

Research on the Causes of Re-Poverty Based on the Data Analysis of S County

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Abstract—Eliminating poverty is one of the UN's Millennium Development Goals and the goal that Chinese government has been pursuing. However, with the efforts government has done for years, there are still many residents living in poverty and a considerable part is the group who had gotten out of the poverty previously. Based on the phenomenon of re-poverty, we choose some deep-poverty regions as analysis samples, adopt the methods of literature analysis, questionnaire survey and in-depth interviews. Compared two groups who got out of the poverty successfully and those back to poverty to explore the causes of re-poverty in Chinese rural areas, we find that education, medical, housing, wedding gifts and maintenance of elderly are still the main factors contributing the re-poverty. For this, we propose some constructive suggestions for achieving the goal of poverty alleviation.

Keywords: *re-poverty, factor analysis, control mechanism*

I. INTRODUCTION

Poverty alleviation is an important strategic deployment of the central Committee and the State Council in China. In the 19th Chinese National Congress of the Communist Party, general secretary pointed out that China has made decisive progress in tackling poverty. By the end of last year, nearly 82.4 million poor people have steadily got rid of poverty and the incidence of poverty has dropped from 10.2 percent to 1.7 percent since the 18th National Congress of the CPC. From the whole country, there's a sharp decrease in Chinese rural areas, including eastern, middle and western part of China. Poverty people in eastern rural area is 1.47 million, less than 5.97 million of middle part and in western part is 9.16 million, according to the data issued by National Bureau of Statistics of China in February, 2019. In 2016, there were 684 thousand re-poverty people nationwide. The quantity had dropped dramatically to 208 thousand in 2017 and became 58 thousand last year. What's more, the problem households recorded by some mistakes have descended from 803 to 41 during the last four years. Re-poverty can weaken the confidence of getting out of poverty among the poor, impede the Chinese poverty

elimination procedure, even obstruct the goal of common prosperity.

For this, domestic researchers have done comprehensive researches. In term of re-poverty reasons, Li Jin-wei(2018) attributed re-poverty to severe natural environment, bad economic environment, internal defects of poverty policies and imperfect social insurance system[1]. Jia Rui-lin, Liu Yan-sui, Liu Ji-lai and Li Jin-tao(2018) raised the ideal that the main causes to re-poverty are insufficient income and imperfect social insurance system. The reasons caused re-poverty differed in places, but in same place the reason is always consistent[2]. Ding De-guang(2017) thought that social risks resulted re-poverty in a large extent, like industrial development risk, illness, moral risk, policy risk and the like[3]. Jia Lin-rui focused on the same sources of re-poverty which can be concluded by two words: income and insurance. Ding De-guang focused more on various social risks to re-poverty, while the views of Li Jin-wei are more overall with natural, social, political factors included. As for control mechanism, Li Jin-wei(2018) put forward using different policies based on various natural environments; integrating legislation, banking and government finance to develop characteristic agriculture; strengthening confidence of the poor and focusing on education. He Hua-zheng(2017) also pointed out that preventing the poverty must take the poor' autonomy, their value and education into consideration[4]. Zhen Rui-qiang, Cao Guo-qing(2016)suggested that targeted poverty alleviation should continue, emphasized innovation of poverty policies and improvement of future help to minimize re-poverty population[5]. They all stressed targeted poverty alleviation, but Li Jin-wei emphasized natural environmental differences, He Hua-zheng underscored the personal value and Zhen Rui-qiang thought related policies need improvements. These studies have developed deep analysis about the causes to re-poverty and its control mechanism, which provide important sources of reference for the essay. This essay will study the re-poverty causes in S County and give some controlling suggestions correspondingly through our field investigation and deep analysis.

II. SITUATION ANALYSIS ABOUT S COUNTY

S County is located in Anhui Province, part of its land is situated in Ta-pieh Mountain areas, and hilly area exceeds 70 percent in this county. It has the population of 1.03 million, the economy is mainly backed by agricultural and sideline industry, down feather industry and kids' products manufacturing. S County is a poverty county of national level which contained 52894 poor people in 2017, and it also can be seen as a typical poverty case in Chinese central part. The incidence of poverty in last five years has dropped from 12.44 percent to 1.12 percent, and the incidence of re-poverty lower than one percent.

III. FACTOR ANALYSIS

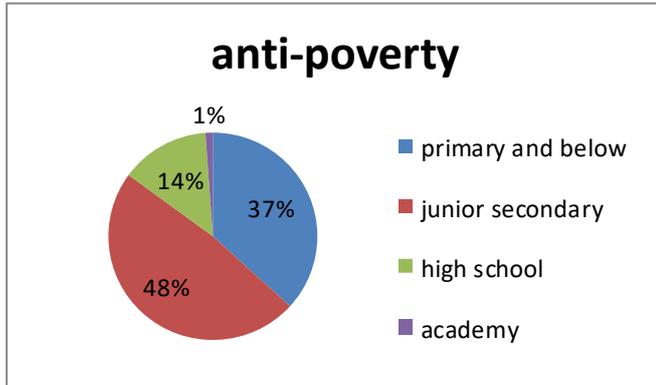


Fig. 1. Education background of anti-poverty successfully people.

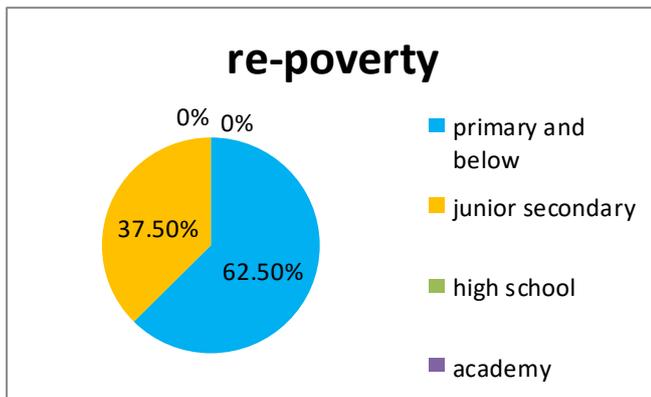


Fig. 2. Education background of re-poverty people.

We chose to investigate poverty-stricken areas in S County, three towns and five villages near the Ta-pieh Mountains where the incidence of re-poverty is higher than other regions. Based on the ten principles of questionnaire design which put forward by Zhong Bai-chang, we got a distinct and reliable questionnaire[6]. We sent 112 questionnaires and got 103 valid questionnaires back, the effective response rate is 91.96 percent. Compared the differences between groups of anti-poverty successfully and re-poverty to explore the deep reasons causing re-poverty, we got some results after

interviewing the poor. First, we study the educational background between two groups which can be seen in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2. From the figures we can know that all back to poverty people are junior secondary education and below in our interviews, while there's 15 percent people received high school education or even academy education in anti-poverty group. The reason why some people can overcome poverty and some can't although they are in the same education degree needs to be further analyzed.

Explore the relationship between "number of households" and "if belongs to re-poverty", we get the Table I which can be confused in judging the influence of numbers in a family. But through conversations we realized that many villages exists five-guarantee households, which are almost elderly living alone resulting from some historic reasons. So the ratio of one person living in re-poverty is 31.25 percent, nearly up to one-third among the group. Moreover, the highest ratios in both two are three persons and four persons, which may indicate the burden of raising children, especially education fee. According to the feature of "inter general transmission of poverty", it seems that 5 persons households should be difficult to get rid of poverty, but it also means more workforce in a family to bring earnings on the other hand.

TABLE I. NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS

Number of households	if belongs to Re-poverty Cross-tabulation				
	if belongs to re-poverty				Total
	anti-poverty	re-poverty			
1 person	16	0.184	5	0.3125	21
2 persons	8	0.092	2	0.1250	10
3 persons	27	0.310	1	0.0625	28
4 persons	20	0.230	6	0.3750	26
5 persons and more	16	0.184	2	0.1250	18
Total	87	1	16	1	103

Further to explore the relationship between local economic environment and poverty condition[7], we find that poverty alleviation will be easier in good communication areas than some mountain areas. In the areas we researched, most of the regions exists some poverty population but some can get out of poverty and some can't. The Table II shows the contrast between two groups and we find that the proportion of re-poverty people living in poor mountain areas is 37.5 percent while the anti-poverty successfully people living in the same environment is 6.9 percent.

We think that person's autonomy is also a vital factor to poverty alleviation, so we do the cross-tabulation between autonomy before receiving help and poverty conditions. From Table III we know that a great part of anti-poverty people has thought being rich by themselves, they were eager to get out of the poverty and they can do it once government provided some helps. And re-poverty group indicates a poor autonomy in improving their living conditions compared to anti-poverty successfully group. Nearly 37.5 percent of them just want to rely on government's help, over half of them have thought of autonomy but they think it's very difficult to achieve. It's

clearly that personal effort and autonomy is extremely important to poverty alleviation and external forces become operative only through internal cause.

TABLE II. LOCAL ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

if belongs to Re-poverty		Cross-tabulation		
		if belongs to re-poverty		Total
		anti-poverty	re-poverty	
Local economic environment	poor mountain areas	6	6	12
	some poverty population	67	9	76
	good economic condition	8	1	9
	almost no poverty	6	0	6
Total		87	16	103

TABLE III. AUTONOMY BEFORE RECEIVING HELP

if belongs to Re-poverty		Cross-tabulation		
		if belongs to re-poverty		Total
		anti-poverty	re-poverty	
Autonomy before receiving help	never thought, hope government's help	8	6	14
	thought, but difficult to act	30	9	39
	thought, waited for good policy	20	0	20
	thought, try to get rich by improving abilities	29	1	30
Total		87	16	103

From the Fig. 3 we can know that food and closing, education, medical are the main household expenditures of re-poverty people. Besides maintenance of the elderly is also a burden to local poverty population, and we also find some factors like housing, produce investment, spending in the favor patten haven't included into poor household expenditures according to our interviews. Though conversations with local poor people, we realized that local housing price is too high (about 5000-7000 CNY per square meter) and they can't afford it. Also they hardly engaged in investment because of lack of money in earlier stage. And in "others" factor, there's an important expenditure called wedding gifts. The cost of marriage is so high in the majority areas of China.

In conclusion, we find that education, number of households, local environment, medical, wedding gifts and maintenance of elderly are still the main factors contributing the re-poverty. Besides, housing price and autonomy of poverty alleviation can be vital factors to eliminate poverty.

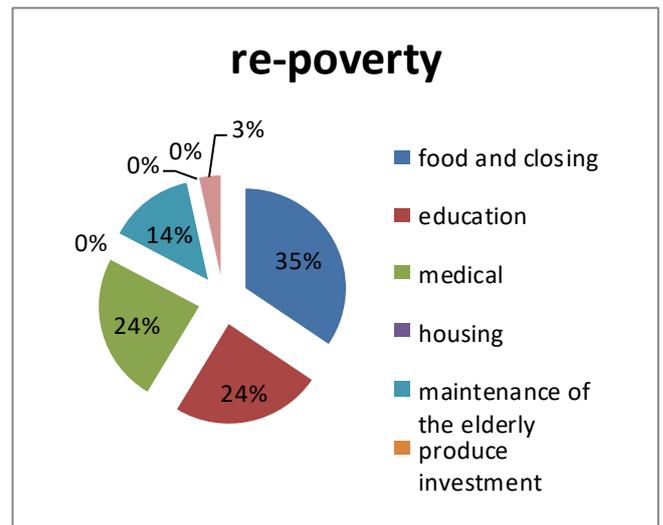


Fig. 3. Household expenditure of re-poverty.

IV. SUGGESTION

Based on our research, we should take some measures as followed because poverty alleviation needs involvement of all social groups.

First, governments need to continue focusing on targeted poverty alleviation, offer different helps according to different poor families. Governments should strengthen transport construction in mountainous areas; improve the support standards of education, especially pre-school education and higher education, help households with two or even more children in school; use macro-regulation to control local housing price or provide some low rent departments for these poor people; offer greater medical, such as containing more medicines into health care[8]. Besides, providing methods to guide re-poverty population to learn a skill which can enhance their ability to make a better living is also important[9]. Because returning to poverty one or even more times can be a severe shock to re-poverty people, many of them are lack of confidence and initiative to getting out of poverty.

Second, companies should bear their social responsibilities to provide more jobs for local poor people, and strengthen training to ensure employers are equal to their jobs. In addition, other groups in society can provide some helps they can offer, focusing on the poor[10]. As for the marriage expense, it needs the whole society's effort and guidance of medium.

Third, the subject of poverty alleviation is poor people. No matter what other groups have done for the poor, they will still live in tough lives if they don't have the autonomy to get out of poverty. During the last phase of poverty alleviation before 2020, stimulating the poor's motivation to shake off poverty is essential. All social parties help the poor and urge them in case of lazy phenomenon. Combined the initiative of poverty alleviation with other parties' help, the problem of re-poverty can be solved.

V. CONCLUSIONS

To sum up, there are many factors leading to re-poverty, including environmental development factors (both naturally and socially), government-led factors, and also poor households themselves which is the most critical point of impeding poverty alleviation[11]. According to different parties, we need more targeted methods based on the facts. So far, Chinese poverty alleviation work has made great achievements, and it will be achieved thoroughly with the efforts of all forces.

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