

Reconsidering the Demographic Policy and Care Relationship During the Demographic Aging Process in Taiwan: The Perspective of Community Commons' Institutional Approach

Chih-Lung Huang

Professor, Department of Public Policy and Management, I-Shou University

Abstract

With the continuation of aging on the demography in Taiwan, the response of population policy has gradually shifted from population control to social reproduction, such as care provision and the promotion of local youth employment. However, viewing from the existing literature and the related policy reform theories, the current responses to the issues of old-aged care, child care, and adult employment have shown on the one hand a predominant appeal on reproduction, and on the other demonstrated difficulties in integration. Specifically on the practice of ethical action, existing policy responses have made it difficult to cater to an individual's interdependence and emotional needs with others during individual's life course. Through the reconsidering of social investment state theory and social inequality, as well as the dialogue with the commons' theory of community economy, we try to propose a possible strategy that recognizes care value and ethical action from the autonomy of local communities, as well as the reconfiguration of the role of the state. We think it can be the possible approach to respond to the challenges of social reproduction in Taiwan.

Keywords: Care, Employment, Care Ethic, Commons, Demographic Aging