

Understanding Living Arrangement Preferences of Youth from the Life Course Approach - An Exploratory Study

Date: 18 December, 2019 (Wed)
Time: 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.
Venue: C0719, 7/F, OUHK Main Campus

The life course approach to understanding various aspects of youth's transition into adulthood emphasizes the inter-relatedness of the life course changes of their family members. One of the major aspects of transition into adulthood is the establishment of residence independent of parental home. In this study, the life course approach is applied to understanding the aspirations and preferences for independent living arrangement of nine male and 15 female university students in Hong Kong. Intensive interviews were conducted with these students about their family background, past and current living arrangements as well as their housing aspirations and preference. Analysis of the interview results show that our interviewees have short-run and long-term aspirations and preferences which are related to their previous housing paths, personal changes that accompany their transition into adulthood as well as to the life course changes of their other family members. Furthermore, our interview results show that these aspirations and preferences need to be contextualized against the residential property market and housing policies in Hong Kong.

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