

Liberty, Security, and Subsidiarity: A Semantic Analysis of Justification Logics for the German Social State

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This paper aims to clarify the basic concepts surrounding the historical development of the German welfare state (*Sozialstaat*) from the perspective of semantic analysis, a method employed in the field of the sociology of knowledge.

The central idea of the *Sozialstaat* is the principle of “subsidiarity,” which is the political obligation for a government to intervene in small communities only if those communities lose autonomous capacity. Although previous studies have examined the origin of “subsidiarity,” they have tended to reduce the understanding of its emergence to the rise and effects of German social Catholicism since an encyclical in 1891 (*Rerum novarum*), and overlook the semantic premises shared by multiple sociopolitical actors despite their differing perspectives and contexts.

This paper traces how “subsidiarity” was generated via the legalization of German social insurance through debates about social problems (poverty and bad conditions for factory workers), spurred on by social activists and politicians from the 1850s to 1880s. Starting in the 1860s, particularly in Prussia, the necessity to promote the corrective autonomy of workers was executed through the legalization process. This necessity went beyond antagonism toward solutions to the problems and was caught between the liberal concept of self-help (*Selbsthilfe*) and the conservative notion of state assistance (*Staatshilfe*). Thus, the concept of subsidiarity was oriented not only in relation to the concerns of German social Catholicism but also in relation to the legalization process under diverse opposing forces, which had developed earlier than German social Catholicism.

The Institutional Order of the Boom in *Kentei* Examinations: Self-Reference Based on “Linked Examinations”

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Examinations are the most popular ways to evaluate that connect an individual's ability to her or his social or economic status. Particularly in Japan, examinations often are so competitive and difficult that people use negative terms for them, such as “Examination Hell.” On the other hand, during the boom in *kentei* examinations (*kentei* boom) in the late 2000s, *kentei* did not necessarily provide opportunities to improve status and examinees treated it like a form of entertainment.

However, *kentei* did not become a form of entertainment; it still had characteristics of objective evaluations. This paper aims to clarify the ways that the validity of evaluation remains in the *kentei* boom by describing its institutional order. This paper uses the idea of “Linked Examinations,” which focuses on self-references based on linkages among examinations.

Each *kentei* usually consists of several grades, such as “Grade 1,” “Grade 2,” and so on. Although each grade primarily indicates a relative level of proficiency in a specific area of knowledge or skill, some people assume that grades with the same number indicate the same level. Through this cognitive linkage, people can assess the extent of proficiency by imagining generalized criteria without referring to the original criteria established in each *kentei*.

The Petition Movement against the Wartime Fiscal Policy in Britain in the Middle of the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars (1799 ~ 1806)

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The focus of this paper is on the fiscal petition movement that was developed in Britain in the middle of the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars from 1799 to 1806, in order to express people's dissatisfaction with wartime tax increase. With the occurrence of the government bond crisis in 1797 and the subsequent introduction of wartime income tax in 1799, the country's major warfare procurement measures were converted from national bond issuance to wartime tax hikes, so the citizens came to directly experience the overwhelming burden of war cost through heavy taxation. In response to this change, the fiscal petition movement that rebounded against the wartime tax increase was actively developed, mainly by the upper middle class. However, in contrast to that, with the further increase in taxes year after year as the battlefield expanded, the complaints of taxpayers are thought to have gradually but steadily accumulated. By focusing on the process of the taxpayers' accumulation of dissatisfaction with wartime tax increase, rather than on the process of the tax collector's success in procuring enormous war expenditure like in previous studies, the author explores the cause of the intense tax reduction request that occurred directly after the war in 1816.