



Research Article

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## Analysis on sustainable development of handicapped sports from Chinese characterized view of harmony

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### ABSTRACT

*China's handicapped sports rights protection requires to be studied from different layers and from the perspective of sustainable development. In order to obtain a further insight into the handicapped sport this field. After the study, we should predict the future development of the handicapped sports and offer the regarding constructive proposals and countermeasures, so that we can promote the further development of the handicapped sport in China.*

**Keywords:** sustainable development; handicapped sports; protection; harmonious society

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### INTRODUCTION

With the rapid development of China's sports undertaking, Chinese handicapped sports have made dramatic progress. At the same time of our athletes winning medals in international sport events, gaining respects from every corner of the planet for our country, and attracting attention worldwide for their great perseverance, there are some issues in the handicapped sports that have become a new focus in our society, i.e. the issue of having no enough protection for the rights of disabled athletes who only become visible after winning honor for our country. Issues like this is commonly due to the regional difference in the weight attached to the contribution of the disabled. Therefore, we should, from the angle of sustainable development, pay more specific regard to the disabled and explore more about their self-development and other aspects regarding the current right protection problems. This paper dedicates some proposals as theoretical references to the development of china's handicapped sports, in the hope that handicapped sports can be further improved with the notion of sustainable development.

## 2. STATUS QUO AND PROBLEMS OF CHINA'S HANDICAPPED SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

### 2.1 economy as priority

2.1.1 Our country should bring in new legislations to safeguard the development of the handicapped sports. In some senses, handicapped sport is an important component of the China's entire sports undertaking. From the legislation of the Disabled People Protection Law of People's Republic of China, Sports Law of People's Republic of China, Guideline of the National Fitness Program and a series of other regarding laws, we can perceive our country's encouragement and helps for the handicapped sports. We can also sense unstinting supports by our country for the handicapped sports, from the successfully-held Beijing Paralympics in 2008. Since then, China's handicapped sports have witnessed a fast development. More laws and regulations coming into effect, China's handicapped sports have been, to an extent, improved and expanded into a bigger business with the protection of the law.

2.1.2 Outstanding performance makes handicapped sport events gain wide regard. From stricter senses, handicapped competitive sport is an indispensable branch of China's sports undertaking and it is also a showcase for a country's economic and political power. Despite the fact that China's handicapped sports cause started late, it has since witnessed a comparatively rapid development and gained advantages in a number of sports events, which help China's handicapped sports keep growing at a steady rate. In 2004 Athens Olympics and 2008 Beijing Olympics, Chinese disabled athletes scores more medals than any other countries did.

2.2. Slower development of mass sports for the disabled

2.2.1 The percentage of the disabled joining in sports events is low. The popularity of China's handicapped sports, reaching only to 21.9%, is relatively low, compared to that of the normal sports which is 73%. In the backward countryside, it even lowers to 6.5%. There is a major gap between this statistics and the one, published in 1994, in which the percentage of those participating in sports events is said to be 31.4%. In developed countries, as such America and Japan, the disabled taking part in the handicapped sports events respectively comprised of 36% and 30%, while in China, by comparison, the percentage is 3 times lower.

Table 1 Distribution of type of disability species

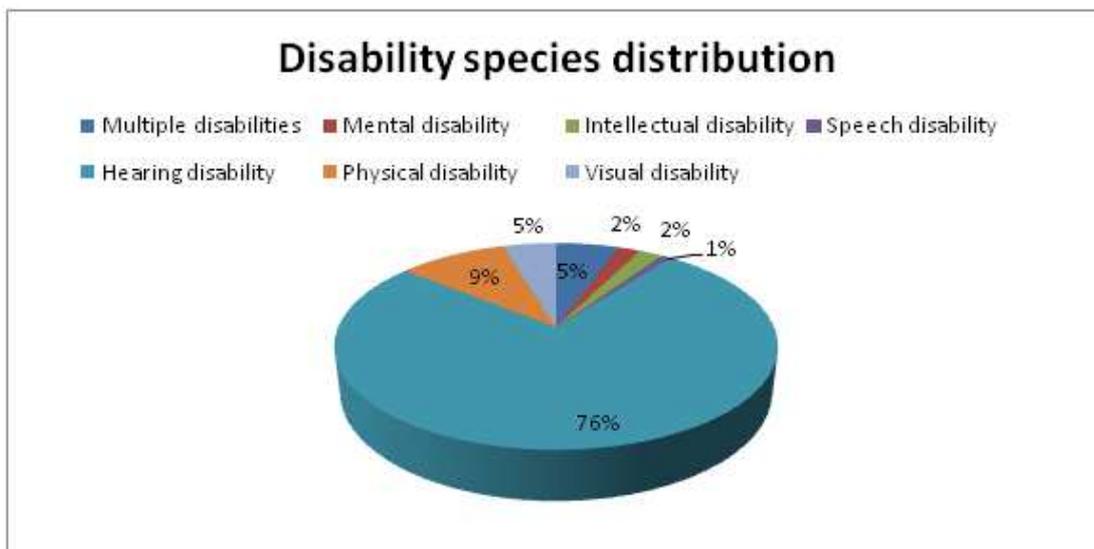
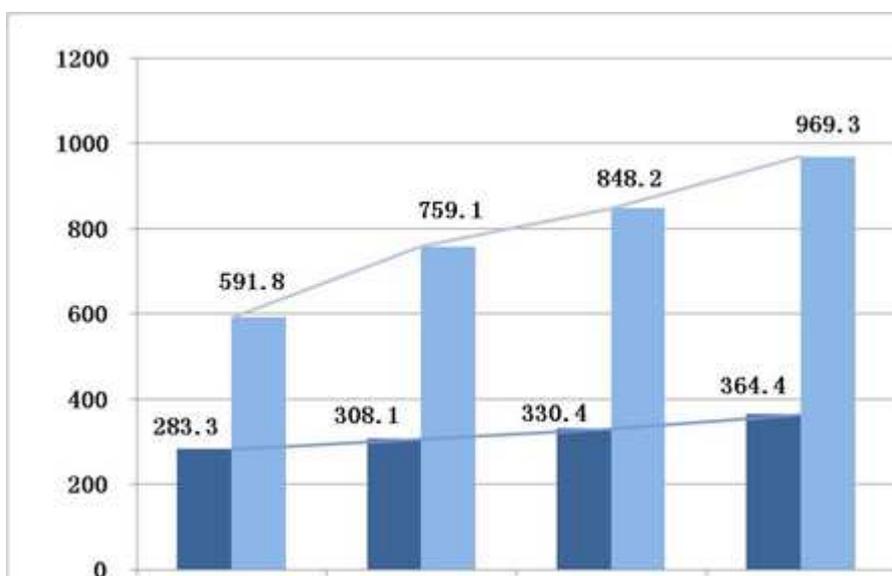


Table 2 Disabled interests of urban and rural areas has been implemented changes from 2006-2009.(Unit:10,000 people)

City ■ Country



2.2.2 Society has paid more regard to the handicapped sports.

Although our society has paid more regard to the handicapped sports, the conventional ideas towards this kind of sports events hasn't undergone a full change. Chinese disabled athletes have enjoyed enormous success in 2008, helping themselves gained considerable attention at the time while showing Chinese athletic levels in the disabled competitive sports events. At the same time, the success has also created a favorable atmosphere in our society that promotes the aid to the disabled, which has since restored many disabled people's spirits and helps them to return their favor back to the society. At present, however, the handicapped sports event doesn't receive enough attention that it deserves, because of its limited audience; the number of companies willing to sponsor the handicapped events

over a long period is scarce. From this, we can perceive that people's attitude towards the handicapped sports hasn't changed much.

### 2.3 Disadvantaged starting point for the disabled school

Handicapped sports schools haven't received enough national regard and are usually lacking in a well-constructed curriculum setting system. Without a specific set of education goals and subjects, some areas then attach less attention to the handicapped sports. Moreover, education finance is a problem that concerns some handicapped schools and it has caused the lack of maintenance of the school facility and the incapability for those schools to realize some of their most innovative ideas. Besides, those schools are usually incapable of improving students' constitution and enhancing their training, and thus impede students' physical and psychological development.

## 3. PROBLEMS OF CURRENT HANDICAPPED SPORTS PROTECTION

### 3.1 ill foundations of sports rights protection laws and the lack of promotion

Although some laws and regulation, concerning the protection of the handicapped sports rights, have been enacted in our country and their items have offered some actual protection to the rights, they haven't stated clearly what kind of rights handicapped sport athletes shall enjoy and how the regarding laws and regulations will protect them if their rights have been violated. This render the protection of laws to handicapped sports rights ineffective.

We can perceive public's care and attention to handicapped sports from the everyday promotion of the advertisements. However, the promotion lacks intensity and efficiency, sometimes making its audience confused of the theme of it.

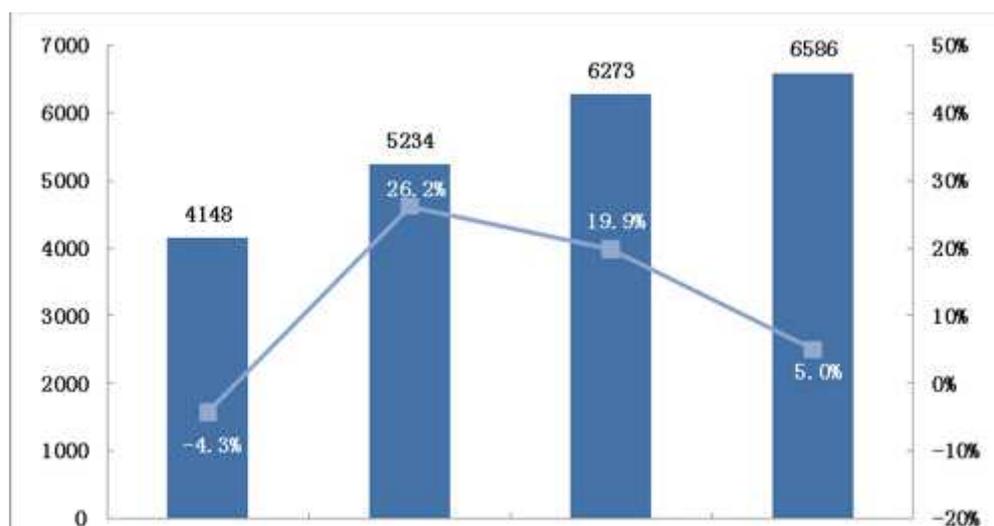
### 3.2 handicapped sports rights laws lack in effectiveness in practice

Although China's handicapped sport laws haven't been fully implemented, relevant sports events have clearly stated that disabled people are entitled to exercise their own rights. In reality, however, relevant laws and regulations cannot be enforced, which usually causes the ignorance towards the disable.

### 3.3 legal consciousnesses of disabled people is weak

Even though our country has attachment more attention to handicapped sports and enacted relevant laws and regulations to protect the disabled's rights, the legal consciousness of the disabled themselves is weak. They know little about using the law as a weapon to protect themselves when their rights are violated, which render some laws and regulation useless. The reasons why their legal consciousness is weak can be concluded into these two: one is the ill promotion by our country in terms of this regard, which prevents the promotion spreading across the masses who by nature, are usually ignorant of the importance of the laws and regulations; the other is country's ill implement of the protection mechanism for the disabled, which make it unable to guarantee the protection of the disabled's rights and maintain effective supervision.

Table 3 Concern about the magnitude of China's government departments conducted on people with disabilities from 2006-2009.  
Unit:people Growth rate :%



## 4. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT MEASURES OF HANDICAPPED SPORTS

### 4.1 exert more effort into promotion of sports rights; increase its popularity

To achieve the sustainable development of the handicapped sports. Our country's administrative departments,

schools and the public should put in the integral efforts. First, our administrative departments should conduct an intense promotion to spread the positive knowledge of the protection of the handicapped sports rights to the public so as to increase the sports rights awareness of the disabled. Our government's executive department should conduct this promotion through the mass media such as the television, newspapers and radio and help the society to learn about the rights of the disabled to joining in the sports events. The key of this lies in the increase of disabled people's awareness of the importance of their sports rights. As long as they are aware of their rights, they can then protect them. Second, through various promotions, the public can then deepen their understandings to the protection of the handicapped sports rights and encourage the disabled to participate into sports events. This also promote the spirit of mutual helping between the disabled and the other members of our society, which echoes with the conventional Chinese morality—to consider helping others as a pleasure. Last, during school's education, educators should channel the thought of helping the disabled to students, help them understand the notion that everyone is equal and help them foster a good habit of constantly helping others.

#### *4.2 specify and perfect legal regulations concerning handicapped sports rights protection*

The sustainable development of the handicapped sports needs the positive effect of the law. Among many social factors, the law plays a vital role in our social life, such as the social development, material condition and the political support. At the same time of enacting the laws, our country should pay more regard to the whole legal system and guarantee the enforcement of the law so as to effectively protect the handicapped sports rights. The establishment of a systematic legal institution that can be applied to our social development is of vital importance because, only then, the disabled can be able to protect their legal rights by law.

#### *4.3 Collaboration of government departments at all levels*

To realize sustainable development of the handicapped sport, it requires the collaboration of many departments. First, every executive department should formulate institutions and plans that suit the local development of the handicapped sports after careful deliberation; second, our government should construct fitness centers for the disabled to enable them exercise in normal times and to increase their fitness level. Besides, school stadium and the public stadium should be opened to the disabled free of charge and people from all walks of life can contribute themselves into the protection of the rights of the disabled.

## CONCLUSION

With the ever increasing of our economic power, our country has pay more regard to the development of the sports, especially the handicapped sports. This can be perceived from the success of Beijing Paralympics in 2008. However, this regard to the sports is decreasing nationwide at the present, with the ill promotion lasting until now. We should study afresh the handicapped sports this regard from the angle of the sustainable development and promote the importance of the handicapped sports to the public before the formulation of any laws and regulations, so that we can increase public awareness to the importance of this kind of sports. Moreover, disable people should learn to protect their legal rights with the weapon of the law, whenever their rights are violated so as to propel the sustainable development of the handicapped sports.

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