respectively (TABLE I).

TABLE I. CHANGES OF FAMILY HOUSEHOLD STRUCTURE IN LANZHOU CITY

	First generation (%)	Second generation (%)	Three generation (%)	above four generate-ons (%)
2000	28.03	58.69	13.11	0.17
2010	39.55	49.72	10.64	0.09
Rangea-bility	11.52	-9.14	-2.47	-0.08

C. The Phenomenon of Aging and Child-Lessing in the Family is Highlighted

With the deepening of the aging of the population, the number of the elderly population obviously increases, and the number of households with the elderly population is increasing. In 2010, the number of elderly people aged 65 and over in Lanzhou was two hundred and three thousand five hundred and ninety-nine, an increase of 92,500, or 83.26 percent, compared with 2000. During the same period, the total family population increased by four hundred and forty-five thousand, an increase of 29.24%. The rate of growth of the elderly population is 2.8 times that of the total family population, and the growth rate of the elderly population is much higher than that of the total family population. At the same time, the number of households aged 0-14 showed a marked downward trend in 2000-2010, from 0.59 percent in 2000 to 2010 in 0.38, and an average decrease of 10 per household in 0.21 years. Thus, Lanzhou city household size is shrinking, the proportion of the elderly in the family is rising, the number of children is decreasing, the two trends of less child and aging coexist with the characteristics of the family structure is obvious.

IV. ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL EFFECTS

As a part of the whole social system, the family is the most

basic unit of human life. Generally speaking, the traditional three-generation cohabitation in the central urban area of Lanzhou City, with fewer extended families with one family,

A. Dilution of Traditional Moral Concepts

The rapid social change not only brings us the foreign advanced family culture but also impacts the traditional family moral concept. On the one hand, with the change of family size structure and the development of market economy, the pursuit of personal happiness and individuation has become the rights of every member of the family today, but the consciousness of individual rights is overinflated. Often, many families have a high expectation of pre-marital feelings and a low degree of satisfaction with their married lives, which leads to the difficult reconciliation between husband and wife, the deterioration of the relationship between the two parties, and the increasing divorce rate year by year. On the other hand, the large family of many generations gradually disintegrated, and the good customs of traditional families, such as long and orderly growth, respect for the elderly, love for the young, and thrift and so on, began to fade slowly, resulting in misplaced family intergenerational relations (lack of respect for the elderly and more than love for the son). Family members or relatives have a series of new problems, such as the indifference of family members and relatives, the distortion of marriage and marriage morality, the continuous conflict of family violence and so on.

B. The Function of Family Support is Weakened

In 2010, there were two hundred and eighty-three thousand two hundred and ninety-nine elderly people over 60 years of age in the central urban area of Lanzhou, an increase of 95,999 over the year 2000. The number of households with the elderly population is also increasing. There are a large number of intergenerational families, empty nest families and elderly single family and so on. Taking the elderly single family as an example, the proportion of the elderly single-family aged 65 and over was 12.58% in 2000 and 18.42% in 2010, that is, nearly 1/5 elderly people live alone. The shrinking size of the family has led to a continuous decline in the family's pension function, especially in the only-child family, where a couple, while supporting four elderly people, has to raise a child. The fierce social competition and work pressure make the children have no more time and energy to accompany and take care of the elderly, the pressure of social old-age is increasing.

C. The Problem of Child Raising and Education is Outstanding

Under the Joint Action of family planning policy and modern fertility concept, the birth rate of Lanzhou city has decreased obviously in the past ten years, the phenomenon of fewer children is becoming more and more prominent, and children gradually become the center of the family, so they are more susceptible to excessive indulgence and doting by their elders, and try to meet all the demands of their children or even unreasonable demands. So that some children have a surplus of kinship, the emergence of the so-called "family privilege". On the other hand, due to the generally high expectations of parents for their children, "dragon" and "Woman Cheng Feng", more attention to the intellectual investment of children, spending a lot of money and energy only to improve their children's academic performance, thus neglecting the education

of ideology, morality and personality quality. This education will often lead to children to form selfish, arbitrary and overly dependent personality, in the face of setbacks are very prone to psychological or spiritual confusion, emotional anxiety, and even lead to character distortion, the emergence of the value of life values deviate from the phenomenon, easy to be affected by the social bad atmosphere, the emergence of truancy, disobedience, Addicted to the network and other bad phenomena, and contaminated with smoking, alcoholism, gambling and other vices, and even the occurrence of fights, theft, robbery and other illegal acts is not conducive to the future healthy growth of children.

V. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the data of the fifth and sixth population censuses in Lanzhou City, this paper analyzes the changes in household size and structure and social effects, and draws the following main conclusions:

1. With the development of social economy and population itself, the total number of households in the central urban areas of Lanzhou city has continued to rise, and its growth rate is much higher than that of the total population, but the proportion of households is small, generally showing the trend of miniaturization of family size and simplification of family structure. At the same time, the birth rate of the family has gradually declined, the rapid increase in the number of families of single elderly families and only one elderly couple, with fewer families and an aging phenomenon;

2. Because of the change of family size structure and the impact of foreign culture, the traditional ethical and moral concept of Lanzhou City began to fade, the family structure simplified, the aging of the family gradually weakened the traditional function of the old-age family; The decline of fertility rate, the phenomenon of fewer children in the family is obvious, the child by the elder pampered, doting and so on easy to form the wrong outlook on life and values, is not conducive to the future healthy development

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