

Organised by Asia Research Institute, NUS

FAMILY POLICIES IN ASIA

21-22 Nov 2019

AS8, Seminar Room 04-04



Family policies have been on the rise in Asia in order to respond to recent dramatic demographic and socioeconomic changes that challenge both families and states.

“Family policy” has long been seen as a “fuzzy concept”, as the government laws and regulations that are designed intentionally to support families, enhance family member’s well-being, and strengthen family relationships can all be regarded as family policies no matter whether they directly aim at families (Bogenschneider, 2006; Gauthier, 1998). Family policies are thus highly interrelated with and often overlap other policy fields, such as population, labour market, education, health, housing, gender equality, and sustainable development goals (Richardson, 2018).

Furthermore, the definition and practice of “family” change according to the socio-economic, political, religious and cultural framework of individual countries. Asian countries are characterised by a high degree of diversity in political, economic, and cultural terms as well as corresponding national and local family policies, in spite of the common practice that families are the main (sometimes solo) welfare provider (Yeung et al, 2018). Thus, the goals and outcomes of family policies differ from country to country and at times are controversial.

These sophisticated “Asian” contexts make the understanding and making of family policies difficult. However, such complexity brings great opportunities for scholars to enrich current knowledge, both academically and empirically, on family issues and public policies. What is lacking for now is the conceptual framework for comparative studies and the understanding of the relationship between family policies and the distinctive Asian cultural and social factors.

By bringing together scholars across the disciplines to interrogate Asian family policies, this conference aims to facilitate the making of a culturally-informed theory in family policies. Conceptual papers on family policies and empirical research using cross-sectional or longitudinal design, covering family characteristics and policy measures in Asian countries are welcome. Comparative studies in East Asia, Southeast Asia, and South Asia are preferred.

THEME ONE: THE DOMAIN OF FAMILY POLICIES

- What is the relationship between welfare regimes and family policies? Is there a specific “Asian” welfare regime or are the welfare regimes in Asian countries the variants of the existing models?
- How should we define family policies (in theoretical and empirical terms)? Is the definition of family policy contextual or universal? Which policy measures should be included in family policies? Are housing, education, and health policy measures also family policies and to what extent are they linked to “family” in different Asian societies?
- What is the relationship between family and population policies, particularly pro-natalist and anti-natalist ones, in Asia?
- What is the relationship between family and social protection policy? Are there cross-national differences in their relationship? What is the development of the relationship between these two policies over time?

THEME TWO: FAMILY POLICY MEASURES ALONG THE LIFE-COURSE

- What is the general picture of the family policy focusing on partnership formation, childbirth, childrearing, and the care for and well-being of elder people in individual Asian countries? What are the similarities and differences in the design, implementation and challenges of these national family policies? What are the trends of these policies in these Asian countries?
- Do these life event-oriented family policies focus on economic (e.g., child/family allowance, tax relief, and family credit) or ecological (e.g., provision for childcare service) measures? What are the similarities and differences in the preference for and implementation of these measures among these Asian countries? What are the trends of these measures in Asian countries?
- How do family policy measures influence the practice of parenthood?

THEME THREE: FAMILY POLICIES AND THE WIDER CONTEXTS

- To what extent do family policies in individual countries reflect the tension between rapid economic and social changes and the limited shift in kinship systems, family structures and obligations? To what extent do these family policies alleviate this tension?
- How universal or targeted are family policy measures in terms of social class as well as ethnic, religious, gender, citizenship divides? For instance, do the policy measures deepen gender division of labour or actively challenge traditional gender roles?
- What constraints and opportunities shape the options of individual actors by the existing policy profiles? E.g. there is an increasing inclusion of women in the logic of the market economy through their labour market participation but institutional structures and private living arrangements remain reigned by traditional social norms, gender ideologies and values.
- Among various family policy objectives, three in particular – work/family reconciliation, gender equality, and income protection – have emerged as crucial considerations for the formulation of family policy in Western industrialized countries (Kang, 2018). Which are the main objectives in Asian societies? Can distinct family policy regimes be identified?
- What is the level of familialism, which indicates to what extent the family contributes to welfare provision or, conversely, the level of defamilialization, meaning the extent to which welfare producing tasks are shifted from the family onto the market and the state in the Asian countries? How is familialism related to the multigenerational family structure?
- Has the diffusion of family policy measures (or the promotion of certain standards and programs) been affected by the activities of international organizations and/or internationally active non-governmental organizations?
- What is the role of family policies in supporting the needs of non-traditional families (e.g., cohabitation, same-sex partnership and LGBT families, single-parent families, and blended families)? What is the relationship between social policies and non-traditional family forms?

CONFERENCE CONVENORS

Prof Wei-Jun Jean Yeung

Department of Sociology, Asia Research Institute, and
Centre for Family and Population Research,
National University of Singapore
E | ariywj@nus.edu.sg

Prof Sonja Drobnič

SOCIUM – Research Center on Inequality and Social Policy,
University of Bremen, Germany
E | sonja.drobnic@uni-bremen.de

Dr Chung Wei-Yun

Asia Research Institute,
National University of Singapore
E | aricw@nus.edu.sg

21 NOVEMBER 2019 (THURSDAY)	
09:15 – 09:30	REGISTRATION
09:30 – 09:50	OPENING & WELCOME REMARKS
09:30	<p>Wei-Jun Jean Yeung National University of Singapore</p> <p>Sonja Drobnič University of Bremen</p> <p>Wei-Yun Chung National University of Singapore</p>
09:50 – 11:00	PANEL 1 – A BIG PICTURE OF FAMILY POLICIES IN EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA
<i>Chairperson</i>	Wei-Jun Jean Yeung National University of Singapore
09:50	<p>Child-Related Family Policies in East and Southeast Asia: An Intra-regional Comparison</p> <p>Simone Tonelli and Sonja Drobnič University of Bremen</p>
10:10	<p>Changing Society, Changing Lives: Four Decades of Family Change in China</p> <p>Shen Ke Fudan University</p>
10:30	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
11:00 – 11:30	TEA BREAK
11:30 – 13:00	PANEL 2 – FAMILY PLANNING IN CHINA, SINGAPORE, AND INDONESIA
<i>Chairperson</i>	Sonja Drobnič University of Bremen
11:30	<p>From “Two is Enough” to “Have Three or More if You Can Afford It” to “Making Singapore a Great Place for Families”</p> <p>Yap Mui Teng and Chao Fengqing National University of Singapore</p>
11:50	<p>Family Policies, Social Norms and Marital Fertility Decisions: A Quasi-Experimental Study</p> <p>Lake Lui Hong Kong Polytechnic University</p> <p>Adam Ka-Lok Cheung Hong Kong Baptist University</p>
12:10	<p>The Evolving Definition and Perception of the “Nuclear Family” in Southeast Asia: A Case of Indonesia in the Twentieth Century</p> <p>Akiko Sugiyama University of Malaya</p>
12:30	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH

14:00 – 15:30	PANEL 3 – CHILD REARING AND FAMILY POLICIES
<i>Chairperson</i>	Gu Xiaorong National University of Singapore
14:00	Fair Parenting at Stake: Insights of Family Law Reform and its Challenge to <i>State Familialism</i> in Japan Takeshi Hamano University of Kitakyushu
14:20	Legal Treatment of Children Out of Wedlock: A Comparative Study of Vietnam and China Trang Vu Hong Peking University
14:40	Gender Relations on Recipients of Family of Hope Program (PKH): A Study on PKH Recipient of Migrant Workers (IMW) Family in Banyumas Regency Indonesia Tyas Retno Wulan and Soetji Lestari Jendral Soedirman University Indonesia
15:00	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
15:30 – 16:00	TEA BREAK
16:00 – 17:10	PANEL 4 – WORK-LIFE RECONCILIATION AND FAMILY POLICIES
<i>Chairperson</i>	Kriti Vikram National University of Singapore
16:00	Constraints and Opportunities Contributing to the Childcare Arrangements in Taiwan: Gender Ideology, Labor Market, and Family Policy Wang Shu-Yung and Liu You Syue National Chung Cheng University
16:20	Work-Family Balance Policies and the Lived Experience of Employed Women with Caring Responsibilities in Iran Ali Akbar Tajmazinani and Fatemeh Sadat Hosseini Allameh Tabataba'i University
16:40	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
17:10	END OF DAY 1
17:30	BUS TRANSFERS (For Speakers, Chairpersons & Invited Guests)
18:00 – 20:00	CONFERENCE DINNER (For Speakers, Chairpersons & Invited Guests)

22 NOVEMBER 2019 (FRIDAY)

08:50 – 09:00	REGISTRATION
09:00 – 10:30	PANEL 5 – THE ROLE OF STATE AND FAMILY IN CAREGIVING
<i>Chairperson</i>	Erin Hye-Won Kim National University of Singapore
09:00	Development of Aging Policy, New Challenges and Policy Priorities in China Wang Xuehui and Song Liangjun Fudan University
09:20	Indian Elderly and the ‘Familialist’ State Policies Anuja Agrawal University of Delhi
09:40	How Family Policies Redefine Families: The Case of Mainland China-Hong Kong Cross-Border Families Chee Wai-chi Hong Kong Baptist University
10:00	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
10:30 – 11:00	TEA BREAK
11:00 – 12:00	PANEL 6 – CARING POLICIES FOR THE OLDER ADULTS
<i>Chairperson</i>	Ko Pei-chun Singapore University of Social Sciences
11:00	The Introduction of the Long-Term Care Insurance in Korea: Changes in Familial Care and Policy Implications Erin Hye-Won Kim National University of Singapore
11:20	Expansion of Thailand’s Social Pension Policy and its Implications for Family Support for Older Persons in Thailand Bussarawan Teerawichitchainan National University of Singapore Wiraporn Pothisiri Chulalongkorn University
11:40	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
12:00 – 13:00	LUNCH

13:00 – 14:00	PANEL 7 – NON-NORMATIVE FAMILIES AND POLICIES
<i>Chairperson</i>	Lavanya Balachandran National University of Singapore
13:00	Inclusion of Same-Sex Union in Family Policies in Taiwan, Japan, and Singapore Chung Wei-Yun National University of Singapore
13:20	Listening to Voices from Inside: State and Family-Policies on LGBT Landscape in Iligan City, Lanao del Norte, Philippines Jed B. Otano Mindanao State University-Iligan Institute of Technology
13:40	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
14:00 – 14:30	TEA BREAK
14:30 – 15:30	PANEL 8 – CHANGING ATTITUDES AND PRACTICE ON CARE
<i>Chairperson</i>	Chung Wei-Yun National University of Singapore
14:30	“Stay-at-Home” Fathers and their Families: What Lessons for Policymakers? Yvonne Arivalagan National University of Singapore
14:50	Whose Well-being? Filipino Single Mothers’ Access to Child Care Provisions in the Philippines and Japan Jocelyn O. Celero University of the Philippines–Diliman
15:10	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
15:30 – 15:50	CLOSING REMARKS
	Wei-Jun Jean Yeung National University of Singapore Sonja Drobnič University of Bremen Chung Wei-Yun National University of Singapore
16:00	END OF CONFERENCE

Child-Related Family Policies in East and Southeast Asia: An Intra-regional Comparison

Simone TONELLI

SOCIUM – Research Center on Inequality and Social Policy, University of Bremen
simone.tonelli@uni-bremen.de

Sonja DROBNIČ

SOCIUM – Research Center on Inequality and Social Policy, University of Bremen
sonja.drobnic@uni-bremen.de

Johannes HUININK

SOCIUM – Research Center on Inequality and Social Policy, University of Bremen
huinink@uni-bremen.de

Over the past five decades, dramatic demographic and socio-economic change took place in East and South East Asian countries, with important implications for the family and growing concerns about the future of the family. Still, little is known about the typical configurations of state support for families in East and Southeast Asian countries. The comparative social policy research to date suggests that no single welfare state orientation exists in the region which is characterised by a high degree of diversity in political, economic, and cultural terms. In this paper, we examine governments' strategies in providing support for families and reducing the cost of children through various policy measures. Building on a unique worldwide data set on family policy WeSIS, we combine institutional and *de facto* indicators of various family policy dimensions: financial and leave benefits, services, and regulations. Hierarchical cluster analysis produces four distinctive profiles of welfare orientation, which we tentatively call residual, conservative, market-oriented and social investment-oriented. What appears less clear are the drivers behind such configurations. Interpreted with much caution, there are indications that the lack of economic development, the presence or the lack of democratic state institutions, a widespread conservative culture, and colonial path dependency contribute to the variation in the observed patterns. The development of family policy in East and Southeast Asia might not follow the familiar economically, culturally, and institutionally determined script known in the case of Western countries. Rather, it seems to be more fragmented and characterized by parallel interventions of different types of provenance.

Simone Tonelli, MA/MSc in Social Policy and Labour Studies, is a Researcher at the University of Bremen, Germany, where he works in the research project "Formation and diffusion of family policy in a global perspective". His research interests include family policy as well as broader comparative political economy, comparative politics, and network analysis.

Sonja Drobnič is Professor of Sociology at the University of Bremen, Germany. Beside family policy, her research interests include social inequalities in the labor market and in the home, life course research, work-life balance, family and gender. She is the co-PI of the research project "Formation and diffusion of family policy in a global perspective" at the Collaborative Research Centre "Global Dynamics of Social Policy".

Johannes Huinink is Research Professor at the SOCIUM – Research Center on Inequality and Social Policy, University of Bremen, Germany. His research interests include life course research, family science, social change and cultural evolution. He is also co-PI of the research project "Formation and diffusion of family policy in a global perspective" at the Collaborative Research Centre "Global Dynamics of Social Policy".

Changing Society, Changing Lives: Four Decades of Family Change in China

SHEN Ke

School of Social Development and Public Policy, Fudan University
shenke@fudan.edu.cn
(Corresponding author)

CAI Yong

Department of Sociology, University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill
caiyong@unc.edu

WANG Feng

Department of Sociology, University of California–Irvine, and
School of Social Development and Public Policy, Fudan University
fwang@uci.edu

HU Zhan

School of Social Development and Public Policy, Fudan University
huzhan@fudan.edu.cn

Family policies in China are at a critical crossroads. Two profound changes, one at the societal level and another at the state, are ushering in a new era of changing family policies, which we call the “family turn.” The dismantling of the planned economy system has rendered the employment-based social benefits delivery system under socialism largely obsolete, while rising income and wealth has created a public expectation that the state needs to develop a new welfare regime that is commensurate with China’s upper-middle income society status and compatible with China’s new economic and social arrangements. In the last decade and half, we have observed indeed the emergence of a post-socialist welfare regime that is characterized by rapid expansion of welfare benefits coverage, fragmentation along the lines of social identity, and huge inequality in benefit levels. For nearly four decades, a strong anti-natal policy, trademarked by the one-child policy, dominated public discourse and policy making regarding the family. With the end of the one-child policy and escalating concerns of low birth rate, calls for new and pro-natal family policies are gaining new traction and popularity.

What have been the changes in family policies and in social behaviors associated with the family in China in the last few decades? What are the political, social, and economic logics behind such changes? In this paper, we intend to answer these two broad questions by using a historical-comparative approach to examine the evolution of China’s social welfare regime, from one that is embedded in the socialist planned economy and with family policies centered on birth control, to one that is increasingly individual- and family-based, and that is increasingly turning to pro-natal. We plan to document behavioral changes in marriage and family based on census and survey data, to carry out a text-based analysis of various dimensions of family policies in the official news outlet over time, and to offer an analysis of the coherences and contradictions of the recent development in family policies under China’s new and developing social welfare regime.

Shen Ke is Associate Professor of Demography at Fudan University in China. Her research interests include population aging and intergenerational economics, family structure and familial transfers, and elderly health. Specifically, she has been studying changes in the inequalities in public transfers and the impact of population aging on public spending in the transitional Chinese society. Her research has appeared in *Population and Development Review*, *Social Science & Medicine*, *Demographic Research*, and *The Journal of the Economics of Aging*.

Cai Yong is Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He specializes in Chinese demography, especially China's low fertility and population aging in a global context. His publications have appeared in *Demography*, *American Sociological Review*, *Population and Development Review*, and others.

Wang Feng is Professor of Sociology at the University of California–Irvine and Professor of Sociology and Demography at Fudan University in China. He has done extensive research on global social and demographic changes, comparative population and social history, and social inequality, with a focus on China. He is the author of multiple books, and his research articles have been published in venues including *Population and Development Review*, *Demography*, *Science*, *The Journal of the Economics of Aging*, and *International Migration Review*. His work and views have also been covered by many media outlets, including *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Financial Times*, *The Guardian*, *Economist*, NPR, CNN, BBC, and others.

Hu Zhan is Associate Professor of Demography and Social Policy at Fudan University in China. His research interests include population aging, family changes, and social psychology. His research has appeared in *Social Sciences in China*, *The Journal of Chinese Sociology*, *Journal of Business Research*, *International Journal of Health Planning and Management*, and *International Journal of Psychology*.

From “Two is Enough” to “Have Three or More if You Can Afford It” to “Making Singapore a Great Place for Families”

YAP Mui Teng

Institute of Policy Studies, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore
yap.muiteng@nus.edu.sg

CHAO Fengqing

Institute of Policy Studies, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore

“Two is enough”, “Have three or more if you can afford it”, “Making Singapore a Great Place for Families” – these are three familiar taglines associated with the three main phases of Singapore’s national demographic development: anti-natalist, selectively pro-natalist, and pro-natalist, respectively. While fertility policies constitute one of the tools in the tool-kit used to influence the population’s size, structure and growth rates, and may therefore be considered population policies, it may be noted that the family has always been the lens through which these policies are viewed and operated. Thus, during the anti-natalist phase, the government evoked the welfare benefits of the small, then two-child, family, which it complemented with policy measures/incentives to keep families small/disincentive for large families – ideally, no more than two children. In the selectively pro-natalist stage, pro-family incentives were offered to encourage larger families of three children or more though conditional on one’s ability to afford larger families. The numerical target was removed in the early 2000s and “Marriage and Parenthood” packages have been progressively enhanced in various stages to provide an “ideal”, even “great”, environment for Singaporeans to have children and bring up their families. This presentation provides a historical perspective on Singapore’s demographic development, particularly as regards fertility changes, and the policies and programmes used to address these changes.

Yap Mui Teng is Principal Research Fellow at the Institute of Policy Studies, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. She is also an Associate of the Changing Asian Family cluster at the Asia Research Institute. She has written and published widely on fertility and family planning, migration and ageing in Singapore and the region.

Chao Fengqing is a Research Fellow at the Institute of Policy Studies, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. She has a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Statistics from the National University of Singapore. She received her PhD from the Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore. Her PhD dissertation is “Bayesian Methods for Estimating Global Health Indicators”.

Family Policies, Social Norms and Marital Fertility Decisions: A Quasi-Experimental Study

Lake LUI

Department of Applied Social Sciences, Hong Kong Polytechnic University
lake.lui@polyu.edu.hk

Adam Ka-Lok CHEUNG

Department of Sociology, Hong Kong Baptist University
adamkl@hkbu.edu.hk

Numerous policies recommendations have been made to increase fertility in countries with ultra-low fertility rate, yet their effectiveness remains unevaluated. Using a multifactorial vignette design that creates hypothetical policy scenarios, this research determines the effect of family-friendly policies and social norms on the fertility decisions of Hong Kong people. Based on a territory-wide random sample (n=1,000), we find a big discrepancy between the ideal (1.7) and the actual number of children (0.84). While all family policy recommendations can raise fertility, leave policies that allow fathers' involvement work better than policies that involve only mothers. Childcare support and housing policies have a positive multiplying effect on fertility. Family-friendly organizational norms strengthen the positive effect of workhour legislation and leave policies on fertility. Gender egalitarian organizational norm is essential for long unpaid leave to take effect. Overall, these policies have greater effect on couples with high socioeconomic status and negative childbearing attitudes.

Lake Lui is Assistant Professor in the Department of Applied Social Sciences at Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Her research examines how global forces like economic restructuring, migration, and sociocultural changes interact with national policies in affecting gender relations and the family in China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. Her major publications appear in *Sociology*, *Social Forces*, *Journal of Family Issues*, *Modern China*, and *Chinese Sociological Review*.

Adam Ka-Lok Cheung is Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology at Hong Kong Baptist University. His research interests include gender ideology, division of household labor, marital relations and domestic violence in Hong Kong and other Asian societies. His research has been published in *Journal of Marriage and Family*, *Journal of Family Issues*, *Demographic Research*, *Violence against Women*, *Violence and Victims*, *Population Research and Policy Review*, *Current Sociology* and other peer-reviewed journals.

The Evolving Definition and Perception of the “Nuclear Family” in Southeast Asia: A Case of Indonesia in the Twentieth Century

Akiko SUGIYAMA

Department of History, University of Malaya
a_sugiyama@um.edu.my

Family planning policies often posit the nuclear family as the ideal and target family type. Indonesia’s much discussed family planning under the New Order, to name one, championed the slogan, “two (children) is enough” (e.g. Niehof and Lubis, 2003). Yet in many languages in Southeast Asia the very notion of the family, let alone the fixed construct of the nuclear family, is often unfamiliar and even alien, as the family in the past and the present has often been understood as a fluid web of relatedness and bilateral kinship with wide-ranging residential patterns (e.g. Wolters, 1999; Day, 2002; Hayami et al, 2012). In the evolving lexicon of standard Indonesian it was not until the early 1950s when *keluarga* (family) took the dual meanings of the nuclear family *and* the household. Furthermore, it was only in the late 1980s when the word came to denote the nuclear family of mother, father and their children (Sugiyama, 2017). This paper is set in the present-day Indonesia in the 1920s-40s, a time of linguistic fluidity and experiment, and studies the language and vocabulary of “women’s pages”, a section featuring homemaking advice and matters concerning women, in the selected governmental and non-governmental Malay periodicals (e.g. *Pandji Poestaka*, *Pemandangan*). Drawing from such observations, the paper examines how the discussion on prescribed gender roles in the women’s pages was instrumental in introducing the “nuclear family” as modern and ideal family type, which one might argue as an antecedent for the late twentieth-century family planning in Indonesia and Southeast Asia.

Akiko Sugiyama is Senior Lecturer in the Department of History, University of Malaya. She obtained her PhD in History, majoring in Southeast Asia, from the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa. Her current research interests are in the areas of family studies in Southeast Asia, history of gender roles, maritime history of Western opera in Asia, musical performance and imperial culture of European empires.

Fair Parenting at Stake: Insights of Family Law Reform and its Challenge to the *State Familialism* in Japan

Takeshi HAMANO

Department of Human Relations, University of Kitakyushu
hamano@kitakyu-u.ac.jp

In 2019, Japan's Ministry of Justice announced that it would consider a possible reform of the present family law, proposing that the divorcing couple either select solo or joint custody of the child after separation. The persistent solo custody principle has existed in the present family law since the foundation of *state familialism* in the nineteenth century. As a result of the changes in family values, such as parenting and the division of gender roles, it has now been challenged both publicly and intellectually. Recently, Japan's ratification of the *Hague Child Abduction Convention* in 2014 have fuelled this question, as this international Convention would likely include fair parenting. Meanwhile, several activists and intellectuals in Japan have claimed that they are anxious about the legalisation of joint custody, pointing to the risk of possible violence against the parent (mother) and child. Considering those compiled debates, this paper aims to discuss the ways in which a new policy on children in separated families has barely developed through these family law reform debates. Methodologically, sources included the records of the legislative committee and the voices of policy makers and activists across the period of a decade, and *Social Problem Work* in social constructionist approach was conducted. This research examines how more progressive (and pragmatic) ideas of the family (the well-being of the child in particular) can be formulated in the course of depopulation, individualization, and globalization, generating critical inquiry about the 'traditional' Asian family values that are implemented in the state policy discourses.

Takeshi Hamano is Associate Professor of Sociology in the Faculty of Humanities of the University of Kitakyushu, Japan. His research interest is the transformation of the perception of the contemporary family in Japan, in encounters with alternative family values through globalization. In several publications in both English and Japanese, he focuses on the ways in which this shift challenges normative values that are still predominant within the national structure, which has long been grounded as the fundamental state norm of modern Japan. He is currently planning to apply his research to a wider comparative research project in the inter-Asian context.

Legal Treatment of Children Out of Wedlock: A Comparative Study of Vietnam and China

TRANG Vu Hong

Peking University

trang.vu@vietnamcentre.org

In both Vietnam and China, the two Asian countries that have Confucian values, wartorn history and Communist governments in common, marriage is an instrumental institution that authorize couples to share their lives together and their children to be legitimate. Nevertheless, the tradition of family formation prior to having children has been dwindling and ex-nuptial children are not uncommon. Little research has been done on the treatment of children of non-marital birth in law and in reality in the two countries. The study seeks to respond to one major question: What are there commonalities and differences in Vietnam and China in treating ex-nuptial children from legal perspectives? First, traditional views on children born outside of marriage in Vietnam (con ngoài giá thú) and China (未婚生子) are to be discussed. Attention is paid to the diversity of groups of children of unwed parents, including children of homosexual parents, of extra-marital affairs, of single or surrogate mothers, of cohabitating non-married couples or of abandoned pregnant women, etc. Second, a comparative dissection of pertinent laws and regulations, notably law on family and marriage, is meant to throw light upon how children born out of unmarried couples are legislatively treated in respective countries. Third, an intersectional analysis of socio-economic factors is made in order to examine how children out of unwed parents are treated in practice. The study concludes that children are supposed to have the same civil status regardless of whether their parents were married in both Vietnam and China yet the social practice and administrative system (prohibition of abortion, household registration, etc), particularly in China, still put them at a huge disadvantage.

Trang Vu Hong graduated from the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam in 2013 and went on to obtain Advanced Diploma on Italian culture from the University of Perugia, Italy. With Erasmus Mundus scholarship by the European Commission, she finished her MA degree on European studies in France, Germany and Sweden. Upon graduation, Trang worked for UNICEF projects on social integration in Germany. Trang was also involved in numerous campaigns against hate speech in Europe. She is now finishing her second MA thesis on Chinese law and society, and working as a teaching assistant of two MA-level courses at Yenching Academy of Peking University. Trang is also Board Member of Vietnam centre, a non-profit organisation that seeks to promote Vietnamese culture at home and abroad and also Director of Delegates of the 2019 Yenching Global Symposium in Beijing, one of the biggest and most competitive conferences on China-studies in the world.

**Gender Relations on Recipients of Family of Hope Program (PKH):
A Study on PKH Recipient of Indonesian Migrant Workers (IMW) Family
in Banyumas Regency Indonesia**

Tyas Retno WULAN

Jendral Soedirman University Indonesia
tyasretnounsoed@gmail.com
(Corresponding author)

Soetji LESTARI

Jendral Soedirman University Indonesia

Ibnu PANJI

Jendral Soedirman University Indonesia
pandjiarifin@gmail.com

Cian Ibnu SINA

Jendral Soedirman University Indonesia
cianibnusina@gmail.com

The Family of Hope Program (PKH) was launched by the Ministry of Social Affairs Indonesia since 2007 in the context of alleviating poverty in Indonesia. This program is also very relevant to achieving the 5th goal of the Sustainable Development Goals SDGs, namely achieving gender equality. The interesting thing in the PKH program is that the conditions applied in the form of interventions to aim at issues of welfare and gender disparity in everyday life. So it is not surprising that in the design of the PKH program, PKH social assistance is given to mothers or adult women (grandmothers, aunts or sisters) who are usually called Family Managers. The provision of funds to family administrators is believed to be able to encourage the effectiveness of PKH in improving the quality of education and health. Unfortunately the results of research carried out, including Helena (2016) in Gedong Tengen Subdistrict, Yogyakarta showed that PKH assistance had little effect on the division of labor in the family and recommended the need for learning and equality training for wives and husbands. There is an impression that PKH has not really seriously emphasized the gender aspect. For this reason, it is urgent to conduct a comprehensive gender study of PKH recipients. For this reason, the specific purpose of this study was to know the gender relations of PKH recipient families, to know the decision-making process in PKH utilization and to see how far PKH was used to break gender-based poverty. This research uses qualitative research methods so that it can describe gender relations in PKH recipients in detail and comprehensively. Based on Longwe's gender analysis, the results show that PKH has provided space to empower women in five aspects namely welfare, access, critical awareness, participation and control. Although the welfare aspect is seen as the most prominent and has a very significant impact on the education and health of migrant workers and their families. The increase in income earned by women makes their bargaining position more increased. Husbands also feel bad about using income from PKH beyond its designation.

Tyas Retno Wulan is a lecturer and head of the Department of Sociology Faculty of Social and Politic Jendral Sudirman University Indonesia since 1996. She received her Doctoral Degree of Rural Sociology from Bogor Agricultural Institute in 2010. She is also the Head of the Center of Research for Gender, Children, and Community Service at Jendral Sudirman University of Indonesia. Her research includes: Knowledge and Power: Strengthening Social Remittances as a Model of Protection and Empowerment Women Migrant Workers (2010); Village as the Base of Safe Migration: Empowerment Model for the Head of Village to Prevent Trafficking in Banyumas (2011-2012); Children Identification Problems in the District Banyumas: Studies in Village Sri Rahayu Banyumas (2010); Sexual behavior of Women Migrant Worker's Husband (2012); Saving Housewife from HIV/AIDS in Banyumas (2013); From Zero to Hero How Migrant Workers Change the World (2015); Protection of Migrant Workers: From Upstream to Downstream by Desa Peduli Buruh Migran (Desbumi) (A Study of Kuripan Village, Wonosobo of Central Java, and Nyerot Village, Central Lombok of West Nusa Tenggara) (2017).

Soetji Lestari graduated from Bogor Agricultural University in rural sociology, His dissertation was on "*Women in Nyumbang tradition in the Javanese countryside: Portrait of village Monetization Dynamics*". He is currently a lecturer with the sociology department of the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Jenderal Sudirman University, since 1988. He is interested in the issues of gender, population and development.

Ibnu Panji Arifin graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Social Sciences in 2009 and a Master of Science in the Department of Social Sciences at the General Soedirman University in 2019. He is currently working as a Social Assistant Family Hope Program (PKH) Social Service and Community Empowerment in Banyumas Regency. His writings include Representation of Empowerment for Very Poor Household Women through The Social Aid (2019) in the Proceeding Journal on the *International Conference on Social Transformation, Community and Sustainable Development* (STCSD) 2019.

Cian Ibnu Sina completed a Bachelor of Social in the Department of Anthropology of the Sociology of Religion, Faculty of Ushuluddin State Islamic University (UIN) Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung in 2005 and is currently completing his Sociology studies at the Postgraduate FISIP Program, Jenderal Soedirman University. He is teaching at the Hang Tuah College of Health Sciences (STIKES) Tanjungpinang, Riau Islands. The Portrait of Women's Independence paper in the Family Resilience Program in the North Purwokerto Subdistrict of Banyumas Regency (2019) in the Proceedings of the International Conference on Social Transformation, Community and Sustainable Development (STCSD) 2019.

Constraints and Opportunities Contributing to the Childcare Arrangements in Taiwan: Gender Ideology, Labor Market, and Family Policy

WANG Shu-Yung

Department of Social Welfare, National Chung Cheng University
shuyung@gmail.com

LIU You Syue

(PhD Candidate)

Department of Social Welfare, National Chung Cheng University

How to increase the fertility rate and to facilitate female labor force participation at the same time is the contested debate in Taiwan recently. Also, due to changes in household economies, gender norms, and family composition, childcare arrangements raise concern. The evidences show that infant care responsibility is still highly familialized, and grandparents' roles become vital. Understanding the patterns and reasons of childcare arrangements, as well as gender differences in labor market performance, prove to be important for addressing the policy debate.

Existing researches suggest that parents make infant care decisions based on preference/ ideology (childcare attitude and gender norm), social-economic and family considerations (parental education, family income, marital status, and family type), and institutional/policy factors (quality, affordability, and availability of family policy options, and working status, time, flexibility, and parental leaves). However, very few studies empirically analyze factors contributing childcare arrangements in Taiwan's culture and labor market context.

This study therefore first aims to examine the distribution of childcare patterns. Secondly, it will briefly overview the recent childcare and labor market policies reforms. The third section will analyze the impacts of three sets of factors (ideology, resources, and policy) on childcare arrangement by using national representative data from "Survey of Child Living Condition" of 2018 (N=5,000). Multiple-nominal Logistic Model and Multiple-Level Regression are employed for empirical analysis.

Several interesting results include: first, there is a strong relationship between multigenerational support and familialism of childcare arrangements, and raise policy concerns. Second, policy measures actually reinforce the gender division of labor rather than challenge the traditional gender roles, which unfortunately have negative impact on fertility and gender equality. Third, economic circumstances prove to be the driving force behind parental choice, therefore, more advantaged families were more likely to use non-familial care while more disadvantaged families were relying more on relative care. This paper argues that de-familialization may not equal to socialization of care. The commodification of care has stratification effect, and therefore limits parental choice, especially that of mothers. The stratification effect has been clearly shown that the most educated group are those most likely to keep working. This, in part, is because this group is likely paid better than and can afford the high cost of private childcare. Consequently, the least educated married women are the ones with least income and would be forced to drop out of workplace in order to care. Finally, labor market, gender, and family policy implications will be discussed.

Wang Shu-Yung is Associate Professor in the Department of Social Welfare at National Chung Cheng University in Taiwan. She received her PhD in Social Welfare from the Columbia University in New York, USA. Her primary research interests are gender and welfare state, and comparative family policy. She was the Secretary-General of Social Welfare Association of Taiwan (2014-2016). Her research focuses on investigating gender inequality, fertility, and child care policies in Taiwan. She has published her works in journals "*Taiwan: A Radical Quarterly in Social Studies*" and "*National Social Work Reviews*".

Liu You-Syue is a Doctoral Candidate of Social Welfare at National Chung Cheng University in Taiwan. His research interests focus on pension reform, flexicurity, work-family balance, and welfare state. He has co-authored with Lu, Jen-Der, and published his work “Pension Reform in Western Europe and Policy Implications in Taiwan” in Journal *Community Development Quarterly*; and a book chapter, “Intergenerational contract or individual responsibility? The future of Pension Reform” as part of an edited book entitled, “*Sociology at the Street Corner*”, published by Common Master Press.

Work-Family Balance Policies and the Lived Experience of Employed Women with Caring Responsibilities in Iran

Ali Akbar TAJMAZINANI

Allameh Tabataba'i University
tajmazinani@atu.ac.ir

Fatemeh Sadat HOSSEINI (MA Graduate)

Allameh Tabataba'i University
f.hosseini82@yahoo.com

Balancing the responsibilities of employed women in the two worlds of family and work in a social welfare regime which gives priority to the family is a major challenge. This paper investigates the compatibility and responsiveness of existing policies to the circumstances of employed women by a) reviewing general and specific work-family balance policies through qualitative content analysis, and b) studying the lived experience of employed women with caring responsibilities through semi-structured interviews with 26 females who are employed or have quit their job due to caring duties. General policies relevant to the work-family balance are 'Mega Population Policies' (2014), 'Mega Family Policies' (2016), 'Civil Service Management Act' (1992), 'Women Employment Policies' (1992), 'Women's Rights and Responsibilities Charter' (2004), 'Policies for Promotion of Women's Participation in Higher Education' (2005), 'Policies for Promotion of Women's Health' (2006) and first to sixth 'National Five-Years Development Plans' (1989-2017). Specific work-family balance policies include parental leaves and breast feeding leave (1995, 2007), remote working (2010), reduction of working hours for women with special needs (2010), childcare benefit (2007) and part-time employment for women (1983). Maximum variation purposeful sampling method meant that the women interviewed consisted of various age groups between 20 to 65, both public and private sector employees, with various types of caring responsibilities for children, the elderly and disabled relatives, and with varying degrees of educational attainment from being illiterate to having a university qualification. Results show that 'flexible working for women with special circumstances', despite being compatible to the needs and circumstances of employed women in theory, brings about several consequences for them including negative impact on job promotion, additional workload, and job strains due to cultural stereotypes and employer's mindset. Moreover, child and elderly sick leaves for their caregivers are insufficiently incorporated into leave policies. Part-time employment arrangements are not compatible with real life circumstances of these women since it leads to significant reductions in their wages and benefits and makes them to face serious financial difficulties in the absence of an adequate social protection system. Cultural measures to alter gender attitudes and stereotypes, provision of more universal and inclusive child care arrangements, equalization of employment and caring positions for both sexes, enhancement of relationship and life skills according to various lifecycle phases and improving the quality of health and counseling services regarding caregivers of people with disabilities could have positive impacts on work-family balance.

Ali Akbar Tajmazinani is Associate Professor of Social Policy and currently the Dean of Social Science Faculty at Allameh Tabataba'i University in Tehran, Iran. He has undertaken several research projects and has published a number of works on social policy with various national and international institutions including the National Youth Organization, UNICEF Representative in Iran, Council of Europe's Youth Directorate, Social Security Research Institute, and Tehran Municipality. He has been involved in organizing several scientific events including the recent international conference on 'Social Policy in the Islamic World' (<http://spiw.atu.ac.ir>). More information at: http://ssd.atu.ac.ir/uploads/tajmazinani-cv_2018.pdf

Fatemeh Sadat Hosseini is MA graduate in 'Social Welfare Planning' at Allameh Tabataba'i University in Tehran, Iran. Her research interest is social welfare policies for women and work-family balance policies.

Development of Aging Policy, New Challenges and Policy Priorities in China

WANG Xuehui

Center for Population and Development Policy Studies, Fudan University
wxhui2008sdu@163.com

SONG Liangjun

Center for Population and Development Policy Studies, Fudan University
songliangjun@fudan.edu.cn

Population aging has become a universal phenomenon in China, and it has brought profound and arduous challenges to the formulation and implementation of public policies. Corresponding to the dynamic changes and complex structural characteristics of an aging society, aging policy system should also have the characteristics of timely adjustment, multi-integration and coordination. It is important to promote the scientific response to the aging population challenge and enhance the overall governance capacity of China. This study collects aging policies at the national level in 1980-2019, and conducts quantitative research on policy texts based on the LDA theme model. The paper analyzes the stage characteristics of national aging policy since the 1980s, including policy makers, policy content and policy tools. The study finds that aging policy system in China has undergone significant adjustments in terms of above three aspects, which is more coordinated and integrated, emphasizing the division of labor and cooperation between the government, society, market and family. With the rapid population aging and big changes in family structure, aging policy of China also faces a series of new challenges, such as lacking of relevant policies of various types of family support and services, re-employment and social participation, age-friendly living environment reconstruction. In view of this, the paper focuses on innovation strategies of future aging policies in key areas such as family capacity building, elderly social participation and age-friendly community construction.

Wang Xuehui is Post-doctoral Fellow of Public Management and Public Policy at Fudan University. She has published several articles in Chinese journals. Her current research focuses on exploring the trends and characteristics of health status of older population and their far-reaching impact on long-term care services in China.

Song Liangjun is currently Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Center for Population and Development Policy Studies from Fudan University. Her research interests include but not limited to: health and ageing/long-term care for elderly people, social engagement in later life/Informal caregiving, and death and dying at end of life.

Indian Elderly and the 'Familialist' State Policies

Anuja AGRAWAL

Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics,
University of Delhi
anujaagrawal@gmail.com

The proposed paper will focus upon the policies of the Indian state towards the elderly constituents of the family. This is an important discussion as although Indian population still remains structurally young, there is a substantial increase in the elderly population for well-known reasons. Changing family structures, most notably the decline in family size owing to declining total fertility rates and increase in work related migration practices also have a direct bearing on the problem of elderly care.

The paper will specifically focus upon two policy measures that have been undertaken over the last decade and a half. Firstly, the discontinuation of the old pension scheme and commencement of the National Pension scheme in January, 2004 and, secondly, the enactment of The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizen's Act, 2007. In the absence of a clearly formulated family policy in India, these two measures give us a very good idea about the attitude of the Indian state towards the elderly constituent of the family, as well as the family itself.

What is common to both these measures is an overt backtracking by the state from any form of direct and substantial commitment to the wellbeing of the elderly and, contrarily, a commitment to schemes and machineries which enforce the obligation of the children to look after the parents and other elderly relatives, in turn reinforcing the role of the family as the sole provider of social security to its dependents. Seen in light of a social-cultural order which is exceedingly patrilineal, this also reinforces son-preference and is in direct contradiction to the other aspects of Indian family policy measures.

The paper will consider the social and legal implications of these policies as well as spell out the underlying familialism, both material and ideological, of these measures. It will also situate these two measures against the backdrop of other failed attempts to bring about policy measures which have sought to impose greater responsibility on the state to provide for the elderly.

Anuja Agrawal is Associate Professor at the Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi. She is the author of *Chaste Wives and Prostitute Sisters: Patriarchy and Prostitution among the Bédias of India* (Routledge, 2008) and editor of *Migrant Women and Work* (Sage, 2006). She has been a recipient of Commonwealth Scholarship (UK) and has been a visiting lecturer at Kyoto University. She teaches sociology of family and kinship as well as population studies to postgraduate students and has written on a wide range of issues, especially in the fields of family, kinship, marriage and gender studies. Her publications can be accessed at <http://du-in.academia.edu/anujaagrawal>.

How Family Policies Redefine Families: The Case of Mainland China-Hong Kong Cross-Border Families

CHEE Wai-chi

Education Studies, Hong Kong Baptist University
wcchee@hkbu.edu.hk

China's one-child policy represents an unprecedented extreme state control on population, transforming China's family structure. When the policy was in place, from 1979 to 2015, Chinese parents who desired more children used different ways to evade this policy. One such way was tourism birth in Hong Kong. From 2003 to 2012, about 200,000 babies were born in Hong Kong to Mainland Chinese parents until a ban was enforced to bar Mainland women from giving birth in Hong Kong. Through the experiences of pregnant Mainland Chinese women crossing the border to give birth in Hong Kong, this paper seeks to explore the impact of childbirth policy, migration regulations and welfare provision on family practices.

Data are drawn on ethnographic research between 2012 and 2018 with 45 low-income families wherein the mothers stay on temporary visas to take care of their Hong Kong-born children who go to school in Hong Kong. Findings reveal that the way that these parents come to terms with family-making is filled with contradictions between family-related policies and Asian traditional family values – one-child policy that disregards gender vs cultural preference to have sons to perpetuate the family line; migration regimes separating parents and child vs cultural ideal of an intact family; welfare policies that stigmatize the parents as irresponsible vs social practice of families as care provider. Building on theories of biopolitics and migration infrastructure, this paper discusses how these competing forces challenge the well-being of transnational families and how the families understand and address these challenges.

Chee Wai-chi (PhD in Anthropology, Chinese University of Hong Kong) is Assistant Professor in Education Studies at Hong Kong Baptist University. Her research interests include migration, education, youth, globalization, religion, and culture and identity. She has published in various international journals including *Mobilities*, *Social Indicators Research*, *Children's Geographies*, and *Asian Anthropology*. She has also contributed chapters to *Refugees, Immigrants, and Education in Global South* (2013 Routledge; Jackie Kirk Outstanding Book Award), *Religious Pluralism, State and Society in Asia* (2014 Routledge), *Detaining the Immigrant Other* (2016 Oxford University Press), and *Hong Kong Culture and Society in the New Millennium* (2017 Springer).

The Introduction of the Long-Term Care Insurance in Korea: Changes in Familial Care and Policy Implications

Erin Hye-Won KIM

Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore
sppkhw@nus.edu.sg

In July 2008, the Korean government introduced the Long-Term Care Insurance (LTCI), a social insurance program for elderly people with functional limitations. By providing support for home-based care and nursing home use, the program aims to meet the increasing long-term care needs of elderly people and reduce the heavy care burden on their family members. Using the introduction as a case study, we examine how public provision of elder care affects private long-term care efforts in Korea, where traditional elder care system is heavily reliant on the family. We plan to examine various outcome variables, including elderly people's coresidence with adult children and the actual and expected division of care labor between the government and family members.

Data for empirical analysis come from the 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, and 2014 waves of the Korean Longitudinal Study of Ageing, a longitudinal survey of nationally representative Koreans aged 45 or above. To answer the above questions, first, we describe the patterns in the outcome variables over time. Next, regression analyses will examine how elderly respondents' functional limitations in 2006 (i.e., before the introduction of the LTCI), as an exogenous proxy for their LTCI eligibility, are associated with the outcome variables in the following waves. Policy implications will be drawn for governments in Korea and other rapidly aging Asian countries, which are expanding the public provision of long-term care.

Erin Hye-Won Kim is Assistant Professor in the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore (NUS). Dr Kim is also a faculty associate in the Centre for Family and Population Research and the Asia Research Institute at NUS. Before joining the NUS faculty, she earned her master's and doctoral degrees in Public Policy from Duke University. Dr Kim's research examines the relationships between social policy, individual and family behaviors, and people's well-being, particularly in the context of rapid population aging in Asian countries. Her research has been published or accepted for publication in leading journals, including *Journal of Marriage and Family*, *Journal of Aging and Health*, *Population Research and Policy Review*, *Demographic Research*, and *Ageing and Society*. She serves on the editorial boards of *Asian Population Studies*, *Korean Journal of Policy Studies*, and *Korean Public Administration Review*.

Expansion of Thailand's Social Pension Policy and its Implications for Family Support for Older Persons in Thailand

Bussarawan TEERAWICHITCHAINAN

Department of Sociology, and Centre for Family and Population Research
National University of Singapore
puk@nus.edu.sg

Wiraporn POTHISIRI

College of Population Studies, Chulalongkorn University
wiraporn.p@chula.ac.th

John KNODEL

Population Studies Center, University of Michigan
jknodel@umich.edu

Thailand is the second-most aged society in Southeast Asia and one of a few Asian countries that provide universal social pension for older citizens. In 2009, the Thai government changed the Old-Age Allowance (OAA) scheme from a means-tested program to a universal social pension program for adults aged 60 and older who did not receive other government pension. The policy has been heralded internationally as a notable example of how developing countries can improve social protection for their older-aged populations. Nevertheless, it has also received criticisms in Thailand, including concerns that OAA may erode filial piety and replace filial support for aging parents. Our study examines the recent expansion of Thailand's social pension and its implications for intergenerational support exchanges between aging parents and adult children. We analyze nationally representative data from the 1994-2017 Surveys of Older Persons in Thailand that cover the periods prior to and after the universalization of social pension scheme. We address the following research questions: To what extent does Thailand's older-aged populations benefit from OAA and how has this changed over time? Who among older Thais relies on OAA as the main income source and how has the pattern changed before and after the 2009 expansion of the OAA scheme? Does dependence on OAA as the main income source make older persons less likely to receive various types of non-monetary familial support compared to those primarily depending on children? How is relying on OAA as the primary income source associated with old-age well-being such as perceived income adequacy and psychological well-being among older Thais?

Bussarawan (Puk) Teerawichitchainan holds joint appointments as Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and the Centre for Family and Population Research at the National University of Singapore (NUS). Prior to joining NUS, she was Associate Professor of Sociology in the School of Social Sciences, Singapore Management University. Her research interests lie at the intersection of family demography, social gerontology, population health, and social stratification. She conducts research on these topics mostly in the context of Southeast Asia. Her current research generally examines the roles of family, policy, and social structure in explaining the wellbeing of older persons in Southeast Asia. This includes an ongoing study funded by the National Institutes of Health on the long-term impacts of war and trauma exposure on health and wellbeing of older Vietnamese survivors in northern Vietnam.

Wiraporn Pothisiri is Associate Professor at College of Population Studies (CPS) at Chulalongkorn University in Thailand. Her research interests include health and social aspects of population aging, fertility and reproductive health, and population projection. She also serves as Member for the Research Ethics Review Committee for Research Involving Human Research Participants of Chulalongkorn University (Health Sciences) and Member for the National Aging Plan Monitoring Sub-committee. Her recent research focuses on the association between education and health status among Thai older population, roles of family and its support on older persons' psychological well-being and health care utilization, and the development of community capacity in response to needs of older persons.

John Knodel is Research Professor Emeritus at University of Michigan and International Affiliate of the College of Population Studies, Chulalongkorn University. He conducted collaborative research since 1971 on a wide range of social demographic topics in Southeast Asia, especially in Thailand but also in Cambodia and Vietnam and most recently in Myanmar. During the last two decades his studies focused mainly on issues related to the older aged population including the AIDS epidemic impact on older persons, how migration of adult children affects older age parents, intergenerational family support exchanges, and broad assessments of the situation of older persons including comparative analyses involving Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. His research involves both quantitative and qualitative methods. Current research focuses on long term care of older persons, widowhood and grandparental care of children left behind by migrants from Myanmar to Thailand. Virtually all his work is done in collaboration with colleagues in the region.

Inclusion of Same-Sex Union in Family Policies in Taiwan, Japan, and Singapore

CHUNG Wei-Yun

Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore
aricw@nus.edu.sg

Literature on family policies often discusses around heterosexual families, and studies on non-normative families of LGBT people are usually conducted in the Western context. Discussions about Asian LGBT families are particularly rare due to their low social visibility and lack of legal recognition. However, progress of legal recognition of same-sex union has been observed in some countries. For instance, in 2015 the Taiwanese government proclaimed that the social acceptance of non-normative families, including LGBT ones, is a national responsibility and started to work on the legislation of same-sex union. In Japan, via household registration same-sex couples can obtain the legal rights exclusively for family members.

By investigating the relationship between family policies, legal and administrative measures around same-sex union, and LGBT people's personal and familial well-being in Taiwan, Japan, and Singapore, this paper aims to expand the cultural scope of studies on LGBT families and demonstrate a possible path for the inclusion of LGBT people in the family policy making in East Asia.

This paper begins with the definition of family policy and the explanation of the relationship between family policies and national welfare regimes. It then briefly explains the social acceptance of LGBT people and policies that influence the well-being of LGBT people in Taiwan, Japan, and Singapore. Finally, it discusses how the change of family policies in these three countries affects LGBT people's well-being in terms of social protection within the national welfare regime.

CHUNG Wei-Yun is a postdoctoral fellow at Asia Research Institute (ARI), National University of Singapore. Her research interests include gender relations at work and at home, work-life balance, and family policies in East Asia. Before coming to ARI, she obtained a PhD degree at the University of Cambridge. Her PhD thesis looked at the gendered career trajectories and work-life arrangements of the civil servants in Taiwan.

**Listening to Voices from Inside:
State and Family-Policies on LGBT Landscape
in Iligan City, Lanao del Norte, Philippines**

Jed B. OTANO

Department of History, Mindanao State University-Iligan Institute of Technology
jed.otano@g.msuiit.edu.ph

Despite the overall social concerns including sexual conservatism in cultures (Widmer & Newcomb, 1998), Philippines has been branded as one of the more LGBT- friendly countries in Southeast Asia. The traditional family structure in the Filipino context is largely based on the social formations that helps facilitate the influence of family relations, values, and expectations over individual behaviors (Cabegin et. al, 1993). However, public debates on legal policies are well influenced by moral standards and religious fundamentalism (Austria, 2004) especially on how should these compliments and reinforce the supposed family policies. Using theoretical analysis and thematic approach, this paper looks into the context of state-related family-policies through the lens of select informants from Mindanao, Southern Philippines specifically in Iligan City; by determining significant level of information on and implications of these supposed protective policies. Qualitatively, as reflected from their narratives, there is a considerable degree on the lack of awareness and knowledge amongst the informants brought by struggling issues of self-identification, level of acceptance and rejection from the immediate family coupled with self-imposed silence, lack of inclinations, changing behaviors, challenges to inclusion and hostile environment. Limitations to this study include an elaborated analysis breakdown on the correlation between variables (religion, work, educational attainment, etc.) and themes (gender identification, level of acceptance, awareness and knowledge in relation to family policies) identified, which will be a greater consideration for further research. Meanwhile, the target population (informants) of this study are neither the LGBT parents with non-traditional family set-up nor specific families and parents having LGBT children and relatives, but rather those LGBT individuals as family members.

Jed B. Otano is currently Assistant Professor of History at Mindanao State University–Iligan Institute of Technology, Iligan City, Lanao del Norte, Philippines. Serving the said institute for almost 6 years, he had done researches on local history, peace studies, gender and development, and indigenous peoples' issues on inclusivity. He has done extension programs and activities to various grassroot communities in Southern Philippines in terms of peace education, peacebuilding initiatives and humanitarian actions.

“Stay-at-home Fathers” and their Families: What Lessons for Policymakers?

Yvonne ARIVALAGAN

Institute of Policy Studies, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy,
National University of Singapore
yvonne.arivalagan@nus.edu.sg

This Singapore-based qualitative study of 21 stay-at-home fathers (SAHFs) and 9 spouses of SAHFs seeks to clarify the policy environment surrounding modern fatherhood and parenting through examining the constraints facing SAHFs and their partners, particularly which constraints are an effect of existing policies and which offer new possibilities for meaningful policy intervention.

Major constraints facing SAHFs and their partners include dual-income pressures stemming from living costs and heavily gendered norms that are enshrined in policy and continue to govern parenting roles. Many interviewees noted that the emphasis on dual-income families and reliance on domestic helpers, grandparents and childcare centers as alternative modes of childcare impeded the building of healthy parent-child relationships. Government incentives for engaging alternative modes of childcare also risk reducing the status of fathers as caregivers for their children. Gender-based differences in eligibility for parental leave and other benefits impeded role flexibility in married couples, which was found to contribute to greater satisfaction in family life.

The researcher argues that Incentivizing companies to implement flexible work arrangements and strengthen discrimination protection for fathers (and mothers) could normalize and elevate the status of working parents in our society. The strong professional identification that many SAHFs continue to retain further indicates the need for better transition support for male caregivers re-entering the workforce. Many SAHFs considered 2 weeks of paternity leave insufficient for fathers to invest meaningfully in childcare because of the deeply involved nature of childcare and the heavy reliance on alternative modes of childcare support. This could possibly contribute to the under-utilization of paternity leave. These are some of the policy implications will be addressed in the paper.

Yvonne Arivalagan is Research Associate at the Institute of Policy Studies, National University of Singapore (NUS). She is interested in exploring how gender norms evolve under strict or prescriptive policy conditions and how policy can be a useful tool in shaping the choices of individual actors. Besides gender and family issues, she also researches on ageing and public health in Singapore. Yvonne holds a Master’s degree in Development Studies from Katholieke Universiteit Leuven and a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from NUS.

Whose Well-being? Filipino Single Mothers' Access to Child Care Provisions in the Philippines and Japan

Jocelyn O. CELERO

Asian Center, University of the Philippines–Diliman
jocelyn.celero@gmail.com

This study compares child care policies and programs in the Philippines and Japan. It examines how, through these policies, Japan and Philippine governments frame notions of “family” and “well-being”. This qualitative research builds on interviews with (40) Filipino single mothers living in Tokyo and focus group discussions with single mother returnees in the Philippines from 2010 to present. Most women participants belong to 40-60 age group, with some high school to university education, and have engaged in a range of occupations over the years while raising children. Constituting a new social risk (NSR) group, single mothers are regarded as the poorest and most economically marginalized in Japan and the Philippines. The current paper provides detailed discussion of welfare services that enable Filipino mothers to rear children, reconcile work and family life, and obtain sources of financial support.

Despite striking difference in demographic trends and economic status, both countries, in accordance to family codes and child-related policies, envision a gender-equal society that is vital to its productivity and future. An assessment of its existing programs and policies shows that in reality, however, single mothers in Japan and the Philippines face challenges attributed to the persistence of familism and patriarchy. Japan makes a distinct case of an industrialized power that reinforces imbalances in work and family life, making it hard for single mothers to be self-sufficient through work and obtain child support from former spouses. Meanwhile, child rearing provisions in the Philippines, despite improvements in gender gap indices, frame family as “heterogeneous, dual-earning household”, and inevitably sideline issues of single parents. By comparing the child care policies in the Philippines and Japan, this paper contributes to explaining the implications of the intersection between migration and family policies on the well-being of migrant women, their children and families as a whole.

Jocelyn O. Celero is Assistant Professor at the Asian Center, University of the Philippines. She obtained her PhD in International Studies at Waseda University-Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies, Tokyo, Japan. Her dissertation examined the transnational life trajectories of 1.5- and second- generation Japanese-Filipinos. She been doing research on Japanese-Filipino families and Filipino migrants in Japan for more than eight years. Her research interests include migration, globalization, identity, social welfare and policy.

ABOUT THE CHAIRPERSONS

Bussarawan (Puk) Teerawichitchainan holds joint appointments as Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and the Centre for Family and Population Research. She received her PhD from the University of Washington. She was a past fellowship recipient of Fulbright, the Social Science Research Council, RAND, and the Population Council. Her research interests lie at the intersection of family demography, social gerontology, population health, and social stratification. She conducts research on these topics mostly in the context of Southeast Asia. Her current research generally examines the roles of family, policy, and social structure in explaining the well-being of older persons in Southeast Asia. This includes an ongoing study funded by the National Institute on Aging on the long-term impacts of war and trauma exposure on health and wellbeing of older Vietnamese survivors in northern Vietnam.

E | puk@nus.edu.sg

Chung Wei-Yun is Postdoctoral Fellow at Asia Research Institute (ARI), National University of Singapore. Her research interests include gender relations at work and at home, work-life balance, and family policies in East Asia. Before coming to ARI, she obtained a PhD degree at the University of Cambridge. Her PhD thesis looked at the gendered career trajectories and work-life arrangements of the civil servants in Taiwan.

E | aricw@nus.edu.sg

Erin Hye-Won Kim is Assistant Professor in the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore (NUS). Dr Kim is also a faculty associate in the Centre for Family and Population Research and the Asia Research Institute at NUS. Before joining the NUS faculty, she earned her master's and doctoral degrees in Public Policy from Duke University. Dr Kim's research examines the relationships between social policy, individual and family behaviors, and people's well-being, particularly in the context of rapid population aging in Asian countries. Her research has been published or accepted for publication in leading journals, including *Journal of Marriage and Family*, *Journal of Aging and Health*, *Population Research and Policy Review*, *Demographic Research*, and *Ageing and Society*. She serves on the editorial boards of *Asian Population Studies*, *Korean Journal of Policy Studies*, and *Korean Public Administration Review*.

E | sppkhw@nus.edu.sg

Gu Xiaorong is currently Research Fellow at Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore (NUS). She is a sociologist who shows great passions in 1) understanding how broader social and economic systems shape the development and wellbeing of young populations, and 2) in exploring the social consequences of China's economic reform for its social stratification patterns and for everyday life of ordinary people. Her wider research interests include child and youth development, migration, family, education, social stratification, China's political economy and mixed-methods research. Prior to her career as a sociologist, she worked as a lecturer of English literature and English-Chinese translation studies in Sun Yat-sen University, China.

E | arigx@nus.edu.sg

Ko Pei-Chun is a lecturer at the Centre for University Core, Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS). She received her PhD from University of Cologne, Germany. Prior to SUSS, she held a joint appointment in the Centre for Family and Population Research (CFPR) and the Asia Research Institute (ARI), National University of Singapore. Her research interests include productive ageing, life course, neighbourhoods and health, family sociology, later-life health, and social networks. Her recent work can be found in *Journal of Aging and Health* and *Social Science and Medicine*. She has recently joined the editorial board of *Journal of Family Studies* as an associate editor. Her co-edited special issue (with Wei-Jun Jean Yeung) — *Contextualizing Productive Aging in Asia* was published in *Social Science and Medicine* in 2019.

E | pcko@suss.edu.sg

Kriti Vikram is Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology at the National University of Singapore. In one stream of research, she examines the social determinants of child health and development in India. Another stream of research evaluates the implications of being left behind by migrant spouses and parents in India and China. Additionally, she examines the contextual determinants of fertility preferences and contraceptive use in India. She received her PhD from the University of Maryland and was closely associated with the India Human Development Panel Survey.

E | socvk@nus.edu.sg

Lavanya Balachandran is a sociologist working on issues of social mobility and social inequality in Singapore. Her broader research and teaching interests include family, education, race and ethnicity, social capital, ethnography, cultural studies and South Asian diaspora. Lavanya received a B.Acc in Accountancy, Nanyang Technological University (NTU), and thereafter worked in media and banking industries before completing her MA in Southeast Asian Studies, National University of Singapore (NUS) and PhD in Sociology (NUS), following which she joined as postdoctoral fellow with Asia Research Institute (NUS) and Centre for Family and Population Research. Her doctoral research examined the intersections of race and class through social capital in producing academic marginalization amongst ethnic Tamil youths in Singapore while her postdoctoral work explored the topic of remarriage and stepfamilies in Singapore.

E | lavanyab@nus.edu.sg

Sonja Drobnič is Professor of Sociology at the University of Bremen, Germany. Besides family policy, her research interests include social inequalities in the labor market and in the home, life course research, work-life balance, family and gender. She is co-PI of the research project “Formation and diffusion of family policy in a global perspective” at the Collaborative Research Centre “Global Dynamics of Social Policy”.

E | sonja.drobnic@uni-bremen.de

Wei-Jun Jean Yeung is Professor at the Department of Sociology and the Cluster Leader in the Changing Family in Asia research cluster in Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore (NUS). She chairs the Family, Children, and Youth Research Cluster in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences in NUS. Professor Yeung is on the editorial boards of *Demography*, *Journal of Marriage and Family*, and *Journal of Family Issues*, and has served on the board of the Child Development Journal and on numerous scientific review committees. She is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Institute for Southeast Asian Studies and an international academic advisor to the Institute of Social Science Studies in Peking University. Prof Yeung was a co-principal investigator of the Panel Study of Income Dynamics. She is an international advisor of several family panel studies in the world. She is currently conducting a study with colleagues to examine the impact of migration on Chinese children’s development. Prof Yeung’s current research includes various family demographic issues in Asia and in America. Her recent publications include edited special issues on *Asian Fatherhood*, *Transitioning to Adulthood in Asia*, and *Shifting Boundaries of Care in Asia* and *Economic Stress and Families in Asia*.

E | ariywj@nus.edu.sg