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Cultivating Ethical Leadership Through Legal Thinking: Strategies to Enhance Local Autonomy

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Abstract In order to improve moral leadership, this paper analyzes the impact of local autonomy on leadership from the perspective of cultivating legal thinking. The corresponding data were obtained through the questionnaire, and the influencing factors of moral leadership were determined by response analysis. At the same time, with reference to the relevant domestic literature, several hypotheses are proposed. Whether there is a correlation between the relationship between moral leadership and legal thinking in local autonomy, whether legal thinking reflects public expectations, the influence of legal thinking on local autonomy strategies, and the relationship between public participation, legal thinking, ethical leadership and local autonomy strategies. The results show that the local autonomy strategy can improve moral leadership, and legal thinking can break through the inertial thinking mode and improve moral leadership, with an increase of 10%. In addition, public participation in society can promote the cultivation of legal thinking and strengthen moral leadership. Therefore, the local autonomy strategy can promote the cultivation of legal thinking and indirectly enhance moral leadership.

Keywords: • legal thinking • moral leadership • local self-government • strategy

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1 Introduction

In local self-government, the leadership role is the heart and backbone of the organization. Leadership plays a vital role in the development of an organization, the implementation of policies, and the implementation of its work. Some scholars have pointed out that among the unethical behaviors in local self-management organizations, the leaders are often the informants, and most of these behaviors are completed under the authorization and instructions of the leaders (Abu et al., 2023), which shows that the ethics of organizational behaviors are closely related to the leadership. In local self-government, grass-roots workers are the leading force in realizing local self-government, and they often refer to the moral standards of the leaders in their work and regard them as their code of conduct (Acevedo, 2023). As such, leadership is the central source of these ethical codes and a key source of ethical guidance for staff. Therefore, the study of moral leadership can provide a more thorough understanding of its mechanism and determine whether the enhancement of local autonomy strategies has the role of moral leadership (Akhtar et al., 2023).

At present, there are relatively few studies on legal thinking and moral leadership, which mainly stay at the theoretical level, and lack practical case support, resulting in relatively poor research results. Academic research on moral leadership in local self-government mainly focuses on the philosophical perspective, including the discussion of the concept, dimensions, sources, and construction of leadership, as well as the similarities and differences with other leadership styles. Few scholars have analyzed the relationship between legal thinking, public participation, ethical leadership, and local autonomy strategies from the perspective of enhancing local autonomy (Al et al., 2023). What is the correlation between legal thinking and moral leadership, whether the cultivation of legal thinking should be enhanced to enhance local autonomy, and whether legal thinking reflects public expectations are all topics that need to be explored in this study (Alerahime et al., 2023). The study of this series of questions will contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of the dynamics and influencing factors of moral leadership in local self-government and provide a valuable reference for future research.

Finding an effective method for cultivating moral leadership can better determine the main factors influencing moral leadership, judge the impact of government policies on the cultivation of legal thinking and the relationship between local autonomy strategies and moral leadership. First, the study of moral leadership can contribute to developing leadership theory and provide corresponding support for the enrichment of local leadership theory (Astuti et al., 2023). Leadership theories include leadership style, traits, contingency, and behavior. with the help of empirical analysis, this paper forms a research model on the relationship between moral leadership in local autonomy and legal thinking, whether legal thinking reflects public expectations, and the influence of legal thinking on local autonomy

strategies, which provides a deeper understanding of the research field of ethical leadership.

As a wing of leadership style theory, ethical leadership is closely related to transformational leadership, transactional leadership, and service leadership. Most of these theories are derived from the West, and there is a relative lack of relevant research on Chinese culture. Therefore, the empirical study of moral leadership in this paper not only helps to enrich and develop the theory of leadership but also injects unique "Chinese characteristics" into the context of Chinese culture (Coleman et al., 2023). Second, ethical leadership, as a cutting-edge research topic in the academic field, initially originated in the West and was later introduced to China. Although domestic scholars have begun to study moral leadership (de et al., 2023), their focus is mainly on the concept and dimensions of moral leadership, and there is relatively little investment in empirical research. Therefore, this paper focuses on the role of moral leadership in local autonomy (Demir et al., 2023), draws on domestic and foreign research on moral leadership, and explores the impact of moral leadership on local autonomy through empirical research, which has significant academic value.

2 Characteristics of legal thinking and ethical leadership

2.1 Cultivation of Legal Thinking

Legal thinking is a special way of thinking, the core of which is a way of thinking that analyzes and judges following legal principles and regulations. This way of thinking is often influenced by the legal system and the concept of the rule of law and involves the understanding and application of legal concepts, rules, procedures, and cases(Fatoki et al.,2023).

Legal thinking has its fundamental characteristics. First of all, legal thinking is a method of dealing with the subject (i.e., the owner of legal thinking or decision-maker) to the object (legal issues, cases, norms, etc.), and in this thinking process, legal thinking can use its own knowledge system and way of thinking to understand, analyze and judge legal issues. Secondly, legal thinking pursues in-depth thinking, and the subject strives to reveal the essence of the problem through the observation and analysis of legal problems(Gan et al.,2023). Third, legal thinking is based on legal norms and objective facts, and legal thinking needs to analyze and judge according to legal norms and actual facts when thinking about problems to ensure that its thinking process has a legal basis and actual accuracy. The value of the rule of law guides fourth, legal thinking. That is, it adheres to the authority and binding force of the law, believes that the law is the foundation of social order, and in legal thinking(Hyusein et al.,2023), the concept of the rule of law is the value orientation that leads decision-makers to formulate reasonable legal solutions. The ultimate purpose of legal thinking is to solve problems and stop disputes, and through legal

procedures and basis, legal thinking strives to achieve fair and reasonable legal decisions to maintain social order and public interests(Meneses et al.,2023). Together, these characteristics constitute the essence of legal thinking so that legal thinking can follow a systematic and legitimate way of thinking when dealing with legal issues or in daily life and work to serve legal practice and judicial decision-making better.

2.2   Characteristics of Ethical Leadership

Ethical leadership is a unique leadership style based on moral values and ethical principles, and its core idea is to emphasize the responsibilities and obligations that leaders have in an organization or society. Under this leadership framework, leaders guide team members toward common goals by upholding integrity, fairness, and ethics. This leadership style emphasizes respect, responsibility, and fairness, building trust and promoting cooperation. It is unique in that it focuses on achieving goals and emphasizes how to maintain the ethical standards of individuals and teams in the process of success. In the philosophy of ethical leadership, leaders influence and inspire others through acts of honesty, integrity, and care to drive the growth and success of the organization. This leadership style aims to achieve success and ensure that ethics remains high (Morin, G. & Talbot, D.,2023). As a result, ethical leaders constantly strive to make the right decisions when faced with complex ethical decisions and set an example regarding ethical principles and social responsibility. While ethical leadership has positive effects in many ways, there are also some potential drawbacks. First, leaders who place too much emphasis on ethical standards can appear too idealistic and ignore the complexities of reality. Second, an overfocus on ethics can lead to hesitation in decision-making, as leaders find themselves in ethical dilemmas and struggle to make trade-offs. In addition, ethical leaders can sometimes be too strict and set too high ethical standards for themselves and their teams, leading to excessive self-discipline and zero tolerance for mistakes. Finally, because leaders who emphasize ethical values ignore the organization's actual operation and work goals in the pursuit of ethical goals, it affects the efficiency and competitiveness of the organization.

2.3   Legal thinking and moral leadership complement each other in their characteristics

From the perspective of the characteristics of legal thinking and moral leadership, both of them apply to the actual management of government affairs. At the same time, by analyzing the characteristics of legal thinking and moral leadership, we can find a certain complementary nature between the two in organizational management and local self-government. First, it can be known from the characteristics that legal thinking emphasizes regulations, legal provisions, and organizational policies. The law embodies social norms, which provide a clear framework and rules for organizations, and ethical leaders can ensure that local self-government works

within the law and prevent legal risks by following legal regulations(Pirzada et al.,2023). Therefore, since the law cannot always cover all moral aspects, in some cases, the law cannot clearly define certain moral guidelines or ethical decisions. This is where the role of ethical leadership comes into play. Ethics leaders focus on moral and ethical standards that go beyond the statute and promote a more active role in society by advocating for ethical behavior and motivating employees to actively participate in social responsibility activities (Rank et al., 2023). It can be seen that in local self-government, legal thinking provides the corresponding basic management framework, and by introducing the concept of the rule of law in self-government, leaders can better cultivate and strengthen the ethical leadership of staff.

2.4   Assumptions presented herein

Based on the above analysis, the following assumptions are proposed, which are as follows.

Legal thinking is a major constraint on ethical leadership, In order to conduct an empirical analysis of the development of ethical leadership in legal thinking and the enhancement of local autonomy, it is necessary to establish corresponding hypotheses. The first is the hypothesis of the relationship between legal thinking and moral leadership, whether practical or theoretical. The cultivation of legal thinking shows that it helps individuals better understand and comply with the law and demonstrate higher ethical standards and leadership in the organization. Therefore, the following optimistic assumptions are made.

Hypothesis 1: Individuals who have a systematic mindset for legal thinking are more likely to demonstrate a higher level of ethical leadership.

There is a coupling relationship between one's own qualities and ethical leadership, so it is necessary to study the impact of ethical leadership on individuals, especially to stimulate people's sense of responsibility. The positive relationship between the cultivation of legal thinking and local autonomy is assumed. Through the cultivation of legal thinking, individuals will better understand the bottom line of the law so that they are more willing to consciously follow the laws and regulations in the organization, enhance independent decision-making and subjective initiative, and then enhance local autonomy, so hypothesis 2.

Hypothesis 2: Individuals cultivated by legal thinking are more conducive to strengthening local autonomy.

Local autonomy has a certain constraint on leadership, so it is necessary to strengthen the influence of local autonomy on moral leadership, and deeply analyze the relationship between moral leadership and local autonomy. under the leadership of high ethical leadership, it can stimulate employees' sense of responsibility and self-management ability, thereby enhancing local autonomy and employees are more willing to show autonomy and self-discipline in an environment , so hypothesis 3. Hypothesis 3: Leaders with high ethical leadership contribute to greater local self-government. Local autonomy requires the participation of the public, so moral leadership research should be carried out under the dual constraints of public participation and local autonomy.

The relationship between public participation and local autonomy is hypothesized because by increasing public participation, organizations can bring together more diverse perspectives and resources to promote local autonomy, which shows that public participation positively impacts local autonomy, so hypothesis 4. Hypothesis 4: There is a positive relationship between increased opportunities for public participation and local self-government.

3 Research methodology

3.1 Subjects of study

In this paper, government departments, lawyers, and community personnel in Fujian Province were used as the research subjects to distribute questionnaires, and a total of 150 questionnaires were distributed, and 90% of them were recovered. Among them, 3 questionnaires were confirmed, 2 questionnaires refused to accept answers, 6 questionnaires were incomplete, and 4 questionnaires had unreasonable answers. The survey document is divided into four dimensions, namely local autonomy, ethical leadership, legal thinking and public participation. Each dimension contains 4~5 survey questions, and each question is worth 5 points, and the higher the score, the more reasonable the question. The survey document has been revised three times, and the first draft of the questionnaire is mainly based on relevant literature and work experience. The questionnaire was modified according to the opinions of social public management experts, and the reliability and validity were calculated by yeah software, and the overall reliability and validity were good, which were 0.76 and 0.85, respectively, greater than 0.7Scale reliability test. The scale's reliability is shown in Table 1 below, and Cronbach's α values in all domains are above 0.9, indicating that the scale has high internal consistency and strong correlation between items. Credibility values are also high, indicating a good correlation between each item and the total score, supporting these items as reliable scale components. Overall, based on the data provided, the scale performs well in terms of reliability, with a high degree of credibility, and is suitable for measuring concepts such as local self-government, ethical leadership, legal thinking, and public participation.

Table 1:   Scale reliability analysis

Variable	Credibility	Effectiveness
Local self-government	0.799	0.943
Ethical leadership	0.755	0.915
Legal thinking	0.776	0.902
Public participation	0.745	0.911

3.2   Findings

A general description of the respondents is shown in Table 1.

Table 1:   General information of the respondents

Index	Substance	Quantity (Person)	Percentage (%)
Gender	man	165	33
	woman	335	67
Age	19-25	102	20.4
	25-30	109	21.8
	30-35	205	41
Grade	Year	106	21.2
	2 years	98	19.6
	3 years	108	21.6
	4 years	188	37.6
Posts	Government workers	105	21
	lawyer	125	25
	Community Members	270	54
Length Of Experience	Less than 1 year	186	37.2
	2~3 years	268	53.6
	More than 3 years	46	9.2
F=8.322			
Df. =0.852			

According to the survey data in Table 1, it can be seen that the surveyors are all independent units, and the overall data distribution is normally distributed, so the data distribution of the surveyors meets the requirements. At the same time, the questionnaire constructed in this paper is summarized, and the results are shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Variables of the survey document

Main variables	Secondary variables	Score	Variance
Local self-government	Local Policies	3.34	0.12
	Nurturing policy	3.38	0.13
	Integrated policy	3.91	0.12
Ethical leadership	Ethical standards	3.96	0.23
	Evaluation Criteria	3.95	0.17
	Social feedback	3.30	0.29
Legal thinking	Legal Awareness	3.27	0.14
	Juristic act	3.73	0.25
	Legal norms	3.34	0.12
Public participation	Special supervision	3.38	0.24
	General supervision	3.91	0.11
	Sampling supervision	3.96	0.25
F=72.322			
P=0.856			

According to the survey data in Table 2, the questionnaire score in this paper is relatively high, and there is no significant difference between the indicators, which is an independent sample and can be calculated.

3.2 Data analysis

Correlation analysis. Table 3 below shows the correlation analysis between the variables that must be studied.

Table 3: Correlation analysis of variables

Variable	Mean	Standard deviation	1	2	3	4
Local self-government	3.595	0.661	[0.929]	-	-	-
Ethical leadership	3.785	0.649	0.404***	[0.925]	-	-
Legal thinking	2.904	0.642	0.078*	0.055**	[0.643]	-
Public participation	3.860	0.402	0.296***	0.292***	0.170*	[0.885]

Table 4: Regression analysis of local autonomy, ethical leadership, and legal thinking

variable	Ethical leadership		Local self-government		
	Legal Thinking	Non-legal Thinking	Leadership development	Non-leadership development	Overall Relevance
Control variables	—	—	—	—	—
gender	0.065	0.057	0.053	0.048	0.038
age	-0.154*	-0.096	-0.002	0.038	0.054
Degree	0.059	0.063	0.208**	0.210**	0.200**
Direct variables	—	—	—	—	—
Ethical leadership	—	—	—	0.301***	0.230**
Mediation variables	—	—	—	—	—
Legal thinking	—	0.433***	—	—	0.165*
△R2	0.030	0.184	0.046	0.089	0.021
Total R2	0.030	0.214	0.046	0.135	0.157
F value	1.959	12.864***	3.070*	7.388***	6.977***

As can be seen from the data in the table, ethical leadership is significantly associated with legal thinking as a direct variable in Overall Relevance (coefficient 0.165*). This means that legal thinking has an independent, significant, positive impact on moral leadership when considering local autonomy. The rise in ethical leadership may be associated with a more positive attitude towards legal thinking on the part of individuals. At the same time, in Overall Relevance, the total R^2 is 0.157, indicating that the variables in the model can collectively explain 15.7% of the variation in legal thinking. Although this explanatory power is not very high, in the social sciences, even a relatively small one can be of practical significance. This result supports assumption 1 made above that individuals with systematic training in legal thinking are more likely to demonstrate a higher level of ethical leadership. In Overall Relevance, the coefficient of local autonomy as a direct variable is 0.230**, indicating that legal thinking significantly influences local autonomy when moral leadership is considered. This means that where legal thinking is more widespread, the level of local autonomy is relatively higher. This validates Hypothesis 2: Individuals who have been trained in legal thinking are more likely to enhance local autonomy.

In Leadership development, moral leadership, as a direct variable, has a coefficient of 0.301*** (P>0.001) in the regression analysis of local autonomy, which indicates that ethical leadership has a significant impact on local autonomy when other variables remain constant, and thus the hypothesis that hypothesis 3: leaders with

higher ethical leadership contribute to enhanced local autonomy is also true. hypotheses 1, 2, and 3 have been verified.

Regression analysis of public participation. Table 5 below analyzes the effects of moral leadership and local autonomy as the main effect, and moral leadership × legal thinking as the moderating effect on public participation in legal thinking, moral leadership, and local autonomy prestige.

Table 5: Regression analysis of moral leadership to enhance local autonomy.

Variable	Local self-government		
	Legal thinking	Non-legal thinking	Leadership development
Control variables			
gender	0.065	0.057	0.068
age	-0.154*	-0.096	-0.095
Degree	0.059	0.063	0.048
Main effects			
Ethical leadership	—	0.433***	0.443*
Public participation	—	0.001	0.025***
Regulatory effect			
Ethical leadership × public participation	—	—	0.139*
△R2	0.030	0.184	0.018
Total R2	0.030	0.214	0.232
F value	1.959	10.236***	9.424***

From the data in Table 4, the coefficient of local autonomy is 0.001 in Non-legal thinking and rises to 0.025 in Leadership development, suggesting that the impact of public participation becomes more pronounced when ethical leadership is considered. In addition, the moderating effect in Leadership development suggests that the impact of ethical leadership on public participation is influenced by the level of public participation, suggesting that ethical leadership plays a more significant role in higher levels of public participation. At the same time, Leadership development has a high Total R^2 as a whole, indicating that the variables in Leadership development can better explain the variation of public participation, which may also reflect the moderating effect of moral leadership on public participation in local self-government. In conclusion, the positive relationship between hypothesis 4, improving opportunities for public participation and local autonomy, is verified from the analysis results. According to the correlation data in the above table, the relationship between moral leadership, legal thinking, and local autonomy is drawn, and the results are shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1: The relationship between moral leadership, legal thinking, and local self-government
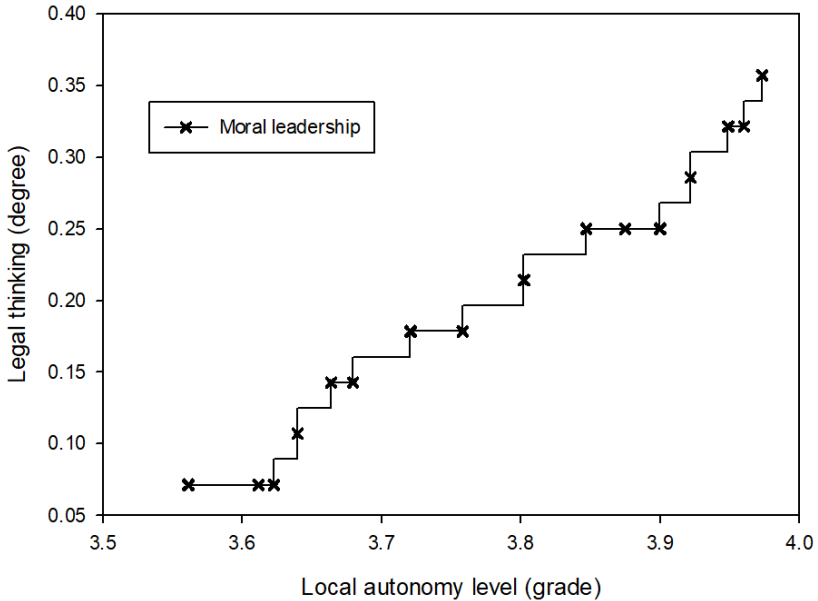
As can be seen from Figure 1, the impact of legal thinking and local autonomy on moral leadership is positive, so strengthening legal thinking and local autonomy has a positive effect on the improvement of leadership.

3.3 Empirical conclusions

From the empirical results, moral leadership is significantly positively correlated with legal thinking when considering local autonomy, individuals with higher moral leadership have significantly higher levels of legal thinking, and leaders with higher moral leadership contribute to enhancing local autonomy. In the regression analysis of public participation, the influence of ethical leadership on public participation is moderated by the level of public participation, and ethical leadership plays a more significant role in higher levels of public participation. Overall, the scale's reliability is high, and the correlation and regression analysis results support the hypothesis proposed in the study, suggesting a positive relationship between local autonomy, ethical leadership, legal thinking, and public participation. The results are shown in Table 6.

Table 6: Results of hypothesis testing

Assume the ordinal number	Hypothetical content	Test results
Hypothesis 1	Individuals with a systematic development of legal thinking are more likely to demonstrate a higher level of ethical leadership.	The assumption is true
Hypothesis 2	Individuals who have been cultivated by legal thinking are more conducive to strengthening local autonomy	The assumption is true
Hypothesis 3	Leaders with high ethical leadership contribute to the strengthening of local self-government	The assumption is true
Hypothesis 4	There is a positive relationship between increased opportunities for public participation and local self-government	The assumption is true

4 Discussion

4.1 Cultivate talents with more ethical leadership

Leaders with ethical leadership contribute to strengthening local self-government, so it is important to start by cultivating talents with ethical leadership to allow more people with ethical leadership to be present in the corresponding local self-government positions. Therefore, developing more ethical leadership doesn't happen overnight. First of all, to cultivate ethical leaders, the education system should emphasize ethics education and incorporate moral values into the curriculum, such as setting up ethics courses and special lectures in schools and vocational training to help students and professionals establish correct values and codes of conduct (Santiago, 2023). Second, organizations should build a culture that encourages ethical behavior, with leadership setting an example in the workplace, identifying ethically oriented values, and making ethical performance an important part of success. In addition, training courses for the development of leadership skills should focus more on the ethical dimension, and leadership training should cover topics related to ethical decision-making, ethical communication, and ethical leadership so that leaders are more able to make informed and ethical decisions in complex situations (Wang et al., 2023). Finally, formulating and implementing administrative-guided regulations also play a crucial role. Establishing regulations and supervision mechanisms to strengthen ethical behavior in the organizational system can better ensure that the administrative personnel in local self-government follow ethical standards. Developing more ethical leadership requires a comprehensive approach to education, organizational culture, leadership training,

social engagement, and regulatory frameworks. Through these comprehensive strategies, it is possible to cultivate human resources with a high sense of ethical responsibility and leadership and promote local self-government strengthening.

4.2   Suggestions for strengthening the construction of legal thinking

First of all, it is recommended that comprehensive legal thinking training be organized and carried out, including regulatory compliance, legal ethics, etc., to enhance members' comprehensive understanding of legal thinking. Second, develop leadership training courses that incorporate legal thinking and emphasize the legal responsibility and ethical orientation of leadership in the decision-making and leadership process. Promote the establishment of a culture of rule of law, promote the popularization of legal knowledge through publicity and education activities, and at the same time establish a culture of rule of law within the organization so that it runs through the daily operation and decision-making of the organization (Zahari et al., 2023). It is recommended to promote interdisciplinary cooperation in law, ethics, leadership, and other majors, provide professional knowledge in multiple fields for training, and achieve comprehensive and in-depth training. Establish incentive mechanisms to encourage individuals and leaders to demonstrate legal thinking and ethical leadership and incorporate the rule of law performance into performance evaluations to promote recognition and practice of legal thinking. Finally, it is recommended to establish a regular evaluation system to comprehensively evaluate the effectiveness of legal mindset cultivation and leadership development to ensure the sustainability and effectiveness of the strategy. Through this comprehensive strategy, organizations can enhance the practical effect of local autonomy by improving ethical leadership in a targeted manner based on the cultivation of legal thinking.

4.3   Increase public participation

Empirical analysis has shown that public participation is positively correlated with ethical leadership in the construction of ethical leadership, and at the same time, higher public participation leads to the optimization of local autonomy strategies. Increasing public participation requires a multifaceted approach. First, leaders can advocate for open lines of communication, actively inviting the public to participate in the decision-making process and share opinions and suggestions from the public through regular meetings, discussions, and interactive platforms. Second, to establish a transparent messaging mechanism, leaders should ensure transparency in the decision-making process and stimulate public interest in participation by making relevant information available to the public and understanding the rationale behind policy formulation and implementation (Zlaten, 2023). At the same time, social media and other digital platforms are actively used to raise public awareness of leadership decisions, and leaders can collect and analyze public opinions more widely through online surveys, polls, or interactive events to promote broader

participation. Finally, leaders should respond to public concerns and feedback, adjust decisions promptly, and explain the reasons for the changes to the public. This timely feedback mechanism helps to increase public trust in leadership, promoting more significant participation in the building of ethical leadership, which in turn strengthens local self-government.

4.4   Enhance the degree of local autonomy under constraints

Local governments should carry out local autonomy under the constraints of the state, and improve the effect of self-control and promote the level of local autonomy in combination with the actual local situation, and at the same time strengthen the connection with legal institutions and society, continuously improve local autonomy policies, put forward effective local autonomy programs, and improve relevant systems for the standards and indicators in moral leadership, such as putting forward the "Ethical Leadership Constraint Standards", Measures for the Implementation of Ethical Leadership In addition, the analysis of moral leadership should adopt objective and subjective indicators and standards, combined with local policies, mechanisms and systems for moral leadership evaluation, and in the process of moral leadership evaluation, sampling and continuous observation should be used to improve the effect of the analysis Enhance the transparency of self-governance with the participation of legal professionals and the public.

5   Conclusion

The cultivation of moral leadership has always been a major concern of society, but the research on moral leadership lacks empirical evidence, and this paper empirically demonstrates the relationship between public participation, legal thinking, ethical leadership and local autonomy strategies. The results show that hypotheses 1~4 put forward in this paper are all true. The cultivation of legal thinking and local autonomy will promote the improvement of moral leadership, among which legal awareness, legal behavior and legal standards are the main aspects of legal training. All aspects have a positive impact on moral leadership, and the autonomy standards and autonomous systems and policies in local autonomy will also have a promoting effect on moral leadership. The role of local autonomy is more obvious, which is significantly higher than the cultivation of legal thinking. Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen the level of local autonomy under the conditions of the participation of the state and society. There are also some shortcomings in the research results of this paper, mainly due to the difficulties encountered in data investigation and evidence collection. In the future, more literature will be referenced to collect more comprehensive data for analysis to improve the content of this paper further.

Notes:

***$p<0.001$, **$p<0.01$, *$p<0.05$ (two-tailed test), the same below.
The data in Table 2 shows that the correlation coefficient between local autonomy and moral leadership is 0.404 ($P<0.001$), indicating a significant positive correlation between local autonomy and moral leadership. The correlation coefficient with legal thinking was 0.078 ($P<0.05$), indicating a slight positive correlation between local autonomy and legal thinking. The correlation coefficient with public participation was 0.296 ($P<0.001$), indicating a significant positive correlation between local autonomy and public participation. It can be seen that there is a positive correlation between local autonomy moral leadership and public participation, and there is also a positive correlation between legal thinking and public participation. This is highly consistent with the assumptions made above.the Regression analysis of local autonomy, moral leadership, and legal thinking.Table 4 below shows the regression analysis of local autonomy, ethical leadership, and legal thinking, and in order to make the analysis more reliable, the gender, age, and educational background of the respondents were used as control variables.

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