Discussant comments from Sureeporn Punpuing on:

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Living arrangement and psychological well-being of elders in China

- 1. The topic is important in leading to quality of life of older person in China. However, the conclusion of this study did not lead to ideal pattern of living arrangement that would increase the older person's psychological well-being in China.
- 2. According to literature review, it's not so convincing that in the data analysis why the authors did separate models for male/female older person, and urban/rural?. This is because the 'sex' and 'area' are simply acted as control variables in the general model.
- 3. It's not clear whether the authors use the longitudinal or cross-sectional data analysis methods as in the data section, the authors mentioned that the data set being used is a longitudinal data, and one research question is on 'cohort or generational differential'. I think the author did not answer a research question on the cohort or generational differential yet.
- 4. To me, the 'living arrangement' refer to 'household living arrangement' rather than 'location of the children household', I think it'll be easy to follow the analysis if the authors will separate the 'living arrangement' into 2 variables: 1. location of the children household and 2. household living arrangement.
- 5. Some controlled variables such as 'family income' and 'year of schooling', that showed a negative relationship with level of psychological well-being should be explained in the Chinese context.
- 6. Recommend references:

Abas, M.A., **Punpuing, S**., Jirapramukpitak, T., Guest P., Tangchonlatip, K., Leese, M. and Prince, M. 2009. Rural-Urban Migration and Depression in Ageing Family Members Left Behind. **British Journal of Psychiatry**, pp. 54-60.

Abas, M.A., **Punpuing, S**. Jirapramukpitak, Tangchonlatip, K. and Leese, M. 2009. Psychological Wellbeing, Physical Impairments and Rural Aging in a Developing Country Setting. **Health and Quality of Life Outcomes**, 7: 66. Published online 2009 July 16. doi: <u>10.1186/1477-7525-7-66</u>