

Exploration of the Path to Promote the Law-based Social Governance in the New Era

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Abstract: The aim of this article is to delve into strategies for advancing the rule of law within social management amidst the complexities and diversities of the contemporary era. Beginning with an overview of the research context and its importance, the piece underscores the pivotal function of legalizing social management in enhancing governance modernization. It emphasizes the research's pertinence and urgency. Subsequently, against the backdrop of the new era, the article assesses the present state of social management legalization, identifying prevailing issues and challenges. It further examines the viability and efficacy of enhancing legal frameworks, bolstering law enforcement and oversight, fostering synergy between pluralistic governance and the rule of law, and elevating public legal awareness and engagement. This pathway significantly contributes to embedding the rule of law in social management, addressing current challenges and offering insights for future model innovations. Collaborative efforts from governments, social organizations, businesses, institutions, and individual citizens are crucial in forming a cohesive force to propel the rule of law in social management, thereby ensuring a harmonious society and upholding fairness and justice.

1. Introduction

In the new era, with the rapid economic growth and profound changes in social structure, social management is facing unprecedented challenges of complexity and diversity [1]. The acceleration of urbanization, the popularization of information technology and the diversification of interest pattern make it difficult for the traditional management model to effectively deal with emerging social problems, such as environmental pollution, network security and social equity [2-3]. In this context, promoting the legalization of social management has become the key path to improve the modernization of the national governance system and governance capacity [4]. With its authority, stability and predictability, the rule of law provides a solid institutional guarantee for social management, which helps to build a harmonious society, safeguard fairness and justice, and promote sustained and healthy social growth [5].

The purpose of this study is to explore how to effectively promote the rule of law in social management in the new era, which is not only of great significance for solving the outstanding problems in current social management, but also provides theoretical support and practical guidance for the innovation and development of future social management models. Through this study, it is expected to provide reference for government decision-making, promote the continuous improvement of social management system, enhance the public's belief in the rule of law, and promote the formation of a good atmosphere for the whole society to respect the law and abide by the law.

In recent years, many scholars have conducted extensive and in-depth research on the legalization of social management [6]. Although rich achievements have been made, there are still some shortcomings: for example, the research on the new characteristics and requirements of social management under the new era background is not deep enough; Insufficient discussion on specific problems and solutions in the practice of rule of law; Interdisciplinary research needs to be strengthened. On the basis of predecessors, combined with the background of the new era, this

study will comprehensively apply multidisciplinary knowledge such as law, sociology and political science, and strive to make a breakthrough in the combination of theory and practice.

2. Theoretical basis and current situation analysis of legalization of social management

2.1. Basic concepts of social management and rule of law

Social management encompasses the collaborative efforts of governments, social organizations, businesses, institutions, and individual citizens in effectively overseeing and serving public affairs through consultation and joint participation [7]. The rule of law entails integrating legal principles into the entirety of social management, ensuring all activities align with legal frameworks and promoting institutionalization, standardization, and procedural rigor. These two concepts are complementary: the rule of law serves as a vital safeguard for social management, while social management offers a crucial domain for the application of rule of law principles.

2.2. Theoretical basis

The theoretical basis of legalization of social management mainly includes the theory of rule of law, the theory of social management and the theory of pluralistic co-governance. The theory of rule of law emphasizes the supremacy, universality, fairness and procedural justice of law, which provides a basic value orientation and rule framework for social management [8]. The theory of social management focuses on the optimization of social management structure, the innovation of governance mechanism and the improvement of governance efficiency, and emphasizes the benign interaction between government, society and market. The theory of pluralistic co-governance advocates the introduction of pluralistic subjects in social management and the maximization of public interests through consultation and cooperation.

2.3. Status analysis

At present, the legalization of social management in China has achieved remarkable results, such as the continuous improvement of the legal system, the accelerated construction of a government ruled by law, and the deepening of the reform of the judicial system [9]. However, there are also some problems that cannot be ignored, such as laws and regulations lagging behind social growth, unfair law enforcement and justice, and public awareness of the rule of law needs to be improved. These problems restrict the further promotion of the rule of law in social management and need to be solved by effective measures.

3. The key path to promote the rule of law in social management in the new era

3.1. Improve the system of laws and regulations

In the new era, in the face of the rapidly changing social and economic environment, improving the legal system has become the cornerstone of promoting the rule of law in social management. This is not only a requirement for the legislature, but also a mission entrusted by the times. The legislature should closely follow the new trends and problems of social growth, and revise the legal provisions that are not suitable for the real needs in time to ensure that the legal system keeps pace with the times and keeps its timeliness and comprehensiveness. Furthermore, in the process of legislation, we should pay attention to science and operability, avoid formulating too abstract or vague legal provisions, ensure that every law can accurately connect with social practice, and provide clear guidance and norms for people's behavior. In addition, the coordination between laws and regulations is also an indispensable part. A legal system with strict internal logic and mutual support can effectively avoid legal conflicts and contradictions and improve the overall effectiveness of the law. Therefore, in the legislative process, we should strengthen the connection and cooperation between different laws, ensure the harmony and unity of the whole legal system, and provide a solid legal foundation for social management.

3.2. Strengthen the implementation and supervision of the rule of law

The life of the rule of law lies in implementation, and the effect of implementation depends on effective supervision. Strengthening the implementation and supervision of the rule of law is the key to ensure the strict enforcement of laws and safeguard legal authority. This requires law enforcement and judicial personnel not only to have solid professional qualities, but also to adhere to professional ethics, so as to be impartial and act in strict accordance with the law. Therefore, we should strengthen the training and education of law enforcement and judicial personnel, improve their legal awareness and professionalism, and ensure that they can be accurate and impartial in law enforcement. Furthermore, it is also essential to establish and improve the supervision mechanism of the rule of law. This includes internal supervision, social supervision, public opinion supervision and other aspects, forming an all-round and multi-level supervision network, as shown in Figure 1:

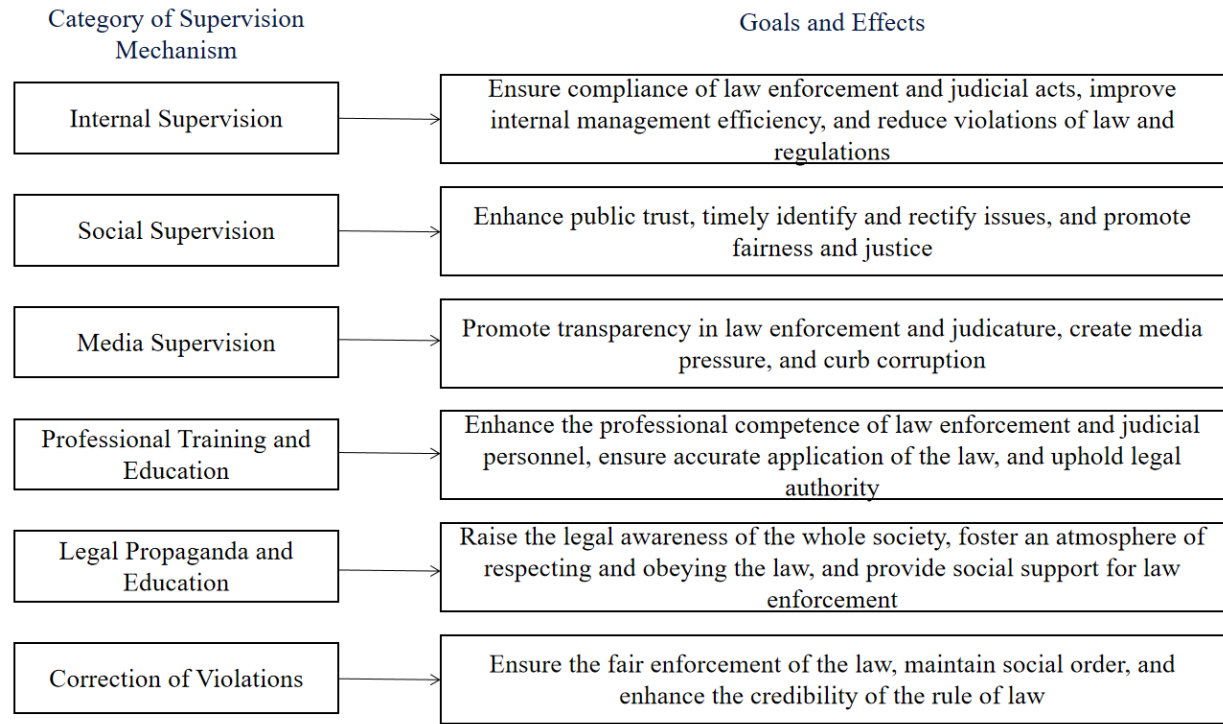


Figure 1 Establish and improve the supervision mechanism of rule of law

Strengthening supervision enables timely identification and rectification of illegal actions during law enforcement and justice processes, thereby ensuring equitable law implementation. Moreover, enhancing publicity and education on the rule of law is crucial to elevate societal comprehension of its importance, fostering a culture of respect, learning, compliance, and utilization of the law. This, in turn, furnishes robust social backing for the enforcement of legal principles.

3.3. Promote the integration of pluralistic co-governance and the rule of law

Social management is a multifaceted, systematic endeavor necessitating the collaborative engagement of various entities, including governments, social organizations, businesses, institutions, and individual citizens. To foster a rule-based approach in social management, it's imperative to merge pluralistic co-governance with legal principles. This transition demands a shift in governmental roles from traditional, authoritative management to a service-oriented stance, creating a conducive environment for multiple stakeholders to contribute.

Governments must actively encourage and facilitate the involvement of social organizations, businesses, institutions, and individuals, harnessing their enthusiasm and innovative capacity. Moreover, establishing and refining consultation and cooperation mechanisms among these entities is crucial, ensuring balanced representation of all interests.

Within a legal framework, pluralistic co-governance can lead to democratic, scientific, and efficient social management. This approach not only bolsters management effectiveness but also

fosters social cohesion and stability.

3.4. Enhance the public's legal literacy and participation

The public stands as both the subject and beneficiary of social management, and enhancing their legal knowledge and involvement forms a cornerstone for advancing legal frameworks within this realm. To achieve this, integrating rule of law education into the national curriculum is imperative, fostering early awareness and literacy among citizens. By widely disseminating legal education, we aim to enrich the public's legal comprehension, enabling them to voluntarily adhere to and uphold legal authority. Additionally, expanding avenues for public engagement in social management, as illustrated in Table 1, such as institutionalizing participation systems, holding social hearings, and conducting public opinion polls, is crucial. This ensures the public has a more prominent role in shaping social management practices.

Table 1 Improve the public's legal literacy and participation

Key Points	Specific Measures and Descriptions
Role of the Public	The public is both the subject and beneficiary of social management
Fundamental Basis	Enhancing public legal literacy and participation is a crucial foundation for promoting the legalization of social management
Strengthening Legal Education	Incorporate legal education into the national education system; Cultivate citizens' awareness of the rule of law and legal literacy from childhood
Legal Propaganda and Education	Through extensive legal propaganda and education; Increase public understanding and recognition of the law; Enable the public to consciously obey the law and uphold legal authority
Expanding Participation Channels	Establish a public participation system; Conduct social hearings; Set up public opinion surveys, etc.; Allow the public to play a greater role in social management
Benefits of Public Participation	Gain a deeper understanding of the essence and root causes of social issues; Propose practical and feasible solutions; Contribute wisdom and strength to social management
Strengthening Public Oversight	Encourage public oversight of the implementation of the law; Report and complain about violations of the law; Form a strong synergy among the whole society to promote the legalization of social management

By participating in social management, the public can have a deeper understanding of the essence and root causes of social problems, put forward more practical solutions, and contribute wisdom and strength to social management. In addition, we should also strengthen public supervision over the implementation of the rule of law, encourage the public to report and complain about violations of laws and regulations, and form a strong joint force for the whole society to jointly promote the rule of law in social management.

4. Challenges and countermeasures

When advancing the rule of law in social management, we encounter numerous challenges, including outdated laws, uneven law enforcement and justice, and limited public understanding of legal principles. To address these, this section offers targeted strategies:

Firstly, enhancing legislative efforts is crucial, involving timely revisions and improvements to laws and regulations, ensuring they keep pace with societal development. Secondly, deepening the reform of law enforcement and the judicial system is essential to enhance fairness and efficiency in these areas. Thirdly, bolstering public awareness and education on the rule of law is vital to elevate public understanding and engagement. Lastly, establishing and refining an evaluation mechanism for social management is necessary to promptly identify issues and implement corrective measures.

By executing these strategies, we can more effectively facilitate the legalization of social management, thereby providing a robust foundation for fostering a harmonious society and

upholding fairness and justice.

5. Conclusions

This study centers on the pivotal strategies and avenues for effectively advancing the rule of law in social management within the contemporary era, with the objective of constructing a more equitable, efficient, and harmonious social management framework. Initially, the research undertook a thorough and systematic theoretical exploration, examining the historical progression, foundational concepts, and international practices of incorporating the rule of law into social management, thereby establishing a robust theoretical groundwork for subsequent analyses. Subsequently, through meticulous scrutiny of the present state of social management legalization, several key issues and challenges were identified, encompassing inadequacies in laws and regulations, weaknesses in enforcement and oversight mechanisms, limited diversity in social management entities, and insufficient public awareness and engagement with the rule of law.

Drawing from this analysis, the study proposes four crucial pathways to enhance the rule of law in social management: refining the legal framework, reinforcing implementation and oversight, fostering integration of multifaceted co-governance with legal principles, and elevating public understanding and participation in the rule of law. Building upon these research findings, the article advances specific policy recommendations, intending to inform national-level practices of socially just management: accelerating the legislative timeline, deepening reforms in law enforcement and the judicial system, promoting diverse co-governance models, and intensifying public awareness and education efforts concerning the rule of law.

This study contributes not only to profound theoretical discourse on social management legalization in the modern context but also offers practical, actionable guidance for policy formulation and execution. It holds substantial significance in driving forward the modernization of China's social management system and enhancing governance capabilities.

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