

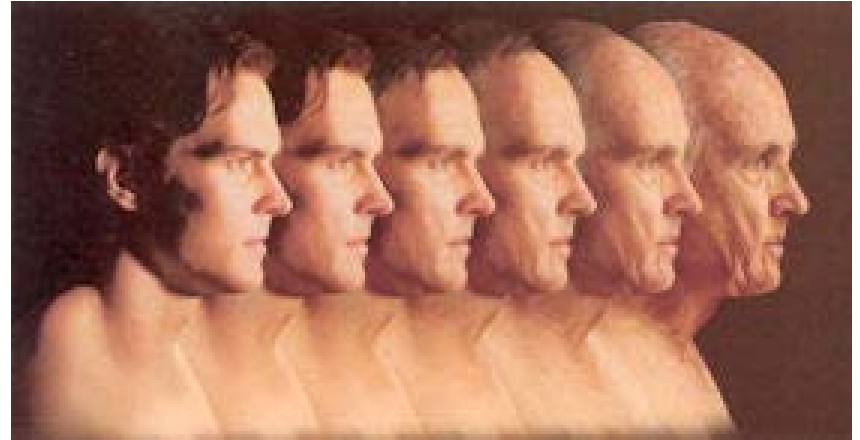
End Well and Funeral Services in Hong Kong

SPD3320 End of Life Issues

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Introduction

- Human Life
 - Decision Making
 - Lunch & Dinner
 - Partner of Marriage
- Death
 - Funeral
 - Living Funeral



Background

Funeral Vs Living Funeral



Death and Dying

- Death

- Terminal illness
- Accident
- Medical condition.
 - Cessation of all vital functions of the body

- Dying

- Stage of life
 - Disorder
 - Untreatable
 - Fatal disease

Legal issue of funeral services

- Dying in place
 - Dying at home
 - In an RCHE
 - Opposed to a hospital
- The Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance (Chapter 174)
 - Attended the patient within 14 days
 - Register a death within 24 hours
- The Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance
 - Section 16
 - No person shall remove a dead body
 - In urgent cases
 - Permit from the nearest police station
 - The problems for dying in place
 - Social taboo
 - Lack of death education
 - Fear of depreciation of property value

Ethical issue of funeral services

- **Taoist funeral ceremony**

- Placed malignant spirits to protect the soul of the departed while guarantee mourners from the spirits wicked ways



- **Buddhist funeral ceremony**

- Life and death are a part of a cycle known as samsara, in which one's actions in this life and all previous



Ethical issue of funeral services

- **Catholic funeral ceremony**

- Believes that humans undergo an endless cycle of death and rebirth
- Soul were between in various realms of good and evil



- **Christian funeral ceremony**

- Believe that when someone dies, they are judged by God.
- The righteous go to Heaven and the sinners go to Hell



Professional issue of funeral services

- **Hong Kong Funeral, Universal Funeral**
 - Mostly Taoist and Buddhist funeral ceremony



- **White Lily Hong Kong Funeral Service**
 - Mostly Catholic and Christian funeral ceremony



Professional issue of funeral services

- **Taoist funeral ceremony and Buddhist funeral ceremony**
 - “Ghost money”
 - Helps to “buy” the deceased’s escape from hell
- **Believe**
 - Houses, servants and garments
 - Symbolically provide the departed with a place to live
- **Catholic funeral ceremony and Christian funeral ceremony**
 - Personalize the ceremony
 - Video montage and live musicians, speaking/sharing from significant family and friends
- **Believe**
 - Personalized touches can help friends and family truly commemorate a loved one

Current end of life issues and the associating practice of care

Death in traditional society

- Is an inextricable taboo
- Reminiscent concept of death was fear, scare, helplessness

Since no one can be spared from death

- People should understand in a healthy and positive attitude



Current end of life issues and the associating practice of care

The situation also occurs in Hong Kong

- Fully present and assimilate into society
- Buildings in Hong Kong have no "fourth floor"
- Use of "pass away" instead of Death



Current end of life issues and the associating practice of care

Education in Hong Kong

- Without the topics of life and death

Education is an important part of the promotion

- Good education can promote people with spontaneous action
- Lacking of education and information to the society because of taboo

Government do not play a positive role

Funeral industry in Hong Kong only provides the service after death

- Lack of flexibility
- No enough information of End-well procedures and cost

Living Funerals in Japan

- Elderly did not expect anything
 - Host a living funeral
 - Make it great before
 - Even Japanese celebrity had hosted
- (Utsunomiya, 2018)

“Wanted to say goodbye to his friends before it was too late.” Komatsu President



Komatsu President - Satoru Anzaki
(Diagnosed with terminal cancer)

Prepared Funeral in the US

Appointment Before Death

- Planned according to their own wishes
- Designed by the owner



Contract Before Death

- Arranged funeral that planned by the funeral company
- Using existing funeral plan (Thursby, 2006)



Future Directions of End Well and Funeral Service

Traditional thought in Hong Kong

Suggestion:

- Figure out the meaning of life
- Confirm the value of life
- Accept death and the living funeral

(King et al., 2009)

Referenced other countries plans

- Living Funerals in Japan
- Prepared Funeral in the US



Conclusion

- Life and death education
- Knowledge improvement
- Feeling express
 - Family
 - Friends
- Regret reduce



References

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Q & A