An Analysis of the Influencing Factors of Floating Population's Social Integration

Qimeng Gu[1,] Qing Yu[2,] Shengshan Zhao,Xinxin Wang

Zhejiang University of Finance & Economics, No.18, Xueyuan St. Hangzhou, China
Corresponding Author: Qing Yu

ABSTRACT
According to the investigation to the floating population in Hangzhou, this paper analyzes floating population's integration level in society in Hangzhou at present and the significant influence of the difference between two sides' registration and identification on social integration from two perspectives including floating population's integration and local people's acceptance. The result shows that the dimensions like economy, culture and identity affects the level of social integration significantly; the difference in registration and identity also has significant influence on social integration which is caused by the difference between floating population and local people in the aspects like identity, values, culture and custom. To eliminate the differences among groups caused by the social system helps to improve the level of social integration.

Keywords*: Floating population's integration,local people's acceptance, social integration*

I.   INTRODUCTION

According to the census concerning 1% of the national population in 2015, it is estimated that the rate of urbanization of permanent residents in Hangzhou is 75.3%. The number of population living in rural area is 2.2274 million, which accounts for 24.7% of the total population. Compared with the data in 2014, the rate of urbanization increases by 0.2 percent points. The urban-rural dualism in China caused by the difference in registration and identification is one of the important influencing factors impeding the development of urbanization and the adjustment of urban and rural structure. With the gradual implementation of a series of structural adjustment policies including household registration reform and urbanization reform, problems about social integration have become the topic to be solved in the districts under reform with a large floating population.

1.1.Theories of social integration

Theories about social integration are presented in the studies of immigration carried out by western society. According to the relationship between immigrants and local people, the theories can be divided into two groups: "integration theory" and "assimilation theory". "Integration theory" was put forward by Park and other scholars from Chicago School (Park& Burgess, 1921; Park, 1928). Based on this, Gordon and other people (Gordon et al, 1964) developed this typical social integration theory. The main idea of "integration theory" is that in the process that immigrants integrate into a society, they gradually abandon traditional culture and customs and then adapt into the customs and habits of local mainstream society. "Assimilation theory" states that the relationship between immigrants and mainstream society in social integration is diversified integration which keeps both sides' certain differences. (Kalln, 1956; Hurh and Kim, 1984; Li Minghuan, 2000).

Generally, domestic social integration theory, which builds on the structure of western social integration theory, combines the characteristics of domestic social integration whose major research groups are floating population, migrant works etc. Domestic scholars still have not reached an agreement on the theoretical framework of social integration. Therefore, there are still some differences between domestic and western theory in the definition of

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social integration and measurement. In general, domestic theory also inherits the research framework of western social integration theory and makes some adjustments based on the result of actual surveys. Although social integration itself is a multidimensional concept, domestic research theories mainly cover several ones including economy, society, politics, culture, identity and psychology. As for the perspective of research, some scholars not only emphasize the initiative of the integrator but also the duality of social integration, namely, the influence on both the integrator and receiver.

1.2. Research on floating population's social integration

Relevant researches have provided a theoretical framework about the measurement of floating population's social integration level. And we will make some adjustments based on the index system of social integration presented by Zhou Hao (2012) whose theory states that the measurement of social integration should stress on the process of integration; the measurement of the result of integration may result in biased error in analysis. Complex index system may lead to the cross of different variables, namely, multicollinearity. Because of this, we simplify the index of each dimension and make questions process-oriented. With regard to the measurement of the level of social integration, we will adopt comprehensive index method which means that we standardize the weighted average of the grades of the integration level of all dimensions and then get the relatively level whose value range is (0, 1). Later, we adopt this level as the explained variable to analyze the influence of variables like economy and society on social integration level. The innovation of this paper: measure the level of social integration in Hangzhou by simplified index system of social integration, which reduces the cross in different variables caused by the complex index system.

II. MODEL AND DATA

This paper builds an index system of social integration from five dimensions including economic integration, cultural integration, social adjustment, structural adaption and identity integration. In the dimension of economic integration, the author adopts the indexes like housing situation, personal monthly income on average, family monthly income on average and five social insurance and one housing fund. The questionnaire is used to measure the grade of the indexes of respondents based on a Likert scale. Finally, the author standardizes the grade of each index in order to measure each individual's level in society based on a specified index.

In the aspect of housing situation, we suppose that the grade for house owner is higher than the grade for renter; the grade for people living in big house is higher than the people living in small house; the higher the personal monthly income is, the higher the grade for the people; the higher the family monthly income is, the higher the level of economic integration is; the better the five social insurance and one housing fund is, the higher the level of economic integration is. In the aspect of cultural integration, we basically investigate local people and foreigner's acceptance of each other. The higher the acceptance for different cultures and customs, the better the cultural integration is. In the aspect of social adjustment, we measure by the assessment for the values of local people and foreigners given by each other, the higher the assessment for the other side, the higher the grade is. In the aspect of structural adaptation, we measure by the interaction between local people and foreigners. The closer the interaction is, the higher the level of interaction is, the higher the level of interaction is. In the aspect of identity integration, both floating people's will of residing in Hangzhou and local people's acceptance of floating people's will of settling down will affect the grade. The stronger the will of residing in Hangzhou, the higher the grade for foreigners; the higher the acceptance is, the higher the grade for local people. In this research, controlled variables include age, gender, marital status, education level, original household registration, current household registration, nature of work unit, nature of occupation, position etc. Finally, as for the measurement of the level of social interaction, we get and standardize the weighted average of the five dimensions for integration so as to get a value at the range (0, 1) as the dependent variable of social integration.

Table 1. Key Variables and Their Definitions

Type of Variables	Dimensions of Variables	Variables and Definitions
Variables	Economic integration	Housing situation, personal monthly income on average, family monthly income on average, five social insurance and one housing fund (all values are individual's level in society after standardized)
	Cultural integration	Acceptance for the custom of local people (foreigners); acceptance for the customs of people with different household registration and identity
	Social adjustment	Assessment for the values of local people (foreigners)
	Structural adaptation	Interaction with local people (foreigners)
	Identity integration	Will of residence (acceptance); floating people's will of residing in Hangzhou and local people's will of accepting floating people's will of settling down
Controlled variable	Basic information	Age, gender, marital status, educational level, original household registration, current household registration, nature of work unit, nature of occupation, position, etc.
Dependent variable	Social integration	In form of standardized index, value range at (0,1)

III. MEASURE AND DATA

Data in this paper is from the questionnaire survey on the floating people in Hangzhou. The field of survey covers 10 streets in Xiacheng district (main district) of Hangzhou. Considering that floating people are extremely uncertain in space and time, the research group acquired the data of 26 primary schools in Xiacheng district by cooperating with the Youth League Committee of Xiacheng district and then selected a few primary schools with a relatively large proportion of children of migrant workers among all students. The group handed out questionnaires to the parents of floating children and investigated 500 respondents in total with 487 valid questionnaires returned. Respondents mainly range in age from 30 to 70. According to the data of the census concerning 1% of the national population in 2015, we adjusted the age and gender structure of respondents caused by the limitation of the sampling method by weighted average in order to reduce biased error.

As for the research on social integration, domestic researchers build a research framework for domestic social integration based on the theoretical framework in sociology built by European and American scholars. According to the survey on new migrants in Shanghai in 2007, Zhang and Lei analyzes the influence of all dimensions including psychological integration, identity integration, cultural integration and economic integration on the level of floating people's social integration (Zhang Wenhong and Lei Kaichun, 2008); according to the data of floating population in Shaoxing, Ren and Qiao summarizes the major factors affecting floating population's social integration, which include self-identity, attitude towards a city, interaction with local people, attitude to perceive society etc. (Ren Yuan and Qiao Nan, 2010). On the basis of the survey on Pearl River Delta, Lu and Wei studied on foreigners' social integration in three aspects including economy, society and culture (Lu Shuzhen and Wei Wangqing, 2011). Yang proposed a theory of integration assessment at four levels covering economy, culture, society and identity (Yang Juhua, 2009). Zhou summarized most domestic and foreign social integration theories and index for measurement, criticized that the appellations and definitions at home are not systematic and comparable, rebuilt an index system for the measurement of domestic social integration and put forward a five-dimension index system including economic integration, cultural integration, social adaption, structural adaption and identity integration (Zhou Hao, 2012).

Table 2. Descriptive Statistics of Basic Variable in Sample

Index	Frequency (%)	Index	Frequency (%)
Gender (N= 487)		Original household registration (N= 487)	
Male	166 (34.08)	Foreign- urban area	53 (10.88)
Female	321 (65.91)	Foreign- rural area	225 (46.20)
Age (N=487)		Local- urban area	175 (35.93)
20- 40	327 (67.14)	Local- rural area	34 (6.98)
40- 70	160 (32.85)	Current household registration (N= 487)	
Educational level (N= 487)		Foreign- urban area	39 (8.00)
Primary school and below	49 (10.06)	Foreign- rural area	184 (37.78)
junior high school	97 (19.91)	Local- urban area	257 (52.77)
senior high school or technical secondary school	156 (32.03)	Local- rural area	7 (1.43)
Bachelor degree or college degree	131 (26.89)		
Graduate degree and above	54 (11.09)		

IV. ESTIMATION AND RESULTS

(1) In Model 1, we adopt social welfare safeguard including personal and family income and five social insurance and one housing fund as the leading indicator in economy. The result of regression analysis shows that personal income and five social insurance and one housing fund has a significantly positive influence on social integration, namely, the higher the personal income is, the higher the level of integration is. Five social insurance and one housing fund is another aspect reflecting economic stability. Economic integration has significantly positive influence on individual's social integration. The major reason is that economic integration is always the material basis for the floating population to improve their living condition in other places. Groups with poor economic integration usually cannot find a good job in the places they immigrate into. Therefore, in Model 4, both educational level and position which are related to individual quality show significantly positive influence at 0.1 significance level. The higher an individual's quality is, the better the economic integration is and the better the social integration probably is.

(2) Model 2 shows the result of regression of two dimensions-- culture and society. Meanwhile, we add individual's original and current household registration, which are related to culture and traditional custom, into the model. Local people and foreigners' acceptance and approval for the other group's values and customs have a significantly positive influence on overall social integration. In other words, the stronger the individual's will of integration or acceptance, the higher the social integration is. Hence, to eliminate the contradictions between

local groups and foreign groups and to improve both sides' acceptance in culture and concept can improve the level of social integration to some degree. In the aspect of household registration, the group originally with foreign and rural household registration performs poor in social integration; the group with foreign household registration at present perform well. The probable reason is that local people's will of acceptance is weaker than foreigners' will of integration which leads to a result that the group with local urban household registration rejects the existence of foreigners. This situation lowers the level of social registration. At present, the structure of local and foreign household registration in Hangzhou may cause some errors in research result.

(3) Model 3 is about structural adaption and identity integration which are significantly and positively correlated to social integration. Local people and foreigners' interaction, local people's will of accepting foreigners and foreigners' will of residing in the immigrant area are also significantly and positively correlated to social integration, which is logical and valid. In other words, the closer the interaction between both sides, the higher the level of social integration, and vice versa.

Table 3 Multi-factor Regression Model of Social Integration

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4
Gender (control group= male)				0.0094
Age				-0.0014
Educational level				-0.0070*
Position	-0.0011			0.0042*
Personal income	0.4287			0.1460***
Family income	0.0131			0.1552***
Five social insurance and one housing fund	0.1239**			0.1411***
Original household registration (control group= local and urban)				
Local and rural household registration		-0.0654		0.0069
Foreign and urban household registration		-0.0863		-0.0170
Foreign and rural household registration		-0.1088**		0.0094
Current household registration (control group= local and urban)				
Local and rural household registration		-0.1299		0.0105
Foreign and urban household registration		0.1710***		-0.0241
Foreign and rural household registration		0.1246**		-0.0472**
Acceptance of values		0.1255**		0.0962***
Acceptance of custom		0.1313***		0.1086***
Both sides' interaction			0.1881***	0.0921***
Will of residence (acceptance)			0.6887***	0.0890***
Constant	0.3203***	-0.4362***	-0.5452***	-0.9842***

Note: "***" refers to $p < 0.01$, "**" refers to $p < 0.05$, "*" refers to $p < 0.10$

V. DISCUSSIONS AND POLICY IMPLICATION

On the basis of the analysis above, it is obvious that social integration is indeed a multi-dimension and long-term process. In the sampling in Hangzhou, economy, cultural integration, structure and identity indeed have a significantly positive influence on social integration. To improve social integration, various dimensions, perspectives and aspects should be taken into consideration. Concerning empirical analysis of the sampling in Hangzhou, we put forward some ideas and suggestions to improve social integration.

(1) Focus on overall economic development, establish and improve welfare and security system in the whole society. The overall economic level is the premise and foundation for people to adapt to the rapid change and adjustment of population structure. Especially in the guarantee of the income and employment rate of the floating population and vulnerable groups, economic integration is the foundation and guarantee of integration in every aspect. Meanwhile, it is also important to establish and improve welfare and security system in the whole society. Empirical result shows that stable income and social welfare guarantee can enormously improve individual's economic integration which is beneficial to improve the level of overall social integration.

(2) Eliminate the obstruction caused by the social system and improve the acceptance and interaction among groups. Empirical result indicates that the acceptance and interaction among different groups significantly influence overall social integration; however, the main obstacles in recognition and interaction are caused by system, culture and custom. With the promotion and implementation of the reform of household registration system throughout the country, we should further eliminate the obstacles brought by system in free movement and interaction, positively organize the activities beneficial to the acceptance and interaction among people like community cultural activities, eliminate the biased errors caused by long-term urban-rural dualism and promote the harmonious development of society.

(3) With the intensification of the movement of urban population, family movement also needs to be attached importance to. Problems encountered by floating children in social integration cannot be neglected. We investigated the influence of household registration on social integration by experiment; the result shows that

later education has a great effect on floating children's social preference. To eliminate the stress on the information like household registration in education can promote the interaction and integration among teenager and lay a solid foundation for the long-term social integration and development in the future. However, this paper does not discuss the influence of floating children in other dimensions which is worth further exploring and reflecting.

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