

# *The Influence of Chinese Plastic Surgery Techniques and Gender Ethics on People's Mental Anxiety*

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**Keywords:** Recent China, plastic surgery, gender ethic, psychological motivation, results, harm, social roots, optimization paths

**Abstract:** Ethics is essentially a social moral norm. Its role and value lies in maintaining and demonstrating an interpersonal relationship. Gender ethics maintains and highlights the order of relationships between people of different genders. In recent China, gender ethics maintains the order of relations between men and women. Meanwhile, plastic surgery is popular. In order to improve their appearance, many young women do not hesitate to spend money and medical risks to accept plastic surgery. Concerning the phenomenon above, a gender ethic is hidden behind it, which is that social status of men is still higher than that of women in recent China. Therefore, plastic surgery technology and gender ethics in China have become a practical problem that needs to be studied. Therefore, this paper has mainly studied the main contents and specific manifestations of gender ethics behind the popularity of plastic surgery technology, as well as the main harm, social roots and optimization paths of this gender ethics.

## **1. Introduction**

In recent China, plastic surgery is popular. [1] In order to improve their appearance, many people will not hesitate to spend a lot of economic costs and risk higher medical risks to accept plastic surgery [2]. By distinguishing between people who receive plastic surgery according to age and gender, it is not difficult to find that women who receive plastic surgery are mostly young women. So why do they rush to plastic surgery? In fact, there is a certain gender ethics behind the phenomenon that plastic surgery is popular.

Scholars in China and foreign countries have paid little attention to the topic of gender ethics in plastic surgery in recent years. However, only on the subject of gender ethics, the French philosopher Pierre Bourdieu hold the opinion that men still dominate the contemporary Western society and women are subordinate. This opinion shows his main thought about the gender ethic in contemporary Western society. His opinion about the gender ethic have some certain social significance for analyzing the phenomenon that plastic surgery in China is now popular.

## **2. The Main Contents and Specific Manifestations of the Gender Ethics behind the Plastic Surgery**

Ethics, its essence is still a social moral norm, its role and value is to maintain and highlight an interpersonal relationship. Gender ethics maintains and highlights the order of relationships between people of different genders [3]. In recent China, gender ethics maintains and highlights the order of relations between men and women. The British sociologist and philosopher Herbert Spencer pointed out in his book *The Theory of Justice* that ethical deduction is consistent with historical induction [4]. With the development of socialist modernization in China, the social status of women has also been greatly improved, and the gap in social status between men and women has gradually narrowed. However, what is implied and manifested in the social phenomenon of plastic surgery in recent China is the gender ethics that social status of men is still higher than that of women. It shouldn't be denied that the social status of women has been greatly improved in recent China. However, women are still in a relatively weak position compared with men in the gender ethical structure of the whole society. In other words, the gender ethics in recent China is still that men's social status is higher than that of women. This is reflected in all aspects of social life, and is also implicit in various social phenomena. Among these phenomena, plastic surgery is one of the typical examples. In recent China, plastic surgery is very popular. In order to improve their appearance, many young women do not hesitate to spend a lot of money and risk higher medical risks to accept plastic surgery. To a certain extent, the social phenomenon of plastic surgery is still a reflection of the gender ethics that the social status of men is still higher than that of women in recent China. In this regard, we can analyze from the following two aspects.

### **2.1. Motivation or Psychological Motivation of Women to Receive Plastic Surgery**

In recent China, the main motivations of women to receive plastic surgery can be included as the following two points: First, in order to improve their appearance to please men and form their ideal family. Second, in order to enhance their appearance in the process of job hunting to gain greater advantages and seek a better career development platform and space [5]. In general, these two motivations still imply the following gender ethics: In recent China, the social status of men is still higher than that of women. It is mainly for this reason that women hope to enhance their status through plastic surgery. Compared with Baudrillard's relevant ideas, there is also a special form of capital logic behind women's motivation to accept plastic surgery technology. In his opinion, the beauty obtained by women after receiving plastic surgery technology is a kind of "functional beauty". "This beauty to women has become a religious absolute command", and this "beauty has become such an absolute command only because it is a form of capital" [6]. In other words, this beauty can bring certain practical benefits or benefits to women who have it. As mentioned above, there are two aspects as follows: first, please men to form their own ideal family. Second, obtain greater advantages in the job search process, so as to seek a better career development platform and space.

### **2.2. Results of Women Receiving Plastic Surgery**

In recent China, the results of women receiving plastic surgery are mainly manifested as the following two points: First, they have formed their ideal families. However, at the same time, they are discriminated against by male members and other female members in the family. Secondly, they have gained greater advantages in the job search process, and thus have obtained better career development opportunities. At the same time, however, they are also discriminated against by male members and other female members in society. Overall, these two results still imply a gender ethic:

In recent China, the social status of men is still higher than that of women. It is mainly for this reason that although women can adopt plastic surgery techniques to build their ideal families or obtain better career development opportunities, they still can not get rid of the discrimination from men and other women in their families and the society. This phenomenon still implies the gender ethics in recent China that the social status of men is still higher than that of women [7].

Concerning such a gender ethic, some ideas of the famous French sociologist Pierre Bourdieu correspond to it. In his book *Male's Domination*, he points out that the power of male order is reflected in the fact that it does not need to defend itself: the concept of a male center is treated as a neutral thing for everyone to accept, without having to resort to discourse to legalize itself. The social order works like a giant symbolic machine. It has a tendency to recognize male domination because it is based on male domination [8]. In this work, he also potentially expressed the idea that the rulers imposed their values on the ruled, and the rulers unwittingly participated in the rule of their own. This includes "gender domination" hidden in the unconsciousness of men and women. Specifically, men unconsciously rule women, while women unconsciously accept and participate in the rule of men over themselves. In recent China, the gender ethics of the whole society is still that the social status of men is still higher than that of women. In other words, men are still in the center of the whole gender ethical structure. That is to say, men still dominate the whole gender ethical structure. In this macro-social background and context, the popularity of plastic surgery and the enthusiasm of young women for plastic surgery reflect the dominance of men over women. This point can still be analyzed from the following two aspects.

### **2.2.1. Motivation or Psychological Motivation of Women to Receive Plastic Surgery**

Concerning the motivations of women to accept plastic surgery, some women accept plastic surgery to please men and form a better family. This has highlighted the rule of men over them to a certain extent. The reason for this is that the better appearance of plastic surgery is enough to please men, which is potentially a sign that men have higher expectations and needs for the appearance of women. To some extent, this expectation and demand of men is an unconscious or silent rule over women. Women accept plastic surgery to improve their appearance and thus to please men, which is a reflection of their unconscious acceptance and obedience to the domination of men. In other words, it is mainly because men have their own unique and idealized set of aesthetic standards or ideas for the appearance of women. Women themselves accept this set of aesthetic standards or ideas, and therefore they do not hesitate to accept plastic surgery. To improve their appearance to meet this set of aesthetic standards or ideas, and then to please men. Men set their own unique and idealized set of aesthetic standards or ideas on the appearance of women, which reflects the ideological domination of men over women in the unconscious. However, women do not hesitate to accept plastic surgery to improve their appearance to meet a set of aesthetic standards or ideas, and then to please men, which reflects their unconscious acceptance, obedience and participation in the domination of men. To some extent, plastic surgery can be seen as a means or tool for men to dominate women. Meanwhile, the enthusiasm for plastic surgery of women reflects their unconscious acceptance and participation in the rule of men over them. In addition, even if some women accept plastic surgery to seek better career development opportunities and space, this is fundamentally related to male aesthetic standards and ideas. The reason for this is that in the whole society, the aesthetic standards and ideas about women are mainly set by men. The reason why women can improve their appearance by accepting plastic surgery, and then get better career development opportunities and space, the key is to meet the set of aesthetic standards and ideas set by men, and then be able to please men in the career for many times or win the the general recognition of male and female members in the workplace competition. That is to say, in the final analysis, it is still that men have set the aesthetic standards and ideas of women in the whole society,

and this reflects the rule of men over women. The acceptance and obedience of women to the set of aesthetic standards and ideas set by men also reflects their unconscious acceptance and participation in the rule of men over them [9].

### **2.2.2. Results of Women Receiving Plastic Surgery**

Concerning the results of women accepting plastic surgery, women can build their ideal family or get better career development space and opportunities with better appearance by accepting plastic surgery. However, they are still unable to get rid of the discrimination of men and other women in the family and society. This kind of discrimination is fundamentally due to a unique aesthetic standard and ideological concept of men over women. That is, men generally like beautiful women, and especially like natural, original beauty. A beautiful woman who is “made” by plastic surgery, although it looks good, is not born and original. Therefore, compared to the natural and original beauty, it is still inferior. This is mainly the ideological root of the phenomenon that the beautiful women “made” by plastic surgery is discriminated by men and other women in the family and society. The discrimination of men over them is a reflection of the fact that men impose their own unique aesthetic standards and ideas on women. In a sense, this kind of discrimination of men over the women “made” by plastic surgery also reflects the rule of men over women in the unconscious. The discrimination of other women over the women “made” by the plastic surgery technology reflects their acceptance and obedience for the unique aesthetic standards and ideas of men set over women. In a sense, their discrimination over the beautiful women “made” by plastic surgery is also an acceptance and participation in the unconscious for the rule of men over women.

In short, both the motivations and results of women accepting plastic surgery show a gender ethic in recent China that the social status of men is still higher than that of women. Men are still in the center of gender ethics structure and they still rule in gender ethics structure [10].

## **3. The Main Harm of Gender Ethics behind the Popularity of Plastic Surgery Technology**

From the perspective of human and social development, the main harm of gender ethics behind the popularity of plastic surgery technology lies in the following two aspects.

### **3.1. It Isn't Conducive to Human's Free and All-Round Development**

Behind the popularity of plastic surgery technology, it is mainly a gender ethics that men's social status is higher than women. Under this gender ethics, as far as the whole society is concerned, men occupy most of the resources and opportunities to achieve their own development, while women occupy relatively few resources and opportunities to achieve their own development. Therefore, men have relatively large development opportunities and space. However, at the same time, women's development opportunities and development space are relatively limited. Therefore, from the perspective of human, such a kind of gender ethics behind plastic surgery technology is not conducive to people's free and all-round development. The main reason of this is that women are also an important part of human beings. Women's development opportunities and development space are relatively limited, which means that people's free and all-round development has not been fully realized.

### **3.2. It Isn't Conducive to the Sustainable and Healthy Development of Society Keywords**

The gender ethics behind the popularity of plastic surgery technology is not conducive to the sustainable and healthy development of society. This is because under this gender ethics, women can not achieve free and all-round development, and then human's free and all-round development

can not be fully realized. Man is the main body of social development and plays a final decisive role in social development. As mentioned above, human's free and all-round development can not be fully realized, which is bound to be detrimental to the sustainable and healthy development of society.

#### **4. The Social Roots of Gender Ethics behind the Popularity of Plastic Surgery Technology**

The formation of gender ethics behind the popularity of plastic surgery technology is not accidental, but has its social roots. Specifically, such social roots mainly include the following three aspects.

##### **4.1. Men Play a Leading Role in the Economic Structure of the Whole Society**

As far as a specific society is concerned, its gender ethics is a reflection of its economic structure in the field of ethics. In other words, one of the determinants of gender ethics is its economic structure. As for the gender ethics that men's social status is higher than women behind the popularity of plastic surgery technology, one of its social roots lies in the dominant position of men in the economic structure of the whole society. It is precisely because men play a leading role in the economic structure that they have mastered more and better economic resources. At the same time, the economic resources mastered by women are not comparable with men in terms of quantity and quality. Furthermore, on this basis, such a gender ethics that men's social status is higher than women has gradually formed and maintained.

##### **4.2. Men Play a Leading Role in the Political Structure of the Whole Society**

As far as a specific society is concerned, its gender ethics is also a reflection of its political structure in the field of ethics. In other words, one of the decisive factors of gender ethics is its political structure. As for the gender ethics that men's social status is higher than women behind the popularity of plastic surgery technology, one of its social roots lies in the dominant position of men in the political structure of the whole society. It is precisely because men are in the dominant position in the political structure that they have mastered more and better political resources and greater political power. At the same time, the political resources mastered by women can not be comparable with men in terms of quantity, quality and size of political power. Furthermore, on this basis, such a gender ethics that men's social status is higher than women has gradually formed and maintained.

#### **5. The Optimization Paths of Gender Ethics behind the Popularity of Plastic Surgery Technology**

In view of the serious harm of gender ethics behind the popularity of plastic surgery technology to the development of human and society, it is necessary and possible to optimize this gender ethics on the basis of understanding the social root of this gender ethics. To optimize this ethics, we also need to take a practical path. Specifically, the optimization paths mainly include the following three aspects.

##### **5.1. Truly Implementing the Principle of Equality between Men and Women in the Economic Structure of Society**

A feasible optimization path of gender ethics behind the popularity of plastic surgery technology

is to truly implement the principle of equality between men and women in the social economic structure. As mentioned above, one of the social roots of gender ethics behind the popularity of plastic surgery technology lies in the economic structure. Therefore, in order to optimize the gender ethics behind the popularity of plastic surgery technology, the economic structure of the whole society can be first optimized, so it is necessary to truly implement the principle of gender equality in the economic structure.

### **5.2. Truly Implementing the Principle of Equality between Men and Women in the Political Structure of Society**

A feasible optimization path of gender ethics behind the popularity of plastic surgery technology is to truly implement the principle of equality between men and women in the social political structure. As mentioned above, one of the social roots of gender ethics behind the popularity of plastic surgery technology also lies in the political structure. Therefore, to optimize the gender ethics behind the popularity of plastic surgery technology, it is also necessary to truly implement the principle of gender equality in the political structure.

### **5.3. Truly Implementing the Principle of Equality between Men and Women in the Cultural Structure of Society**

A feasible optimization path of gender ethics behind the popularity of plastic surgery technology is to truly implement the principle of equality between men and women in the social cultural structure. Personality Ethics is also closely related to cultural structure. From a broad perspective, gender ethics can be said to be an important part of the cultural structure of the whole society. In other words, the cultural structure of the whole society also plays an important and non-negligible role in the formation and development of gender ethics. In view of this, to optimize the gender ethics behind the popularity of plastic surgery technology, we also need to truly implement the principle of equality between men and women in the cultural structure. Only in this way can we cultivate and carry forward the core value principle and value concept of equality between men and women, spread and develop a good social culture of equality between men and women, create and maintain a harmonious social atmosphere of equality between men and women, and then provide correct value orientation, scientific ideological guidance and profound cultural support for optimizing the gender ethics behind the popularity of plastic surgery technology, so as to effectively optimize this character ethics.

## **6. Conclusions**

In recent China, plastic surgery is popular. This kind of common and objective social phenomenon potentially maintains and demonstrates a deep and objective gender ethic. The main content of this gender ethics is that the social status of men is still higher than that of women in recent China. In other words, men are still in the center of the whole gender ethical structure. Or, men still dominate the whole gender ethical structure. It is mainly due to this gender ethic that among the people accepting plastic surgery, there are far more women than men in terms of gender. In addition, the motivation of women to accept plastic surgery is either to please men and build a better family, or to seek a better career development platform and space. In the final analysis, it is to obtain a more favorable social status, which also reflects that women are still in a relatively weak social status in recent China. In short, we need to treat the popular plastic surgery technology objectively and rationally. At the same time, young people, especially young women, need to be more cautious in accepting plastic surgery. After all, plastic surgery is economically expensive and



has certain medical risks.

From the perspective of human and social development, the main harm of gender ethics behind the popularity of plastic surgery technology lies in the following two aspects: first, it is not conducive to human's free and all-round development. Second, it is not conducive to the sustainable and healthy development of society. The formation of gender ethics is not accidental, but has its social roots. Specifically, this social root mainly includes the following aspects: first, men play a leading role in the economic structure of the whole society. Second, men play a leading role in the political structure of the whole society. In view of the harm of gender ethics, it is necessary and possible to optimize it on the basis of understanding its social roots. Specifically, its optimization path mainly includes the following: first, truly implement the principle of gender equality in the economic structure. Second, the principle of equality between men and women should be truly implemented in the political structure of society. Third, the principle of equality between men and women should be truly implemented in the cultural structure of society.

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