

Dynamiques démographiques, politiques sociales et relations entre générations : vers de nouvelles configurations ?

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Recent publications of Peng DU

Peng DU & Lili Xie, The use of law to protect and promote age-friendly environment, Journal of Social Work Practice, Pp13-21, Volume 29. March , 2015.

DU Peng, Intergenerational Solidarity and old-age support for the social inclusion of elders in Mainland China: the changing roles of family and government, Ageing & Society, Vol.33, January, 2013. Pp 44-63.

Title of presentation: *Ageing, the family planning policy, intergenerational relationships and the management of pensions.*

Abstract

China has more than 212 million older persons over 60 and 138 million over 65. At the end of 2014, the total population of China was 1.368 billion. It's expected to reach the peak of 1.458 billion in 2030, and then slowly drop to 1.403 billion around 2050. In China, the population has been aging rapidly. At the end of 2014, the older persons over 60 years was 15.5% of the total population, it was 10.1% for 65 and over. It's estimated that the proportion will be high than 33% by 2050. Due to the regional differences of socio-economic development, the population ageing varies in different provinces and pose huge challenges for social policies for urban and rural areas. According to the national population strategy, the TFR has been expected to maintain around 1.8 for the next decades, the current level is about 1.5, and therefore the family planning policy has been modified gradually to allow the one child couple to have two children and eventually will aim to have two children policy in the near future.

However, it is not certain by now if the fertility level can be maintained at 1.8 due to the different assumptions and practices in rural and urban areas. The prospect is also affected by the development of social security system and social services for the older persons. To strengthen

the intergenerational relationships, filial piety has been considered a key virtue in Chinese culture for almost 2000 years. However, the demographic changes pose enormous challenges in reality due to the population ageing, urbanization and migration, changing living arrangements and the changing strategy of the government to provide the social support for the older persons. To meet the challenges, China has been developing the universal coverage of social security system; support the social services both from the policy and financial perspectives, to revise the laws and policies, to take measures to promote intergenerational relationship and create age-friendly environments.

Although the social concerns are worrying about the weakening intergenerational relationship, but empirical studies indicate the older generation has been giving the positive remarks about the younger generation on the filial behaviors to support the older generation. But it does need to improve the social security and services to support the younger generations to keep the momentum. The social security system has been developed rapidly and more than 200 million older persons are covered with pension, the key challenges on pension is the relatively low level comparing to the general income level of China and the huge difference between rural and urban areas. After the implementation of the law on social insurance, China has been trying the increase the pension level and creates a universal pension system nationally, at the same time pension funds are piloting to be invested in the financial market.