Influencing Factors of Social Workers' Involvement in Elderly Care: Experience from East and West

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ABSTRACT
Despite the fact that there is no more comprehensive social elderly model available, the discussion over pension systems has not died down completely. The purpose of this study is to analyse the factors of social workers' involvement in elderly care in a global context. This paper could deepen the understanding the knowledge of social workers' involvement in elderly care. The finding of this study is that social system is the first factor influencing social workers' participation in elderly care. Besides, gender attitude is the second factor, which influences social workers' role in household elderly care. This article uses the key word to do a literature search for papers published, and after screening, a total of twenty articles are included in the scope of this article's analysis and debate. The third factor is the professional values of social workers, leading them to help people in need.

Keywords: Social worker, Elderly care, Influencing factor, Global experience.

1. INTRODUCTION

Supporting the elderly is a significant family responsibility in China, but as times change, the traditional family support system gives way to a new family support system [1]. The literature review of relevant studies from east to west will focus on different kinds of value systems. Researchers have made significant progress in this field of study during the previous two or three decades. On the one hand, the pattern of domestic duty division in modern households has changed, with women no longer being the primary bearers of household work and dual-income families lacking time to care for their elderly during the working day. On the other hand, labor migration in China has resulted in a concentration of young people in coastal cities, such as Guangdong province, while older people are forced to remain in the countryside since they do not fit into the modern family support structure [2]. Therefore, this research would like to analyze the social function of social workers, and discuss the way to choose social care patterns to take good care of different kind of old people. This research offers a global perspective on aged care, focusing on existing relevant literature. Moreover, the research introduces new concepts to the creation of a theoretical framework for pensions and to the discussion of future pension models by submitting original ideas. However, there has been no consensus on a universal pension model, and various nations and regions have developed their own pension models as a result of variances in culture and the degree to which people are becoming older.

With the phrase "social workers," "social elderly," "professional values," and "elderly care" in mind, this article searches for publications published between 2000 and the present on Google Scholar, and after screening, a total of 20 articles are included in the scope of this article's analysis and discussion.

2. INFLUENCING FACTORS ANALYSIS BASED ON THE EXISTING LITERATURE

Social workers' career growth and professional identity vary according to the eldercare system and values. In many nations, senior care is a feasible career choice, and social workers are devoted to making their communities more elderly-friendly. As a result, this study will transform social workers' global experience into the local experience. From east to west, a review of pertinent research will be undertaken, emphasizing diverse sorts of senior individuals. According to a Beijing-based study, this strategy is utilized by social workers and social groups to promote community integration efforts for older migrants in a specific area [3, 4]. To analyze influencing factors, this study will from the perspective of theoretical framework, gender attitude,

and social worker's professional value, the detail categories are shown in the following Table1.

Table 1. Factors influencing social workers' involvement in elderly care

No. Of Papers	From Different Perspective	Reference
5	The theoretical framework of social work	[1], [5], [6], [7], [8],
6	The relationship between gender attitude and household elderly care	[2], [4], [9], [10], [11], [12]
9	Social workers' professional values in caring vulnerable elders	[3], [13], [14], [15], [16], [17], [18], [19], [20]

This study will address the factors of social workers that may influence social elderly care, indicating that social work has a functional component. This study will focus on the elderly who are homeless or handicapped. In this context, social workers may support older adults in improving their quality of life while also increasing their adaptability to a changing society.

2.1. The Theoretical Framework Of Social Work

The support system is the first structural factor. The theoretical framework of the social system will serve as the foundation for the primary study [1]. Given that this study is concerned with social care, social systems serve as explanations for our social lives instead of structural functionalism [5, 6]. Following Durkheim and Parsons' social systems theory, Luhmann considers 'communication' to be an entire social system in and of itself. According to his theory, he considers the social system to be a self-producing system in which communication generates communication in a closed loop that is both operationally closed and open to the environment. According to this study, an aging society is a new micro-social system, and social workers may mediate between older individuals and the larger community to achieve a new level of integration [7].

Additionally, ecological system theory is a guiding concept for social workers [8]. While biological ecosystem theory is concerned with the notion of people in the framework of social work practice, social work ecosystem theory is concerned with the concept of people in the context of social work practice. According to the person-in-context concept, individuals are not self-contained entities and must be examined in the context of their life, including their families, schools, and employers. In individual cases, studying individuals in context, the emphasis should be on analyzing the relationship between environmental and social factors. People are affected and unsettled by environmental forces and interpersonal disputes. Thus, evaluating human behavior in contexts requires a systematic method that considers factors such as social care, connections, capability, and adaptation.

2.2. The Relationship Between Gender Attitude And Household Elderly Care

The second structural aspect to consider is gender attitudes. When it comes to gender, social workers may aid people in transitioning away from traditional gender perspectives and toward more contemporary gender attitudes. It is based on traditional gender assumptions, on which the traditional support system is established, that it is effective. As a result of the lengthy process of early social development, the division of labor that human beings first experienced evolved organically and spontaneously. Gender had a role in establishing this separation. Social workers are also able to balance gender difficulties in dual-income homes since they are not members of the family. This results in a better pattern of aged care for the elderly because they are not members of the family. Researchers in China observed that spouses in households with contemporary gender attitudes as well as higher incomes spent less time on housework after analyzing data from the Third National Women's Status Survey performed in 2010. However, social workers, in contrast to other professionals, are not obligated to anyone's family.

The development of the patriarchal mode of production has resulted in males gaining economic power, while women are expected to remain at home. People follow societal standards because they give guidelines on what men and women should do in a binary fashion, as dictated by the gender binary. In order to characterize this phenomenon, West and Zimmerman [9] introduced the concept of gender roles into the discussion. In many cultures, household chores and household elderly care are a manifestation of gender roles that convey a cultural belief [2, 4, 10]. Domestic division of labor is a separation between men and women that is necessary for preserving family and societal stability in patriarchal societies. In East Asian nations, family assistance is the most common method of providing elder care [11, 12]. Senior care is, to some part, domestic work, which

requires the investment of time and effort. However, in the twenty-first century, things are beginning to change. In many nations, technological advancements have enhanced the chances for women in the workplace. For an aging population, it is thus necessary to implement a more effective contemporary eldercare pattern.

2.3. Social Workers' Professional Values In Caring Vulnerable Elders

Social workers have a role in supplementing and Complementing the function of the family in the case of homeless and disabled older adults via social welfare institutions, which illustrates the functional aspect of social work. Besides, helping people is one of the professional values of social work. In this situation, social workers can help older persons enhance their quality of life while also becoming more adaptable to a changing society [14, 15]. Senior care is a viable professional option in many countries, and social workers are committed to helping their communities become more elderly-friendly [3]. In China, Thailand and Japan, warming shelters for the homeless are a popular communal activity backed by the government and social service organizations [13, 16]. The government is responsible for allocating resources. Social workers, on the other hand, are responsible for the care of the elderly in shelters and retirement homes. In this setting, social workers are essential to the development of the community.

Volunteers, administrative social workers, and professional social workers are the three types of social workers in China that are recognized. First and foremost, volunteers are covered in this group [17]. In addition, social work has evolved into a licensed field of study and practice. According to the National Association of Social Workers, the number of professional social workers in the United States is increasing [18]. Throughout the last decade, the Chinese government has collaborated with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and professional social-work groups to promote a community development initiative in partnership with these organizations. Professional social workers must be involved in orphan care and the approach to caring for the elderly or handicapped, especially in their daily care [19, 20]. They must also be involved in foster care and adoption. This joint project continues to attract a growing number of highly educated social professionals who are interested in participating.

3. CONCLUSION

This research employs textual reviews to investigate the influencing variables of social workers' engagement in senior care in order to create an argument in an impartial and logical manner. The findings demonstrate that worries about elderly care and elderly caring

difficulties are never out of date. The theoretical techniques used in this article were developed many years ago, yet they are still effective. We do this because the fundamentals of aged care have not altered. With topics ranging from the issue of domestic elderly care to the caring of vulnerable seniors, the study purpose of this article is not only to determine the elements that influence social workers' ability to provide social elderly care, but also to examine pertinent research for caring experience.

First and foremost, gender attitudes determine the allocation of home responsibilities among those who care for the elderly, and social workers may supplement or replace family members' roles. The disparity and dissimilar difference between the young and the elderly, as seen through the lens of the generation gap, continue to persist. Second, the professional values of social workers have a favorable impact on their ability to care for elderly persons. Despite the fact that the government and social organizations place a high priority on aged social welfare policy, its implementation is contentious in practice. In part, this is due to the development of professional values throughout society, which is encouraging enough that many people are interested in becoming social workers. For example, in Guangdong province in China, the proportion of professional social workers has increased from 5 percent in 2015 to 20 percent in 2020.

Last but not least, this initiative is still in its early stages, and the topic of aged care continues to be debated in the community. Using the three perspectives outlined in this paper, further research on the pension model can be conducted, starting with population characteristics in different regions and progressing to an analysis of the needs of the elderly population and the labor force for the elderly, with the goal of summarizing a pension model that is highly universal. It is expected that a follow-up research on patterns of social old behavior based on this study may be completed.

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