On the Effect of Filial Piety Culture on the Old-age Undertaking

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Abstract. Filial piety culture is one of the most important traditional culture of China, it is the cultural basis of family stability and social harmony. It has been proved that filial piety culture is helpful to improve people’s ideological quality and to cultivate people’s consciousness of responsibility and mission, strengthen people’s awareness of respecting for the elderly. And filial piety culture is an important cultural basis of improving the old-age undertaking. Our country is the world’s most populous country in the elderly, and the current national condition is “getting old before rich”, therefore, exploring the way to improve the old-age undertaking with the aid of our outstanding traditional filial piety culture has great significance.

Introduction

Ethics of filial piety is the important spiritual genes to keep Chinese nation develop, and it is one of the core values of Chinese culture. The development of any nation is connected with its history. Filial piety culture as an important part of Chinese traditional culture, its influence of Chinese traditional culture of filial piety to China has been obvious for thousands of years. To a certain extent, the filial piety culture not only determines the characteristics of Chinese culture, but also it has become a national spirit, it is still has great value for our spiritual civilization and society today.

The significance of filial piety, for individuals, it is the respect for the source of life, but also respect for the value of their own lives; for society, it is an essential element to promote family harmony, social stability and national unity. Statistics shows that, the population of the people over 65 years old will reach 167 million, accounting for 24\% of the world's elderly population by 2020, it means that there is one Chinese older among four every four elderly people in the world. Chinese elderly pension problem is getting worse. \textsuperscript{[1]} In view of this, it is necessary to fully tap the pension elements in the Chinese traditional culture of filial piety, to explore our pension problems, to identify the role of principle between the two, to provide a theoretical reference for the development of China’s pension business.

China’s elderly population situation

According to the sixth national census in 2010, our older population over 60 years old is over 170 million, accounting for 13.26\% of the total population. By the end of 2013, China's elderly population over 60 years old has exceeded 200 million. The current annual growth rate of China's elderly population is 3\%, the older population over 60 years old will reach 243 million by 2050. This figure will be close to 500 million, an aging population will gradually increase to about 35 percent. If the older population accounts for 7\% of the total population, it means that one nation steps into the aging structure type. This convention is internationally accepted. According to this convention, China has already entered the aged society. Statistics shows that, the population of the people over 65 years old will reach 167 million, accounting for 24\% of the world's elderly population by 2020, it means that there is one Chinese older among four every four elderly people in the world.

In addition, a common phenomenon is that the state which has entered the aging society is more the developed countries, in which GDP is above $5000 dollars and already has enough social endowment.
ability. While there is a gap between China's current economic power and the developed countries'. Our pension situation is very grim. How to solve the pension problem has become urgent social problem, and the major issue to be solved by scholars.

Filial piety is the foundation of a personality, is the soul of ethics, is the source of all virtues. Advocating filial piety is not equal to the feudalism and retrogress. In the process of Chinese modernization we should keep pace with the times, carry forward the modern elements of the traditional culture of filial piety. The core of the traditional culture of filial piety is respecting and caring for the elderly, it emphasizes the filial respect for elders and the respect for the older age. This spirit is of universal social significance both in the past and at present, even in the future. As for China, it has stepped into an aging society in 2000, the construction of pension-centered and respect centered filial piety centered will become increasingly urgent. In modern society, the traditional filial piety to support their parents, is supported by the legal form, but it does seem to let people superficially understand that filial piety is the only material support, so as to ignore an important aspect of respect for parents.

**Insufficient Promotion the culture of filial piety and grim pension**

Confucius said, today many people regard filial piety simply as supporting their parents, if you do not respect their parents, what the difference between you and dog or horse? Many people think that filial piety is to provide abundant material to parents. In fact, the elderly are most afraid of spiritual loneliness and emotional desolation. As children, we should concern and care for the elderly, to spend more time with the old man, mutual caring and attentive, so that the elderly deeply feel happiness, let the old man enjoy great joy and satisfaction in spirit.

On the current situation, the state has the difficulty in burdening the obligation to support the elderly for quite a long period of time. Therefore, China’s major pension model is still “feeding” type of family pension; moreover, even those elderly who have the pension after retirement, and who are economically independent, they also need spiritual comfort of their children. In this case, the development of filial piety becomes very important. However, contrary to the need of Chinese current social development, this traditional values suffered a huge impact with the development of commodity economy, economic principles invades affective domain, resulting in utilitarianism of emotion increasingly and the weakness of the concept of “respect for the elderly” some young ideology. Currently, lawsuits concerning the elderly are due to lack of filial piety among their children.

Apart from insulting and beating parents, or the expelling of the elderly out of the home, or other extreme behavior which violates filial piety, there are some “hidden” unfilial behaviors. For Example, some young couples, although they are financially independent, but they eat, live with their parents, and occupy a good room, but do not pay living expenses; some adult children, see their parents as "servant", they not only ask their parents to do their own housework, but also push all the duty of raising children to the parents, and so on. Lack of respect brings about the elderly mental stimulation, lack of care for the elderly life make them endure physical suffering, lack of substance make the elders lose the elementary right of life. These common social behaviors violating filial piety, shows the importance and the urgency of developing traditional Chinese culture of filial piety from the opposite side.

In addition, the society should pay attention to strengthen the moral education of young people educating them respect and care for the elderly, and put it into the moral education. Only we let the children understand the truth that caring for the elderly is caring themselves in the future, from an early age, and only we let children cultivate the habit of respecting the elders, and gradually form the fashion of respecting and loving the elders, can we effectively avoid and eliminate the occurrence of the unfilial behaviors and insulting behaviors.
The internal element to promote the old-age undertaking—the filial piety culture

Filial piety is the moral ethics in family life, it is the moral convention to coordinate the relationship between parents and children and children's moral requirements.[4] The culture of filial piety as a part of traditional culture is a spiritual wealth of every Chinese family endowed by nature.

Promoting the culture of filial piety and improving people's moral quality is an important task for the construction of contemporary social and spiritual civilization. From the actual situation of our country, filial piety is not only the origin of value of harmonious interpersonal relationships, but also one of the important factors to maintain social stability. Filial piety has always been the fundamental philosophy of life and the traditional virtue of the Chinese nation. Moreover it is the basic element of the family harmony, social stability and national unity. At the same time, filial piety is a kind of social behavior, filial piety are responsible for social morality and social responsibility.

Of course, times are changing, and the original supporting mode must be changed, the old man also needs to have new ways of concerns and caring. But the reality is the continuation of history, now our society is in the period of social transition, the more attention should be paid to the mining of traditional morality and innovation, so that is conducive to the stability of the society. To solve the problem of aging population with traditional filial piety culture has value and worth carrying forward, it’s thought include two aspects mainly.

Birds and beasts still think feedback, supporting their parents is one of the most basic moral. Parents raise children up and go through the hardships, children should feed their parents to the best after they are adults, they should take care of parents, satisfy their parents as much as possible, which is the most basic requirements of the Confucian filial piety. In the history of our country, a lot of famous dutiful son and eternal Filial piety of allusions have appeared. In ancient China, filial piety is not only the personal behavior, but also the ethos which permeate the whole society. Since warring state period, our country had regulated that the old man should be preferentially treated. Filial piety, as it was, this traditional virtue is an important pillar to maintain social ethics, and it has social security function which is desperately needed in contemporary China.

Respect is the essential requirement and the most intensive manifestation of filial piety. With the guarantee of material life, the parents expect and desire the children's spiritual solace most. The power source of the filial piety is the true love of children for their parents, we stay with them sincerely, talk to them, treat them respectively. If it is necessary, children should satisfy the parents’ material and spiritual needs as far as possible, should greet the old man often, should help them in the daily life, should visit them when they are sick, should be modest in unimportant things, should be patient and implied in criticisms and suggestions. Making the old happy and healthy is the true filial piety. Ageing parents, their days of living in the world are limited, the children should have a sense of urgency to be filial to their parents, and they should not depend on the others, make the parents live happily in material and live pleasantly in spirit. This is what traditional filial piety culture teaches us for thousands of years.

Carry Forward the Traditional Culture and Promote the Development of the Old-age Undertaking in China

Man is living in a mutually independent and mutually restricted family relationship the family is the cell of the society, it shoulders the dual function of raising the children and supporting the elders. A harmonious family must be full of a filial piety, love and affection. It is hard to imagine that a man who do not respect for the elderly how could he get people’s acceptance, social support and advocacy. In the process of social development in ancient China for thousands of years, the family pension is the main part of the pension, and what keeps family pension continues steadily is the thought of filial piety. Social endowment system is developed, and it is not intended to replace the family pension, it is a useful complement to the traditional family pension mode and economic support. Especially in our nation where people worship filial piety and morality, we should not abandon the family emotional comfort and spiritual support for the elderly.[5]
Old age is the final stage of life, every family has the elderly, everyone will become old, caring the elderly means caring ourselves. In this way, we can improve the quality of human life eventually, which is also the result of the development of the whole society. At present, there are mainly two ways to solve the pension problem in our country, one is socialization, homes, nursing home and other social institutions shoulders the pension function partly. However, due to the influence of the historical and cultural traditions, the Old’s home is not the old people's first choice. At the same time, China's institutional pension is not well developed, the software and hardware facilities is not perfect, there is a big gap compared with social needs, thus the traditional family endowment is still the main way of provision in China. In such a country once constraints of the traditional filial piety are lost, the old’s happiness cannot be guaranteed. Therefore, to develop the filial piety is an important way to realize harmonious relationships and happy life. So under current conditions, to promote the family pension, to develop the traditional filial piety culture of respecting, loving and supporting is of great significance undoubtedly.

History and reality tells us that filial piety is an eternal topic which cannot be abandoned. The filial piety thought centered by "Respect for the elderly, and support the elderly" is of great significance to further develop the cause of China's social and family endowment. At present, we need to understand scientifically the connotation of filial piety culture, to innovate the filial piety culture, to practice filial piety, to develop the manifestation of filial piety, and to do a good job in family and community endowment. We should vigorously develop the traditional Chinese filial piety culture, improve people's moral quality, the sense of responsibility and mission, and promote the healthy development of the endowment enterprise in our country.

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