

Discussant comments from Sureeporn Punpuing on:

Household formation and composition in China's ethnic populations: A case study of 6 Yunnan villages
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Household formation and composition in China's ethnic minority populations: A case study of six Yunnan villages

1. The author has a high intension in contributing findings from this study to development of household formation theory, focusing on ethnic minority household in China. Unfortunately, this paper only described household formation and composition of the two ethnic minority groups in China.
2. It would be more interesting if the author will consider to revise the 'title' of this paper to 'Household formation and composition in China's ethnic minority populations: A case study of *Miao and Yi*'. While the six Yunnan villages are the study areas, which can be mentioned in the methodology section.
3. The author shows his effort in incorporate theories on household formation and composition, however, there was no concept of the mentioned theories being reviewed in this paper (P 2). And there was no linkage between findings and the mentioned theories.
4. There was no operation definition of terms used in this study such as definitions of 'family household', 'household (/or family) formation', 'extended family', 'multiple family' and 'generation structure'.
5. Table 1 and text (P.3 – first paragraph) did not go together. The reader also expects to see 'population pyramid' that the author described in the text.
6. It's difficult to follow on research methodology used during the field work. The author did not mention on how many cases were interviewed through qualitative data collection approach, and how many cases in the household survey. There is no mention on selection criteria of the cases for qualitative data collection approach. There was no sampling technique, sample size calculation or eligible respondent for the household survey written in this paper.
7. There was no mention on an analysis of the secondary data source e.g analysis of data from household registration system.
8. Not sure whether the author tested for any statistical relationship between variables. For example, the author stated that there was 'highly correlation' (P.5-last paragraph), which seems that the author had a statistic value (but did not shown in the findings).
9. It would be more interesting paper, if the author would discuss more on the different of culture or belief of each ethnic minority group, which resulted in different patterns of household formation and household composition.
10. It is not clear that the findings has answered the author's three research questions, and link to main objective of this study in the conclusion section.
11. There is almost no concrete connection between findings and policy recommendations such as a suggested policy on family support program for skip generation, or pension for old people living alone.