Reflections on Social Equity and Justice from the Perspective of Resilient Community Governance

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Abstract: As the last governance level of the country, the community bears the risk of various disasters and its own vulnerability under the complex "artificial creation" of the city. By sorting out the relationship between resilient communities and vulnerability, this paper finds that in the process of improving community resilience, we should pay attention to those individuals and families with the highest degree of vulnerability. Therefore, through the democratization of decision-making to promote the fairness of grass-roots emergency management, the formation of procedural justice with the meritocracy system and the drawing of advanced experience from different places, we can actually promote the implementation of the fair path of resilient community emergency response system.

Keywords: Resilient community; Social equity; Grass-roots governance

1. The relationship between resilient communities and vulnerability

The word "resilience" comes from the Latin word "resillo," meaning a return to the original state. Its concept spans many fields such as physics, ecology, psychology and public management. In modern academia, resilience is understood as the ability to self-regulate and recover after large-scale emergencies. Resilient communities are the most practical representation of cities and the core concern of the international community for urban security, which is regarded as a new direction for grassroots emergency governance. Building community resilience means increasing the capacity to adapt to crises, viewing communities as a system with the ability to self-organize and learn from disaster experiences to effectively reduce future vulnerability. The Naturalization of Natural Disasters (Phil O 'Keefe, Ken Westgate & Ben Wisner, 1976) proposed that disasters are not only caused by natural factors, but also result from the vulnerability of social and economic systems. Susman, O 'Keefe, Wisner, Dow, Downing, Girard, and Givona, among others, support this claim by arguing that differences in the treatment of different social classes in times of crisis have an impact on vulnerability, including age, racism, and aging community infrastructure. Thus, Bolin & Stanford (1998) point out that vulnerability manifests itself among the least resourced populations, who are the least resilient to stress and risk in times of crisis. Thus, disasters are also essentially social phenomena, and addressing vulnerability requires a deep understanding of social injustice and justice and the promotion of social and community equity. Only by solving the problems of the most vulnerable groups in society can we truly enhance the resilience of community construction and achieve the multiple goals of the resilience system.

2. Connotation of resilient community governance under social equity and justice

In the long run, in the process of urban emergency management, the urgency of science and technology will gradually decrease, and social justice issues will be paid more and more attention . Only by achieving fairness and justice can citizens be more willing to participate in the emergency to play their role. Since the reform and opening up, our country has achieved good results in the economic

society, along with the continuous improvement of the people's sense of democracy, fairness and rights; The issue of fairness in social life is also reflected more strongly. The connotation of social fairness and justice is generally understood as corresponding to "deserved"; That is to say, fairness and justice is something that everyone deserves, as a moral principle. The principle of justice mentioned in Rawls' A Theory of Justice holds that everyone should enjoy basic freedom and rights equally and extensively. If in times of economic and social inequality, the most vulnerable groups should be protected to enjoy the greatest benefits; When opportunity is equal, opportunity should be open to all. Due to the objective differences in people's personal endowments and native conditions, not all people can live a life of equal value, so the principle of compensatory equity should be supplemented when equity and justice are not taken into account or do not play a role. Fairness and justice are the evaluation criteria of the modernization of national governance and an important part of the resilience of community emergency management, which has the value connotation of Chinese characteristics.

2.1 Fundamental position: People-centered

The thought of people-oriented in our country has a long history, and Mengzi once put forward the thought of "the people are more important than the king". "Safeguarding social equity and justice" mentioned in the Speech at the First Session of the 12th National People's Congress in March 2013; To the 28th collective study of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee formally put forward the "people-centered development thought", and then later stressed that "to achieve public justice is our Party's consistent position, fairness and justice is an inherent requirement of socialism with Chinese characteristics." It can be seen that in the system of thought on socialism with Chinese characteristics for a new era, it is deeply recognized that the fundamental position and core essence of promoting social fairness and justice and ensuring people's peace and contentment is to realize and safeguard the fundamental interests of the overwhelming majority of the people. So the system equity needs to build its guarantee system, whether it is at the social level or the community level, it needs to effectively realize the rights equity, opportunities equity and rules equity. We should aim at the fundamental interests of the vast majority of the people and start with the most realistic and direct interests of the people.

2.2 Put people's livelihood first and make resilience a development goal

The term "people's livelihood" in a broad sense, anything related to People's Daily life is called people's livelihood, and this concept can be extended to any field such as society, politics, economy, culture, etc., with a very wide range of concepts. But from the narrow perspective, it mainly refers to the basic survival and living state of the people's livelihood. In the establishment of resilient communities, from the community level, the stability, recovery and adaptability of the community is the key, the main practitioner is the government, the government needs to create a fair and harmonious social environment, economic environment and ecological environment, cultivate people's awareness and establish a good management system. From the individual level, families and individuals as units need to increase disaster knowledge and cultivate disaster prevention awareness, improve self-rescue ability and disaster recovery ability; It is necessary to build and improve the public's attention to emergency crisis events from the community environment, and more importantly, to make every class of people subject to the same environmental impact and equal opportunities for training and participation in activities.

2.3 Basic concept: Multiple co-construction

Creating resilient communities requires the integration of multiple resources and organizations. China's emergency management mechanism generally uses "4 stages ×5 modules", including pre-prevention and emergency preparation, monitoring and early warning at the time of the incident, emergency handling and teaching during the incident, and post-recovery and reconstruction . In the

process of community emergency response, from the deployment of state organs to the specific implementation at the grassroots level, including enterprises and institutions, social groups, the public and other stakeholders need to participate. From the perspective of operation process, the government and local communities need to prepare, prevent and mobilize for emergencies in advance; In case of an incident, monitoring, information reporting, and resource sharing among departments and organizations are required; During the event, there needs to be an organization of decision evaluation and multi-department coordination; Afterwards, professional personnel are needed to carry out restoration and reconstruction, psychological counseling, investigation and evaluation. The construction of resilient communities puts more emphasis on the ability to recover, rebuild and sustain, so it is more important to highlight the emergency response capacity before and during the incident. The improvement of community emergency response is not enough by government agencies alone, but also needs the cooperation and joint construction of diverse organizations within the community jurisdiction.

3. Promote the implementation path of fairness of resilient community emergency response system

In addition to focusing on the construction of emergency systems, we also need to think about how to integrate the idea of equity and justice into the building process of resilient communities. Reducing vulnerability is not only about improving the ability to repair and recover, but also about taking preventive actions to reduce risks and exposure.

3.1 Promote the fairness of grass-roots emergency governance through decision-making democratization

In the process of promoting fairness in grass-roots emergency governance, democratization of decision-making can effectively promote social fairness and justice by enhancing political legitimacy and enhancing the fairness, justice and inclusiveness of policies in emergency response, and ultimately form a rational, inclusive and civilized public cultural life atmosphere. The so-called democratization of decision making is to introduce democratic mechanisms into the decision-making process, so that the decision plan can be negotiated and demonstrated by multiple stakeholders in the community, and then the decision-making body will collectively review and make decisions. In the implementation process, it is necessary to build a consultation mechanism to enable all parties to express their views in a reasonable and orderly manner, and to cooperate with the supervision and accountability mechanism. In the construction of resilient communities, the social management, emergency preparedness and risk prevention mechanisms under the prior management of emergency should be fair and transparent, and the opinions and demands of all parties should be fully collected before decision-making. Such a decision-making process is not only conducive to the efficiency and quality of decision-making, but more importantly, to fundamentally promote citizen participation and reduce social contradictions, and is also a necessary condition for promoting the modernization of grass-roots governance.

3.2 Forming procedural justice with meritocracy system

Institutions are an important guarantee for social equity and justice, regardless of the level of social development. The selection of meritocracy is the core issue put forward by the Fourth Plenary Session of the 19th CPC Central Committee, and improving the management system of party cadres and selecting outstanding talents are important measures to promote the national governance system. In building resilient communities, "people" and "institutions" are key success factors. System is the fundamental guarantee to realize social fairness and justice, regulate social norms for a long time and balance different interest groups. At the same time, ensuring fairness and justice is the core function of the system, and regulating individual behavior and ways of thinking. In the socialist system with Chinese characteristics, the selection of personnel follows the principle of "integrity, diligence and integrity", and the comprehensive and strict standard of "integrity and ability, morality first". The selection of community staff should adhere to the value

orientation of "equality, accuracy, openness and dignity", gather talents with morality, and even give the voice to the most vulnerable groups, pay attention to the weakest ability to resist risks. Create political commitment and relatively fair environmental justice. The meritocratic system and the modernization of national governance promote each other, which is an important path to achieve resilient communities. A fair and just employment system can not only efficiently attract outstanding talents at all levels, but also encourage people to actively participate in community emergency affairs, so as to achieve procedural justice of the meritocratic system.

3.3 Learn from the advanced experience of different places

The concept of community resilience can be traced back to Timmerman's concept of stability in 1981. Toews, Bolin and Stafford (1998) have pointed out that disasters originate from the most vulnerable groups in society, which may be the least economically vulnerable and the least resilient. Improving the resilience of communities starts with improving the individual or family resilience of these groups. In New York, for example, the city's resilience plan for hurricane damage focuses on strengthening the city's risk capacity and competitiveness. Specific measures on the social front include poverty alleviation policies focusing on vulnerable groups and giving them a voice to strengthen social equity. Second, we need to use equitable standards to allocate resources among different communities to enhance the resilience of poor communities and families in the face of disasters. Governments and communities need to engage in disaster reduction programmes to redress unfair vulnerability. Finally, focus on the networking of highly vulnerable groups, establish multi-functional communication systems and networks between government and communities, and use media and technology to achieve connectivity at all levels, including countries, cities, regions, communities and families. Communicate information and plan disaster reduction through the network to achieve communication and feedback mechanism.

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