# Research on the Double Reduction Policy ——Taking Huicheng District of Huizhou City as an Example

# Zihui Dai<sup>1,a,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of International Education, Guangdong University of Technology, Guangzhou, Guangdong province, China, 510006

a. 1727530500@qq.com

\*corresponding author

Abstract: A few years ago, phenomena such as "sky-high school district housing" and "high tutorial fees" continued despite repeated prohibitions. "It is difficult for a poor family to have a successful son" has become an anecdote of ordinary people after dinner. In order to return to educational equity and alleviate academic anxiety, the national "double reduction" policy was issued in July 2021. Through interviews with primary and secondary school students and their families in Huizhou City, this paper aims to understand their feelings about implementing the double reduction policy for one year. This paper uses the methods of literature analysis, case analysis, interview, questionnaire and theoretical analysis. According to the survey, this paper finds that burden reduction is a far-reaching educational revolution for China. It is a long way to go for the whole society, schools, teachers, parents and students.

*Keywords:* Double reduction policy, Organizational behavior, Maslow's hierarchy of needs, Huizhou

#### 1. Introduction

On July 24, 2021, the general office of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and the State Council issued opinions on further reducing the homework burden and after-school training burden of students in the stage of compulsory education [1]. The content focuses on "double reduction": first, reduce the amount of homework in the school and reduce the burden on students; Second, reduce the burden of after-school training and strictly govern training institutions. In order to reduce the burden of students' homework and after-school training in the stage of compulsory education, our country launched the "double reduction" policy in July 2021. 2022 is the key year for the implementation of the "double reduction". The "double reduction" policy has a huge impact on society. For example, under the influence of this policy, the stock price of New Oriental, a famous extracurricular training institution, fell to the bottom overnight [2]. Besides, many college students also lost the opportunity of part-time tutoring after class. At present, research on how to understand the national double reduction policy from the perspective of economy and policy is relatively rare. Reducing the burden is a far-reaching educational revolution for our country. It is a long way to go for the whole society, schools, parents and students. Therefore, this article from the following three aspects: a. The reasons for China to actively implement the double reduction policy; b. Use the

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theoretical knowledge of organizational behavior to understand the education reform from the policy and economic aspects; c. The far-reaching impact of this educational reform on China.

This paper used the literature analysis method to consult the relevant literature on the double reduction policy; took the Huicheng District of Huizhou City as Case analysis; designed an electronic questionnaire, and distributed it to the subjects through the network. In addition, this paper also uses face-to-face interviews to obtain first-hand data. Finally, this paper analyzes the survey results based on the theoretical knowledge of organizational behavior. The implementation of the double reduction policy will affect people of different ages and occupations, and it will bring various changes to people's lives. This paper takes Huicheng District of Huizhou City as an example to study the impact of the double reduction policy, which can lead people to think about the double reduction policy in China. It is conducive to continuous improvement and improvement in the future implementation of the double reduction policy. The official implementation of the double reduction policy is not long, and the research on it is not enough. Considering that there are few literatures on the double reduction policy at present, this paper, taking Huizhou as a specific city, can provide some reference for scholars studying educational reform and organizational behavior from the perspective of policy, economy and organizational behavior.

## 2. The Interview of Huizhou City Citizens about the Double Reduction Policy

#### 2.1. Face-to-face Interview

In this paper, face-to-face interviews are conducted in Huicheng District, Huizhou City. The interviewees are mainly students in compulsory education and their parents. According to the interviewee results. Most parents and students support the policy, but some parents worry about their inability to tutor their children and their children's lack of self-control. The following is a transcript of the interview process and results.

- a. Parent: Haoran's mother (35 years old) child: Haoran (7 years old)
- Q: Do you understand the "double reduction" policy?

Haoran's mother: Basic understanding. In short, it means reducing the burden inside and outside the school. Homework school is completed, the examination is no longer ranked, and attention is paid to quality education.

Q: What do you think of the "double reduction" policy?

Haoran's mother: I support the "double reduction". Children have more spare time. They can participate in more outdoor activities on weekends and get close to nature, which is conducive to the improvement of comprehensive quality, but the requirements for parents have also increased.

**b.** Father: Zhou (42 years old) and child Yu Rong (12 years old)

Q: what do you think of "double reduction"?

Zhou: In the past, when we did our homework together, "the chicken flies and the dog jumps at home". The children didn't go to the training class. We can only hope that the teachers can be more careful in their lectures. After all, parents have limited energy and no time for guidance, so they are a little confused about their children's learning. I still hope that children will continue to participate in after-school tutoring classes.

Child: Yu Rong (12 years old)

Q: How does the implementation of the double reduction policy affect your study and life?

Yu Rong: After the implementation of the policy, I have enough rest time every day, and the learning pressure is indeed reduced. I will spend more time on sports after class.

- c. Mother of Xiaokui (37 years old) and child Xiaokui (6 years old)
- Q: what changes do you think the "double reduction" policy has brought to you?

Mother of Xiaokui: The changes are still great. Before the "double reduction", our child was enrolled in Mathematical Olympiad and composition training courses. But the child doesn't like Mathematical Olympiad, after the implementation of the "double reduction", she changed to art and dancing. It was found that the child especially like painting and drawing well. She is often praised by teachers, especially during the epidemic online class, she can go to online school to draw, and her life has been enriched a lot. Now we consider guiding child to develop in the field of aesthetics in the future. If the "double reduction" is not implemented, we will not find child's expertise in this field, so I support the "double reduction".

**d.** Ms. Liu (35 years old) and child Xiaoxiao (10 years old)

Q: what do you think of the "double reduction" policy?

Ms. Liu: the children are relaxed and the parent-child relationship has improved. However, as parents, they are worried that their children will not learn independently and their consciousness is not high enough. They will distance themselves from other children in the future.

Child: Xiaoxiao (7 years old)

Q: what are your plans for the weekend now?

Xiaoxiao: now I will learn to draw every weekend, and every time the teacher will praise me.

Q: in addition to learning painting, what else can you do?

Xiaoxiao: I also go to a dance class and don't have to go to an Olympic math class anymore.

#### 2.2. Questionnaire Survey

## 2.2.1. Questionnaire Design

Due to the prevention and control of the epidemic situation, the number of face-to-face interviews is limited. The author designed a questionnaire based on the theme of the paper "double reduction". The questionnaire is conducted online. This paper distributed the designed questionnaire through my friend's WeChat circle and forwarded it to some relatives and elders for group chat. Therefore, the survey results cover a wider range. All questions in the questionnaire are in the form of multiple choices questions, which is convenient for respondents to answer and collect data.

# 2.2.2. Sources of Sample Data

As this survey is conducted online, it is distributed through WeChat friends circle forwarding and Baidu forum. The survey covered a wider range of respondents.

## 2.2.3. Content of the Questionnaire Survey

Table 1: Content of the Questionnaire Survey.

Questionnaire survey contents	
Questions	Choices
1. age:	a.10-20 years old b.21-30 years old c.31-40 years old d.41-50 years old e. Over 50 years old
2. Whether heard about the "double reduction" policy:	Yes / No

Table 1: (continued).

3. knowledge of the specific contents of the double reduction policy:	<ul><li>a. Very clear</li><li>b. Basic understanding</li><li>c. Do not understand</li></ul>
4.The implementation of the double reduction policy has affected your life:	<ul> <li>a. Reduced academic pressure in class</li> <li>b. Increase spare time and cultivate interests</li> <li>c. Reduced economic burden</li> <li>d. Increased pressure to coach children to learn</li> <li>e. Lost part-time opportunities for extracurricular tutoring</li> <li>f. No impact</li> </ul>
5. Whether support the double reduction policy:	Yes / No

# 2.2.4. Statistics and Analysis of Questionnaire Survey Data

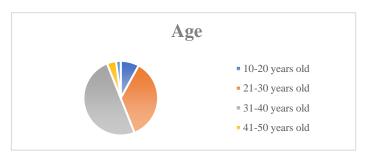


Figure 1: Survey results of the first question.

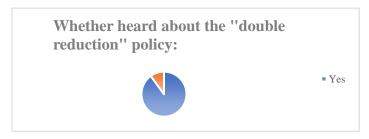


Figure 2: Survey results of the second question.

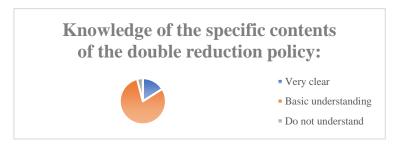


Figure 3: Survey results of the third question.

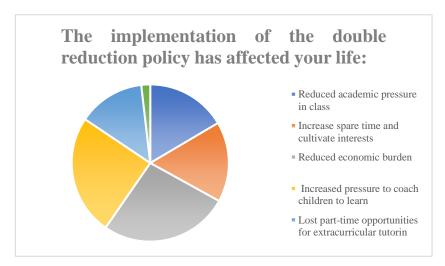


Figure 4: Survey results of the fourth question.

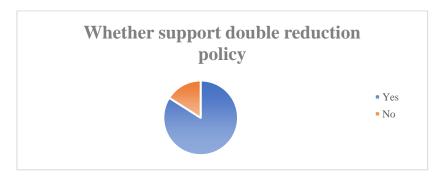


Figure 5: Survey results of the fifth question.

A total of 52 questionnaires were sent out, of which 50 were valid. It can be seen from the survey data that the respondents who filled in the questionnaire were concentrated between the ages of 20 and 40, 45 questionnaires answered that they had heard of "double reduction" policy and accounted for 90% of the total number of respondents. Most people understand the basic contents of the double reduction policy. Among them, 40 questionnaires answered basically, accounting for 80%, 8 questionnaires answered clearly, accounting for 16%, and only 2 did not know, accounting for 4%. The double reduction policy affects most people. The affected people are basically students and parents, and only individuals are not affected. There are 42 questionnaires for middle-aged and elderly people over 50 years old. The respondents supported the double reduction policy, accounting for 84%. It can be seen from the results of the questionnaire that more than 80% of the people understand and support the double reduction policy. The double reduction policy basically has an impact on people of all ages. For children receiving compulsory education, their schoolwork pressure is reduced, their spare time is increased, and they can cultivate interests. For parents who have children receiving compulsory education, their financial burden is reduced, but the pressure of tutoring their children to learn is increased. This is basically consistent with the results of previous face-to-face interviews. In addition, because the questionnaire survey covers a wider range, it can be seen that the impact of the "double reduction" policy on college students is that they lose the opportunity of part-time tutoring after class, The policy of "double reduction" has made teachers in after-school tutoring institutions of primary and secondary schools lose employment opportunities and feel confused about the future.

#### 3. Theoretical Analysis

#### 3.1. Core Issues

At this stage, the core problem facing China's national education is the serious involution phenomenon. The widening gap between the rich and the poor leads to educational inequality and unequal opportunities. At the stage of compulsory education, the education race phenomenon is serious. Many strict parents push their children to attain high levels of academic achievement, seriously overdrawing their children's learning ability and creative ability that the final result is "To Pull the Seedlings to Help Them Grow". The purpose of the "double reduction" policy is to alleviate educational anxiety, ensure educational equity and return education to its essence [3]. The occurrence of each event has its inevitable law, which can be analyzed theoretically with multidisciplinary thinking and according to the framework of their own knowledge.

## 3.2. Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

Maslow believes that the five needs should be like a ladder, rising gradually according to the level. The five levels of Maslow's needs are physiological needs, security needs, belonging and love, respect needs and self-realization [4]. Only when the low-level needs are met can people want to develop high-level needs. The lower the level of need, the stronger its strength and potential.

Before the implementation of the "double reduction" policy, in order to pursue achievement, children in many schools not only deal with a lot of after-school homework every day but also participate in various training courses such as Olympic mathematics, English and composition on weekends. These training courses occupy a lot of rest and entertainment time. As a result, many students have a serious lack of sleep, poor class state, no sports and entertainment time, and unhealthy lifestyles. The most basic physiological needs of students have not been met. If this need is not met, it will not only affect normal learning activities but also easily lead to student's physical and mental diseases[5]. Paying too much attention to examination results will hurt the self-esteem of students with poor results and lose their interest in learning. If students have no desire to learn and lose interest in learning, let alone realize themselves and pursue their dreams.

## **3.3.** Attribution Theory

Attribution theory suggests that when people observe an individual's behavior, they attempt to determine whether it was internally or externally caused [6]. Because of attribution errors and bias, we have a tendency to underestimate the influence of external factors and overestimate the influence of internal or personal factors. From the attribution theory, it can be seen that if a large number of homework and various examinations are carried out every day and the students blindly pursue the test results, the students with poor test results often attribute the failure to their insufficient ability and feel that they will not achieve good results no matter how hard they try, which will lead to negative emotions and weaken their learning motivation.

#### 3.4. Policy and Economic Perspective

## 3.4.1. In Terms of Policy

The implementation of the double reduction policy is understood as the spread of the faith, for example, the belief of the enterprise is the spirit of the enterprise, and personal beliefs represent personal values. The Chinese nation has a long history of thousands of years. The sense of national cognition tells us that our ultimate goal is to realize communism, to equalize the rich and the poor, and to strengthen the foundation of our country [7]. Nowadays, the phenomenon of internal

examination is increasing, the gap between the rich and the poor is widening, the scale of off-campus training institutions is huge, the phenomenon of violations is prominent, and the price of education is clearly marked. It makes rich families compete for send, while poor families are difficult to cultivate a noble son. Rome wasn't built in a day. Therefore, as a far-reaching educational revolution in China, burden reduction has a long way to go for the whole society, schools and parents.

# 3.4.2. In Terms of Economy

The high-quality resources of the school are always limited, and it is impossible to include students at all levels, which is also the reason why there are sky high price school district houses in big cities. People all have the right to study, but we are faced with unequal opportunities, resulting in unequal results [8]. After the implementation of the "double reduction", will "private education" prevail? Due to the high cost of "private education" courses, most working families should not choose. From the above three levels, this is also the root cause of national control.

# 4. Findings and Suggestions

In the face of this far-reaching educational revolution, as training institutions, schools, teachers and parents, how to deal with it:

For training institutions: according to the "double reduction" opinion, discipline training institutions are not allowed to be listed for financing. The listed training institutions can either be delisted or turned into non-profit institutions. They can also consider engaging in adult training, universities for the elderly, and carrying out training in music, physical beauty, piano, chess, calligraphy and painting as a useful supplement to school education.

For schools and teachers: we should expand the high-quality resources of compulsory education, improve online free tutoring learning resources, and make use of big data differentiated management to learn students with spare power or medium grades. Teachers should optimize homework design and assign more oral practical homework. "Schools can set up trusteeship classes in winter and summer vacation." Addition "in" subtraction [9].

For parents: parents should change the wrong concept of blindly pursuing examination results and pay attention to moral cultivation. Zeng Guofan, a famous official in the late Qing Dynasty, not only made outstanding achievements in his life but also his educational philosophy has great reference significance for us. He taught his son that "everyone wants their children to be a senior official. I don't want to be a senior official. I hope to be a gentleman who reads and understands the reason." Under the influence of Zeng Guofan's educational idea, his eldest son became a famous diplomat in the late Qing Dynasty and his second son became a famous mathematician. Therefore, if parents want to become their children's life tutors, they must first cultivate their children to be moral people. Education is not only a matter for schools and teachers, parents should strengthen the correct guidance of their children's all-round development through the combination of "Home + school"[10]. Just as educator Tao Xingzhi put forward that life is education and society is a school, expand the scope of education to every corner of life, break through the fence between society and school, and give full play to the educational function of society. Let children become lifelong learners, problem solvers and healthy life.

**Personal perception:** we are facing the transformation from the information age to the concept age. Apple's success depends not on engineers and programmers, but on good ideas. In the future, computing can be replaced by computers, but creativity cannot. Only by maintaining the ability of continuous learning, creativity and integrating affairs can we adapt to the rapid changes in industry and occupation. Only by maintaining the ability of continuous learning, self-management and self-

growth can we bring forward the driving force of the country. May each of us who is about to enter society live seriously and brilliantly.

#### 5. Conclusion

Through face-to-face interviews and questionnaires, it can be seen that students and parents in the stage of compulsory education are the groups most influenced by the "double reduction" policy. Through interviews, we can better understand the advantages and disadvantages of implementing the "double reduction" policy. In the interview, parents and students of different ages were randomly selected and asked about their views on the "double reduction" policy, life changes and personal feelings after the implementation of the "double drop" policy. Compared with the questionnaire survey, the answers were more specific. The questionnaire is distributed online. Compared with the interview, the scope of the questionnaire is wider. Among the groups surveyed, there are more college students, teachers from the original extracurricular counseling institutions and retired elderly people, and the data obtained are more comprehensive. The result of these two surveys is that most people support the double reduction policy. The double reduction policy is a practical and feasible policy in China. The purpose of the country is very clear, which is to return education to the public welfare attribute and return the main position of education to schools. We should look at this policy rationally from different angles. Affected by the epidemic situation, the samples and locations investigated in this paper are limited. If conditions permit, survey in different cities, so as to expand the number of interviews and survey samples, and draw more representative conclusions.

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