# The inner choice: continue tradition or move towards modernity——Analysis of Influencing Factors of Chinese Rural Residents' Dispute Resolution Intentions

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# **Summary**

In recent years, the number and degree of disputes among rural residents have been increasing, and the form of rural stability has become increasingly severe. Properly resolving these disputes has become a social problem that needs to be resolved urgently. Dispute resolution intention, as an important part of the dispute resolution system, has a profound impact on the dispute resolution of rural residents, but previous researchers often overlooked this aspect of research.

This research uses the rural survey data carried out by the research team members in some rural areas of China to investigate the influencing factors of rural residents' dispute resolution intentions. The research mainly adopts the analysis methods of binary logistic regression and multiple logistic regression, and conducts research from the perspective of human capital and social capital. The study found that the human capital variable, namely education, and the social capital variable, social network relationship, are significant for whether rural residents take action on disputes, and education and social network relationships generally also affect rural residents' conscious tendency to adopt legal methods. solve the disputes. In addition, it is also found that variables such as personal income, religion, marriage, etc. also have an impact on residents' intention to resolve disputes. Through research and analysis, to a certain extent, find out the influencing factors of rural residents' dispute resolution intention, deepen our comprehensive understanding of this aspect, and effectively guide our practice.

**Keywords:** rural residents; dispute resolution intention; human capital; social capital

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China is a large agricultural country with a huge rural population. At this stage, the area of rural areas and the number of rural residents still account for a large proportion. With the transformation of Chinese society, the profound changes in social relations and the diversified development of values are also Makes the settlement of disputes in rural areas more complex and diversified. Dispute resolution intention, as an important part of dispute resolution, is an ideological state of actors when facing disputes and resolving them. It has a strong guiding role in actual dispute resolution, and the study of rural residents' dispute resolution intentions plays an important role in our deeper understanding of rural residents' dispute resolution.

#### I. Data And Variables

#### 1.1 data

The data for this study comes from a questionnaire survey conducted by the research team members in some rural areas of China from July to August 2021. In this actual survey, there were 1,200 valid questionnaires and 1,156 valid questionnaires. The valid questionnaire rate was 96.3%. This research uses statistical analysis software SPSS as a data analysis tool and establishes related models according to specific research needs.

# 1.1.1 Variables

Dependent variable: the choice of the intention of the dispute resolution method, which represents the actions of the individual in the event of a dispute. Based on previous research and the situation in my country, dispute resolution methods are divided into four channels: civil dispute resolution methods, legal channels, government channels, and inaction. Among the variables in the questionnaire, the civil dispute resolution mechanism includes "direct door-to-door to the other party for explanations", "seeking relatives, friends or acquaintances for advice on related knowledge", "private threats, retaliation, door-to-door troubles", "complaints to the news media", and "through relatives" , Friends or acquaintances exert pressure"; legal channels include "seeking a lawyer for advice" and "sue in court"; government channels include "individual or family petitions", "group petitions with other individuals or families", "group petitions" and "Parades, demonstrations, strikes"; inaction means "to swallow one's breath" and assign values of 1, 2, 3, and 4 respectively. In addition, the "other"

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item cannot be specifically classified into a certain category, so it does not affect the reliability of the results, and the "other" option is eliminated in actual operation.

Independent variables: According to the main content of the research and the requirements of the hypothesis, the relevant variables are mainly selected from the aspects of human capital and social capital. In terms of human capital, only the variable of years of education is selected. Although human capital also includes training and certificate status, these are more at the technical level, and the impact on personal behavior such as dispute resolution has not been relevant. verify. As for the perspective of social capital, it is mainly measured by the interviewee's network relationship. In terms of specific measurement, four dimensions of network scale, network top, network difference, and political connection are selected. Among these variables, the network size refers to the total number of respondents who can ask for help when they encounter difficulties in life or work, including relatives, family and neighbors, and ordinary friends. The top of the network refers to the highest assignment of professional prestige among the people interviewed can ask for. The network difference refers to the total number of people of different occupations that the interviewee can ask for help. Political connection refers to whether there is a connection between the respondent and the public servant of the country. Specifically, among the people interviewed can ask for help, are there any heads of government agencies, heads of party and mass organizations, administrative staff, and civilian police.

Control variables: Of course, there are many influencing factors that affect rural residents' dispute resolution intentions. On the basis of the above variables, we also need to consider the influence of other variables. In this study, these variables are called control variables to better obtain The effect of the variable on the result. Among the control variables, seven variables were mainly selected: income, gender, marriage, whether to go out to work, age, political outlook, and religion.

#### II. Result analysis

## 2.1 Impact analysis of whether to take action on the dispute

First, we conduct binary logistic regression analysis on whether rural residents take action if they encounter disputes.

Overall, it shows that human capital and social capital have a significant impact on whether rural residents take action on disputes. After putting in human capital and social capital variables, the R2 value has risen from 9.7% to 12.4%, which also shows that human capital and social capital Social capital has a great effect on the interpretation of the model.

Similarly, according to the research results, we found that the coefficient of the education variable's influence on the dependent variable is -0.054, which passed the significance test (significance level is 0.1). It stated that rural residents with higher education years are more inclined to take action on disputes. The reason for this result can be explained based on education itself. The existence of education enables residents to acquire certain legal knowledge and a positive attitude towards social life. To a certain extent, they will adhere to the legitimate rights of individuals and actively resist other members of society. Unfair treatment, and with the increase of years of education, knowledge and ability in these areas have also increased to a certain extent. Therefore, with the increase of years of education, rural residents are more likely to take action on disputes.

In addition, we can also discover the effect of social capital on whether residents take action on disputes. In the model, we can find that the various variables of social capital include the scale of the network, the difference of the network, the top of the network, and the influence coefficients of political connections on whether residents take action. They are -0.006, -0.207, -0.004, and -0.383, respectively. The standard scores are 0.994, 0.813, 0.996 and 0.682 respectively. The numerical meaning is that for each additional unit of network scale and network difference, the rural residents' failure to take action on disputes will change to 0.994, 0.813, 0.996, and 0.682 times of the original. That is to say, as the units of various variables of social capital increase, rural residents are more inclined to take action on disputes, and hypothesis three has been verified. This shows that the existence of social capital makes rural residents more inclined to use these relationships to deal with disputes in their social life and take action against them.

Of course, we cannot ignore the influence of control variables on whether residents take action on disputes. In the analysis results, we found that the income of rural residents has a significant impact on whether residents take action on disputes (significance level is 0.01). In the model, for each increase in Ln (income), the rate of residents not taking action on disputes will be 0.650 times the original. Therefore, it is found that the income of residents has a significant positive correlation with whether residents take actions in disputes. Since it takes not only time to deal with disputes, but financial support is also necessary, especially through the country's formal judicial system. Respondents' marital status also has a positive impact on residents' dispute actions (significance level is 0.05), indicating that married residents are more inclined to take action on disputes than those who are unmarried and other residents. Married residents are more responsible for their families and individuals. In addition, the variable whether the residents go out to work has a significant negative correlation (significance level of 0.05) to whether the residents take action on the dispute, and its role is becoming more and

more important in the process of gradually adding variables to the nested model. In this respect, it has a certain similarity with what we have found in the countryside. In rural areas, the residents who go out to work are more concentrated in the relatively disadvantaged groups in the region, and these people are more willing to avoid disputes when facing disputes and do not take action on them.

#### 2.2 Impact analysis of actions taken on disputes

In the analysis, we are concerned: If residents no longer tolerate disputes, in terms of different methods, what factors will cause rural residents to choose different solutions? Therefore, we make a binary logistic regression model for different solutions.

According to the research results, the variable of residents' educational years has a negative correlation with rural residents' choice to adopt traditional dispute resolution methods, that is, residents are unwilling to adopt traditional dispute resolution methods as they have higher educational years, and residents' educational years have just the right impact on residents' adoption of government channels. Contrary to this, but from the perspective of these two effects, the effect is not significant. At the same time, we found from Model 4 that the variable of residents' years of education has a significant effect on rural residents' choice of legal methods to resolve possible disputes (significance level is 0.01). Specifically, the coefficient of influence of residents' educational years on the choice of legal methods is 0.092, that is, for every unit of residents' educational years, the ratio of their choice of legal methods will be 1.097 times the original. From the results, we can find that compared to taking no action, the variable of education years has a certain positive correlation with the other three solutions adopted by rural residents. That is, the higher the education years, the more likely residents are to adopt other solutions. Rather than tolerate disputes. Specifically, the influence coefficients of the variable of educational years on rural residents relative to taking other solutions without taking action are 0.040, 0.092, and 0.062. According to the data, the influence of education on residents' choice of law relative to taking no action The effect is the greatest, and it is also found that the impact of the variable of education years on rural residents is only statistically significant (significance level is 0.01) on the adoption of legal methods. Based on the above results, we can find that residents with higher education years are more inclined to adopt legal methods to resolve disputes than other methods. In this respect, it highlights the contribution of education to the country's formal dispute resolution method, that is, the judicial method. Although judicial methods are an effective way to resolve disputes, they are also highly knowledgeable and professional, and not everyone can use them properly. At the same time, education is a means of acquiring this knowledge. As the number of years of education continues to increase, the possibility of residents gaining legal knowledge will increase, and their ability to understand new knowledge will continue to increase. Then, with the continuous publicity and popularization of legal knowledge, residents with higher education years will be more likely to use legal channels to resolve their own disputes.

At the same time, we can find that as far as the traditional dispute resolution method is concerned, the network scale is not positively correlated with it as we assumed, but the relationship between them is very small, with a coefficient of -0.003, and the significance is not passed. According to the test, compared with those who tolerate disputes, the scale of the network has a positive correlation with traditional dispute resolution methods, and this correlation has not passed the significance test. Although the network size fails the test for adopting traditional dispute resolution methods, it has a significant positive correlation with the adoption of legal methods (significance levels are 0.01 and 0.1, respectively). In terms of network differences, it is shown that the impact on residents taking legal measures is not significant. By comparing with those who do not take action on disputes, it is found that network differences have a significant positive correlation with residents taking legal measures (significant level is 0.05), and its coefficient is 0.195. As for the height of the network, the results show that the coefficients of influence on the residents' legal approach are 0.005 and 0.004 respectively. Although the coefficients are small and their influence is not significant, the coefficients also prove to a certain extent that they have a larger network. Different residents are more willing to resolve disputes through legal channels.

For social network variables, the scale of the network shows the number of residents' network relationships. In rural society, as we have pointed out in our hypothesis, residents pay more attention to the relationship between each other, and use these numerous relationships to mediate disputes. But the data results show a different content, that is, those with a larger network are more inclined to use legal means to resolve disputes. There is a certain relationship between the difference between the dispute resolution intention and the actual dispute resolution that produces such a result. In addition, we must also pay attention to the general background of the entire society. Yu Jianrong pointed out that after 1998, the peasants' struggle in our country has entered the stage of "fighting with the law". He pointed out that peasants are more organized, use laws and central policies as weapons of resistance, and resolve and deal with disputes through their own power. At the same time, the development of the market economy and the transformation of the economy and society are also impacting the traditional rural society to a certain extent, and making them develop in an increasingly "regular" direction. As a manifestation of modern society, professional differentiation has been paid more and more attention by people, and professional prestige and the number of types of occupations are important manifestations of occupations. In

the above data results, we found that although some are not statistically significant, the top of the Internet and differences in the Internet still have a positive impact on residents' use of the law. Especially compared to people who do not take action, the effect of network differences is significant. This shows the role of professional differentiation with modern social characteristics on the residents' use of legal means and to a certain extent verifies that many scholars point out that modern society has strong legal rationality. Regarding political connections, there is no way to encourage residents to use the government more. Regarding this point, I think we should start with the relationship between residents and the government and residents' attitudes towards the government. Of course, we must also consider the actual level of government actions. Since the in-depth analysis involves more complicated situations, we will not be specific here. discussion.

In terms of control variables, it also has an important influence on the choice of disputes among rural residents. Residents' income is an important variable. Compared with those who do not take disputes, income is more significant for rural residents to resolve disputes by other methods. As mentioned above, the resolution of disputes requires time, energy and money, and those with higher incomes are more inclined to adopt various methods to resolve disputes. In addition, variables such as gender, religion, and marriage also play a certain role in the choice of residents' dispute resolution methods.

#### III. Research conclusion

In the research, we found that education and social capital have an important influence on whether rural residents take action on disputes. Residents with higher education years and higher social network quality are more inclined to take action on disputes. In terms of specific action strategies, the above-mentioned factors generally urge residents to adopt legal methods when facing disputes. In addition, control variables such as income and marriage also have a certain impact on whether rural residents take action on disputes and how to resolve them.

In the real countryside, coordinated dispute resolution is still an important means for residents to resolve disputes, but regardless of whether they are admitted or not, this kind of settlement based on primary relationships is increasingly being challenged by modern formal methods. However, in the vast rural areas, on the one hand, traditional solutions are losing their status, and formal solutions have not been fully established. At the same time, disputes in rural areas are still severe. Therefore, whether the problem of rural dispute resolution can be properly handled is critical to the realization of the new countryside advocated by the government. Construction is of great significance. The purpose of this article is to analyze the missing parts of the previous research, hoping to find out the influencing factors of the rural residents' dispute resolution intention and effectively guide our practice. This research is about the analysis of rural residents' dispute resolution intentions. As mentioned above, there are certain differences between intentional choice and actual choice.

Although the influence of dispute type and degree of dispute on the choice of individual dispute resolution is avoided in the research of this article, there are many shortcomings in the research of this article, the most important of which is the lack of theoretical support and the systematization of research. These two aspects cannot be perfected here due to the lack of personal ability, but I hope to make up for the shortcomings of this research in the follow-up study and research.

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