

COMPLEX HOUSEHOLDS AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF MULTIPLE RESOURCES IN LATER LIFE: FINDINGS FROM A NATIONAL SURVEY

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Date: 23 October 2015, Friday

Time: 12nn - 1.30pm

Venue: Ventus - Evans

Seminar chaired by Dr Mu Zheng, Postdoctoral Fellow, ARI/CFPR, NUS

All are welcome! Light lunch will be provided.

Register at http://goo.gl/forms/P2AeczgrpG by 19 Oct 2015.

The availability of social and financial resources has profound implications for health and well-being in later life. Older adults often share resources with others who live with them, sometimes in households including relatives or friends. We examine differences in social support, social connections, money, and the household environment across types of living arrangements, develop hypotheses from two theoretical perspectives, one focusing on obligations toward kin, and one focused on social exchange within households, and test them using data from the National Social Life, Health, and Aging Project (NSHAP). We find that availability of resources is not consistently associated with the and other young presence of grandchildren relatives, but as often differs with presence of other adults. These findings suggest that a single type of resource tells us little about the distribution of the resources of older adults, and call on us to examine multiple resources simultaneously.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Juyeon Kim is an assistant professor of sociology at University of Seoul. She received her Ph.D. degree in Sociology from the University of Chicago in 2011 and was an assistant professor at National University of Singapore. Her research examines the dynamic interrelationships among family structure, social networks, resources, and health during the aging process. Her current works investigate (1) the health consequences of social resources and physiological functioning in the aging process, and (2) how those effects differ by race and gender, and (3) how unexpected exogenous shocks, such as the recent Great Recession, affect social and financial resources and thereby health. Her previous works have been published in Journals of Gerontology and Research on Aging.