## Examining the Correlation between Parenting Stress and Social Support and Loneliness in Chinese Mothers Living in a Socially Impoverished Community in Hong Kong

Living in a Socially Impoverished
Community in Hong Kong

ALMA AU
YUK-CHUNG CHAN
GEORGE CHEUNG
PEONY YUEN
TAMMI LEE
Applied Social Science The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

In the context of a socio-ecological model, the purpose of the present study was to identify the major correlates of parenting stress of Chinese parents living in a socially impoverished community in Hong Kong. The sample composed of 549 Chinese parents of a stratified sample of non-clinical school-aged children in Hong Kong. Regression analysis suggested that increased parenting stress was related to low total household income and low parent's educational level. Furthermore, single parents reported a significantly higher level of stress. On the other hand, lower levels of parenting stress were associated with better social support as measured by the following: availability and satisfaction with social support, loneliness as well as carrying sole responsibility of looking after

Reprint requests and correspondence should be sent to Dr. Alma Au, Department of Applied Social Science, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hung Hom, Hong Kong, China. Email: ssalma@inet.polyu.edu.hk

children. Findings were discussed in the context of risk and protective

factors with implications in the promotion of psychological well-being and the development of intervention programs for parents in socially

deprived communities.

## 香港貧困社區的華人父母的親職壓力

區美蘭、陳沃聰、張安柱、袁巧兒、李京衛 香港理工大學應用社會科學系

## 摘 要

本研究的主要目的,是根據社會生態模式的背景,瞭解生活在香港貧困社 區的華人父母的親職壓力。樣本共有549名華人父母,他們的子女都經分 層抽樣、並且是非臨床病者的學齡兒童。多元迴歸分析顯示,高親職壓力 水平,與低家庭收入及家長低教育水平有關。除此以外,單身家長的壓力 水平,亦顯著地較高。另一方面,低親職壓力水平與較好的社區支援有 關;社區支援以以下準則衡量:社區支援的可利用度和滿意度、孤獨感與 及單獨承擔養育子女的責任。循危機及保護因素的方向,調查結果暗示, 内家县 内家县 Chinese University Press Col 在貧困社區,應提倡心理健康,以及為區內家長發展介入計劃。