

The Study of Young Students to Involve in Community Empowerment: The Case of “TO GO” Village in Tainan

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Abstract

Community empowerment is not only one of the most important policies of Taiwanese government but also the focus of research in social science recently. However, most previous studies just explore the role of government or non-profit organizations (NGOs) in facilitating community empowerment and the relationship between social capital of community inhabitants and community regeneration, rarely concern the potential role and possible assistance of young students to involve in community empowerment activities. This paper addresses this issue by studying TO GO Village in Tainan city. In-depth interview, documentary collection and observation are main data collection methods for answering research questions. The findings show that the young students' participation is a win-win game between TOGO Village and the young students. In other words, the young students' participation is positive for TOGO Village's community empowerment and the graduated students stay in TOGO Village have become a sustainable power for TOGO's community empowerment.

Keywords: community empowerment, TO GO Village, young students, social network, trust