Visual analysis of research hotspots of preschool education in China

——Bibliometric analysis of 221 influential preschool education journals in China from 2020 to 2022

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Absrtact: the research focus is the common research of a certain discipline or field in a certain period of time. Based on the systematic literature review, this paper retrieved 221 articles from the first issue of 2020 to the third issue of 2022, using the professional journal of preschool education research, the most influential CSSCI source journal in the field of preschool education in China, as the data retrieval source. According to the frequency of hot words, this paper summarizes and analyzes the five research hotspots and their evolution trends of current preschool education research, and prospects the development prospects of hot research.

Key words: preschool education research; Research hotspots; Frontier evolution

1. Research background

In today's era, the state has paid more and more attention to the field of pre-school education. The implementation of the "three child" policy and the promulgation of national policies such as the law of the people's Republic of China on the promotion of family education have promoted the development of research in the field of pre-school education in China, and the number of studies has shown a rapid upward trend. This paper uses the method of literature analysis to explore the research hotspots and cutting-edge trends in the field of pre-school education, so as to provide a starting point for researchers in the field of pre-school education to better grasp the hot research direction in this field.

2. Research design

2.1 Research questions

This study makes an in-depth discussion on the literature of preschool education research, an influential journal of preschool education in the past two years, focusing on the following research issues: first, what is the current hot status of preschool education research in China; The second is to analyze the frontier evolution of research hotspots of preschool education; The third is to reflect and prospect the future research trend of preschool education research.

2.2 Research methods

This study strictly follows the method of systematic literature review, and tries to retrieve the relevant literature through clear and reproducible retrieval technology and retrieval strategies, screening and discriminating according to the predetermined criteria, so as to more accurately grasp the research status and development trend in the field of pre-school education. Firstly, this study analyzed the word frequency co-occurrence of literature titles, keywords and abstracts, and extracted high-frequency words in the field of preschool education research, which are the research hotspots in this field; Secondly, according to the high-frequency words, the hot literature is selected for in-depth study, and the specific research content and core views in the hot field are analyzed, so as to more accurately grasp the trend of preschool education research.

2.3 Sample acquisition

1. literature search. Considering the sensitivity and effectiveness of journal papers in grasping research hotspots, this study searched the Journal of preschool education research from 2020 to 2022. With the characteristics of timely reflecting the research results of preschool education at home and abroad and the purpose of effectively guiding the practice of preschool education in China, preschool education research is currently the highest level professional journal of preschool education in China (the only CSSCI source journal in the field of Preschool Education) and the only theoretical Journal of preschool education in China, which helps to provide a more complete source of literature for this research.

2. literature screening. This study improves the accuracy of systematic literature review and meta-analysis report by presenting the process and reasons of literature identification, screening, inclusion or exclusion. Based on this research idea, this study determines the inclusion and screening criteria of literature: considering the academic, theoretical, scientific and rigorous methods of the research, this study focuses on the teaching and scientific research literature of university teachers in journals, and kindergarten teaching and scientific research

articles and book review articles are not within the scope of this study. Based on this, a total of 319 literatures were obtained, and 221 qualified literatures were finally obtained after eliminating 65 kindergarten teaching and scientific research and 33 book reviews.

3. Research hotspots

3.1 Early family education has become a new research hotspot

In the past two years, the research on early childhood and development of preschool children has mainly focused on family education, emotion regulation and other aspects. Through word frequency co-occurrence, it is found that the hot keywords in the literature are "family" and "emotion", which appear 15 times and 6 times respectively. Through the analysis, we found that, first, the early family education literature used "Questionnaire" to observe and investigate children and parents; The research content tends to the influence of parents' parenting style, family socio-economic status and family cultural background, which has a positive prediction on children's learning quality, emotion and sociality. Family parenting style is further subdivided into the study of mother's parenting behavior, the influence and difference of parents' parenting behavior. Most studies use different mediating variables to form multiple factors for discussion. Secondly, emotion regulation was investigated by adapting a self-made questionnaire according to the authoritative questionnaire. In recent years, research has focused on the emotional impact of the family after the birth of the second child on the first child, the social adaptation of left behind children and the impact of emotional family.

3.2. the mental health of preschool teachers has attracted much attention

Through the analysis, it is found that scholars pay more attention to the research of preschool teachers' professional development, preschool teachers' mental health, preschool teachers' management and so on. Among them, the literature Title keywords "professional", "emotion" and "cultivation / training" appeared 13 times, 6 times and 5 times respectively. First, the research methods of professional development are mostly self-made or revised questionnaires, and the reliability and validity of the questionnaires are tested. The questionnaire survey and field interviews of kindergarten teachers in different regions show that the cultivation of preschool teachers' professional ability is diversified and specific. Second, mental health research mainly focuses on the questionnaire survey of teachers and comprehensive analysis of various scales. Preschool teachers' professional pressure mainly comes from children and parents, including workload, professional identity, staffing, salary satisfaction, family support, colleagues' trust, and preschool teachers' image under public discourse, which have a negative impact on job satisfaction and career ability. Future research should focus on how to establish a trinity incentive and restraint mechanism of government, society and kindergartens, reduce the occupational pressure from the aspects of wages, social status, parents' concept guidance, and stress training, and help front-line teachers make self career planning and reduce the turnover intention of kindergarten teachers. In the final analysis, teachers should be given sufficient material support and spiritual and emotional care to strengthen their sense of self-efficacy and professional well-being.

3.3 preschool education equity has become a hot research issue, and the research paradigm of educational life history provides a new research perspective for the study of educational history in China

In the past two years, the basic theory of pre-school education has mainly focused on education equity , education history research , and so on. The hot keywords in the title of the research literature are "pre-school education", "pre-school education opportunity / experience" for 6 times, and "education history research" and "pre-school education history" for 2 times respectively. First, most of the literature research methods of education equity are based on the data of China Education tracking survey (CEPs), using the propensity score matching method to study and using multiple logit regression method to study the relationship between explanatory variables and explained variables. The research content includes both the impact of pre-school education on compulsory education and the analysis and Reflection on the current situation of education equity. Pre school education has a greater impact on children's future compulsory education and personal quality. The higher the quality, the more positive the pre-school education experience will have on children's future development. Second, the research literature on the history of education summarizes and analyzes the research status of the history of preschool education in China, and puts forward a new research perspective of the research paradigm of the history of educational life. This perspective can better promote the formation of preschool teachers' ideas. In the future research on the history of education, researchers can flexibly apply this perspective.

3.4 kindergarten curriculum research shows a trend of integration and development, with traditional culture and picture books as the research focus.

In the past two years, the research on pre-school education curriculum and teaching has relatively focused on Curriculum Integration, traditional culture education, children's picture books, etc. The hot keywords in the title of the research literature include "kindergarten curriculum" for 5 times, "traditional culture" for 2 times, and "picture book" for 7 times. First, the kindergarten curriculum presents the research trend of curriculum informatization and localization, and the research trend of combining AR technology, programming and Internet of things and other interdisciplinary and interdisciplinary development is booming. From the literature research, it can be seen that there

are still some problems in today's kindergarten education reform, such as the supremacy of collective teaching in kindergarten education and the neglect of children's personalized learning needs. Future research can start from meeting children's personalized learning needs, helping local kindergartens to build a theoretical discourse system of kindergarten curriculum with Chinese characteristicsThe construction of Natural Education Park based curriculum and the curriculum mode of combining theory with practice. Second, in the literature of traditional culture education, most of them introduce the connotation of a characteristic traditional culture, and then point out the feasible implementation path. Inheriting the excellent traditional Chinese culture is an important mission entrusted to teachers in the new era. How kindergarten teachers use the existing traditional cultural resources and carry forward the excellent traditional Chinese culture is a hot research direction at present.

3.5 kindergarten education quality evaluation has attracted much attention, and the implementation of policies at all levels of pre-school education has become the key

In the past two years, the research on kindergarten quality evaluation , problem reflection and reform at this stage, and other countries' education policy reference has become a general trend. The hot keywords in the title of the research literature: "education policy" and "0-3-year-old infants" appeared five times and four times respectively. First, the kindergarten quality evaluation literature is mostly based on the sub standard of "towards high quality - China kindergarten education quality evaluation standard" (hereinafter referred to as "high quality standard") to give evaluation and improvement suggestions on the management, curriculum, teacher security quality and other aspects of China's kindergartens, so as to promote the construction and the improvement and development of kindergartens in all aspects. Second, in terms of reflection and reform at this stage, it focuses on "it is difficult to enter public kindergartens, but expensive to enter private kindergartens", the regulation of family nurseries under the "comprehensive two child" policy of the connection between kindergarten and primary school, and the research on the support policies of inclusive private kindergartens. The literature studies the current problems by using NVivo series software and text analysis method. How to further improve the popularization and inclusive level of preschool education in China, promote the rapid development of inclusive private parks, and improve the policy of connecting preschool and primary education are the key issues that researchers need to study in the future.

4. Frontier evolution

4.1 Pre school education research focus from theoretical research to practical research

A significant change at this stage is the shift from theoretical research to practical research that is more in line with the current situation. Specifically, the number of relevant theoretical studies such as "basic theory of pre-school education", "pre-school education curriculum and teaching" and "Research on children's history" has decreased significantly, while the research topic focuses more on practical and professional papers. At this stage, the research on preschool education theory is relatively reduced, but the research on preschool children's family and community education remains hot. The "two child / three child policy" and "inclusive preschool education" have significantly increased according to the current national policy hotspots, providing feasible solutions for the development of preschool education in China.

4.2 The hot research fields of preschool education are gradually refined

In addition to the continuation of the theme of the previous stage, many new columns have been added to the research theme of this stage, which also show more in-depth, refined and diversified characteristics, such as the columns of "integration of Chinese excellent traditional culture into preschool education", "towards high quality: evaluation of the quality of Chinese Kindergarten Education", "kindergarten game ecology and game quality", etc. The small and refined research that is more practical is developed from the previous large research, which further shows that the research on the hot spots of preschool education in China has developed with the times, and has grown and progressed with it.

5. Future outlook

5.1 Real time grasp of the leading role of national policies in preschool education research

The state pays attention to the field of pre-school education and has issued a series of relevant policies to lead the steady and healthy development of pre-school education. The state policy of paying attention to real-time can better walk in the forefront of pre-school education. However, the current research literature on these policies in China is relatively few, which means that there is a broader research space in this area.

5.2 Develop and use more accurate and effective research tools for preschool education

At present, most of the research tools of some papers are international unified questionnaires, but considering the reasons for the research on China's localization, researchers will revise the international authoritative questionnaire according to their own research needs.

The future research trend should be to develop and utilize more accurate and effective research tools for China's localization, and promote China's research in the field of preschool education to be in the forefront of the world.

5.3 Improving the relevance between pre-school education research results and teaching practice

At present, some research conclusions have not been understood and applied by the public, but only exist at the theoretical level. The research conclusions are separated from grass-roots practice and lack of practicability. Future research should further deepen the details of various fields, and pay attention to the interaction between multiple factors and how they affect each other, which will play a guiding role in the future research of China's educational practice. Not only that, the comprehensive research on the research results in various fields also needs to keep pace with the times, and summarize and transform them into specific measures that can be easily understood and applied by the public.

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