EVOLUTION OF SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC DYNAMICS

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Abstract: *This article analyzes demography, social demography, and development trends. The theory of demographic transition and J. Caldwell's concept are deeply analyzed. Reproductive behavior and family relationships are considered central to demography. Among the methodological approaches are statistical, sociological, and historical methods. The article focuses on contemporary demographic problems and the need to manage them.*

Keywords: *Demography, social demography, Caldwell, demographic policy, birth, death, migration, urbanization, family, marriage, divorce, sociology, forecasting*

Аннотация: *В данной статье анализируются демография, социальная демография и тенденции развития. Глубоко проанализированы теория демографического перехода и концепция Дж. Колдуэлла. Репродуктивное поведение и семейные отношения считаются центральными в демографии. Среди методологических подходов - статистический, социологический и исторический методы. В статье основное внимание уделяется современным демографическим проблемам и необходимости их решения.*

Ключевые слова: *Демография, социальная демография, Колдуэлл, демографическая политика, рождение, смерть, миграция, урбанизация, семья, брак, развод, социология, прогнозирование*

Social demography is a scientific discipline that forms at the intersection of sociology and demography, studying the interaction of demographic and social processes. Social demography differs from demography itself in its research aspect: the first studies population growth at the macro level for the entire population or its large groups, the second considers its structure at the micro level. Accordingly, social demography is aimed at studying social norms, demographic relations, demographic behavior, and its factors. This determines the characteristics of the methods used in social demography, among which sociological and socio-psychological research methods (interviews, tests, etc.) occupy an important place [1, p.42].

The population is always in motion, that is, it is considered as a dynamic phenomenon. The factors influencing it - the economic situation, the political environment, cultural traditions, the level of spiritual life, and others - directly shape demographic processes. The science of demography serves to correctly assess population changes by studying these aspects.

The indicator from which the analysis of population and its changes begins is the absolute population, which characterizes the total size of the population, the number of people living in a certain territory at a certain time. The absolute population size is a momentary indicator, that is, it represents a certain point in time. It is obtained as a result of a population census or by calculation based on data on the number of births, deaths, as well as the migration balance (i.e., the difference between the number of arrivals and departures from a certain territory).

The absolute size of the population constantly changes over time. The census records the value of this indicator at a certain time. If there are at least two census data, then it is possible to study changes in the absolute population over a certain period of time. This change, that is, the difference between absolute population values in the final and initial periods, is called absolute population growth (absolute population decline, if the population decreases) [2, p.56].

The further development of demographic knowledge, conditioned by the development of general theoretical science, is characterized by the recognition of the influence of both economic and political factors. The first theories reflecting the connection of demographic processes with socio-economic and socio-political processes belonged to the classical theories of the demographic transition (A. Landry, K. Blecker, W. Thompson, F. Notestein, and others) [3, p.116]. The disadvantage of these theories is that they generalize the experience of Western countries, which makes it impossible to apply them to the analysis of the evolution of demographic processes in developing countries.

According to J. Caldwell's definition, a demographic transition means a decrease in the birth and death rates over the past two centuries from an average high and a very high level to a low level. Demographic transition is presented on the basis of a sequence of stages. Such conclusions are presented in J. Caldwell's research on the diversity of stages of demographic transition.

Until the 1980s, socio-economic and socio-political approaches were used to analyze the main trends of demographic processes. After the 1980s, a humane attitude began to prevail in demography, calling man the highest value of civilization [4, p.9-28]. Accordingly, the further development of the theory of demographic development takes on an interdisciplinary character. The theory of the demographic transition was aimed not only at studying the evolution of demographic processes, identifying general

trends in their emergence, but also at studying the internal mechanism of demographic processes.

In economically developed societies, not the core, but patriarchal family traditions are strong, the costs of raising children can be transferred to less developed countries, not only to parents, but also to other relatives, and children are the property of the family. Their birth and upbringing are manifested not in individual families, but in social groups. J. Caldwell identified three types of societies (primitive, traditional industry) corresponding to two types of economically rational methods of reproduction: in primitive and traditional societies, it is economically advantageous to have a maximum number with the difference between them. An industrialized society implies a small number of children or childlessness. However, this is an extreme situation, and J. Caldwell considered the demographic transition, first of all, not as a result of economic, but as a result of social changes, a product of changes in the family and its superstructures of the environment. J. Caldwell believed that in less developed countries, the transition to young children is possible through the modernization of the patriarchal mode of production (transition to a capitalist regime) and Westernization (adoption of new models of reproductive behavior, lifestyle, values). Individuality, competitiveness, and the ability to rely on one's own strengths - that is, behavioral stereotypes inherent in Western societies - can export it to less developed countries.

In our opinion, there is a certain discrepancy in J.Caldwell's concept of the demographic transition, that is, he recognized the modernization of the mode of production as the main decisive factor in demographic development, while simultaneously allowing the possibility of a demographic transition. For underdeveloped countries, a new mode of reproductive behavior can be "exported" using ideological or propaganda tools.

Thus, as can be seen from the analysis of existing concepts of demographic transition, it is possible to identify objective (changes in the type of society and the corresponding mode of production) and subjective factors determined by them (changes in the value of children in the hierarchy). A decrease in social values or a decrease in the "price" and an increase in the "price" of children) is a change in the ways in which factors increase. The concept classifies the stages of this process, proposes an explanation of its causes, and creates a conceptual basis for its prediction. The general scheme of the demographic transition is based on birth and death rates. The first stage, characteristic of primitive society, is characterized by a high level of mortality and births. The second stage is marked by the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, characterized by the control of mortality and the preservation of the previous birth rate, a decrease in mortality, as a result of which population growth accelerates sharply and a "demographic explosion" occurs.

Then the third stage begins, which is characterized by a decrease in births, a low mortality rate, as a result of which population growth slows down and stops with the end of the demographic transition.

Within the framework of the theory of the demographic transition, various approaches are distinguished:

- socio-economic;
- socio-political;
- socio-psychological;
- socio-territorial.

Among the well-founded demographic theories, the economic approach includes early theories of demographic development, in which demographic processes are considered as one of the variables of the economic process. Analysis of reproductive behavior of the population was carried out only within the framework of the economic approach (children were considered long-term consumer goods), without taking into account such factors as the influence of psychological, educational level, and social infrastructure. However, with the increasing complexity of the social system and the development of theoretical knowledge, the inconsistency of the economic approach in explaining the patterns of demographic processes is clearly manifested.

The modern view of the demographic situation is characteristic of J. Caldwell's concept of the demographic transition, which gives a general idea of the final stage in the development of the theory of the demographic transition. The main idea of this concept is the determinism of the regime of social reproduction of the population, relations formed in the family based on economic interests. Within the framework of this concept, the dominant type of society determines the method of population reproduction, the type of reproductive behavior, and the economic feasibility of children. The advantages of J. Caldwell's concept are that it studies demographic processes not as a universal phenomenon, but in connection with socio-economic, socio-political, socio-psychological processes, and implements an interdisciplinary approach to research [5, p.372]. It is noteworthy that this concept already defines the necessary prerequisites for the homeostatic regulation of demographic processes, the connection between demography and family sociology.

Thus, the science of demography and social demography contributes to the proper management of population growth and the development of society; a comprehensive analysis and theoretical basis of demographic processes clearly demonstrate the complexity of these processes and their social significance.

Various approaches in the theory of demographic transition play an important role in understanding population change, reproductive behavior, and the interaction of demographic processes in connection with economic, political, psychological, and territorial factors of society. Socio-economic and socio-political theories are of

particular importance in the study of bilateral factors, i.e., economic and political influences. However, their shortcomings created difficulties in ensuring their correct interpretation in the context of developing countries.

Also, modern theories, for example, in the concept of J. Caldwell, consider demographic processes as an organic relationship of economic, political, and psychological factors. These models allow for a more accurate understanding of demographic processes, taking into account the specific characteristics of society and its socio-economic situation. The new theory of demographic transition, expressing the analysis of trends and processes inherent in society and the family, paid special attention to the properties of these processes in the global and local context.

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