THE DEVELOPMENT TREND OF CROSBY&FOSTER’S ECO-IMPERIALISM FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

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SUMMARY
Background: The purpose of this article is to explore the development trend of Crosby Foster’s ecological imperialism from the perspective of social psychology, and analyze the value of the theory of “critique of ecological imperialism”. The connotation and practical value of the theory of "critique of ecological imperialism" have been studied in three aspects: “Focus Theory” and “Social Distance Theory”.

Subjects and methods: This study selects three most representative power theories in the field of social psychology: “proximity-inhibition theory”, “situational focus theory” and “social distance theory” to study the power theory of ecological imperialism. Crosby Foster’s development of ecological imperialism has been outlined.

Results: “Situational Focusing Theory” regards embodied factors as situational factors that affect individual cognitive flexibility and selective attention. Researchers do find that power is related to concretization. The research on embodied concept in situational focus theory provides a new perspective and new method for the study of power. Only by reflecting on the shortcomings of capitalism can human beings think about their own way out, struggle unremittingly, and finally transition to a communist society. And Foster’s ecological imperialism reveals the inevitability of such a system. Since the capitalist system inevitably exists, it is only a matter of time before the imperialist aggression extends to the ecological realm. Only by exposing and criticizing its evil deeds can it arouse public introspection and resistance, and progress to a communist society in which man and nature live in harmony.

Conclusions: Analyze the development trend of Crosby Foster’s ecological imperialism from the perspective of social psychology, and obtain the Critical Theory of Crosby Foster’s ecological imperialism, which provides a certain reference value for China to recognize and locate the global ecological situation. Enlightenment.

Key words: social psychology - Crosby Foster ecological empire - development trend - proximity-inhibition theory

INTRODUCTION

Ecological theory is a realistic reflection of ecological crises. Its connotation has been enriched with the diversification of crises, just as the crises in the early 20th century manifested themselves in the destruction and grabbing of the harmonious order of nature by war, machinery, and chemicals. Early ecological theories focused on natural values and the overall aspects of nature (Wang et al. 2021). The critical form at the end of the 20th century is no longer the early barbaric violent plunder of resources. The developed countries are more inclined to promote their governance ideas through the established hegemonic order, through the use of concealed and soft means such as ideas, theories, technology, and funds. And strengthen the ecological dependence and ecological control of backward areas, and finally create a naked ecological empire. Therefore, the later ecological theories are not only concerned with the integral connection between nature and between humans and nature. They pay more attention to capital and Nature, developed countries’ ecological hegemony control over backward countries, and global unequal ecological exchange cracks are contradictions. It can be seen that enriching and perfecting the critical theory system of ecological imperialism and clarifying the concept, essence, logic, form, and harm of ecological imperialism are not only the contemporary reflection of ecological theory on the form of ecological crisis, but also an inevitable requirement for the development of ecological theory (Krausmann & Langthaler 2019).

Undoubtedly, Crosby Foster’s critical theory of ecological imperialism has great reference value for the construction of China’s ecological civilization and participation in global environmental governance. It is not only the inevitability of the development of ecological theory, but also the inheritance and innovation of Marxist ecological theory and an attempt of Lenin’s theory of imperialism is an important theory that China needs to understand and possess when facing the global environmental situation in the new era (Christmas 2019). First, the critical theory of ecological imperialism can enable China to identify the traps of ecological imperialism when conducting international ecological exchanges and avoid falling into the trap of ecological imperialism. The developed countries that Crosby Foster criticized have used economic and hegemonic advantages to set ecological traps for backward countries, such as the guano and nitrate curse, the oil curse, the foreign garbage trap, the financial and technical assistance trap, and the maintenance of resource security. A series of new forms, such as traps, traps for the implementation of universal
ideas, and so on. Critically absorbing the outstanding achievements of Crosby Foster’s ecological imperialism theory can, to a certain extent, warn China to prevent entering into the unpredictable ecological empire created by developed countries when it reaches ecological cooperation with other countries. Second, Crosby Foster’s critical theory of ecological imperialism also provides a certain reference significance for China in the practice of its attitudes and strategies in facing ecological imperialism. Theory can of course be counterproductive to practice. After recognizing the nature, traps and traps of ecological imperialism, it will help to find the right direction for China to participate in global environmental governance and ecological diplomacy. It must resolutely resist the invasion of ecological imperialism and innovate. Coordinated, green, open, and shared attitudes to contribute to China’s ecological civilization construction plan, instead of taking the unilateral, single-win ecological empire road, but taking the multilateral, win-win, and win-win community of human destiny, with the realization of environmental justice as the requirement, Insist that the destiny of the environment shall be controlled by all countries, the environmental rules shall be written by the public of all countries, the environmental affairs shall be governed by all countries, and the environmental results shall be shared by all countries. Although Crosby Foster’s critical theory of ecological imperialism takes ecological problems as the starting point and attribution point, it has a utopian color and a swinging attitude in the solution path, but it is undeniable that his contemporary exposure to the form of ecological imperialism has an impact on the Chinese ecology. Civilized practice has a certain reference significance.

In recent years, the research on power in social psychology is in the ascendant. However, in recent years, new progress has been made in the field of power, which is mainly reflected in the fact that researchers continue to discover some limitations of the original theory, and at the same time put forward the “social distance theory” to explain the power effect from the perspective of the level of interpretation (Yaremch & Persky 2019). The development of theory is inseparable from the definition of core concepts. Therefore, this article first clarifies the development process of the concept of power, and then introduces and compares the “proximity-inhibition theory”, “situation focus theory” and “social distance theory”, trying to answer the two Questions: (1) From the perspective of theoretical development, what is the foundation of each theory, what is the core content of the focus, what are the advantages and disadvantages of the theory itself, and what are the findings of subsequent research when verifying the theory (Fielder & Kogler 2020); (2) From the perspective of theoretical comparison, what are the differences and connections between the foundations of various theories, and whether the phenomena of concern overlap. From the perspective of social psychology, an analysis of the development trend of Crosby Foster’s ecological imperialism is given (Tsarenko & Tojib 2019).

SUBJECTS AND METHODS

Study setting

Combining the explanatory level theory in the field of social psychology with the power effect, this paper puts forward the “social distance theory” about power. The theory has two principles: (1) People with high power have less interdependent emotions than people with low power. From the perspective of social psychology, this asymmetric dependence will make high-power people perceive greater social distance, so that high-power people have different performance than low-power people. (2) Because people with high power perceive greater social distance than people with low power, people with high power have a higher level of interpretation, their psychological representation is more abstract, and their behavior is also different. The above explains the mechanism of the influence of power on social distance. As shown in Figure 1, social distance is affected by the dependence of both parties, which is determined by motivation and expectation. According to the “power-control model” high-powered people have control of resources and do not need to rely on low-powered people, so they have lower motivation to establish relationships with low-powered people, and they tend to think that others have a purpose for establishing relationships with themselves (Park 2020). The superposition of the two effects makes the high-powered people have greater social distance than the low-powered people. Low-powered people need to rely on the resources of high-powered people and are more willing to establish connections with high-powered people, but they can feel the alienated attitude of high-powered people, so they don’t have much expectations for the establishment of relationships. Combining the effects of the two aspects, the social distance perceived by low-powered people is smaller than that of high-powered people, and greater than that of individuals in an equal relationship (Kwon 2020).

![Figure 1: The social distance theory of power.](image_url)
The two principles of the “social distance theory” have received more support. Studies have found that high-powered people do prefer to act alone, maintain a greater social distance from others, and pay more attention to the value of the goal (that is, desire, corresponding to a high level of interpretation.) Rather than how to achieve the goal (that is, feasibility, corresponding to a low level of interpretation), use more abstract language when describing events. At the same time, the theory predicts the power effect based on rich empirical research. On the one hand, power will produce a series of effects by increasing social distance. For example, people with high power pay more attention to differences in social comparison and are less likely to be influenced by others (Safin & Rachlin 2020). On the other hand, power will promote target selection and target activation by increasing the level of interpretation, and produce a series of effects, such as making the individual’s attitude more determined, more self-controlling, able to choose the way of perceiving others according to the goal. Although “social “Distance theory” has the above advantages, but it is not perfect. First of all, Principle 1 does not fully explain the mechanism by which power increases social distance. In addition to the asymmetric dependence between high and low power people, there may be other mechanisms, such as Studies have found that high-powered people think that others’ gifts for themselves are purposeful, so they show less trust, gratitude and return. This secularized attribution method may also increase the social distance between high-powered people and others. In addition, the theory does not include the influence of the level of interpretation on the sense of power. Research has found that abstract thinking can increase the sense of power and control, and make individuals prefer high-power roles. It will increase the social distance and the sense of power, which is not reflected in the theory (Yan & Chen 2020).

**Design**

From the theoretical basis (see Table 1), the “proximity-inhibition theory” in social psychology connects the performance of high and low power people with the approach and inhibition system of behavior, from cognition, emotion, and behavior. It provides important ideas for follow-up research. The “situational focus theory” in the field of social psychology does not simply divide the influence of power into two categories: proximity and inhibition, but explains the influence of power from the perspective of cognitive processing. Power improves cognitive regulation ability, promotes the flexibility and selectivity of cognitive processing, and increases individuals’ behavior consistent with the situation. In this process, they approach the system (process information related to the situation) and inhibit the system (inhibit information that is not related to the situation). At the same time play a role. This theory reconciles the contradiction of the “proximity-inhibition theory” mentioned above, that is, high power only activates the “behavior proximity system”, while low power only activates the “behavior inhibition system”.

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“Social distance theory” is rooted in the theory of explanatory level, introducing social distance and explanatory level as intermediary variables to explain and predict the effect of power, providing a new perspective to understand the effect of power. The abstract thinking and unconscious thinking of high-powered people can be explained by “social distance theory” (Kingshott et al. 2019, Zhang 2021).

The three theories introduced in this article explain the effects of power from the microscopic perspectives such as cognition and context, but the macroscopic culture will also affect the effects of power. The study found that individuals under different cultures have different understandings of power, and this difference in understanding will further affect the individual’s information processing. The macro cultural background does affect the effect of power, but the role of culture is still unclear. For example, the vertical collectivist culture has both individualized power and socialized power. Why does this phenomenon occur? Does the new imperialism theory have independent theoretical value? Does it signify that capitalism has entered a new stage? Under what circumstances is one of the types of power understanding more dominant? Will personal characteristics have an impact? These are all issues worthy of further discussion.

**RESULTS**

Crosby’s critique of ecological imperialism has its particularity. Geographically speaking, the territories of Asia, Africa and Europe are connected, which is convenient for military stationing, consumes less money, and is more secure; from the perspective of civilization evolution, the civilizations of China, India, and Persia prospered at the same time, with rich products and more It can attract European aggression, but they chose a new world beyond the oceans and full of unknown dangers. In addition to human factors, Crosby also mentioned two
natural aspects: the natural advantages of the New World and the xenophobia in Asia and Africa.

If Crosby is the creator of the critique of ecological imperialism, then John Bellamy Foster, one of the representatives of Western Marxism, is the master. His works extend Marx’s exposure of the greedy nature of capitalism from the political and economic system to the ecological plunder supported by the system, combining the current severe ecological environment with the nature of capitalist plundering, criticizing the capitalist system, and trying to find a solution to the current ecological crisis. Generally, the understanding of ecological imperialism in academic circles is more inclined to this, which refers to a theory and behavior of western developed countries plundering other countries’ ecological resources.

Both are critiques of ecological imperialism, but their critique approaches are quite different. As an expert in the field of geography and history, Crosby focused more on the criticism of imperialism from the perspective of biological invasion, and he analyzed it mainly from the perspective of geography and biology. As one of the supporters of Western Marxism, Foster mainly described the ecological performance of today’s imperialist aggression, but fundamentally criticized the capitalist system behind the predatory behavior. He believes that chasing profits is the essence of capitalism. In order to compete for oil resources in the Middle East, they would not hesitate to launch wars. In order to obtain food, they used very little rent as bait, turning South Asia and Africa into their food production bases and using cheap wages. Renting manpower, in turn, sells them high prices for food. Developed countries take advantage of their status as a major ocean management country, relying on technology and financial support, to take public waters as their own, prohibit retail fishing, and sell them to large multinational companies in order to obtain more benefits. In order to solve the problem of the shortage of freshwater resources, they are trying to redistribute global freshwater resources, but their fundamental purpose is to protect their own water rights and to better control developing countries. Foster insisted that as long as the capitalist system exists for one day, this kind of ecological plunder will not stop, and the earth will never become a paradise for generations to rely on.

**DISCUSSION**

Only by reflecting on the shortcomings of capitalism, will human beings think about their own way out, fight tirelessly, and finally transition to a communist society. And Foster’s ecological imperialism reveals the inevitability of such a system. Since the capitalist system inevitably exists, it is only a matter of time before the imperialist aggression extends to the ecological realm. Only by exposing and criticizing its evil deeds can it arouse Only by public reflection and resistance can we progress to a communist society where man and nature live in harmony. Analyzing the development trend of Crosby Foster’s ecological imperialism, the enlightenment to the construction of China’s ecological civilization mainly includes the following points:

1. **Adhere to socialist ecological thinking and oppose ecological imperialism.** Strengthen environmental publicity and education, and improve people’s ecological awareness. The purpose is to make people realize that nature is the inorganic body of mankind, that the ecological environment is the basis for our survival and development, and the status quo of environmental protection in China, such as the Chinese environment. The effectiveness and deficiencies of protection, the degree of environmental pollution and the determination of environmental governance, the causes of environmental damage and the solutions to crises, etc. Improving the environmental protection awareness of the people is not a day’s work. It is necessary to maintain the attitude of “moisturizing things quietly” and have a subtle impact on the people’s awareness of ecological protection, so that the people will increasingly build an overall and firm awareness of environmental protection for the whole people, and enhance each The crisis awareness of industries, especially those that are susceptible to ecological imperialism, makes China’s ecological civilization construction neither at the conscious level nor at the practical level to allow ecological imperialism to take advantage of it.

2. **Advocating international justice and opposing ecological expansion.** Today, when the ecological crisis is emerging, ecological theorists all over the world have begun to find an effective theory to solve the ecological crisis. They combined Marxism and green thought to try to find a theoretical and practical way to solve the ecological crisis. Starting from Marx’s dialectical view of nature, they advocated the dialectical unity of man and nature, and integrated the ecological theories of different schools into the Marxist view of nature. This kind of absorbing ecological path exploration has temporarily become a positive force against ecological imperialism at the international level. They use ecological conditions as a measure of fairness in various countries, and the capitalist mode of production is the root cause of ecological inequality in all countries. In view of this, profoundly revealing the unequal and unjust nature of capitalist ecological imperialism and awakening the justice and fairness of developed countries and backward countries in the global ecological joint construction are the inherent requirements of China’s major power diplomacy and green development philosophy. The ecological civilization construction path with Chinese characteristics and the socialist harmonious society provide references.

3. **Build a reasonable ecological barrier.** Green barriers mean that developed countries rely on economic, political, technological and other advantages in the field of international trade to protect the lives, health and environmental safety of their people as the slogan, and pass legislation to formulate laws, regulations, conventions, labels, etc., on commodity imports. Implement access restrictions on foreign imports. It is necessary to strengthen the formulation of product inspection standards. It is necessary to actively learn from
and adapt to the advanced international product inspection standards, improve the authority of China’s product inspection standards, and change China’s weak position in international trade. It is necessary to strictly control the total amount of pollution discharge and implement an environmental standard assessment system. Newly-built enterprises must formulate emission and pollution assessments and submit them to the environmental protection department for review and approval. Foreign enterprises must strictly enforce the supervision and supervision of pollutants. The Chinese environmental protection department must enforce the pollution standards of all enterprises with a “zero tolerance” attitude. Put an end to the phenomenon of “walking through the scene” in the review procedures. Set the “ecological threshold” reasonably. The purpose of setting the threshold is not to destroy the ecological environment of backward countries under the banner of protecting the environment of the country, but to restrict some serious pollution and harmful enterprises and prevent such enterprises from harming China. Environmental risks. Fourth, establish green, safe, and stable industrial parks. Regionally concentrated industries are conducive to pollution supervision and unified management. At the same time, polluting industries located near residential areas can be concentrated to remote places to prevent pollution to people’s lives. And health threats.

CONCLUSIONS

As the largest developing country in the world, China has made world-renowned achievements in the construction of ecological civilization and actively assumes the responsibility of global environmental governance. And practice has proved that the path of ecological civilization that China is taking is not an old industrial civilization path that develops first and then governs as Foster said, nor is it a socialist “capitalist path”, let alone a geopolitical one. New road to hegemony. When building an ecological civilization and participating in global governance, China must insist on incorporating the concept of ecological civilization and the construction of ecological civilization into the height of governance, and adhere to green development, rather than as a measure to remedy the economy and consolidate the image of capitalist countries; Practicing multilateralism, being a participant, builder, and leader of global environmental governance, rather than the business leader and rule maker coveted by developed countries, and providing funding, technology, and technology to developing countries at the height of the improvement of the global environment Experience and other support, rather than providing assistance for self-interest as in capitalist countries. China has great ambitions and responsibilities in contributing to global environmental governance. It is believed that with the active cooperation of China, the international community and other countries in the world, it will be able to overcome ecological imperialism and make a strong contribution to the substantial improvement of the world’s environment.

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PRACTICAL PROBLEMS AND IMPROVEMENT STRATEGIES OF ENGLISH VOCABULARY TEACHING FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

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SUMMARY

Background: The purpose of this study is to optimize English teaching and improve teachers’ English teaching level and students’ English vocabulary learning efficiency. Therefore, from the perspective of educational psychology, this paper explores the practical problems and improvement strategies of English vocabulary teaching, investigates and analyzes the current situation of English vocabulary teaching, and puts forward corresponding improvement strategies and suggestions.

Subjects and methods: In this study, on the basis of studying the relevant theories of English lexicology, linguistics and educational psychology, a questionnaire survey on English vocabulary teaching was conducted among 193 English teachers in the head teacher training class and educational technology ability training class. This paper analyzes and summarizes the main problems existing in English vocabulary teaching, and puts forward corresponding improvement strategies for the main problems existing in English vocabulary teaching.

Results: By means of questionnaire and interview, this paper investigates and analyzes the current situation of English vocabulary teaching, and obtains that the main problems and difficulties of English Vocabulary Teaching in practice are: Teachers are dependent on the use of teaching materials and lack of innovation; The way teachers explain vocabulary is not scientific; It is difficult for teachers to apply the awareness of guiding students’ vocabulary strategies to teaching practice; Vocabulary teaching methods and evaluation methods are inconsistent, which can’t form effective feedback on vocabulary teaching; Students lack interest in vocabulary learning. In view of the problems existing in the current English vocabulary teaching practice, this paper puts forward the improvement strategies as follows: Be good at discovering the problems in the teaching materials and use the teaching materials creatively; Explain, grade and deal with vocabulary scientifically; Guide and cultivate students’ vocabulary strategies in practice; Vocabulary evaluation should be consistent with vocabulary teaching methods to form effective feedback; Try to cultivate student’ interest in vocabulary learning.

Conclusions: This paper explores the practical problems and improvement strategies of English vocabulary teaching from the perspective of educational psychology, and puts forward the corresponding improvement teaching strategies for some problems that need to be solved in English vocabulary teaching. Ensure the effect of teachers’ vocabulary teaching and students’ vocabulary learning, improve the level of teachers’ English teaching and students’ English vocabulary learning efficiency, and provide a certain reference value for the optimization of English teaching.

Key words: educational psychology - English vocabulary - teaching practice problems - teaching improvement strategies

INTRODUCTION

Educational psychology is the product of the combination of psychology and education (Menz et al. 2020). Since ancient times, education has been an eternal social phenomenon (Matthews & López 2020). Since the beginning of human society, there has been education for the purpose of imparting human knowledge and experience, improving human living standards and human nature (Taft et al. 2020). Psychology is the study of human psychological phenomena and the combination of psychology and education. In psychology, individual psychology is generally divided into psychological process and personality psychology. Psychological process refers to people’s psychological activity process, which is divided into cognitive process, emotional process and will process (Reyes et al. 2021). Cognitive process is the reflection process of human brain on the phenomenon and essence of objective things when people contact external things. Emotional process is that people have more or less subjective attitude and experience of various objective things in the process of understanding things. Will process is a psychological process in which people overcome various difficulties to achieve their goals. They are different and interrelated psychological processes, so we should study people’s psychological process in pedagogy. They are a unified and connected whole, and the teaching process is also closely related to the psychological process. The psychological process is common to all people, but everyone has different innate qualities, different environment, social living conditions and educational conditions, so everyone shows different psychological characteristics, which constitutes people’s personality differences, that is, personality psychology. Personality psychology mainly includes personality tendency and personality characteristics (An & Han 2020). Personality tendency is a person’s conscious tendency, including psychological components such as needs, motivation, interest, ideal and world outlook (Bossio et al. 2021). Personality characteristics are essential and stable psychological characteristics, including ability, temperament, personality and so on. Educational