

Discussant comments from Sureeporn Punpuing on:

Haixia Wu (Institute of Population and Labor Economics, CASS): Support for the elderly afforded by children's family living separated from parents in China Rural Area

1. The paper is well written. The topic is relevant to current world issues, which involve both the elderly and migration issues. Although, the topic is also studied in many parts of the world.
2. The authors have set up a high impact of this study on the government's policy on rural pension insurance, and the security system for the older persons in rural area too. However, at this stage, this paper has not been able to link findings to the mentioned policies yet.
3. Methodology and Data: clearly explain the type of data set and its operation definitions, except for the term 'economic self-sufficiency'. It would be useful to know whether its concept is similar to the Thai King's theory on 'economic self-sufficiency, and how it's measured.
4. Most of the findings in this study are similarly to those of studies elsewhere particularly in Southeast and East Asia countries. It will be very interesting if there will be comparison studies within these countries in order to contribute to knowledge on older persons whose children living separated. This contribution may be different from those of the existing knowledge in the West, where the culture and belief, economic development levels and policies are quite different.
5. It will be very useful if the authors include the regions' economic and social development level background and the regions' differential in the discussion.
6. This study based on cross-sectional data analysis, therefore, some effects may not be emerge yet. For example, it's found that the older person in one person household receiving lowest financial support. This probably he/she remains economically active older person and healthy, therefore he/she is less likely to depend on their children's financial support, however, this situation will be changed sometimes when he/she gets older or faces with health problems. It will be very useful if the longitudinal data, which allow us to monitor changes in stage of life is taken into this type of study.

