

A Cyberseminar Series Exploring Family Change and Intergenerational Relationships

Strand 2 – Special Session on China

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Changes in family and household during China's rapid economic development

This is an ambitious and promising analysis of population census data aimed at systematically exploring the changes in household structure and composition over time in China, taking into account of broader population impact resulting from historical family planning policies. The argument that the proportion of three generation household has not changed and that there are fewer old people living now than before is unclear and not justified. The changes are perhaps more apparent in rural households which lost families or younger generation through migration into cities and urban areas. It would be useful to find out the definition of a complex household. The authors could consider formulating a research hypothesis based on what is already known so far. The proposal is certainly interesting and worth pursuing.
