

VU KHIEU

The Sociological Review is 20 years old

This article's author is Prof. Vu Khieu, ex-Vice-president of Vietnam's Committee for Social Sciences, the first and former director of the IOS, and the first and former editor-in-chief of the *Sociological Review*.

The article notes that when the Review enters its twentieth year of publication, its growth is closely linked to the development of sociological research of the IOS and Vietnam's sociologists. This finds expressions in research works and other works published on the *Review*.

At present, Vietnam and human kind are entering the third millennium and the 21st century. Situations at home and abroad in the coming years are giving rise to many complicated phenomena in social life, and setting many urgent tasks for sociologists.

Having the achievements for twenty years, the *Sociological Review* needs to be enhanced both quantitatively and qualitatively. Situations demand the *Review* to make theoretical efforts and perform its tasks.

TRINH DUY LUAN

Some issues of human resources development in the period of industrialization and modernization

Based on global context and on factors influencing human resource development of Vietnam, the author analyses current demand and characteristics of human resource in process of industrialization and modernization of the country at the present. The author suggests some solutions in order to increase quality and to enhance human resource development. Among them there are two important solutions: 1) Improve education and training sector as strategically solution and 2) study and point out on social- cultural characteristics of Vietnamese people and labor force. They may help to set-up good policies to reasonably and effectively use labor force in near future.

BUI DINH THANH

A contribution to understanding structural functionalism

The article has examined the role and significance of structural functionalism in the system of sociological knowledge and its application to seeking some solutions to social problems of modern life.

According to the author, structural functionalism is a product of a whole process that develops and synthesizes many conceptions over centuries.

Contributions made by classical and modern sociologists - A. Comte, E. Durkheim, M. Weber, T. Parsons, P. Bourdieu - to the structural functionalism's formation and development are

analyzed. The author has pointed out the contributions and weaknesses of this theoretical system in the development of sociological thinking.

The author has emphasized that structural functionalism has reduced social processes to social systems or social formations that are closed and self-reliant like unchanged social structures and institutions. There is a lack of dialectic logic in structural functionalism. One can achieve this logic method only on a basis of historical process analysis. This is a major strength of Marx's theory.

NGUYEN DUC TRUYEN

Economic analysis and sociological approach

In current socio-economic studies in Vietnam, economic analyses seem to be little linked to sociological analyses. This separation of the two approaches has sometimes created difficulties not only for economists, but also sociologists in their research. In researching socio-economic developments in rural areas at present, an application of categories of purely economic theories often does not help researchers in explaining economic facts. That peasants do not regard land as a commodity has resulted in their just land holding, but not in investments that can help them to exploit their lands more effectively. When they are in the market, they do not make any market analysis; instead, they just follow their communities' tendencies or rely on needs of their family life and those of their localities. This has made a lot of hindrance to the economic transformation in current rural areas.

The article tries to come back to classical sociologists' thoughts in order to redefine methodological principles in social and economic analyses. At the same time, the author wishes to make some introduction into the formation of economic sociology and its place in current socio-economic analyses.

VU TUAN HUY

Fathers' role in the family

In socialization function for children fathers and mothers are not only the behavior models. Through role performances, parents also strengthen expected behavior for children and transmit their own values to the next generations.

On the Vietnam's Family Day of this year (28 June 2002) there was a flurry of activity named "Fathers' role in the Vietnamese family". The article aims at examining conceptions and role behavior of fathers compared to mothers, differences in fathers' role under the impacts of reduced birth rates, changing family structure and social transformations.

From the achieved results, the author has given a deeper and detailed analysis of

1. Fathers' role as bread-winners in the family
2. Fathers' role in upbringing their children
3. Impacts of fathers' role on children.

The author has drawn some conclusions on fathers' role in respondents' perceptions and their actual upbringing of children. Based on a comparison to mothers' role, the author has shown that gender differences related to norms, expectations, treatments and prejudices have led to some polarization between fathers' role and mothers' one in the family.

Data used for this analysis are drawn from the study "Socialization of gender roles in childhood" conducted by the Research Department (the Central Committee of the Women's Union), UNICEF and the author in 2000 in Yen Bai, Hue and Soc Trang provinces; the study "Family change" carried out by the IOS in co-operation with Demography Center, Michigan University and Pennsylvania University in 2002 in Hai Duong province.

MAI QUYNH NAM

Newspaper Youngsters of minority ethnic groups and its audience among youngsters of minority ethnic groups

The article has analyzed relations between the newspaper and its audience among youngsters of minority ethnic groups. The research results are drawn from a research topic "Evaluation of the newspaper *Youngsters of minority ethnic groups* and its audience" conducted by the Center for Development Research and Consultation (NCSSH) from September 1998 to January 1999 with the assistance of UNICEF.

The article has analyzed the following issues

1. The audience of minority ethnic groups youngsters and the reading of the newspaper
2. How the audience receives messages of the newspaper
3. Messages' effects from the newspaper on the audience and the information-spreading mechanisms
4. Feedback from the audience to activities of the newspaper.

The analyses have led to proposed ways that aim at higher social effects of the newspaper on its audience.