Becoming Adult in Globalizing Shanghai

This paper describes the process of reaching adulthood and examines factors that shape young adults’ transitioning behavior in one of the most fast-changing places in the world: the city of Shanghai in China. It utilizes existing theoretical and analytical frameworks of transition to adulthood, with a particular attention paid to the influence of structural changes. The study is based on Fudan Yantze River Transition (FYRST) longitudinal survey of over 2,000 young respondents in Shanghai, who were all born in the 1980s, shortly after the launch of China’s economic reforms and the introduction of the one-child policy. Preliminary results reveal that a new pattern of transition to adulthood has already emerged in Shanghai, with changes in education, employment, marriage, and childbearing unseen before. Such a pattern shows clear resemblance to those found in the West but also bears unmistakable marks that characteristic of recent social changes in China.

Ke Shen is associate professor of demography and vice dean of School of Social Development and Public Policy at Fudan University in China. Her research interests include population aging and intergenerational economics, family structure and familial transfers, and elderly health. Her research has appeared in Social Science & Demographic Research, Chinese Sociological Review, and the Journal of the Economics of Aging.

by Dr SHEN Ke
Associate Professor of Demography and Vice Dean of School of Social Development and Public Policy at Fudan University

Chaired by: A/Prof Vincent Chua
Member, CFPR Steering Committee,
Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, NUS
Date: 2 February 2018 | Time: 12.00nn - 1.30pm
Venue: Ventus Evans Room VT-02-01C
All are welcome! Refreshments will be served.
Registration is required.
Register at https://tinyurl.com/y9tp64bj