

INTRODUCTION & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS 導論

BACKGROUND The Chinese community is the largest and the fastest growing Asian American subgroup population in the United States. This dramatic increase necessitates a deeper understanding of family caregiving among U.S. Chinese adults.

Traditional Chinese culture prioritizes the well-being of the entire extended family, which is different from mainstream Western culture which emphasizes each individual and the nuclear family. Influenced by filial piety, Chinese adult children assume the primary responsibility of caring for older parents. Filial piety still guides family care practices in modern China. This belief can be perpetuated through multiple generations when current caregivers set up good models for their children to follow.

In the U.S., Chinese adult children are often more acculturated and may have trouble understanding the cultural meaning of filial piety. However, the PINE Study has shown that U.S. Chinese older adults expect a high level of filial piety from their children. This generational discrepancy in cultural values may threaten harmony within the family and cause conflict detrimental to the health and well-being of both Chinese older parents and adult children. Moreover, taking care of older parents can be more burdensome for immigrant caregivers, who themselves may struggle with the stress from working and adjusting to life in America. This caregiving burden could intensify with the "One Child" generation immigrating to the U.S., as no siblings are available to share caregiving responsibilities. Therefore, it is imperative that we pay special attention to the vulnerability of Chinese adult children and work to understand their caregiving experience, health, and well-being.

PROJECT GOAL Guided by a community-based participatory research approach, The FILIAL PIETY Report is the product of a synergistic collaboration between the Chinese Health, Aging, and Policy Program at Rush University, Northwestern University, and many community-based organizations, agencies, and social service providers, including the Chinese American Service League and Xilin Asian Community Center.

The purpose of the PIETY study is to examine intergenerational solidarity and family caregiving among Chinese families. Our primary aims are to examine: 1) intergenerational solidarity and filial piety; 2) caregiving burden and stress; 3) physical, psychological, and social well-being of caregivers; and 4) challenges, barriers, and cultural variations in taking care of older parents in Chinese families in the U.S.

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背景 在美華裔有四百萬,是人口最多增長最快的亞裔人群。因此,加深對華裔家庭贍老的理解非常重要。中國文化更加側重於家庭,履行孝順義務是成年子女義不容辭的責任。在現代中國,孝道引導家庭養老,並且通過以身作則的方式代代相傳。在美國社會裡,成年子女往往更接受西方的思想,往往不能理解孝順的文化含義。松年研究表明,美國華裔老年人對成年子女具有很高的孝順期待。這種代溝會破壞家庭和睦,影響兩代人的健康。移民家庭的老人往往需求更多,然而子女又面臨著維持生計的負擔,因此成年子女照顧贍老的壓力更大。這種負擔在獨生子女家庭就特為尤甚。因此,我們需要深入了解成年子女和他們的贍老負擔。

計畫目標 在社區參與性研究方法的指引下,羅許大學華人老齡化研究中心,西北大學聯合其他社區機構,如華人諮詢服務處和希林中心共同推出了春暉報告。這個研究的目的是理解華裔家庭關係和贍老照顧。主要目標是深入了解:1.跨代家庭關係和孝順;2 成年子女的家庭贍老負擔;3.成年子女的健康。4.在美華裔家庭贍老的挑戰,障礙和文化特殊性。

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