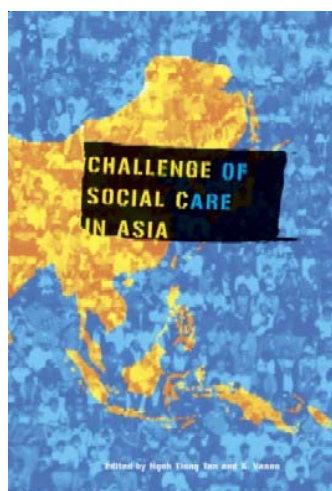


ADVANCE INFORMATION



Challenge of Social Care in Asia

edited by Ngho Tiong Tan and S. Vasoo

About the Book

In Asia—as in the rest of the world—the nature of social care has changed rapidly over recent decades. This book deals with contemporary social development issues and social work in Asia, one of the fastest growing regions of the world. India and China are both opening up socially and economically, a development which will invariably promote their socioeconomic and political growth.

The focus of this book is to examine the development and current state of social care in various country settings: Korea, Japan, Hong Kong, Philippines, Thailand, Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Singapore, and Indonesia. The chapters cover a wide range of social care and social service issues including cutting-edge social services, social policies and programs, and the development of ethical standards and quality care for children, geriatrics, and support for their family members. This volume also addresses controversial topics and issues of funding in poverty alleviation, social protection, juvenile justice, and mental healthcare.

The key framework starts with the identification of the underlying trends of services and care arrangements in each country, with policy and program issues highlighted for cross-national application. A historical analysis is also included in each chapter, but the emphasis is on the current workable and future potential in social care in Asia.

Social care issues, being less tangible than concrete economic objectives, are generally not vigorously pursued by policy makers. The main aim of this book is to stress that achieving economic objectives must go in tandem with meeting social objectives. The pursuit of one at the expense of the other can, in the long term, lead to poor development and major societal setbacks. By maintaining a good balance between economic and social objectives, policy makers can successfully achieve greater overall societal growth.

About the Editors

Ngho Tiong Tan is Associate Professor in the Department of Social Work and Psychology, and former Vice Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore. He is the Coordinator for Postgraduate Degrees by research in social work. Dr. Tan is the President of Singapore Association of Social Workers and immediate past Regional President (Asia Pacific) of the International Federation of Social Workers.

Dr. Tan received his PhD from the University of Minnesota, MSW from University of Pennsylvania, and BA from University of Singapore. He has been a visiting scholar to Cambridge and Harvard University as well as UC-Berkeley and Sydney University. Dr. Tan's numerous publications cover areas of counseling, family

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About the Editors (continued)

therapy, social work and social development, conflict resolution and mediation. These include *People Effectiveness, Preparing for Marriage, Parenting Today, Personality and Effective Management, Getting Ahead in Uncertain Times* and *Extending Frontiers: Social Issues and Social Work in Singapore, Human Rights Perspective, Alternative Dispute Resolution, and Social Work Around the World*.

S. Vasoo is currently an Associate Professional Fellow of the Department of Social Work and Psychology, National University of Singapore. He served as a Member of Parliament from 1984–2001 and in various capacities in both non-governmental and governmental organizations. Dr. Vasoo holds a masters degree in social work as well as a PhD from the University of Hong Kong. He also plays an advisory role in various social service institutions in Singapore including the Central Singapore Community Development Council, Ang Mo Kio Family Service Centre, Beyond Social Services, Movement of the Intellectually Disabled (MINDS), and Down Syndrome Association.

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Target Audience

- Academics and practitioners in the field of social work

Key Selling Point

- This book presents a rare comprehensive overview of the current social work practice in the Southeast Asian region and the obstacles and challenges facing social workers in these countries.

Related Titles

- *Social Work in Context: A Reader*
edited by Kalyani K. Mehta and Ann Wee
ISBN 981 210 310 4
- *Extending Frontiers: Social Issues and Social Work in Singapore*
edited by Ngoh Tiong Tan and Kalyani K. Mehta
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