

**Conference on Evidence-Based Practice in Chinese Communities June 2009
City University of Hong Kong**

Workshop Outline:

Exploring Promising Practices with Youth Gang in Chinese Communities

Speakers and Affiliations:

Siu-ming Kwok, PhD, MSW, BSW, RSW

Dr. Kwok is Assistant Professor with the School of Social Work in King's University College at the University of Western Ontario. His research interest over the past decade is mainly on Chinese youth in conflict with the law. He is currently conducting research studies in Vancouver and Toronto examining the experiences of Chinese youth and their families with the criminal justice system in Canada.

Rationales:

Law enforcement has long concerns over the rise of Asian youth gangs in the United States. In recent times, concern about the connection between Asian youth gangs and organized crime has also surfaced across Canada. The Criminal Intelligence Service Canada (2002) reported that Asian-based organized crime groups (AOC) were very active in British Columbia, Ontario, and Quebec, and described Chinese gangs in particular as the fastest-growing gangs in Canada and the major controller of illegal drug supplies. Despite with these concerns, we are still far from comprehensive understanding of this population. This workshop is to review the current research and the implications for social service provision model and promising practice with respect to Chinese youth gangsters. Even though the findings are from the context of North America, they are relevant to the Chinese communities to other geographic regions too.

Objectives:

Upon completion of this workshop, participants are expected to achieve the followings:

1. To understand current legislative and welfare models of handling youth crimes in Canada.
2. To be cognizant of current literature of gang research, especially the pathway to crime, experience with criminal justice system, and their coping strategies.
3. To understand the methodological challenges of research study on youth gang in general and ethnic gangs in particular; and
4. To examine the new service models and promising practices with youth gang members in Chinese communities.

Methods of Teaching:

The workshop will include interactive lecture which is to engage participants to debate and have an active discussion throughout. Case study will be used.

Length and Language:

The workshop includes two 1.5 sessions with breaks and will be conducted in Cantonese and supplemented with English when necessary.