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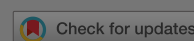
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Articles

Raising Successful Children: Children as Accumulation Strategy and the Renegotiation of Parenting Arrangements in Singapore

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Abstract

This paper examines how material and emotional investments in childrearing are rendered culturally meaningful in Chinese middle-class families in Singapore, and its consequences for family life. The competitive education system is a major concern for families in their child's future. The paper explores how the accumulation and renegotiation of parenting arrangements in Singapore is a strategy for family life? How do state policies and energy children accumulation and parenting strategy life? How existing parents with

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Keywords: Parenting Childrearing Education Gender Population Policy
Children as Accumulation Strategy Singapore Middle-Class Families

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No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

[1] Katz ([2008](#)) outlines three interrelated ‘configurations’ or notions of the child in contemporary world: as accumulation strategy; ornament; and waste (the latter re-

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and upward social mobility across Asia, as well as in other parts of the world, calls for the study of how these broad changes are manifested in people’s everyday life.

[4] After one week of intense debate, and in spite of protests from opposition politicians and the public, the Parliament passed an amended motion to endorse the White Paper.

[5] 1SGD=0.732USD (as at 3 March 2015).

[6] There are a limited number of governmental so-called MOE (Ministry of Education) kindergartens, where the monthly fee for Singapore citizen children is only SGD150 for a four-hour teaching session daily. These kindergartens, currently ten in total, cater in particular to low-income families living within one kilometre of these particular kindergartens (MOE Kindergarten [2015](#)). Most Singaporean families are not targets of this scheme.

[7] Excluding employer CPF (pension) contribution.

[8] The term ‘curling parent’ was coined by the Danish psychologist Bent Hougaard.


Additional information

Funding

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