

# Analysis of the Deviation of Local Government Public Policy Implementation and its Correction Exploration

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## Abstract

As one of the most direct means of realizing public policy objectives and effectively solving existing social and public problems, the implementation of public policy is important in the whole process of policy accomplishment. However, in the process of implementing public policies in real life, the deviation of public policy implementation is unavoidable, which greatly affects the realization of the actual utility of public policies. Therefore, how to control and prevent the deviation of public policy implementation is of great significance to the implementation of public policy nowadays.

## Keywords

Local government; public policy; implementation deviation; correction.

## 1. Introduction

Public policy implementation, as an important part of public management activities, is an important method for realizing policy goals, solving real policy problems and accomplishing the authoritative distribution of social public resources. In reality, the implementation of public policy will be affected by various influencing factors in the process, so the implementation bias is easy to appear in all aspects which also causes difficulties in achieving the expected goals when the policy is formulated. Therefore, it is very important to understand the forms and causes of deviations in the implementation of public policies, which can greatly help to realize the goals of public policies.

## 2. Related conceptual interpretations

### 2.1. Public policy

After combining the views of Chinese and Western scholars, Chen Zhenming and Chen Binghui agreed that public policy refers to the guidelines formulated by political parties, governmental organizations or other organizations with social public power to regulate all social relations and social life in order to achieve the political, economic and cultural goals within a certain period of time. So that the policy is transformed from an abstract concept into a concrete and realistic effect. In effect, it emphasizes the specific aspects of the implementation of public policy, while at the same time demonstrating that policy implementation is not merely a static process of achieving objectives.

### 2.2. Public policy implementation

The meaning of the implementation of public policy refers specifically to the implementation of the main body of the policy in order to achieve the objectives set out in the effective range of public policy, the process contains a clear and precise knowledge and recognition, so as to carry out the effective allocation of existing resources existing policy resources, as well as the use of which will be used to transform the objectives of the public policy into the reality of the behavior, in order to be able to achieve the public interest of the community as a whole process.

### 2.3. Biases in the implementation of public policies

The deviation in the implementation of public policy means that, because of the existence of a variety of mutual constraints in reality, the subject of public policy implementation uses certain methods to influence or even impede the normal conduct of the policy during the implementation stage of the prescribed process, so that there is a discrepancy between the real results of policy implementation and its initially formulated objectives, or even a certain degree of negative impact. The phenomenon has also been characterized by some scholars as policy implementation blockage, policy implementation variation, and poor implementation. Some scholars have also characterized this phenomenon as policy implementation blockage, policy implementation variation, poor implementation and so on. Although there are differences in the definitions, there are actually similarities in their connotations. The implementation of public policy, Generally speaking, the deviation in the implementation of public policies refers to the fact that, in the actual implementation of policies, they are affected by the inter play of subjective and objective factors. The result of various types of behavior by the subjects of implementation that deviate little from the original intent of the policy, or even go completely against the intent of the policy.

## 3. Manifestations of bias in the implementation of public policies

In the process of policy implementation, the implementation of a policy depends to a large extent on the specific implementation of the subject of implementation, If, for example, a public policy is linked to a person's personal interests, the individual concerned with its implementation may act in the public or personal interest and take unauthorized action to change the implementation of the policy, thus preventing the policy from being actively implemented in the manner in which it was intended to be implemented. The bias in the implementation of public policies is a phenomenon that we tend to see in the process of policy implementation. Deviation in the implementation of public policies is a phenomenon that we tend to see in the process of policy implementation and it is even more easily detected in the implementation of policies at the grass roots level of government, where it takes the form of mechanical implementation, selective implementation, symbolic implementation and self-imposed additions to the implementation of policies, resulting in the implementation of policies that are less than optimal.

### 3.1. Selective implementation

In the process of accepting and digesting a policy and in the implementation of a specific policy, there is often a policy filtering step. In this process, the main body of implementation at the grass-roots level of government is prone to adopt a selective implementation policy because of the gap in understanding and acceptance of the ideas and deeper connotations of the policies introduced by the higher levels. In addition in the process of implementing the policies of the higher authorities, they may choose to ignore some of the ideas contained in the policies and to implement them only because of the limitations of their individual perspectives and private interests. Selective implementation refers to the subjective choice of the subject of policy implementation on the content of the policy to be implemented, for example, to implement only the part of the policy that is favorable to them or relevant to their interests, and not to implement the part of the policy that is unfavorable to them. This is a reflection of their failure to fully understand and implement the content, ideas and objectives of the policy. This form of implementation bias is more likely to reveal the discretionary character embedded in policy practice, whereby selective behaviour in the implementation of public policy, motivated by a mode of action of exploitation and maximization of benefits, can cause the implementation of public policy to lose its authority and take on a discretionary character.

### 3.2. Symbolic implementation

Symbolic implementation refers to the superficial implementation of policies, i.e., in the implementation phase of a policy, the implementing body fails to take any meaningful action but stagnates only in the area of education and publicity, and the policy has not been given any concrete operation from the beginning to the end. Symbolic implementation means that the public policy remains in oral or written form. Symbolic implementation means that public policies remain only in oral or written form, and while the executing entity may pretend to be serious about fulfilling the policy, the implementation of the policy is actually very perfunctory, resulting in a situation in which not only is the original design of the policy objective not achieved, but there is also the probability of bringing about a certain degree of negative impacts.

### 3.3. Mechanical implementation

Mechanical implementation is manifested in the fact that in the process of implementing public policies, the main body of implementation carries out specific actions in full accordance with the policy requirements, and lacks the ability to implement the policy with a little creativity in accordance with the actual situation in each region. Although the policies issued by the state are based on social problems that are common to many regions and have a universal character. In reality, there are a wide variety of differences between regions. Therefore, in the process of implementing the policies in the regions, the executing body should consider the actual situation of the region, and should not only pay attention to fulfilling the requirements for the implementation of the policies in a serious manner, but should also have the concept of flexible implementation.

In the process of implementing public policies, local governments may not have fully analyzed and interpreted the policies promulgated by their superiors, resulting in a lack of sufficient understanding of the policies by the staff of the main body of the implementation, and only "copying according to the regulations and provisions propagated by their superiors, which in reality lacks flexibility and adaptability, resulting in a mechanical implementation. In reality, there is a lack of flexibility and adaptability, resulting in mechanical implementation. At the same time, the civilian personnel at the grass-roots level have no incentive mechanism to stimulate their work in the process of implementation, so they are less motivated and choose to implement the policy in a rigid way, which leads to the deviation of the policy implementation goal from the original policy goal and the gap between the actual effect of the whole policy implementation.

### 3.4. Additional implementation

In all aspects of the implementation of public policy, the main body of policy implementation, in order to maximize its own interests, will continue to expand its policy under the pretext of maintaining the flexibility of the policy, and will also attach itself to some of its own advantageous content. What cannot be ignored is that these additional contents have, to a certain extent, formed an obstacle to the actual implementation of the original objectives of the policy itself, only that the additional contents may not be easily detected by other people because they are related to the policy itself, but in fact, this kind of behavior of the policy implementers out of self-interest considerations will cause certain harm to the public interest.

## 4. Reasons for deviations in the implementation of public policies

There are many causes of deviations in the implementation of public policies, but in the final analysis, we can distinguish the causes into subjective and objective dimensions. At the practical level, in-depth observation of the causes and analysis of the factors affecting the ultimate failure of policy implementation, and on the basis of the analysis of how to take action to prevent and correct them, are very important to the formulation and implementation of public policy.

## **4.1. The subjective causes of deviations in the implementation of public policies**

### **4.1.1. The deficiencies in the implementation system and the irrationality of the institutional set-up**

If the public policy itself fails to fulfill the requirements of scientificity, then even if the subject of implementation correctly and fully understands the meaning and spirit of the policy, and rigorously implements the public policy in accordance with the requirements, the public policy will not be able to fulfill the requirements of scientificity. The implementation of public policies will not achieve the desired results, nor will it be able to do so. If certain public policies do not clearly convey instructions and requirements, leaving the executing entity in a state of ambiguity and uncertainty, there is also a risk that the executing entity may be left to its own devices to carry out creative public policy implementation in accordance with its own understanding of the meaning of the policy. This can lead to a process fault resulting from biases in the implementation of reform policies.

### **4.1.2. The implementation of the main body of incorrect concepts awareness needs to be improved**

After the introduction of a public policy, the first step in turning it into reality is for the executing body to interpret and internalize the content of the policy. Because only when the executing body has a correct and full understanding of the policy to be implemented, they will be able to carry out the implementation of public policy relatively more accurately. In the process of implementing policies at the grassroots government level, there are cases where the implementation subjects do not have sufficient knowledge of the contents of the policies and lack a deep grasp of the spirit of the policies, which results in the failure of good policies to achieve the desired results. In essence, this reflects the limited knowledge, lack of specialized knowledge and experience of public officials at the grass-roots level.

## **4.2. Objective causes of deviations in the implementation of public policies**

### **4.2.1. The changing environment for the implementation of public policies**

The implementation of policies is made considerably more difficult by the fact that the environments in which they are implemented are at the same time complex, diverse and full of differences. Most notably, there is a difference between the environment in which policies are formulated and the environment in which they are implemented, and sometimes the difference between the two is significant. Even when public policies are formulated in anticipation of situations and changes that may occur in the environment in which they are to be implemented, it is not possible to achieve depth and breadth in time and space. The implementation of policies. In the process of policy implementation, a variety of new situations and problems arise in the environment in which policies are implemented, threatening the smooth running of policy implementation.

### **4.2.2. Lack of corresponding public policy resources**

Policy resources mainly refer to funding, human resources, information and authoritative resources. Necessary funding is the material basis for policy implementation; as for human resources, there is still a shortage of good and high-quality civil servants; and open channels and sources of information are essential for effective policy implementation. The current set-up of governmental institutions in China is not rational, not standardized and not coordinated. The irrationality of the current setup of governmental institutions in China, the lack of standardization and coordination in their operation, the lack of information channels and the lack of information sources for policy implementers have made it impossible for the main body of policy implementation to create practical and feasible plans, or to carry out timely control in the implementation process.

## 5. Corrective measures for deviations in the implementation of public policies

### 5.1.1. Promoting the comprehensive and integrated literacy of the subjects of public policy implementation

The importance of public officials in the implementation of public policies throughout the entire process of implementation of public policies, as they have a direct impact on the results of the implementation of the policies by correctly interpreting the basic content of the policies and acting in strict compliance with the procedures set out in laws and regulations, among others. First, training activities and regular learning exchanges can be organized to equip the main body of public policy implementation staff with basic operational capabilities and qualities, and at the same time, help public officials to interpret public policy more accurately. Secondly, to strengthen the awareness of the main body and responsibility of the staff of public policy implementation, so that they realize that the implementation of public policy without deviation is of great significance to the development of the whole society; to point out their position in the implementation of the whole policy; and in this way to encourage them to join in the implementation of the policy on their own initiative and voluntarily to promote the development of public policy for the development of the society to play the role of the goal expected of them. The implementation of public policy is a matter of responsibility and mission. When the subjects of public policy implementation have a sense of responsibility and a sense of mission, they will be able to understand the real value of their implementation work in addition, it is important to enhance the ability of public policy executives to control the policy as a whole and help them to have a higher level of awareness of the policy. Proactively explore the ideological implications and use them to promote the scientific implementation of policies.

### 5.1.2. Optimization of the system for monitoring the implementation of public policies

A relatively rational system of monitoring is indispensable if the implementation of public policies is to achieve the results intended by its objectives, i.e., if public policies are to be implemented and enforced effectively in practice. As the administrative scientist Elinor Ostrom has said: "In every group there are people who act opportunistically whenever possible without regard to moral norms, and there are also people who violate norms and their." From this, we can know the importance of having a trustworthiness perfect supervision system. First, to strengthen the effective supervision of citizens, In the case of citizens awareness of supervision has an increasingly important awakening, citizens position in the supervision system. But in fact, the current citizens do not have a strong enough sense of supervision and capacity, the lack of open channels of supervision about the problem. Second, the coordination of the relationship between the various subjects of supervision, In all aspects of policy implementation, there may be a gap in effective communication and coordination between functional departments, which may lead to a chaotic situation of multiple administrations and shirking of responsibilities. Therefore, it is necessary to insist on the will of each subject to firmly maintain the goal and to unify actions and thoughts, so as to improve the efficiency of supervision and reduce the waste of unnecessary resources.

### 5.1.3. Improving the environment for the implementation of public policies

Since the entire process of public policy implementation is influenced by the realities of the environment, the establishment of a scientific and rational administrative system is a fundamental requirement for the implementation of public policy. The purpose of this is to better manage the relationships within the policy and with other sectors and organizations in order to make it work in a coordinated manner. The aim is to strengthen the flexibility of policy implementation, thereby creating a scientific and efficient administrative system through reforms. In solving the problem of selective implementation of public policies, the construction

of the rule of law in policy implementation should be strengthened, supported by information on laws and regulations, and the rule of law in policy implementation should be promoted, so as to improve the environment for the implementation of reform policies.

## 6. Concluding

The introduction of public policy in order to cope with modern society and people's livelihood issues, but in fact in the implementation of public policy can not be avoided in the implementation of some of the expected goal does not match the deviation, whether it is man-made or non-man-made. No matter for what reason the deviation, they will have an impact on the implementation of public policy on the final effect of the implementation of the implementation of the results of the implementation of the expected goal does not match the appearance of the big difference. The results of implementation are not in line with the expected goals or are even very different from them. Therefore, we need to explore and analyze the real reasons for deviations in the implementation of public policies, so that we can find corresponding countermeasures. We should keep looking for efficient ways to correct the deviation of public policies, so as to help our public policies to achieve the most ideal results in the end.

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