

*Original Research Article*

## **Study on the Contradiction Between Supply and Demand of the Aged Education Under the Background of Aging**

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**Abstract:** China has entered the new normal of the elderly society, and the aging population has a great impact on China's economic and social development. How to solve the dilemma of "one ticket is hard to get" in the elderly education and innovate and develop the elderly education is an important part of the modernization of education, which is related to the overall situation of building a well-off society at a high level. Taking Wenzhou as an example, this paper constructs a senior education mode of "general school + basic level + network", promotes the vigorous development of local senior education, and refines the school running experience of "separation of management and management, integration of resources, and professional guidance", which is the proper path for the innovative development of senior education, and has certain reference significance for the development of senior education in all parts of China.

**Keywords:** Aging; The Aged Education; Contradiction Between Supply and Demand

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### **1. Introduction**

Aging has become a severe challenge in the development of China, which is a realistic problem that all levels of government need to solve urgently. According to the 2010 census results, the proportion of the elderly over 50 years old in China is higher than 13%. Of these, 9% are over 65. In 2020, the number of people over 60 years old in China is nearly 250 million, and the aging level is 17.17%. According to the statistical bulletin of the elderly population and the cause of aging in 2016 in Zhejiang Province. At the end of 2016, the population over 60 years old in Zhejiang Province was 10.3062 million, accounting for 20.96% of the total population. The elderly population in Wenzhou accounts for 16.99% of the total population. Therefore, aging has become a major social problem in China. The 13th five year plan puts forward a series of specific policies to solve the problem of aging. Among them, education for the elderly has become a hot voice, which can improve the quality of the elderly. By strengthening the education for the aged, the society will be more stable, which will bring positive impact on the national competitiveness. According to the important instructions of the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, China needs to improve the level of education for the elderly, which is the key content of the government's governance.

### **2. The necessity of education for the elderly**

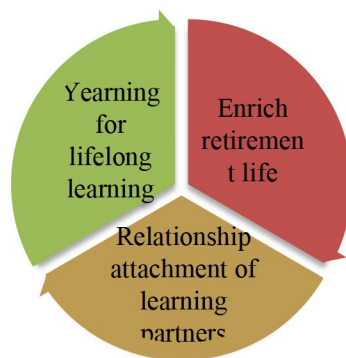
It is necessary for the elderly to have a strong demand for education for the elderly, as shown in **Figure 1**.

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**Figure 1.** The necessity of education for the elderly.

## **2.1 Enrich retirement life**

With the continuous improvement of China's social security system, people's quality of life has been improved. With the continuous progress of medical and health technology, the life expectancy of the elderly continues to increase. Therefore, the elderly still have a long period of health after retirement, which needs to extend the period of self-care through continuous participation in social activities. By improving individual social adaptability, China will continue to socialize. Therefore, the elderly education institutions have many advantages, such as convenient nearby, low tuition, strong localization, rich activities and so on. By participating in the education for the elderly, the elderly will construct their own sense of life for the elderly, which is welcomed by the majority of the elderly. Through the elderly education, the elderly can enrich their retirement life.

## **2.2 Yearning for lifelong learning**

The concept of lifelong learning has been generally accepted and recognized by the elderly, which is a spirit of diligence to be advocated. After retirement, the elderly often hope to regain their dream of study, which is put aside for various reasons. However, as the physical function of the elderly degenerates, they will weaken their ability to accept new things. Therefore, the elderly need to continuously and repeatedly strengthen learning, which can obtain good learning results. In addition, through the endless cultural atmosphere of learning, the school for the elderly also allows many elderly people to insist on learning. Through the elderly education, the elderly can yearn for the pursuit of lifelong learning.

## **2.3 Relationship attachment of learning partners**

After retirement, the interpersonal network of the elderly will gradually shrink. However, the elderly education institutions are not only places for learning, but also places for making friends, fitness and entertainment. By participating in the elderly education, students form an acquaintance community within the class, which will meet everyone's communication needs. Through the elderly education, the elderly can enhance the sense of collective belonging. Therefore, through the maintenance of attachment, some elderly people are not willing to leave the school for elderly education.

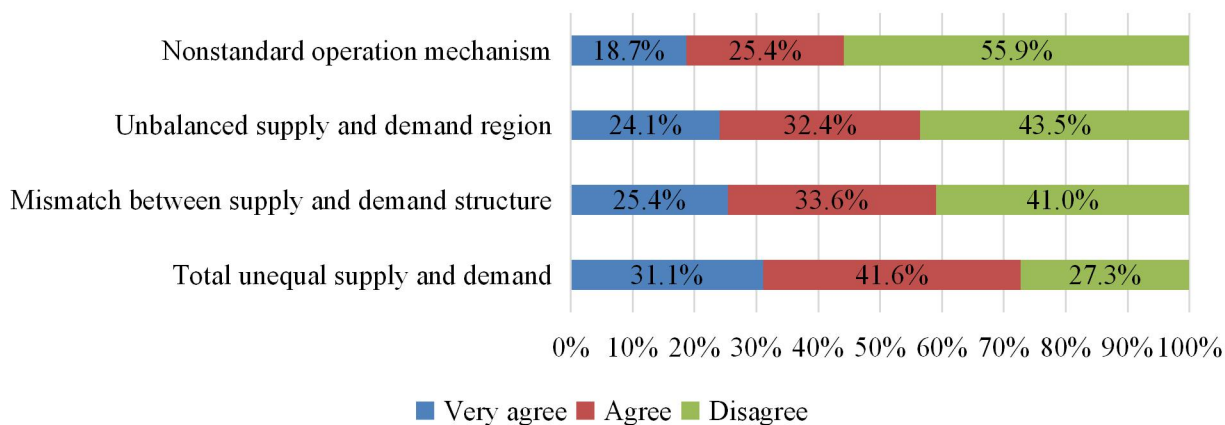
# **3. Contradiction between supply and demand of elderly education**

This paper is based on the field survey. 600 formal questionnaires were sent out, 578 effective questionnaires were sent out, and the effective rate was 96.3%.

## **3.1 Insufficient supply of education for the elderly**

The first university for the elderly has been established since 1983. Nowadays, the number of universities for the aged and other educational institutions has reached 60000, and there are about 7 million old students in China. At present, there are 49289 universities and schools for the aged at all levels in China, with a population of nearly 5.87

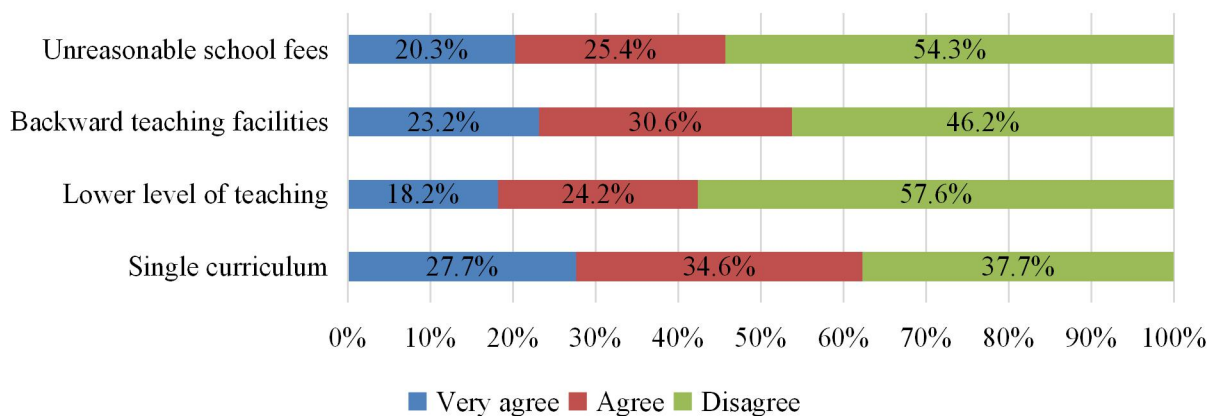
million. However, the total supply of elderly education in China is still relatively insufficient. According to the survey results, the main problem is total unequal supply and demand, accounting for 72.7%. The second is mismatch between supply and demand structure, accounting for 59.0%. Details are shown in **Figure 2**.



**Figure 2.** Insufficient supply of education for the elderly.

### 3.2 Low quality of supply and demand of education for the elderly

Some old people think that the quality of supply and demand of education for the elderly is low, which exists in many aspects. According to the survey results, the main problem is single curriculum, accounting for 62.3%. The second is backward teaching facilities, accounting for 53.8%. Details are shown in **Figure 3**.



**Figure 3.** Low quality of supply and demand of education for the elderly.

## 4. Suggestions on promoting the development of education for the elderly

### 4.1 Construction of coordination mechanism

By building a coordination mechanism, the operation of the system can be guaranteed. Education for the elderly should change the situation of multi management, which will be sustained, healthy, comprehensive and coordinated development. By making clear the unified classification of education for the elderly, the administrative department will integrate various teaching resources, such as publicity, civil affairs, culture and sports, *etc.* Through the medium and long-term planning, the government can fundamentally solve many problems in the elderly education, such as development planning, personnel investment, year-end assessment, *etc.* By ensuring sufficient resource input, an effective social coordination mechanism can be formed. Through legislation, the financial investment of the elderly

education can be guaranteed. Through the establishment and improvement of the dynamic growth mechanism, the elderly education will form a matching expenditure and financial revenue.

## 4.2 Multi party coordination

China needs to integrate cross system elderly education institutions, which will form a multi-faceted coordination model, which will jointly promote the development of elderly education. Through the top-level design, full play to various forces, such as the old cadre system, radio and television university education system, community and village committee can be given, which will establish an effective integration mechanism. By building resource sharing, the sharing and co construction of resources and achievements can be achieved, which will gradually open to the elderly educated groups.

## 5. Conclusion

Under the global trend of aging population, Wenzhou has a large population base, which requires constant adjustment of the contradiction between supply and demand of the elderly. The extensive management and teaching mode that must be based on a variety of measures to innovate the development mechanism will no longer stay. Through effective use of all resources, the elderly education support service system can be further promoted, which will establish a systematic, multi-level and diversified construction. Through aging education, a learning society of "all people learning, lifelong learning" will be formed.

## Acknowledgement

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