Research on the Status of China's Network Oversight on Administration

Yu Mei

College of Marxism, Xi'an University of Science and Technology, Xi'an 710065, China;

23468259@qq.com

Abstract. Nowadays, the development of information technology has not only changed people's lives, but also has a profound impact on political and social life. By the Internet, Internet users understand the society, publish speech, obtain information, exercise their democratic right of supervision, promote the formation of networks of public opinion, and make virtual reality of network becoming monitoring tools. However, for various reasons, there are some shortcomings in China's network supervision, which leads to ill performance of the network monitoring. Through analyzing the current problems, advices will be proposed to improve network monitoring.

I. Introduction

Supervision on public affairs is one of the basic methods of public power containment. [1] This is the development of society, more to say the democratic political progress. Nowadays, the development of information technology has not only changed people's lives, but also has a profound impact on political and social life. By the Internet, Internet users understand the society, publish speech, obtain information, exercise their democratic right of supervision, promote the formation of networks of public opinion, and make virtual reality of network becoming monitoring tools.

II. The meaning and role of the network monitoring

Network monitoring, refers to people, via the Internet, understand state affairs, exchange comments and suggestions, comment on economic, political, administrative, legal, and cultural activities in their country. By the end of December, 2010, the number of Internet users in China reached 457 million [2], and the influence of the Internet is obviously growing. Network monitoring is becoming an important means for realizing modern democratic politics in the process of power constraint.

2.1. The promotion of the realization of civil rights through network monitoring. Lord Acton had discussed inherent impulse of self-expansion and rent-seeking of public authority, "Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely." China's "Constitution" provides that" citizens of any state organ or staff for any in People's Republic of China have the right to criticize and make suggestions; for misfeasance, any state organ or staff, have the rights to appeal to the relevant state organs for charges or prosecution, but it is forbidden for fabrication or distortion of facts for false accusation. "

The basic idea of democracy is popular sovereignty. The government and its officials accept the mandate from the people, and should reasonably provide public goods and services to the community. Citizen is the principal authority. Whether it is power supervisory body or government agency, they all represent the will of the citizens "trustee" and therefore, the oversight body on government officials is indeed the "trustee" on "trustee" supervision. However, in CHINA, public monitoring is supervision of trustier on "trustee". In the representative structure, supervision from government officials, ruling party, and higher levels of government is an indirect supervision, and citizens' oversight is a direct supervision.

Network monitoring is the progress of modern political civilization. Political civilization is firstly reflected in exerting political activism and giving people ample opportunity to express their

views, so that everything is conducive to focusing on the ideas that will bring social progress. But in China, public participation features two: one is non-institutionalized active participation; the other is institutionalized participation and coldness. Internet, as a medium for exchange and communication, is not only a product of modern information technology, but also the development trend of modern civilized society. Network monitoring is an effective combination of modern technology and modern democracy which provides a good platform for people to exercise their rights. And it is going to be the trend of modern political civilization in future.

2.2. Network monitoring helping break the asymmetric information of citizen oversight. Asymmetric information refers to in economic activities in the market, different members have different understanding of information, so that those who have full access to information are in favorable position, and the information-poor staff will be at a disadvantage. This phenomenon also exists in the social, political and legal areas.

In the field of public affairs, for officials and the public, if the information is completely symmetrical, they will be able to fully understand each other's behaviors and the results of executing powers. Thus, the people supervise the execution of public authority and its results will be actively involved in no-cost, and those officials are also aware that if they use public power improperly, it will lead to the cautiousness of trustees to the public authority. When there is asymmetric information, the public authority that has more information will have potential advantages. And for various reasons, officials who can master more information would, through the "rent-seeking", etc., put this advantage into real interests and thus corruption occurs.

Network monitoring has extensive information. It is simple and efficient. Information transmission is smooth. Its efficient operation, information privacy, and other characteristics break the information asymmetry between subject and object, thus effectively promote the improvement of modern democracy.

2.3. Network monitoring pushing the government to improve the management mechanism. Network monitoring can promote scientific decision-making of the government. The basic premises of scientific decision-making are comprehensiveness and objectiveness, which are exactly the features that network possesses. At the same time, the elusive identity makes people be willing to express their true thoughts, which makes the party and the government timely and accurately get social information of people's demands through the network, and later the problem-solving approach will be much more scientific.

Network monitoring can urge the government to reduce administrative costs. The higher the public acceptance of public policy is, the lower the cost of implementation will be. Public policy on the network is often recognized by the majority of internet users, which ensures public support in the implementation of policies and this accepting process would effectively reduce the cost of implementation. Meanwhile, on the basis of the interactive development, public policy would not be doubted and thus more stable

Network monitoring can better promote government ability to better deal with emergent crisis. Since currently China is in transition and has a large number of social conflicts, thus if it lacks proper guidance, it will be easily induced into sudden crisis, which will definitely affect social stability. Through network monitoring, on the one hand, information on the web can quickly provide the emergency treatment an important condition. On the other hand, it offers a good channel for appealing and unbosoming, which can play a role in pacifying and easing conflicts.

III. The problems of network monitoring in China

3.1. Incomprehensive public opinion from the network because of abnormal structure of its users. To oversee public power through internet is an equal and effective way for all citizens to exercise their political rights. Netizens are the main force for oversight, but they do not represent all citizens. First of all, "netizen" is a different concept from the word "citizen". On July 19, 2011, China Internet Network Information Center (CNNIC) issued "The 28th Statistical Report on the Development of China Internet Network" in Beijing, which shows that by the end of June, 2011, the number of

Chinese netizens has reached 485 million, with the internet popularity rate having reached 36.2%. Second, those 80s and 90s dominate the total of Internet users in China, and of them, nearly 51% are under the age of 24, 80% from the social underclass, 74% with their income below 2000 yuan. The main characteristics of this group are juvenility, neediness and low social status, so they have a strong desire for social participation. However, they cannot attain the leadership of the society, and sometimes they are even unconsciously standing the other side of the dominant ideology". [4] Third, Internet users are mainly those who dwell in large and medium-sized cities, and most farmers who do not possess awareness of democracy but account the vast majority of the population in China are not internet users, which naturally leads to the unheard voice by this group through internet.

The Internet is an equal, freed, and open space, but in reality, the public voice is often controlled by those netizens who are rational, value-judging, regular users or those who post rich information online. In order to dominate the network public opinion, some people repeatedly comment in names of different users, which cause misleading of the consensus of the public in a short period of time, reducing network credibility, and some even interfering with the administration of justice, which leads to adverse outcome of social justice.

3.2. The injustice of supervision due to the irrational network information. The anonymity of the web functions well to enhance users' courage to supervise the administration through Internet. However, complex information makes the public judgment irrational, and many users will appear to be more passionate than reasonable. Moreover, they even deliberately distorted the facts, maliciously slander others, and evilly incite social unsound mood in the name of the anti-corruption, which makes the network has become the birthplace of rumors. The speech and behavior has disturbed the normal rational judgment of the masses, and made some serious deviation from the network public opinion from the original objectivity of the public monitoring.

Presently, the network media has a dual mission: On the one hand, as the mass media, it should provide true information, guide the network public opinion, resolve social disputes, express rational public opinion, and carry forward the fine culture and other social responsibilities, on the other, as an economic entity, it has to realize profits, in that China's relevant regulations are not flawless in the beginning of network public opinion, so the economic profits remain the focus of the mass media. Some Internet media for short-term interests do not line strict standards for operation, and lack the sense of social responsibility, which all result in the authenticity of information and social injustice.

3.3. Lack of necessary precondition for network supervision because of the low transparency of government affairs. Our citizens are the owner of the country, so major decisions must be negotiated by both the government and the people, in which way, we can say, it suits the requirements of democratic politics. To unveil the government affairs, the foremost is to respect the citizens' rights to know. Only when the government affairs are open to the public, can the citizens know more about the government's decision-making and its implementation so as to improve the openness of the governmental power operation prevent the abuse of power and enhance the government credibility.

Government affairs that need to uncover mainly entail decision-making, execution and transparent information, power operation, etc. Any citizen can know and supervise the state affairs through corresponding ways, such as the government web and public bars of government affairs. But there are still some departments in China that do not uncover government affairs, or delay to update the government web information lag, making the network supervision lack basic conditions.

At the same time, although China has relevant laws and regulations on the openness of government affairs, they are not fully implemented. Say, The Government Information Disclosure Regulations by Chinese legislative body, of which most of regulations on the information disclosure are pedantic or even fuzzy. What is more, there are no enough regulative rules for the content, form, and time for the disclosure of information.

3.4. Lack of fine social environment and regulations for network supervision. Currently, although many government departments and officials have approved the network supervision, some local governments and officials still remain ignorant of the network supervision, and some even suppress those information providers online. Moreover, the current set of relevant legal system could

not keep up with the development of information technology. It is difficult to specific the network monitoring, which makes the network supervision difficult to operate, and the outcome is not ideal.

With the development of the network, the awareness of social participation will become stronger, and consequently, the influence of network supervision will be more profound. Only by setting specifications for network supervision and providing a sound social environment, can the network supervision play a better role.

IV. The ways to enhance the network supervision

Network supervision role lies not only in the dissemination of information, but more important in the leading internet users to the reality of law enforcement. The network supervision is added into the established administrative supervision system and integrated with the existing supervision resources in order to reflect its maximum value, which requires cooperating with the traditional administrative supervision system. Finally, it could play a better role and improve the deficiencies of traditional administrative supervision mechanism.

4.1. Popularization of network knowledge, improvement of the broadband access rate and expansion of the proportion of internet users. At present, the popularity and usage of internet in our country present the differences in terms of the regional, urban and rural and age, which affect the starting point of China's network supervision. Most of the farmers accounted for 70% of the population have not used this form of political supervision. [7]In recent years, although many China's rural areas make efforts to promote the "new three" on the implementation of basis of "three links", our country network knowledge popularization rate, however, is insufficient and most of the young adults labor work in the city leaving behind the old, women and children in rural areas. Although the broadband have already paved to the entrance to the village, but the utilization rate is not high. Thus, increasing the rate of broadband access in the vast rural areas especially in the central and western regions, reducing the use of cost and popularizing network knowledge are important, at the same time, the migrant workers should be encouraged to have their supervision and maintenance the rights through the network.

4.2. Improvement the quality of internet users, advocating of the rational internet and endurance of the authenticity of information. Internet users are expected to improve the ability to discriminate all kinds of information on the network, not to infringe on the rights of others or not to spy on other people's privacy with civilization. The network media staff needs to improve their quality as well. The use of the internet has broken the boundaries between the professional and the free people, so it is difficult to separate their professional behavior from personal behavior. Therefore, the network media staff should abide by the professional ethics, using their own words carefully. In 2010, the Reuters issued a code of conduct on the internet, making a detailed specification to the reporters engaged in news activities on the use of social media such as social media for the first time. These regulations show clearly that Reuters' carefulness and prudence on the use of network information.

4.3. Strengthening the construction of the portal of the party and government departments to promote public affairs. Government portal website is to show the ruling ability of the window. It not only achieves the government and the public contact, enhancing the government's executive ability and reducing the administrative cost, but also facilitates public access to government information and participation in public affairs, to meet the public's right to know, the right to express, the right to participate in and the right to supervise.

In order to improve the party and government departments' website function, we should: first, give full play to the function of website information platform. To take advantage of the network public opinion, the society can be fully expressed on public affairs and public opinion value, enhancing the enthusiasm of public participation, effectively guiding public opinion, timely responding to the demands of society. At the same time, using the open information platform to promote the administrative department to change the style of work are helpful for the government to seize the initiative, even if the speech environment becomes more open and accumulate experience management, but also achieves the effective control of the government on the network.

Second, make the website function with civic action docking. David Easton pointed out: "the public is essential to the legitimacy of the political system of" faith ", not on the legitimacy of the appropriate beliefs, any system cannot continue, at least not last long." [5] P336 Government website obtains the ruling legitimacy of the platform and plays close to the public and promotes their function, to meet the public demand, making the network become the means of public service, winning the trust and support of the public.

Third, the site is convenient for citizens to participate in. Government departments should make full use of the website information resources, strengthening communication with internet users, and enhancing the administrative effect. With the increasing complexity and specialization of network supervision, leading cadres should learn to use the network, such as the establishment of their own micro-blog, online communication, etc., to transform the public pressure into the power of public management.

4.4. Promotion of the legalization of network supervision system construction to achieve the orderly citizen network supervision. Network supervision belongs to social supervision, but it needs to comply with legal norms. Therefore, it should establish an authoritative, impartial and efficient judicial system, to develop a complete set of laws and regulations, regulating the behavior of the network. Network of legal system should be detailed those users' rights and obligations, network resource management, information service, and the environment of the network supervision at the same time for the purpose of providing the citizen network supervision a system of channels, to ensure that citizens in the network have the right of free speech.

First of all, it needs to establish the focus and principle of the legislation, to ensure that information is fair, to protect the rights and interests of citizens, and to maintain social stability. Second, it needs to make full use of existing legal resources, and to expand the existing laws and regulations to the new media. Third, intensify law enforcement, such as strict enforcement of existing laws and regulations. To those network supervision repression and retaliation of leadership and individual, in which the released information may not be true and merely causes intentional harm, it is necessary to take severe administrative and legal means to punish.

References

 [1]Ronghua Shen, The administrative power restriction mechanism,National School of Administration news, J. (2006),14-20.

[2] China Internet Information Center, Statistical report on the development of the twenty-seventh China Internet Network, R.BeiJing,(2011)

[3] Hu Jintao, Hu Jintao's speech at the people's daily inspection work,People's daily, N.6(2006)

[4] Yuyiing Wu, Thought of strengthening network anti-corruption under new circumstance, J. Journal of Tianjin Administration Institute. 3(2010)

[5] Lihua Yang, The construction of the new party-people relations under information network age, J. Dongyue Tribune. 4(2007)

[6] Xinye Wu, Public pressure under network supervision: formation mechanism and utilization strategy, J. Theory and Reform. 2(2011)97.

[7]Yongjie Chen, To "broadband right" to resolve the digital divide ,N.21st Century Business Herald, 8(2010).