

Wong, Wai Ching Angela, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

The Value/De-valuation of Family in Christian Right Politics and Hong Kong Evangelical Activism

In all three of his policy addresses from 2005 to 2008, Donald Tsang, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, “family values” has been repeatedly featured as an important element in building Hong Kong society. In his 2006-07 address, which Tsang made immediately before his re-election campaign, an elaborate section on “Cherishing the Family” was included. When “family” was referred as primarily a heterosexual, nuclear, father-mother-children unit, the impact of recent evangelical activism on Hong Kong policy is clear. This study will examine the discourse of family in the American Christian Right and Hong Kong Evangelical campaigns in the recent decade. Rather than a propagation of the values of loving relationship among members of the family and its contribution to the larger society as they claimed, I shall demonstrate how the Christian Right and Hong Kong Evangelical movements have supported instead a formalistic approach to family that undermines the very values that the society would treasure.