

Gender Studies Programme, the Chinese University of Hong Kong
Thesis Mini Conference 2019
Abstracts

Step-families in Hong Kong: A New Form of Kinship and Children Development

Presenter: Mak Wai Hong, Benny

Language: Cantonese

Abstract:

Divorce and remarriage become common around the world. Take United States as an example, in the late 1970s, the rates of divorce and remarriage were at high point. By 1975, it was estimated that 84% of all brides and 86% of all grooms who remarry were previously divorced (Cherlin, 1978). The high level of marital divorce creates a large pool of mothers or fathers and children "at risk" of forming stepfamilies. Our traditional definitions of families decreasingly capture the social units of interest. What is more, childbearing has been an important aspect when discussing about stepfamily experience, and for at least two decades, there is an increasing trend on this. There is less well recognized about the stepfamilies, especially in Hong Kong context. Therefore, that is the motivation for me to study stepfamilies issues, and aim to understand how divorce, stepfamilies, are reshaping family experience in the Hong Kong. To be detailed, the study will include the following items. In the beginning, I would like to explain the phenomenon of divorce and related risk and protective factors, which seek to find some explanation for the ambivalent attitudes of society towards such families and to consider the processes involved in becoming a stepfamily. Next item will be how the divorce, stepfamilies affect children development and mental health, understand how the children grow up in blended families. Lastly, there will be a final comments highlight the methods for how a 'successful' step- families can be evaluated.

Body Politics: The Association between Experience of Disability and Construction of Masculinity and Femininity

Presenter: Wan Sheung Yin, Jacky

Language: English

Abstract:

To date, people with disability (PWD) are usually perceived as asexuality, remaining childlike status. In the light of social exclusion, disabled masculinity/femininity act as the social sites reflecting how the lived experience of PWD shaping their gender performance which leading them to be marginalized from Hong Kong's current society. Exploring personal experience in relation to body management, social relationships and intimacy via in-depth interviews from six disabled people, findings suggest that the body impairment of disabled people had a social consequence as they were dis-abled by social spatial environments and social policy planning. Reacting to such social oppressions, different strategies are implemented to reclaim their masculinity/femininity. Recommendations of amending outdated policy making and legislations regarding disability rights are also introduced.

香港女性在婚姻市場上的受歡迎程度及年齡的關係

Presenter: Ng Wai Ying, Joanna

Language: Cantonese

Abstract:

香港女性地位逐步得到提升。可是，年紀愈大而未婚的女性被強制附上負面標籤，如「剩女」等。本文採用了問卷調查及收集文獻資料，目的是分析香港女性在婚姻市場上的受歡迎程度及年齡的關係。結果發現：年齡的大小、教育程度的高低與他們對香港女性在婚姻市場的受歡迎程度有不同看法，這可歸因於中國傳統思想的影響。

不同香港社會行動者(Social Agents)對同性婚姻的看法如何改變？

Presenter: So Tze Man, Vickie

Language: Cantonese

Abstract:

近年來，基督教及其教友對同性婚姻都越來越持開放態度。目前已經有 26 個國家的法律已經正式認可同性婚姻，包括美國，英國，法國等等。美國，作為眾基督教大國之一，也已於 2015 年 6 月，由美國聯邦最高法院宣布全美同性婚姻合法化。香港，作為中西文化合璧的國際都會。亦擁有約 7%的基督教人口，教會由以往對同性戀的嚴格反對，到現在有了作為香港首間也是唯一一間同志教會的基恩之家。究竟現今不同行動者(agents)對於同性婚姻議題的意見有何改變。不同的行動者有無宗教背景的香港異性戀者、同性戀者、雙性戀者及無性戀者，以及有基督教背景的香港異性戀者、同性戀者及雙性戀者，總共 11 人。本研究採用深入訪談(in-depth interview)，焦點小組(focus group)以及研究以往的文獻及數據而成，是為質性研究。目的是為了去了解近十年社會的變化及不同行動者，如無基督教信仰以及有基督教信仰的人對同性婚姻的看法在以往跟現在有何不同。基於這個大目的，本研究會將無宗教及有基督教背景的人分為兩組，以及將不同性取向的人分為各小組，作不同組之間的比較。在這個研究當中，發現了無宗教信仰的人比有基督教信仰的人更願意支持同性婚姻及了解同性戀議題。另外，所有訪問樣本均表示較自己以往對同性婚姻的看法，現在更能容許同性婚姻合法化。原因多為身邊朋友為同性戀者，接觸同性婚姻議題更多。年齡愈年輕的比愈老邁的更贊同保障同性戀者基本權益以及贊同同性婚姻合法化。最後，偏向支持同性婚姻合法化的性取向排序為：同性戀，雙性戀，無性戀，異性戀。大部分受訪者皆認為香港於近十年都很難令同性婚姻合法化，原因有政治元素，生育以及領養問題之考慮等等，但卻覺得應設法保障同性戀者基本權利，如反歧視條例等等。大部份受訪者對同性婚姻的看法皆由保守態度轉向開放態度，可見，不論有或沒有基督教背景的年輕一群，支持同性戀或同性婚姻的人群均有明顯上升的趨勢。