

Community Drug Treatment in the Perspective of Biopolitics

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Abstract: Community drug treatment has changed the measures of “every drug use must be forced”, providing physical and psychological treatment support for drug addicts, reflecting the concept of people-oriented. From the perspective of biopolitics, the fundamental purpose of this drug treatment strategy from “severe punishment” to “flexible governance” is designed to affect the well-being of all the people and take the way of drug governance with Chinese characteristics.

Keywords: Community drug treatment; Biopolitics; People-oriented

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Introduction

In today’s society, the drug problem has become a very serious social problem. China’s drug management technology has experienced a long process. Before and after the founding of the People’s Republic of China, drug control was controlled and governed by the state. In 2007, China promulgated the Drug Control Law of the People’s Republic of China to regulate China’s drug control work. This means that the legal status of a new measure — community drug treatment has been established, marking the beginning of our drug treatment strategy from the “judicial punishment” mode led by compulsory institutions to the community-led “return to society” mode^[1].

In the related research of community drug treatment, Scholars, starting from a theoretical point of view, Guided by the theory of social support, the multi-center governance theory, the perspective of stress resistance, and the ecosystem theory (Zhou Xiangbin, Chang Ying, 2005) (Wang Xuebing, Zhang Hechuan, 2011) (Zhang Lifan, 2015) (Hou Rongting, 2011); According to the different detoxification measures, Therefore, the scholars discussed the specific responsibilities and scope of community drug treatment (Lu Zhongping, Liu Limin, Jiang Shaowei, 2009); By comparing the different practices of community drug treatment in China and abroad, Scholars try to explore drug treatment methods with local characteristics and adapted to China’s national conditions (Wang Dan, 2010), For example, the case management mode (Li Xiaofeng, Guan Peizhen, 2022), Seal cutting Art group therapy (Peng Shanmin, 2010), etc.; According to the drug control practice in different regions, Scholars have explored the community drug treatment in Shanghai and the Pearl River Delta region with practical experience and achieved certain results (Fan Zhihai, Jiao Zhiyong, Zhan Yilin, 2011) (Li Xiaofeng, Ma Ruimin, 2014).

Related research has summarized the deficiencies and reflected from the aspects of system construction, model exploration and localization experience, and the results have been very detailed. This paper introduces a new theoretical interpretation of — biopolitics. biopolitics is applied to population governance and aims to improve the quality of population. Community drug treatment embodies the modern governance thought. Through multiple subjects’ joint construction and joint governance, comprehensive means are used to supervise and help drug addicts to abstain from drug addiction and return to society^[2].

1. Community anti-drug work under the perspective of biopolitics

The Drug Control Law clearly defines the concept of putting preventive education first and putting people first. Community drug treatment has changed the mode of “drug addiction”, which embodies the concept of people-oriented. This idea and biopolitics are harmony. In Discipline and Punishment, Foucault mentioned that human society gradually evolved

from ancient torture punishment to universal and gentle violence against people, which is a process of people from death to life. bioplitics applies political rights directly to biological life and to the governance of population.”The politics of life requires people to live, and it also tries to give people a better life.”

In the era of neoliberalism and developmentalism, governance in the form of bioplitics is a governance means to realize economic growth and modernization^[3]. bioplitics is not only a kind of governance technology, but also the stimulation of human nature, enabling people to pursue virtue, goodness and justice. Anti-drug work has always been people-centered, which means that the Party has always represented the fundamental interests of the overwhelming majority of the people. Anti-drug work is related to the well-being of the whole society.

The implementation of the people-centered position is reflected as follows:

First, help drug users quit their drug addiction^[4]. Drug treatment work adheres to the principle of people-oriented, care and assistance, and provides assistance to drug addicts to the greatest extent, and pays attention to their physical and mental health^[5]. Second, we will protect the legitimate rights and interests of drug addicts. The legitimate rights and interests of addicts are protected by the law, the relevant staff of addicts have corporal punishment, abuse, insult and punishment, drug treatment places organization addicts to participate in production labor, shall refer to the provisions of the national labor employment system to pay labor remuneration, addicts in school, employment, enjoy social security without discrimination, this is a strong proof of addicts personality and dignity of respect^{[6][7]}. Third, we need to help drug addicts lift themselves out of poverty. We will unswervingly help them to quit drugs so as to achieve poverty alleviation first and then consolidate the achievements of poverty alleviation, and finally win a long-term victory in the battle against drug control and poverty alleviation.

2. Analysis of the current situation of community drug treatment

The data of this paper are from Nanjing, Jiangsu Province. The anti-drug control department of the city has continuously improved the anti-drug control work, continuously deepened the source control, comprehensive treatment and special treatment, and achieved good results. In 2021, it was rated as one of the first national anti-drug demonstration cities^[8]. Although the current trend of national drug situation is good, the community drug treatment work still needs to be improved under the new situation. The specific practices of community drug treatment are as follows:

First, regular publicity and education, anti-drug control work in communities and schools, and lectures; second, the specific work shall be gradually divided into local police stations and basic units according to their functions and levels, and performance appraisal; third, multi-department linkage, regularly visit drug addicts and compulsory isolation for those who violate the agreement of regular registration; fourth, improve community management, strengthen the professional construction of drug control team, and the drug treatment work of registered personnel shall be implemented.

These initiatives have largely played a positive role. However, today’s drug situation is still severe. In addition to affirming the effectiveness of the current drug treatment measures, we should also be deeply aware of the shortcomings in the current work. First of all, the management mechanism is not yet perfect, and the management means are backward. Problems such as the insufficient establishment of departments, the professionalism of staff to be improved and the shortage of funds emerge in all of them. There is an old thinking in the work team, the lack of modern, systematic methods. Secondly, the division of labor between professional departments and social organizations is not clear, and their functions are separated. The office is operated by several government agencies, and the follow-up management of drug addicts requires the coordination and mutual assistance of various forces. However, in fact, the public security has become the leading department, and other departments’ participation and cooperation degree is low.

3. Genetic analysis

For drug users, the identities of “offenders”, “patients” and “moral defects” are closely with them, and over time they form the corresponding identity; coupled with the social evaluation of drug users, both act on drug users, leading to their own construction of a low moral, pathological image. Then this gradually formed a kind of employment discrimination^[9].

The understanding and judgment of individual problems must also place individuals in the environment of their survival^[10]. Drug users often pay a huge economic cost due to the purchase of drugs. After drug addiction, they will lose the family economy and lose their physical quality, and even lose the ability to work by themselves. Family members will have a negative cognition of drug users. Once the family happiness atmosphere disappears, drug addicts will be difficult to return to their families and eventually return to society.

Subculture has an influence and realizes recognition in social learning and realizing concept recognition, subcultural atmosphere, and learning and imitation of behavior patterns^[11]. Many drug users are often not actively exposed to drugs. They are in a subcultural

circle with similar value consciousness, and some “friends” bring novel and exciting popular things into the circle. Under the effect of peer effect, some people will imitate the novel behavior of drug taking, and this imitation power will shape the ideas and behaviors of others.

4. Epilogue

There are many reasons for drug use, which are related to many factors. Drug use behavior is not closely related to personal morality. The measure of community drug treatment fully guarantees the rights of drug addicts, barriers their personal dignity and promotes their reintegration into society.

The Party and the country always have the world in mind and put the people first. Anti-drug work is related to the well-being of the nation. Only by constantly summarizing the existing experience and lessons can we constantly improve the anti-drug governance system and take the road of drug control with Chinese characteristics. In order to promote the development of economy, politics and culture, escort the society with The Times, and promote the all-round harmonious development of society.

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