

Governance | Individual communication

IC - (20988) - THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY RESEARCH AND GOVERNANCE—THE CHANGE OF PUBLIC SPACE IN RURAL COMMUNITY AS AN EXAMPLE

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Background and objectives

This study investigated community designs for rural community which inhabited by elderly with dementia during the COVID-19 era, and the implications for public space policy. Xishi Village, a small and closely-knit village in Taiwan, was selected as the research site.

There are two objectives in this research:

- (1) Attempt to visualize community research data for analysis.
- (2) Develop public space improvement strategies based on data.

Process and methods (for empirical research)

In 2020, sensor devices were introduced to the research site to track the residents. A total number of 757 participants partook in this study, among which 61.69% were aged 60 or above. Participants were required to wear the sensing devices when traversing the community, allowing the researcher to observe where the participants gathered from the lab.

The study adopted the empirical research method to analyze the effectiveness of the designed community spaces. The residents' degree of participation in the proposed community design and in past community designs were compared, and the community design, street route planning, and identification systems for elderly were subsequently adjusted.

Main results (or main arguments in the case of critical reviews)

The study results are as follows:

- (1) Community research visualization: This study used software to compile data from sensing devices to determine the participants' actual stay and gathering locations. Scientifically provide mobile medical stations with regular and fixed service recommendations.
- (2) Route signs: Based on previous research, researcher cooperated with government departments to draw indicator routes, which has become one of the indicators for the identification of the environment in an age-friendly community and can provide a clear target orientation for foreign elderly.

Implications for research and practice/policy | Importance and originality of the contribution

Research Contribution:

- (1) This study provides evidence on how sensory data can be used to develop community service policy
- (2) Through community-built facilities, it is possible to continuously test how to change the way of life of rural community residents and provide reference for future policy formulation.

Palavras-chave : Visualization research, Government policy, Age-friendly community