Parenting & Youngsters

Parents can be so close and yet so far away from us. Intimate and frank conversations with our own parents are desired but not easy, especially for youngsters. Creative experiential learning activities are proposed to engage HKU students to interact and talk to other parents through interview, life story exchange and/or buddy activities etc. It will be a mutually rewarding experience to understand themselves and each other better.

Possible Experiential Learning Activities

Proposed below are some reflective, in-depth and theme-based dialogue and social activities for consideration.

• HKU students may conduct formal interviews with parents on topics such as challenges parent and family face in contemporary society, joy and tear of parenting, parent-child, parenthood-childhood relationship and etc.
• Problem solving can be arranged as follow up activities. Students may analyse the interview, research and apply their knowledge from respective disciplines on particularly pertinent issues and challenges, conduct comparative analysis and/or suggest possible solutions to the parents, community partners, policy makers and etc.
• HKU students may pair up with parents to exchange life stories through direct conversation, or other means such as writing, drawing, video and/or voice. The exact mean for story telling and exchange can be agreed by both parent and student. The writing approach can be like letter writing, diary exchange, private blogging and etc.
• They may use information and communication technologies (ICT) to reflect and present their life experiences, expectations and interested topics creatively. Possible forms of deliverables including audio or video clips, digital photo album, can be used for themselves or other audience according to prior agreement.
• Students may also be guided to develop a repository of oral history of Hong Kong parents.

Possible Themes for Experiential Learning

• Parent–child Relationship
• Generation and Expectation Gap
• Reflection, Expression and Development
• Challenges Facing Families Today
• Untold Stories of Parents and Children
• Oral History of Parenting in Hong Kong
• Parenting, Parental Perception and Parents’ Childhood

Students will work closely with parents through various conversational activities to appreciate and understand better each other’s perspectives and interests so as to propose solutions to enhance parent and child relationships to the society.