

The Chinese Worker after Socialism



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While millions in China have been advantaged by three decades of reform, impressive gains have also produced social dislocation. Groups that had been winners under socialism find themselves losers in the new order. Based on field research in nine cities across China, this fascinating study considers the fate of one such group - 35 million workers laid off from the state-owned sector. The book explains why these lay-offs occurred, how workers are coping with unemployment, what actions the state is taking to provide them with livelihoods and re-employment, and what happens when workers mobilize collectively to pursue redress of their substantial grievances. What happens to these people, the remnants of the socialist working class, will be critical in shaping post-socialist politics and society in China and beyond.

作者介绍:

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1. Regional political economy and labor reform
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标签

社会学

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比较政治

工人研究

评论

这样的比较研究，作者是否有削足适履之嫌，为了追求neat的研究，把组际差异和组内共性都夸大了。想来委员会是提出了不少质疑的，所以会那么细致地来作方法上的自辩。但作者孜孜矻矻做了那么多访谈，却都被塞进了脚注而几乎见不到细节，到底作者最终还是把访谈资料当成了问卷取来的数据用，还是“有趣的”并不能入作者法眼？最后对大比较的呼吁倒是有意思，除了通常能想到的老工业区域，把阿巴拉契亚山区、西里西亚、威尔士都装进来了，有趣！

下岗工人的考察。确实区域性的比较和转型时期单个群体的考察避免了要么碎片化要么视为统一体的中国研究模式。但是就算这样，也没必要把各个区域视为完全不同的类型，我觉得这些更像是一个连续体的不同变量，正因为过于类型化了，有些因果关系以及他变量的考察就不那么令人信服了。

part5讲labor contention的几个分析步骤比较有用。对三个大区域的regional comparative analysis也分析出了不同点

组别的区分的确不那么让人信服，而且因为很多的因变量不能量化，因此在分析中总感觉缺了点什么，不够透彻。但是，中国研究需要这样的区域研究，单纯关注中央和地方是没有意义，如何能够掌握好区域变量，很重要。

中文学界可能对影响力更大的李静君（CK Lee）更了解。但看完Bill的书，就没必要再看李的书了

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