

Factors Affecting Public Emergency Response Ability: Evidences from Jiuzhaigou Earthquake

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Abstract: Using the data of the Jiuzhaigou Earthquake Information Questionnaire from the Institute of Geophysics, China Earthquake Administration, this study attempts to describe the current situation of the Chinese public's earthquake emergency response capability and analyze the factors affecting the Chinese public's earthquake emergency response capability.

In 2017, an online questionnaire survey conducted in 31 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities in China. The study used the results of the sixth national census to control gender, age, and education. One hundred valid questionnaires in each province, allowing 5% error, and finally obtaining 3111 valid samples.

The dependent variables in this study included emergency preparedness (whether prepared emergency items, emergency manuals, house safety, and whether purchased insurance) and emergency response (whether or not attention was paid to disaster information, whether it was an evacuation site, participation in emergency drills, and volunteer activities).

The independent variables in this study included gender, age, primary place of residence, highest education and annual family income, member of the CPA, work unit and perception of disaster preparedness (PDP). PDP asked the respondents disaster reduction responsibility, is it personally or governments.

The results of the study show that male respondents have better earthquake disaster response capabilities than women; highly educated, high-income respondents have higher emergency response capabilities. Respondents working in government also have better emergency response capabilities than enterprises. Respondents who believe that

disaster reduction is an individual responsibility are more actively prepare disaster reduction than those who think that disaster reduction is an administrative responsibility.

We suggest that policies of earthquake prevention and reduction should pay more attention to women and enterprise employee. Meanwhile focus on distinguishing individual responsibility in disaster reduction and government responsibility for disaster reduction.

Keywords: Jiuzhaigou Earthquake; Public Emergency Response Ability; Affecting factors; Gender; Disaster Reduction; Individual Responsibility; Government Responsibility