Factors Influencing Child Rearing Practices of Recently Migrated East Indian and Chinese Women with Children from Infancy to Age Six

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1. **Research Problem**
   From the review of existing literature, it is increasingly evident that a need existed to conduct research with immigrant populations to develop and enhance our understanding of their patterns of child rearing. The finding of contemporary studies may be very beneficial in determining contextual, personal, and cultural factors that affect child-rearing practices of recently migrated women of different cultural groups. The purpose of this study was to examine what factors influence the child-rearing practices of women who have recently migrated from China and India with children aged 0-6.

2. **Research Methodology**
   The study utilized a qualitative research design, generic as presented by Schatzman and Strauss (1973). In-depth interviews were conducted with 11 Chinese women and 7 East Indian participants.

3. **Research Progress to Date**
   We are in the process of writing our final report.

4. **Emerging Results**
   The themes presented represent the similarities found in the data collected on both the Chinese and East Indian women. More specifically, these are the factors that are influencing the child-rearing practices of the sample.
   
   a. **Parental Vision**
      - Respect for elders
      - Conceptions of good/bad
      - Well educated
      - Valuable person/well rounded
      - Parental responsibility
   
   b. **Parental Vision – How to Accomplish Vision**
      - Time
      - Finances
      - Role modelling
      - Discussion
   
   c. **Personal Experiences**
      - Self
      - Others
   
   d. **Canadian Society**
      - Freedom
      - Different discipline
      - Child welfare
   
   e. **Challenges to Raising a Child in Canadian Society**
      - Language barrier
      - Financial
      - Housing
      - Employment
5. **Policy Implications**
   At the local level, policies pertaining to how service providers engage and work with women from the cultural groups participating in the study may be altered or at least influenced by the final results of the study. The findings may also impact the development and implementation of programs.

6. **Staffing for the Conduct of Research**
   Throughout the research, we have relied on graduate students from the Faculties of Social Work and Nursing to conduct interviews and literature searches. As well, we have hired interpreters from the community to assist in the interviewing process. Support staff from both Faculties have been employed to transcribe the interviews.

7. **Dissemination Activities**
   The primary mode of dissemination has been at conferences. Listed below are the conferences where we have made presentations on our research.

8. Projected Completion Date: May 15, 1999

**Specific Information**

1. **Conference Presentations**
   
   
   
   

2. **Other Forms of Dissemination**


Este, D. (1999). Immigration, multiculturalism and social welfare in Canada. In G. Yong-Lie and D. Este (Eds.), *Professional social services in a multicultural world* (pp. 3-25). Toronto, ON: Canadian Scholars’ Press.


The majority of research and evaluation studies in which I have engaged with my colleagues impact most significantly on program/service delivery. The development of different and innovative programs for immigrants and refugees represent the operationalization of Canada’s immigration and multicultural policies, especially from a settlement and adaptation perspective.