

Study on the articulation of needs of low income seniors

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Abstract

Underscoring the rationale of Singapore's ageing policies are the ideas of 'familism' and self-reliance of socially-responsible citizens. Yet, faced with the growing concern of the special needs of an ageing population, the community has progressively stepped up its role from peripheral support to a more central node of contact between individuals and the larger society. The research study will investigate how low income seniors articulate their needs collectively, exercising their agency by partaking in communal activities as contextualised within the social space of TOUCH Seniors Activity Centre, consequentially enabling the understanding of how the community can function as a middle ground between these individuals and the larger public sphere. This study aims to understand seniors' needs as ruminated by themselves, in the hope of refining the accessibility and availability of help opened to them and to provide research material for future development of ageing policies, particularly in the relevance of the community in old age. Data would be collected from a sample of 36 seniors who are above the age of 70 and living with aged spouses in 3-room HDB flats.

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