

CLA ON AGEING IN TAIWAN

Course: Designing the Future: Futures-Oriented Policy Studies

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Topic: Ageing Futures in Taiwan (with CLA)

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In a time of lower and lower birth-rates and higher and higher advance of life extending and saving technologies, the relative proportion of the elderly (over 65) continues to increase. This global condition is occurring in Taiwan as well. Hence in order to illustrate the phenomena and concepts (inner and outer) clearly, here I apply the method of CLA to the topic of Ageing Futures in Taiwan.

| | Ageing Futures in Taiwan |
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| Litany | More and more ageing people. Lonely, lack of pursuing goal or momentum. In charge of taking care of grandsons or granddaughters and household chores. |
| Systematic Causes | Import foreign labors to increase productivity. Budget more money on elder annuity. Change the structure of taxation (like, give discounts to those whom raise elder parents). Promote extension education (community education) to increase the fulfillment of spirituality and physicality. |
| Discourse/ Worldview | Government: Ageing is a burden as it weakens the power and wealth of a country – GNP decreases. Elderly and youth: Ageing people deprive youth of |

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| | <p>social resources; but they can provide help in the household (free helpers).</p> <p>Women: Ageing increases their powerlessness as they are squeezed between demands of ageing husband and children:</p> <p>Industries: Ageing people are obstacles to economic growth and industrial achievement (energy and efficiency).</p> <p>Community promoters: Ageing people are social treasures with colorful and practical experiences. Many are also patient and full of enthusiasm in helping the youth.</p> |
| <p>Myths/Metaphors</p> | <p>Ageing (after retirement) is the end of the life-cycle.</p> <p>Ageing is a personal and collective debt</p> <p>Family(taking care and doing chores) is the only final home to return to at the end of the working life.</p> <p>A Chinese proverb, “ Ageing has no residual value and Ageing people who live too long are treated as thieves.”</p> |