



HOW DO CULTURAL BELIEFS AND RELIGIOUS VALUES SHAPE OLDER ADULTS' PERCEPTIONS OF FAMILY CAREGIVING EXPECTATIONS?



BACKGROUND

- Aging populations shift care responsibility to families.
- Cultural beliefs and religious values significantly shape caregiving perceptions (Hwang et al., 2021).

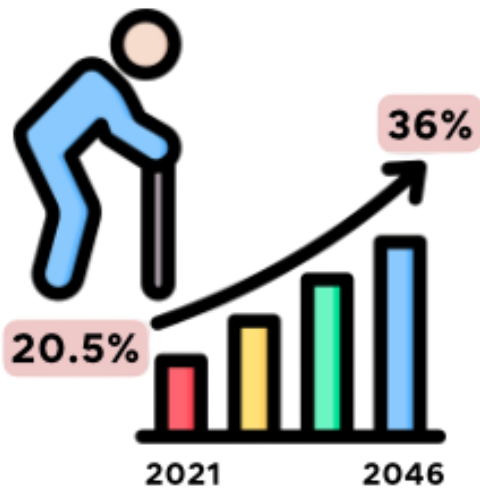
Beliefs influence family views on elder care responsibilities:

- moral duty
- religious obligation
- societal expectation

Why it is important to explore

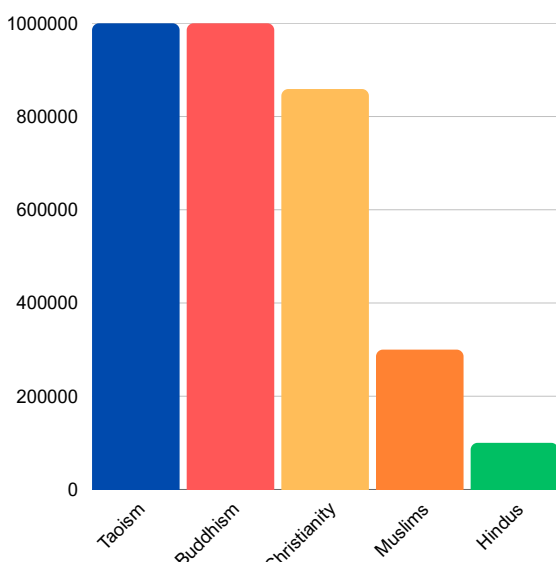
- As a meeting point of Chinese and Western cultures.
- Religions demonstrates societal tolerance
- The cultural richness of Hong Kong.
- Harmonious interactions among different communities.

The number of older adults in Hong Kong



(CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 2021)

The number of religious in Hong Kong



(Heleana, 2023)



THE RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

This research has been rarely explored

Three main objectives:

- How dictate family caregiving expectations
- The evolving family care expectations
- Provide suggestions



METHODOLOGY

Qualitative in-depth interview

Participants:

- 12 older adults aged 60 -70

Religious backgrounds:

- Buddhism, Taoism, Christianity and non-religious

Sampling methods

- Purposive sampling and snowball sampling

Data Analysis

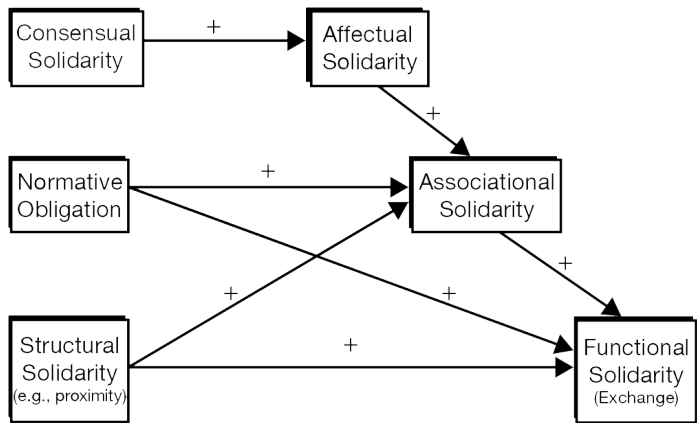
- Thematic analysis is employed to identify, analyze, and report patterns (themes) within the data



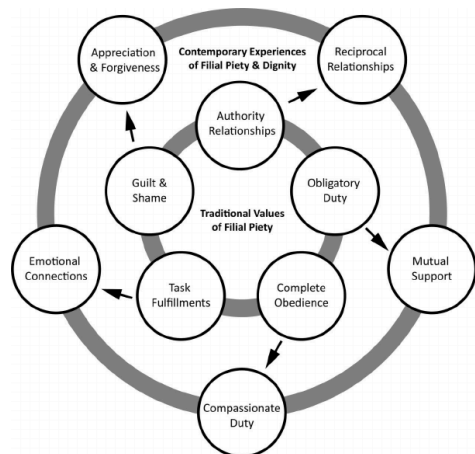
LITERATURE REVIEW

- Confucianism shapes family caregiving expectations through filial piety (Radice, T., 2017)
- Traditional norms position institutional care as a last resort
- Many older adults viewing institutional care as signal of familial failure (Campbell-Enns, et al, 2020)

Theoretical Framework: Intergenerational Solidarity Theory (Consensual solidarity and Normative obligation) & Filial Piety Model



Examines how cultural norms shape family support



Explains how Confucian traditions influence caregiving expectations



KEY FINDING

Theme 1: Filial Piety and Its Religious Interpretation

"There are many similarities between the Confucian concept of filial piety and the Christian concept of loving service."
(Participant 10, age 70, Christianity)

Theme 2: Religious Beliefs and Moral Views on Caregiving

"Although I have no religious beliefs, I believe that caring for others is a basic moral responsibility. We should have compassion for those around us. It is human nature."
(Participant 12, age 70, Non-religious)

Theme 3: Between Cultural Expectations and Institutional Options

"When I was young, only those without children went to elderly homes. It meant your family didn't want you."
(Participant 3, age 67, Buddhism)

"Although in Chinese culture, families should live together, but in order to get better care, living in a nursing home is also a good way."
(Participant 7, age 61, Christianity)

Theme 4: Future Care: Preferences, Needs, and Family Dynamics

"We have lived together for so many years, and of course we will live together in the future, so why should I go to a nursing home? I can hire a caregiver"
(Participant 1, age 61, Buddhism)

"If I get sick in the future, I will definitely choose to live in a nursing home where I can receive professional care"
(Participant 9, age 68, Non-religious)



DISCUSSIONS

How cultural and religious norms dictate caregiving expectations

Taoism and Buddhism : Compassion and spiritual practice.

Christianity : frames caregiving around love and service principles.

Non-religious: moral duty.

The evolving care expectations among older adults in Hong Kong

Buddhism and Taoism Influence: Some prefer living with family.

Christian and Non-religious: Show less resistance to nursing homes, seeking better services and socialization opportunities.

Trends: Increased emphasis on individual choice and quality of life



LIMITATIONS

Qualitative study the interview and analysis are depending on the **skills**, **knowledge** and **interpretation** of the interviewer

- Can introduce biases



RECOMMENDATIONS

- The government can increase nursing homes promotion, it can improve public perception.
- The government can provide financial assistance to small nursing homes to enhance the quality of care in nursing homes.

REFERENCE:

