Decision email 20161028

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From: Megan Conway, PhD [mailto:rdsj@hawaii.edu]   
Sent: Friday, 28 October 2016 1:40 PM  
To: Qingsheng Zhou  
Cc: rdsj@hawaii.edu  
Subject: [RDS] #627 Editor Decision

Dear Qingsheng Zhou,

We have reached a decision regarding your submission to Review of Disability

Studies: An International Journal, "Changing Disability Status of Immigrants in Australia - Three case studies".

We are be pleased to publish your article following revisions.

The reviewers have recommended a few significant changes. Their feedback is embedded in this email below. Once these changes are incorporated and the revised article is returned to us, we will include the article in our publication calendar.

Please upload a revised version to OJS.

You are welcome to contact me with any questions about your revisions. We appreciate the opportunity to publish your article!

Sincerely,

Genesis Leong

**Reviewer 1**

- Research question is a bit vague. Can you be more specific in the statement of your question?

**Author’s response:** Rephrased and sharpened

- Please avoid long block quotes, as on p. 2.

**Author’s response:** Shortened

- p. 3, sentence before "Data and Method" section: which cohort are you talking about? **Author’s response:** Rephrased

- The most interesting aspect of your article is the question of why so many of the immigrants acquired disability after entering the country. A critical analysis of this could be a 2nd article. Is disability being socially constructed by Australian society in ways that differ from Chinese or Vietnamese societies? Is this a cultural phenomenon?

**Author’s response:** Agree with the reviewer that it will be a separate study of a different type.

**Reviewer 2**

1. This submission needs an abstract and keywords, along with a revised

introduction that introduces what the article will be arguing – that is integrating and summarizing the research questions and findings so as to lay a road map of what the article will be addressing.

**Author’s response:** Refined/revised and resubmitted.

2. This article needs a more in-depth review of Australian immigration policies and rules: what are the health reasons for not accepting immigrants into Australia? How does that relate to the “healthy migrant effect”? This article needs to critically interrogate this concept in relation to critical disability literature around citizenship and disability.

**Author’s response:** While I agree the importance of critically challenging the rationale and fairness of Australian immigration policies and rules, I focus on a different type of issues in this paper. It shows that the “healthy effect” won’t last long and could not be used for long run to explain the unfair access of immigrant communities to disability services.

3. This article could benefit from engaging more substantially the critical disability literature around aging, such as the recently published Aging Forum in RDS

**Author’s response:** I’ve had experience in working in policies of both disability and aged care. This suggestion provides a good advice for the future studies, including mine. For the present study some comments relating to aged care have been included, where appropriate. I added a paragraph in discussion section to emphasise the multidisciplinary approach is required in the future research to support policy development across disability, ageing and culture diversity.

4. This finding needs to be unpacked: “Nonetheless it is clear that

older immigrants acquire disability at a much faster rate than both younger immigrants and other older Australians.” What are some of the reasons why older immigrants would acquire disability at a much faster rate? What are the implications for social policy? Here is another place where more engagement with the disability studies literature on aging would be helpful in critically developing this article.

**Author’s response:** These questions are fantastic. I appreciate reviewers’ suggestion and will certain explore the relationship of disability and ageing in the light of recently published Aging Forum in RDS in my further research.

5. It would be helpful if the author gave some insights or suggestions into how government policy or specialist disability services might take into account the fact that “In about a generation, immigrants tend to have an aged related disability profile that is similar to the rest of the community. It is important to not underestimate this rate of the change when developing government policy and program design for specialist disability services.”

**Author’s response:** While it’s impossible to expand this study substantially to cover age related discussion, where appropriate, I’ve extended some comments on how the rapid acquiring of disability of older immigrants present challenges not only to social policy on disability but also on aged care.

RDS Editorial Team

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