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# On the Education of Children Left Behind

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**Abstract:** In recent years, China's economy has achieved a high degree of development. However, the model of China's economic development and regional development imbalance cause population movements of large areas; thus creating the problem of left-behind children, other new social phenomena and social contradictions. Due to the long period of left-behindness, left-behind children's mental and physical health cannot be fully ensured. Accompanied by magnifying the problems of deficiencies in education and mental defects, the problem of left-behind children has gradually become an important factor in harmonious development and coordinated progress of regions. The problem of left-behind children has become a new urgent social problem than needs to be studied and to be solved. Recently, there have been more and more studies on this topic. In order to help our society and the government find a better way how to deal with this social problem, this article will expand the discussion about education of rural left-behind children, it will provide an in-depth analysis of common problems of rural left-behind children's education and will propose counter-measures how to improve education of these children.

Keywords: Education; left behind children; Social Security.

# INTRODUCTION

"Children Left Behind", it means that one or both parents of children from rural to other areas, the children remain in the domicile of rural areas and, therefore, can't live with both parents together. According to the sixth national census data projections, the national children left behind 0-17 is 69,727,500, of which 61,025,500 for the rural children left behind [1]. Rural children left behind in rural areas the proportion of children 28.52%, accounting for 87.52% the proportion of children left behind. Stuck in a large number of rural children left behind not only gradually formed a special group, and facing a series of problems [2]. Due to the long period of left-behindness, leftbehind children's mental and physical health cannot be fully ensured. Accompanied by magnifying the problems of deficiencies in education and mental defects, the problem of left-behind children has gradually become an important factor in harmonious development and coordinated progress of regions. The problem of left-behind children has become a new urgent social problem than needs to be studied and to be solved. Recently, there have been more and more studies on this topic.

# CAUSES THE FORMATION OF RURAL CHILDREN LEFT BEHIND

Rural children left behind is a product under the double impact of Chinese migration and the household

registration system. Industrialization and urbanization is an inevitable stage of a country's prosperity and development. The 1980s, China has entered a new stage of reform and opening up, urban development requires a lot of labor, a large number of surplus rural labor to urban agglomeration. However, because of the special dual system of household registration system led to the migration of labor mobility does not mean just a change of identity and status. These labor force have been the city's migrant workers but they did not actually Citizenship. Migrant workers and their children do not get the public identity, their children can't go to school and live in the city, They need to pay exorbitant fees if they enter the public school. These costs are far higher than their affordability. And they must return home to participate in the examination or entrance examination. Under the influence of these factors, mostly children of migrant workers can only stay in the countryside away from their parents live. In many Western countries, the migration of farmers to purchase new homes in the new place of residence, and gradually get the same rights as locals. They are subject to the same legal protection and enjoy the same social benefits, and access to equal employment opportunities, educational opportunities and social status affected. Therefore, compared with other countries, the barrier system to make our migration exhibit different characteristics from other countries, and thus derived rural children left behind

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# SITUATION OF CHILDREN LEFT BEHIND IN RURAL EDUCATION

This paper explores the schoolchildren between the ages of 6-17, this period is an important stage of character creation, physical and mental development, the accumulation of knowledge. For the children in this stage of the living environment mainly by families, schools and society together constitute aspects.

# 2.1 Failing grades

The study found that parents of migrant workers, especially long-distance migrant workers, school children left behind will be affected, the specific performance of poor academic performance, motivation to learn is not high, severe or even weariness, dropping out of school behavior [4].

First, school-age children lack of initiative to learn, and children left behind is the lack of parental supervision, which leads to education of children left behind in the family can't get the right guidance, it is easy to indulge their own behavior, the lack of learning initiative .Secondly, the guardians of children left behind most of their grandparents, because the ancestors educational level is generally low, left-behind children's learning counseling is stretched, "re-raise does not re-teach" thinking in remote areas coupled with deep-rooted. Cause ancestors not paid enough attention on the education of children left behind. In addition, since the main labor force out of the family left behind, grandparents older, the family farm home affairs will fall more or less in these children, and obviously this will take up their study time and learning effort. The classroom, children left behind parents miss lectures will affect its efficiency, easily distracted, over time their performance will gradually decline [5]. Studies have shown that children left behind academically lower than the average left-behind children in primary school there is a certain link between the Left and academic achievement whether [6].

In addition, parents and people around the experience of workers indirectly also affect the perception of left-behind children to learn to recognize the importance of learning, Survey shows that some children think learning is not important, because in their mind to go out to earn money is a normal way of life [7].

That parents are out flows affect a large part of middle and high school-age rural children left behind after the termination of studies will soon go out to work prematurely from identity "Rural Children" to "new generation of migrant workers." Left-behind children learning such biased attitudes, leading them to treat the negative attitude of learning naturally results will fall.

#### Withdrawn introvert

Today, the psychological problems of children left behind has been widespread concern. Studies have shown that, in the unit time and the longer the period of left-behind children separated from their parents, the lower the level of mental health. First of all, childhood is a critical period to develop the character of the child during this period, especially its positive parents need education and guidance, parents need to be actively cultivate life and values. However, due to the long separation from parents, children left behind lack of communication with parents psychologically, emotionally without human contact, no talk and share the emotions of the object, which easily lead to obstacles in their character development, specific performance the eccentric, self, apathy, lack of love. Due to lack of care from parents, children left behind will generally appear low self-esteem and psychological cowardly, but at the same time will have a strong selfprotection and xenophobia. Secondly, childhood psychology is extremely sensitive, due to they do not live with their parents, they tend to think they are isolated, so it is easy to cause heart closed, form inward in consciousness and inferiority complex character [8].

#### Low moral character

In a typical family structure of children left behind, since the inter-generational guardianship, the guardian age is much larger than the guardian, which is likely to cause a generation gap appeared in the daily communication education. Guarded by Grandparents in family, the family's educational function substantially lost. This is an important cause of leftbehind children delinquency problem more serious. Because these children can't see their parents for such a long time, This will make the children who ought to be in the care of their parents lose the basic sense of security, and as a result, their inner heart become more sensitive, and thus loss the ability of judging things and they are often more often to rebellions/ extreme behaviors. Moreover, childhood is the basic period of their formation of the world outlook and the understanding of the world at that time will affect their lives. Affected by the economics and geographical conditions, and lacking of correct leading of their parents, so these children usually lack the basic ability of jueging the world and even may cause some growth problems. Compared with the ancestors, they are more willing to make friends with the people who are the same as them. This will lead to small groups, thus each member of the group will be affected by the other members of this group and lose themselves. When someone of the group express the willingness of aggrassive action, the other member of the group would follow him affected under the desire of approximation. And the worst result is joint offence [9].

Finally, due to the constraints of the level of rural education, rural schools are generally weak in the law education currently. Some schools have no propaganda, and rarely plan and organize psychological education, survival education, safety education, law education for the students, leading to some serious law and discipline education blind spot, which is also an objective to increase the chances of children left behind to crime [10].

## School environment is poor

Affected by the uneven geographical development of Chinese society, the uneven distribution of educational resources, China's level of education has some serious regional disparities, and there exist huge gap between the urban education and the rural education levels so far. The central government has adopted various measures to improve the level of rural education, but with little success. For example, the central government hopes to promote the education fair through the reform of the rural school layout, intergration of rural education resources and the improvements of rural school conditions. But it resulted in excessive combined school, leading to the long distance between their home to school, the economic burden. In fact, this violated their right to education from the other side [11]. On the hardware and software is equipped with is not up to standard. At present, the poor quality of rural education is reflected in the serious shortage of educational funds, which make a lot of schools be not up to standard both in the hardware and the software. Poor school conditions means these schools can't provide adequate education to the children left behind, as a result, children in these school can't get rounded education. Quite a number of teachers' cultural level is low. Second, teachers in rural areas are relatively weak and quite a number of teachers' cultural level is weak and their educational ideas are old. The existing level of the teachers can't adapt to the era of education and also can't provide the children behind with correct and scientific education.

#### **Improper family education**

Children Left in general is generational guardianship or entrust care, pay more attention to their temporary guardian of the child's physical health, rather than on their psychological needs, emotional exchange almost in a vacuum, which resulted in left-behind children's psychological needs are not echoes and satisfaction, easy to form aloof personality. On the other hand, the parents of children left behind due to various reasons, the exchange of the child is more form over the telephone, and communication time is relatively small. They often use the money to compensate for the lack of emotional child, rather than on children's mental health problems and the ideological and moral education, which often result in children left behind in the psychological education and moral education in the

absence of full layers, easy to develop into a sound character and good moral.

#### POLICY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Change the pattern of economic development, promote balanced regional economic development. As we all know, the imbalance of regional economic development and urban and rural development has forced a large number of young labor migration from rural to urban migration from rural areas to the inland coastal areas, resulting in a large number of children separated from their parents, which is the root cause of left-behind children produced. To solve this problem we need to make a long-term national macro-economic strategic plan, the state should change the current economic industrial layout, should guide, encourage and support labor-intensive enterprises have moved from coastal areas to inland. At the same time, state and local governments at all levels should vigorously support the development of township enterprises, township enterprises to give more space for development and tax incentives in the policy. This can be achieved relatively balanced regional economic development, rural surplus labor can be close to employment, to avoid large-scale labor migration caused by the emergence of a large area of children left behind, so you can steady social development, solve the problem of children left behind from the roots.

2. The reform of the household registration area and the dual system of household registration system. Due to the impact of history and traditional management concepts, our current system is still in use dualistic household registration system and regional household registration system, such as the household registration system management and development of the country gave a positive influence, but with the development of society and the emergence of new phenomena of the various contradictions of the current household registration system and social development has become increasingly prominent, which is also an important reason for problems of children left behind. Constraints due to the household registration system, many children of migrant workers and urban children can't enjoy the same admission requirements. And because bound by the household registration system, migrant workers is difficult to enjoy the same medical care, employment, housing, and other related social security and the local population, which exacerbated the instability of life and employment of migrant workers, forcing most of the migrant workers unable to lead children went to town life. This new contradictions and social development of the shackles of the current development of society, the national response to the current household registration system a smooth, orderly and gradual reform, so that children of migrant workers can smoothly school, which will effectively address the

current social problem of children left behind sharp Social phenomenon.

- 3. Actively called on all sectors of society to work together to solve the problem of children left behind. Left-behind children is already a current stage of our society outstanding conflicts, solve the problem of children left behind, if only rely on the power of state and government it is not enough, which requires the joint efforts of all sectors of society. Solve the problem of children left behind, we need such attention and media coverage, so that more people concerned about the growth of children left behind; we need to support a variety of charitable social forces, left-behind children in material and spiritual assistance; we also need social participation and efforts of NGOs caring together for mental health of children left behind to contribute. Only to mobilize social forces to a more comprehensive, profound, powerful solution to the problem of children left behind.
- 4. To increase investment in rural education, rural education reform mode. Rural education is the reason behind the problems of children left behind, children left behind due to the long separated from their parents in this respect there are some psychological problems, In rural education coupled with its rigid mode, so that left-behind children difficult to cultivate healthy psychological quality education on campus, resulting in low self-esteem of children left behind, lonely, sensitive and other psychological problems difficult to resolve. In this regard, the government should increase investment in rural education, and strengthen the rural campus of hardware and software, guide, encourage and support more outstanding students to teach in rural areas, to improve the level of rural teachers' salaries to attract more outstanding teachers in rural education rooted. At the same time, you should change the rigid model of rural education, to promote quality education, children left behind to guide the moral, intellectual, physical, aesthetic, labor-round and healthy development.
- 5. The combination of family education and school education. The healthy growth of the left-behind children can't leave the family education. The lack of family education is the important reason for the leftbehind children's problem. Parents are the best teachers for children and the education from the parents is particularly important in their childhood. Because the left-behind children separated from their parents for a long time, these children can't communicate and contact with their parents frequently. So combining family education and school education is necessary. Schools should try to provide communications between leftbehind children and their parents regularly through a variety of forms such as voice calls, video phone and so on. Under the allowed conditions, the school should offer psychological course which can provide the leftbehind children with psychological counseling and Help

children to develop a sound psychological quality, to get out of the haze ,to promote the healthy growth of left-behind children.

## CONCLUSION

Left-behind children's mental health problems has become a social contradictions in today's Chinese society that can't be ignored .The number of the children left behind in China is large and showed a trend of increasing. In recent years, many events frequently happened among the left-behind children and sting the nerve of the society again and again which catch the attention of the public. The education and growth problem of the left-behind children has become a pressing social contradictions. We can't ignore the healthy growth of left-behind children problem if the Chinese society want to develop healthily and harmony. The author thinks that solving the problem of leftbehind children needs efforts from three aspects: our country, our society, our family. In view of this, the author give the above recommendations.

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