

Presenter: MING, Holly

## A Qualitative Study of the Labor Market Transition of City-Dwelling Second Generation Migrants in Chinese Cities

Since the late 1980s, the number of migrant workers – those with agricultural *hukous* but work and live in the urban areas – has been increasing rapidly, now representing about 50% of the urban labor force. In addition, more and more migrant workers now choose to move along with their whole families, raising children who own rural *hukous* but have essentially spent most of their lives in city areas. These two trends together make understanding how then urban dwelling second generation of migrant workers transition from schooling to the labor market an urgent and crucial task, with important policy implications in the reduction of intergenerational poverty and the promotion of sustainable urbanization.

Since the option of continued education in the host cities is basically closed for migrant children after grade 9, middle school graduation is a decisive moment in the migrant student's career development. This paper examines the post middle school career decision and labor market expectations of migrant children and their parents, with a particular focus on how social network affects labor market decision making and outcomes. The findings of the paper are primarily based on in-depth interviews. Forty-one middle school students and their parents from 3 schools enrolling migrant workers' children in Beijing and Shanghai were interviewed, based on purposeful stratified sampling to maximize coverage in academic performance and family socio-economic background.

Presenter: CHAN Ching-hai, Charles

## Community psychology in Hong Kong

### Aims

This symposium presents a brief overview of theoretical development and empirical advances in the field of community psychology. In Hong Kong, community psychology practitioners and researchers utilize collaborative research and action to focus on prevention and early intervention as a means to address large number of issues generated from reform initiatives in education, health and welfare sectors by the government. Dealing with context and various socio-ecological spheres, community psychological methods have been instrumental in the design and evaluation of the dynamic and reciprocal relationships between individuals and the social system which constitute the community context. Highlighting the linkages between individuals and their communities, community psychology alludes to the study of relational data over individuals' states or traits. This orientation provides impetus to new units of analysis and multi-level analytic frames for understanding the person-in-context phenomenon.

### Modules

1. Theoretical advances and local application of community psychology in Hong Kong
2. Group cohesion and relational data – An examination of coalition capacity with Social Network Analysis
3. The interaction between context and positive youth development – Illustration with the Intensive Community Mentoring Scheme using Inter-Individual Analysis
4. Methodological advances in community psychology – An overview

Presenter: Anita KOO

## Educational Aspiration of Migrant Children in Beijing

Increasing number of research tells us that rural-urban migrant workers have encountered different types of discrimination and have been socially excluded in cities. The problem of inequality has extended to the second generation of the migrant workers. Under current social and policy system, unless the migrant families have the urban residential status or good economic conditions, children cannot enter the education system (even just for the nine-year compulsory education). Education, which has substantial impact on occupational outcomes and chances of mobility, is the key to economic success in the modern society. Educational inequality, therefore, is regarded as a crucial mediating factor for intergenerational transmission of social and economic inequalities. Since migrant children have great difficulty to receive a proper and decent education in cities, they are vulnerable to intergenerational poverty and limited life chances. They are also very likely to remain members of underclass in cities.

In this research, I would like to explore the life chances of rural-urban migrant children who were taken along to Beijing by their migrant parents. The present generation of rural-urban migrant workers might be satisfied simply with earning more money than in the farmland. However, the second generation of the migrants might probably have much higher expectations than their parents. Since many of them grow up (or are even born) in cities, they might not want to be treated as “second class citizens” any longer, and might aim higher. It is well documented that migrant workers are hoping for an upward mobility and better living standard. However, we know very little about the expectation of their children.

In order to assess the effect of their disadvantaged positions on educational aspiration, I will take in-depth semi-structured interviews with about 50 migrant families in a migrant village (冷泉村) in Beijing, which have dependent children at age from 8 to 14. I will examine migrant children's educational aspiration and its change during their stay in Beijing. Also, I will investigate how migrant children understand their identity in urban areas and their attainment aspiration in the hostile environment.

Presenter: CHAN Hin-wang, Kevin

## Group cohesion in health promoting coalitions – Corroborating individual and group level data

### Aims

To unfold the relational attributes of perceived group cohesion by modeling self-reported group cohesion at individual level with network measures at group level in health promoting coalitions.

### Methods

Perceived cohesion and relational data are collected from a large coalition advocating community health and safety in Hong Kong. Individual-level reported group cohesion is measured with a modified, 10-item version of the Moo's Group Environment Scale. Group-level data comprises information about three types of social ties among coalition members, including information exchange, resource sharing, and referral. Auxiliary data about membership including coalition position and organizational affiliation are collected and incorporated into the analysis. Network measures including size, density, betweenness, centrality, number of cliques, ties multiplexity, and tie homophily are generated from tie data. The relationship between individual-level cohesion score and network measures is modeled with a linear regression model.

### Results

Group cohesion measured at individual level should correlate with network size, density, tie multiplexity, and tie homophily but inversely correlated with betweenness, number of cliques, and centrality.

### Conclusion

The obtained model bridges the gap between the sense of cohesion and organizational capacity by introducing parameters substantiated from social network analysis. The context conducive to coalition capacity is explored by associating network measures that facilitate perceived cohesiveness.

Presenter: LAI Man-kin, Simon

## The interaction between context and positive youth development – Illustration with the Intensive Community Mentoring Scheme using a Person-Oriented Approach

### Aims:

To study the influence of disadvantaged development background and a community mentoring program on adolescence development with a person-oriented approach

### Methods:

A software named SLEIPNER developed by Lars Bergman and Bassam El Khouri of the Stockholm Laboratory for Developmental Science will be used to analyze the data of variables from different levels of organization. The SLEIPNER software is a set of 16 computer programs catering for the purposes of data processing, pattern analysis, evaluation of results and data sets altering. Clusters which representing meaningful type in adolescence development will be derived and related to disadvantaged background as well as mentoring program.

### Results:

Meaningful clusters were formed using students' behavioral, psychosocial and interpersonal data. Specific relationships between these clusters and students' disadvantaged background and participation in mentoring program were identified.

### Conclusion:

An alternative approach to study adolescence development in a social and community context is to treat individuals as an organized whole and relating them to the social and community influences. Investigation of community influences like mentoring program on adolescents would benefit from this approach as the development under the mentoring program is a complex, dynamic and adaptive process. Traditional linear relationship may not be appropriate to capture the phenomenon.