

## **Intergeneration mobility of education in Singapore: An empirical study**

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### **Abstract**

Just how socially mobile is Singapore? Are children born to highly educated parents more likely to achieve a higher educational attainment? If so, what are the modes of transmission?

Education policies and parental background are two forces of mobility. In Singapore, the role of parental influence on their children's education is reduced with the implementation of the Compulsory Education Act in 2002, which enables all Singaporeans to have equal opportunity for educational advancement.

Interestingly, recent comparative studies of educational stratification have shown that in all Western countries, economic; social and cultural background factors are still important in determining educational attainment despite the implementation of egalitarian policies and the expansion of educational attainment. (Jaeger and Anders, 2003).

Hence, it is important to explore the situation in Singapore. In this paper, we will look at how family background; relationships with parents; parent's expectations and motivational tools affect the educational attainment of the individual. We will also investigate if the transmission channels are in turn dependent on parental education.

Note: This research study was published in *YouthSCOPE – A Journal of Youth Research Studies in Singapore, Issue 1, Year 2006* (National Youth Council).

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