行政學報 第二十二期 民國七十九年六月 第一~十二頁 Public Administration No. 22 June 1990, pp. 1-12

「權力與社會」一書的理論建議

陳志華

THE THEORY-BUILDING DIMENSION OF "POWER AND SOCIETY"

Chi-Hua Chen

摘 要

本書,是美國政治行爲主義與起的重要標竿。政治行爲主義者,崇信社會現象可以從事科學的經驗研究,政治現象亦然。惟他們認爲科學理論應建立在經驗論上,而且必須具備嚴格的邏輯結構,故語言的邏輯分析,至爲重要。拉斯威爾與卡布蘭(H.D. Lasswell and A. Kaplan)的此一著作,不僅在政治研究上,概念之澄清與製作,成就卓越,而且提出多項「通則」,無疑地,將政治研究科學化向前推進了一大步。

由於早期法制途徑的政治研究,使用的概念多模糊不清,以致概念所組成的陳述(statement)或命題,意義不夠明確,政治學界與其他學科彼此間,更因缺乏「概念共識」(conceptual consensus)而難以溝通。作者爲糾正過去空泛龐大的巨型概念之語意不清,少系統關聯的偏失,針對「人」、「觀念」與「團體」等「基層」概念,一一努力地界定其意含,尋求相互關係,再進而推演至「影響力」、「權力」等層次諸概念。其務實的態度, 獨如同自然科學家。

在理論建構上,本書採取的途徑,包括:一以權力爲中心概念。作者咸以權力爲整個政治科學最基要的核心,更最需要加以界定。二以人的行爲爲分析單元。政治題材是個人,不是國家;人的行爲遠較國家等概念明確具體。雖然庫克(T.I.Cook)認爲人非木石,難以命題作眞切描述,欲客觀嚴謹地研究,不免侷限時窮,但本書立意佳善。三從運作面研討政治活動。本書旨在爲政治活動找出可以運作解釋的概念,並以運用科學研究的方法。作者深信,先前的邏輯實徵主義(logical positivism)、運作主義(operationalism)與工具主義(instrumentalism)等綜合使用,可使研究工作達到直接觀察。四採取結構功能論和系統論途徑。本書研究權力之均衡與發展過程,同時,更注意維持政治系統均衡的要件,兼及決策考慮的項目與可能的結果。回建構理論性質的通則或定律。以定義來解說重要詞語(概念)。更以命題就定義和說明提出陳述。這些陳述頗具有定律的地位和性質。雖然多係趨勢性陳述,但其間有相當的連結關係,應可各自成爲連結式理論。

雖然有: 一人性及人的行為,以命題加以解釋,不可能達到如照相般客觀眞確; 二本書的各項界定與命題未必有關聯,而社會科學的規範又相當脆弱,政治研究尚無法發展演繹的知識; 三政治研究的範圍,因權力概念的使用與界定而過於寬廣等缺憾,初不影響本書為政治學發展樹立了新里程碑的時代意義。可以說,本書的若干瑕疵,正是政治學極待克服的困難之所在。所謂瑕不掩瑜。本書固提昇了政治研究的科學化,更反映出所應繼續努力的著力點。

ABSTRACT

The Theory-building Dimension of "Power and Society"

The use of empirical research has moved us into a new age; the way we produce and use concepts is changing. This book is one of the important landmarks in the development of political science. It is an outstanding product of political behavioralists. By the way of defining concepts, to find and construct the generalizations, this writing made a great progress for scientific and emprical research in political science. And it provided a considerably extensive background of "conceptual consensus" in improving understanding and associations among different disciplines.

From the small concepts, such as ego, behavior and group, to large ones, the two great writers worked hard and practically. Their orienting concepts—surrounds and concerns power— are different from those of the time before. They imply systematic and empirical meanings.

Though there are several shortages in this study, including the framework of analysis bounded by human nature, the relationships among factors of behaviors different from natural sciences, but they adopted many more or less scientific approaches. These including (—) making "power" as orienting concept, and "behavior" as unit of analysis; (—) inquiring political activities from viewpoint of operationalism; (—) taking the structural-functional and systematic approaches; (—) constructing theory-like generalizations or Laws, some of them are concatenated theories.

書 名:權力與社會

Power and Society: A Framework for Political Inquiry.

作 者:拉斯威爾與卡布蘭

Harold D. Lasswell and Abraham Kaplan

出版時地: New Haven: Yale University Press, 1950.

政治研究,因本書而著重權力的定向,並以行爲事實爲對象。

本書於封面內頁摘錄洛克(John Locke)的一句話:

It is not names that constitute governments, but the use and exercise of those powers that were intended to accompany them.