

Feminism in the View of Chinese University Students

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Abstract: This paper investigates the perception of feminism, feminists, and issues of concern in feminist research from the perspective of university students in China. It uses qualitative research method focus group, selecting 25 Chinese university students from different demographic characteristics, and interviewing for about 2 hours to discuss their views and attitudes towards feminism. The results show that Chinese university students believe that gender equality is the core of feminism. Compared with female students, male students have a more negative attitude toward extreme feminism and extreme feminists. However, both male and female university students have positive attitudes toward peaceful feminism and feminists. In addition, Chinese university students generally hold the view that men and women are unequal in education, employment, and marriage. Most Chinese university students believe that the trend of feminism in China is on an upward spiral in the future. This study can be innovative to further explore people's perceptions of feminism and related issues in non-Western countries.

1. Introduction

In recent years, the Metoo movement, which was initiated by actress Alyssa Milano and others against the scandalous assault of American gold medalist Harvey Weinstein on several actresses, has aroused widespread public concern about feminism. In non-Western countries, such as China, there does not seem to be much research on feminism and related issues. It would be innovative to further explore people's perceptions of feminism and related issues in non-Western countries. Most of the studies on feminist concepts by scholars focus on the concept of feminism itself, and there are few studies related to the view of university students[1]. The purpose of this paper is to further understand and explore the perceptions and knowledge of feminism among university students. And this paper's topic is an exploration of Chinese university students' perceptions and attitudes toward feminist concepts, feminists' perceptions and attitudes, and issues discussed by feminists.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Research on Perceptions of Feminists

Research on feminist perceptions has focused on attitudes toward feminists and their own perceptions of their identities as feminists. In terms of people's perceptions of their own identity as feminists, some scholars found that some people were confused by their identity as a feminist and were confused by their inability to get rid of the body anxiety of the male gaze and had doubts

about their identity [2]. Further research is needed in this area.

There is a past research on feminist identity development in Chinese university settings, which found some contradictions in the participants' identity construction, such as their reliance on their own individual efforts to achieve their life ambitions on the one hand, and their involvement in collective feminist movements on the other [3].

2.2 Issues of concern in feminist research

2.2.1 Educational Inequality

Feminist issues often focus on women's rights, equity, and democracy in social life, and the issue of education has been an area of concern for feminists. They have focused their educational thinking on the concern for gender equity in education, striving for a more equal educational environment and resource allocation through criticism of traditional "patriarchy" and sexism, and demanding a re-examination of educational theory and practice from a gender perspective [4].

Some feminist scholars argue that school education tends to be more male-dominated in the operation and implementation of relevant curricula and teaching concepts[5], resulting in inequalities in basic educational relationships, educational curricula, and educational research methods. Since women were not included in the early higher education, the teaching and learning were masculine, which implied the penetration of male privilege and privileged class consciousness, resulting in the absence and marginalization of female subjects and female research results and theories in the later period.

2.2.2 Employment inequality

To a certain extent, the above situation has led to a serious imbalance in the ratio of men to women in the mainstream disciplines of professional assignment and has had a relative impact on the phenomenon of sex discrimination in the current employment market, which is another issue of concern to feminists - employment. Due to the biological differences between the sexes and the profound influence of patriarchy, women are ideologically excluded from some occupations, and this is accompanied by differences in income, social status, and even submissive relationships.

Li Junfeng pointed out in his "Gender Comparison Analysis of Employment Quality" that since most women need to go through marriage and childbirth, some employers will shorten the contract period of female workers to reduce the negative impact they will bring to the enterprise, which makes the overall proportion of female contract workers lower than that of men, resulting in an increase in the number of job changes for women and making women less stable in employment than men.

2.2.3 Inequality within the family

In addition to the inequalities faced by women in society, women within the family are also recognized by society as having the responsibility of taking care of the family, which is accompanied by problems such as marital inequality and family ethics. Feminists believe that the ideology of masculinity, which is promoted by the disparity in the division of labor between the two sexes, makes women's low status and oppression in the family not only a matter of ideology, but also a weakening of women's political and economic status, which leads to some women's dependence on men for economic factors such as child rearing and gradually exacerbates the phenomenon of female self-alienation [6]. The above situation has led to the degradation, exploitation, marginalization, and negation of some women, and has contributed to the loss of women's sense of social security and family ethics problems while exacerbating the constitution of

a male-centered culture. Therefore, for feminists, the effective solution to the above problem is to awaken women and make a radical subversion and change of the male-dominated cognitive perspective [7], not just to change and optimize the internal structure and culture of the family.

In this regard, feminists hope to break the social system that is tilted toward men due to social development and historical reasons, and to eliminate the inequalities generated by gender differences in the formulation of social rules, the creation of social resources, and the return to the realm of public industry, and to challenge and radically change the social situation that is infiltrated by male economy and patriarchy in order to further fight for women's autonomous rights.

3. Research Questions

Based on the literature review in the previous chapter, this study aims to investigate Chinese university students' perceptions and attitudes toward the concept of feminism, feminists and their long-standing concerns, as well as their views on the future development of the feminist movement.

Q1: What do Chinese university students know about the concept of feminism?

Q2: What are the attitudes of Chinese university students towards the concept of feminism?

Q3: What do Chinese university students know about feminists?

Q4: What are the attitudes of Chinese university students towards feminists?

Q5: What are Chinese university students' views on issues related to feminist discussions?

4. Research Methodology

4.1 Research Subjects

Interviewees were recruited from the Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST), and each group was guaranteed to have 5-9 participants with different backgrounds. After screening, a total of 25 respondents participated in the focus group interviews for this study. The gender of the respondents included both male and female, the level of study included pre-college, undergraduate, and graduate students, and the majors included 10 different majors such as journalism and communication and business administration, and the provinces included 13 Chinese provinces. Nearly 40% of the respondents were not single children and more than 20% were not from dual-working families.

Table 1: Sample Composition of Focus Group - Group 1

Group 1: All male group							
Number	Nickname	Gender	Grade	Major	Province	Only child or not	Whether it is a dual-income family
1	Xiaochen	male	Senior year	Journalism and Communication	Guangdong	No	No(mom is responsible for family)
2	Summer	male	Pre-requisite Classes for undergraduate	Pre-requisite Classes for undergraduate	Guangdong	Yes	Yes
3	Yang	male	Senior year	Landscape Design	Guangdong	Yes	Yes
4	Zhang	male	Junior year	Applied Economic	Neimenggu	Yes	Yes
5	Y	male	Junior year	Journalism and Communication	Jiangsu	Yes	Yes
6	Mark	male	Senior year	Business Administration	Shandong	No	No(dad is responsible for family)

In addition, the respondents were divided into four groups in order to explore the influence of gender on the study results, to reduce the differences in experience among the respondents, and to

ensure in-depth discussions within the group. The first group was an all-male group. The second group was an all-female group. The third and fourth groups were mixed gender groups. The composition of the focus group interview sample is shown in Table 1, Table 2, Table 3, and Table 4.

Table 2: Sample Composition of Focus Group - Group 2

Group 2:All female group							
Number	Nickname	Gender	Grade	Major	Province	Only child or not	Whether it is a dual-income family
1	Xiaowang	female	Senior year	Supply Chain Management	Jiangxi	Yes	Yes
2	Yueliang	female	Graduate	Journalism and Communication	Henan	No	Yes
3	Chaoyue	female	Senior year	Supply Chain Management	Hebei	Yes	Yes
4	Xiaomei	female	Sophomore	Journalism and Communication	Shandong	No	Yes
5	Xiaoying	female	Sophomore	Journalism and Communication	Henan	Yes	No(dad is responsible for family)

Table 3: Sample Composition of Focus Group - Group 3

Group 3:Mixed gender group							
Number	Nickname	Gender	Grade	Major	Province	Only child or not	Whether it is a dual-income family
1	Xiaole	female	Senior year	Accounting	Hunan	No	Yes
2	Laobai	male	Senior year	Accounting	Liaoning	Yes	Yes
3	Xiaosun	male	Senior year	Journalism and Communication	Anhui	Yes	Yes
4	Xiaowen	female	Junior year	Food and Nutritional Sciences	Shandong	No	No(mom is responsible for family)
5	Xiaoze	male	Senior year	Journalism and Communication	Liaoning	Yes	Yes

Table 4: Sample Composition of Focus Group - Group 4

Group 4:Mixed gender group							
Number	Nickname	Gender	Grade	Major	Province	Only child or not	Whether it is a dual-income family
1	Xiaofang	male	Senior year	Software engineering	Zhejiang	No	No(mom is responsible for family)
2	Dengfeng	female	Sophomore	Applied Economic	Guangdong	Yes	Yes
3	Cupid	female	Senior year	Advertisement	Shanxi	Yes	Yes
4	Xiaoxu	male	Junior year	Journalism and Communication	Shandong	Yes	Yes
5	Xiaotao	female	Junior year	Journalism and Communication	Sichuan	Yes	Yes
6	Xiaoran	female	Junior year	Journalism and Communication	Anhui	Yes	Yes
7	Hejie	female	Senior year	Advertisement	Guangdong	No	No(mom is responsible for family)
8	Xiaoling	female	Sophomore	Journalism and Communication	Shandong	No	Yes
9	Heqing	male	Senior year	Journalism and Communication	Anhui	Yes	Yes

4.2 Interview Process

The focus group interviews were conducted offline at Block R of the Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST) to ensure a quiet and well-equipped environment. The on-site equipment included a microphone, tape recorder, room air conditioner, projector, member ID badges, drinks and snacks. A moderator and three observers were arranged for each session. To ensure professionalism, the moderators and observers received training before the interviews.

At the beginning of the interview, the moderator introduced the theme of the focus group and the rules of speaking, and guided the interviewees to introduce themselves in turn. The moderator then asked the interviewees questions based on the interview outline, and each person was given 3-5 minutes to speak to a question. After each round of questions, respondents were given a free discussion time, and those with different views were allowed to debate for about 10 minutes. Finally, at the end of all questions, the moderator gave an overall summary of the focus groups. The duration of each focus group was about 2 hours. Please see Appendix 2 for the outline of the interviews.

5. Research Findings and Discussion

5.1 The Concept of Feminism: A Movement to End Oppression

5.1.1 Feminist Concepts and the Characteristics of College Student Groups

Not every group in society thinks about the meaning of feminist concepts, and there are specific group characteristics that concern feminist concepts and related topics. As the main force of the Internet, college students are one of the main groups of feminist concerns in society. Most of the respondents said that they started to hear about the concept of "feminism" in college, and even though they had some awareness of the concept of feminism before going to college, they did not have a clear concept of it. After going to university, respondents acquired knowledge about the concept of feminism through new media and books, such as "Existentialist Caf  ", "The Other Half of the Sky" and "The Second Sex" mentioned by the respondents. Some respondents were motivated by their interest in reading related books, while others were recommended by their friends, reflecting the group nature of university students' willingness to pay attention to feminist concepts. The reason for this phenomenon is that higher education for university students tends to guide them to pay attention to social issues and develop their ability to think independently. University students are the pillars of our future society, and thinking deeply about social issues is also helpful to the future development of society and individuals.

Xiaoran, Group4: "The book "The Other Half of the Sky" is about the exploitation of feminism from the spirit to the flesh, and I was aware of the "second sex" mentioned in No. 8, which means that I did not find an accurate word to condense it at the beginning."

5.1.2 "Feminism": The Stigmatization of Feminism in the New Media Age

As the concept of feminism has become more popular among university students, criticism of feminism has also come along with it. In the new media context, on the one hand, feminist concepts are more easily spread in the society, and on the other hand, they also face the risk of stigmatization. The stigmatization of feminist concepts on the Internet is both a projection of gender differences in the real world and a result of patriarchal constructs. In the study, most male respondents frequently referred to stigmatizing terms such as "Female Boxer," "Extreme Female Boxer," and "Pseudo-feminism" to express their dissatisfaction with feminists and to oppose feminist concepts through stigmatizing terms, essentially reflecting the common patriarchal ideology and ideology of

the respondents. The reason for this phenomenon is that the respondents were deeply influenced by the Internet, and most of them said they learned about feminist concepts through social media, including platforms such as Weibo, WeChat, and Xiaohongshu. The stigmatization of feminist concepts on the Internet is more common than in real life, with a wider spread and greater influence. Feminist stigmatization has been widely disseminated on the Internet and has contributed to the formation of a stereotypical image of feminist concepts, leading respondents to frequently mention these terms and express negative feelings towards feminist concepts.

Summer, Group 1: "I think feminism is egalitarianism at the beginning. Now feminism is real feminism, I am a girl who wants what she wants, and guys have to agree to everything. Some girls are very strange on the Internet, demanding that guys have cars and houses."

5.1.3 "The world has been suffering from male power for a long time": university students' pursuit of gender equality

Equality between men and women and gender equality are not only the need of reality, but also the inevitable trend of human civilization. With the development of modern civilization, the division of labor between men and women is no longer as rigid as before, and women have more opportunities to pursue their ideal careers. Women's struggle for gender equality is mainly faced with internal and external resistance, including legal and customary resistance. The legal recognition of gender equality has become mainstream, and the old concepts of men and women are changing. College students are more concerned about women's internal awakening and independence, and hope that women will break the traditional gender roles and pursue gender equality in the real sense and in many aspects, for example, respondents repeatedly mentioned that they hope to realize equal pay for equal work. Some respondents also expressed that not only equal pay for equal work, but also other needs should be realized, such as the repressed sexual needs of women as mentioned by Xiaole. This shows that the respondents' pursuit is no longer limited to equality in rights, but equality in all aspects. This also reflects the respondents' higher level of self-awareness and their pursuit of gender equality in life, which reflects their in-depth thinking about the concept of feminism.

The third group of students, Xiaole: "Resource websites are full of male-oriented pornographic advertisements at the edges and corners, all satisfying the hidden imagery of men."

5.2 The Feminist's Battle for Identity

5.2.1 Feminist identities that dare not be revealed

Although male respondents were supportive of feminism, their acceptance of their identity as "feminists" was not impressive. The reason for this is that when a man chooses to speak out for a group of another gender, he will inevitably be met with disapproval from some women, discrimination and ridicule from mainstream men, and undoubtedly rejection from the dominant culture that all feminists face. It is more difficult for them to integrate into the feminist community than for women themselves, because in the minds of most respondents, feminists exist to achieve gender equality, promote gender equality, and protect women's own interests. Some respondents even said that without systematic knowledge, they dare not call themselves feminists because they have a biased perspective as men.

Group 3, Xiaoze: "I don't dare to call myself a feminist because a male would feel like a judge."

Group 3 Sun: "I don't think I can say that I am a feminist, because first of all, I need to understand this knowledge, after all, as a male, I still have some perspective bias."

This is closely related to the cultural constructs of today's society, which leads some people to

believe that men are labeled as "oppressors" and women as the oppressed under current social conditions, and that few people want to believe that oppressors can understand the real situation of the oppressed and the full nature of structural oppression, and even if they do, they are unwilling to participate in the movement to end such oppression. The influence of this identity label inevitably leads them to believe that only women have the power to end gender inequality. Therefore, they are more willing to tolerate the "feminists" around them than to be a "feminist".

The third group, Laobai: "I can't say I'm a feminist, I need to have a more systematic understanding of this direction in the future before I can make a judgment."

When it comes to their views on feminist couples, most of the respondents had positive attitudes toward normal feminists, except for the extreme feminists, and this was especially evident among male respondents. They generally thought that they could not accept strong feminists in their partners because they were overdoing it and did not take into account men's rights, thus worrying that their rational thinking would be affected.

The third group, Xiaoze: "When personal, family and social desires in any aspect are infinitely magnified, excessive demands and obsessions are created, resulting in the emergence of extreme feminists."

Under the premise that men and women are still unequal in today's society, men often use their physical, economic and status advantages to oppress women. With the development of the Internet, the high transmission and discussion of information will allow different versions of one oppressive event to become a hundred oppressive events to be spread widely. In addition, due to the "dominant" label given to men by social culture and the social incidents of men undermining women's rights that are often exposed in the news, some public opinions are directed to "men over women", which will inevitably provoke some people to fight against it, thus expecting to turn the "pursuit of gender equality" into the exploitation and oppression of men, losing the most essential demands of a feminist and sowing the seeds for the emergence of extreme feminists. The seeds for the emergence of extreme feminists were sown. Since the fermentation of public opinion is usually irreversible, when the extreme orientation begins to appear, it will intensify, and the intimacy between partners will undoubtedly further magnify this extreme nature.

Xiaochen, Group1: "I accept normal feminism, not extreme feminism, mainly depending on whether she has strong attributes. If my girlfriend doesn't consider feminism at all, I don't like it as much because she lacks social concern and self-discovery, so her perception of herself is limited, and I can't communicate with her. But I don't really accept strong feminists, they are overkill and don't take into account men's rights."

5.2.2 Being a feminist is a matter of pride

When it comes to whether they are feminists, more than half of the female respondents are willing to admit that they are feminists, especially when they are speaking out for women on social media platforms, compared to male respondents who are "afraid", "unwilling" and "unable".

Group 3, Xiaole: "I would like to call myself a feminist because I agree with these views, so I think I am."

What lies behind this is society's prejudiced and unrealistic expectations of women, coupled with the existing gender division of labor, which makes women often the disadvantaged group in the general social environment, so women themselves will have a more personal understanding of this. The awakening of women's self-awareness and self-identity is the key to breaking these stereotypes. This has led to many women being willing to speak up for their own interests. In addition, there is a certain bias against feminism in the current online opinion, and women's voices are usually not opposed and supported by a large number of people of the same gender on the popular social platform. In the process of claiming to be a feminist, women are given a sense of identity and

participation, which is a reflection of the fact that feminism is gradually being recognized, or at least tacitly accepted, by the mainstream.

Chaoyue, Group2: "I prefer a broader definition of feminist as anyone who is willing to think for women and speak out for women, so I am still a feminist in a broader sense because I speak out for myself. I'm proud to be a feminist myself, and I'm happy to think from a girl's point of view and express my gender identity, and I don't really care what people think of me."

While the respondents generally considered anyone who speaks out and advocates for women's rights to be a feminist, there were a few female respondents who felt that feminists also try to understand the characteristics of both men and women, i.e., that men can learn from women's characteristics and vice versa. She also described herself as a feminist who seeks autonomy and freedom.

Group 4, Fang: "I am certainly a feminist who seeks autonomy and freedom. I think both men and women should understand each other's characteristics better and understand each other's situations more personally. For example, men can learn female characteristics, such as the expression of vulnerable emotions, and women can learn male resistance to stress."

This de-gendered expression allows the relationship between men and women to be constructed on an equal footing, and when feminists are defined as "anyone who recognizes the equality of men and women and the full humanity of both," men will be included as well. Just as class status does not equate to class position, neither does men's biological sex equate to their inability to fight for gender equality, so the willingness to accept men as feminists is an essential step on the road to feminist success, because true feminism should be more inclusive, not depriving individuals of their right to choose for the sake of "political correctness," and not being "anti-men".

Female respondents felt more strongly in favor of being surrounded by feminists than male respondents. They believe that the existence of feminists is a benefit to all. The reason for this is that although men are in a dominant position in society, they also have to take on more responsibilities and obligations, both in terms of marriage and employment. However, the rise of women can to a certain extent eliminate the pressure of men in the financial aspects, in terms of meal money payment, house purchase and bride price can be borne by both of them.

Xiaowang, Group2: "I remember a student from Shanghai Jiaotong University said that he envied those female students because if these girls looked good and found a rich man to marry in Shanghai, they would have no worries in their lives, but it was very hard for him as a male because he had to prepare for the bride price and deal with the future risks. My first reaction to this was anger, because he only saw the so-called gender bonus for women. But later I understood, because he expressed the loss of men in this kind of Chinese gender relations is not very equal, they bear too much financial responsibility, if women can rise, many things do not necessarily need men to do, bills do not always need to be paid by men, the house does not necessarily need to be bought by men, so the rise of women can also be beneficial to men."

5.3 Relevant Issues Discussed by Feminists: The Fire Buried Beneath the Patriarchal Iceberg

5.3.1 Education: Does Absolute Fairness Mean Breaking the Balance?

When discussing the unfairness of school admissions, some respondents felt that this unfairness was justified on some level. When discussing the fact that girls have to score 30 points higher than boys to be admitted to the police academy, some respondents said that this was done in order to reduce the proportion of girls enrolled to a certain extent, and that this was done because there was less demand for positions, so this injustice was reasonable instead. They believe that this is a matter of supply and demand, which is influenced by employment factors. On the contrary, if many girls are recruited to attend the police academy, but not all of them can join the police force, this will

actually become a waste of educational resources. Therefore, if we want to achieve this kind of educational equity, it will break the balance of employment.

The first group of Wei students: "In admissions, girls have to score 50 points higher than boys, which is a tactic of the police academy. Its purpose is to reduce the number of girls so that more boys will join the police academy. This is a consideration for public security in the police academy, after all, men have a higher deterrent power, men have more certainty to fight with criminals, in fact, it is not fair. Many of the requirements are determined by the needs of the industry. In fact, I think that if we achieve absolute fairness, we lose the original balance."

This statement by the respondents shows that there is still a phenomenon that university students believe that gender inequality in education is justified. The reason for this is the supply and demand relationship in employment and the inequality in employment in the general society, and the general influence of the patriarchal society, which may make them think that this gender inequality in education is reasonable.

In short, the feminist discussion is about the inequality in education and the inequality in employment. Not only does the supply and demand relationship in employment affect the inequality in enrollment between men and women in education, but the inequality in education will in turn reinforce the inequality in employment.

5.3.2 Employment: Women's entry, work, and promotion - the difficult way to find a job

First of all, there are certain barriers for women to join the workforce because of their gender. Some respondents said that women are often not hired for positions related to surveying and mapping, finance, civil engineering, and other professions. There are also some superstitious legends that hinder women's career development, such as not allowing women to go into wells, which is considered unlucky. The respondent Chaoyue said that although some companies do not explicitly prohibit the recruitment of women, they subconsciously reject female job seekers.

Chaoyue, Group 2: "Last year, I wanted to apply for a job at Jingdong Logistics, and during the interview the interviewer said, 'Hey! Are you a girl? We work very hard in this job.' Although I also think it's hard, I can challenge myself, so why not let me try? I am not physically worse than the boys, and this job is sitting in the office ah, what physical requirements? how to have to distinguish between men and women it? why I will be tired when I just sit in the office, this really makes me very speechless."

Secondly, in the workplace, there is a situation that women will be excluded and bullied because of their gender. Respondent Sun Kefan said she had encountered female colleagues who did more work but were not rewarded for it during her internship at Xinhua News Agency.

Group 3 Sun: "I heard my sister in Xinhua complaining that they were assigned non-work tasks by their teachers every day, and they had to help their teachers collect experimental data, and they had to pay for the collection of the database themselves. At that time, I was very angry to hear that. The boys are often assigned some very simple tasks, such as writing a newsletter, the newsletter can be copied. However, there are some very troublesome work, such as live broadcasting, but the good name says that girls on the camera look good, to girls to do. In fact, they think girls are easy to bully. Girls do more, but they are not rewarded. Our internship finally wrote a 5,000-word report on the work of the government, the article was written by many girls, and their names ended up at the bottom of the list!"

Third, university students generally believe that women have fewer opportunities when it comes to promotion, so there is a situation where many women may be doing mostly elementary work.

Group 4 Cupid: "The last time I interned at People's Daily, the women did a great job, but the team leader and the minister were very young men. When I talked to my friend who majored in design, she said that her internship was in the department next door, which was doing fashion

design and needed female aesthetics, but the leader was also a male.”

The third group of old white: "There is a ceiling in the workplace, such as my mother, according to her efforts, she should get a higher position than now. My mother should have been promoted to the political corps soon, but she was unable to do so for two or three years. But if you are a male, you will be promoted quickly. The military is also a system, the military is not very sacred, the upper and lower bureaucratic levels are very obvious.”

5.3.3 Love and Marriage: "Secondhand" Women and Cheating Men

In exploring the feminist issue of gender inequality in the family, some respondents mentioned that the difference in economic conditions between the two sexes has led to a more pronounced male dominance in the family. Also, in terms of finding a partner, some respondents mentioned that women's value is objectified and girls are called "second-hand goods", but men do not have such a claim, which can reflect a kind of social discipline on women's purity before marriage. This kind of training has also formed this kind of gender bias in marriage and love relationships. The reason for this is probably because in male-dominated relationships, women's purity and fertility issues are controlled.

The second group of students Wang: "My brother is around 28 years old, my relatives told to my brother not to find a girl almost the same age, and they told my brother better find a girl who are younger 5 to 6 years old than him, because they think that the girl who is 28 years old and not married maybe the 'second-hand goods';. I asked what is 'second-hand' ah, I was shocked to say nothing, because my brother has also been in love, then why not to say his son is 'second-hand' it, this is very strange ah.”

6. Summary of the Study and Research

6.1 Summary of the Study

This study found that Chinese university students believe that the core of the feminist concept is gender equality and that feminists are people who contribute to gender equality. Most of the respondents were first exposed to the concept of feminism during their college years, mainly through the Internet and books. Chinese male university students have more negative attitudes towards extreme feminist concepts and extreme feminists than female university students, but both male and female university students have positive attitudes towards peaceful feminist concepts and feminists. In addition, Chinese college students generally believe that men and women are not equal in education, employment, and marriage, and they are concerned about gender-related social issues such as the Feng County, the Cargo Lala, and the Abortion Act. Chinese university students generally believe that the future of the feminist movement in China is on an upward spiral.

In addition, this study found that family education is critical to the development of gender awareness in children. A gendered family education suppresses the emergence of gender equality and tends to produce boys with "macho" characteristics. Girls who grow up in non-patriarchal families are more likely to identify with their own gender identity. In addition, children in non-one-child families are more aware of gender inequality earlier and mothers are relatively more likely to become full-time homemakers. The study also found that different majors did not have a significant effect on how college students perceived feminism.

6.2 Countermeasures for Feminist Development Barriers

First, at the societal level, we believe that the most important response to the barriers to the

future development of feminism is to make society value women. Only when society recognizes women as equal to men on the rational, intellectual, and moral levels can it truly give them the same rights as men in terms of education, marriage, and employment. Second, at the governmental level, the government needs to cooperate with the dissemination of gender mainstreaming ideas. In the Chinese context, without the support of policies, the influence of public opinion and civil society organizations will be limited. The government will only be able to abandon the influence of patriarchy if it translates gender equality into policies such as raising women's wages and encouraging women to enter the mainstream of society and participate in social production. In addition, at the level of family education, a gender-neutral family education can give children a better concept of gender equality, and an education model that gives equal care to girls can also give women more confidence in defending their rights and better self-contact with their own gender identity. Lastly, at the individual level, women need to value their own feelings and raise their self-awareness. Only by thinking on their own terms and achieving happiness and satisfaction can women achieve gender equality at the spiritual and behavioral levels, and men need to be more inclusive and put this into practice.

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