Chapter 1 : Family separation: Research on how it affects children

This qualitative study examines the social, cultural, and spiritual roles of faith community in Chinese immigrants' marriages and family lives. Also, the research-based connections between: (i) families and religion, and more specifically, (ii) Chinese Christian families and religion are examined.

Working in a bank Table 1: These focus group sessions were led by the community coordinators from the respective ethno-cultural groups rather than the researchers to ensure an equal distribution of power between researchers and study participants and to enable them to share their life experiences in a non-judgmental environment. We understand data saturation as "adequacy" of the data rather than "collecting data until new information is obtained" p. In particular, the specific methodological choices deployed to obtain data saturation in this study were: To ensure accuracy of both the transcription and transcription processes, one community coordinator transcribed and translated a focus group and the other subsequently reviewed the work done, and vice versa. Furthermore, member checks were used to verify the accuracy of the information provided by the participants at the first level of analysis. These contextual themes, along with the theoretical ones, will be presented together in the section below. Both of us have to work day and night. Careful analysis of the interim transcripts reveals that for both Tamil and Chinese mothers the primary reason to leave their homeland was to offer a better and safer future for their children. For Tamil mothers moving to Canada was a way to escape civil war, while for Chinese mothers it was a way to escape the rigid Chinese Communist regime. Through their narrative it was clear that they all left better living conditions, rewarding jobs from both an economic and social perspective, as well as overall a more satisfactory life with friends and family. Even if most of the Tamil mothers maintained the same housewife status after migration, they felt more in control of their life back home in Sri Lanka than in the new country. The fact that they had to go back to school, like their children, to learn the new language made them feel uncomfortable. Language barriers and unsatisfying living conditions were also identified by Chinese mothers, along with the difficulties experienced with finding a job. Only a few of them were able to secure the same job position they had before, while the majority were under-employed or had to go back to school to pursue further education in order to be able to enter the workforce in Canada. For both groups the preference was to read magazines that contained an abundance of advertisements compared to the magazines they had access to in their countries of origin. All Tamil mothers indicated that they, as well as their children, spent more time watching television than they used to in Sri Lanka. Tamil mothers spent their time watching Tamil soap-operas or TV shows broadcasted in their language of origin. It was also the preference of Chinese mothers to watch downloadable movies in their language of origin. Some Chinese mothers liked to watch newscasts or documentaries in English to stay current and to practice their English. For some of them watching TV was a way to overcome the feeling of isolation as a result of being in a new country Table 2. Similarly, all mothers reported that their children watched English television, including cartoons and movies. Children from both groups watched similar TV channels. Tamil mothers encouraged their children to watch English TV as they felt this would help them improve their language skills. Sitting at home, you feel really horrible. You feel that you are very lonely. Come home eat and sleep. Here there is a lot of free time for the kids. So for that reason they spend more time with the tv. They talk better English than us right. My sister in law is very thin, but she has cholesterol. But now, sometimes, I feel that small eyes are beautiful too. But it does not necessarily follow that they are beautiful here in Canada as well. For example, before I felt that small mouth is pretty, but now, big mouths are pretty too. My daughter often tells me, because my husband does not pay attention to appearance. She would tell my husband that in Canada, appearance is vital. You must pay attention to that, for example, if you go for interviews. It is not a matter of good looking or not, you have to leave people a good impression about your presentation of yourself. My daughter is very sensitive to this. Some of these quotes combine one or more analytical themes even if presented in the table under one specific theme. This choice was made to preserve

the integrity of these narratives. Homogenization and normalization External objectification Internal self objectification Wang: To be honest, it might be that I have changed myself. Somehow we have changed too, we have changed internally and externally. Really, often she accompanies me for clothes shopping. This shirt is bought with her help. Often, she exerts influences on me. When she was little, I bought clothes for her. When I go shopping, she is like, all the clothes that caught your eyes were too expensive and too formal. She cannot accept mine. The clothes that she bought are very much casual and they indeed look much nicer. This is how they go here. Here they look at you strange if you do that [wear you hair in braids]. Little by little, I have started to let her go, okay but she should not go too much over. I myself will style it for her. Before, all I put on her hair was slides [bobby pins], or she would wear a wool band but if you look at it like that, now she is taking more care with herself. I am dressing one way, my friends are dressing another way, so I should dress with more style. Men want their wives to be good looking but they worry less about how they look. To me, I feel like I have been putting on weight everyday. I am now doing sit-ups everyday to be thinner. Sexually objectifying gaze Sudhanthira: Here, people come with all types of clothes on. They say you are sexy. And her classmates, for birthdays, would give her clothes for gifts. I really think they are very good. She then put it on for me. I could not understand what made him sexy. Here it is like I can tell how women can be sexy, but I never learned how men could be sexy. When we see, we can feel it in our hearts. As soon as we see, the feeling comes. She looks well, she looks beautiful. Like when we look at you, we go.. She is dressed well. What if we looked like this. It is in our hearts. They come with their hair open and you say that is wrong. Why am I making this child have a hard time. She says they come dressed like this and that but you say it is wrong for me to go like that. When I look at them, I feel Ashamed. So I said okay, you can go the way that you like. Where did you buy that blouse? Ohh it is beautiful, they tell her. Teachers act with them as if they are friends. Her teacher is your age [name of one of the community coordinators]. She [the teacher] was a bit careful when she [the child] came from Sri Lanka. Good teacher, that one. She acts very close to them. So when she comes and tells me I think that I need to change. What the child says is right. We are big people, we only know of the old days. We learn through our kids. Some things, I only understand after my child tells me. Like how they act in school. I tell her friends, boyfriends are the only thing that she is not allowed to do. Homogenization, normalization, and objectification processes [20] 3. Furthermore, both groups experienced that their "ideal beauty" and their body image had changed since moving to Canada Table 2. As a Tamil mother said: Tamil mothers described that after coming to Canada their ideal of beauty changed to conform to the Western one, which they perceived to be related to physical appearance only and which for girls and women meant being thin and slim. In Tamil culture being skinny is associated with being sick and unhealthy, whereas they felt that it is the opposite in Canada where overweight is seen as indicative of illness and unhealthy behaviors.

Chapter 2 : CiteSeerX â€" Citation Query The fit between qualitative research and characteristics of familie

Abstract. Research on religion and family in the United States has increased in the last two decades. With the increasing immigrant population, studies on minorities including Chinese immigrant families are also important.

Asking, Witnessing, Interpreting, Knowing: We present a framework to describe the process of conducting community-based qualitative research. Qualitative research activities are presented as a series of interrelated acts called asking, witnessing, interpreting, and knowing. Each act in the research process is described in terms of current qu We critically examine the assumption that qualitative research serves to reveal or amplify the voices of participants. We examine connections between qualitative research and social change and describe the use of qualitative research to not only empower marginalized groups, but also to critique and transform privileged groups. The framework is intended to help community researchers to more fully conceptualize, understand, and engage in the practice of qualitative research. The merits of qualitative research have been increasingly recognized by community psychology in Show Context Citation Context Descriptions of the role of researcher in collecting qualitative data range from that of a neutral observer to helper, friend, family member, or even therapist Daly, ; Gilgun, An overview for pediatric psychology by Barbara H. Bickham, All Barbara, H. Fiese - Journal of Pediatric Psychology, " To provide a framework for critically evaluating qualitative research to professionals interested in pediatric psychology. Qualitative methods emphasize the phenomenological experience of participants and may be pertinent to studying contextual factors that contribute to child health and Qualitative methods emphasize the phenomenological experience of participants and may be pertinent to studying contextual factors that contribute to child health and well-being. A bask overview of the types of qualitative research, methodological procedures, and ethical con-siderations is provided. Examples are drawn from qualitative studies that focus on child and family health. The artide concludes with guidelines for examining qualitative research and recommendations for use in pediatric psychology. Qualitative methods have the potential to address important issues In pediatric psychology. Qualitative methods are rooted in disciplines such as sociology and an-thiopology that take as their starting point the con-text in which study participants are embedded. Because the majority of psychologists are Show Context Citation Context In some cases, involvement will not extend beyond the interview context e. In other cases, however, the researcher becomes immersed in they daily rhythms of the participants and A General Evolutionary Methodology for Sustainable. Hwang, "In order to determine the dynamic factors inducing the evolution of environmental management strategies in the context of sustainable development, I draw upon theory from the field of general evolutionary sciences including chaos theory, complexity science, and nonlinear thermodynamics. I translate this emerging theoretical worldview to a general evolutionary methodology for the analysis of sustainable development strategies. Application of the methodology to selected case studies indicates that sustainable development strategies co-evolve in response to organizational values, technology, and organizational structure inside the firm, and to the environmental management field outside the firm. Competing notions of sustainable development influence the politicization process that limits the types of sustainable development strategies chosen and implemented. The evidence also indicates that new pathways of efficiency are emerging in sustainable development based on market driven strategies, institutional partnerships, and the formation of new industries. The dissertation is based on case study analysis of three sustainable development projects of three different environmental organizations, the International Institute for Energy Conservation, the Environmental Law Institute, and Sanders International. The results have implications for sustainable development theory and practical implications for policy analysts and sustainable development advocates, as well as for a subtler and deeper personal understanding of our place in the world. Strategies to elicit and analyze relational family data by Linda Bell, M. The purposes of this article are to identify strategies for creating family-based data as well as to offer The purposes of this article are to identify strategies for creating family-based data as well as to offer a theoreti-cal discussion of how data

analysis can attend to and enhance the knowledge base of the family experience. This discussion will be anchored within the description of an ongoing research study involving the examination of the process of parent-infant attachment. In this research, the processes of mater-nal and paternal attachments to their infants are regarded as co-constructed phenomena within the family environment. In this context, conceptualiza-tion of family interactional variables, strategies to elicit these variables, and paths to qualitative analysis of the data are presented. In light of the life course perspective, this semistructured interview study with 29 grandparents involved in the caregiving of their grandchildren in Chinese im-migrant families revealed three major themes: Despite immigration, Chinese grandparents contin-ued the tradition of providing care to grandchildren. Although the grandparent role entailed responsibilities and there were adjustments to make when living in the new place, overall, grandparents considered their caregiving experiences positive. Support to these grandparents, however, was needed at both family and Show Context Citation Context As in other studies that gear toward the significance of grandparenting, sthe commonly used qualitative semistructured interview was implementedsfor this study. It involved a direct concern with exp Privilege in families can be displayed in a number of ways. Privilege may be due to gender, birth order, marital status, parental status, socioeconomic status, educational attainment, or occupational status. In this study, I explored relationships among adult siblings and examined their In this study, I explored relationships among adult siblings and examined their Show Context Citation Context A feminist perspective includes methods that encourage the acknowledgment of the larger social reality of

Chapter 3 : Chinese immigrant parents' vaccination decision making for children: a qualitative analysis

Strengths and Challenges in Chinese Immigrant Families sense of family, having commitment to the family, enjoying each other's company, getting along, and being willing to compromise and forgive.

This article has been cited by other articles in PMC. This study explored how a subsample of new immigrant mothers from mainland China, a rapidly-growing subpopulation in Hong Kong, made decisions on various childhood and adolescent vaccines for their offspring, and identified key influences affecting their decision making. Methods Semi-structured in-depth interviews were conducted with 23 Chinese new immigrant mothers recruited by purposive sampling. All interviews were audio-taped, transcribed and analyzed using a Grounded Theory approach. Fear of vaccine-targeted diseases was a key motivating factor for parents adopting vaccination. Insufficient knowledge about vaccines and targeted diseases, lack of advice from health professionals and, if provided, suspicions regarding the motivations for such advice were common issues. Vaccination cost was a major barrier for many new immigrant parents. Conclusions Social norms play a key role influencing parental vaccination decision-making. Insight gained from this study will help inform healthcare providers in vaccination communication and policymakers in future vaccination programme. Vaccination decision making, Social norm, Immigrants, Qualitative analysis, Grounded theory Background Vaccination is among the most successful and cost-effective public health strategies for controlling a variety of communicable diseases [1]. In Hong Kong, childhood vaccines are administered under two strategies. Most routine vaccines B. Conversely, optional vaccines including Varicella, Haemophilus influenza type b, seasonal influenza A, Hepatitis A, Japanese encephalitis, Rotavirus, Meningococcal, and Human Papillomavirus HPV vaccines, are administrated on voluntary basis via primary care clinics the costs of which are fully or partially borne by recipients. For instance, in only Increasingly microbial factors are implicated in noncommunicable diseases NCDs indicating growing possibilities for vaccination against adulthood NCDs [7]]. The recently introduced HPV vaccine is a typical example targeting young adolescent girls to prevent adult-onset cervical cancer [8]. Nevertheless, since its launch in Hong Kong, only 2. Principal influences are perceived severity and susceptibility of vaccine-preventable diseases VPDs, beliefs about efficacy and safety of vaccines, and the cost of vaccination [11 - 15]. Additionally, social context, medical authorities government, family doctors and peers may also inform parental notions and attitudes about vaccines and VPDs related-risk [12, 15 - 20]. However, most existing studies are quantitative studies focusing on single vaccines, which limit understanding of how parental vaccination values and beliefs were shaped and interact, translating into vaccination decisions. Moreover, only fewer studies have involved minority groups in a community regarding parental VDM for children [21, 22]. No study we could find has combined all three of these features targeting Chinese migrants. Annually around 50, new immigrants from mainland China settle in Hong Kong presenting the most rapidly-growing subpopulation. Within Chinese culture, mothers remain the main caretakers of children and in most Hong Kong households make the family healthcare decisions, including vaccination decisions regarding their children [23]. Therefore, our study focused on new immigrant mothers. Methods Study design and sample A qualitative study with individual in-depth interviews under a Grounded Theory approach was chosen because it allows for unconstrained study of the range and experiential aspects of target perceptions, behaviours and underlying issues [24, 25]. It attempts to avoid presumptions, thereby enabling a broad-brush picture of key concerns to emerge as the ground for theory building. It is most useful when either little is known, or there is a wish to minimize presumptions about the target behaviours. Ethnic Chinese women who migrated from Mainland China a majority from Guangdong Province to Hong Kong no more than 7 years ago the minimum eligibility period for Hong Kong Special Administrative Region permanent residency, and have at least one child aged 14 years or younger living in a Hong Kong household were eligible for this study. These inclusion criteria gave an initial starting point for data collection. Participants were recruited using purposive sampling, where respondents meeting heterogeneous

socio-demographic criteria are targeted to capture the richness of the phenomenon. Under Grounded Theory, data collection and data analysis run parallel in an iterative process. Sample size was determined by data saturation no new material emerging over three consecutive interviews. After giving written informed consent, semi-structured individual in-depth interviews were conducted and digitally recorded. Interview locations were determined by participants for their privacy and convenience. Participants were initially asked whether their children had received all or some routine vaccines recommended by Hong Kong or mainland China governments, and to elaborate their choices. Participants were encouraged to discuss their attitudes and concerns regarding vaccination for their child ren, and their sources of vaccination information. The reasons why they decided for or against their children receiving a vaccine were explored using questions and prompts to encourage response elaboration. All interviews were conducted in Putonghua. Data analysis Interviews were performed concurrently with transcript analysis using constant comparative methods under Grounded Theory [24] to explore emergent themes in subsequent interviews. Data analysis under Grounded Theory has three coding stages. Data were first broken down by open coding whereby each event, idea or other element pertaining to a phenomenon, in each line of every transcript was labeled. Similar concepts were grouped and named into one category. Next axial coding was used to explore interrelationships between categories. Coded categories were specified into subcategories by identifying causal conditions, contexts, actions or consequences to build interconnections between categories. Finally, selective coding identified core categories associated with the research questions and their relationships with other categories wherein relevant findings of research interest were integrated and refined [24]. Disagreements were resolved by repeated textual reference, comparison and discussion, and, where necessary hierarchy re-assembly and re-coding. QSR NVivo 10 was used to facilitate the analytic process. Data analysis was based on original verbatim transcripts written in Chinese. The quotation in the Results section were presented in English after having been translated and back-translated using ethnographic principles to ensure equivalent meanings. Results Twenty-three new immigrant mothers participated between October to May

Chapter 4: ""Faith is Life": a qualitative study of christian faith and Chinese i" by Yaxin Lu

and Chinese immigrant families. Qualitative in-depth interviews were conducted with twenty- two highly religious Chinese Christian couples in the Southern United States.