

Intergenerational perception of living arrangement in the old age: Familization and rising market of elder care in Vietnam

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Abstract

Asian societies are known for their strong connection among family members and filial piety is a highly valued practice in Confucian culture. In Vietnam, family is long-term seen as being significant for elder care. The traditional concept that parents should live with their older children as an alternative to financial support, improve the efficiency of the provision of care, and increase the emotional support the parties can provide for each other. Due to increasingly migrating, working pressure, and individualization, there is an increasing withdrawal of family caregivers from caregiving upward their parents. Meanwhile, Vietnam is observing changes in demographics and family structure such as fast increase of population aged from 65, the extension of life expectancy, which is linked to an increase in the number of elders in need of care, drop in fertility rate, resulting in a shrinking supply of family caregivers. Using our very new dataset from the national study on Family Values in Contemporary Vietnam, which surveyed 1750 people aged from 16 to 70 in 2017, this paper would analyze the role of modern family in care relations from the perspectives of old and young generation and the interaction between family network, professional practice and government in care policy within Vietnamese aging context by analyzing questions on current and old age living arrangement (i.e. living alone, living with spouse, living with sons, living with daughters, living in residential care center/nursing home and living with relatives/others) with involvement of the public policies and services.



Biography:

Tran Thi Minh Thi is the Director of the Institute for Family and Gender Studies, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences. She gained Master degree of Sociology at the University of Washington, US and PhD degree of Sociology at Kyoto University, Japan. She is a principal member in studies on

gender, welfare, care, community development, health, and family. Her recent studies on the elderly issues included: "Construction of effective network for well-being of the leftbehind elderly in rural community through cooperative studies between Ha Tinh and Quang Ngai provinces, Vietnam and Minamata city, Japan" funded by TOYOTA in 2015; "Elderly Care in Transforming Vietnam: Policy and Structural Perspectives". 2015-2016, funded by Vietnam Government in 2016-2016; and "Strengthening social engagement in elderly care in changing economic and family structure in Asia: Policy and practical dialogues between local communities in Vietnam and Japan", funded by the Toyota Foundation in 2017-2018.

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