

Young Peasant Workers' Information Literacy and Social Integration

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Abstract—In order to improve the information literature of young migrant workers and to speed up the urban social integration, this paper adopts literature review and data analysis method, to make the research. Results showed that the information quality of young workers were generally not high, mainly for the lack of awareness of the initiative to use information, lack the skills and knowledge of modern information platform, lack of awareness to resist the adverse information, and can't use library and other public information service resources. Therefore, information service support system should be established by the government, communities, non-governmental and organization composed, give full play to library public role to improve young migrant workers cultural quality and moral quality, accelerate the process of urbanization, and really realize the integration of urban society.

Keywords —*Young Peasant Workers; Information Literacy; Social Integration*

I. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM

"Migrant workers" is a new social group in the process of economic and social transformation in China. The latest statistics from the National Bureau of statistics showed that by the end of 2013, the total number of migrant workers in China is about 0.26 billion, and about 0.125 billion young farmers was born in the eighties of the twentieth century, accounting for 46.6% of the total number of migrant workers. Young migrant workers have a relatively higher cultural, high school and higher education level accounted for 1/3, which was 19.2% higher than the old generation of migrant workers^[1]. This shows that half of the migrant workers are young. Compared with the older generation of migrant workers, young migrant workers have a higher cultural level, most of them had not engaged in agricultural production before, they were influence by urban life and peer group and came to the city, so they are more eager to really integrate into city life. But due to China's long-term implementation of the binary division of the household registration system, the real situation of young migrant workers showed that the young migrant workers could not really integrate into the city in employment, social security, political participation, social interaction, and was in the city's edge. The city's informatization, efficient, scientific and technological influence the young migrant workers all the time. Especially with the increase of the degree of urban informatization, the demand of the young migrant workers for

information is becoming urgent more and more. Information literacy has been regarded as a necessary condition for people to enter the digital age. The information quality of young migrant workers will affect their city living conditions directly. Therefore to improve the information literacy of young migrant workers continuously, improve their ability to understanding, using and identification information is very important to change their life state at the edge of city, accelerate their pace to integration into the urban life.

II. THE CONNOTATION OF INFORMATION QUALITY

"Information literacy" was put forward by Paul Zekoski, President of the American Information Industry Association, in 1974^[2]. And the connotation of information quality was amendments and compliments by the American Library Association, the Prague declaration, information literacy framework in Australia and New Zealand, Alexander declaration etc. Although there is no consistent interpretation of the concept, but basically reached a consensus that the "information consciousness", "information", "information technology", "information ethics" should be contained in the quality of the information. Information consciousness" is a kind of awareness of the importance of information, which is a kind of demand to use the information positively. In general, the more stronger information consciousness are, the more positive people to use information. "Information knowledge" is the essential knowledge that people have when they engage in information activities. "Information skill" is the ability of people to obtain, use, analyze and process the information. "Information morality" is the moral code and moral standard when information is engaged in information activities, and people are required to abide by the code of ethics in the use and recognition of information. In recent years, the study on the information literacy in the academic community has begun to join the people in the theoretical research, and the information quality is connected with the social integration of vulnerable groups. That information quality will affect the degree of integration of the individual to the community^[3]. From this point, the transformation of the perspective of the study of the information literacy made it possible to connect the information quality of the young migrant workers with the social integration issues. The information quality of young migrant workers has become an important factor affecting the social integration of the city.

III. WEAK INFORMATION QUALITY PERFORMANCE OF THE YOUNG MIGRANT WORKERS

A. *Lack of Awareness of Active Use of Information*

Compared with the older generation of migrant workers at beginning of the policy reform and opening, young migrant workers who were born after the 1980s have a certain understanding of the importance of the information due to their relatively high degree of culture, strong ability of accept new things. But these young migrant workers are still lack of awareness of the initiative to use information^[4]. Moving from familiar rural to the strange city, young migrant worker's employment activities or social activities show with obvious genetic and geographical features in the city life. The awareness of young migrant workers to active use of information is not strong. Young migrant workers still use their original relatives, friends, classmates or by an acquaintance to introduced them to the city, looking for employment opportunities in the city^[5]. Due to always live in the kinship and geographical relation network, acquaintances introduced, engaged in the same occupation as their parents, facts have proved that young migrant workers have no obvious difference with the older generation of migrant workers in career choice. The weak awareness of use of modern information, resulting in the lack of initiative in search for more employment opportunities. Due to the lack of awareness of the initiative to use information, in front of a lot of useful information, young farmers seems to be "indifferent", that makes a insurmountable information barrier between the young migrant workers and city young people, young migrant workers live in the urban fringe can't really integrate into city life.

B. *Lack of Knowledge and Skills of Using Modern Information Platform*

Information skill is one of the essential qualities of modern people, and the level of information skill is positively related to information knowledge. Most of the young migrant workers are able to surf the Internet by the computer, mobile, use some social information tools for communication. However, the true sense of the information technology is to have a certain knowledge of information and information technology, the use of rich modern information resources and popular information tools to understand the world of life. The young migrant workers, due to the limit of time and economic conditions, were mental and cultural life scarce, have no opportunities to participate in the continuing education^[6]. Therefore, very few people using modern information platform to browse web pages, search employment information and learning skills^[7]. With the lack of knowledge and skills of modern information platform, many young migrant workers have lost the opportunity to display their own potential and continue to learn in a wider space. Weak information technology has affected the young migrant workers into the urban life.

C. *Lack of Attitude to Resist the Bad Information*

The information ethics is the standard and requirements to the information recipient. How to identify the effective information and resist the bad information is a higher request to the present people. Specific to the youth migrant workers. Due

to the lack of spiritual and cultural life, and a lot of young people came to the city alone, with spouses separated, young migrant workers browse pornography, violence, crime and other adverse information. Some people even have a crush on some websites that contain pornographic and violent content, which leads to the occurrence of illegal and criminal acts^[8]. The occurrence of illegal and criminal acts that made by migrant, not only threat the city's social security and stability, but also affect the relations with the citizens. If the young migrant workers are not able to consciously resist the impact of bad information, it is bound to affect their interaction with the city people's communication and interaction, thus resulting in the separation of communication. Only when the young migrant workers consciously enhance the attitude to resist bad information, learn how to identify useful information, can they formed a good interactive relationship with citizens, and truly achieve integration with urban life.

D. *Unable to Use the Library and Other Public Information Service Resources*

In the city, the library is an important public information service department, it can deliver a variety of information, to provide the public with information through borrow the books and information sharing platform^[9]. Young migrant workers do not understand the rich library information resources, few people go to the library to borrow books and look for electronic documents. A lot of young migrant workers do not know how to use the library's information resources, even never go to the library. In addition, the community is also the public information provider in the life. Though young migrant workers live in the community, but the interaction with the community is very limited, they have no opportunity to participate in information, employment information and some training in the community. The limited use of public information services reducing their information skills, and the reduction of information skills affect their quality of information^[10]. Such a vicious circle, seriously affected the youth migrant workers integrate into the urban community.

IV. THE WAY TO IMPROVE THE INFORMATION QUALITY OF YOUNG MIGRANT WORKERS, AND REALIZE THE INTEGRATION OF URBAN SOCIETY

A. *Establishment of Information Service Support System, Which is Composed of Government, Community and Civil Society*

Weak information quality of young migrant workers has become an important factor in their integration into urban society. Government, community and civil society organizations should form a strong support system to improve the information quality of young migrant workers. The government should pay attention to the improvement of the information quality of the young migrant workers in the system design and the policy formulation. Community can ask for special funds from government for information literacy education and established specialized information service platform for young migrant workers living in the community, the community can also use their own resources, and some of the non-governmental organizations to carry out public welfare

training activities. At present, the folk organization in our country is developing rapidly, and standardize gradually, to some extent they are the supplement of the function of the government and the community, and become the important power to participate in the service. Only by establishing information service support system including government, community and civil society organizations, adopt linkage mechanism, can we improve the information quality of young migrant workers gradually, and speed up the pace of their integration into the city.

B. *Full Play the Role of Public Service of the Library*

It is not optimistic for the library utilization by young migrant workers. Most of them have not been to the library, and not form a good reading habits. In turn, we should also see that the young migrant worker's library "prohibitive" is related with the insufficient service of the library. So, the library should change the old work methods and ideas, take the youth migrant workers into their services. Firstly, the library staff should take the young farmers into their own service object.; Secondly, the library staff should go to the work and daily life of migrant worker, propagate the importance of the knowledge and the way to get knowledge, introduce the information resource and service of library; Lastly, the library can held a regular public lecture for the workers, The content could be discussed around young migrant workers employment, health care, pension and other hot issues, also can joint local legal advice, labor relations mediation, human resources and social security department, to carry out public lectures that young migrant workers are concerned about.

C. *Improve the Cultural Quality and Moral Quality of Young Migrant Workers*

Young migrant workers should recognize the importance of improving of their own culture quality and actively to use the opportunity provided by the community, the library and the non-governmental organizations to learn and improve their culture quality. They can take advantage of the city's rich educational resources to participate in short-term technical training, network knowledge, information platform and other content of learning. Young migrant workers can also take part in some vocational qualification certificates and continue education examinations, to accept more professional learning and skills training. In addition, the young migrant workers should improve their own moral level, so as to enhance their own information ethics. Therefore, young migrant workers should improve their moral qualities, to read and browse regular websites, absorb social positive energy, actively participate in the activities of the community and the trade unions in enterprises, enrich their spare life, to participate in the work skills and information skills training, to form a good moral character, become an indispensable important force in the urban society. At the same time, urban society should have the tolerant and accepting attitude to young migrant workers, reduce discrimination and exclusion of this group, pay more attention to their contribution to the development of the city, so that the young migrant workers can increase their confidence in city life and identity to the urban social, and integrate into the city with a more positive attitude.

From the whole process of urbanization in China, a large number of rural migrant workers and urban social integration is the trend of the times. To really integrate into the city, young migrant workers must realize the transition of culture, identity, communication mode. Weak information quality will bring them some obstacles when they integrate into the urban community. Only to improve the information quality of the young migrant workers, can we shorten the distance between the migrant workers and the urban youth, realize the role transformation from the farmers to the city residents, and really realize the integration of urban society.

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