

## A study on poverty among rural women in China



 Wang Huangang<sup>1+</sup>  
Wang Huanbo<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Economics and Management, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China.

Email: [wanghg@sem.tsinghua.edu.cn](mailto:wanghg@sem.tsinghua.edu.cn)

<sup>2</sup>School of Business Administration Northeastern University, Shenyang, Liaoning Province, China.

Email: [979419281@qq.com](mailto:979419281@qq.com)



(+ Corresponding author)

### ABSTRACT

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This article mainly studies the issue of poverty among rural women in China. Through actual research and visits to two poverty-stricken counties in Northeast China - Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, two key poverty-stricken counties in Northwest China - Gansu Province, two key poverty-stricken counties in Southwest China - Guizhou Province, and two severely impoverished counties in East China - Anhui Province, combined with existing excellent research literature, the main characteristics of rural impoverished women in China were finally summarized: the vulnerability, concealment, intergenerational transmission, and persistence of women's poverty. The symbiosis of poverty and the derivative nature of poverty ideology. On this basis, this article summarizes the main causes of poverty among impoverished rural women in China: due to illness, education, lack of labor force, constraints of traditional concepts, and geographical factors; At the same time, it clarifies the role of rural women's poverty alleviation in the process of family poverty alleviation in China. Finally, this article outlines the significance of poverty alleviation for impoverished rural women in China from a sustainable perspective: alleviating family conflicts, reducing female crime rates, improving the quality of life for elderly women, effectively limiting intergenerational transmission of poverty, and improving national poverty alleviation effectiveness.

**Contribution/ Originality:** This article adopts a bottom-up research method, using bottom-up case analysis and field investigation methods to summarize and generalize the multidimensional poverty situation and causes of impoverished rural women in China; The obtained data is first-hand data. This article will study women's poverty alleviation issues from a female perspective.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The health poverty vulnerability of rural women is crucial for the sustainable development of families, society, and healthy rural areas. The concept of "women's poverty" was first proposed by the renowned American sociologist Pearce in 1978, after conducting field research and extensive research in many impoverished areas around the world. Women's poverty refers to the phenomenon where women make up a large proportion of the world's impoverished population, leading to an imbalance in the gender ratio of the global impoverished population. Pearce proposed the true proposition in his work that "women are the poorest among the poor.". Women's poverty is not only reflected in lower economic income, but also in their cultural level, values, and enjoyment of various rights, which are seriously lacking compared to men. Rural women's poverty refers to the poverty suffered by rural

women in terms of economic, psychological, human capital, and social rights due to factors such as illness, education, and a large family size.

## **2. THE MAIN CHARACTERISTICS OF POVERTY AMONG RURAL WOMEN IN CHINA**

China is a country composed of multiple ethnic groups, with strong ethnic differences among them; At the same time, China has a vast territory, with significant differences in climate between the north and south, and distinct geographical structures between the east and west. On the basis of theoretical research, this article combines the actual situation of various regions in China learned by the author through field research and visits, as well as existing literature research, and finally summarizes six main common characteristics of poverty among rural impoverished women in China.

### *2.1. The Vulnerability of Women's Poverty*

The health poverty vulnerability of rural women is crucial for the sustainable development of families, society, and healthy rural areas (Wei & Li, 2021). Compared to men, women are more affected by poverty issues (Lu, 2020). Attention should be paid to the poverty and vulnerability of female headed households (Zhang & You, 2018). As a vulnerable and impoverished group, rural women are prone to falling into poverty due to the lack of ability and means to resist risks brought about by production environment, natural disasters, individual health, education level, family environment, policy systems, and social welfare (Cai, 2017). The poverty of impoverished rural women in our country mainly reflects their own vulnerability, which is mainly compared to impoverished men. Due to the long-standing advocacy of male superiority and female inferiority in ancient China, this traditional ideology has also had a certain impact on today's society, especially in remote and backward areas. Many impoverished women in these areas are still in a subordinate position in their families, and even rural impoverished women in China have long been in a subordinate and disadvantaged position in social, cultural, and economic fields, Therefore, rural impoverished women in our country are more vulnerable to the harm caused by poverty compared to impoverished men. At the same time, due to the weaker physical fitness of women compared to men, their ability to earn money is generally weaker, and women engage in long-term unpaid household chores every day, resulting in poor rural women in China mainly relying on high-income husbands in terms of economy. Due to the economic dependence of impoverished rural women on their husbands in our country, they also have a certain degree of dependence on their husbands in other matters. The vulnerability of impoverished rural women in our country makes them more likely to fall into poverty than men when experiencing certain family changes, and women find it difficult to overcome the vortex of poverty through their own efforts after suffering from poverty. In summary, poverty among rural women in China is characterized by fragility.

### *2.2. The Concealment of Women's Poverty*

The hidden characteristics of women's poverty have always been overlooked, which requires attention from Rural women's poverty refers to the poverty suffered by rural women in terms of economic, psychological, human capital, and social rights due to factors such as illness, education, and a large family size. overlooked. The concealment of poverty is mainly due to the lack of separate statistics on rural impoverished women in China, resulting in a lack of systematic research on this special group; In most cases, people mainly focus on the economic poverty of impoverished women. However, the poverty of rural impoverished women in China is not only reflected in the economy, but also in the humanities. Human poverty mainly refers to the poverty of impoverished rural women in China, including their family status, social participation, and social relationships. However, human poverty is generally overlooked, and rural impoverished women have low awareness of protecting their rights, leading to the hidden characteristics of women's poverty. The hidden characteristics of rural impoverished women have to some extent increased the difficulty of national poverty alleviation, affected the effectiveness of national poverty

alleviation, and also hindered the balanced development of society. In summary, poverty among impoverished rural women in China has a hidden characteristic.

### *2.3. The Intergenerational Transmission of Women's Poverty*

Poor women lack sufficient nutrition, medical security, and complete education, which weakens their ability to feed and educate their children in the early stages, thereby limiting their children's social competitiveness and self-improvement ability in adulthood, and inhibiting their ability to create wealth in the future (Wang & Xiao, 2009). The poverty of impoverished rural women in Guizhou in terms of education level, health, and social rights status has had a negative impact on the next generation, resulting in intergenerational transmission of poverty (Yang, 2016). At present, there is a problem of intergenerational transmission of relative poverty in our country, and education plays an important role in blocking the intergenerational transmission of relative poverty (Peng, 2022). Firstly, impoverished women are unable to enjoy sufficient and healthy material and medical security during the process of giving birth to their children. These factors will ultimately lead to malnutrition and unhealthy health in their children. Therefore, children may become physically weak due to congenital deficiencies in adulthood, ultimately causing their families to continue to fall into the vortex of poverty. Secondly, impoverished rural women in China generally have a lower cultural level, and women are the first teachers of their children. Women play a crucial role in the healthy growth of their children, and their character development and mental growth are largely influenced by their mothers. Through field research and visits, it was found that in general, the education level of children of impoverished women is also relatively low. This may be due to the lower education level of rural impoverished women themselves, who often perform poorly in providing education and guidance to their children, and also fail to give sufficient attention to their children's education issues, resulting in their children dropping out of school halfway. In the end, the children of these impoverished rural women were unable to overcome poverty through education, so leading to intergenerational transmission of poverty. In remote and impoverished rural areas, the care and education of infants and young children are mainly borne by women, and the government often provides little assistance to impoverished women. Some impoverished women face economic difficulties and work in cities to subsidize their families, resulting in a lack of education for left behind children (Chen, 2020). Once again, poor men and women of appropriate age will choose a spouse based on their own similar circumstances, so poor men and women often form a new impoverished family, which forms an intergenerational transmission of poverty, which will be a chronic disease that cannot be eradicated by society. In summary, poverty among impoverished rural women in China has the characteristic of intergenerational transmission.

### *2.4. The Persistence of Women's Poverty*

Female poverty presents new regional and persistent characteristics (Zhang, 2011). The persistence of women's poverty is more evident in remote rural areas (Liu, 2015). The author found through field research and visits to typical poverty-stricken areas in China that the cultural level of rural impoverished women is generally lower than that of men, and women lack certain survival skills. Moreover, compared to men, their physical fitness is poor, their production and living abilities are significantly lower than those of men, and their ability to resist poverty is also significantly weaker. Once rural women or their families suffer setbacks, they are easily trapped in poverty, and once they fall into poverty, it is difficult for them to overcome it through their own efforts. The limitations of impoverished rural women in our country also limit their own development, making them prone to long-term poverty. In summary, poverty among impoverished rural women in China has a persistent characteristic.

### *2.5. The Coexistence of Women's Poverty and Family Poverty*

There is consistency between poverty among married rural women and family poverty. There is a certain inevitable connection between women's poverty and family poverty (Liu, 2015). In recent years, with the continuous

promotion of urbanization and rural mechanization in China, more and more idle labor force has emerged in rural areas, which has led to a large number of labor forces entering cities for work, resulting in the phenomenon of rural hollowing out. The main groups left behind in rural areas are women, children, and the elderly, and women have become the main force in rural agricultural production, Nowadays, women bear the main responsibility for production and life in the home, and they have become the backbone of the family. In these families, once women fall into poverty due to illness, the entire family will lose their labor force, and the education of their children and the care of the elderly will be seriously affected, ultimately leading to the entire family falling into poverty. On the contrary, if in a poor family, impoverished women receive certain skills training or production resource assistance to ensure their endogenous production power, then they have the ability to lead their family out of poverty. In summary, the poverty of impoverished rural women in China has a certain symbiotic characteristic with family poverty.

### *2.6. The Derivative Nature of Women's Poverty Ideology*

Rural impoverished women have a serious mentality of waiting, relying, and demanding, and they have a certain degree of inertia (Nie & Wang, 2019). The idea of women's poverty has certain derivative characteristics. Rural impoverished women in our country often lack the awareness of self-reliance and self-improvement in their thinking. They have a serious mentality of "waiting, relying, and demanding", and have a negative attitude towards life. They can just get by and even break down, and have a strong dependence on national poverty alleviation policies (Liu & Liu, 2022). Some impoverished women even place their hopes for poverty alleviation on government assistance, and in some impoverished rural areas, some women still have poor moral values and a problem of preferring leisure over work. Through actual research and visits, the author found that some impoverished rural women who fall ill, even if they have children to rely on and rural cooperative medical insurance can reimburse them, still insist on relying on the government to provide treatment. This not only delays the optimal treatment time, but also adds a certain burden to the country. Some impoverished rural women, even if they are physically healthy and have the ability to work, are unwilling to go out to work and earn money during their leisure time. Instead, they hope to receive more assistance from the government to maintain their livelihoods. Since ancient times, impoverished couples have suffered from various sorrows, and in today's era of advanced information, many accompanying study mothers have betrayed their families through online dating and other means after entering the city, ultimately leading to divorce. This has resulted in the loss of the fine traditional virtues of Chinese women, causing negative social impact on society. Even some impoverished women want to seek dowries through continuous divorce and remarriage to become wealthy, The ideas derived from the poverty mindset of these impoverished women have certain adverse effects on families, society, and even the country. In summary, poverty among impoverished rural women in China has a derivative characteristic of ideology.

## **3. THE CAUSES OF POVERTY AMONG RURAL WOMEN IN CHINA**

Through actual research and visits to two poverty-stricken banners in Northeast China Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, a key poverty-stricken county in Northwest China Gansu Province, a poverty-stricken county in Southwest China Guizhou Province, and a severely impoverished county in East China Anhui Province, combined with existing research literature, the causes of poverty among rural impoverished women in China were ultimately summarized.

### *3.1. Poverty Caused by Illness*

When impoverished women themselves or their family members suffer from major illnesses such as chronic or sudden illnesses, it leads to a sudden increase in medical expenses for the family, seriously exceeding the family's affordability, and thus causing the women themselves and their families to fall into poverty. These families are

borrowing from multiple sources to save lives and treat illnesses, and the entire family will bear enormous economic and psychological pressure. Poor women are usually the poorest and most vulnerable among impoverished families. When a family becomes poor due to illness, the situation of women in the family is often extremely difficult.

### *3.2. Poverty Caused by Education*

Through field research and visits to typical rural areas in China, it was found that "going to college is the only way to change one's destiny" has become a consensus in almost every family. In impoverished families with children in school, regardless of the family's situation, parents will do their best to provide their children with education as long as they want to. However, at the current economic level, with the increase of children's education time, the annual cost of education is also increasing. Education expenditure has become the main economic expenditure of some impoverished families. For impoverished families, the cost of providing a college student is enormous, and cultivating a college student is undoubtedly adding insult to injury for a poor family.

### *3.3. Lack of Labor Force*

The main sources of income for rural population in our country are planting and breeding, and labor is the foundation for maintaining a family's livelihood. The lack of labor has led to a sharp decline in income for some families, which in turn leads to poverty. In rural areas of our country, some women lose their ability to work due to domestic violence, divorce, widowhood, or husband's illness, leaving only one labor force at home. Women become the backbone of the family, living in financial difficulties. In order to maintain their livelihoods and ensure their children's education, they have to work overtime, but still face poverty due to a lack of labor force.

### *3.4. Lack of Self-Development Motivation*

Some women and their husbands in certain households lack the endogenous motivation to lift themselves out of poverty and become prosperous, act lazily, get by, and have insufficient savings. Their "wait, rely, and demand" mentality is more serious, and they have a strong dependence on national poverty alleviation policies. They place their hopes for poverty alleviation on the state and social assistance.

### *3.5. Constraints of Traditional Concepts*

For over two thousand years, the feudal society in our country has always advocated the traditional ideas of "male superiority and female inferiority", "women should follow three rules and four virtues", and "women without talent are virtuous". Women's family and social status are very low, and they have become appendages to men. Although the founding of the People's Republic of China vigorously advocates gender equality and ensures the status of women, this feudal and outdated ideology still affects people's thoughts and behavior to a greater or lesser extent, especially in remote rural areas, this phenomenon influenced by traditional thinking is even more severe. Due to the influence of traditional and feudal beliefs on these parents, some girls in impoverished rural areas have a lower level of education, which will lead to their ideological backwardness and a lack of competitiveness in the labor market. This traditional and feudal ideology not only has a certain impact on the thinking of men in these impoverished areas, but also on the thinking of women in these impoverished areas, because these women have lived in this environment since childhood, have been exposed to it, and seem to have also accepted this traditional thinking. In the end, this traditional concept has become a constraint on the thinking of impoverished women to lift themselves out of poverty and become prosperous.

### *3.6. Impact of Geographical Factors*

The impoverished women in rural areas of our country are mainly distributed in economically backward and remote areas such as the northeast, west, and southwest with harsh living environments. These areas generally

have poor natural conditions and relatively backward transportation and communication facilities. Due to this relatively unfavorable living environment, it severely restricts the development of rural women in these areas to a certain extent. Firstly, due to the economically backward and remote areas, it greatly affects the economic benefits of women in that area. For example, in some impoverished areas of Inner Mongolia, although the land is vast, the soil is barren and the crop yield is not high. Poor areas in Gansu Province, such as those with poor soil quality, are also facing long-term drought problems; For example, in poverty-stricken areas of Guizhou Province, due to the mountainous areas, rural impoverished women are mostly located in deep mountainous areas, with harsh living conditions and inconvenient transportation. Secondly, due to the relatively closed rural areas in these poverty-stricken areas, there is a lack of physical enterprises that can provide good employment opportunities, which hinders the path for local impoverished women to escape poverty by working at their doorstep; At the same time, due to inconvenient transportation, poor communication, and relatively backward economy in these impoverished areas, the poor women in these areas have a relatively shallow perspective, conservative thinking, insufficient understanding of the outside world, lack corresponding employment information from the outside world, and are unwilling to escape poverty through working outside. Once again, due to the lack of technology and funding among impoverished women in these areas, their own development motivation is insufficient, which also makes it difficult for them to escape the quagmire of poverty.

#### **4. THE ROLE OF RURAL WOMEN'S POVERTY ALLEVIATION IN THE PROCESS OF FAMILY POVERTY ALLEVIATION IN CHINA**

Women can hold up half of the sky. They generally need to take care of the daily household chores, as well as be responsible for educating their children and supporting the elderly. Women play an extremely important role in a family. As the ancient saying goes, "A virtuous wife in a family is the husband who doesn't do anything wrong." A virtuous wife is of great significance to a husband or even the entire family, and impoverished women are the most vulnerable and sensitive group. At the same time, impoverished women have their own limitations. In the process of poverty alleviation, China should give sufficient attention to this special group and maximize the role that impoverished women play. Helping rural women in poverty alleviation in our country plays an extremely important role in a family's poverty alleviation process. This article summarizes the following roles played by rural women in poverty alleviation in the process of household poverty alleviation in China.

##### *4.1. Beneficial to the Self-Development of Impoverished Women*

Helping impoverished rural women in our country to achieve poverty alleviation is greatly beneficial to their physical and mental health development. As impoverished women are more vulnerable than impoverished men, their role in the family is also very important. Therefore, ensuring the physical and mental health of impoverished rural women in our country can ultimately help impoverished families overcome poverty. Clothing, food, housing, and transportation are the most basic living resources for people. Only when these basic living resources are guaranteed can the physical and mental development of poor women be healthy. Poor women will not endure cold and hunger due to the lack of protection for clothing, food, housing, and transportation, which will affect their physical health, nor will they affect their mental health due to concerns about the lack of protection for these basic living resources. At the same time, people are concerned about their daily clothing, food, housing, and transportation. Being worried while walking is not conducive to the establishment of one's own self-confidence, nor is it conducive to the establishment of a positive attitude towards life for impoverished women themselves. Only by solving the problem of material poverty among rural women in China can we further help them achieve poverty alleviation in terms of human poverty.

#### *4.2. Beneficial for the Development of Children of Impoverished Women*

The special status of women in the family results in women's poverty having far more adverse consequences for their children than men's poverty. Women's poverty to a certain extent is not conducive to the physical and mental health development of their children. Poor women's families cannot provide sufficient material support for raising their children, and at the same time, they cannot provide sufficient support for their children's medical and educational needs, which is not conducive to their physical and mental health development. Children from impoverished families are 2.5 times more likely to suffer from chronic diseases at an early age than children from affluent families, while children from impoverished families are twice as likely to suffer from cerebral palsy as children from affluent families. Poor women often lack confidence and have negative attitudes towards life, which can easily affect their children and hinder their mental health development. Under the same conditions, the mental health risk of impoverished individuals is more than three times higher than that of non impoverished individuals. Therefore, helping rural women in China to overcome poverty is greatly beneficial for the physical and mental health development of their children.

#### *4.3. Beneficial for Impoverished Women's Families to Achieve Economic Poverty Alleviation*

"Women can hold up half of the sky." Women bear the responsibility of raising offspring, supporting the elderly, educating children, and managing household chores in the family. Given the special role of women in the family, helping impoverished rural women in China to achieve poverty alleviation is of great importance for the comprehensive poverty alleviation of impoverished families. Poor women are also the most vulnerable and sensitive group in impoverished families, Only impoverished women who achieve economic poverty alleviation can ensure that impoverished families truly achieve economic poverty alleviation. Women have special responsibilities and status in the home, and their poverty situation can be improved. Only then can they have the ability to improve the living conditions of their children and elderly, improve the overall economic situation of the home, and ultimately help impoverished women's families escape poverty economically.

#### *4.4. Beneficial for Impoverished Women's Families to Achieve Humanistic Poverty Alleviation*

In addition to facing economic difficulties, impoverished women generally exhibit a state of lack of confidence and low mental state in their mental state, and this mental state can also affect the mental growth of their children to a certain extent. Children from impoverished families are also prone to showing a state of lack of confidence and low mental state. Poor women not only have obvious humanistic poverty, but their impoverished families also exhibit the characteristics of humanistic poverty as a whole. The most frightening thing is that this humanistic poverty will be passed on to the next generation of children, allowing the vortex of poverty to continue to affect a family. Helping impoverished rural women in our country to achieve poverty alleviation not only helps to lift impoverished families out of the poverty vortex economically, but also further helps to lift them out of the quagmire of humanistic poverty. Only then can we ultimately enable impoverished rural families in our country to achieve comprehensive poverty alleviation, fundamentally solve the problem of rural poverty in our country, and at the same time, helping impoverished rural women in our country to lift themselves out of poverty is also the best way to block the intergenerational transmission of poverty, It is also an important means to effectively prevent poverty return and protect the fruits of poverty alleviation.

### **5. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF FOCUSING ON POVERTY ALLEVIATION FOR RURAL IMPOVERISHED WOMEN FROM A SUSTAINABLE PERSPECTIVE**

The issue of poverty among rural women in our country is no longer just a social issue, but has already risen to a development issue. The Chinese government and various sectors of society are paying increasing attention to this special group of impoverished women. Therefore, helping rural impoverished women in our country to overcome

poverty has extremely important practical significance from a sustainable perspective. This article summarizes the following significance of paying attention to the poverty alleviation of impoverished rural women in China from a sustainable perspective.

### *5.1. Relieve Family Conflicts*

As the old saying goes, "A poor couple mourns for many things" and "A poor family without a virtuous wife". Love without bread is not reliable. Poverty can easily cause tension in family relationships, marital discord, and even family breakdown. The continuous escalation of family conflicts will further exacerbate the level of poverty in families and increase social conflicts. Women living in poverty for a long time will experience a change in their mentality. The more virtuous may complain or even argue with their husbands due to the hardships of life, while the less patient may even demand a divorce from their husbands. At the same time, poverty among rural women can also affect their own mental health, and women may choose suicide due to the inability to bear the pressure of poverty. The incidence of attempted suicide among women in our country is higher than that of men, more than three times. This data tells us that women at the bottom of society are more likely to give up their right to life when life is hopeless, and poverty is undoubtedly a cause of despair. A housewife worries about firewood, rice, oil, and salt every day, which to some extent makes the already fragile inner feelings of impoverished women more sensitive. They are prone to arguments with their husbands and anger towards their children due to trivial family matters, causing tension in marital and family relationships. At the same time, poverty can easily lead to domestic violence, which is an important reason for the rising divorce rate in today's society. Conversely, it exacerbates the level of household poverty. Therefore, from the perspective of sustainability, paying attention to the issue of poverty alleviation for impoverished rural women in China can to some extent contribute to the physical and mental health development of impoverished women. At the same time, helping impoverished rural women overcome poverty can alleviate family conflicts, make family relationships more harmonious and stable, and to some extent reduce divorce rates, which is conducive to family stability, helping impoverished families overcome poverty, and ultimately making society more harmonious and stable.

### *5.2. Reducing Female Crime Rates*

Poverty can easily lead to an increase in female crime rates. Studies have shown that the proportion of female offenders mainly tilts in four directions: (1) the proportion of crimes that infringe upon or encroach on the property of others increases; (2) The proportion of crimes involving pornography and drugs has increased, and female offenders are showing a trend of youthfulness; (3) The proportion of corruption and bribery crimes has increased; (4) The rate of intentional injury and homicide continues to increase. Through systematic research, it has been shown that economic poverty is one of the main causes of female crime. Material poverty can easily lead to negative and negative thoughts, especially among impoverished women who are extremely fragile and sensitive. When the pressure they bear cannot be relieved or regulated, their inner thoughts can easily go to extremes, leading to the fact that some women commit crimes. According to a survey on the family income of prisoners in a prison in Hubei Province, 61.9% of the total number of inmates have an average monthly income of less than 600 yuan. Therefore, from the perspective of sustainability, it is of great significance to pay attention to the issue of poverty alleviation for impoverished rural women in China, which can help to some extent promote the physical and mental health development of impoverished women. At the same time, helping impoverished rural women to overcome poverty can prevent them from committing crimes due to economic poverty, reduce female crime rates to a certain extent, and make their families more harmonious. Ultimately, it also makes society more harmonious and stable.

### *5.3. Improving the Quality of Life for Elderly Women*

After conducting field research and visits to typical rural areas in China, it was found that the main group of impoverished women is elderly women who are weak and sickly. Due to age and physical health factors, this group cannot go out to work, and their labor capacity is insufficient, greatly limiting their economic sources. This is also one of the reasons for poverty among elderly women. Due to economic poverty, the quality of life of elderly women is also reduced, the decrease in quality of life will further promote the deterioration of the physical health status of impoverished women, forming a vicious cycle, ultimately leading to increasingly severe poverty among rural women in China. At the same time, even young impoverished women, due to their poverty, cannot provide sufficient material support in supporting the elderly, which will also lead to a decrease in the quality of life for elderly women. Therefore, from the perspective of sustainability, it is of great practical significance to pay attention to the issue of poverty alleviation for impoverished rural women in China. Helping impoverished rural women overcome poverty can improve the quality of life of elderly rural women in China, thereby improving their physical health. The improvement of the physical health of elderly women to some extent reduces the economic burden on impoverished families and helps them overcome poverty. At the same time, improving the quality of life of impoverished rural women in China is also beneficial for improving the happiness index of the Chinese people's lives, alleviating social conflicts, and promoting social harmony and stability.

### *5.4. Effectively Limiting Intergenerational Transmission of Poverty*

The most terrifying thing about poverty is to make it repeat itself and prevent impoverished families from escaping the vortex of poverty, allowing poverty to pass on to the next generation and causing intergenerational transmission of poverty. After conducting field research and visits to typical rural areas in China, it was found that the children of impoverished women generally exhibit a more obvious intergenerational transmission phenomenon. Poverty alleviation for impoverished women is an effective focus on improving the education and health level of children from impoverished families, a key link in blocking the inheritance of poverty, and an important means of improving the quality of life of impoverished families. Because women play a special role in the family, the poverty situation of impoverished women in a poor family is improved. The first beneficiaries are the children of impoverished women, who can have the ability to provide more material security to their children. On the basis of material security, impoverished women can provide better and higher support in their children's education, which will help improve the educational conditions of their children. At the same time, it helps improve the academic performance of children from impoverished families, ultimately benefiting them to change their own destiny and even the fate of the entire family through studying, which is the most effective way to change their destiny. From the perspective of sustainability, it is of great practical significance to pay attention to the issue of poverty alleviation for impoverished rural women in China. Helping impoverished rural women overcome poverty not only effectively solves the poverty problem of impoverished women, but also effectively limits the intergenerational transmission of poverty in rural areas, allowing impoverished families to emerge from the vortex of poverty and preventing intergenerational transmission of poverty, in order to fundamentally and effectively eliminate poverty.

### *5.5. Improving the Country's Poverty Alleviation Effectiveness*

The year 2020 is the decisive year of China's fight against poverty. China will achieve comprehensive poverty alleviation in 2020. In the face of the non-smoking and protracted war of novel coronavirus pneumonia, the country still needs to complete the goal of comprehensive poverty alleviation on time in 2020. Our party and government undoubtedly need to experience great tests and challenges. The country must ensure and improve the efficiency of poverty alleviation in the process of poverty alleviation in order to complete the goal of comprehensive poverty alleviation on time. From the current level of poverty among rural women in China and the final stage of poverty alleviation, it can be seen that the crux of persistent poverty in rural areas lies in the insufficient utilization of

endogenous development motivation among the poor. The most effective poverty alleviation method in China is hematopoietic poverty alleviation. Only when the capable and willing labor force in impoverished families can achieve full employment, can the poverty situation of these families be truly alleviated, especially to ensure that impoverished women in these families can achieve comprehensive poverty alleviation, which can greatly promote the entire impoverished family to get rid of poverty. Only in this way can the number of rural impoverished families in China ultimately be reduced to zero. In recent years, there has been a phenomenon in rural areas of China where women have become the main force engaged in agricultural production. Women bear the main responsibility for household production and life, bear a strong amount of labor, and become the backbone of the family. This means that the national economic poverty alleviation policy is closely related to the families of impoverished women. Therefore, from the perspective of sustainability, it is of great significance to pay attention to the issue of poverty alleviation for impoverished rural women in China, Helping impoverished rural women in China to achieve poverty alleviation can greatly improve the country's poverty alleviation effectiveness and help the country successfully achieve the goal of comprehensive poverty alleviation by 2020.

## 6. POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Winning the battle against poverty is mainly to help those whose income is below the poverty standard line, increase the income of rural impoverished women, and help them overcome absolute poverty. However, after achieving the eradication of absolute poverty, the problem of relative poverty still exists, and after the poverty alleviation campaign is completed, it is still necessary to prevent those who have just been lifted out of poverty from returning to poverty. Therefore, the corresponding poverty alleviation policies of the country will exist for a long time, and poverty alleviation will be transformed from the battle to routine operations. The work of preventing and stabilizing poverty will be combined with the rural revitalization strategy. Based on the research in this article, the following six policy recommendations are proposed to promote women's poverty alleviation.

### 6.1. Increase Employment Opportunities for Impoverished Women

Through this study, it can be concluded that one of the main influencing factors that is not conducive to consolidating the achievements of poverty alleviation is the lack of means of production and employment channels for impoverished women. Therefore, increasing employment opportunities for rural impoverished women can to some extent increase their income and reduce the economic poverty of rural impoverished women in China. In the process of poverty alleviation, we must adhere to the idea that poverty alleviation must first support our aspirations. Only by enabling rural impoverished women to become independent and strong can we fundamentally solve the economic poverty problem of rural impoverished women in China. At the same time, we should also provide more employment opportunities for women from impoverished families. This requires the local government to take the lead in attracting investment and providing certain preferential policies to create employment opportunities for local impoverished women. Mobilizing local leading enterprises to provide certain employment opportunities for impoverished women, allowing the wealthiest group to drive the impoverished group, and promoting coordinated and sustainable economic development in the region. At the same time, providing certain financial support to those who have ideas and are willing to work for impoverished women. The author found through research that some places have already cancelled preferential policies for small loans, which is greatly detrimental to the poverty alleviation and wealth creation of local impoverished women, The local government should not only not cancel the preferential policies for small loans, but also expand the scope of small loans. Of course, in order to avoid the problem of bad debts in small loans, the government should strengthen the supervision of fund disbursement.

### *6.2. Adapting to Local Conditions for Industrial Revitalization*

From the previous research in this article, it can be concluded that when the intensity of industrial poverty alleviation policies is relatively high or high, the income of rural impoverished women's households increases, which to some extent reduces their economic poverty. Taking North A Province as an example, the main industry poverty alleviation in North A Province is to provide certain financial subsidies for impoverished women's families to purchase livestock. The author's research found that different poverty banners in North A Province have different industrial poverty alleviation policies, and the results of industrial poverty alleviation policies are significant. In other areas that are not suitable for aquaculture, different industrial poverty alleviation projects should be carried out according to the local unique environment. In areas that are suitable for the development of ecotourism, unique rural tourism attractions can be built; In areas suitable for cultivation, unique products can be planted according to the varieties suitable for cultivation. Various regions in China should develop local characteristic industries according to local conditions, such as the Huanghua industry in Datong, Shanxi, crispy pear in Dangshan County, Anhui, mushroom industry in Fuping, Hebei, kiwifruit in Yongshun County, Hunan, Jingtang honey pomelo in Jiangxi, Zhalaite rice in Inner Mongolia, mango in Panzhihua, Caoguo in Nujiang, Yunnan, peanuts in Zhengyang, Henan, and so on.

The battle against poverty has achieved great victories. Although our country has solved the problem of absolute poverty, relative poverty still exists, and the task of stabilizing poverty and preventing poverty from returning is still arduous. In the future, a long-term and sustainable industrial poverty alleviation mechanism should be established to promote the development of the industry itself, continuously self-renew and develop, in order to prevent the phenomenon of poverty returning. Effectively connecting industrial poverty alleviation with rural revitalization, rural revitalization in various provinces of China should combine local conditions, develop local advantageous industries, and introduce industries suitable for local characteristics, ultimately achieving diversified development.

### *6.3. Increase Social Security Policies*

Increase the welfare and security efforts for impoverished rural women. The cash transfer plan is one of the typical and effective poverty alleviation policies internationally. For impoverished women in rural areas who lack the ability to work or labor force, increasing welfare protection efforts can help reduce the economic poverty of impoverished women. For mothers from single parent families and families with a larger population, the government should provide certain economic subsidies for these two types of families to ensure a minimum standard of living. For example, the cash transfer subsidy program in South America is very well done and worth learning from. The main poverty alleviation policy in South American countries is the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) program. The most typical example is Brazil, where the cash transfer program in Brazil's main poverty alleviation policies emphasizes the role of impoverished women. Poor women are the direct beneficiaries of the cash transfer program and also play the role of household supervisors. Poor women have played an effective role in driving themselves and their families to reduce poverty. Our country should actively learn from and draw on the conditional cash transfer policies of countries such as Brazil. For such poverty alleviation plans, we can selectively learn from them and absorb them according to local conditions. For mothers from single parent families and families with a larger population, the most direct economic assistance should be provided.

Increase support for education in rural areas. Through this study, it can be concluded that one of the main factors that hinder the consolidation of poverty alleviation achievements from the perspective of women is the high cost of education. Therefore, increasing education poverty alleviation efforts can to some extent reduce expenditures on impoverished women's households and reduce their economic poverty.

For families of impoverished women, the cost of cultivating a college student is still very high. Although the government provides certain subsidies to the children of impoverished women at different stages, the poverty

alleviation efforts are slightly insufficient under the current economic conditions. Therefore, it is necessary to increase efforts in poverty alleviation through education, reduce the educational burden on impoverished women's families, and reduce the incidence of poverty caused by education. In addition, in the process of poverty alleviation, we should adhere to the idea of poverty alleviation first and supporting our aspirations. Only by enabling impoverished women to become independent and strong can we fundamentally solve the poverty problem of rural impoverished women.

Education poverty alleviation should not only support the education of children of impoverished women, but also strengthen their own skill training to stimulate their own development motivation. To alleviate poverty, we should first support intelligence, attach importance to psychological poverty alleviation for impoverished women, eradicate their psychological poverty, and prevent intergenerational transmission of poverty; At the same time, strengthening skills training for impoverished women, improving their comprehensive quality, and enhancing their self-confidence, as well as enhancing their ability to self-generate and self-sufficient, completely eradicating the idea of "waiting, relying, and demanding", fundamentally and completely solving the poverty problem of rural impoverished women, in order to uphold the fruitful results of poverty alleviation and prevent the phenomenon of returning to poverty, Ultimately, it lays a solid foundation for the implementation of the rural revitalization strategy in the future.

Increase medical support in rural areas. When the intensity of health poverty alleviation policies increases, the overall poverty index of rural impoverished women also shows a downward trend, indicating that increasing the intensity of health poverty alleviation policies will improve the overall poverty situation of rural impoverished women and to some extent reduce their economic poverty. Meanwhile, through the research in this article, it can be seen that poverty caused by illness is relatively common among rural women in China. For impoverished women who suffer from illness, especially those who suffer from serious illnesses, a large proportion of their annual medical expenses are spent on household expenses. Poor women who suffer from serious illnesses often lose their ability to work and generally need to be taken care of. Therefore, for impoverished women who suffer from serious illnesses, On the basis of the original 90% reimbursement rate for hospitalization, the country should further increase the reimbursement rate for their hospitalization, and provide subsidies according to a certain daily standard for each hospitalization, as well as a certain proportion of reimbursement for their daily medication. This will minimize the economic burden of medical treatment on impoverished rural women in China, and increase medical poverty alleviation efforts to further reduce the incidence of poverty caused by illness, It is also a powerful guarantee for establishing a long-term poverty alleviation mechanism.

#### *6.4. Establishing a Long-Term Mechanism for Stabilizing Poverty*

Improve the social supervision mechanism. Good policies require precise implementation to ensure the efficiency of policy implementation. Rich poverty alleviation resources need to be effectively utilized to ensure poverty alleviation efficiency. Establishing a sound social supervision mechanism can ensure the effective utilization of poverty alleviation resources from multiple aspects and levels, and also ensure the efficiency of poverty alleviation policy implementation. To this end, the country should establish a comprehensive social supervision mechanism, making the majority of beneficiaries the main body of supervision, further improving the transparency of policy implementation, timely and effective disclosure of information. Only by letting the people understand the use of funds for various projects can the supervision effect be more favorable, and ultimately ensure the effective utilization of poverty alleviation resources, while also ensuring the efficiency of poverty alleviation policy implementation. After the fight against poverty, the focus of work gradually shifted to consolidating the achievements of poverty alleviation, preventing poverty return and rural revitalization. Under the influence of the current COVID-19 and the Russia Ukraine war, the government, all sectors of society and the public need to work

together to effectively ensure the quality of poverty alleviation, prevent poverty return, and ultimately achieve the overall revitalization of China's vast rural areas and the common prosperity of all people.

Guide the whole society to participate in rural revitalization. In order to stabilize poverty and prevent the phenomenon of returning to poverty, and achieve comprehensive rural revitalization, we should take advantage of the advantages of the current era of self media, promote local rural characteristic products through e-commerce and farmers through self media sales, as well as through supply and marketing cooperatives and poverty alleviation supermarkets, ultimately forming a harmonious scene of the whole society participating in rural revitalization. Through the participation of the whole society, the sales rhythm of agricultural products can be accelerated, Promote the effective development of local agricultural product markets and ultimately achieve the revitalization of local rural areas.

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