

EMBRACING LONGEVITY: WISDOM, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES SERIES 2

SEMINAR

Dr. Yiqing Yang, MBA, PhD, is an Associate Professor of Sociology and International Studies at Western Carolina University. As a medical sociologist focusing on the social determinants of health and aging, she investigates the impact of cultural, psychosocial, familial, and community factors on the health and aging experiences of various age cohorts. Currently, Yiqing serves as a contractor for the Health Equity Data Consortium to investigate the effects of COVID-19 on the health, economic, and social well-being of households throughout the State of North Carolina.

4:00 PM - 5.30 PM 18 JUNE 2024 CJT813, HKU CAMPUS

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DR. YIOING YANG

Title: Unveiling Elder Mistreatment: External Measures vs. Subjective Perceptions

This study delves into the discrepancies between external measures and perceptions of elder abuse, using a rural sample of community-dwelling older Chinese adults aged 60 to 79 years. Participants responded to three screening questions regarding experiences of verbal, physical, or financial mistreatment. Despite 57 affirmative responses, none of these respondents selfidentified as victims of elder mistreatment, revealing a disconnect between subjective and external measures of elder abuse. Further analysis of their responses unveiled a predominant perception of elder mistreatment occurring within the family context, driven by adult children's unfilial attitudes and behaviors towards aging parents. This study underscores the significance of cultural context in defining, intervening, and preventing elder abuse, as aggregate or mean values of external measures may fail to capture the nuanced reality without considering the cultural context.