The Change of Educational Marriage Matching Pattern After the Founding of New China

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ABSTRACT

After the founding of The People's Republic of China, social modernization and industrialization developed rapidly, and the pattern of educational marriage matching appeared new characteristics. In order to explore the characteristics of its change trend in depth, this paper, based on the theory of homogeneity and industrialization, uses CGSS data in 2017 and descriptive analysis method to make cross-tables and trend charts. Based on the analysis of the educational matching pattern of couples and the homogeneous matching of various educational levels, we found that the educational matching pattern is always dominated by homogeneous marriage in the process of change, and the marriage pattern of high male and low female gradually decreases, while the marriage pattern of high female and low male gradually increases. In addition, homogeneity in higher education is gradually increasing, while homogeneity in primary education is gradually decreasing.

Keywords: Educational matching model, Homogeneous marriage, Change trend.

1. INTRODUCTION

At present, Chinese society is in a period of rapid change. With the transformation of social modernization, the development of marriage market and people's choice of marriage matching is also changing constantly. Among them, educational mating pattern is also changing. To discuss its characteristics and changes is of great significance for scholars to understand the changes of mating pattern and social changes.

Therefore, this paper attempts to use CGSS database in 2017 to explore the characteristics and changes of educational marriage patterns after the founding of New China, aiming to have a deeper understanding of the changes of Educational marriage market in China during this period. Through the analysis, we can not only have a deeper understanding of the development and change of educational mating pattern, but also reflect the characteristics of the development and change of the openness degree of Chinese society to a certain extent.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

The research on marriage matching originated in foreign countries, so the research on marriage matching in foreign countries is very rich. Xu Xiaohe et al showed that homogeneity marriage marked by education, occupation, political landscape and social class accounted for the majority in all periods [1]. Ultee, Wout et al pointed out that with the further weakening of unit and family control over individual mate selection in the process of reform and opening up, the homogeneity level of marriage matching should show a downward trend [2]. Mare, based on data from the United States Census, found an increase in educational homogeneous mating between 1930 and 1970, but a steady or even declining trend between 1970 and 1980 [3]. In terms of domestic research Xie Yu et al. pointed out in The Report on The Development of Chinese People's Livelihood 2013 that same-type marriage and upward marriage of women are the main forms of marriage matching in China [4]. Shi lei pointed out that the degree of educational homogeneous marriage in China shows an N-shaped trend [5]. Li Yu pointed out that the homogeneity of educational matching increased rapidly after the 1980s, mainly because of the increasing difficulty of "cross-layer" marriage and the strengthening of the diagonal pattern [6].

To sum up, there are abundant researches at home and abroad, but the use of data is relatively old. Therefore, this paper tries to use a new database to

analyze the development and change of marriage matching mode, so as to provide new empirical data for theoretical verification and empirical research.

3. STUDY DESIGN

3.1. Theoretical Analysis and Research Hypothesis

homogeneous marriage theory holds that individuals with similar social status are more likely to get married and have a more stable marriage, while couples with different social status not only have great differences in values and living habits, but also have difficulty in obtaining social support from relatives and friends, which is not conducive to the maintenance of marriage. According to the theory of industrialization, with the development of industrialization, self-induced factors such as education degree gradually replace family origin and become important indicators of individual's social and economic status [7]. In the process of industrialization, the country attaches more and more importance to education, so the overall level of education of the people will show a trend of gradual improvement.

According to the above theory, we put forward hypotheses. Hypothesis 1: Homogeneity is the main matching pattern of educational marriage. Hypothesis 2: In the process of change, the educational marriage pattern still remains homogeneous and the marriage pattern of high male and low female gradually decreases, while the marriage pattern of high female and low male gradually increases. Hypothesis 3: In the change of educational marriage matching pattern, homogeneity in higher education increases gradually, while homogeneity in primary education decreases gradually.

3.2. Data, Variables and Methods

The data of this study is from the Chinese General Social Survey (CGSS) in 2017. According to the research ideas of this paper, the group that got married after 1949 after the founding of new China was selected as the analysis sample.

According to data distribution and previous studies, we divided variables of the age of first marriage into five stages, which were represented by numbers 1-5. Stage 1: after the founding of the People's Republic of China and before the reform and opening up (1949-1977); Stage 2: The reform and opening up period (1978-1991); Stage 3: the initial establishment of the socialist market economic system framework (1992-2002); Stage 4: The initial improvement stage of the socialist market economy system (2003-2011); Stage 5: the new stage of comprehensively deepening the reform of the "Five-Sphere Integrated System" (2012-2017). In the variables of individual and spouse's

education level, this paper uses the method of scholar Shi Lei to re-divide the variables into 5 levels: primary school and below, junior high school, senior high school/technical secondary school, junior college, undergraduate and above [5]. They are represented by numbers 1-5. In the variables of educational matching mode, educational homogeneity is defined when both the husband and wife have the same education level; educational matching mode is defined when the male has higher education level than the female, and educational matching mode is defined when the female has higher education level and the female has lower education level. They are represented by numbers 1-3.

The quantitative study in this paper is a research method, and 9115 valid samples are obtained after removing the samples that do not meet the requirements and lack of information as analysis data. With the theory of homogeneity and industrialization as the theoretical framework, descriptive analysis method is adopted to analyze the educational matching pattern, and cross-table and change trend chart are used to analyze the development and change trend of marriage matching pattern since the founding of new China.

4. THE CHANGE OF EDUCATIONAL MARRIAGE MATCHING PATTERN

4.1. The Overall Changing Trend of Educational Mating pattern

Table 1. Educational mating model

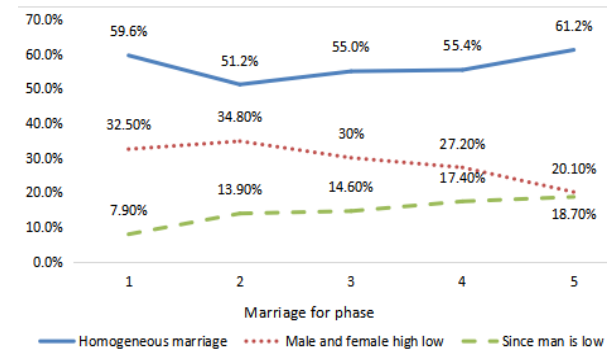|		Frequency	Percentage
	homogeneous marriage	5032	55.2%
Effe ctive	Male and female high low	2839	31.1%
	Since man is low	1244	13.6%
	A total of	9115	100.0%

Figure 1 Educational marriage pattern changes

As can be seen from Figure 1, on the whole, after the founding of New China, educational homogeneity accounts for 55.2%, and the marriage mode with higher male ratio and lower female ratio accounts for 31.1%, while the marriage mode with higher female ratio and

lower male ratio accounts for 13.6%. Educational homogeneity is still the most important educational marriage matching mode after the founding of New China. Homogeneity and the pattern of high male and low female marriage accounted for 86.4%, which was the choice of most people. According to the analysis of homogeneous marriage theory, homogeneous marriage is more stable, and people are more willing to choose educational homogeneous marriage. In addition, from the perspective of gender role theory, men are usually endowed with the meaning of being strong and possessive, which determines that they are less willing to choose a woman who is stronger than themselves when choosing a spouse. Hypothesis 1 is verified.

Further analysis of the change of education mating patterns, as shown in figure 1, after the founding of new China education homogeneous marriage is still the mainstream, but in the five stages of development, the stage 1 and stage 2 showed a trend of decline, achieve the education in the stage 2 low of homogeneous marriage, then in phase 3 to phase 5 is gradually rising

trend, a general drop before l U change trend. This is because during the period of "Cultural Revolution", intellectuals were excluded and suppressed. As a result, the similar marriage in education during this period was significantly reduced. In addition, in the hetero-marriage, the marriage pattern of male with higher education and female with lower education reached the maximum value in stage 2, then gradually decreased in the three stages, and the overall trend of gradual decline was obvious. The marriage pattern of female with higher education and female with lower education showed a gradually increasing trend in all five stages. According to the theory of industrialization, with the development of industrialization, the educational level of the people, especially women, has achieved a faster development. Therefore, the pattern of female higher and male lower in educational marriage has been increasing. Hypothesis 2 is verified.

4.2. The Changing Trend of Marriage Patterns of Different Educational Levels

Table 2. Personal education * spouse's education Cross-table

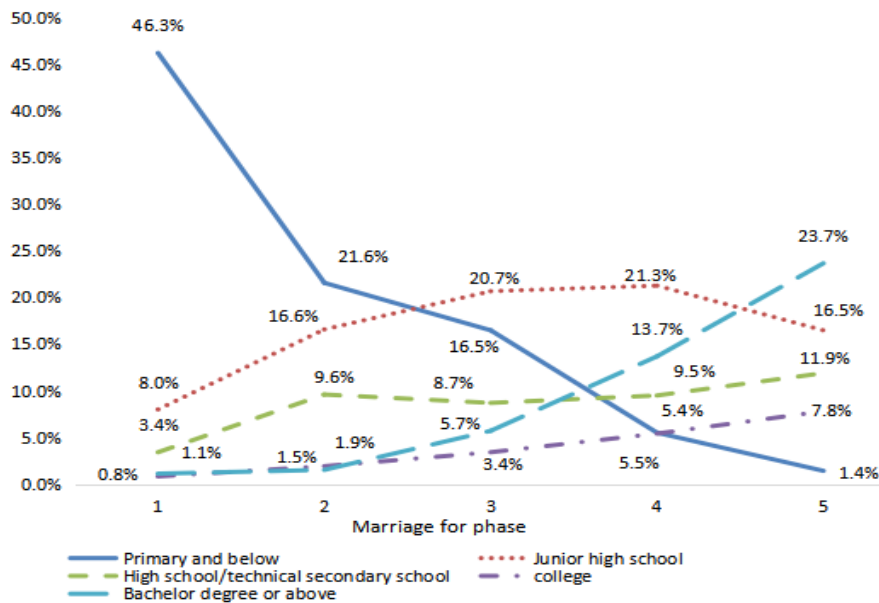|		Spouse's education level					
		Primary and below	Junior high school	High school/technical secondary school	College	Bachelor degree or above	A total of
Personal education level	Primary and below	22.0%	8.2%	2.4%	0.2%	0.2%	33.0%
	Junior high school	9.3%	16.3%	4.8%	0.8%	0.5%	31.7%
	High school/technical secondary school	2.2%	5.4%	8.2%	1.6%	0.9%	18.4%
	College	0.2%	0.9%	2.2%	3.0%	1.6%	7.9%
	Bachelor degree or above	0.2%	0.3%	1.2%	1.5%	5.8%	9.0%
	A total of	33.9%	31.2%	18.8%	7.1%	9.0%	100.0%

Figure 2 The changing trend of homogeneous marriage at different educational levels

Data further analysis according to table 2 couples by education degree of marriage match in all kinds of situation, can be found, in basic education stage includes elementary school and the junior high school degree homogeneous marriage than most, accounted for 22% and 16.3% respectively, and the high school/technical secondary school, college, bachelor of homogeneous marriage accounted for 4.8%, 8.2% and 5.8% respectively, This shows that in general, after the founding of New China, China's education level is low, low education homogeneity is still the most important marriage mode.

Further analysis of the changing trend of homogeneity among different educational levels in figure 2 shows that homogeneity in primary school and below presents an obvious downward trend in the five stages, especially in stage 1 to Stage 2, where it drops rapidly from 46.3% to 21.6% and then continues to drop to 1.4%. This is closely related to the popularization of compulsory education, which significantly improves the educational level of people in the compulsory education stage. Junior high school degree homogeneous marriage presents first the inverted u-shaped lowered after the change trend, in stage 4 peak, accounted for 21.3%, this is due to the popularization of compulsory education, in the first three stages in junior high school education of national common increase, but due to the development of the society and the improvement of education level, junior high school education to a higher degree of development, thus gradually reduce. Homogeneity of high school/technical secondary school and college education showed a slow increase trend in the five stages, from 3.4% and 0.8% to 11.9% and 7.8%, respectively. Homogeneity with a bachelor's degree or above increased continuously and the trend was the most obvious in the five stages, from 1.1% to 23.7%, becoming the most important type of homogeneity in stage 5. According to the theory of industrialization, this is closely related to social development and the improvement of educational level and resources. Hypothesis 3 is verified.

5. CONCLUSION

Through the above analysis, according to the theory of homogeneity and industrialization theory, combined with empirical data analysis, it is concluded that in general, the pattern of educational marriage is mainly homogeneity, and the educational homogeneity of high male and low female is gradually reduced. Further analysis of homogeneity in different educational levels shows that homogeneity in basic education is decreasing, while homogeneity in higher education is increasing gradually, which becomes the most important homogeneity mode in the fifth stage. All three hypotheses are verified, which indicates that homogeneity theory and industrialization theory have explanatory power to the change of educational marriage matching pattern, and can reflect the change process of educational marriage matching pattern.

In a word, through the discussion of this paper, we have a certain understanding of the characteristics and changes of educational matching mode after the founding of new China, and enrich the empirical data of this field. However, this paper only analyzes the educational marriage matching pattern, and it is still necessary to further analyze the other characteristics of the couple's marriage matching pattern in the future, so as to grasp the change process of marriage matching pattern in a more detailed way.

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