

Qualitative Evaluation of the Project P.A.T.H.S. Based on the Perceptions of the Program Participants

Daniel T.L. Shek^{1*}, Tak Yan Lee², Andrew Siu³, and Ching Man Lam⁴

¹Quality of Life Centre, Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies, The Chinese University of Hong Kong; ²Department of Applied Social Studies, City University of Hong Kong; ³Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University; ⁴Social Welfare Practice and Research Centre, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, PRC

E-mail: danielshk@cuhk.edu.hk

Received August 30, 2006; Revised October 4, 2006; Accepted October 4, 2006; Published November 16, 2006

Qualitative evaluation was carried out to understand the perceptions of the students participating in the Tier 1 Program of the P.A.T.H.S. Project. Five focus groups based on 43 students recruited from four schools were conducted to generate qualitative data to evaluate the program. With specific focus on how the informants described the program, results showed that the descriptors used were mainly positive in nature. When the informants were invited to name three metaphors that could stand for the program, the related metaphors were basically positive in nature. Finally, the program participants perceived many beneficial effects of the program in different psychosocial domains. Intra- and inter-rater reliability analyses revealed that the coding of the positive or negative nature of the responses was reliable. The present study provides qualitative support for the effectiveness of the Tier 1 Program of the Project P.A.T.H.S. in promoting holistic development in Chinese adolescents in Hong Kong.

***To download the whole paper, please refer to the download instructions on the following page.**

How to Freely Download the Papers?

The Scientific World Journal is a peer-reviewed journal with its articles indexed by 19 databases including Index Medicus and PubMed, CAB International, CISTI and Science Citation Index. You can freely download these papers as follows:

- Go to the website (<http://www.thescientificworld.com>)
- Click “Search”.
- Type “Shek, D.T.L.” in the Dialogue Box for “Enter Author Name(s)” and click “Search”.
- Download the relevant papers in PDF format in the list of papers in the Open Access Mode published by Daniel Shek