WFOT Congress 2018: An investigation of quality and strategies of parent-child interaction among the night market vendors

SU-MIN YEU (OTS), MENG-HSUAN HSIEH (OTS), PO-CHEN WANG(OTS), YI-CHUAN WANG(OTS), YU-CHI LIN(OTS), Athena Yi-Jung Tsai (PhD)

Department of Occupational Therapy, Kaohsiung Medical University
Introduction—Night market in Taiwan

300 Night markets

50,000 Vendors
Introduction – Night market in Taiwan
Introduction—Night market in Taiwan
Introduction – The Importance

Night market workers

Students and Day workers

Half-day behind pattern


賈麗娟(2011)。夜市工作者的兒童照顧與親子關係探討。國立嘉義大學幼兒教育研究所學位論文。
Introduction– The Importance

Unique working time

Occupational patterns

Roles

Family time

Conflict


Introduction– The Importance

Reducing daily parent-child interaction of night market worker may cause communication difficulties, and also affect the dependence and intimacy of each other.

Local theories

“It would seem that best practice in any localized culture must take the universal as well as culture specific aspects of occupation into account.”


Purpose

To investigate the **quality** and **strategies** of parent-child interaction among the night market vendors.
## Method

### Research design

1. Qualitative
2. Phenomenological approach

### Semi-structured Interview

1. One by one
2. 1~2 interviews each participant
3. 30 mins~ 1 hour per interview
Interview key concepts

**Quality of interaction**
- Daily schedule
- Satisfaction
- Common activities
- Expectations
- Feeling

**Strategies for interaction**
### Data collection

| Adults | 1. Work in night market  
|        | 2. With at least one child (between 7-18 years old) |
| Children | 1. With at least one parents work in night market  
|         | 2. 7-18 years old |

### Data analysis:
Voice record → verbatim → coding → themes
## Participants’ profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Selling Products (Snacks, Clothes, Souvenir )</th>
<th>Age (Mean=40)</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Years of work (Mean=12)</th>
<th>nights/week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Japanese souvenir</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Fried chicken dice</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Caramelized Sweet Potato</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Crêpe (French dessert)</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Fried squid</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Socks</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Hair accessory</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Takoyaki (Japanese snacks)</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Gender</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Result

Night market life
- Night market worker
- Childhood in night market

We miss each other
- Different time schedule
- Parent-child alienation
- “Stay with me”

Adjustment
- Common strategies
- Parents’ strategies
- Children’s strategies
Night market life

- Half-day behind
- Uncertainty

Childhood in night market

We miss each other

Different time schedule

Parent-child alienation

“Stay with me”

Adjustment

- Seize the time
- Alternative communication channel
- Caring alternatives
- Temporal adaptation
- Parenting in context
- Change work site
- A night market assistant
- Learn to wait
- Change schedule
Theme 1: Night market life

“We are just like owls. Owls (We) only open their eyes at night, and sleep in the morning.” (Participant F)

Night market life

Night market worker

Half-day behind

Uncertainty

Childhood in night market

“If I go to the night market, I just use my cellphone and sometimes assist my mom.” (Participant e)

“I went to the market with my parents and brother to WORK on almost every Friday and weekends.” (Participant c)
Theme 2: We miss each other

Different time schedule

“The time is completely separate.” (Participant F)

Parent-child alienation

“Just sitting there watching TV, and sometimes no any connection between the father and son.” (Participant F)

“Stay with me”

“I would ask my mom not to go to the night market. ……Anyway, she once stayed (laughs).” (Participant a)
### Theme 3: Adjustment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common strategies</th>
<th>Parents’ strategies</th>
<th>Children’ strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### Seize the time

“During summer, sometimes we’ll wait until the children finish they’re class at four and half, so we can meet each other about ten to thirty minute before we go to work.” (Participant F)

#### Alternative communication channels

- ✔ Notes
- ✔ Mobile communication devices
- ✔ Phone calls
Theme 3: Adjustment

Common strategies | Parents’ strategies | Children’ strategies

“\text{We have to wake up at six to prepare breakfast for children, and go back to bed after taking them to school.}( Participant F)"

Caring alternatives
- Bridging role
- Proxy caregivers

Temporal adaptation

Parenting in context

Change work site nearby
Theme 3: Adjustment

Common strategies

Parents’ strategies

Children’ strategies

- A night market assistant
  - “Can I go to work with you today?” (Participant c)

- Learn to wait
  - “The youngest one sometimes stays up late until we go home.” (Participant H)

- Change schedule
  - √ Finish homework at school
  - √ Take a school day off
Discussion

1. Workers face difficulties when raising children.
2. Workers and their children create unique living principles.
3. Workers have lack interaction with their children.
4. Children are more independent.

Our study

- Looking more into children’s aspect.
- Discovering more parent-child interaction adjustment strategies.
Discussion

**Time-based conflict**

Time spent on activities within one role generally cannot be devoted to activities within another role.

**Occupational patterns**

“We experience time in occupation, not in identical clock or calendar units.”

---

Research limitation and Implication

Limitation

1. Gender: most of our participants are women
2. Region: only recruit vendors from southern Taiwan
3. Child’s age: ranges from 7-18

Implication

1. "Solutions of role/time conflicts" may be generated to help the parent-child who **MISS** each other.
2. Alternation of children’s occupational patterns should be taken into account and regarded as an issue that can’t be ignored.
1. Half-day behind working pattern impacts the interaction between night market workers and their children.

2. Night market workers create a variety of adjustment strategies to improve parent-child interaction quality.

3. Offer Parent-child interaction strategies for workers with similar working patterns, and experts who are interested in this field.
THANK YOU FOR LISTENING