

主旨: Opinion on the population policy

To: Steering Committee on Population Policy

There are some significant problems of Hong Kong population policy; 1. Hong Kong SAR had no right to approve the new immigrants from the Mainland China. As a result, Some elder persons and adults migrated to Hong Kong because their children apply their parant to live in Hong Kong. This worsening the aging problem and lower the productivity of Hong Kong SAR population.

2. Poor housing policy discourages some Hong Kong SAR citizen to bear children: Because of high property price,

(a) The youth cannot afford the cost of purchasing house.

(b) No matter the youth have their property, they also cannot afford the cost of bearing some children because they had already paid most of their income on their house.

(c) Lack of house causes a lackage of a sense of belonging to Hong Kong SAR for some Hong Kong SAR citizens. They refer to migrate to another countries rather than live in Hong Kong for development.

3. Poor education policy also discourages some Hong Kong SAR citizens to bear children:

(a) Because there are inadequate international school, some talents are not willing to work in Hong Kong SAR.

(b) Recently, some children from Mainland China completes the kindergarden in North District. In the long-run, such problem will be extended to primary school, and secondary school in the future. As a result, some married person are not willing to bear their children because they fear that their children cannot study kindergarden, primary school, and even secondary school in the future.

4. The political environment also disocourage some Hong Kong SAR citizen to bear children: Because Hong Kong SAR government cannot provide vision for Hong Kong SAR citizen on the future of Hong Kong SAR,

(a) The married persons fear that their children cannot not live in stable environment in the future and hereby they are not willing to born children.

(b) Some wealthy Hong Kong SAR talent migrated to sone developed countries such as Canada.

5. Hong Kong economy also discourages some Hong Kong SAR citizen to bear children:

(a) Hong Kong economy is solely dependent on finance industry and property industry. However, the above two industry provides limited employment oppourtunities for Hong Kong SAR citizen, and the remaining Hong Kong SAR citizens only work for some service industries associated with the above two indutries. The above service industry cannot provide the channels for the youth to became high income class. For example, some Hong Kong university graduate only earn HK\$20,000 to HK\$30,000 per month for their ten year working life according to some statistics and such income cannot afford the cost of house.

(b) Hong Kong SAR government only make use of their position as an entrance to Mainland China without any effective policy to take advantage of their previous position of international city. As a result, the competitiveness of Hong Kong became weaken and Hong Kong SAR citizen lack confidence on the futre development of Hong Kong SAR.

To encourage the married person to born their children, I have some suggestions:

1. Hong Kong SAR government should recover the right to approve the immigrant from Mainland China. similar to the popualiton policy of another country, it should provide more quota for youth in Mainland China (say 100 to 120) and the remaining quota for other immigrants based on the ground of as a family member (say 50 to 30).

2. It provide more places for international school to attract the foreign talents.

3. It should increase the kindergarden, primary school, secondary school to accommodate the increasing demand for student.

4. It should provide more small public house for the youth to live in Hong Kong.

5. It should develop other industries to provde channels for the youth to advance into high income class.

6. It should provide blueprint for future Hong Kong SAR through reinforcing Hong Kong SAR as an international city through the following policies:

(a) It increases the level of English among Hong Kong SAR citizen through restoring the use of English for the medium for the school.

(b) It develops some characteristics to attract more foreign tourist instead of depending on Mainland China tourist only

(c) It should reduce the bureaucratic of Hong Kong SAR to increase the competitiveness of Hong Kong SAR. For example, the reduction of a period of commencing business from appropriate 40 days to complete with 5 days in Singapore through some comprehensive approval system so that the applicant can only fill one form without fill the form to the Inland Revenue department for applying business registration and another form to the Companies Registry for registering as a limited company.

As a result, Hong Kong SAR citizen can develop the vision for future of Hong Kong SAR.

7. It should increase the labour force participation rate for the ethnic minority through the provision of extra Chinese course for the student of the ethnic minority.

8. It should increase the labour force participation rate for the female through the provision of child care service.

9. To face with aging problem,

(a) Hong Kong SAR government should extend the retired age in the short run. In the long run, it should increase the birth rate to solve the aging problem through the above eight suggestions to restoring the confidence of Hong Kong SAR citizen on the future.

(b) It should plan the medical policy to cope with the aging of Hong Kong SAR citizen in the future. However the consultative paper ignores the impact of aging on the medical policy of Hong Kong SAR

In conclusion,

1. In my opinion, the birth rate is associated with the the confidence of Hong Kong SAR citizen on the future of Hong Kong because Hong Kong SAR citizen is willing to born their children if they believe that their children can live in a stable environment in the future.

2. High birth rate is only the mean to solve aging problem in Hong Kong population. However, the consultative paper only concerns with aging of Hong Kong population without focus on the reasons why Hong Kong have low birth rate and take measures to increase birth rate.

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